Cleobury Clarion

SERVING CLEOBURY COUNTRY

JANUARY 2019

A NEW YEAR AND A NEW COLUMN

I have recognised for some time that the Clarion lacks proper coverage of the dominant local industry - farming. We used to have a regular column from Clive Davies, proud owner of the prize winning Westwood Herd, until a change of landlord and attitude moved him on. Then we had a trio of farmers' wives offering a variety of behind-the-scenes views from the farmhouse, until one found domestic demands needed her attention and the idea faded.

Then Kit Smith approached me and suggested that he would try to put together a series of interviews with local farming families. "The unsung stewards of our countryside" as he put it. I couldn't agree more.

The working title for the series is 'Farming Family' and will feature notable local members of the industry. The first edition is on Page 17.

We are not trying to present these down-to-earth citizens as stars; they are far too modest to co-operate in such a venture. All Kit seeks to do is remind us how much we owe them And the Clarion is proud to support him.

AN APOLOGY AND AN EXPLANATION

This issue may be slightly slimmer than usual and regular reports from some sources may be missing. Because Christmas and the New Year complicate holiday breaks, this January was actually before Christmas, which does make its production a slightly panic-stricken process. helped by the absence of my connection November 15th and the removal of my long established 270642 land line to be replaced by another number, on a line where two messages overlapped. All to do with changing my internet server and attendant delays by BT and associated services.

As I write this, I have been promised that the transfer will take place on December 19th. Five weeks since I was cut off! I do not waste front page space on personal moans - my probs, my job to sort it. But we have a lot of loyal readers, who should be told what's happened and why some of their favourites are missing.

By February we should be back to what I call normal. Funny idea of normal. JR

THE MEN'S SHED PROGRESSES

The Shed project continues to make good progress, with the County Council now agreeing to planning permission for the building of the shed. That was a of cooperation, Council asking for an extension normal time promising to give a decision by December 14th. committee meeting on the 12th, it was announced that we had the permission we needed. That means we can now approach the Big Lottery for a grant.

Raising money to pay the considerable bills that will come when building starts has seen grants of £250 each from the Parish Councils of Farlow. Kinlet and Hopton Wafers, to presentations Councillor Gwilym Butler. And John Sant has made a generous donation of £500 and promised to supply any white goods or appliances we might want, free of charge.

It's the big hearted side of this community coming out again. There is also support from the Medical Centre, as Sheds do help to keep lonely old chaps occupied and happy.



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The Cleobury Clarion, January 2018



The New Fruit and Veg Man.
Phil Wilson of Cleobury
Fruit and Veg.
See Page 5.



So much to see, hear and read. The town library. See Page 25.



Medical Marathon Man. Page 31

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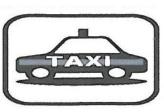
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THE TOWN'S NEW FRUIT AND VEG



Phil Wilson, the man behind Cleobury Fruit and Veg.

We hinted in the December Clarion that there would be a new face taking over the town centre shop that once was Carrot Tops. That face is Phil Wilson, son of Val and Steve at the Talbot Hotel. Very handy to have two family as neighbours and you don't have to guess too hard to realise who will be supplying the Talbot's busy restaurant with vegetables.

Phil learned the retail business with a long stretch at Morrison's in his native Newcastle-upon-Tyne before moving south to be near his folks, with a vacant shop

looking for a new proprietor. He'll be closed on Monday, then open from 9.00 to 5.00 Tuesday to Saturday and 10.00 to 3.00 on Sunday.

The place has a fresh, welcoming look about it, boxes of fruit and veg all clearly labelled. At the back of the shop is a chiller unit with a range of meats and cheeses, next to it a blackboard with prices clearly listed.....



There's nothing flash about this new venture, just good common sense in its layout and little extras like cakes and sweets to tempt. By the time you read this, he should be set up to offer a delivery service too.

He's on 07713 088 239 and would be happy to help you.

HIGH PRAISE INDEED

Cleobury Primary School head Mrs Mayfield was surprised and delighted to receive a letter recently from Nick Gibb, Minister of State for School Standards, congratulating the for outstanding school achievement in the 2018 phonics screening check. The results put the school in the top nine percent of all primary schools in the country.

Teaching phonics and early reading successfully and effectively means pupils develop a firm foundation in reading, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading.

On behalf of the school's governors, Chairperson Stuart Auger commented: "Mrs Mayfield and the entire school team should be proud of their effort, determination and commitment to enable all pupils to achieve their potential."

Jayne Brown

SILLY BIT

"Television won't last, because people will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night."

Darryl Zanuck, movie producer, 1946.

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THE BREAKFAST CLUB

Members met at the Cleobury Café on November 13th to hear Ion Bodenham explain Cleobury's workings of Neighbourhood Plan. Neighbourhood Plans are recent addition to our planning procedures, designed to give communities greater local shaping their influence in adopted Once (by futures. referendum) they then become a framework for local legal development, and additionally allow the community to levy a larger charge development - 25% rather than 15%.

Our Plan will address a range of important issues, including housing, new economic development, transport, community services, biodiversity, a community hub (in conjunction with the St Mary's Youth Project), parking, and the expansion of the cemetery.

A public consultation by questionnaire was undertaken in the summer, and the response has shaped the next stage, which is the collection of statistical data to allow the compilation of a which, detailed plan consultation with Shropshire Council, will need to be voted on

in a community referendum in 2019.

This is a hugely important process, and deserves the active involvement of parishioner. There will obviously be changes in Cleobury over the coming years, and Neighbourhood Plan is the only way to ensure that the community gets the best out of any changes.

The Breakfast Club next meets at the Golf Club on December 11 to hear Mark Baldwin explore some features of the Golden Age of postcards in 'Wish You Were Here'. Those wishing to attend should contact Angela Drennan (CM 270636) to book places.

Mark Baldwin

FREE CANON 521 CARTRIDGES

There is a box of Canon 521 series ink cartridges sitting on a shelf in the Clarion office, going to waste.

I'm not trying to get money for them, I just want want them to be used rather than go into the trash and end up as landfill. All those plastic mouldings and inks surely won't do Mother Earth much good if that happens.

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THE CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

writers, including Six member David Leech, gathered December 10th, a good atmosphere created by Vicky Honeybourne's gift of Christmas cakes all round. Thanks, Vicky.

Edwin opened proceedings with his warm tale of Millie and her dog Rascal, discovering and rescuing an elf in the forest Good murmurs from everyone. He was followed by Vicky, who offered two versions of her cats, Cleobury and Mortimer's story, using basic maths and a sense of fun. Both versions, designed to maths interest nurture younger children, were praised.

Peter's tale was about keen swimmer Barney, proving his ability as the new kid on the block with the rescue of a local bully. And he won the girl. Thumbs up. David told of a school trip from Birmingham to Birkenhead in the early 50s, to visit the Royal Navy vessel adopted by his infants school. An eye-opener for the early 50s Final tale was about Rory, a gypsy lad dealing meeting and hostility long ago in the Vale of Evesham.

Our first meeting in 2019 is at 6.30 on Thursday January 10th.

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THE COUNCIL OBSERVED

Explanation: I use to be a Parish Councillor, but quit for a variety of reasons, the inability to get things done properly not least amongst them. I went to listen at the Town Council's December meeting, to see how we have made so much progress in recent years. JR.

Before the official meeting Professor Whitelegg began, explained the campaign to lower speed limits in the county's residential streets to 20mph. The effect of that would be far fewer serious injuries and deaths and pressure medical less on services. Shropshire Council has not agreed with the policy to date, but five towns that have represent more than half the population. The professor stated that such a move to lower urban speed would be an effective, low cost child protection measure.

He also stated that in Shropshire the incidence of deaths and serious injury accidents is above the national average. Unitary Councillor Butler then pointed out that the majority of fatal accidents are on highways, not in urban areas. The council members expressed

support for the idea and will discuss as a policy at a future date.

The meeting then heard from Kit Smith, acting as the town's Tree Warden, who reported on liaison with Mawley Hall estate and the measures being taken to improve the tree stock there. He estimated that some 30 percent of the trees covered in the council's plan are on that estate.

Each town councillor then reported on the projects they were involved with. A refreshing change from the old habit of some members having no work on behalf of the community to report.

Our Unitary Councillors each reported. Mr Butler advised that an extra £7.3 million was available for roads and that neighbouring parishes had been asked to consider precepting for funds to support the library. The County were expecting a £1.2 million overspend because they would not reduce the child services budget. He also warned that after 2020 government grants would disappear.

Mrs Shineton reported limited response to the local appeal for Scout and Guide leaders. The pedestrian crossing at the Co-op store is now expected to be installed during the February school half term holiday; the Coop will be meeting the cost.

Tendering for the Ludlow to Kidderminster bus service has brought little response, but Worcestershire County Council have asked for a contribution to the cost two and half times last year's charge.

The draft budget for 2019/20, issued in September, will be finalised at the next Finance Committee meting. The matter of an Environment Maintenance Grant also to be considered then.

Two new planning applications were considered and there were no objections.

It was agreed that the Council would take responsibility for the maintenance of the war graves in the cemetery. Chairman Brown proposed that naming of roads in future development should reflect some of the town's war dead as a further token of respect. Agreed.

Cllr Bodenham asked that a range of policies be considered for future inclusion. Agreed in principle.

The final discussions were confidential and public access was not available. I came away impressed how much better this vital business is conducted.





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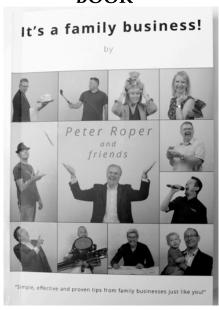
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Peter Roper runs a business advising and promoting family businesses. And to add to the attractions those businesses offer, he has combined with a wide range of friends and family business people to produce a book offering a range of tips based on their experience.

There's a wide range of people, some local who you might recognise, others from farther away who Peter knows through his growing Family Business Man enterprise. One is photographer Terry Livesey, whose portraits of the authors spread through the 224 black and white pages, but there is a lot of repetition of Peter's

picture. He is a handsome chap, but 39 pictures is heading firmly in the direction of overkill.

It's a handy little tome, small enough to fit into an overcoat or anorak pocket, and good to dip into to get someone else's perspective on the basic manner of running a business and earning a living. It's true to say that if you're awake and aware you never stop learning and a dip into pages ;like these can be a good source of new ideas that could help you.

At £14.99 it's affordable, with a lot of wisdom and experience to call on. Available from Peter at the Cleobury Country Business Centre on Love Lane.

THE SHOEBOXES

What wonderful shoeboxes we've sent to Belarus. Our total this year was 1051 and they've gone to the T4U Evesham warehouse. My grateful thanks to all of you who helped in any way - it wouldn't have happened without you all.

As usual, I would like your used Christmas cards, please. Only the ones with no writing on them. Any left over Christmas paper will help and of course shoeboxes to start next year. All to the Severn Hospice shop, please.

As always, my thanks. *Jenny Vanderhook*

THE CHRISTMAS HIGH STREET

Didn't the High Street look great over the Christmas break? The adoption of the official festive lights by the Town Council has meant a mix of professionals and capable volunteers putting on a good show, with several shops adding to the display.

Masquerade Fabrics always looks attractive, Red Hare caught the eye with a strong show and Cleobury Cafe made the place look even more welcoming with lights and trees along the wide shop front.

In the days when we had a Chamber of Trade, they used to have a window display competition. Perhaps we should revive that, to add to the town's attraction? If we'd had it in 2018 my personal choice would have been Style House Salon's standout use of lights to brighten the winter events. Thank you all.

THINGS THEY WISH THEY'D NEVER SAID

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Lord Stokes of British Leyland, speaking a year before the company was nationalised. Because it had gone bust....



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John Barnes dreamed of being a farmer from the age of seven, but despite the dream and a degree in agriculture at Wye College he did several jobs, including insurance in the City. He says that he just got a degree, but his biggest achievement at university was meeting and marrying Jane, a horticultural undergraduate. Their first farm was in mid Wales in 1971 and they have moved since then: to near Dover, to Wheathill and finally to Barnsland on Tenbury Road in 2007. They say their wanderings are now over.

They have three sons. David farms along Hadrian's Wall, Michael on the North Downs in Kent and Steve farms with his parents as well as running a barn restoration business.

John and Jane work long and hard in all weathers, but love their farm and its environment. Over 45 years they have planted over five kilometres of double hedges and several hundred trees. Some apple and pear orchards and five acres of pasture given over to wildlife. They have created some permitted footpaths and keen to show people what they do and to encourage interest and knowledge of farming and the role farmers undertake in the stewardship of the countryside.

Like all farmers they claim you do not get rich by farming. For them it is the rural way of life that appeals and any richness comes from the satisfaction of looking after animals, the environment and their family.

When asked about their thoughts, hope and fears of post Brexit farming, John and Jane's answers reflect the nationwide view of "difficult to tell." New

opportunities abound and change is on its way. Thoughts on the future after Brexit are not clear; being outside the EU will bring new freedoms, anything between similar regulation and rules and the New Zealand model of few regulations but no subsidies and grants.

At present UK farmers get a range of help and financial assistance, including payments. UK gets the fifth largest amount after France, Germany, Spain and Italy. This is mostly directed at a 'greening' policy including sustaining the agricultural sector, its social and regeneration economic efficient use of natural resources. Brexit should remove the need for us to support Europe's poorer farmers, and to allow a massive reduction in regulations in the UK. It is amazing that within the present EU that there is a lack of public knowledge, with 41 percent of the British not knowing that EU supports our farmers (30 percent in the EU). Ultimately it will be public opinion and politicians who will decide the future direction for farmers and for their environment. Let us hope that once on the other side of the Brexit hurdle our politicians will continue to provide the assistance and finance that stimulates farmers and landowners to keep England a green and pleasant land.

In the meantime, let us salute our local farmers and landowners, like John and Jane, for being such good, caring and hardworking custodians of our environment and countryside in beautiful Shropshire.

Kit Smith

A MASSIVE PAT ON THE BACK

The Saint Mary's Youth Project Community Hub team have received the following email from the Aviva Community Fund:

"Congratulations, your project has received enough votes to make it through to the final.

With millions of votes cast, that's an amazing achievement, so you can give yourselves a massive pat on the back."

This is a huge result, so the Youth Project would like to give a massive pat on the back to everyone who voted for us, passed on our emails and are supporting us.

We must now submit further information for the final judging and are amongst the 18 projects in our category. The awards will be made towards the end of January, so look out for the final result in a future edition of the Clarion.

Roger Brown

PATIENT ACCESS

Some readers may not be aware that you can book appointments and arrange prescriptions using an App which is password controlled. If you are interested, the necessary form is available from reception at the Medical Centre. Once the form is completed it should be returned to the Centre together with photographic ID, at which time you will be issued with your password.

This method of access can streamline contact with the practice, so do consider it.

If you require further information, please contact the Medical Centre.

Paul French.



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The story so far... Your young, sensitive correspondent has been trying to report a fault on a neighbour's telephone to the technological giant that is BT. He has spent most of the morning trying to establish the presence of intelligent life somewhere within that organisation but so far without success. He is now waiting for a promised call back from the Indian Sub Continent. Now read on...

Did they call - what do you think?. You think correctly, the phone remaining silent as the grave. I gave them an extra 15 minutes in case there was a disconnect between UK and Indian time zones but no joy. So for the third time, I navigated the choppy waters of the BT fault line number with its multiple options again answering ***** yes! to 'Are you calling on behalf...'. This time I got to speak to Tom in Birmingham. Did he want to know the subscribers full name?. Did he want her date of birth? Did he want a detailed description of the box on the wall behind the heavy antique chest of drawers which was a family heirloom?. No. All he wanted was for me to hold on for a couple of minutes while he checked the line. Sure enough, he came back to me two minutes later to tell me that yes, there was an external fault and that it had been reported to the engineer who might sort it that very day if he was in the area. If not, it would be fixed within three days. I could have kissed him (obviously in a non gender fluid way) but as he was 30 miles away he was spared. So back up the road, rejoicing, to report success. Elapsed time now 180 minutes.

Sadly, the celebration was premature... After some days with no resumption of service, the subscriber contacted BT yet again and, after numerous long and expensive calls, was told that – wait for it – the 'phone was not working because it had been cut off! After many further time consuming conversations, it transpired that several weeks before, the subscriber had received a call from a company called Onestream who claimed they could save her money on her bill. At

some point during a 90 minute (!) high pressure sales pitch, it appears that she had agreed to change providers although she didn't realise it. Even then, all was supposedly not lost as she subsequently received two letters from BT saying 'sorry you are leaving' and giving a number to ring if she wanted to stay with them. She duly did this although it seems to have been a waste of time as her responses were ignored and she was cut off.

To add insult to injury, BT stated that it would take three weeks to reconnect the line as she hadn't even got on the appointment list yet and that she would probably have to have a different number with all the inconvenience that would entail. This was early one morning. By the same afternoon, the line had been reconnected using the original number so why the sudden change? OFCOM had been contacted and took up the case with BT which may have helped to resolve the problem and on receipt of the query, allocated a case number to it so that it could quickly be identified during future contact. It beggars belief that BT, with staff apparently scattered halfway across the known Universe, couldn't something similar. They did kindly(!) say that they would treat her as a new customer and therefore only charge £40 instead of £70 for the reconnection but all these calls to BT took their toll both emotionally and financially as she was relying on a pay as you go mobile and waiting an hour for a response using that was not cheap. Elapsed time now lots and lots and..... Still, some people are OK as BT have just appointed a new boss. On target earnings estimated at £8 million a year....

And the morals of the story are: 1: If you are a BT customer, pray that your phone doesn't develop a fault and 2: If you get a call from a company called Onestream, put the phone down sharpish.

Steve Todd

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Cleobury Mortimer Benefice Services, Events and Activities throughout the Benefice-January

St Mary the Virgin Parish Church, Cleobury Mortimer.

Services: 6th-8.30am Said Eucharist & 11.00am The Eleven O Clock Service. 13th, 20th & 27th-8.30am Said Eucharist & 9.45am Parish Eucharist.

Events/Activities:

Service for the week of Christian Unity-Wednesday 16th. All welcome at 7.00pm.

Farmers Market-Saturday 19th. In and around St Mary's Church, 9.30am-12.30pm.

Messy Church-Sunday 27th. All welcome at the Hub at 3.00pm for Crafts, stories, games & meal Alpha Course-Wednesday 30th. Following the success of the 2018 Alpha Course there will be a supper & introduction. For more details contact Rev Sue Barrett (01299 513211) or Charlie Hou-ston (01299 271556)

St John the Baptist Parish Church, Kinlet.

Services: 6th-10.00am Eucharist, 13th-6.30pm Evensong, 20th-10.00am Matins, 27th-6.30pm Evensong.

St Mary's Parish Church, Neen Savage.

Services: 6th-6.30pm Plough Service, 13th-No service, 20th-6.30pm Evensong, 27th-9.00am Eucharist.

St Michael and All Angels Parish Church, Hopton Wafers.

Services: 6th-10.00am Eucharist, 13th-10.00am Eucharist, 20th-10.00am Family service, 27th-10.00am Eucharist.

Saint John the Baptist Parish Church, Doddington.

Services: 6th-No service, 13th-11.00 Eucharist, 20th-No service, 27th-3.00pm Evening Prayer **Events/Activities**:

Burns Night Meal-Saturday 26th-12.00pm. Fore more details please contact Church Warden, Celia Gibb on 01584 318036.

All Saints Parish Church, Neen Sollars.

Services: 6th-No service, 13th-11.00 Eucharist, 20th-No service, 27th-11.00am Family service.

St George's Parish Church, Milson.

Services: 6th-No service, 13th-No service, 20th -11.00 Eucharist, 27th-No service.

The Church Office open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday mornings from 9.00am-12.30pm Contact details: Sam Adams, cleoburychurch@hotmail.com, Tel: 01299 272916

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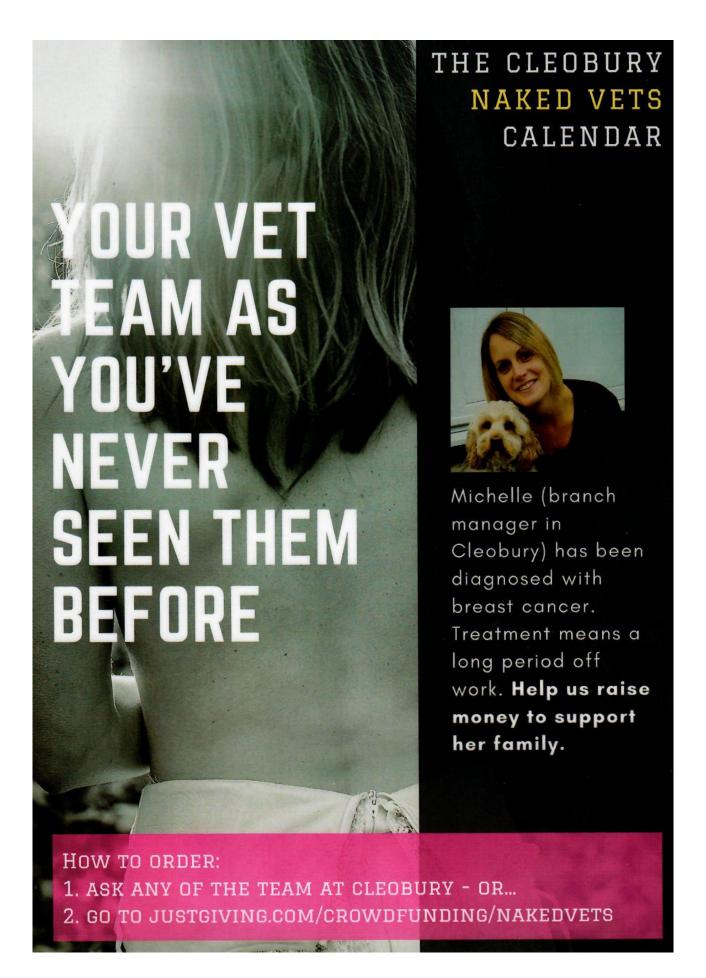
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SUCH AN ASSET

The town's library is one of those assets we can overlook too easily. Until you need to visit the Cleobury Country Centre or the council offices, when you glimpse what a great facility for reading and finding information we have here - and all for free.

Clair Todd and Sam Adams run the place, with a friendly atmosphere and efficiency that doesn't waste time. More than that, they mount seasonsal displays like the 'Christmas Reading at Cleobury Library' that reminds you of the wide selection available.



Christmas Reading choice.

This quiet place may seem sleepy at times, but it's actually pretty busy and does have plans for more attractions. Like the current work on a Simon Evans display area, to commemorate the town's famous author, known to many as the Postman Poet.

Simon came to live in Cleobury on his doctor's instructions that he should continue his work as a postman in a rural area, where the purer air would suit lungs damaged by World War One gas in the trenches. His round took him out to Stottesdon delivering the post, then collecting letters and parcels on the walk back.

He was a prolific writer about the area and had several books published on the subject. There is a selection of them available here.

The plan is for a permanent display area, with artefacts on loan put on show on a rota basis, to keep the appearance fresh. Early days - we'll keep you informed.

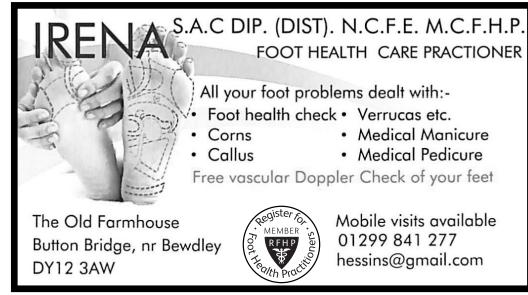
While we were browsing there was a sudden influx of Primary School pupils, with Rachel Beddoes and two classroom assistants returning books and

looking through the colourful children's area for their next read. They did impress with the quiet behaviour you'd expect only from adults in the hushed atmosphere of a library.



Rachel Beddoes guides the children, Sam Adams takes the books.

Deana Kimber, who leads the very popular Reading Group, works here as a volunteer. She smiled as the children walked in, saying "You can see why I come here on Wednesday afternoons." This is not the only children's activity, with tots from the Ever After Nursery coming in every week for Rhyme Time. Great place.



Stephanie's Kitchen has moved!

Up to 44 High Street that used to be Bowketts Butcher's Shop. It's now combined with the Cleobury Curiosity Shop, and is helping the creative community by displaying local artisans and artists' work, which you can admire while you sip a great coffee and nibble a delicious cake. Stephanie is also stocking Bowkett's renowned meats.

The same delicious food, cooked by Stephanie, and now served in more interesting surroundings. Look in and see for yourself.

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Cleobury Clarion - Page 27 - January 2019

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With copy deadlines for this January edition earlier than usual, I cannot use this column to write about the main issue dominating the political landscape, since events are too fast moving. This may well be a relief to many readers. So I will write about the sense of renewal, and renewed purpose, which comes with each New Year as a chance to reflect on the importance of our natural environment.

I have always been an environmentalist. We cannot live in our part of the world and not develop a sense of wonder at nature and love for our countryside. But my return to the back benches a year ago has enabled me to focus on our environment in a more direct way – particularly through the Environmental Audit Committee. There are many significant developments going on right now that will impact on our environment for years to come. At a global level, the UN COP24 climate change conference took place in Poland before Christmas setting the global ambition to reduce emissions.

Nationally I recently signed a letter to the PM pressing for more progress in moving towards zero net emissions. Of particular relevance to South Shropshire is the national review being led by Julian Glover into England's 10 National Parks and 34 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), examining how they meet the nation's needs in the 21st century and whether there is scope for the current network to expand. 51% of the Ludlow Constituency is covered by the Shropshire Hills AONB, so the impact of this review will certainly affect our area. Some have suggested applying for the Shropshire Hills AONB to become a National Park, but I remain to be convinced. National Parks have a significant impact on local policy, particularly through adding a layer of planning bureaucracy, so this would be a big step.

I have invited Julian Glover to visit Shropshire in the Spring, to give him a greater understanding of the relevance of the AONB to South Shropshire, for local people, the environment and the economy. The Forestry Commission is also currently consulting on its five year plan for Mortimer Forest, on the southern border of the Ludlow Constituency, which I hope will boost community access without compromising the protection of the forest. Just before Christmas I met Sir Harry Studholme, Chairman of the Forestry Commission, in Ludlow to discuss options for this plan. I also recently met Shropshire Wildlife Trust and separately the National Trust at Carding Mill Valley, to discuss plans to develop wildlife corridors through the Wilder Marches project.

I have been sitting on the Agriculture Bill committee, helping shape the legislation which will establish the new support system for farming post Brexit. This will have a profound effect on the way farmers are funded to maintain and enhance our rural environment.

The Environmental Audit Committee will have another busy year ahead. In the past 12 months we have covered green finance; heatwaves; sustainability in fashion; hand car washes; the Arctic; reducing nitrate pollution; the government's 25 year plan for regulation; environment; chemicals environmental sustainability; air quality; disposable packing; and recycling of plastic bottles. I have no doubt our work will continue at the same pace this year. As ever, if you wish to raise an issue with me this year, please do get in contact via email onphilip.dunne.mp@parliament.uk or write to me at House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. I will be holding my regular advice surgeries around the constituency. Dates and times are available on my website www.philipdunne.com, and can be booked via my constituency office on 01584 872187.

May I wish you all a very happy New Year. *Philip Dunne*

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THE RUNNING MEDICINE MAN



Ian Whyatt, the friendly face behind the pharmacy and keen advocate of exercise for a better life.

That slim, quiet man beavering away behind the team who serve you in the pharmacy has a secret. He's a keen marathon runner, who took up the sport just five years ago and is now a regular in both fun runs and competitive events. Right now he's in training for the Edinburgh competition in May and is putting in some serious weekend runs.

He commutes to Cleobury from home in Stourbridge, which means a long working day, so why such a demanding hobby? "To keep me sane," he smiles. "It's really good for you both mentally and physically. I'll be doing 15 or 16 miles on Sunday."

He's from Manchester, graduated from the School of Pharmacy in Sunderland and moved to this area for the best of reasons - the love of his life is from the West Midlands. They have three sons, aged 15, 13 and six, which could mean a Team Whyatt entry in the future if the lads follow in dad's running shoe prints.

Ian's determination has seen his performance in the marathon improve from over five hours for his first run to a best so far of four hours and nine minutes for the 26 plus miles. His immediate ambition is to get below four hours in the Edinburgh run and a recent half marathon time does suggest he'll make it.

He ran in the London Marathon in 2018, sponsored for the first time and he has a certificate from Guide Dogs for the Blind's Kidderminster branch, thanking him for raising £1,240.42p for that cause. "That was for fun, it wasn't a serious run. It was baking hot and it

took me about me about five hours. I did it for them because I've got a mate with a guide dog."

He's a great fan of the Cleobury Mortimer Running Club and the progress it has made in little over two years. "They've got great trainers who've qualified for the Boston Marathon," he enthuses. "That's the Holy Grail for distance runners, really very special."

He's not the only medical man out there competing; Dr Paul Thompson of the Medical Centre team is another keen runner. If people that well informed about good health are doing it, you can see why so many others join in.

Ian recommends the Park Run habit, that sees local five kilometre events all over the country. "Its get you out in the country, anyone from six to ninety six," Ian says. "Everyone from the keen competitors who go racing off ahead through to people who just walk. I can't speak highly enough of the benefits for people with mental issues."

So he has a dual approach to the matter of local people's health. He dispenses medicines and encourages exercise that could mean needing less from the pharmacy.

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Tues 1st	Lauren 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY, MAY IT BE A PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUR YEAR FOR US ALL	2	
- Control Control	2.00	New Year's Walk starts at the Parish Church and comes back to the KA for food and maybe a wee tipple!		
Wed 2 nd	10.00	Free NHS hearing aids service and advice		
Fri 5th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Sun 7 th	6.00	Open Mic Night at the Kings Arms, Church Street. Acoustic only		
Mon 8 th	7.00	Town Council meet at The Cleobury Country Centre, Love Lane. Members of the public may address concerns in the first 15 minutes of the meeting		
Wed 9 th	10.00	CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall. Tea/coffee & a slice of cake only £1.50!		
	7.30	Neen Savage WI meet at the village half to hear Mary and Emma talk about Forest Dog Rescue		
	8.00	The Royal British Legion meets at The Bell Inn, Lower Street	Mike Hermolle	01299 271384
Thurs 10 th	V	GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	6.30	The Creative Writing Group meets at the Library	5	
Fri 11th	1.00	Senior Citizen's Party at the Sports and Social Club. PAGE 37		
Sat 12th	2.15	Cleobury RFC meet Burntwood on the School rugby pitch. PAGE 37	3	

THE HEARING AID CLINIC

This free of charge service facility for all NHS hearing aids, normally based in the Community Room at Saint Mary's Close on Love Lane, is unable to operate from that address at the moment. At the time of going to press we were not able to establish where it will be on January 2nd, but do expect signs to be in place to help you trace them on the day.

Possibly in Cleobury Country Centre.

DEFIBRILLATORS

Our appeal in the December issue for local communities to let us known where their defibrillators are located met with an interesting response.

Nobody replied.

We'll put that down to people being busy and preoccupied with Christmas, but will try to contact Parish Clerks once we have the Internet connection active again and ask them for details.



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Thurs 17th		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	7.30	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club. PAGE 37		
Sat 19th	9.30	Cleobury Country Farmers Market is in and around the Parish Church		
Tues 22 nd	2.00	Stroke Support Group meet at the Sports and Social Club. PAGE 37	3	
Wed 23 rd	10.00	CoCo Coffee Morning, Market Hall. Good social occasion and great value.		
	7.30	Clows Top Gardening Club meet at Victory Hall to hear Judy Knight talk about Garden Design	884 - >	
Thurs 24th		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 25 th		Burns@ Night at the Parish Hall, Church Street	Jean Andrews	01746 718557
Thurs 31 st		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYLCE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO FEBRUARY		
Sat 2 rd	2.15	Cleobury RFC meet Wednesbury on the School rugby pitch	-	
Sun 3 rd	10.00	The Parish Walk steps out from the Parish Church. All walkers welcome	- 3	
Thurs 7th		GREEN GARDEN WASTE WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
			1	

THE JACK EDWARDS GLOW RUN

6.30pm, January 25th, Lacon Childe School.

This is the third Glow Run in Jack's memory, which raises money for children's charities.

It costs £12 to enter, with special deals for families and you to enter by the 19th at the latest.

Jack's mum Chrissie Edwards is the contact on

07890 795 053

It's a 5 kilometre run, walk or wheelchair journey around the town, carrying a glow stick. Last year 200 people took part and about £4,000 was raised for charity.

Gather at Lacon Childe at 6.30 and it all starts at 7.00.

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'ROMANY WOOD' LOCAL TALENT ON SHOW

March 25th sees a very special musical evening at Shrewsbury's Severn Theatre. As part of the venue's 10th anniversary with a special touch of deja vu, the locally composed musical 'Romany Wood', featured at that opening, will again be performed on stage.

The origin of the work is a picture book by a Romany, Beshlie, who still lives near Craven Arms. Two notable Cleobury residents combined to turn the story into a musical that has gone on to be performed at a wide range of venues, from the Symphony Hall at Birmingham to the International Children's Festival in Beijing.

David Carr, one time head teacher at Lacon Childe School, wrote the words and has acted as narrator on occasions. The music was composed by David Gaukroger, head of music at Kidderminster College when he was resident in Cleobury, who has gone on to work as a judge at piano competitions in the UK and abroad. And at this Severn Theatre presentation the soloist will be Erika Madi-Jones, a Lacon Childe student now making an international name as a soprano.

The County Youth Orchestra will confirm the strength of local talent by providing the accompaniment, while the choir of children will naturally be drawn from county schools.

The second half of the evening will see pupils from the Birmingham Royal Ballet School dance to the music,

choreographed by Royal Ballet Principal Dancer Kit Holder. It really does promise to be a magical evening.

Some history: 'Romany Wood' was first performed in 2003 as part of a charity evening at Hagley Hall, with comedian Jasper Carrott the compere and TV star Adrian Chiles the The cast was 360 narrator. Kidderminster children, with accompaniment by the English Symphony Orchestra. crowd for that remarkable musical debut was estimated at more than 4,000, all profits going to a local charity.

It is a tribute to the appeal of this work that the evening was such success that Birmingham's Symphony Hall booked the work for an appearance in 2004. City schools were asked to recruit children to sing along with the English Symphony Orchestra and the result was 860 volunteers coming forward. There wasn't room for that many, but with David Carr acting as narrator it was another sell-out. Enough for three more concerts to booked.



The two Davids, Gaukroger left and Carr to the right. Shot at a recording session with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

This was the success that Severn Theatre welcomed for two performances at its 2009 opening. Both nights were sold out a month before the booking deadline, guaranteeing a great launch for the venue's debut. From there 'Romany Wood' has gone on to be performed in York Minster, three times in Worcester Cathedral and for both Classic FM and the BBC's 'Songs of Praise'.

The work has attracted star names like Timothy West, Ian MacMillan, Richard Stilgoe, Nick Owen Alan and Titchmarsh to join in its performances, as well as two stagings for the Royal Charity Gala Performances.

All of this to raise funds for a variety of charitable causes. No precise figure is known, as some performances were for charities outside those raised by the two Davids, Carr and Gaukroger. But those events that can be verified have raised in excess of £100,000

This unique Shropshire success that shows off local talent is sure to sell out quickly.

'ROMANY WOOD'

Severn Theatre, Shrewsbury.

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Cleobury Clarion - Page 36 - January 2019

THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

Unfortunately, we were not able to announce the Christmas/ New Year walks in December's Clarion -but there's still time to join the New Year's Day Walk at 2.00 pm with food served in the Kings Arms afterwards. Next Parish Walk is on Sunday February 3rd at 10.00.

Our November and December work parties made improvements to the footpath from the church at Hopton Wafers. We have been present in Hopton Wafers a lot this year. Six of our ten work parties have been there. Our Food and Ale Trail went that way and we have also been dealing with a long running problem.

The more adventurous walkers will be familiar with the delightful path through Wood Hopton Andrews on Bank. Sadly, about five years ago it was blocked by fallen timber following mass clearance and became hazardous to use. Since then we have been trying to the persuade the owners, Hopton Court Estate, to do something about it. It was not until we asked the Council's enforcement team to get involved that we got a result. It was cleared a couple of months ago, although one fallen tree remains which must be climbed over.

Lastly, our website www.cmfa.co.uk has had a facelift -if you notice a problem please let us know.

Graham Simpson

THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Firstly, a Happy New Year to everyone from the Sports and Social Club. We look forward to welcoming you through our doors in 2019.

We said goodbye to our Bar Steward, Gemma Canty, at the end of 2018, as she moved on to pastures new. At the time of writing, we await to see who our new Bar Steward will be, but look forward to supporting him or her in their new role.

The Senior Citizens Party will be held on Friday, 11th January between 1.00 and 4.00pm. Entertainment will be provided by Cleobury Mortimer Primary School Children's Choir and the ever-popular Trevor Wood.

On Saturday, 12th January, CM Rugby Club will be playing Burntwood, kick off 2.15pm

This month's Whist will be on Thursday, 17th January, starting at 7.30pm.

The Stroke Support Group will meet between 2.00 and 4.00pm on Tuesday, 22nd January. Please contact Katja Jones in the Medical Centre for further details.

On Saturday, 2nd February, CM Rugby Club will be playing Wednesbury, kick off 2.15pm

It's now been just over 12 months since the electronic membership started. Your card will advise when your renewal is due. Membership is £10 for a Family, £5 for an Adult, £3 for a Senior and £5 for a Senior Couple.

The Social Club is available for Sports Clubs, meetings, private and public functions. The Club can be hired for private functions at a cost of £45 for members and £50 for nonmembers. Don't forget how family friendly we are, with loads of space both inside and out. And we have our fabulous Karaoke machine if you fancy a sing-song!

As usual, please contact the Social Club for further information on 01299 271448 or via our Facebook page.

Glenys Turpin

FUNNY BIT

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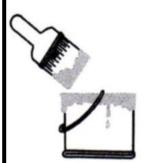
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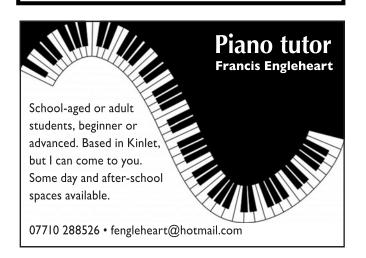
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The rain seems to be trying to make up for lost time. The forest tracks, which were dry and easy to walk in the summer, are slippery clay again and the potholes are opening wider at the passage of each vehicle along our access road. Wellies and overtrousers are de rigueur. This is all part of the winter experience but all too often in recent years we have suffered the more serious problem of flooding, sometimes from the Severn coming upwards but just as often from its tributaries coming downwards.

Just recently we and other local landowners have been introduced to a project called 'Slow the Flow'. Initiated by DEFRA and the Environment Agency, it is part of a national scheme with funding from central government and in our area is being led by Wade Muggleton of Worcestershire County Council. Its aim is to delay the movement of rainwater off the countryside long enough to spread the peaks of storm water runoff. A hold up of just ten minutes can prevent the water contributing to a damaging flash flood.

One solution is to form loosely piled logs into a man-made 'leaky dam' which allows steady flow in normal conditions but causes water to back up during storms. It is just one of the measures which we'll be using: others include making pools and ponds along watercourses and improving the profile of trackways so that rain flows off to the land on each side rather than turning the track into a stream. Other landowners will be planting more trees and hedges, retaining water along the contours of the land so that it is not able to run straight downhill, and deliberately blocking field drains to create boggy areas. All this is pretty ironic, considering the extent to which advice for improving agricultural productivity in the last 100 years has urged (and the government has grant-aided) land drainage schemes and hedge removal! Loss of woodland and over-stocking of sheep in upland areas has also contributed to the risk of flooding: a risk that will increase with weather changes linked to climate change.

This new aspect of countryside management will be good news for wildlife and for those who love to walk the paths of the Wyre Forest and its neighbouring landscape. It will also help to conserve part of the natural world which is often overlooked but which is absolutely vital - the soil.

For more information on 'Slow the Flow' please contact Wade on wmuggleton@worcestershire.gov.uk.

Linda Iles





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THE SOROPTIMISTS

After the enjoyable activities of the festive season we now look to the year ahead. Our first Business meeting will take place on January 3rd. As usual, 7.30 at Baxter Church Rooms, Bullring, Kidderminster.

Our January Supper/Speaker meeting at La Brasserie, Kidderminster will be at 7.00 on Thursday 17th January 17th. and we look forward to an interesting talk by Stephanie Eddies-Davies on "Changing Lives through Horses".

The month's commitments will finish, as usual, on the last Thursday, the 31st with our regular informal coffee morning from 10.00 at the George Hotel in Bewdley. Do come along and meet some of us.

For more details about the club and its activities and meetings contact us: Tel. 01299 266101 or e m a i l : kidderminstersorop@gmail.com Website: http://sigbi.org/kidderminster-and-district/Facebook: Soroptimists Kidderminster

Visitors are always welcome! *Elke Jury*

FOR YOUR DIARIES, GOOD PEOPLE.

Early notice of a very popular fund raising day out in the Lovely Worcestershire countryside. On May 5th it will be Pound the Bounds day around Rock village, as hundreds of walkers choose their routes and help raise money for the Midlands Air Ambulance.

We'll keep you posted as more information comes in. This is a really popular event for all, including families.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FUND RAISER

We'll be doing a Bag2School collection at the beginning of the new year. Everyone is welcome to bag up any unwanted clothes (a post-Christmas wardrobe clear-out perhaps?) and drop them outside the school office between 8:30 and 9am on Tuesday 15th January.

Bag2School will then collect and sell our big pile of bagged, unwanted textiles to importers and wholesalers in many countries of Eastern and Western Europe, Africa and Asia.

This is a win-win for all as it benefits the Circular Economy and the weight of textiles is converted into a monetary cheque for Cleobury Mortimer Primary School. Donations can be brought up to the school in bin liners, or official Bag2School collection sacks will be available from the school office just before the Christmas holidays.

Helen Rodgers

MORE FOR YOUR DIARIES

What will you be doing on June 29th this year? Perhaps the Cleobury Festival Volunteers can make life a little easier for you. Just put the date in your diary now, so you don't have to think about it any more. Stay in town and catch what will be going on.

Festival planning time is here and we wanted to give as much notice as possible, so please don't forget.

While we are here, if you would like to help as a volunteer or Festival Ambassador on the day, to help with the smooth running of the event or you

have helpful ideas, please call the number below.

See you on June 29th. Paul French 01299 270010

SOLID BRASS GENEROSITY

Cleobury Concert Brass had a very special visitor back in November. He was from Brass for Africa, here to collect some of the band's old instruments and help to ship them back to that continent to encourage new talent to play. Great idea.

CLOWS TOP MUSIC IS BACK

There's another Shindig event at Victory Hall in Clows Top on February 1st. It features Mister Keith, a band offering a blend of traditional and more modern (but not too modern) music that has won them praise like "A gem" from little **FATEA** Magazine and "Stunning" from BBCCoventry Warwickshire. If you can stir the stolid folks of Warwickshire to such enthusiasm you must have something good to offer.

It's on February 1st and tickets are £10.00 from Rachel on 07788 604 542. And there's a licensed bar, which seems only right for traditional English music.

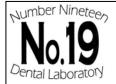
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Bishop Desmond Tutu



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LOOKING BACK

Goodbye 2018, the year we commemorated the centenary of the dreadful hostilities in mainland Europe ending in 1918. Cleobury Mortimer put a great deal of time and effort into the occasion, with the November 11th parade a fitting finale to four years of remembering.

The World War One Group deserve praise and thanks for what they did and from their initial meeting in February of 2014 to their final official meeting on November 16th 2018 it is worth recalling some of the highlights.

The first public presence was a silent parade through the town on August 3rd, followed by a church service. The next day we had a 'Lights Out' evening to recall the effect throughout the country when lights were dimmed or dowsed in order to give the enemy no visible guidance.

Later that month the History Society published Volume 11 of their Cleobury Chronicles series, giving biographies of all those named on the town's World War One memorial. It was a prodigious work that won much admiration and praise and in September the Parish Council agreed to buy a copy for every school child. Robert Hodge of the History Society gave a talk to pupils at Lacon Childe before handing out copies.

Two months later the Cleobury Players staged R C Sherriff's 'Journey's End' in the Parish Church, where a very impressive set gave a hint of conditions in the trenches. The explosions at the end left the audience in no doubt that warfare was no picnic.

After a relatively quiet period, when no great event happed in public but much was being planned, Paul French began his series of articles in the Cleobury Clarion, careful research revealing much that we had no known. The series lasted though until November 2018 and was much praised.

In November 2017 all the background work began to emerge, with a 'Lest We Forget' bench installed in the War Memorial Garden, then in April 2018 a bench and litter on the same theme were erected in The Wells. Two months later the steel outline of 'Silent Soldiers', symbols of the war with the simple legend 'Lest We Forget' part of their steel structure arrived. We had sentries

guarding both ends of the town and an extra patrol ready to attend other events.

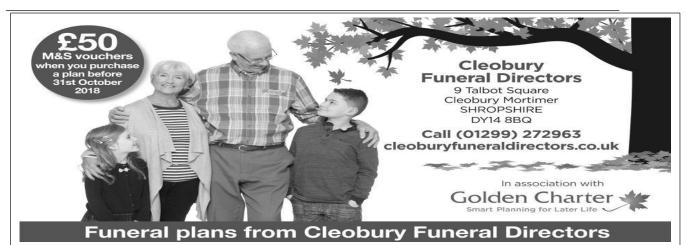
In September the Royal British and the Town Council co-operated to have a Centenary Plaque installed on the front wall of the Market Hall, matching the original placed there many years ago and lending symmetry to the southern aspect of the building. It was dedicated in a ceremony on the 15th and a sponsors' plaque inside the building acknowledged the generosity of those who had helped finance the installation.

There was a natural acceleration of events as November approached. A long planned four-page supplement in the Cleobury Clarion, penned by Dr Mark Baldwin, formed a modest reminder of the occasion and on the 10th and 11th an exhibition of contemporary memorabilia added to the atmosphere that could be felt through the town.

Remembrance Sunday, November 11th 2018 will long be remembered as an event that showed the respect this community has for those they are too young to have known but whose willingness to fight is evidenced in the names engraved on the cenotaph in the Memorial Garden. They did not give their lives willingly, but they lost them bravely and should be remembered with respect for ever.

The final reminder of these various events and the simple bravery they recall was the placing of a memorial sculpture in the Parish Church before it moves on around the county until it finally rests in Saint Chad's Church in Shrewsbury.











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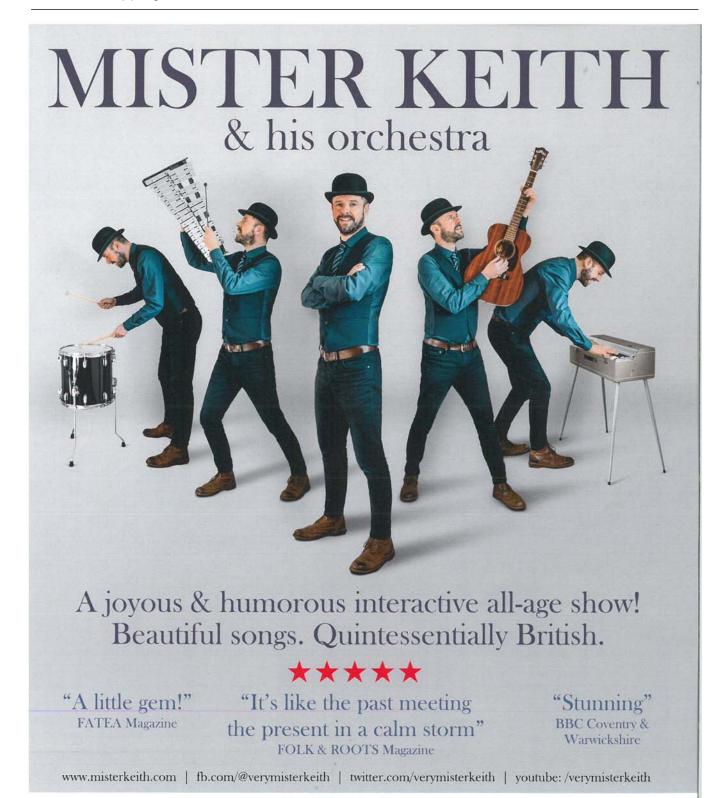
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SHROPSHIRE HILLS FIVE YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN

A new Plan has been drafted and is available for public consultation. The draft is the result of work among partners in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership over the last year and a half. We welcome comments from anyone who has an interest in the area. To view the document online follow the is a link http://www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk/a-special-place/management-plan/

The Plan sets out draft policies of the local authorities, and proposed actions for a wider variety of partners, under three main aims:

- a)Land management supporting natural beauty and landscape.
- b) Planning for a sustainable economy and communities.
- c) People enjoying and caring about the landscape

For further information please contact AONB Manager, Phil Holden, on 01743 254741 or at phil.holden@shropshire.gov.uk.Stephanie Hayes Promotions Officer

Shropshire Hills AONB

PRAISE FROM NINEVEH RIDGE

I would just like to say how fantastic the Davis Family in Mamble are for running The Great North Run as a fund raiser for us again this year

Nineveh Ridge Care Farm is a not for profit organisation, offering alternative and innovative day opportunities to Adults with Special Needs. Our motto is to 'Enable, Nurture and Inspire' our service users to try something new, to achieve a little bit more, and to feel valued for their input into the farm.

Although most of our service users are funded by either Worcestershire or Shropshire County Council, there are several that for various reasons do not receive funding, and yet are in desperate need of help. We rely quite heavily on donations, either of money, or of equipment (wood, craft items, paints, animal feed) to keep this growing business afloat.

This is not the first time that the Davis family: Paul, Julie and Eleanor have come to our aid: they have run the Great North Run for us twice now, and they also put on live music evenings for us in Mamble: If I added up the total of all all of their fundraising events, it would be several thousand pounds.

So, to finish, I'd like to say a massive thank you not only to Paul, Julie and Eleanor, but also to all of the generous donors: your help is invaluable to us.

Pippah Bannister

CATHERTON COMMON UPDATE

Every year all of Shropshire Wildlife Trust reserves are given an 'audit'. The group will look at one or two aspects of each reserve (for instance the amount and age of gorse or a detailed survey of flowers on part of the reserve), and then report their findings to the Trust and particularly the Reserves Officers.

This year they carried out a condition assessment of the marshy area full of sphagnum moss on Upper Marshes. The very wet area in the North East of the reserve funnelling down between Catherton and Cramer Gutter, one of the most important and fragile habitats on the reserve. The survey showed that it was in 'Good Condition', despite the dry summer that has left parts of this area still without surface water even now!

Over the last 3 years volunteers have worked on the mire habitat to remove trees that had been encroaching for years. These shade out many of the plants and suck up tons of water, drying out the area. I am sure this valuable work has gone a long way to help maintain the condition despite the difficult weather experienced.

Clive Dean



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PLASTIC: NOT SO FANTASTIC

Because Louise Francis is such a devoted contributor and a real ambassador for reducing consumption, plastic we've retrieved some of December tips that didn't make issue because that of the editor's lack of internet connection. And after those few clippings, you can read here January tips. A busy and determined lady. JR

When wrapping leftover food, choose to use reusable plastic containers over single use, plastic based cling film. Waxed paper is another alternative eco friendly way to conserve leftovers.

Choose gifts carefully to be sure the recipient definitely wants them. (Or as my 12 year nephew says, "Give old everybody money then they can buy something they actually want") Consider giving experience rather than physical gift eg theatre/spa/ restaurant vouchers. Or annual membership.

If buying bathroom products make sure they are microbead

free to avoid adding to the micro plastic problem in the water.

Keep up with all the other plastic reduction tips you have already adopted (eg take your refillable water bottle reusable hot drink cup when making the seasonal long journeys to visit relatives, take your reusable shopping bags when Christmas shopping, have bars of soap in your bathroom, avoid plastic bin liners)

For further details on these ideas and others, visit
The Marine Conservation
Society website and their
campaign "Stop the plastic tide"
Friends of the Earth and
zerowasteweek.co.uk

Tip for January : Take up Plogging.

If you were wondering what new fitness activity to take up in 2019 as a New Year's Resolution, have you considered Plogging? Plogging is a new pastime that combines going for a jog at the same time as picking up litter. You pick litter and you jog – hence the term 'plog.' It started in Sweden and has spread to other countries, following increased concern about plastic pollution. As a workout, it

provides variation in body movements by adding bending, squatting and stretching to the main action of running. All you need to plog is your running gear, a bag for litter, and ideally a pair of gloves to protect your hands. Taking this litter home and disposing of it through the domestic recycling bins will help protect our local environment and wildlife from plastic pollution.

I guess for some of us Plalking might be more appropriate! But whatever speed you choose to go at, removing plastic litter from our beautiful town and Shropshire countryside whilst keeping fit can only be good! Now, time to Plalk that dog!

Happy New Year from Cleobury Plastic Reduction Group.

If you have any ideas on how to reduce our single use plastic usage in 2019 and beyond, we would love to hear from you. Plastic:Not So Fantastic will promote tips you send us. You can contact us by email at: Neil.tysall@cleobury.org.uk

Louise Francis



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April Boardman Reiki Master ITEC MFHT Dip Hyp Do you have aches & pains, ongoing health issues or just need to relax? Help is at hand!

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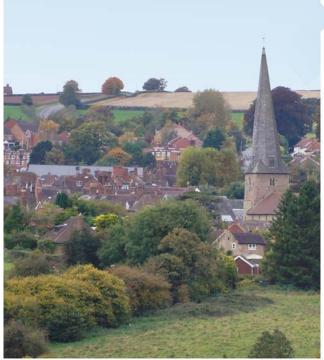
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The Town Council Report

December 2018 Clarion

The latest update we have on the new crossing to be sited near the Co-Op is that Shropshire Council now plan to do it in February half term. We are trying to arrange a meeting with Shropshire Council, as we have some concerns about access and any proposed road closures. We will be working hard to make sure all concerns are listened to, especially for the Medical Centre and community needs, pushing for night road closures if required. We will keep you updated of our efforts to minimise any disruptions.

We are still having complaints of cars badly parked on pavements, blocking dropped kerbs, using disabled bays with no badge. We have asked that the police look at this for us and have also asked for parking enforcement to visit more frequently.

NOTE FOR THE DIARY Saturday 29th JUNE 2019

This is the confirmed date for the next Cleobury Festival, with events in the Town, Market Hall, Schools and on the Field, so make sure you are free and keep an eye out for more details. If you wish to help with this as a volunteer, please contact the Town Council office.

When you report issues with us, some of them do not come under our remit, like potholes or damaged Kerbs and they have to be passed up to Shropshire Council to repair. So, when we report things that have been reported to us by you, we are doing all we can to get it done, but it sometimes takes a little longer.

We would like to congratulate all the business owners with their festive displays in windows and around the Town, showing true community spirit. They are really good, making it is such a pleasure to walk down the street and also very encouraging for visitors. Well done!

The Christmas lights are up and getting good comments again and we do have a few of us keeping an eye on the lights over the festive period just in case of any issues, and when reported to us through the normal channels. We do our best to rectify it promptly when aware.

We hope you all had a Happy Christmas and enjoy a prosperous New Year for 2019. Enjoy the festivities and please stay safe!

Cleobury Mortimer Town Council.



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Community Contacts for Clarion Readers

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

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

THE DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE IS JANUARY 22nd

Editor and Advertising Sales: Jim Reynolds, 4 Childe Road, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 8PA. Telephone: 01299 270642 Mobile: 07410 977 212

E-Mail: editor@cleoburyclarion.co.uk or uncle.jim@icloud.com

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Residential Sales

Earlier this year, Lloyds Bank reported that the number of first-time buyers rose by 3% to 175,500 sales in the first half of 2018. And new data just released by UK Finance shows that the number of property valuations or first-time buyers has risen by 2.7% in our region.

First-time buyers being able to buy property is great news for the whole market, because they are the vital first cog in the ch which helps transactions to move forward. Our local market is particularly good for first-time buyers because we have such a wide range of property types available.

Erica Hinwood MARLA MNAEA Office Manager

Lettings

Here at Nock Deighton we know how valuable floor plans are when it comes to letting property - so we have decided to incorporate this information for all rental properties as standard. Floor plans being increasingly recognised as a vital aid for potential tenants with many saying they would not even look at a property unless it came with this necessary extra. Very few agents provide this service but it has proved to be an aid in finding a tenant more quickly and we are happy to adopt the policy as an additional and important part of our service, as it's clear people do value seeing floor plans.

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