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JULY 2023

JACKIE DOES IT



Thumbs up from a tough lady
Cleobury lady Jackie Handy has completed her 536 mile trek across northern Spain to the Atlantic coast. With 16lbs of rucksack to wear and a temperature of 25 degrees it was a real test of her stamina and determination. Her aim is to raise the £30,000 needed to train a specialist dementia nurse for Shropshire and with help from all of us and the backing of Cleobury Co-op it will happen. Read more on Page 7.

FINDING FIONA

The front page story in last month's Clarion about the lack of cash machines on the High Street hit home with the news that Fiona's small but lovely shop has closed. She's been a colourful presence for about 18 years and bouquets or bunches that she prepared always looked great and lasted well. But with trade so slow and rent to pay, she's gone back up the road to work from home.

You'll get her on her mobile 07875 077941 and she can put together the same quality job and deliver to your instruction if you need her to.

CURATE JOE SIMON

Sad news of the month is that Joe is leaving Cleobury this month to take over as Priest in Charge of Brown Clee Benefice.

He writes a farewell letter to us all on Page 49, a man who won people's hearts with his gentle, modest manner and a willingness to listen.

THE FESTIVAL



The Town Festival is a family occasion and the Fire and Rescue brigade always attract the children. Could this little girl be telling her mum that they do recruit fire women these days?

The Festival took a step forward this year, with the whole occasion on the sports field. Nobody was hard to find, the weather behaved itself and the food, drink and ice creams all sold well. And the benches outside the Sports and Social Club were full of people of all ages. Well done, Cleobury!

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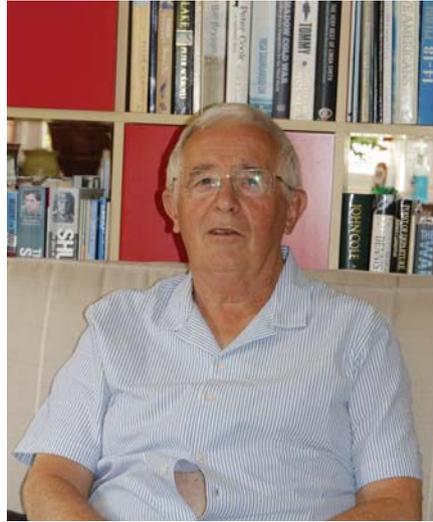


The Cleobury Clarion, July 2023

Volume Nineteen - Edition Four



Dr Mark Baldwin with his Enigma machine and British ambassador in Slovenia Tiffany Sadler. See Page 13.



Our Royal British Legion - one of the first branches. See Page 27.



Sam Dolphin, a lady with lots of jobs. Page 49.

And On Other Pages....

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DI EDWARDS R.I.P.

I would like to thank all the family and friends who knew Di and attended her funeral; it was very emotional and comforting to see so many in the church. I didn't realise so many people knew Di, she will be sadly missed by all.

Thank you all for your very generous donations; the amount received was £463.40 which will be divided between Midlands air ambulance and British Heart Foundation.

I would like to thank Andrew Ince funeral Director for his kindness, advice and professionalism concerning all dear Di's funeral arrangements, nothing was too much trouble and everything was carried out to our wishes.

Also big thank you to Reverend Joe Simons for the service, all the family and friends said it was absolutely lovely, Thank you Joe

From Tony Edwards and Family

CLOWS TOP

GARDENING CLUB

There are 2 outdoor events in July. The first is on the 15th, a visit to Shakenhurst garden by kind invitation of the Staddon family. We meet at 10.30 at the Clows Top Victory Hall to share cars to the venue. To book a place, or for further details, please contact Elva on 01299 832288.

The second is a social evening for members only on the 26th, a "bring and share" event. This is at Crown House; thank you, Caroline for the invitation. We will meet at 6.00pm at the Victory Hall car park and walk down from there

We look forward to seeing you there.

Judith Lawson

ST JOHN'S, DODDINGTON

You are invited to a Strawberry Tea at Doddington Village Hall on July 8th at 2.30pm. There will be the usual variety of stalls, including a Nearly New Stall, Raffle, Charity Stall and Plant Stall.

Plus we will be launching our new project The Beacon on the Hill - come and see our exciting plans for the future at St John's. And we'll be celebrating two recent achievements St John's has made with the help of the community. Hope you can join us! And if you have any nearly new items you could donate for the stall, please bring them with you.

You may have seen that work has been under way at the church. This has been funded by Shropshire Historic Churches Trust, who also made a large contribution towards the window repairs and the path. A Trustee will be joining us at the Strawberry Tea to explain how we and other churches work with the Trust to raise the funds that then help not just us but churches up and down the county to repair their buildings.

Celia Gibb

OPEN GARDEN

Jo and Chris Bargman will be opening their lovely garden at Upper Marshes on Catherton Common on Sunday the 2nd of this month. It's all part of the National Garden Scheme, raising money for a range of charities, open from 12.00 noon until 5.00, with teas and home made cake on offer.

They've been working hard on the place, adding a rose garden, a new patio with Mediterranean herbs, plus a bridge over the stream in the hay meadow. Admission is £5.00 with children getting in free. DY14 0JJ on your satnav. A lovely family day out.

MENS SHED TO THE RESCUE

While changing the notices in the External noticeboard at the church, disaster struck; one of the doors suddenly fell out down onto the pavement! With help, we got the door back into the frame and then rang The Shed. Their response was fantastic - within 24 hours they had arranged to repair the door and within the next few weeks are going to remove the notice board, refurbish it and put it back. The cost to the church is incredibly reasonable, just covering materials, and we have had such great people rushing to help. A huge thank you to everyone at The Shed and if you see a blank space where the board should be, you will know why, and can look out for its glamorous new look!

Liz Smith

JEFF SHAW

The family of Jeff Shaw would like to thank everyone for their kindness, their sympathy cards received and donations given in his memory for The Fire Fighters Charity.

Particular thanks to our local Fire Crew for their very respectful send off during the service. Much appreciated by all who attended.

Thank you

Mary Shaw



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Clarion Clippings - The Long Term Walker

JACKIE THE HEROINE

In the May edition of the Clarion we reported on Cleobury Mortimer resident Jackie Handy, embarking on the Camino de Santiago, a 500-mile walk across Spain. All to support Dementia UK and raise funds towards a specialist nurse for Shropshire.

Jackie returned recently after completing a total walk of 536 miles, starting in St Jean Pied de Port in France and finally ending at the Atlantic Ocean in Muxia, Spain. The Camino officially ends in Santiago de Compostela but after a rest day Jackie decided to continue walking the additional 86km over three days to reach the coast.

"What an incredible pilgrimage the Camino is" Jackie says, "I walked an average distance of 25 kilometres per day over 37 days over mountains, crossing rivers and over plains - all with a 8kg (16lb) rucksack on my back in 25 degree heat! If you'd have told me a year ago, I could do it, I wouldn't have believed you".



Jackie, whose mum lives with Dementia, remains committed to her fundraising even though her walk is complete. "People have been incredibly generous and donations have been received from all over the world so far."

Neighbours, friends and Cleobury residents have been supporting the charity and Cleobury Co-Op will continue to have tins at the checkouts in store. "Elliot and the Co-op team have been brilliant" says Jackie, "I can't thank everyone enough for their ongoing support."

Jackie has an ambitious target of £30,000. She says, "This is the amount it costs to train a nurse for Dementia UK and while I know it's a lot of money, if everyone gives a little, we can certainly get close to making this happen for Shropshire".

To read Jackie's story or donate online, click here: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jackie-handycamino2023>

HOPTON SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

Saturday July 15th sees a garden party at Sproseley, that lovely house on the outskirts of Hopton Wafers. Entry from 5.00, food at 6.00 including a hog roast and a range of puddings. Plus a tombola, raffle and auction, also raise funds for St Michael's church in the village.

Tickets are £20 each, from nigel@sproseley.com or Marilyn on 07784 718 196.

THE READING GROUP

On a warm summer evening we were imagining a bleak scene in 1627 Iceland, where Barbary pirates brutally captured 400 people to sell into slavery in Algiers. Among the 250 from a small island, were the local Pastor, his pregnant wife, Asta and their young family. In her first novel, 'The Sealwoman's Gift', Sally Magnusson gives a voice to Asta. The sagas of

Iceland are told and the power of storytelling comes across, as well as the trauma of transportation to a different climate and culture. A theme of loyalty and love, though there are events which do not make for easy reading. A well researched and beautifully written story this book will appeal to readers who like both adventure and history. Everyone found it an interesting, informative, compelling read. This month our book is 'This Is Going To Hurt' by Adam Kay, opinions will be aired at the library on July 17th.

Deana Kimber 02199 271754

WELSH WHISKY GROWS

The Clarion has visited the Penderyn distillery that was the foundation of Welsh whisky production that is growing. We reported from the Brecon base of the company, when a second unit in Llandudno was close to starting output in that more northern location.

Now we learn that there's a third unit about to start production in Swansea. It's the Copperworks Distillery and the shop there is already open, but local production comes later. It's a great success story, with a range on offer and you can even buy your own barrel to mature in their store until it's ready to be savoured.

Father's Day brought a very welcome bottle from my son David, and what a surprise that was. It's another malt whisky distilled in Wales by the Aber Falls Distillery of Llanfairfechan in Gwynedd and a very smooth and enjoyable dram it is. Will I ever be allowed to visit Scotland again with all this Welsh news?

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LUDLOW DOG DAY

First of all, an apology that we gave inaccurate information in our mention of this popular event in the May Clarion. The correct date is July 23rd, the organising body is the Ludlow Rotary Club and if you want to book 'early bird' tickets the contact is via the website www.ludlowdogday.org.uk It's worth early booking with lower prices; £10 for adults and £5 for 5 to 16 year olds; £12 and £6 if you pay on the day.

It's at Stokesay Court, on the A49 north of Ludlow, where the gates will open at 10.00 and the show will start at 11.00. With 20 classes for dogs entered to show off their good looks, agility or training, there's something of interest for every dog lover. And lots of trade and club stalls to offer advice on any canine subject.

The fund raising work of this branch of the Rotary Club movement is remarkable, with £140,000 raised to help local charities. All that enjoyment and helping good causes.

CLEOBURY GARDENERS

Sorry not to be in contact last month; I ran out of height, airspeed and ideas, all at the same time. Carrying on the flying analogy, we are joining

the world of social media and are pleased to announce the launch of our new website with the address cleoburygardeners.co.uk. You can also find us on Facebook and Instagram. We hope to keep you updated with our failures and successes, so please look for us, and lots of "likes" please.

It's July, the half year mark, the end of one season and beginning of the next; time now to introduce the hardy annuals in response to the changing light levels; shortening days, but warmer (we hope) when we put out those plants that thrive in heat; e.g. dahlias, sunflowers, agapanthus, cannas; those big, beautiful, blowsy flowers of high summer.

My foxgloves have been stupendous, same for the clematis, poppies, irises and roses, but the easy maturity of the early summer planting is coming to an end and now is time to invest in those plants of early summer, their glory now spent. With a judicious pruning and cutting back, and a good feed, they may produce a late season show for you: lift irises and divide the rhizomes to make more, cut back the old stems and replant/pot so the rhizomes are surface-mounted and can bake in the sun; cut off the finished foxgloves and

simply lay them on the soil where you would like new ones to grow. I am told propagation of clematis by cuttings is very easy to accomplish. Give these early summer plants your attention now so they will return early next year.

Part of this backward look is the task of tidying up your borders. Clear away the old, yellowing and tatty foliage of the clumping perennials, e.g. alchemilla mollis, aquilegia, bergenia, lupins, hardy geraniums. Weed the exposed ground and feed, all the while looking for seedlings for free plants. I always have a number of pots prepared for these gifts.

If you were just breathing easy because your greenhouse and coldframe were looking empty, consider taking softwood cuttings. But that's another day. And there is always the deadheading!

Remember, live each day as though it is your last, but garden as though you will live forever.

Linda Ashman

*Secretary, Cleobury Gardeners.
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This excellent local show will be over the weekend of August 12th and 13th this year. There's a range of entertainments on offer, including Twitt Twoo Falconry, Militias of Anglia re-enacting the English civil war, a history encampment, Zennor's Dancers and loads more including the dog show. Lots of rides for children, including that great favourite, the tractor.

Live music all weekend from a variety of local talents and loads of local craft gifts in the craft marquee to treat a friend or relative. Local produce in the horticulture marquee to admire and there will be speakers on the Home and Garden stage offering advice. Eats in the Food Court include Thai and Indian as well as the usual range of offerings.

It's all on the event's home ground on the A456, where parking is free and you can meet old friends and maybe make new ones. It's quite a star event and highly recommended for families. The gates open at 10.00 and admission is £10 for adults, £8 for concessions and £5 for 5 to 15 year olds.

ALF AND ANN'S BIG LAUNCH

The beginning of the book launches for the Jenkins' new title was on June 3rd at Clew Hill Academy, where head teacher Ceri made everyone welcome to this school with such outstanding views.

Alf did the introductory chat, with Ann as ever sitting quietly by and loyally nodding in agreement. This was a good, wide ranging talk from Alf, with several of the people featured in the pages of this impressive work there to hear him praise them. The queue to get copies signed that followed was a long one, Alf and Ann both quietly chatting while he did the signing.



It was quite a sight, the ex teacher with his head down,

working away to finish the job while others looked on.

NIGHTINGALE NURSING A.G.M.

Sunday 23rd July, 7.00 p.m. at the Sports and Social club in Cleobury Mortimer is the Nightingale's Nursing Fund Annual General Meeting. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

This charity fund has been running for over 20 years now and is it time to look at the way in which it is used? Does the constitution need updating? Please feel free to give us your opinions. Hope to see you there
Many thanks

Rosemary Abbiss

BEWDLEY OPEN GARDEN

Mrs Hughes will be opening her lovely garden at Coppice Gate Farm at Lye Head, DY12 2UY on Saturday the 22nd. 12.00 noon opening until 4.00, with an array of stalls, a raffle and tea, coffee and cake available. Proceeds from the day will go to the Tenbury Hospital League of Friends. Entry costs £5.00 a head and to add to the air of tradition, payment will be by cash only - no plastic, please.



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15 July 7.30pm - Fisherman's Friends 2 - One and All

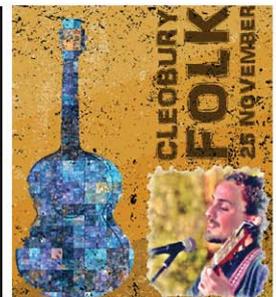
The Fisherman's Friends uplifting true-story continues. Following the unexpected success of the band's debut album we re-join them almost a year later, struggling with the pressures, pitfalls and temptations of their newfound fame. The film continues the journey with the loveable 'buoy band', as they navigate the choppy waters of fame, second album syndrome, and performing on the pyramid stage at Glastonbury.

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**EARLY NOTICE -
CONCERT FOR COCO**

There will be a fundraising concert for CoCo in St Mary's Church, Cleobury on Friday 29th September from 7pm. Local professional performers are coming together to present a musical evening in aid of Cleobury Compassionate Communities. More details and where to get tickets in next month's Clarion.

Catherine Evans

LACON CHILDE FETE

This was a great family fun occasion last year, with children of all ages and loads of games to play and prizes to be won. It's on Thursday the 13th and runs from 4.30 until 7.00, in the school sports field.

Carnival games, a dog show, craft stalls, live entertainment, food and drinks available. Free admission and lots of laughs to savour. If you're coming from out of town and are not sure of the location, dial DY14 8PE on the satnav.

**MEETING THE
AMBASSADOR**

Dr Mark Baldwin travels quite a lot, but seldom to the more predictable tourist spots. In early June he was back from a

lecture tour in Austria and Slovenia, talking about the Enigma coding machine that was a great asset to the German forces until diligent work at Bletchley Park broke their code and with it their secret transmissions.

The British ambassador in Slovenia, Tiffany Sadler, heard of the tour and asked Dr Baldwin to give the staff a 45 minute presentation to the embassy staff in Ljubljana. Never one to pass up a chance to talk about the machine on which he is international authority, Dr Baldwin of course obliged.



Dr Baldwin with the ambassador to his left.

GENTLE HUMOUR

Lots of messages come through the editorial Inbox, some to be offered as news on these pages, others noted but unused. One reliable and clear communicator is Paul Jennings of the Footpath Association, who advises members with full details of the coming monthly walk.

His latest message advises on an "inelegant walk" starting at Daniels Mill in Bridgnorth. No offence intended in that description, it's simply that the walk lacks style, or stiles if you are fussy about spelling. It made me smile, which at 7.30am takes some doing. Thank you, Paul.

**MELVILLE CHAPEL
ORETON**

Ruth Downes advises us that there will be a Coffee Morning on July 22nd at this notable old building that stands out on the junction of New Road and the turning down to the village hall. Nearby is the wonderfully titled Cramer Gutter.

10.00 to 12.00 noon and all visitors, locals or tourists, will be made welcome.

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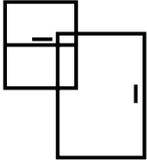


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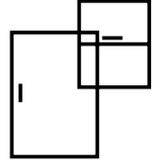


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FLICKS IN THE STICKS

On 15 July, at 7.30, we will be showing *Fisherman's Friends 2 - One for All*. In this sequel, the uplifting true-story continues. Following the unexpected success of the band's debut album we re-join them almost a year later, struggling with the pressures, pitfalls and temptations of their newfound fame. The film continues the journey with the loveable 'buoy band', as they navigate the choppy waters of fame, second album syndrome, and performing on the pyramid stage at Glastonbury. **Starring** James Purefoy, Dave Johns, Imelda May. Tickets £5 – bar, tea, coffee.

BARN DANCE

Another great night planned in the Parish Hall for Friday 25 August, at 6.30 for 7.00. Come along to our Barn Dance, an evening of fun, drinks, supper and music – and lots of dance. No experience necessary – a caller will guide you through the steps. Let your hair down and have a laugh. No age limits. Tickets £15 – including two course supper – online at www.cleoburyparishhall.uk/barndance, or call 01299

271713, email: gabbyfranklin76@gmail.com

ADAM'S PROGRESS

Adam Ponsford is a student at Lacon Childe School, raising money to make a trip to Kenya next year. He'll work to improve living standards there and to protect wildlife. We are happy to report his progress.

I have had a successful month holding sweet sales at school and a fun Bingo night at Kinlet Village Hall. The chocolate boards for Father's Day gifts also proved very popular, having in excess of 30 orders.

Sales of unwanted items have gone well on Vinted, all adding funds to the pot. Particular thanks to Pam Cheadle who seems to be having regular clear outs and giving me many items to sell.

If anyone is having a clear out of clothes then please feel free to leave me a bag on the doorstep, any unwanted items will be taken to a local charity shop.

I am pleased to report my total is now sitting at a comfortable £3,200, although I do need to pay mum and dad

back some outlay costs out of that (probably!).

Next I hope to have stalls at local school fetes and then will be concentrating on making lots of items for Christmas craft fairs.

Thank you everyone for your help in supporting my journey.

Adam

POLICE TEAM CHANGES

PC Strangways has taken an early retirement after an absence through ill health. He will be replaced by PC Oliver Jones, who we hope to meet and interview soon so that he and the community will know a little about one another.

PCSO Shelley Hyde is also moving on, to join the Much Wenlock and Broseley Safer Neighbourhood team. We wish her well, she having been a smiling and co-operative presence when duty brought her here.

POTHoles

Apologies that we don't have a pothole to show you and get your driving nerves on edge this month, but we just ran out of room. But they're still out there, waiting to welcome your wheels and maybe give you a repair bill. Do take care, please.



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CLEOBURY W.I.

On a sunny Monday afternoon recently, a group of members enjoyed tea and cake in the garden at The Fountain. We liked the venue, were well catered for and plan a return visit.

Although the turn-out was disappointing at the recent Annual Town Council Meeting, Judy represented us with a display stand for anyone interested to find out more about our WI.

The highlight of June was the one we'd all been waiting for- a talk by our very own Clare Hadwell, about her 3-month long cruise to South America and Antarctica. As expected, the event attracted a lot of interest from members and visitors alike. Clare presented with a relaxed and entertaining style, giving us a flavour of the many places visited with fascinating facts and amusing tales along the way.

We heard reports from two recent WI AGMs. Val gave a summary of the Shropshire Federation AGM and Linda Cox from Ludlow WI told us about her interesting day at the National Federation AGM in Cardiff.

Our meeting on 11th July is an outing to Ludlow Castle Croquet Club, where we can try out the game of croquet! This is a 'members only' event and we will be leaving Cleobury at 6pm. Members who have not yet signed up should let Fran know as soon as possible, so shared transport can be arranged.

Members can join us for tea and cake on a return to The Fountain on Wednesday July 19th at 3pm.

We have been invited by Neen Savage WI to a Vintage Afternoon Tea Party on Saturday 12th August at 2pm. This includes music and performances from Victory Bells WI. The cost is £7.50, which must be paid in advance and is strictly members only.

Two events run by Shropshire WI that members might like to sign up for are: WI Day at Shrewsbury Abbey on Saturday 16th September and 'Handbags and Gladrags', a fashion show on 3rd October, cost £30 in Telford.

Anyone interested in becoming a part of our busy and thriving branch of WI should contact Judy on 01299 270983 or email judysant10@gmail.com

Val Sniadowski

THE MULLERS' CLOSURE: AN OMISSION

If we get a report wrong, it is the editor's responsibility to put it right. Madge Shineton called to point out that the report of the Muller closure in April made no mention of the company's generosity in donating land for the splendid Medical Centre to be built-on.

She wrote: " There is some sort of legal rule that land must be paid for to prove ownership and the way it's been got round is any person/company who wish to donate a physical asset must receive 'Payment' hence the way round it was the £1. We live in a crazy world, I understand that it stems from past experience where assets have been given and decisions subsequently challenged by other family/ company members where there is no tangible proof that there has been a change of ownership.

"If we look at Cleobury now the two greatest assets are the Medical Centre and the QE11 Park which did not cost the Town Council more than £1."

Good old Madge, a simple way of explaining legal stuff. No wonder people voted for her

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Stepping Out! Who's Walking, When and Where.

The hay meadows around Cleobury this year are the most colourful I have seen. Among the different grasses are red campion, cow parsley, clover, sorrel and poppies. It is worth mentioning the stunning large swathe of poppies in the fields opposite the Blackstone Car Park near Bewdley.

The Country Walks continue through the Summer on the first Sunday of each month. Starting outside St Mary's Church at 10.00am, the four to five mile routes often follow one of the leafleted walks..Definitely worth setting aside a couple of hours to enjoy our local scenery.

The work party in June had a very full agenda. A new bridge was installed over a small stream flowing into the River Rea. It was securely anchored to the ground but also chained to a nearby tree to prevent it floating away when the river is in flood! They also put in a hand rail along a stretch of path that is very slippery after rain. During June there were a couple of clearance walks.

Several volunteers walked a three to four mile section of footpath clearing any weeds, brambles and nettles that had encroached into the path. The next work party is on Thursday July 13th. If you would like to join in, do make contact through our website.

The Walking for Health away day this month is on Wednesday 12th. We are going to Wyre Forest; the cooling forest canopy is welcome during the walk on a warm day. We meet at the Cleobury Sports Centre Car Park where car share will be available. We aim to leave at 10.00am. Anyone wanting to make their own arrangements please be at the Visitors Centre Car Park by 10.15. There is a charge for parking. Refreshments are available from The Forest Cafe.

The second Walking for Health in July is on the 26th Starting outside the Market Hall at 10.00am with refreshments afterwards at the CoCo coffee morning.

Like most walkers I have always relied on Ordnance Survey maps. Thanks to a

Birthday present from one of my daughters I now have an OS App! All the safety of a trusted map but as it works on GPS. no worry about loosing internet connection, brilliant. Over the last few weeks our footpath officer has loaded the CMFA walks onto the OS website. After downloading the route I can enjoy the walks without having to rely on my rather dog-eared leaflets!

Almost forgot to mention that the full moon on July 3rd is the Buck Moon. So called as the male deer begin to regrow their antlers.

CMFA activities are on our website www.cmfa.co.uk and also on Facebook. *Veronica*

ROCK PATHFINDERS July walks - everyone welcome.

Thursday 6th: 10.30 am start from Brown Clee Hill Picnic Area, off the B4364 near Cleobury North. WV16 6TB. Bring a packed lunch.

Thursday 20th: 10.00 am start from the Garden Tearooms car park, Witley Court Drive, off the A443 at Great Witley. WR6 6JT

Or ring Alan on 01299 400304.

Sue Humphries

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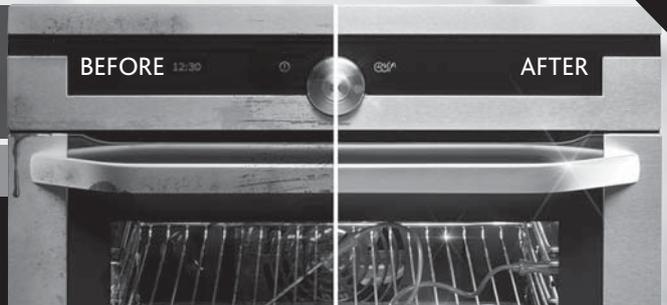
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I'm taking liberties with the title this month, since it's not about the forest itself but one of the other landscapes that interweave with the woodland to make up the character of the Wyre Forest as a whole.

Orchards used to be planted beside almost every farm and in every garden where there was enough room: people were much more self-sufficient in their food in those days. The Wyre Forest and Teme Valley became famous for cherry production when the Tenbury and Bewdley Railway branch line made it possible for perishable crops of fruit to be taken into Birmingham quickly, that is from 1864 until the line was closed in 1962. The old methods of tending standard trees, scaring off scavenging pigeons and thrushes and hand-picking using ladders became uneconomic thereafter and the majority of orchards were grubbed up (with government grants!) during the 1960s and the remainder of the twentieth century. The names of the cherry varieties grown at Hales Park Farm are remembered in the street names of the housing estate built in its place: Waterloo, Elton, White Heart, Ironsides and (misspelt) Governor Wood. Thus it was that traditional cherry orchards became a rarity which was only recognised as precious this century, thanks in part to research by members of the Wyre Forest Study Group into the wildlife living in the orchard at Bowcastle Farm, Bewdley, in 2004. That study found an astonishing 224 species of invertebrates and fungi dependant on the decaying wood of old fruit trees, the most imposing (and perhaps rarest) of them being the Noble Chafer. The photo by Rosemary Winnall shows one of these big, metallic green beetles feeding on an umbellifer – a rare sighting as the adult is short-lived, hatching in mid-summer from the grubs that spend two or three years eating the rotten wood of old apples, plums and cherries. I have never seen one and have to be

content with the tell-tale droppings or 'frass' left by the grubs in tree cavities.



On the other hand I do have frequent sightings of Redstarts - the cheery little birds that live and breed in our orchards in the summer - and can sometimes hear or catch sight of the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, another rarity that manages to hold on in the Wyre orchards and oak woods.

The annual Bewdley **Cherry Fair** will be on 22nd and 23rd July this year. Bewdley Civic Society and Bewdley Museum will be organising various events including a guided walk to some of the remaining cherry orchards.

June's article mentioned butterflies and the work of the Butterfly Conservation charity to monitor them. There are two opportunities coming up for everyone to contribute to research into butterfly distribution and numbers: the **Big Butterfly Count** invites you to spend 15 minutes in any location between 14th July and 6th August recording what you see and the Garnden Butterfly Survey is a recording project for gardens, community spaces and allotments which can be continued throughout the year.

Linda Iles

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Philip Dunne's Letter from Westminster

This is the first opportunity I have had to confirm to readers of this magazine my decision not to seek the Conservative nomination at the next General Election. I have been moved by kind words expressed in the messages I have received, whether they came from those who supported me through the ballot box or otherwise.

This has been a difficult decision. I'm still loving the role as your Member of Parliament, so it's not because I've lost interest or am exhausted, nor do I fear losing the election. In fact, I believe the Conservatives under Rishi Sunak's leadership, will be highly competitive at the next election.

Throughout my working life, whether by coincidence or not, it has divided into ten-year chunks. I have proudly served as the Parliamentary Spokesman for the Ludlow constituency for over 20 years, at the time of the next election, I will have served nearly 20 years as your Member of Parliament. I spent close to 10 years on the frontbenches and another 10 years on the backbenches, half of which I have served on the Environmental Audit Committee and will do so for five years as Chairman.

When I was first elected as your MP, I was 46 years old. Next month, I will turn 65. I still hope to have another decade ahead to remain active. However, the role of an MP demands a

significant level of energy and commitment, both in assisting thousands of constituents each year and in advocating for important issues within Parliament and beyond.

After careful consideration, I have come to the realisation that I cannot be confident of maintaining the required vitality, motivating both myself and others to the necessary level throughout the entirety of the next Parliament, especially as I enter my 70s.

It is important to me to be honest and transparent about the reasons behind my decision. Over the years, I have been incredibly fortunate to have received huge support from many residents of South Shropshire. I am immensely grateful for the approximately 500,000 letters, emails, and calls that I have had the pleasure of responding to during my tenure spanning two decades.

I will continue to serve to the full and to the best of my abilities until the dissolution of this Parliament, as determined by the Prime Minister.

Being the MP for the Ludlow constituency has been the greatest honour of my life. I am eternally grateful to all those who placed their trust in me, allowing me the privilege to represent them. Thank you for entrusting me with this great role.

Philip Dunne

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CLEOBURY'S ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The British Legion was formed in 1921 and four years later was granted a Royal Charter. The aim was simple - provide support for all our fighting forces.

Cleobury Mortimer was quick to respond and formed our body in the same year the Legion was born. Today the Legion is a very powerful body, with about 200,000 UK members, just 57 of them here in our town. There are 375 Legion clubs, who run the social and fund raising side, donating their profits to causes like the Poppy Fund as well as support of all sorts for those who were wounded and still need care. The devotion to care is very simply put - from the moment you join the Legion until you go to meet your maker, they support our forces.

Our branch has a well known and successful programme of events. In March there's the Annual Luncheon in the club's well established venue, the Sports and Social Club. This attracts good speakers and like all big social events, the wider public are welcome to join the Legion regulars. You'll know about the Cleobury Festival in June

and in September the Harvest Festival Auction sees veteran Jim Hulme on the gavel and the mike, raising money for the charity side. In October it's the Poppy Concert in the Parish Hall as the serious business of raising funds for November's Remembrance Sunday gets into gear. If you want proof of their devotion to the caring cause, in the year of 2021/22 they raised £ £153.5 millions!

Remembrance Sunday is the town's biggest annual event, when the High Street is lined with people out to see the Legion and supporting groups march to the town cenotaph to observe the two minutes silence. It is a simple, dignified recognition of those lost in battle, led by Rector Ashley Buck with the Legion's chairman joining the call to remember and respect those we have lost.

That and the monthly meetings in the Sports and Social Club is a lot of work for a few people and chairman Mike Hermolle is keen to see more members recruited, with an eye on the younger members of the community. They are, after all, the future of this town and will be the

people who will run our local Legion. branch in the future



Mike is standing down from his chairman's position this August, with five years served and improvements in the work evident. He wants to see membership grow by ten percent in the next three years and the branch work on welfare grow. Whoever takes over from this man will find ideas already in development and a lot of keen members in support.

Membership for both men and women is £18.00 a year, which gives access to help if you are injured or ill, advice if you need guidance and a spirit of comradeship and support you won't better anywhere.

Contact Mike about the becoming part of this historic body on CM 271384.

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BREAKFAST CLUB

The Air Beneath My Wings – not a rendition of the Bette Midler song but a talk about gliding by local expert Eddie Humphries. Eddie was a keen water skier but was warned by doctors that the continual physical impacts were having a detrimental effect on his body and he was advised to give up. By chance whilst out in Wales he saw a glider land nearby and the pilot suggested a ‘taster’ flight. From then on Eddie was hooked! He joined the Midland Gliding Club on Long Mynd, one of the oldest established clubs in the country, and spends six months a year there and six months in Cleobury. He pointed out that gliding isn’t an expensive hobby; for instance he has a part share in a glider. A pilot’s licence isn’t required either but accreditation rules are imposed. After clocking up the hours and experience, he was invited to join a team to take part in the Euroglide race, a 2,500 mile round trip across Europe starting and finishing in Wasserkuppe Germany, the main centre for gliding in Europe. At one point during the race over East Germany they

had difficulty in finding somewhere suitable to land and eventually had to choose a less than ideal site which turned out to be an asparagus field. Locals called the police to report a ‘plane crash’. A solitary high ranking police officer arrived on the scene and immediately got his car stuck in the soft earth. He was clearly agitated to find that instead of blood and body parts everywhere, there were two perfectly fit non-German speaking Englishmen. He was followed shortly by the local newspaper reporter who was similarly disappointed not to have a scoop on a gory drama, followed by the farmer who was happy to settle for a bottle of vodka by way of compensation. After much arm waving, shouting or shrugging and blank looks by the pilots, they were able to continue their flight. They didn’t get a place on the podium but as Eddie told us, they really weren’t bothered and had just enjoyed the experience enormously. For more details of the monthly Breakfast Club call Angela Drennan on 01299 270636.

Diane Waddington

FOOTPATH ASSOC’N.

Joy took over from Mazella as Secretary. Her e mail address is joyw001@outlook.com Mazella continues to look after membership.

Walk leaflets: The only outlet at present is Londis. Could we investigate further places to sell the leaflets? If anyone knows of a possible seller, then please let us know.

Annual Holiday: Suggestions for destinations for next year’s holiday will be welcomed and an appeal is out for someone to arrange it. Daish’s have bases in various locations, however there may be other destinations. Please contact us if you are willing to arrange the holiday . We thank Alan and Deana for their outstanding organising of our ‘Isle of Wight’ holiday this year, ensuring everyone had a great time.

Joy Wilkinson

SIMPLE KINDNESS

Ruth Downes advises us that money raised from the Melville Chapel coffee morning on July 22nd will go to support Matt Woodhouse’s rehabilitation after his recent accident.



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REGAL THIS SUMMER*

TENBURY WELLS

*programme as of 14/06/23



Asteroid City (12A)

Film

2nd - 12th July

The itinerary of a Junior Stargazer/Space Cadet convention (organised to bring together students and parents from across the country for fellowship and scholarly competition) is spectacularly disrupted by world-changing events.

Directed by: **Wes Anderson** | Cast includes: **Jason Schwartzman, Scarlett Johansson, Tom Hanks, Tilda Swinton, Bryan Cranston, Edward Norton, Adrien Brody**

Hairspray - 35th Anniversary (PG)

Musical on screen

Friday 7 July at 7pm

It's Baltimore, 1962, and a rebellious teenager with the biggest bouffant on the block attempts to win the coveted "Miss Auto Show" crown. Classic 1980s musical directed by John Waters and starring, **Debbie Harry, Divine**

Elemental (PG)

Family Film

13th - 19th July

Latest **Disney Pixar** movie: A fiery young woman and a go-with-the-flow guy are about to discover something elemental: How much they actually have in common.

Regal School of Creative Arts presents: The Dream

Sunday 16 July at 6.30pm

LIVE theatre

Come and support the young stars of Tenbury present a new version of The Dream, a play based on William Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. Tickets only £8 or 4 for £20!

Mission: Impossible Dead Reckoning Part One (12A)

21st - 26th July

Film

The seventh instalment of the phenomenal Mission: Impossible series might just be the first part of IMF agent Ethan Hunt's final outing. Starring: **Tom Cruise, Rebecca Ferguson, Indra Varma, Cary Elwes, Simon Pegg**



LOVE FILM?

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The Regal is looking for volunteers to help with: **Front of House, Box Office, Projection** or do you have specific skills that could further support the theatre? Email to find out how to get involved: Debbie@regaltenbury.co.uk

MONDAY MATINEE MADNESS

All matinee film tickets only £5 each throughout July and August!

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In our **Conversation Cafe** we are hoping to bring people together in a safe and friendly environment. To meet new people and make friends. We invite everyone to bring a conversation topic that reflects their tastes, interests and concerns. Or just feel free to come and join in. This is a free workshop. We have a Cafe on-site where you can enjoy home made soups, salads and cakes so come and have a coffee and see what's going on. Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and weekends.

Tel: 07984 354682 **@thecwcafe** **Email: thecwcafe@gmail.com** **Park Alley, Bewdley. www.thecwcafe.uk**

Regular Workshops

Home schooling Wed and Fri 10.00 to 12.30 and 1.30 to 4.00

Men's Shed Tuesday morning 10.00 to 12.30

Knit and Natter Tuesday Afternoon 1.30 to 4.00

Conversation Cafe Wednesday

11.00 to 12.30

Short courses

Blacksmithing **Stained Glass**

10th&11th June and 1st July

5th&6th August £70.00

£125.00 each **Copper Roses**

Wet Felting 19th August

15th July £70.00

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TIRED OF THE SAME OLD BEER?

We've all been there, you've just got home and there is no beer in the fridge. You contemplate popping to the nearest shop* and then you remember all they stock is Fosters, Carlsberg and some manky looking white cider that hasn't even seen an apple.

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BECAUSE Life is too short for Sh*t Beer

*Please note this is not implying any of your local shops have a poor range of beer. Its is a generic statement used for marketing purposes. I imagine your shop probably has nice beer.



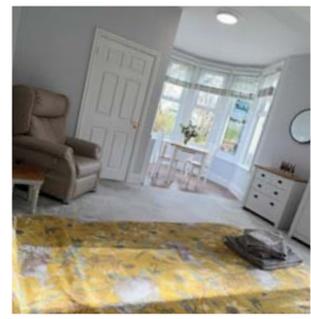
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Doddington Lodge

Residential Care Home



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... would like to welcome you and your family to Doddington Lodge, our newly renovated, privately owned residential and dementia care home in this historic, tranquil hamlet of Doddington, Nr Clebury Mortimer. Located on the beautiful Shropshire & Staffordshire border, providing picturesque views from every aspect of our home.

Doddington Lodge is a place where friendships are made and special moments are shared. We organise many fun activities that everyone can get involved with, whether that's a sing along, arts and crafts, collecting fresh veg from the allotment or just simply helping each other with a crossword in our daily newspaper. Each day is different, we certainly have many happy moments...

... a modern bistro dining room and bar with a delicious daily menu created by our accomplished chefs. Individually designed spacious double rooms, perfect for couples to stay together or beautiful single rooms all with en-suites and stunning countryside views. Even a hairdressing salon for a little pampering and a wide place of well-being.

Our home is a loving community and family, where you can consider Doddington Lodge a home away from home. We will provide you with all the key information, guiding you through every step of the process, whether you are staying with us for a short or long stay.



A SPECIAL VISIT FROM DENNIS PUGH AND HIS BEE-TIFUL BEES!

Dennis Pugh, from Tenbury, paid us a visit here at Doddington Lodge, and he brought along his incredible bees!

We were all very curious about how Dennis takes care of these buzzing buddies, why he loves them so much, and how they make the yummiest homemade honey ever!

We want to say a big thank you to Dennis for sharing his amazing bee knowledge and his love for these little creatures with all of us. And he even treated us to a taste of his beebautiful honey!

Follow us on Facebook to find out more.

www.doddingtonlodge.com | E: enquiries@doddingtonlodge.com | T: 01584 707084

Doddington Lodge, Residential Care Home, Doddington, Nr Clebury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 0HL



Come along!
Coffee morning
on Friday 14th
July 2023



Join us for a warm cup of cheer and plenty of laughs at our monthly Doddington Lodge Coffee Mornings!

Every 2nd Friday of the month, come together with residents, family & friends over tea or coffee. Enjoy freshly baked cakes as well as the Doddington Lodge monthly raffle.

For only £2.50 per person – including your beverage and slice of cake – join us for our get-together on Friday, July 14th, 2023, from 10 am until midday.

We look forward to seeing you!



What a month we've had at Doddington Lodge! It's been filled with wonderful events and activities that have made us smile from ear to ear. We've been soaking up the sunshine, going on lovely walks, and treating ourselves to delicious ice cream. We even had a fun day at the Doddington Lodge beach! But the best part was when we opened our doors to welcome our friends and family for our monthly coffee morning. At Doddington Lodge, we love coming together and making memories. Here's to many more amazing times to come!

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Sorry to hear that Jenny of Shoe Box fame is pottering off to Hampshire. She will be missed. So I will be doing the Shoe Boxes for the foreseeable future. There's no way I can match Jenny, but I will try. My contact number: 07976 307 889. KEITH BALMER

MORE ABOUT SHOE BOXES

For Boys and Girls:

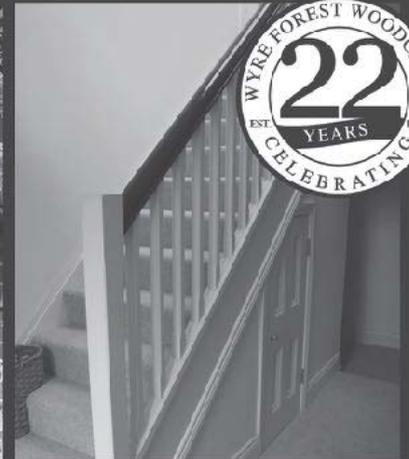
Toothbrush & toothpaste, hair accessories/brush, soap & face cloth, stationery & paper, gloves, hat & scarf, new socks/underwear, a soft toy, game, puzzle, small musical instruments, toy vehicles, small ball, sweets (use by date from June), a photo and message from yourself.



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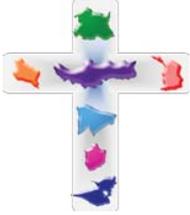
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Clebury Mortimer Benefice Church services throughout the Benefice in July 2023

St Mary's Clebury Mortimer

Sunday 2nd July – 10am Family Eucharist & Benefice Service celebrating Sarah Lupton's ordination as Deacon.
Sunday 9th July – 8.30am Said Eucharist
Sunday 9th July – 10am Eucharist
Sunday 16th July – 10am Eucharist
Sunday 23rd July – 10am Eucharist
Sunday 30th July – Benefice Eucharist

St Michael and All Angels', Hopton Wafers

Sunday 2nd July – No service
Sunday 16th July – No service

St John the Baptist, Doddington

Sunday 2nd July – No service
Sunday 16th – 3.00pm Evening Prayer

All Saints', Neen Sollars

Sunday 2nd July – No service
Sunday 9th July – 11.00am Village Worship
Sunday 16th July – 11.00am Village Eucharist
Sunday 23rd July – 11.00am Village Worship

St George's, Milson

Sunday 2nd July – No service
Sunday 16th July – 9.00am Eucharist

St Mary's, Neen Savage

Sunday 2nd July – No service
Sunday 16th July – 11.00am Eucharist BCP

St John the Baptist, Kinlet

Sunday 9th July – 11.15am Eucharist BCP
Sunday 23rd July – 6pm Evening Prayer BCP

The Church Office is open Tuesday and Thursday from 8.00am-2.00pm
Contact details: Sam Dolphin: cleburychurch@hotmail.com Tel: 01299 272916

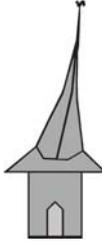
DROP IN AT ST. MARY'S

with St. Mary's Pastoral Care Group
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 UKRAINE:
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THE SHROPSHIRE KITE FESTIVAL

The Kite Festival is back here in Cleobury on July 15th and 16th, based on the sports field at Lacon Childe School. It's a silent and friendly colourful show, with kites of all sizes and shapes hovering over the field, subject to good weather. And with this summer so far, what could we expect but sunshine and a gentle breeze to get the kites up and flying?

Admission is free, you just walk in from the school car park to watch. If you want to know more, the flyers are almost always friendly and you'll probably hear some unfamiliar accents, as they drive in to Cleobury from all over the country.

If you want to know more before they arrive, organisers Helene and Paul are at Sky Bums in Wem, telephone 01939 234486.

A BIG WEEKEND AT STOTTESDON

Friday 14th: The Community Fete is on the school field, raising money for the host venue and the parish church. 5.30 to 8.00, with loads of games to see and try, like a Bottle Hoopla! There's a BBQ for those who want to eat, Hobson's Beer Tent if you prefer to drink, or combine the two - great idea.

Sunday 16th: Open Gardens Day; always worth a visit to see amazing work from huge vegetables through to fruit and flowers grown in the most unlikely places and receptacles; visit Wage Muggleton's garden if you want a surprise. It's part of the National Gardens Scheme, raising funds for

charities by selling tickets for £5 an adult, while the children get in for free.

And finally, don't visit the village without going to Saint Mary's, the parish church that has been the subject of a major restoration and ambitious plans to make this ancient building a major local attraction. All thanks to a considerable grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund that has really put the ancient village of Stottesdon on the map. They'll be serving teas and refreshments and offering plants for sale.

PHIL'S FIRST NOVEL

Phil Campion was a sport and news reporter for a range of newspapers, but he's gone indie and branched out with his first novel, "Cashing Out".

It's about a man who finds he's been given a load of cash from a mystery, a blessing as his luck was just about running out. It certainly does when the people who claim the money is theirs get on his tail. A good basis for a tense thriller.

We have a copy and will review it in the August Clarion. If want a copy now, it's out there on Amazon and Apple Books.

FRIENDS OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH

Two events to put in your diary:

September 22nd: A concert of swing and jazz in the church, with dancing in the aisles encouraged! Starts at 7.30, tickets are £15 each and there will be a cash bar.

On November 10th Doctor Mark Baldwin will be giving a talk on the celebrity rural postman and writer Simon

Evans, who worked in the town from 1926, after being gassed in the 1914-18 World War. Again, the event will be in the church, starting at 7.30, and tickets will cost £8, which will include tea or coffee in the interval.

Doctor Baldwin is a renowned historian and lecturer, with an easy style of delivering detailed information. If you haven't heard before, this is a chance to further your education. Tickets will be available from Diane Waddington on 01299 272820.

999 CALLS - POLICE

MESSAGE

BT has confirmed that 999 calls can now be taken following an earlier technical fault.

Please only call 999 in an emergency - BT has confirmed that a back-up platform for the service is now working whilst they fix the underlying problem. However, the service may not be working to full capacity.

THE FESTIVAL AT THE EDGE

It's back at Hopton Court over the long weekend of July 21st to the 23rd, the festival that was such a success last year. No start times given but look in at www.festivalattheedge.org or call 07544 044 126.

It's all about the spoken, sung or written word, with a wide variety of artists of all kinds who can fascinate you. Some good and unusual stuff available from the stalls too. It will go on into the night on Friday and Saturday - Great romantic setting.

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So, Boris has flounced off in anticipation of the (very) damning report on his lockdown partying. A 'witch hunt' apparently. This was preceded by the publication of his slightly reduced resignation honours list which, as expected, consists mainly of chums, cronies and party donors. What a disgrace but not a surprise I suppose. Those of you old enough to remember John Major as PM, may recall that he promised to change the system to reward those who had genuinely contributed to society rather than political allies and assorted 'businessmen'. That worked well then... Does this mean curtains for Boris' political career?. I wouldn't count on it although only seven MP's voted in his favour following the debate on his suspension. However, he is still popular amongst rank and file party members who have influence in the selection procedure. Some readers may remember reading in the April 'Clarion' that he was rumoured to be looking for a seat with a comfortable majority somewhere rural such as South Shropshire.... Now that our Philip Dunne has announced that he is standing down at the next election, could we be in his sights?. I just hope that the local constituency party has enough sense to consign any such idea to the dustbin but if it should happen, you read it here first.

Given that a similar situation and language surrounds Trump at present, I wonder if he and Boris are twins separated at birth. There is the small matter of a 20 year age difference but who knows what genetic experimentation might have been at work. Remember all the Nazi scientists that vanished to South America after WW2... There are so many similarities from their hair to the extremely tenuous relationship with the truth they both possess. Donald is a little more orange but that could just be the light.

Still no news when we might get our Post Office back. We are told that a software upgrade broke the ancient computer and a

replacement has not been forthcoming. I could believe this (although I'm not sure I do), given the PO history of dodgy computer software (remember Horizon?). Still, despite the glacially slow process of paying compensation to the wronged Sub Postmasters - around 60 of whom have now died without receiving their entitlement - there has been no delay in awarding senior Post Office chiefs substantial bonuses for having achieved set objectives (they hadn't). These included co-operation to achieve a satisfactory outcome of the Horizon enquiry which hasn't happened. Meanwhile, if we want to access Post Office services, it's Clows Top (one bus a week if it still runs?) or Kiddy/Ludlow (a bus every two hours probably) and effectively a half day taken up just to post a parcel. I saw an item on the news about closures elsewhere in the area which are accelerating but it can't get worse for us as there's nothing left...

The same applies to senior managers in the water industry. Consider the billions that have been paid out in dividends over the last 30 years whilst investment in infrastructure was either frozen or declined. There has not been a single new reservoir completed in the last 30 years which is probably not news to those residents of Kent and Sussex now struggling to get supplies. But don't worry, water bosses have reduced the period we will have to wait for a solution to only about 15 years. However we will be paying for it through higher bills.

If you are of a sensitive nature, do not read any further... The Vagina Museum (me neither) has been evicted from its home in East London and is crowdfunding for a new home. It was founded with the remit to educate about the elusive anatomy of female pleasure so the old premises were appropriately situated at the end of a narrow passageway and extremely difficult to find...

Ariadne J. Grumpy

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“THE TOWN’S BEST KEPT SECRET”

An invitation to take lunch at the Golf Club sounded too good to miss. It’s been a long time since I last enjoyed their hospitality and with new ownership and a new chef with ambitions, who could refuse?

My lady and I were expected by the dining room staff and were shown to a table in the ground floor room where Sunday lunches are now a feature. I opted for the Creamy Stilton Mushrooms on a crouton for my starter and Mushroom Stroganoff and Rice for the main. I’m not a vegetarian, but most of my English based family are and I’ve seen enough disappointment for them to know that getting veggie food right is not common; it would be a basic test of kitchen quality.

My lady took a Duck and Orange Pate to start with, followed by Roast Pork with Sage and Onion stuffing. Her verdict: “Absolutely lovely” and I could not argue with that. We both failed to finish the very generous main serving, simply because we were replete. The desserts looked very tempting, but beyond our appetites; we agreed the food was really good, the quantities more than we could manage. And the service was just right; careful attention without being obtrusive. It’s also good value, with two courses for an adult costing £14.95 and three courses £17.95.

So this is the standard of catering at the Club. There was an obvious need to meet and

learn more about Mike Fazackerley, the man in charge. Nine days later he found a space in his timetable.



The man behind the menu, Mike Fazackerley smiles as he talks to another happy customer.

He’s a local, brought up just over the Worcestershire border at the Tally Ho pub in Broad Heath. Cooking was part of the way of life there and he’s been doing for 35 years. No college stuff for him, he’s proud to say he’s self taught, though I suspect family influence got him started.

Since then he’s worked in mass catering, then manufacturing with Wells’ Drinks here and in Northampton. He spent time at a wholesaler in Birmingham before moving back here to his roots in 2001. “I like the place and it’s great for the kids,” he explains. “There’s a lot of clubs and places for kids in Brum, but they’re always busy. Here you get the same facilities, but fewer people trying to use them.” He was working as a chef at the Pioneer Centre until the Golf Club job came up and

he moved a short distance along the road

“The Town’s Best Kept Secret” is his phrase to describe the dining service. Sunday lunches were his idea and with the general public welcome to enjoy them he’s making his mark. Not such a well kept secret is the breakfast service, serving 80 to 90 people a day. The Sunday lunches feature every two weeks at this early stage.

He’s keen on using local services, where they measure up to his standards at a decent price. His aim? “A cracking product at the right price”, which he is clearly achieving.

He currently has a staff of five in the kitchen and waiting on tables, with service at the bar to cover as well. He rates these busy and courteous people highly - they do smile and make you feel welcome.

So what’s next on his plans? “Cream teas on the patio?” he asks with a grin; it’s certainly a good place for such a summer treat. He balances the workload of his staff with recruitment and is happy to talk to anyone who would fit in with the team.

He’s not boastful, not given to big promises without seeing the need to recruit and train where necessary. There’s a large dining room upstairs that can cater for up to 100 people, but he’s not looking there yet.

“It’s great. The challenge is good and I think we’re going in the right direction.”

The man is clearly nobody’s fool, down to earth in the manner the Club has established from its foundation 30 years ago. *Jim Reynolds*

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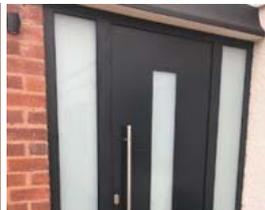
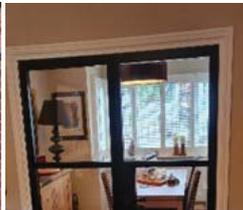
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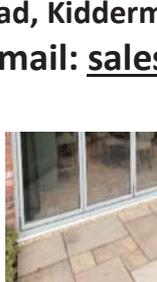
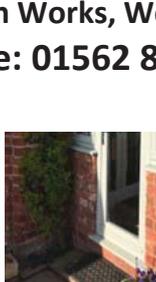
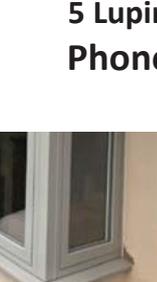
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WOOD WORDS

From the Bowling Club

Lots of activity on the green during this fine spell of weather, and a reminder to any potential bowlers that the green is open for play everyday (subject to league fixtures- details on website cleoburybowls.org.uk).

Collective "roll-ups" take place Mondays, every other Wednesday and Fridays.

Recent team results show Mortimer recording victories over Squirrel, Wenlock B, and Chelmarsh B in the Highley league. Currently holding 4th position as at June 4th. Cleobury lost to Burway, with a win over Linney giving them 4th position in the Ludlow League; whilst in the Shropshire senior league Cleobury Mortimer are 10th with recent wins over Newport C, Allcott A and Shifnall A (as at June 7th).

In club competitions winners of The Jules Cup were Chris Cowdell and Stan Checkett, in the "Jack in the Box" trophy Tony Wilson and Paul Lloyd came out winners; the Ladies Cup trophy was won by Leslie Burns and Jan Flatters.

Club captain Nick Flatters reminds readers that bowls is a game for all ages, gender and ability and is happy to speak to any interested party on 07952 296710 or email cleoburybowlsclub@gmail.com

Our August column will include results of Captains Day on June 25th plus news of forthcoming events.

Smiffy 07494 016137.

CURATE JOE SIMONS

I have been the curate here in the Cleobury Benefice for the last three years and I will be leaving in July to take up my title post as Priest in Charge of Brown Clee Benefice, just over the hill!

It would be remiss of me not to write a few words about my time here and to thank you all, especially my training incumbent, Ashley, for all the warmth, love, prayers and support I have had from so many of you.

I have enjoyed my ministry to this community enormously and have felt part of the wider family, which is something that I will treasure. I have shared sorrow, grief and reflection with many families and loved ones whilst I have presided at funerals, I have shared the joy and happiness of weddings and baptisms; through all of these I have grown in my faith, but above all they have showed the wonderful character and uniqueness of this special community.

My time presiding at the various churches across the Benefice has been a real pleasure and I know in my heart that I have grown as you have all allowed me the space to be what God has called me to be. A huge thank you to all of you.

My time working with Mark and Bev Greaves at The Cleobury Community Hub has been equally joyful and I know the plans to grow and develop that place are immensely exciting.

I do plan to stay in touch and hope that I will be back regularly, if not presiding at the

Eucharist, at least keeping one or two of the shops in business. Thanks again and my love and prayers I leave with you all.

Joe Simons

SAM DOLPHIN



This is one very busy lady. We photographed her in Saint Mary's Benefice office, where she works two days a week looking after church business.

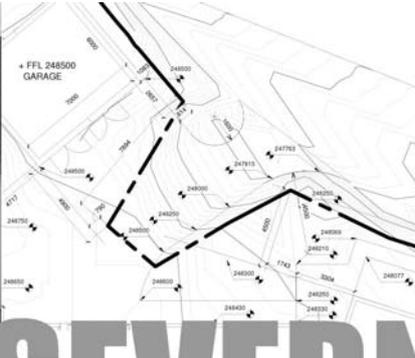
From the same Market Hall base, she is now the responsible manager of the premises and has plans for the plac to be brightened up and look better.

And she's also Deputy Town Clerk working with Dorothy McBride out of the Town Council offices at Cleobury Country Centre.

She's making her mark already by meeting people and responding to their ideas with a smile and enthusiasm. That sign at the Market Hall door listing the week's events is her idea. She is an asset to the town.

PEST ARREST

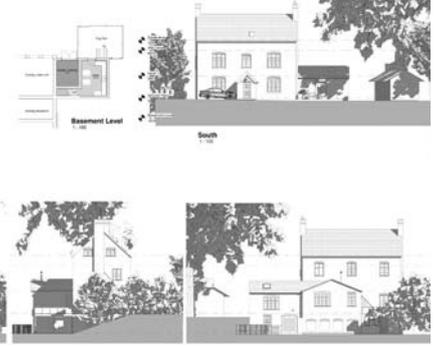
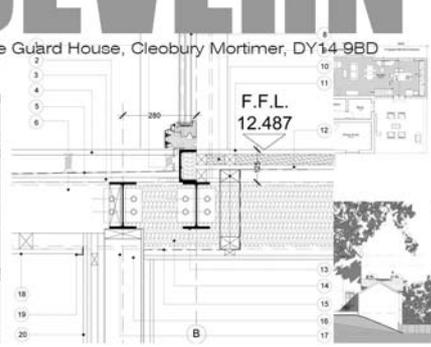
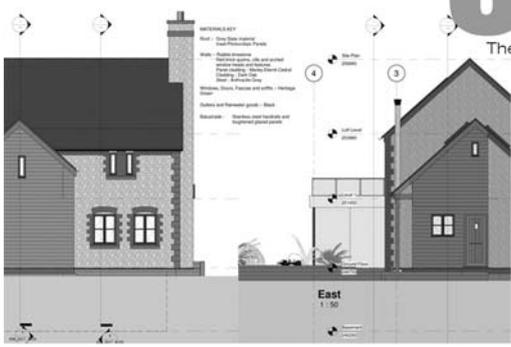
Good to have a pest service in town and advertising. Jon Staples is the man's name and you'll find his advert on Page 6.



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Fraudsters stole £2,300 per minute from victims in 2022. UK Finance reports that victims lost a total of £1.2bn to scammers last year. The latest data shows the shocking extent of losses to unauthorised and authorised fraud.

Unauthorised fraud occurs when a scammer carries out transactions without your consent or authorisation – for example, if your bank card is stolen. Authorised fraud, or APP fraud, occurs when you're tricked into sending money to a criminal's account. It's crucial to be aware of how these scams work and take precautions to protect yourself.

It all starts with someone behind a powerful computer who has access to all social media formats such as Facebook, Twitter, What's App etc. Hacking into some of these accounts is so easy as people continue to use passwords that are easily broken. It is highly recommended that you use a password that is at least 8 characters and includes Upper case & lower-case characters as well as numbers and special characters. It can be hard to remember some passwords but there are methods of remembering them.

Our hacker will start with some basic info that has been obtained from you and start to build a profile. One popular method of obtaining information is called DATA MINING. Simply put, personal data can be bought over the internet through methods I won't disclose here, but be aware that the sort of data is that which comes from companies who offer loyalty cards, or collect your data through adverts or online purchases you may have made. The majority of online sales organisations are genuine and take steps to protect customer data, but even the best gets hacked and data is stolen.

When our scammers have enough data, they can create a fake profile of you and if they have managed to obtain bank details as well, you are in serious trouble. Fraud costs money, costs lives in extreme cases and you can do a lot to protect yourself from becoming a victim.

If you Bank online, manage your account closely and look out for any transactions that you don't agree with. Guard your personal data closely. Use good strong passwords for any application that requires passwords to access. Use what is known as 2 Factor Authorisation. This usually involves having a verification code sent to your mobile phone. If someone has hacked you, they can't get this code and you

are less at risk. Also keep your mobile phone safe by using access passwords to open the phone.

As we approach the holiday season, fraud takes a new turn. The sun is shining, the temperature is rising and many peoples' thoughts will be working on holidays and all those tempting offers going around. At the same time the fraudsters will also be busy with new scams to unload onto the unsuspecting prospective holidaymaker.

Of last years £1.2bn lost, from May – August alone, more than £4.6m was on holiday fraud

It's not just older people that fall foul of the fraudster, victims in their 20's and 40's accounted for 44% of reported holiday fraud in 2022.

Top tips to avoid falling victim to holiday fraud

- **Do your own research:** Booking your trip via a company you haven't used before? Do some research to check they're legitimate. Read feedback from sources that you trust. Find a company's official website by searching for them on Google
- **Look for the logo:** Check whether the company is an ABTA Member. Look for the ABTA logo on the company's website. If you're booking a flight as part of a package holiday and want more information about ATOL protection, visit the ATOL or CAA website.
- **Pay safe:** Book your holiday with a credit card, if you have one. Most major credit card providers protect online purchases, and are obliged to refund you in certain circumstances. Using a credit card (rather than a debit card) also means that if your payment details are stolen, your main bank account won't be directly affected
- **Secure your email:** If your email is hacked, it could allow a criminal to access information about your holiday booking. Use 3 random words to create a strong password for your email that's different to all your other passwords. If you are offered 2 step verification to protect your email and social media accounts, always use it.

To avoid Holiday fraud, see this web site www.abta.com/tips-and-advice/planning-and-booking-a-holiday/how-to-avoid-travel-related-fraud



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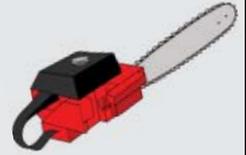
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Richard Haines

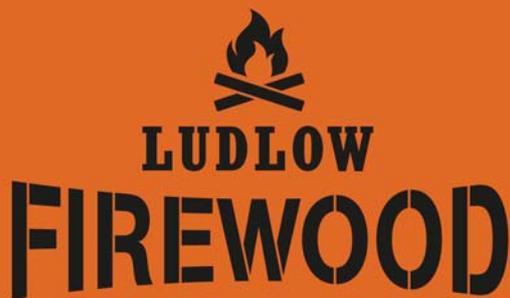
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- Advice on all Government Grants and Incentives.
- Local support with annual servicing through our in-house EZCare package.

Get in touch today to start renewing your energy!

For your peace of mind, EnergyZone has the following accreditations:



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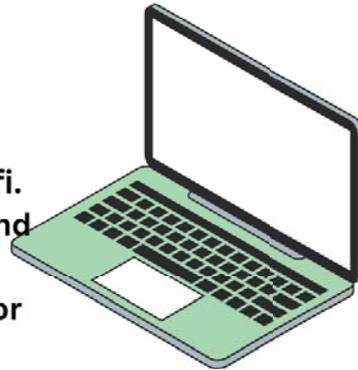
sales@energyzone.co.uk



Office to rent!!

The Market Hall has an office to rent.

The office is approx 99sq.ft
in size, with natural daylight & wifi.
For more information or to come and
view contact Sam on
cleoburymarkethall1@gmail.com or
07385 698574.



JOB ADVERT - FARLOW FARM NURSERY



- **Job Advert: Retail Assistant/General Nursery Worker (Maternity Cover)**
- Farlow Farm Nursery is a family run plant nursery based in South Shropshire, serving Landscapers, Garden Centres, Nurseries as well as the general public. We specialise in Hedging, Ornamental trees and Conifers, Shrubs, Perennials, Rhododendrons and Heathers.
- We are currently looking for maternity cover for a full-time Sales Assistant/General Nursery Worker to join our small team. The role is temporary; however, it could lead to a permanent position for the right candidate.
- Skills needed:
 - Provide excellent customer service by being friendly, approachable and ready to help.
 - Being responsible and trustworthy, handling transactions and therefore money.
 - Be IT confident logging Sales on accounting software.
 - Be willing to work in all weathers.
 - Having pride in your work.
 - Be flexible.
 - Physically fit.
- The hours required are 40 hours per week, which includes 2 Saturdays per month.
- Salary: Negotiable depending on experience and will be discussed at interview.
- The role would be an immediate start.
- Please send C.V. and interest to: sales@farlowfarmnursery.co.uk by 14/7/23, or to ask any information.



Letter from America.

Lisa Baldwin's thoughts on conflict.

Question: When I feel there is a conflict between myself and a family member or friend, I tend to avoid bringing it up at all. I don't like conflict. I do not want to argue. I then end up fuming inside with resentment for not saying anything.

What should I do?

Answer: First of all, do not automatically label the situation a conflict. When we do this we are creating a mindset that is not helpful. Just by calling something a conflict we are placing ourselves for battle. Better to take a deep breath, pause, and ask yourself the following questions:

a) What is it that I am upset about? Do I feel taken advantage of? Do I feel misunderstood? Did someone do or say something that hurt or offended me in some way?

b) Is it possible that I may be making assumptions about the other person's motives or actions?

c) Am I ruminating about an interaction in a way that increases my hurt and/ or anger?

d) What else is happening in my life right now that might be causing stress?

e) Could I have said or done something differently?

Often after reflecting on the above questions, we realize that we may not have enough information. We need more understanding. We now can relabel the situation a search for understanding, instead of a conflict.

Timing is very important for the next step in your search for understanding. Ask the other person when they may have free time to get together. Avoid saying "we need to talk." This

tends to scare people. Just say that you need their help in trying to understand something.

Make sure that you schedule a time to get together when neither of you is depleted or rushed. Find an environment that is calming. Walks in nature can often be a good choice.

When you first meet, thank them for taking the time to talk with you. Then start the conversation with something such as "Please help me to understand what happened when..." This is called a "soft start-up." It can set the initial tone of the conversation from one of a battlefield, to that of a search for information.

Try to maintain a hopeful, friendly, and non-accusatory tone throughout the conversation. Avoid coming from a place of urgency to have everything solved immediately. Consider this interaction as the first phase of gathering information. This will help you to see things clearly and express them as facts, not just as acts of wrong behavior. Remember, not everything has to be resolved during this first interaction. The history and relationship dynamics between the parties will vary. By using the "soft start-up" technique, we are heightening the chances of building a positive foundation for continued dialogue.

By reframing the situation from a "conflict" to a "search for understanding" we are less likely to avoid contact and hold on to resentment. By starting the interaction this way, we are more likely to reach a point of mutual understanding and acceptance.

Lisa

THE JULY CLARION SOCIAL CALENDAR

- Sun 2nd 10.00 CMFA 'Dinmore Dally' Country Walk starts from the Parish Church. PAGE 21
 12.00 Open Garden at Upper Marshes, part of National Garden Scheme PAGE 5
- Mon 3rd 7.00 Town Council meeting at Cleobury Country Centre, Love Lane PAGE 61
- Wed 5th DOMESTIC RUBBISH AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED TODAY
 6.00 to 7.00 Late Night at the Food Bank, Market Hall.
 7.30 Photography Club meet at the Market Hall.
 7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington village hall. Sonia 01584 890874
- Thu 6th 10.30 nRock Pathfinders walk out from Brown Clee Hill. PAGE 21
- Sat 8th 9.00 to 4.00 Wild Day at Saint John's church, Doddington.
 2.30 Strawberry Tea at Doddington Village Hall. PAGE 5
- Mon 10th 6.30 The Creative Writing Group meet at the library, Love Lane
- Tue 11th 6.00 Cleobury W.I. visit Ludlow Castle Croquet Club. PAGE 19
- Wed 12th GREEN BINS GARDEN RUBBISH EMPTIED TODAY
 Walking for Health starts from Wyre Forest Visitor Centre. PAGE 21
 10.00 CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall. Lovely home made cakes!
- Thu 13th . CMFA Working Party. Fighting the weeds and nettles. PAGE 21
 4.30 Lacon Childe School Fete, on the school playing fields. PAGE 13
- Fri 14th 8.00 Bingo Night at Doddington village hall.
- Sat 15th 10.30 Clows Top Garden Club Visit to Shakenhurst PAGE 5
 5.00 Garden Party at Sproseley, Hopton Wafers, in aid of the church. PAGE 7
 7.30 Flicks in the Sticks offers "Fisherman's Friends & One For All." PAGE 17
- Mon 17th 7.30 The Reading Group meet and discuss in the library. PAGE 7
- Wed 19th DOMESTIC RUBBISH AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED TODAY
 7.30 Photography Club, Market Hall. 'Workshop or Presentation?'
 7.30 Whist Drive, Doddington village hall. Sonia 01584 890874
- Thu 20th 10.00 Rock Pathfinders step out from Witley Court Garden. PAGE 21
- Sat 22nd 10.00 Coffee Morning at Melville Chapel, Oreton. PAGE 13
 12.00 Garden Open Day, Coppice Gate Farm DY12 2UY PAGE 11
- Sun 23rd 10.00 Ludlow Dog Day, Stokes Court, A49 north of Ludlow. PAGE 9
 7.00 Nightingale Nursing AGM at the Sports & Social Club. PAGE 11
- Wed 26th GREEN BINS GARDEN RUBBISH EMPTIED TODAY
 10.00 Walking for Health set out from the Market Hall. PAGE 21
 10.00 CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall.
 6.00 Clows Top Garden Club visit to Crown House. PAGE 5
- Fri 28th 8.00 Bingo Night, Doddington village hall.
- Sat 29th Photography Club visit to Stiperstones. Paul at -07791 378240
- Mon 31st 7.30 The Nearly Dead Poets Society meets at the library.
- AND LOOKING AHEAD TO AUGUST
- Wed 2nd DOMESTIC RUBBISH AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED TODAY
 7.30 Whist Drive, Doddington village hall. Sonia 01584 890874
- 12/13th Far Forest Show. Great day out for all the family. PAGE 11
- REGULAR EVENTS OF INTEREST
- Mon 8.00 Bingo Night at the Market Hall.
- Tue 2.00 Friendship Club meet at the Parish Hall.
- Thu Drop-in at St Mary's church to chat and maybe share problem.
 7.30 Tina Hobin's Birth Dance and good health class at the Market Hall.

Vacancies.

The Town Council currently has three Councillor vacancies. If you have a good knowledge of, and interest in our community, have good communication skills, are keen to work with community partners and can attend monthly Town Council meetings then please consider joining us. For more information, please contact us 01299 271154 or email council@cleobury.org.uk.

Police & Community Together (PACT).

We were pleased to host another Police and Community Together (PACT) meeting on Wednesday 14th June at the Parish Hall. There were representatives from the Police, Town Council, Neighbourhood Watch, and some residents present. Sgt Kate Oen informed the meeting that the work around a racially motivated event and anti-social issues from last year are ongoing but there has been a reduction in crime since then. It was noted there is some apathy from the public with reporting issues as there seems to be little feedback on any reports. Sgt Oen assured the meeting that all reports are noted but it is not always appropriate to give specific feedback due to ongoing investigations or intelligence gathering. There have been several staffing issues recently, but Sgt Oen is pleased to announce that PC Olly Jones is starting in early July and there will be a new PCSO starting soon too. People are encouraged to report all issues but also sign up to Neighbourhood Matters to receive regular updates from the local policing team too.

Councillor Surgery.

After our Councillor Surgeries were suspended in 2019 due to the Covid pandemic, we were pleased to hold our first surgery for over 3 years on Saturday 17th June 2023. Located in the entrance lobby of the Market Hall, we were pleased to welcome more than 10 local residents who raised concerns with Councillor Greaves, Councillor James and Councillor Buck. The main areas of concern were storm damage to trees, overgrown footpaths, overgrown graves in the cemetery, inconsiderate/illegal parking and the reliability of the post office. In total, 12 separate issues have been logged and passed to the Town Clerk for action.

After the success of this surgery, we plan to repeat these on the third Saturday of the month from 10.00-12.00pm at the Market Hall. If you have any issues to raise, please come along to meet with us at these surgeries or join our formal Town Council meetings on the first Monday of every month.

Boundary Commission's recommendations for Shropshire Council's divisions. Have your say....

The Local Government Boundary Commission wants to hear what residents and local organisations think about the proposals. A 10-week consultation on the proposals will run until 10 July 2023.

The Commission is the independent body that draws these boundaries. It is reviewing Shropshire to make sure councillors will represent about the same number of electors, and that electoral division arrangements will help the council work effectively. It is proposing that there should be 72 divisions and 70 single member and two two-member divisions. Most divisions are changing. An interactive map is available at www.lgbce.org.uk/all-reviews/shropshire.

Vacancy for a Maintenance Assistant. We will shortly be advertising for a Maintenance Assistance to carry out duties in Cleobury. This will be a part time position of approx. 10 hours per week. For more information contact the Town Clerk on council@cleobury.org.uk or Tel: 01299 271154.

Next Council Meeting..... Monday 3rd July 2023, 7.00pm at the Cleobury Country Centre.

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*Meat, Chicken, Prawn and Vegetarian Balti, Madras Curry
Mr Dave's extra large naan, plain and garlic & coriander.*

Fish

*Cod, Haddock, Plaice fillets, Sea bass, Lemon sole, Cod Loins, Smoked Haddock.
Battered & breaded fish fillets. Young's Jumbo Cod Fish Fingers.(Very Popular)*

Seafood

*Raw king Prawns, Squid, , whitebait, cooked tiger prawns, scallops, seafood cocktail.
Hot & Spicy Prawns, Breaded Cod & Plaice Goujons*

*New Fish Cakes Thai Style Cod & Prawn, Smoked Haddock, Mozzarella & Spring Onion,
Sea Bass, Cod, Lime & Ginger.*

Fruit and Vegetables

Potato Products

Bannister Jacket Potatoes, Oven chips, Sweet Potato Fries Twister Fries, Hash Browns, Spicy Wedges

Chicken Products

Southern Fried Breaded Chicken Steaks, Breaded Chicken Goujons, Chicken Nuggets, Chicken Bites.

Gateaux for all occasions

BENNETTS ICE CREAM

Opening Times 9am to 4.30pm Mon to Friday. Saturday 9am to 12

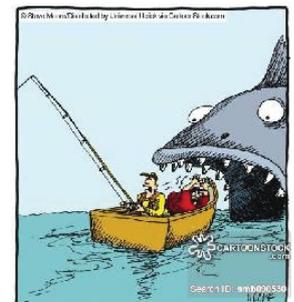
Visit our web site www.cleoburyfreezercentre.co.uk

Cleobury Clarion July 2023

Page 62



"We tried artificial flies. We tried lures. We tried live bait. Nothing works ... it's like they're psychic!"



"Blood-curdling screams. Hayes, will do nothing to help us catch a fish."

Clarion Clippings - The Local News

DEADLINE FOR THE AUGUST CLARION: JULY 22ND

Editor and Advertising Sales: Jim Reynolds, 4 Childe Road, Cleobury Mortimer,
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Collect your Clarion in Cleobury from: Select & Save, Londis, Cleoburrs, Cleobury Cafe,
Severn Hospice Shop, Mid Counties Co-op, Purslows, The Library.

And out in the county:

Heath Farm Meats, Clee Hill Stores, Clows Top Store, The Colliers Cafe, Sun & Slipper,
Mamble; Hopton Bank Service Station; Ludlow Library; Mahorall Cider Farm; Fighting
Cocks, Stottesdon; Duck Inn, Chorley; Live & Let Live, Neen Sollars; Eagle & Serpent, Kinlet;
Parker Motors, Kinlet.

Also from the parish churches in: Cleobury Mortimer, Bayton, Doddington,
Hopton Wafers, Neen Savage and Neen Sollars.

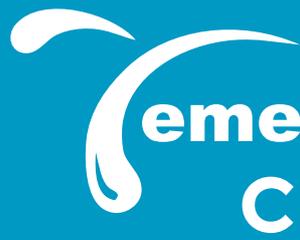
SPOTTED AT THE FESTIVAL



New Town Council uniform?



Excuse me, young lady, but didn't you wear that dress on Channel 4?



eme CLEOBURY



FACILITIES INCLUDE:

- Gym 
- Exercise Classes 
- Sports Hall 
- Outside Astro Pitch 
- Netball 
- Tennis Courts 

OPENING TIMES

MON	7.30am - 10am 10am-12.30pm GP Referral 3.30pm - 10pm
TUE	3.30pm - 10pm
WED	7.30am - 10am 4.30pm - 10pm
THU	4.30pm - 10pm
FRI	7.30am - 10am 3.30pm - 10pm
SAT-SUN	7.30am - 1pm

Pre booking not required for Gym use.
Induction or Disclaimer required
in advance of use.

CLASS TIMETABLE

MON	9.15 - 10am 6.30 - 7.15pm	GENTLE AEROBICS BODY PUMP
TUES	9.15 - 10am 10.15 - 11am 6.15 - 7pm	YOGA YOGA TRX
WED	5.15 - 6pm 6 - 6.45pm	PILATES CIRCUITS
THU	6 - 6.45pm 7 - 7.45pm	STEP SPIN
FRI	6 - 6.45pm	STRETCH & RELAX

Pre-Booking required for Exercise classes
Book online or at the Centre



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