

The Cleobury Clarion



SERVING CLEOBURY COUNTRY

July 2015

KUDOS BLENDS

'EXPORTER OF THE YEAR'

The Kudos Blends success story keeps on growing. At the Hereford and Worcester Chamber of Commerce awards evening in June, this young Cleobury Mortimer company was acclaimed Exporter of the Year. The award was sponsored by Malvern Instruments.

The organisers stated that the number of applications received exceeded expectations and were of 'an extremely high standard'.

So it's hearty congratulations to the whole team up there on the Bridgnorth Road, where they do all pull together as they conquer more markets and no doubt will win more business and awards. Credit also to Nick Gill Exports of Kidderminster for their logistical support in the global drive for business and meeting customers' needs.

THE CLARION BACKS

SIMON EVANS WEEKEND

In this world of huge sponsor-ship deals, a modest cheque doesn't make a much of a wave. But in a tight knit community like Cleobury Mortimer, a drop of cash to meet a few bills as we remember a local celebrity can ease the organisers' worries.

So I was happy to draw a few notes from Lloyds and hand them over to the Friends of the Library. They have worked hard to build up a series of attractions over the weekend of August 8th to the 10th, as we remind you in this issue. And the committee is a friendly blend of differing talents who listen to one another and spark ideas. They are a pleasure to work with.

Do please support their time and effort next month - I feel sure anyone with a love of words will enjoy it. JR

TWO PAGES OF JOBS

It's a good sign when we have two pages devoted to job opportunities in the area. It means that once more the Weekly Social Calendar is missing, but that is the easy one to lose when there are jobs on offer and people out there looking for them.

The Clarion does attract the occasional job advert from a local company who never buy space for a commercial ad. That doesn't matter, what is important is local people knowing about the jobs on offer around here. It's also a strong indication that adverts in these pages work.

VAL HARVEY

We learned just a week ago that Val Harvey, who ran a friendly little hardware shop with husband Ken in Talbot Square, died recently. They had been living in Yorkshire, but she asked that some of her ashes be scattered on the Clee Hill they loved so much.



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The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page

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

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

THE DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST ISSUE IS JULY 24th

Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers and Emails

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

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

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

CLEOBURY CARERS - Wendy Duley CM 270562

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

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

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

CLEOBURY MORTIMER GUIDES: Dorothy McBride 07761 976610

CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS: Ingrid Purslow CM 270314

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

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

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

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

MARKET HALL- Dorothy CM272717, 07761 976650 mobile, or dorothymcbride@cleobury.org.uk

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

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

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

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

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

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

SAINT MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT - Mark Greaves 07828 116810, mark.stmarys@live.co.uk

SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL - 0345 678 9000

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

VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME - 01299 666119. Mrs Val Simpson is the coordinator.

WASTE DISPOSAL - 0345 678 9007. The contractor is Veolia



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Nicholas Hughes on 01562 822295 or Wendy Beaumont on 01299 822033

The Cleobury Clarion. July 2015



*Historic Hope Bagot.
Full of mystery.
See Page 7.*



*Kelly quits the cruising life
and joins Kim.
See Page 23.*



*In Business:
James Smith, Osteopath.
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

LACON CHILDE PROJECT AT HISTORIC HOPE BAGOT



Danny Phillips (left) and Max Woodhall under the 2,000 year old yew tree.

Students from Lacon Childe School have completed a 12 week project recording ancient gravestones in Hope Bagot churchyard. They worked with Richard Morley of South Shropshire Youth Project, in partnership with Craven Arms based charity Caring For God's Acre and also Historic Graves. As well as learning about the local landscape, they did practical conservation work and recorded 125 ancient gravestones that will be added to the Historic Graves database.

The course ended with an Open Day, when students took visitors on a tour of the very hilly churchyard, Danny Phillips and Max Woodall explaining in detail the many historic features. The 2,000 year old yew tree is a piece of history in its own right, and below it is a well that is claimed to have provided water for some 10,000 years.

The church is the right size for a small rural community, compact. At the base of one corner is an old millstone as part of the structure, a good example of using whatever material you have to hand. My guide for this mini tour was Ed Sharrad, another well versed student who knew his stuff.

The churchyard itself is a rare gem, Susan Cooper of Caring for God's Acre explaining that the wild meadow grass there includes 80 different grass and flower species. She also told how such areas are being lost: 97 percent of such grassland gone, which makes this a very special place indeed. Hope Bagot is well worth a visit.

THE READING GROUP

The group met on a fine summer's evening in the mood to discuss what some have described as a "holiday read" - 'The Island' by Victoria Hislop.

Although the setting is the isle of Crete, it is in fact a realistic account of how the Cretans coped with the infectious disease of leprosy. And the island in the title is the leper colony of Spinalonga. A well researched book which taught us all a lot about this disfiguring and often fatal disease. Victoria's writing style wasn't to everybody's liking, but all agreed it well worth reading. We'd recommend it. This month we have 'The Piano Tuner' by Daniel Mason to read and we meet in the Library on July 20th to swap views. *Graham Simpson*

FOUNTAIN FESTIVAL

The Royal Fountain will be open over the weekend of the 3rd and 4th for their Summer Beer Festival. 4.00 to midnight both days, with a selection of real ales and ciders, hog roast and live music on offer. The Haunted Souls are back on Friday with their stompy folk style that made Christmas at the Fountain a hit, and on Saturday The Festivals Experience perform covers from the festival scene. Prepare to feel your feet tapping.

Good to see this popular pub back in temporary action. More details about the weekend if you call them on CM 272720.





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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

R.N.L.I. THANKS

We held a treasure hunt for the lucky square number at the Farmers' Market on May 16th. The lucky number was 22 and the winner kindly donated the prize money to the event, which raised £85.

The yellow welly badges raised a total of £38.30 and the street collection on May 30th realised £256.60.

We are very grateful for the support shown and thank all who contributed. We look forward to your continued support, helping the RNLI in work training people in water safety and saving lives at sea.

Elizabeth Burton

Secretary, RNLI Cleobury branch

PENSAX THRIFT SHOP

Can we remind you that Pensax Thrift Shop is open for business, offering a wide range of goods for sale, including plants, produce and cakes, as well as clothes, household linens, bric-a-brac, toys and books.

A friendly welcome awaits you, whether you simply want to browse and pick up some bargains, have a cup of coffee and a chat, or bring in some no-longer-needed items of your own to sell. We're open every Wednesday morning 9.00 to 11.15 at Pensax Village Hall on

the B4202. We look forward to seeing you.

Pauline Briggs

THE BIKING BARBERS

It's certainly an eye catching title for a new business. In this instance, on the High Street in Clee Hill Village, where proprietor Wendy explained that she and daughter Mandy are long term addicts of mounting biking. They also have an established shop over the border in Wales, so they know what it takes to run such a place. We wish them well.

Biking Barbers are actually in the shop that Hair Razor was supposed to be operating, but that venture never did get going. Didn't pay for their Clarion advert either, so we don't have a good word to say about that title.

HELP THE HOSPICE

The Severn Hospice shop needs clean wrapping material for fragile objects. At present demand frequently outstrips supplies. If you have items delivered in tissue paper, bubble wrap, or foam sheets, don't throw the wrapping away. Instead, please drop it into the shop. For larger quantities we may be able to arrange a collection. Perhaps you know of a business where unwanted packing is stored or

scrapped? If so, please let us know, we would be very grateful for your help.

Gayna, Jayne and the volunteers.

BEWDLEY W.I.

Last September two members of the Worcestershire Federation of WI's came to Bewdley to see if there was any interest in forming a Bewdley WI.

They booked a small meeting room and waited to see if anyone would turn up. Ladies started to drift in and it became clear the room was too small and luckily the main hall was free so they moved in. 65 women turned out and from then the group has not looked back. The first Monday of the month there is always a cup of tea, time to socialise and lots of outings and events are organised.

To find out more, just come along to St George's Hall in Load Street, where you will be made very welcome. Find out more about us on Facebook or ring WI House on 01905 641658. The next meeting is on Monday July 6th at 7.30pm.

Susan Humphries

SILLY BIT

United Airlines announcement: "People, we're not choosing furniture here. Please find a seat and get in it!"

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

AUTHOR SEEKING LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

I am writing a book on the history of City of Coventry School (now the Pioneer Centre), at Cleobury Mortimer and my notes have reached 1970. A tragic accident occurred in or near Kinlet village on 9th July 1970. It resulted in the death of Susan Rowland, the eldest daughter of Mr Rowland who was the headmaster of City of Coventry School in the early 1960's. It was the culmination of a double tragedy as Mr Rowland died in an accident on the M6 motorway in 1963.

The Rowland family lived in the area for many years and their graves are in Neen savage Churchyard; I am trying to find out more about the accident involving Susan. I understand from historical press reports that another car was involved and the driver was a Patricia Jones of Sherrall House, Kinlet. Mrs Jones' daughter Denise Jones was also in the car and according to reports survived the accident. I think, although this needs confirmation, that Mrs Jones was emerging from her driveway onto the main road and was struck by Susan Rowland's car, resulting in the deaths of both women.

The details I have are sketchy as the Kidderminster paper does not go into much detail about the circumstances of the accident. I am wondering whether anybody who lives in the area remembers the details and if so could they contact me, so that I can describe the events more fully in my book. My office number is 02476 210276 or mobile 07770 603785

I cannot find any present day references to Sherrall House so I am wondering if the name of the property has been changed.

Paul Blundell

AND AN AUTHOR LACKING KNOWLEDGE?

I notice that Mumford's are promoting a book by Billy C. Mumford titled "Cleobury Mortimer - A Small Market Town Blighted by a Decade of Political Corruption". The publisher's press release makes mention of "declining community", "warring factions" and "disturbing psychopathic traits within society".

What absolute drivel. We came to live in Cleobury six years ago and have only found "disturbing psychopathic traits" evident in one very tiny part of the town. For the rest we have found the people to be wonderfully friendly and hospitable. Just a

quick walk into the village to do a bit of shopping will invariably result in numerous "good days", "nice weather", "awful weather" or a stop to have a chat with someone, whether friend or stranger. Those serving in the shops are almost always friendly, polite and efficient, and also good for a bit of a chat. We have found a very friendly and welcoming community within St. Mary's Church and are eternally amazed by the energy and drive shown in the running of all the events within the town. To cap it all we are blessed with a fantastic array of shops and services for a place this size, providing for most of our needs right on our doorstep. And I think I forgot to mention the glorious countryside around us providing for an array of great walks, both short and long.

No Billy C. Mumford, with your bleak outlook on life, we do not live in a blighted small town but in a little slice of Heaven.

Jonathan Fair.

Editor's Note: I ignore anything written by a person afraid to put their name to it, so will not review this work. I am told there are a number of errors and perhaps there's one on the front cover: shouldn't the nom de plume be Silly B Mumford? JR

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Clarion Clippings -- The Local News

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

TOM'S OFF TO THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Tom Keeley, one of the eight artistic gymnasts heading for Los Angeles The Special Olympics will be held in Los Angeles from July 25th to August 2nd. And in the British team will be local man Tom Keeley, one of the best of the country's artistic gymnasts in this class. There will be a special reception for the athletes at the American Embassy in London on July 21st, before the team heads West.

This is the climax of two years training for Tom, when he's had to travel as far as Glasgow and Swansea for special sessions. He admits he's "A little bit nervous" about the coming contest, when he'll have to complete six different pieces in

front of the judges. He'll be in a hotel with the team, while dad, mum and younger brother have their accommodation booked elsewhere in the city.

Tom's not the only one who's worked hard for this. Parents Andrew and Becky have backed him all the way and locals have too. "We'd like to thank all the people in Cleobury who helped with fund raising," Andrew said. Like a Quiz Night at the Old Lion that raised a cool £500. In all, the family will have spent about £5,000 to get Tom out there and go and cheer for him. We wish him every success and hope he comes back with another medal to add to his growing collection.

And then he faces the next big task, finding a job, having just left The Academy in Kidderminster. He'll certainly have an impressive CV to offer.

CLOWS TOP

GARDENING CLUB

The garden should now be looking its best. The borders full of colour, scents such as roses and sweet peas filling the air and the vegetable garden producing fine crops. Long summer evenings can be enjoyed to the full. But there's always something to do. Make

sure you feed hanging baskets. Dead head roses, sweet peas, bedding plants and perennials to keep them blooming. Take cuttings from favourite tender plants for wintering indoors. Cuttings can also be taken from shrubs and herbaceous perennials.

At our May meeting Leigh Griffiths gave an interesting talk on metal detecting. She is a local girl who does most of her detecting in fields with permission from local farmers. She came along with some of her finds: coins, brooches, bracelets, spindle whorls and pottery. Interesting artefacts that certainly opened our eyes to what can be found in a recently ploughed field.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday July 22nd, when Nick Tristram-Eve will talk about Chocolate.

ROCK PATHFINDER THURSDAY WALKS

July 2nd: 7.00pm, start from Adams Hill car park, Clent. OS Ref: 926798

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

STOTTESDON W.I.

One of Cleobury's great success stories has been the rise of Hobsons Brewery from a small local enterprise to winner of national awards, whilst continuing to support many community, environmental, sporting and arts projects. It was a popular choice for our summer outing.

Tim Davies was our host for the evening, inviting us to sample the range of beers over a ploughman's supper, before giving us a guided tour of the production areas. Increasing demand is necessitating a continuous programme of upgrades, which already include a heat exchange system for vat cooling whilst providing heat and power for the buildings. Many thanks for a fascinating tour of a business which deserves to continue to thrive.

For July's meeting Jane Ward will present Shimanay Orchids at Chorley Village Hall on July 15th at 7.30 pm. Cleobury's gardeners are more than welcome to join us.

Marian Wootton

CLEOBURY'S SWIFTS

One of the few sorrows my wife and I were having for recently leaving East Kent to live in

Cleobury is that we would miss the swirl and screech of swifts.

We had a house in the newly converted Royal Marines School of Music in Walmer in 2000. The buildings were tall with big roof overhangs and lots of ideal nest holes for this wonderful bird. In ten years numbers dropped dramatically from around 20 pairs to only three in 2014. This was mainly due to overzealous house decorators filling soffit holes and to owners not being aware of the danger to swifts.

Last year we started a study group to try and retain our small swift population. We recorded sites, put up nesting boxes and kept the ex barrack community informed. This year I am told there are six nesting pairs and a community much more aware of this fascinating bird. Let us hope we have arrested the decline and the swift population will increase.

In May this year, we were delighted to find that Cleobury has its own swift colony which seems to be thriving and busy. Though difficult to count I believe there are over 25 pairs of swift circling the sky over Cleobury. Swift by name and certainly swift by nature, they spend all of their time on the wing except to lay eggs and brood their young. Swifts nest

here from May to July, returning to Africa for the rest of the year. The juveniles may not be mature the following year but return here with the colony. This means that many spend the whole of the first two years of their life without landing at all. They delight us with a short play period of chase and scream before roosting at around 8000 feet each night. They even mate midair which rather trumps the human "mile high club".

Given our experience in Walmer I hope that Cleobury can retain its swifts through information, interest and appreciation.

Kit Smith

NEEN SAVAGE W.I. SALE

We are holding a table top sale at Cleobury Mortimer Sports and Social Club to raise funds for CM First Responders and Neen Savage WI.

Charges will be £5 per table and the event will run from 10.00am till 1.00 on Saturday August 22nd. Refreshments will be available and the bar at the club will also be open from around midday. Please contact Julie on 07896 707999 to book a table.

This is a great opportunity for anyone wanting to have a clear out and make a bit of money in the process.

Julie Tobin

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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

The Dangers and Prevention of Leptospirosis



Leptospirosis is a widespread bacterial disease that affects dogs, rodents and many other species. It's transmitted through contact of urine from infected animals, either directly or indirectly from a contaminated environment. Common sources include slow moving or still water, such as streams or lakes contaminated with the urine of infected rodents.

In truth any dog which is exercised outdoors may be at risk of contracting the bacterial disease.

In its early stages it is often difficult to diagnose in dogs. If left untreated it can progress to potentially fatal liver or kidney failure. Symptoms usually include a sudden fever, soreness, lethargy, vomiting or diarrhoea, red speckled gums and a jaundicing of the skin.

Leptospirosis is also a 'zoonotic' disease, which means it can infect humans and is equally serious in its risk. In humans the disease is known as 'Weils disease'. It is therefore very important to prevent your dog from becoming infected and shedding bacteria in its urine to minimise any risk to humans.

The best way to protect your dog from Leptospirosis is to vaccinate. Vaccines against Leptospirosis provide immunity for

one year, but that immunity is likely to wane thereafter. The vaccines are typically administered alongside other routine vaccinations as part of a regular booster regime.

Leptospirosis vaccines have been available for over five decades. All of them targeting the two most common forms of the bacterium.

However in recent years, across the UK, Europe and the USA, new strains of Leptospirosis have emerged and in many cases are more prevalent than the original forms. For this reason experts have recommended the use of newer vaccines which target four strains of the disease rather than the traditional two, providing better protection for your pet and family.

To ensure the best possible care for your animals make sure to ask your vet for the L4 Vaccination Protocol.

Jo Wright RVN

Our thanks to Jo, a nurse and Branch Manager with the group, seen here with her Domestic Short Hair 'Roxy' and tortoise. She's been with Severn Edge ten years and knows a great deal about care and keeping pets in the best of health. She also recommends:

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Happening on High Street

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

It was good to walk down the High Street on Sunday morning, June 14th, and see people tidying up the beds around the trees that grace the town centre.

They were members of the Horticultural Society, happy to give their time to make the place look better for all of us.

KELLY JOINS KIM



There's a returned face at Kim Stanley's Health and Beauty Salon. Kelly Allen used to work with Kim, but took up the chance to sail away by taking a post with Steiner to run salons on P & O cruise

liners. That meant sailing around the Mediterranean and the Caribbean on a luxury liner; whatever possessed the girl to do such a thing?

She learned a lot during her time away, managing the salon on each liner and having to circulate and introduce herself to the passengers. She's been trained in the Steiner way of operating and can offer Indian Head Massage and Forearm Massage - that's using the forearms instead of hands.

She's working full time at Health and Beauty and with her skills on hand, Kim can now offer an additional late night opening until 8.00 o'clock on Thursdays. "It's lovely to have someone with such skills," enthused Kim. "We'll be a good team."

LONDIS LOOKING AHEAD

Gwillam Butler is looking forward to the new card shop that will be set up in the Londis store very soon. He's still officially the postmaster at Clee Hill, but is clearly looking forward to the new challenge of building business at the town centre store.

EARLY BEANS

Julie at Carrot Tops was very pleased to get an early delivery of Broad Beans before July. "I was standing there at the farm as they were picking them, it was a lovely sight," she smiled at the memory. You don't get much fresher than that.

NEW AT RED HARE

There's always a smiling greeting when you walk into the Red Hare Salon. No wonder they're always busy.

Their latest offering is a Kevin Murphy Treatments idea. It's 15 minutes of intensive treatment, including a ten minute head massage before you choose what you want from the menu. That covers treatment to give your hair volume, strength, anti ageing, blonde brightening or moisturising.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CLEOBURY CARERS

RELAX

The Cleobury Carers Group had a relaxed day in May, with their garden party at Chris and Janet Manley's house in Tenbury Road. Nothing formal, just carers and cared-for meeting and chatting over a cup of tea and a plate of sandwiches and cakes from the carers' own fair hands.



No wonder he's smiling. Les Hall has just won a bottle of House of Commons claret presented by Philip Dunne MP. Janet Manley (left) and Care Support Officer Dice Buchanan handed it over.

Dice Buchanan, the Care and Support Development Officer for the south of the county, was

there and looking very happy at the support that brought 35 to 40 people through the gate. She's an interesting lady, explaining that the group exists to share burdens with one another and help people realise they are not alone in their need.

The group is self supporting and thriving - typical Cleobury Mortimer, in fact - but Dice is there to advise and help them find solutions to problems. This gathering was part of the national Carers' Week, which tells you there is a growing awareness of the need to share and talk. The people gathered covered care problems from teenage to old age; all drew strength from one another.

KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

The last few weeks of this school year are upon us and we can't believe how quickly this has come around. Our eldest children have recently started their transition visits to 'Big School' which is very exciting, and of course there has been lots to tell. We have also been keeping a close eye on our peas, for Cleobury in Bloom, and will soon be having a visit from the judges.

Also this month, as a goodbye to our leavers, we will be hosting a Summer Fayre and

Sports Day for all of our children, which will include opportunities for cake decorating, games, sports activities and team building and hopefully a bouncy castle. All of this will be finished off with a Teddy Bears' picnic. We can't wait.

Zoe Pearson

DO YOU REMEMBER THE WORLD WAR?

There are not now many living in our area who actually served in World War Two.

Of course, some of the survivors are members of the Cleobury branch of the Royal British Legion, but there must be others. If you served, or know anyone living locally who served, could you let us know, please? Remember that 'service' doesn't just mean armed services, we'd also like to hear about anyone who carried out war work - Land Girls, Timber Jills, Home Guard, and so on.

(taylormusic@hotmail.com) or Mark Baldwin (01299 270110 Information to David Taylor - mbaldwin2@btconnect.com)

THE JULY PARISH WALK

The Footpath Association will be gathering at the Parish Church on Sunday the 5th for another walk. About two hours with good company, a sensible pace and wonderful scenery.



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Letter from Westminster - Philip Dunne MP

While knocking on doors across the Ludlow Constituency before the General Election, ensuring quality healthcare in Shropshire was a key concern for many people. Since being re-elected I have focussed on health issues in the constituency, meeting those with responsibility for healthcare in Shropshire: from Secretary of State Jeremy Hunt; chief executives of the NHS Trusts running all aspects of health; to individual GPs, to discuss issues affecting the Ludlow Constituency. This included focus on my campaign to upgrade community hospitals in South Shropshire to Urgent Care Centres as part of the ongoing Future Fit consultation.

Local people have been pleased with the new Government's commitment to provide further funding for the NHS, but many also raised concerns about how budgets are spent and urged me to ensure this is done as effectively as possible.

We have committed to increasing NHS funding nationally by £8 billion, to meet the recommendations of Chief Executive of NHS England, Simon Stevens. The Department of Health and NHS England are currently working out the details of how this will be provided, so it is sensible for the NHS in Shropshire to wait to see how this might impact the affordability of its Future Fit proposals before its public consultation on the options for A&E provision.

This means the consultation will begin later this summer or in early autumn, and offer more time to take into account the additional funding, but also the views of the various stakeholders in Shropshire NHS, including local residents. But it is not enough just to increase health spending.

Any government has a responsibility to ensure that taxpayers' funds are spent as effectively as possible. So I am pleased the Health Secretary has acted swiftly to tackle the increased use of agency staff being hired within NHS Trusts on rates far higher than their counterparts.

The NHS needs to reduce its dependency on temporary staff, not least to encourage more stable staffing teams. Staff that work better together, on more stable rotas, without incurring extortionate costs, will help deliver better care for people in Shropshire. Further controls are also being introduced within the NHS to restrict the use of management consultants.

Shropshire health services are not immune to such pressures - there was an understandable outcry at the revelation of senior staff at SaTH being rehired on consultancy rates just a day after retiring to secure pension benefits.

I am looking forward to meeting SaTH's new CEO who starts later this month, to reinforce to him the need to maintain public confidence at a time when the future of A&E provision in the county is being considered. People in Shropshire deserve to know their money is being spent effectively to deliver a truly world class health service, on the path towards seven days a week access by 2020.

I will continue to play my part in ensuring any additional funding is used as effectively as possible to procure safe, sustainable, efficient and accessible health services for people in all parts of Shropshire, fit for the future.

Philip Dunne

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The July Clarion Social Calendar

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Wed 1	8.00	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 2		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	7.00	Rock Pathfinders Evening Walk starts at Adams Hill car park, Clent.	Alan	01299 400304
Fri 3	5.30	Stottesdon Summer Fete is in the Primary School grounds, run in association with the Parish Church. A lovely family event, with a friendly atmosphere		
	7.30	An Evening with Peter Williams brings a very famous motorcycle racer to Lacon Childe School. £5.00 a head	Jim Reynolds	CM 270642
Fri 3/ Sat 4	4.00	Beer Festival at the Royal Fountain, Church Street. PAGE 7.		
Sat 4	8.00am	Sale of household goods and furniture at Knowle Sports Centre, Clee Hill.	Dorothy Taylor	01584 890644
	2.00	The Neen Savage Scarecrow Convention and Fete happens at the very fine Village Hall. The theme is American; will we see Obama Eagle in flight?		
	7.00	Barn Dance at Mawley Town Farm.	Sarah Wilde	CM 272628
	7.00	Summer Soiree for Severn Hospice at Astbury Hall.		CM 271391
Sun 5	10.00	The Parish Walk starts from the Parish Church. All welcome. PAGE 25.		
Mon 6	7.30	The newly formed Bewdley W.I. meets in St George's Hall, Load Street. PAGE 9.		
Tue 7	7.00	Cleobury Parish Council meet in the Market Hall. The public are welcome.		
Wed 8	7.00	Neen Savage W.I. are at Lacon Childe School to Have A Go at Archery.	Angela Flowers	CM270318
	8.00	The Royal British Legion meets at The Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thu 9		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 10	8.00	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall.		

We cannot let this issue go by without acknowledging the help the editor has been given over the past decade by Mandy Smith, who has taken a list that wasn't always very orderly and turned it into a simple chart that almost anyone can understand. Thank you Mandy, and we hope your health will be back to 100% soon. JR.



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The July Social Calendar Continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Sun 12	12.00	'Scouting for Fun' Summer Party at The Royal Fountain, Church Street. PAGE 41.		
Wed 15	7.30	Stottesdon W.I. meet at Chorley Village Hall. PAGE 19.		
	8.00	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall. See July 1st above		
Thu 16		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED		
	10.30	Rock Pathfinders Morning Walk starts from the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane, Cleobury. SEE PAGE 13.	Alan01299 400304	
	7.30	The excellent Remi Harris Project and vocalist Kelsey James entertain at Clows Top Victory Hall. Tickets £10,	Yardbird Arts	01584 881564
Fri 17	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall. See July 1st above.		
Sat 18	9.30	Cleobury Country Farmers' Market is in and around the Parish Church.		
Sun 19	10.00	Ludlow Dog Day is at Stokesay Court and is obviously all about dogs. Organised by Ludlow Round Table, it's raising money for local charities. PAGE 17.		
Mon 20	7.30	The Reading Group meet in the Library.		
Wed 22	7.30	Clows Top Gardening Club meet at Victory Hall, to hear Nick Tristram-Eve talk about chocolate. PAGE 13.		
Thu 23		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED		
	8.00	Whist Drive at Neen Savage Village Hall. Clare Ratcliff CM 270173	Clare Ratcliff	CM 270173
Fri 24	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall. See July 1st above		
Thu 30		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO AUGUST.....		
Wed 5	2000	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 6		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY.		

JUST A REMINDER

'Flicks In The Sticks' is back on the 11th, one of the most popular events in the Parish Hall. This month it's with the acclaimed "Second Best Marigold Hotel" the sequel to director John Madden's 2012 "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel". Madden also won an Oscar in 1998 for his direction of "Shakespeare In Love". It's a tribute to the Flicks service that we can watch these major movies here in Cleobury Mortimer for just the admission price of £3.00; the seats are not as luxurious as a top cinema, but your neighbours are more likely to talk!

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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.

£415,000

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999

BURFORD

A spacious four bedroom detached property backing onto open fields within a modern estate. Accommodation to include: lounge, dining room, office, breakfast kitchen, cloakroom (with WC), double garage, four good sized bedrooms (master with ensuite and dressing room) and family bathroom. Having private gardens to the rear and ample parking to the front. Energy Rating TBC.

£310,000

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999



BURFORD

Detached family home with large driveway parking and gardens to the rear. Offering well presented and spacious accommodation to include: large living room, dining room, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, downstairs WC, storage room, 4 bedrooms (one with ensuite), family bathroom and single garage. Energy Rating E.

OIRO £269,950 - No Onward Chain

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BURFORD

Modern three bedroomed detached property having the benefit of being in a quiet tucked away position with open aspect to the front. With good sized accommodation consisting of: hallway, cloakroom, lounge, fitted kitchen/diner, three bedrooms (master with ensuite) and family bathroom. Outside there is a single garage, workshop and low maintenance walled garden having paved seating areas and raised flower beds. Energy Rating C.

£226,950

Tenbury Wells Office - 01584 811999



CLEOBURY MORTIMER

Located within walking distance of Cleobury Mortimer town centre is this detached bungalow. Having a good sized driveway to the front providing ample parking for vehicles and gardens to the rear mainly laid to lawn with countryside views. Generous accommodation set over 1 floor consisting of: three bedrooms, family bathroom, cloakroom with WC, lounge, conservatory, kitchen and garage. Energy Rating D.

OIRO £259,995

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999

MILSON

Set in a courtyard location in Milson is this 4 bedroomed barn conversion. Having a wealth of character with vaulted ceilings and exposed beams to the walls and ceilings throughout. Accommodation includes: master bedroom with dressing room and ensuite bathroom, three further bedrooms, family bathroom, living room with inglenook fireplace and wood burner, kitchen, rear porch, utility/laundry room, guest room with WC and garage. Energy Rating D

OIRO £395,000

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NEWNHAM BRIDGE

A character detached cottage having been extended and improved to a high standard to offer lounge, dining room, conservatory, fitted breakfast kitchen, utility, four bedrooms, ensuite, bathroom and double garage. All set in approximately 2 acres of gardens with pond and pastureland in a quiet off road position, offering privacy and views over surrounding countryside. Energy Rating E.

£475,000

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ST. MICHAELS, NR TENBURY WELLS

A unique and well proportioned four bedroom detached cottage having been updated and improved by the current family to offer a wonderful country property. Beautiful gardens and grounds with detached double garage/workshop with store, standing in approximately 0.87 acres in all. Highly recommended for inspection. Energy Rating E.

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CLOWS TOP

A spacious detached bungalow with three bedrooms and two reception rooms located just 4 miles from Cleobury Mortimer and 10 miles from Kidderminster. Set on a large plot with formal gardens to the front and rear and driveway parking. To the rear is a small parcel of pasture land (0.6 acres) suitable for a number of uses. Energy Rating D.

£299,000

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TENBURY WELLS

An executive detached property located in the desirable Berrington Road area of Tenbury Wells. Having spacious accommodation of four bedrooms (master with ensuite), lounge, dining room, conservatory, fitted kitchen and double garage. All set within generous landscape gardens to the front and rear with the added benefit of Solar Panels. Energy Rating B.

£399,950

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TENBURY WELLS

A modern, semi-detached property located on an estate within walking distance to Tenbury Wells town centre. Having been well maintained by the current owner to provide generous accommodation including: three/four bedrooms (master with ensuite) and two reception rooms. With ample parking to the front and manageable, private gardens to the rear. Energy Rating C.

£185,000

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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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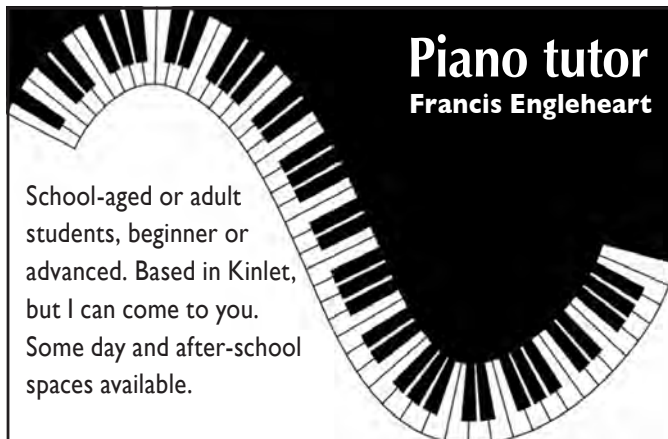
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On The Market - Oyasin Natural Skincare

Oyasin is an ancient native American word, conveying the belief that all living things are related. An obvious title to use when Julia Kirkpatrick set out to develop a range of natural skincare products. She'd had skin problems with less pure treatments and realised the answer was careful selection of the basic ingredients: "I thought about some of the things people were putting on their skin - we can easily sensitise our skin with the toxins we have been using over the years."

She found the right source in Aromantic of Norway, whose ingredients are all ethically sourced. They have plant derived ingredients she can use as stabilising, or preservatives that are commonly man-made in non-natural skincare ranges. In 2013 she launched her initial range of skin care products, selling at local markets and fairs. She now supports Ludlow and Cleobury markets on a regular basis, where she can build a relationship with regular customers.

This is an industry that is very carefully controlled. Julia works out the formula for each product and sends a sample to a cosmetic safety assessment chemist for approval. She then sends it to a microbiologist for further tests and when they've been passed she enters it in the Euro Cosmetic Product Notification Portal. All this for a range produced at home in batches of one litre at a time.



Julia in 'The Factory', where each batch is just one litre. She moves the production equipment aside when there's washing to be done...

She has recently launched her Spa Range, covering needs

as diverse as massage oil, clay face mask, foot balm and eye serum. And that's only a small selection.

She has one local health spa using her products, with good feedback. Another company has approached her - it's quite a surprise to learn how many people visit market stalls to see what the small producer like her has to offer - and there are talks in progress. And she's talking to a digital marketing company about reaching a wider public without the expense of travel and exhibitions. That's the eternal problem for a small business - how to reach more people with a limit on your time and a home to run. Julia looks after her daughter, runs the home, does a part time job and works on building the Oyasin skincare business..

She is unlikely to become another Elizabeth Arden - far too human - but she believes strongly in what she does. That's the battle half won.

www.oyasin.co.uk

A colorful poster for the Cleobury Country Farmers Market. It features a circular logo on the left with a sun, a church, and the text 'Cleobury Country Farmers Market'. The background is dark with stylized flowers and a rainbow-like wave at the bottom. The text is in white and yellow.

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Farming - Jenny Everingham writes

From the Farmhouse

Once again the air is thick with expletives directed at the weather forecasting fraternity whose millions of pounds-worth of computer technology fails to satisfy. Last week we were promised dry weather till the end of the month. "Yippee!" said his lordship, "94 acres of hay grass ready and waiting." The Countryfile Forecast on Sunday wasn't quite so optimistic, but not dire. To confuse matters, the BBC weather app showed rain on alternate days, but didn't tally with the BBC charts on the telly, and the BBC midland charts threatened heavy rain and thunder storms! What is a chap to do? Well, the first field was cut on Thursday accompanied by much crossing of fingers, and has lain untouched (the safest thing to do) – and virtually unrained on - until today, when I suspect the bullet will be bitten and other parts of the anatomy will be contorted. The weather app today says eight fine days. THEY'D BETTER BE RIGHT!

The sheep also have reason to be grateful for fine weather as they have been shorn now. After the first shock, when they always look a bit sorry for themselves, and now that the natural

lanolin has returned, they are much more comfortable. There is one coloured fleece among the plain white ones. Automatically, you would say "black", but in fact they can be a mixture of browns and greys from '70% cocoa solids' through ginger to burnt cream and charcoal to silver-grey. Positively inspirational! Hmm... Seems a shame to 'waste' it.

Finally, a conundrum has occurred. In spite of being six miles from our nearest golf course, golf balls began appearing from time to time around the fields. None of our neighbours are noted for their prowess in the sport, as far as we know, and visitors are not encouraged to practise their swings. So where are they coming from? But the plot thickens. A few weeks ago, his lordship sneakily put one in the hens' nesting box to encourage them to lay, thinking they might be fooled into mistaking it for an egg. They studiously ignored it for a few weeks, then it disappeared without trace. Searches were instigated, and Grandchildren were questioned to within an inch of their human rights, but to no avail. Then one day it mysteriously re-appeared. Weird!



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Clarion Coppers with CPSO Nick Morris



I'm pleased to report that up to the time of writing, June 18th, it's been another quiet month regarding crime in the area.

Just after 1:30pm on May 25th a property at Milson was burgled. Although entry was gained to the house by forcing the lock on the garage and then smashing a small window in order to reach and force the lock on a larger window, nothing was stolen. The alarm in the garage and another in the house is thought to have frightened off the offenders. On May 28th/29th at a business premises in Boraston Lane, Burford there was a burglary. Again, nothing was stolen after a failed attempt to enter the workshop. On May 29th/30th a vehicle parked on a driveway at Doddington was broken into and a bicycle worth £2500 stolen from the boot. Between 5:00pm on June 5th and 9:00am the next morning a stone was thrown at a leaded window on St Mary's Church causing a small pane of glass to smash. Between 1:45pm and 3:25pm on June 9th a detached garage near to The Blount Arms was broken into; power tools and a bicycle worth £1500 in total were stolen. Between 4:00pm on June 10th and 1:00pm the next day a failed attempt was made to break into a shed at a farm in Rock. However,

although entry was gained to a second shed nothing was stolen.

I've probably mentioned this before but a reminder to all Land Rover Defender owners to be aware of thefts of these vehicles might be worth repeating. These vehicles have been prime targets for thieves for several years because of their popularity and how easy it is to strip them down to sell as spare parts, or to ship them abroad.

There are measures that owners are advised to take to help deter thieves. These include always locking the unattended vehicle, always using the integral steering lock and always using other security equipment such as a heavy duty pedal lock. Fitting a tracker system is a useful option as is marking parts with forensic security liquid such as Smartwater. Never be complacent when leaving the vehicle unattended. Recently in our area a Defender was stolen overnight from a driveway in Clee Hill, and for two years running a Defender was stolen from the car parking area of Tenbury Agricultural Show. It's a real pain having to constantly be mindful of criminal activity of all sorts, but not as painful as having something you value highly stolen!



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE RECYCLING CENTRE

The Parish Council issued the following statement on June 22nd:

A very positive meeting took place at Lacon Childe School on Friday 12th June to discuss the concerns of the school over the recycling bins. Representatives from Veolia, Shropshire Council, Parish Council, Lacon Childe and the Sports & Social Club all agreed that the recycling facilities are a real community asset but the area does need looking after better. The bins have been located there for ease of use by the community without any formal agreement and this has led to additional bins being placed without consideration for the school. Together with fly-tipping and some anti-social behaviour this has caused some concerns locally. Whilst most items could be collected through the domestic kerbside collections there is no facility currently for cardboard and tetrapaks. There is an ambition to have a formal recycling centre at the New House Industrial Estate, off Tenbury Road but in the meantime the Parish Council is working with all partners to find an amicable solution. Lacon Childe School is now

responsible for the car park and recycling area and need our support to keep the facilities in good order and creating a good impression of our school.

AN EARLY APPEAL

You have to be impressed by people who plan ahead like this:

The Friends of Stottesdon Primary School are planning another Promise Auction this autumn, to be held at the Fighting Cocks Inn, Stottesdon on October 9th, starting at 7pm. We've held two similar events in the past where the whole community has come together, helping to raise money for the school library and sports equipment.

This year we would appreciate your support again to raise funding, this time for I'T equipment, as this has become significant in the new curriculum. The evening will consist of lots being auctioned off to the highest bidder. Previously lots have included tickets, vouchers, dog walks, baking a cake and loads of muck! If you think you would be able to offer something to be auctioned then please contact Caroline Williamson on 01746 718 227 or e-mail c22thorn@hotmail.co.uk.

We hope to have the catalogue ready by mid-September so that people can familiarise themselves with what goodies are on offer prior to the auction.

Thank you in advance in anticipation of your support.

Sarah Price

A SUMMER PARTY

The Royal Fountain will be opening its doors on Sunday the 12th for a special occasion. It's the Scouting for Fun Summer Party, running from 12.00 noon until 5.00 in the afternoon.

It's all about showing off the Scouting movement, with demonstrations, an Open Mic contest, a Hog Roast and a host of games and activities for the family. And of course, for Mum and Dad the usual selection of beverages will be on sale.

Scout Leader Ingrid Purslow explained that the aim is to encourage new adult helpers to deal with the strong interest in the movement from younger people. At the moment that demand is so strong that they're struggling to cope; quite a success story in a world where we hear too much about young people not behaving properly.

SILLY BIT

Chopsticks are the main reason the Chinese never invented custard.
(Spike Milligan)



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★★★★

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

★★★★

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

★★★★

Saturday 31st October - **FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY** - Spooky Fun & Games - Party Disco

★★★★

Saturday 7th November - **FIREWORK PARTY** - Hosted by CRUVO

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Saturday 14th November - **COVER GIRLS** - 1940's Musical Entertainment Night



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Linda Iles

July In The Wyre Forest



Do you think of Wyre as 'My forest'? There's quite a lot of people who do, and not just the locals. It's a good thing, because it means there are plenty of people who care passionately about it and will fight to take care of it. We don't know what's on the cards for the 'National Forest' under the new government but you can be sure that the friends of the forest will be rooting for it. (I don't usually use that expression but it seems apt).

While some visit the forest on a regular basis, others are just glad it's there, and others haven't discovered it yet! It's the last group who can really benefit from the exhibition in the Saw Yard of Bewdley Museum all through the school holidays, from July 25th to September 6th. Yes, we're bringing the forest to you!

There will be information about access to the woods and what you can expect to find there in terms of wildlife, archaeology, history, landscapes and recreational facilities. There will be quizzes, children's activities and some weird and fascinating objects for you to look at. There will be a tree where you can add a note of your feelings about the forest (poems welcome!) and there will be suggestions for

how to get involved in wildlife and volunteer groups.

Best of all is a programme of guided walks during the same period. Here is a selection:

A look at the archaeology of Ribbesford and the Snuffmill, starting from Bewdley Museum and led by Sue Duffield (0845 603 5699) on August 6th

'Wyre Forest and its management' – an inside look at the wildlife, the trees and the future starting from the Forestry Commission's centre and led by Liz Bunney (0300 067 4855) on August 13th

A cross-forest walk from Bewdley to Cleobury on August 29th. After meeting at Cleobury Golf Club a coach will take participants into Bewdley and they will return on foot. Led by Susan Sharp, walks@eaglelane.co.uk

Not to mention the Disabled Ramblers, butterflies, dusk walk, orchards, Ruskin and the Cleobury Food and Ale Trail! You'll need the Wyre Forest Landscape Partnership's walks leaflet (available at Bewdley Museum TIC and exhibition, Cleobury and Bewdley libraries, Cleobury TIC, the Forest Café and SVR stations) or website www.wflp.org.uk to get full details and book your places on these wonderfully varied walks.

And for details of a 'Forest Feast' on 4th September ring Georgina Coen on 01299 822987. Meanwhile, here's the story behind this month's photo. My husband, John, met keen bird spotter Vince Garvey aiming his lens at the old cherry orchard along the lane, hoping to catch sight of the lesser spotted woodpecker. In that he was unsuccessful, but took this beautiful photo of a wood warbler. If you search the internet for 'wood warbler' you'll find the BBC's 'Tweet of the day' from May 2013. It's worth it for the song alone, described as resembling 'a spinning coin on a marble slab'. Their domed nests are built in hollows in the ground, making them susceptible to predation and disturbance (dog walkers please note), and though they will still be breeding at the beginning of the month they will soon be preparing to migrate back to Africa.

Linda Iles



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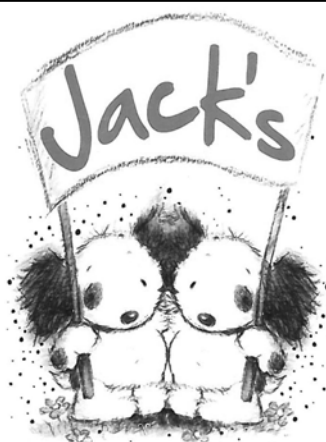
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THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

We were delighted to have a visit to The Dower House garden at Morville in June. This is famous as it was developed over 25 years by Dr Katherine Swift, gardener and historian who documented progress in a column for The Times newspaper, now available in a book 'The Morville Year' and wrote 'The Morville Hours'. Her description of a wild garden in a formal setting is explained by its position in beautiful surroundings within the grounds of Morville Hall owned by the National Trust and the layout enclosed by yew hedges in separate gardens designed in the style of different historical periods.

Wild flowers and old varieties of roses mingle to great effect and members enjoyed wandering the pathways although we were pleased to be invited into the house for a glass of wine on the coldest June evening in memory!!

Next month we will be busy with Cleobury in Bloom events and look forward to an outing to the Dorothy Clive garden in Market Drayton.

Judy Sant

LUDLOW DOG DAY

Last year's Dog Day raised over £16,000 for charities and attracted over 2500 people from all over Shropshire, Herefordshire and Powys. This year the Rotary Club plans to have even more to offer and hopefully more of the public now that the word has gone out what a great event it was last year. Major

beneficiaries of this year's event include St Michael's Hospice, The League of Friends of Ludlow Hospital and Canine Partners.

It's at Stokesay Court and the gates will open on Sunday July 19th at 10.00am with competitions for all types of dog and skills. In addition there will be a full programme of special events with dog display teams and demonstrations.

For human consumption there will be tasty fare, tea and Hobsons beer. There will also be stalls offering a wide range of countryside and doggy accessories.

This will be no ordinary day in the doggy diary, but a day to celebrate our canine friends.

So come and enjoy a great day out with your dogs, family and friends.

There's a helpful website with full information at www.ludlowdogday.co.uk

UNDER 15s FOOTBALL

Martin Coombs reports:

On June 14th Cleobury Town Juniors Under 15s first ever 11 A Side football tournament welcomed teams from Kidderminster, Orleton and Ludlow. This was a League based competition with each team playing each other twice.

Cleobury won three matches, drew one and lost two, with goal contributions from Liam Williams, Reece Williams, Harri Cottingham & Torin Hegley

The overall competition was won by Orleton with a four wins, one draw and one defeat. The winners trophy was presented by Councillor Robert Hayward.

A successful day, raising £422 towards making football for our team subscription free.

I also had the pleasure of announcing our new Under 15s Team Sponsor for the 2015/16 season, Go Ape. Our top raffle prize of £100.00 Go Ape vouchers was won by Mrs T Wood of Doddington.

Martin Coombs

BIG HEARTED SISTER

Jemima Robinson, just 10 years old, plans to swim the equivalent of the English Channel to raise funds for the Little Hearts Matter charity. It's part of their Big Hearted Swimathon and Jemima's swim will be with the Ludlow Swimming Club.

Jemima knows what the charity is all about, as her brother Samuel was born with a congenital heart defect that has meant a series of operations. "I am hoping to raise £100 to help other families like mine, by taking part in the Swimathon. My aim is to swim the full 22 miles by the end of August, which is the same as swimming across the Channel." She has already swum 327 lengths of the bath towards her target of 1416.

That's a remarkable ambition for a ten year old to take on, and if you can swim then you can join in the fund raising. Telephone Little Hearts Matter on 0121 455 8982 or email info@lhm.org.uk to find out how. Or if you don't want to swim, she has a just giving page: www.justgiving.com/jemimarobinson1.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

ON THE BUSES

The saga continues.....

A busy month. The timetable changed once more on May 31st with as little notice and consultation as usual (i.e. none). The route now covers even more of North Worcestershire with the result that the journey from Cleobury to the centre of Kiddy now takes a staggering 62 minutes to cover about 13 miles. A top class marathon runner could do this distance in the same time. The cumulative result of the timetable changes over the last two years means that if you do a return journey to Kiddy, you have lost an extra hour from your day. As usual, as I write this on June 22nd, the times on the bus stops have still not been officially changed (we have stuck copies of the latest times on them) and yet another trip to the Diamond depot in Kiddy has failed to find any timetables. 'With the printers' apparently.....Thanks to Cleobury Country funding the copying, the latest timetables are available at the Market Hall and Cleobury Country Centre/Library. The good news is that it appears the 2L service is to be re-tendered and that Shropshire Council have made representations regarding the convoluted route so Diamond may get their wish to be rid of us (and vice versa).

The subject of the buses is to be discussed at the next LJC (Local Joint Committee) meeting to be held in Cleobury Market Hall on Tuesday July 28th at 7.00pm. I am told that a representative of Shropshire Council is being invited and I will submit a list of questions before then for them to answer.

Please come to this meeting if you can make it, if only to share with Shropshire Council your views on the current set up (you may be searched for weapons on your arrival...) I have written to the Transport Commissioner and the Council with my thoughts and await a response.

On more mundane matters, getting on a 2L bus can still be an adventure. There should be a photo here somewhere showing one bus 'grounded' after trying to turn round at the Coreley junction for reasons unknown (but probably a breakdown)



Here's the bus, stuck on the Coreley turning. Our thanks to the reader who snapped this and sent it in. Ed

At one point several Diamond buses were seen being recovered on low loaders and I am wondering whether it wouldn't be simpler just to put them on these in the first place and save time. Another 2L was delayed while five or six drivers and two buses were tried until a suitable combination was found to operate the service. One driver was even seen thumping the bus in frustration so not much job satisfaction there...

On the same day, the bus to Ludlow got as far as Bewdley before running out of fuel and yet another has been spotted burned out at the bottom of the Bewdley bypass, not to mention various sightings of broken 2L's

awaiting rescue. Looks like you might need a fire extinguisher as well as a Red Cross food parcel before boarding. Passengers on the 9.14 (was 9.19) are still being charged £1 and this is now being levied on passengers boarding at Far Forest due to the earlier running time. Mind you, it didn't make much difference last week as the service was late on most days and didn't arrive until after 9.30. There has also been a letter in the Kiddy Shuttle about a 92 year old lady who had to wait 90 minutes for a Diamond bus on the Number 7 service in Kiddy so it's not just the 2L...

Hope to see as many as possible at the meeting on July 28th.

Steve Todd

THE CLOWS TOP SHOP

There have been two meetings to find out what support there is to re-establish a local shop and Post Office for Clows Top. I am pleased to report that at the second one there was a unanimous vote for the proposal to have a Community Shop and Post Office. We now need members of the public to come forward to form a Management Committee and look into Grant funding; money is available to help.

We are particularly looking for experience in project management, retail, accounting, people management, marketing, legislation and rural business development, as well as commitment to make the shop a success. If you feel you have the skills we are looking for, or can provide advice, please get in touch. Sue Burrows Tel no. 01299 832722 - email bayton_pc08@btinternet.com

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Star of The Small Ads: Darrell Painter

A MAN KEEN TO WORK



Darrell: "I can't stand having a day off!"

Darrell Painter had served 18 years in the Army when the axe fell and he was redundant. He had risen through the ranks to become an Acting Colour Sergeant and was responsible for a lot of training work. The sort of man you'd want on your

side, but still redundant. The family moved back to the Midlands, where he retrained as a Close Protection Officer and for other guarding work, but got turned down at every job application because he had no civilian experience.

So he turned to decorating, work he'd done with his dad's firm since the age of 14, where he learned every aspect of the trade. He put flyers out in the area and he took an advert in the Clarion. The result was a busy three months but not enough to support his family in the long term; a common story with people turning to self employment.

So he did what a lot of people in country areas do: he took on another job, in this case surface preparation for the laying of railway tracks. It brings in a regular wage and he makes up any shortfall with decorating.

"Sometimes I get home from the railway job at six, get showered and changed and go out for a few hours on decorating work."

He has a straightforward way of charging. He looks at what has to be done, explains how he can do it economically and how long it will take, and that's the price. The estimate of time charged is one area where he has surprised some customers, in one instance saying the job would be done in five days when another contractor quoted ten. He got the job done and finished it right on time. When you're hiring a tradesman on a daily rate, that could make a big difference.

He knows why he doesn't take too long: "I start at eight, get there five minutes before, then normally don't stop all day. If I'm hungry, I'll eat as I go along." He's a driven man, driving towards success.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

BRENDA DUNN'S TEA AND CAKE AFTERNOON

The scenes of devastation following the severe earthquakes and aftershocks in Nepal have touched us all, making us realise how lucky we are; we have homes, food and water. Many in Nepal are now left with nothing. Local groups and communities have jumped into action to raise funds to help repair the damage. Having visited the region, it was not a hard decision to hold my own fund raising event: Tea & cake afternoon at Little Woodhouse.



Guest of honour Pemba with Brenda. He looks pretty pleased with the tea and cake.

A group of us first met Pemba Sherpa thirteen years ago on an Exodus Trekking Holiday in the mountains of Nepal. He was our leader and since then he has led us on wonderful trips to Ladak and other parts of India.

In 2004 Pemba married Helen; they now live in London with their son Jigme. While Pemba was establishing himself in the UK, some of us in the Cleobury area have appreciated his skilful work fixing things in our houses and gardens.

In July, Pemba is returning to the remote areas in the mountains of Nepal. He is recruiting skilled workers and with their help his aim is to rebuild homes and lives for the people there. He is paying for his own flight and needed to raise funds to purchase tools and building equipment on his arrival.

On June 7th, we were fortunate to enjoy a beautiful, sunny afternoon at Little Woodhouse to raise funds to help finance those repairs needed in villages in the mountains of Nepal. Over 80 people enjoyed a gourmet buffet of various cakes and regular deliveries of cups of tea to the gazebos on the lawn. I would like to thank everyone who contributed so generously. Donations made by those who could not come added to those who could; I have been able to send over £2,000 to Pemba.

We were particularly lucky that Pemba was able to make the journey from London to join

us and to explain his plans for travelling to the mountains.

I would like to add my thanks to Pat Blackband for organising the raffle, to everyone who gave prizes, to Elizabeth Bishop, Barbara Handy and Deanna Morris for working tirelessly in the kitchen brewing tea and washing up, and many friends who supplied a wonderful variety of cakes.

Brenda Dunn

TUFFINS SUPPORT

There was another busy spell for Tuffins on June 18th, when they handed over cheques to local bodies that are working for the community. A nice gesture to the town, with new manager Elliott Clark and assistant Joyce Price officiating.

The money went to the Friends of Cleobury Mortimer Library to help with their work to build up use, the Nippers Nursery that is run by volunteers, Omega End of Life Care who supply iPads with speech synthesising to help families contact palliative nurses, the Horticultural Society to help with a range of their activities and the Friends of Stottesdon School to help with the cost of transport to sporting and educational facilities plus new computers.



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IN BUSINESS: James Smith, Osteopath

It's been a long journey for James Smith to become an osteopath. Five years of training, with every other weekend devoted from 9.00 to 5.00 through Saturday and Sunday. Plus spending 1,000 hours working in a clinic with a tutor watching and coaching him. And then the final exams.

He is now entitled to call himself an osteopath and to share Sue Brown's Cleobury Chiropractic premises in the High Street. He has been able to offer sports injury treatment there in the past year, but is now a fully qualified and registered professional osteopath.

Moving from Bewdley into Cleobury 12 years ago, he was working in production management at Brinton's Carpets. He originally trained as a chemist, before moving into industry and studying for an MBA as he moved up the management scale. Settled here, with his children at the local schools, what motivated this very able man to make such a change in direction? After all, a career in management can be a well paid road to security.

"I wanted a job where I could help people," he explains. "I like the idea of finding the true cause of a problem, not just treating symptoms."



James in his treatment room at 31 High Street. The skeleton is there to help explain problems; it's not an over enthusiastic slimmer.

He treats athletes and regular people with aches and pains. A typical example might be a man with pain in his lower back, maybe something he's lived with for a long time. If his wife persuades him to try treatment with an osteopath, it can be literally life changing: "We can get people like that out of pain in three treatments," he claims. "It's all physical manipulation. No drugs used and pain free. Osteopaths believe the body has the capacity to cure itself, it just needs help along the way."

So what is osteopathy? It was introduced in 1874 by Andrew

Taylor Still of Baldwin City, Kansas in the United States, who described what this science does in a simple fashion: "The living body is a collective unit - and the body's structure of bones, muscles, nerves and circulation require correct positioning in order to have good health." It's practiced world wide today.

James's practise is based on a flexible approach to working hours; he fits in with his clients. So on Tuesdays he's in the clinic from 3.00 until 8.00 and Fridays from 2.00 until 8.00, for those who arrive home later than most. "I'll fit in with patients' needs," he says. "I can fit in with their working hours and will accommodate patients early in the morning if necessary."

As well as the Cleobury clinic, he works with wheelchair athletes at Cannock three days a week; can there be any group of people who demand more of their upper bodies than them? He also treats cyclists, runners and elite triathletes. He's seen it all in his five years of training: "From kids and pregnant women to athletes." He's another local service that will grow as people begin to appreciate how osteopathy can make life much easier and pain free.

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James works alongside Sue Brown at Cleobury Chiropractic in the High Street.

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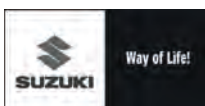
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE KITE FESTIVAL

Paul and Helene Morgan from Sky Bums of Wem, organisers of this annual gathering of flyers, admitted that the entry was slightly lower than last year. They thought this was due to a move of their date and a clash with other kite events. No matter, it was still a colourful friendly gathering, with the wind varying from almost still to fierce gusts that tested the skills of the flyers.

Two strong impressions came over as I watched: it's a quiet pastime and if you want to try it, the entry level cost is very affordable. You can buy a proper kite for as little as £5.00 and the running cost is nil, so long as you take care and don't let it fly away or crash heavily.

They encourage visitors to try their hands and one young lady proved to be a natural. It is a more complex craft than a quick look suggests, and Paul watches over customers, advising them when they're reaching their limit, because a big kite in the wrong hands can lift you off the ground. That may not hurt, but coming down would be painful.

The sports field of Lacon Childe School suits them well, and they bring business with them. And they certainly do travel; one lady was down from Dunoon and another couple from Sunderland, all happy to talk and show off the latest trends, including a fascinating spinner. Are they a hazard? No, because the Civic Aviation Authority are notified of the event, they in turn tell local flying clubs and the kites are clear to soar up to 1000 feet in the air. They'll be back next year - do go along and talk.

SEVERN HOSPICE SALE

The Severn Hospice Shop has a sale of jewellery on the 18th this month, with the addition of a stall outside until 1.00 to add to the appeal. There will also be a bucket collection, giving you the opportunity to get rid of that small change, possibly wrapped in a note if you're in a generous mood.

SIMON EVANS.

This story is growing as we learn more about Cleobury's Postman Poet. Mrs Brown was visiting family in Stottesdon and saw the Clarion article about him. She has sent us this photograph of Simon in his tin shack at the end of his round; it was taken by her mother, Barbara Brown, nee Everingham



Mrs Brown's photo will be part of the display in the library.

Mrs Kay Ballard was talking to Val Simpson and described how the postman would give her a push on the garden swing as he called on his daily rounds.

Don't leave it too late to enter your photo of any scene along the Simon Evans Way, as the July 26th deadline will be here sooner than you realise. Entry

cost is £1.00 per photo for adults and free for children. Hand your prints in at the Library, please.

The events celebrating his life are over the weekend of August 8th/9th, with a display of his work and other memorabilia in the library, open from 12.00 'til 4.00 with volunteers from CoCo serving tea and cakes. Claire Carter will be there judging the Photo Competition, while Mark Baldwin and John Tuck will be answering any questions or maybe listening to your own tale about the man. John Tuck has been working on a relief portrait of Simon Evans; it will be well worth close scrutiny.

On Saturday evening the scene shifts to the Sports and Social Club, where local folk group Whalebone will be entertaining. Tickets from the Club or Library at £8.00 each. Sounds like a good night.

On Sunday the 9th, there's a special walk along his old route from Cleobury to Stottesdon, starting at 10.30 from the Library. Bring packed lunch if you want a snack, because it's a truly rural experience. The cost is £5 a head, to include a coach ride from Detton to the end. This part is to recall his surviving the 1914-18 First World War, when his breathing was damaged and triggered his move from Liverpool to a new life in the country here at Cleobury.

More details on www.facebook.com/FriendsofCleoburyMortimerLibrary.

He was a radio contributor and we are hoping the BBC will give some coverage, but at press time there was nothing definite.

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