

The Cleobury Clarion



SERVING CLEOBURY COUNTRY

JUNE 2015

NOT THE USUAL HIGH STREET TRAFFIC



Quite a crowd stopper. The magnificent Saunders horses and traditional hearse that opened the First Birthday Open Day at Wyre Forest Funeral Services.

May 9th brought a very rare sight to Cleobury's High Street when this fine traditional horse drawn hearse, with a New Orleans jazz band following, passed through the town and on to Talbot Square.

It was Open Day at Wyre Forest Funeral Services and a celebration of their first year in the Talbot Square premises.

A great way to catch the eye and remind people where Adrian Satterly can be found. See Page 11.

RECYCLING HEADACHE

Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council faces a problem at its meeting tonight, June 1st. They have been asked by Lacon Childe School to remove the recycling banks in the school's car park.

We understand that Veolia have already looked at using the two Council owned car parks, but access for the large service vehicles is a problem. So it looks like Parish Clerk Matt Sheehan's diplomacy will be exercised as the various parties look for a compromise.

It should be said that the current recycling site is no beauty spot. A jumble of assorted banks parked on grass tells you that it was all done in a hurry at minimal cost. The sign behind the banks is the tattered remains of an old District Council one and should be long gone. The banks are in need of a clean, if not a coat of paint; the whole area is scruffy and doesn't match the town's move towards a smarter style. Fingers crossed for a solution that looks better.

CLEOBURY WASH HOUSE IS A YEAR OLD



No wonder they succeed, with smiles like these. From left: Rosie, Charlotte, Sharon, Serena and Liz.

The welcoming Washhouse crew. When Cleobury Wash House opened its doors last May, there had clearly been a serious investment of both time and money. Would it pay its way, people wondered.

A year later the answer is a firm yes, with trade from B&Bs and hotels well out of town, plus domestic washing and specialist work like horse rugs and dog blankets in a special machine. And the staff smile and make you feel welcome, too.

More on Page 19



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The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page

June 2015 - Volume Thirteen - Edition Three

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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 JULY ISSUE IS JUNE 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 COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES (CoCo) - 01299 270018. Katja Ward is the contact; office hours 10.00 to 12.00 noon Wednesday only.

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@westmercias.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. June 2015



*A new face heads up Cleobury Players in a drive for more members.
See Page 13.*



*Grainger Jones sets out on a new solo career as G K Financial Planning.
See Page 23.*



*Not so much a business, more a life's passion.
Meet Mannerly Mutts.
See Page 55.*

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

HONOUR AND DISHONOUR

We published a note in a recent Clarion about some spectacles, found in the High Street and handed in to Nock Deighton's office. A lady called, claimed the glasses and thanked the staff for their help. Then she crossed the road and put £10 in the Severn Hospice collection box by way of thanks. An honourable action.

On May 2nd Louise from Nock Deighton parked her car outside Bowketts on a busy Saturday. When she came back at lunch time, the car had been damaged. The girls in Red Hare Salon told her that a man had come into their place and asked if the car belonged to any of them. They offered to take his details and pass on to the car owner, but the chap assured them that he would leave the information on the damaged car. He didn't.

Did you see a car hit a purple Toyota Yaris in that part of the High Street on that day? Did you recognise the man who must have stopped to look at the damaged Toyota before going into Red Hare? If you can help with any information, please talk to Louise at Nock Deighton on CM 271477. What a sneaky thing to do. Totally dishonourable.

ROCK PATHFINDERS

The Group held their AGM in March. The policy of walking twice a month is attracting new interest, with an average of 14 turning out. They have a new website : www.rockpathfinders.webspace.virginmedia.com with their programme of walks up to March 2016 detailed. No work by volunteers on local paths, which are all in good order.

The two walks for June are on Thursday the 4th, starting at 7.00pm from Chequers Inn, Cutnall Green WR9 0PJ or OS Ref. 880685, and on Thursday the 18th, starting at 10.30am from the Rock Cross Inn, SY14 9SD or OS 735712.

ROBBIE WILLIAMS NIGHT ANOTHER HIT

A big thank you to everyone who came along to see Robbie Williams aka Ollie Hughes in April, at C M Golf Club, where once again Graham did us proud and the room looked brilliant. A fantastic night, lots of laughter, dancing and singing took place. You only have to look on FaceBook to see all the photo's. Massive thank yous also to the businesses in and around Cleobury who once again donated to our raffle, which

raised £130. Thank you to all who came along and supported two very worthy causes, Shropshire Macmillan Support and The Haven in Hereford for additional Breast Cancer care. In total you helped raise £500 between the two charities. A handover was done on the 30th April at the Golf Club.

Pat Williams



A very happy Pat Williams hands cheques over to Alison Andrews, left, acting for The Haven in Hereford and Sue Henderson for Macmillan Cancer Support.

NEEN SOLLARS FETE

This event was a great success last year and returns on June 7th to the Tetstill site, with fingers crossed for sunny weather again. It starts at 1.00 and features a dog show, barbecue, lots of games, stalls and a band to add atmosphere. All in lovely setting

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

POUNDING THE ROCK BOUNDS

May 3rd began with atrocious weather and many walkers decided to stay at home. Fortunately 70 ignored the weather and set off in the early morning to complete the 26 and 18 miles routes before tea. Those on the shorter routes were rewarded with sunshine and fresh, clear air. Entrants included a number of runners; we extended the long route from 25 to 26 miles, marathon length, with a loop around Menith Wood village, along the public footpaths. Twice someone ripped off our markers from the stretch through the wood. The mind boggles to understand who hates the Air Ambulance Charity enough to disrupt this charity walk not once but twice.

The Pound the Bounds team had put up 35 miles of way-markers, directing walkers along the six routes. In total they clocked up an impressive 4036 miles between them. We are grateful to 50 volunteers in the village hall, taking care of the registration and the four marshalling points; to the land-owners for their co-operation, to the WI for running the cafe, to sponsors for their ads on the certificate, to Midlands Air

Ambulance for becoming part of it and of course to all walkers.

15 year old Saul Neath offered to wear the Air Ambulance mascot bear pilot, wearing his thick and hot costume for several hours, delighting the children on the three miles Treasure Hunt, at The Collier's Arms. His collecting bucket came back with the princely sum of £72 in donations from Collier's customers.

From being a fund-raising event for Rock Village Hall, all revenues now go to Midlands Air Ambulance. Most participants have allowed Gift Aid to be applied to their fees and donations. The total net revenue of the event this year is £3750, before Gift Aid and individual walkers' sponsorships. Next year we plan to do it all again, on Sunday 1st May.

Henk Buzink

A WINE CLUB?

Chris Newman, who enjoys a glass of decent wine now and again, is looking to get together with like minded people and buy wines at the best price. As he explained: "I bought a case of excellent wines at very good prices. But since I live on my

own, it's going to take me rather a long time to get through a dozen bottles!

The idea at this stage is to get together once a month at a member's house, where a glass or two may be tried, and to arrange tastings and maybe even visits to vineyards. There are a lot of such clubs around the country, they are naturally very happy people and get the benefit of good prices.

If this excellent idea appeals to you, contact Chris at CM 2 7 0 8 5 1 , o r chrisnewman730@btinternet.co.uk. Cheers!

CARERS' GARDEN PARTY
Cleobury Carers' Support Group are holding a garden party during Carers Week. It's on Wednesday, June 10th, 2.00 until 4.30, at 2 Tenbury Road.

Entrance is £5 to include afternoon tea; carers and children free. Tombola and produce stall.

Everyone welcome. All proceeds to Cleobury Carers' Support Group. For further information please contact Wendy Duley on CM 270562

NAUGHTY SILLY BIT

"There are a number of mechanical devices which increase sexual arousal in women. Chief among these is the Mercedes Benz 380SL"
Lynn Lawner

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

W F FUNERAL SERVICES, ONE YEAR ON

It's good to see a business move into Cleobury and succeed. Adrian Satterly's adaption of a shop unit in Talbot Square as a Chapel of Rest and the hub of his funeral business surprised some, but his quiet and gentle manner has won him a lot of support.

"I've been very pleased with the way things have gone," he told us at his first anniversary Open Day. "I estimated that we'd do about 12 funerals in the first year here, and in fact we've done 26. The community's been really supportive and in this location we're easy to find and have plenty of parking."

The Clarion has heard some warm words for the way he deals with people in what is probably the most stressful time of their life. We wish Adrian further support and success.

CLOWS TOP & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

June. Summer is here at last. This is a time of year when the gardener can begin to enjoy the fruits of their labours. Take time to stand back to appreciate the garden, and don't let it become a chore. The weather is usually quite warm with the occasional

thunderstorm. The sun is now quite strong, so time to shade the greenhouses to prevent plants getting scorched. Tender plants can now be safely put outside as there should be little fear of night frosts. Don't forget to water your hanging baskets every day, tackle the weeding, be sure to dead head regularly and mow the lawn at least once a week.

At the April meeting, Richard & Lesley Betts, gave a spell binding presentation of photos set to music. They were very high quality and the music had a very calming effect. There were several subjects including 'Witley Court' and 'Winter Wonderland'. The evening was a great success with everyone enjoying these excellent photos.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday June 24th and Paul of LP Landscapes will give a talk entitled 'Trees & Things'. It will also be the club's Rose & Sweet Pea Show.

Pauline Bowen

CLEETON ACOUSTIC EVENING

There will be an "Acoustic Evening" on August 1st, in Cleeton St Mary village hall. We will be raising funds for Midlands Air Ambulance, who

do an incredible job and need money to help with their running costs. The concert will feature local musicians with acoustic guitars. Confirmed acts so far are Bruised Orange, and Unloaded. Doors open at 7.00pm for a 7.30 start. Please bring your own refreshments. Tickets are available at £7.00 each from Rob and Beth Howells 01746 781267 or 01299 271742

Rob Howells

ANOTHER SCAM ALERT

It seems that modern communication has become a very handy source of income for the less than honest of this world. I recently had an e-mail in the name of Lloyds Bank, advising me that after my annual accounts had been finalised I was owed a refund. In blue was the invitation 'Please click here to have your tax refund sent to your bank account.'

We've heard too many times of people being cheated by such approaches. I forwarded this one to emailscams@lloydsbank.co.uk and deleted it. The very fact that Lloyds have such a site tells you how common this sort of thing is. If I may offer a personal word: 'If you've any doubt, don't!'

Jim Reynolds

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CLEOBURY PLAYERS HAVE A NEW LEADING LADY



Annabel Gemmill is the new chair of Cleobury Players. She brings some good experience to the post, having coached children in acting. And she will be bringing news of the Players to our pages on a regular basis.

This is my first article for the Clarion as Chair of the Cleobury Players and I would like to share with you what's currently happening in the group.

Our next performance, scheduled for autumn this year, is "Party Piece" by Richard Harris. A comedy centred around two next-door neighbours and the antics of a housewarming party that doesn't go according to plan, with burning garden sheds, marauding Zimmer frames and the like! If you would like to be

involved in any capacity, on or off stage, I would very much like to hear from you, whatever level of experience you have, and my contact details are below. If you would simply like to find out more about what's involved in amateur dramatics, then please email me for more details.

Annabel Gemmill

annabelgemmill@gmail.com

COCO NEWS

It is so heartening that more people are becoming aware of our group and giving superb support. We have recently had a very generous cheque for £250 from The Monday Night group in Stourport. A Quiz Night organised at the Bell Inn Cleobury was not only great fun but also raised £170! A big thank you to all who supported the night and those who donated raffle prizes and cakes for the auction. The winners were the No Hoppers who generously donated their prize back to CoCo to be used at a future fundraiser!

We really appreciate the support shown for our work in the community and thank everyone involved for their time and effort. The funds are always put to good use. We now have another three volunteers, and we

are planning training on the subject of dementia in July. We are continuing our Coffee Mornings every second Wednesday 10:00am to 12:00 in the Market Hall. Tea, coffee and cakes are served and all money raised goes to CoCo funds.

If any individual or group would like to support CoCo in any way please contact Katja: Market Hall Office 01299 270018. Mobile: 07966-080-111. E-mail: cleoburycoco@hotmail.com

MACMILLAN THANKS

Sue Henderson writes to thank all those involved in raising funds for this most excellent of charities:

£202 was raised at the April Coffee Morning.

£234 was collected at the Street Collection on May 16th.

£250 has been donated by Pat Williams and Alison Andrews from their Robbie Williams Evening

We would like to thank everyone who has supported Macmillan Cancer Support. It is much appreciated, allowing them to carry out their great work.

Sue Henderson



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

JOAN'S GRACIOUS GESTURE OF THANKS



At rear, Gill Davies of Cleobury Patients' Voice and choir conductor Derek. At front, Jenny McCrorie, Joan Westwood and Doctor Paul Thompson.

Joan and Derek Westwood live in Highley and are active members of the Bridgnorth Choir, Joan as a singer and Derek the conductor. Joan has had such good treatment for her cancer at Cleobury Medical Centre - "Nothing's too much trouble, they go one step further for you" - that she wanted to raise a donation to the surgery.

The result was a choral evening in the Parish Church on April 11th. No fee for use of the church, no expenses for the choir members, no fee for the

accompanying Waifs and Staves Orchestra and a good evening for all. It produced a profit of £500 and Joan herself handed over a cheque to Doctor Thompson at the Centre.

If you missed this concert, Joan is talking about doing it again, subject to her health. Watch this space.....

KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

Last half term we learnt all about dinosaurs. We had many different stories and activities, such as making salt dough dino teeth and doing dino foot print paintings, then comparing them with our own feet.

For the last weeks of this year we will be thinking about healthy eating and keeping active. We can't wait to get started with our healthy recipes and to practice for sports day at the end of term.

We will also be keeping a close eye on our pea plants we are growing for Cleobury in Bloom. The children have been measuring the plants with their fingers, and rulers once they got too big, and have been very excited to come in on Monday mornings to see noticeable growth.

Zoe Pearson

CLEOBURY WASH HOUSE

This is a happy, welcoming place. As far removed from the old launderette image of city living (apart from that Levi's advert, of course) as you can get. And clearly very handy for working people to drop in a bag of washing and pick up at the end of the day, washed, spin dried and neatly folded.

I tried it when the washing machine had a moment and was well impressed, especially to find that the folded clothes included a shirt so well finished that it didn't need ironing.

Apart from the obvious domestic and trade washing, you can leave dry cleaning there for their contractor to deal with. And there's a separate machine reserved for the likes of horse rugs and dog blankets, which is kept busy after the local horsey set heard about it. And there's a Team Sports Kit laundry service that relieves hard-pressed rugby and soccer mums.

Charges are based on a load of up to 14 pounds, or 6.5 kilos if you talk Metric. You can get a lot of clothing done at that sort of weight. And the place is open seven days a week; CM 270571 is the number. This is more than just another shop, it helps to raise standards with its service.

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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

I think everyone who has seen a tick elicits the same response. It starts at the face with a grimace akin to very bad smell in the room followed by a momentary shivery dance. Ticks are horrible things, I think most will agree, and something as pet owners we encounter from time to time. Contrary to popular misconception ticks only jump onto our pets for food and will feed for about one week then drop off. Their homes tend to be under dense matted vegetation and there is a massive variation in size from poppy seed up to that of a 5p piece.

All creatures have their place in the natural order of things (despite the apparent unpalatable habit of jumping onto our pets and ourselves for that matter), but ticks are the “host” for Lyme disease (borreliosis). This is a very nasty disease that can be tricky to identify and will cause fever and ongoing intermittent problems including lethargy and lameness. It is transmitted from the tick when it feeds (but has to be on for 24-48 hours usually, for transmission to occur).

Lyme disease has traditionally been considered to be in isolated pockets, well known examples

include the New Forest and parts of Scotland, but having diagnosed a member of staff's dog with the condition it is close to our hearts. Not every tick has the disease and generally in this area we are not seeing large numbers of animals with the disease, but it pays to be vigilant especially if you are on holiday in an affected area or see an animal become poorly following a tick bite.

Prevention with tick killing or repellant agents is the traditional approach to this problem. They work well but rely on regular monthly treatment. Recently a vaccination has been developed which is now key in prevention of Lyme disease in dogs. It does not kill the tick but blocks the passage of Lyme disease, which interestingly means even if the tick drops off it cannot pass the disease to another host next time it feeds. Almost like vaccinating the tick!

So if you are going to visit an area with notoriety for tick borne disease or have had problems with ticks please speak to your vet and decide what strategy will be best for you. Please do not be embarrassed if you feel the need to do the tick dance either, we all do it sometimes.

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Happening on High Street

GOING IT ALONE



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The world of banking and finance advice has not had a good press in recent years. So it's refreshing to meet a man who talks simple common sense and doesn't make outlandish claims. Grainger Jones.

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call on and has the buying power to get the best prices. Big muscle power behind a personal service here on the High Street.

You can meet the man face to face at his first surgery on Wednesday the 17th of this month. It's at No 53, where there's car parking for customers, and he'll be there from 9.00 in the morning until 7.30 in the evening, to fit in with the range of working hours of local people. That's one of his strengths, a quiet chap you could meet on the touchline at a Rugby Club match or in the bar at KA. Not a pushy salesman, but someone willing to listen and offer a flexible approach to making your money work for you.

ELVIS IS BACK

The Elvis Nights at The Lamp Restaurant have proved to be a great hit, but what else would you expect from The Man? Karl Memphis does a great job and boss Jalal Udi tells us that the place is sold out within two weeks of announcing his next show.

Following the May 27th gig, he's booked for July 29th, the price the same competitive four course buffet at £15.99 a head. It starts at 7.00 and goes on late.

And coming later in the year, in the autumn months, there will be a Comedy Night. Same

price deal, same hours, but lots of laughter that might encourage you to sip a little more from the wine list.

QUIETLY DOING A REALLY GOOD JOB

The Galaxy Chinese Takeaway has been trading on the High Street for a long time. Steve and Sue Cao have fitted in well with the town, their children attending our local schools and really nice people; it was impressive to hear Jason at the age of twelve explaining to another lad why you should respect the property of others.

It's interesting to order food and ask if it can be slightly different from the menu listing. I like Singapore Chow Mein but can't eat shellfish, so asked if I could have cashew nuts instead; no problem, it was done. So no question of it all being ready made portions to pop in the wok for a quick warming up; it's made to order.

I also have a Chinese daughter in law, who happily picks up one of her favourites when she's visiting; she speaks well of their food, which is high praise from a lady who's worked in some top class hotels back home in Shanghai. You can see why it's such a busy place, building its reputation through good service and quality, and never shouting about it. Recommended.

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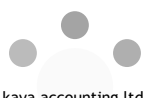
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

LACON LOTTERY

WINNERS

Three more names to add to the list of lucky winners in the school PTA's lottery. In March Angela Coles' Number 74 came out of the drum, in April Fiona Johnson's 74 was the winner and in May Donna Cooper got lucky. All received a payment of £70.

Did you realise that you can join in the draw at this late date? You won't pay the full £10 for the shorter season, but you will be in with a chance of winning. Call the school on CM 270312.

THE READING GROUP

'Big Brother' by Lionel Shriver is a well researched, unusual novel centred on the problems of obesity. It mainly deals with the rehabilitation of an adult brother by his married sister and the effect of this on her family. Beautifully crafted with some witty, dark humour and believable characters, the story shows the struggles and turmoil involved.

The book is dedicated to Shriver's brother who died from the effects of being significantly overweight. We were not in complete agreement with everything written but decided it was a worthwhile read, with the end being particularly poignant.

Our next book is 'The Island' by Victoria Hislop and we meet on Monday June 15th, 7.30pm at Cleobury Library to chat about it. Further details from the library or me on CM 271754.

Deana Martin

THE WINE WALK

The Friends of St. Mary's have a mid summer wine walk during the evening of Friday June 19th. This is an opportunity for you to stroll around the town and visit different venues for a glass of wine, or a refreshing soft drink.

Come along, on your own or as a group and visit all or some of the venues. Here is a chance to meet old friends, make new ones and enjoy each others company.

Tickets to include four drinks and details of the venues are available from members of The Friends committee, Cleobury Pharmacy, Cleobury Library or Spire Hairdressing.

Alec Osbaldiston

CLEOBURY IN BLOOM

We shall be running a competition for local groups, to help children understand how food is grown and the factors that influence crop production. For two years we focused on potatoes; this year peas. Four primary schools and seven pre-schools settings are taking part.

In the spring, we gave each entry pea seeds, pots and a bag of growing compost thanks to Farlow Farm Nursery. As well as growing their peas, the children will keep a log of their activities to show the key events, any problems and how they solved them, advice sought, weather influence and successes and failures – things all gardeners experience.

In early July, the crops and logs will be judged and prizes awarded in the Methodist Hall on Saturday July 11th at 10.30am. The logs will also be on display, showing that they have engaged in reading, researching, writing, drawing, singing, photography and science experiments, as well as using information technology to produce digital books. If you are in Cleobury that day, please call in and celebrate the successes of our youngest gardeners.

Flo Hadley

CLOWS TOP SHOP

Clows Top Community Shop Steering Group invite you to a Public Meeting on Thursday June 11th, 7.30pm, in the Victory Hall.

We need your support to open your community shop. No support, no shop! This is your chance to get involved.

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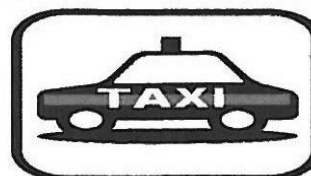
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Letter from Westminster - Philip Dunne MP

I am delighted to have been returned as Member of Parliament for the Ludlow Constituency. I would like to start by thanking each of the 26,093 South Shropshire residents who voted for me. I am truly humbled to have been returned with what I believe to be an historic majority of 18,929 for the Ludlow Constituency, and to have increased my share of the vote to 54.3% on a turnout of 72.7%. Elections are gruelling for all candidates and their key supporters, as well as voters subjected to a relentless diet of political opinion for several weeks.

So I offer sincere commiserations to my opponents Charlotte, David, Janet and Simon. We got to know each other during hustings across the constituency, and I am pleased we were all able to respect each other, even if we did not share each other's views. It takes courage to stand, and each candidate fought hard campaigns for their respective parties.

I am particularly pleased to have returned to Parliament as part of an overall Conservative majority in the House of Commons, the first for 23 years. While national pollsters had not picked this up, I had the distinct feeling each day talking to local people across South Shropshire, that voters were by and large keen to see the recovery continue and not willing to risk the alternatives on offer.

A majority government means we will be able to implement fully our long term plan to secure Britain's future over the next five years and deliver on manifesto commitments. This includes an In/Out referendum on membership of the European Union before the end of 2017, which is something many local residents feel very strongly about, whether for continued membership or for choosing to leave. I think it appropriate we have a full national debate about this issue, before we decide.

I set out my main priorities for the next five years before the General Election, and they will help drive my work as your MP. I will work hard for South Shropshire to bring about positive change, including backing businesses to create more jobs; cutting taxes for all; fighting for fairer funding of Shropshire schools; working to secure quality healthcare; campaigning for better broadband and mobile connectivity; and standing up for pensioners by supporting more freedoms and an increased state pension. I will play my part in ensuring Britain has a thriving economy and people in Shropshire really feel the benefits of our long term economic plan.

As many readers will know, since September 2012 I have been a Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, known as Minister for Defence Equipment, Support and Technology. The Prime Minister has asked that I undertake an expanded role within the Ministry, promoted to Minister of State, with the title of Minister for Defence Procurement. I am delighted to continue to serve in the Ministry and to have an enhanced role in this critical year of the Strategic Defence and Security Review, helping ensure that our Armed Forces are well equipped to maintain the safety of our United Kingdom.

I will hold regular advice surgeries across the Ludlow Constituency, as for the past 10 years. If any constituent would like my help, please email philip.dunne.mp@parliament.uk, or telephone my constituency office on 01584 872187 to book a surgery appointment. I also issue a monthly email newsletter, which you can sign up to at www.philipdunne.com, to help keep up to date with my work for the Ludlow Constituency.

I remain honoured to serve the people of South Shropshire as your Member of Parliament.

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The June Clarion Social Calendar

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Wed 3	1000	Walking for Health starts from the Sports Centre	Mandy Smith	01299 270312
	2000	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 4		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	1930	Rock Pathfinders Evening Walk, from Chequers Inn, Cutnall Green. SEE PAGE 7	Alan	01299 400304
Sat 6	0830	Sale of Household Goods at Knowle Sports Ground. Great bargains!		
	1100 to 1800	Prehistoric Day Camp for the family up on Clee Hill. richssyf@yahoo.com		
Sat 7	1300	Neen Sollars Village Fete at Tetstill, beside the River Rea. Band, games, lots of prizes, dog show, barbecue and more. SEE PAGE 7.		
Tue 9	0730	Dinnie Jordan of Kudos Blends talks to the Breakfast Club at the Cleobury Cafe		
Wed 10	1400	Cleobury Carers' Group garden Party at 2 Tenbury Road. £5.00 a head towards the Group funds. SEE PAGE 11.	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
	2000	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall		
	2000	Royal British Legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street.		
Thu 11		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY.		
	1900	The Pudding Club meets at Hobson's Brewery for lessons in self-indulgence and interesting tastes.		
	1930	MEETING ABOUT CLOWS TOP COMMUNITY SHOP, VICTORY HALL. PAGE 25.		
Fri 12	1930(?)	Quiz Night at Hopton Wafers village hall, with a fish and chip supper included in the cost of a ticket.	Diane Waddington	CM 272820
Mon 15	1930	The Reading Group meet in The Library in Love Lane, to talk about 'The Island' by Victoria Hislop.	Dean Martin	CM 271754
Tue 16	1.00 to 1430 and 1800 to 1930	Cleobury Gateway Nursery Open Day sessions. At the Primary School		CM 270313

LATE CALL: Open Day at Hope Bagot Church, when Lacon Childe students will show off the recording work they've been developing with the South Shropshire Youth Forum. Tuesday June 2nd, 12.00 noon til 2.00, in the village hall, with buffet lunch available. Book your place with Richard Morley at richssyf@yahoo.com



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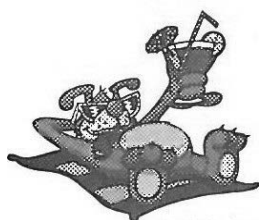
D, MI, A & R Robinson, Mawley Town Farm, Cleobury Mortimer. Telephone 01299 270359

The June Social Calendar Continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
	1700	Stottesdon Church Tower Open Evening, celebrating 10 years of the restored bells, with the ancient Turret Clock also on view.		
Wed 17	0900 to 1930	Open Day at GK Financial Planning, 53 High Street. SEE PAGE 23.		
	1000	Walking for Health from the Sports Centre	Mandy Smith	01299 270312
	2000	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 18		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	1030	Rock Pathfinders walk out in the morning, from The Rock Cross Inn, Rock. SEE PAGE 7	Alan	01299 400304
Fri 19	1630	Midsummer Fayre at Cleobury Mortimer Primary School.		
	1930	The annual Parish Wine Walk, a very sociable evening. PAGE 25	Alec	01584 891351
	2000	8.00 Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 20	0930	Cleobury Country Farmers Market in and around the Parish Church. Good stuff to try and buy.		
Sat 20/ Sun21		The Shropshire Kite is based at Lacon Childe School. Great free colourful show.		
Wed 24	1930	Clows Top Gardening Club meets at Victory Hall to hear Paul of LP talk about 'Trees and Things.' SEE PAGE11.	Marion Wilson	CM 270745
Thu 25		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 26	2000	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.		
Sat 27	1200	Open Day at Mawley Milk, up on the hill overlooking Cleobury. Lots to see and learn.	Rachel Robinson	CM 270359
	1400	Pensax Church Fayre, Victory Hall, Clows Top.		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO JULY.....		
Wed 1	2000	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 2		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY.		
Fri 3	1930	'AN EVENING WITH PETER WILLIAMS' AT LACON CHILDE SCHOOL. A TRULY FASCINATING MAN TALKS.		

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TENBURY WELLS

Large detached Victorian town house with original period features including decorative Victorian tiling and fireplaces.

Accommodation: lounge, dining room, conservatory, kitchen and four bedrooms (master with ensuite). Good sized gardens to the front and rear with lawned areas, paved seating area and driveway. Energy Rating E.

£445,000

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999



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, utility 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

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999



BURFORD

Modern three bedroom 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.

£229,950

Tenbury Wells Office - 01584 811999



TENBURY WELLS

Detached modern property located in a desirable area of Tenbury Wells within walking distance to the towns amenities. Accommodation to include: lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, three bedrooms, (master with ensuite) and family bathroom. Having good sized gardens to the front and rear with lawned areas, ornamental pond and seating areas overlooking the surrounding countryside. Energy Rating D.

£325,000

Tenbury Wells Office 01584 811999



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

£449,500

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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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ROCHFORD

Detached character properties located in a rural location just 3 miles from Tenbury Wells. Main residence comprising of four bedrooms and three reception rooms with generous sized gardens and stunning countryside views. Separate detached barn with two bedrooms, two reception rooms and outbuildings. The Hop Kiln and Barn available to be purchased together or separately. Energy Rating F & F.

Price On Application

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BURFORD

Burford Cottage is a wonderful detached period cottage having been improved and extended by the current owners who have created a spacious and comfortable country home. The property is set over two floors and includes a living room, separate sitting room, dining room, fitted dining kitchen with utility, four bedrooms, bathroom and ensuite shower room. Detached double garage and landscape gardens. Energy Rating E.

£440,000

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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 £279,950 - No Onward Chain

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CLEOBURY MORTIMER

Modern detached family home located in the rural town of Cleobury Mortimer. Accommodation includes, entrance hallway, lounge family kitchen and garage. On the first floor is the main bedroom with ensuite, three further bedrooms and a family bathroom. Energy Rating C.

£235,000

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CLEOBURY MORTIMER

A Large town house dating back to the 17th Century. Providing plentiful and spacious living to accommodate the largest family and would even be suitable for multi-generational living. Energy Rating F.

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EARDISTON

Two bedroomed flat set over two floors. Accommodation: living room, kitchen, two bedrooms and bathroom. Stunning countryside views to the rear, parking, and pretty gardens to the front. Energy Rating D.

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Tenbury Wells

Two bedroomed cottage located in the centre of town, close to amenities. With kitchen, living room, two bedrooms and bathroom. Energy rating F.

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CLEOBURY MORTIMER

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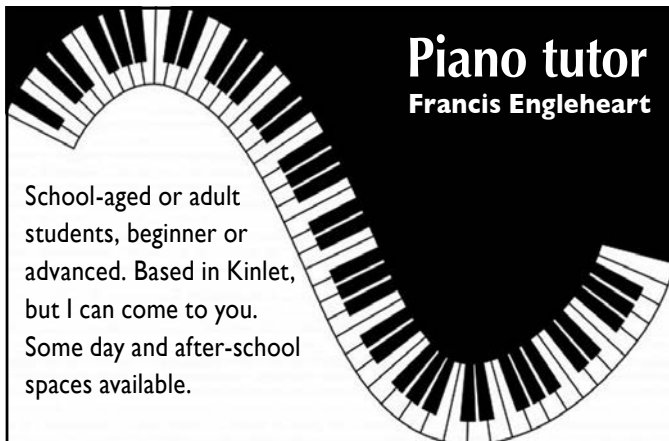
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Celebrating Simon Evans

Simon Evans, Cleobury's poet postman, was born 120 years ago and the weekend of August 8th to 10th will see lots of events held in his memory. Simon Evans Close is the oldest landmark to remind us of the man, while a more recent development has been the Simon Evan Walk that covers the route he walked every working day. In all weathers, he strode out from Cleobury Mortimer, across country to Stottesdon, where he rested before walking back.

The Photographic Contest for shots taken along the Walk got off to a strong start when David Walford entered his portfolio of 26 pictures. The whole entry will be judged by Claire Carter and put on display in Cleobury Country Centre; the longer term plan is to select the best and produce a limited edition local calendar, with pictures from the competition and possibly some of Claire Carter's own exquisite work. That could become a collectors' item.

The title for the weekend is taken from Simon Evans' work 'Round the Crooked Steeple' and the Parish Church Crooked Steeple Fair on Saturday morning the 9th will

add to the atmosphere in the town. You might be offered the chance to buy a Summer Quiz sheet for a cash prize as you walk around - good value for just £1.00 a go.

The Crooked Steeple Fair is a long established favourite event and should guarantee kind weather for the weekend. In the morning there will be a gathering on Titterstone Clee Hill, to hear readings from the man's work, followed by a guided walk led by the very knowledgeable Glyn Barratt.

Saturday evening will see a big gathering at the Sports and Social Club, where renowned local acoustic guitar trio Whalebone will be starring. They are well into the spirit of this special occasion, putting out date and details on their Facebook and website pages and the place should be buzzing. That part all starts at 7.30, tickets on sale at £8.00 each through Whalebone's site or from the library. More about the musical stars next month.

On Sunday the 9th there's a guided walk from Cleobury out to Detton and back, so not too demanding. It will highlight Simon Evans' life as a survivor of World War One gassing and his move to

Cleobury to get the benefit of fresh country air for his damaged lungs. Val Simpson is scheduled to lead this one, and will be doing so on behalf of the County Council. Good to see them getting involved in this special commemoration. And there is a special exhibition of old photos and local artist John Tuck's drawings being planned; should be in the Cleobury Country Centre.

Monday the 10th will be Simon's actual birthday. He'll be remembered with a walk to Abdon Burf - the starting point is not yet decided - to celebrate the date and share readings from his many works.

More details are available from the library and we will fill in any information gaps in our next edition. We really should give maximum credit to Suzanne Thomas, who discovered Simon Evans through her local story telling and work with the Friends of the Library. She was the one so inspired by the man's story that she got the weekend going; she's had lots of help from others and they all deserve thanks for working to put a notable Cleobury figure back on the map.



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Business Networking this month:

Wednesday 17th June 2015

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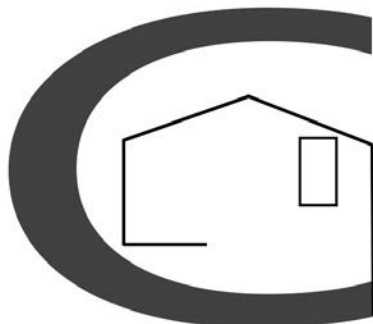
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The Farming Page - Rachel Robinson from Mawley Town Farm

Spring has finally arrived and as usual we are full steam ahead at Mawley Town Farm! Maize has been planted, and as I type we are busy getting our first cut of grass silage in which is feed for the cattle next winter. Our Facebook followers will see we had a clear bTB test in April, so the 60 day re-test is due in June. Hopefully if we get a clear second test we will have 'bTB free' status once more and the restrictions it imposes will be lifted.

Preparations for our farm open afternoon on 27th June are in full swing. We like to welcome our customers along to see for themselves where the cows live, are milked and where Mawley Milk is pasteurised and bottled in our little dairy. It's also a great opportunity for boys and girls (big and small!) to sit in a tractor or a combine harvester. We are pleased to be welcoming back Jane Muntz-Torres with her pair of heavy horses who will give hands-on demonstrations on how ploughing was

done in days gone by. Jane will be alongside the vintage tractor club with their pride and joy. The real key to the open day is to educate the public about the work that goes behind that simple pint of milk that sits in the fridge. All of our dairy farming colleagues across the country are hardworking and dedicated to their animals just as we are, but having the 'public' side to our farming enterprise allows us to showcase dairying first hand to our customers.

Another date for your diary is Sunday July 5th, when we host a 'Songs of Praise' in the barn, and the guest speaker is Rev Paul Nash from Birmingham Children's Hospital.

For more information about the open day or Songs of Praise please do not hesitate to get in touch – info@mawleytownfarm.co.uk or 01299 270359

Rachel



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Clarion Coppers with CPSO Nick Morris



Amongst the incidents reported to the Police last month, only five were of local concern. This could be a result of security advice offered and acted upon, and response to reports from the public of suspicious activity and the like. Not long ago a dog chased off a midnight prowler from a house in Mill Pool Close. Police were called but the male, who had been seen by the householder, was not found. Perhaps this was a failed crime.

In the early hours of April 19th a male was arrested on suspicion of assault and possession of class A and B drugs in High Street. Overnight on May 5th/6th quad bikes were stolen from two different locations in Rock. A chain was cut off and one stolen without keys, whilst two further quads were stolen from a secure barn, although one of these was later found abandoned not far away. Between 9:30pm on May 8th and 12:00pm on May 9th a window at the rear of a property in Church Street which is adjacent to the smoking area of a public house was maliciously damaged. At around 2:30am on May 9th another window was maliciously smashed at a property in High Street. Two males were seen running in the direction of Vaughan Road, but they were not caught. A local lad

was given a section 59 warning notice for causing a nuisance while riding a moped, having already been given warnings in the past.

We regularly receive information of drug activity in the area. All tangible information is passed on to the appropriate police department for consideration. We know that some teenagers are obtaining and abusing drugs. All parents should discuss in appropriate ways all aspects of drug taking with their children, and highlight the immense harm it can do in both the short and the long term. You only need to open your eyes when near a regular user to establish that fact. If any parents suspect that their children are getting involved with drug culture, there are ways of seeking help and advice. The NHS web site is one place to start, or 'Frank'. You can contact 'Frank' by phoning 0800 77 66 00 or by emailing: frank@talktofrank.com

Recently a male driver was arrested for drink driving after he crashed his car in the early hours of Saturday morning. This serves as a reminder that drinking alcohol and taking drugs and driving don't mix. That driver could have killed or

seriously hurt someone. Also recently in the area a 27 year old woman was killed when she crashed her car into a hedge after losing control. There are many reasons why drivers may lose control of their vehicles, inappropriately fast speeds for the conditions being a common one, whether or not the driver has been drinking alcohol. Going too slow for the road conditions is not necessary - take note '40mph maximum' drivers. It's always worth being prepared for unexpected hazards such as the sudden appearance of deer or other large animals crossing the road, or when mud has been deposited by tractors after doing field work and no warning signs put out, and being conscious of the fact that driving is potentially extremely dangerous, especially when concentration is lost.

Nick Morris

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

A SUMMER SOIREE

This is a rather special event with a musical theme, raising funds for the Severn Hospice. It's on Saturday, July 4th, at Astbury Hall, starting at 7.30.

It's a cooperation between the Stottesdon and Cleobury Support Group and Mr Ken Downing, who has kindly given permission for the use of his home. The evening will feature the Severn Singers and music inspired by Paralympic Gold Medallist Danielle Brown. She's the Yorkshire born archer who won Gold medals at the Paralympics in Beijing in 2008 and again in London in 2013. And in 2013 she won a British able bodied championship - quite a lady.

Tickets are on sale at the Severn Hospice Shop at £35 each; telephone CM 271391. An intriguing evening, in a very special setting, all for one of the best local charities.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Lacon Childe student Imogen Priscott, chosen to play a role in the Nonentities Youth Theatre production of 'Alice in Wonderland' at the Rose Theatre, on Chester Road North in Kidderminster. She'll be on stage on June 18th and 19th. Booking office: 01562 743745

CONGRATULATIONS TOO

To Alex Guest, one of six Pentabus Theatre Company Young Writers collaborating to write a new play for Pentabus to present in Ludlow this month. It then moves on, as the company heads East for the 10th Latitude Festival at Southwold's Henham Park in July.

The work is called 'Red Sky at Night' and presents six

monologues for six characters in six stories.

Pentabus first came to attention as a local theatre company, but has grown to become recognised nationally. To be part of their writing team means good exposure for all the 18-26 year old scribes chosen. A good start for any writing career.

THE FOOD AND ALE

TRAIL

SEPTEMBER 5th

This is another chance to enjoy a 7.5 mile walk in the lovely Shropshire countryside to the south of Cleobury Mortimer and be fed and watered at four locations, ending with entertainment at Hobson's brewery. Tickets are £15 each and will be available from Cleobury Country Centre or online from the end of June onwards. Tel. CM 272300.

Advance booking is essential; further information will be available in the near future on the following link www.cmfa.co.uk.

Anyone who would like to volunteer for marshalling duties on the day please contact Alan Kimber on 01299 271754 or Email ajkimber@hotmail.com
Carol Franklin

BAND NIGHT AT LACON CHILDE

It was natural that the success of Band Night at Lacon Childe School last year would mean a repeat. If you walk past the school most early weekday evenings you can hear musicians of many types practising. Now it's their chance to see how much their fellow students and other young people think of them.

It kicks off at 7.00 on Friday the 26th of this month, the

charge is £3.00 a head, by ticket or on the door. It's all organised by the students, with some guidance and a little cash from the Cleobury Youth Partnership to buy in the refreshments. Great idea.

LIBRARY QUIZ ON THE WAY

First of all, the history: Ceri Little of The Friends of Cleobury Mortimer Library laid on a Christmas Quiz that offered half the entry fees received as at the prize. Alison Shefford was the winner and after quite a delay she was recently handed a cheque for £70.

Mrs Little, a very keen supporter of the library in her role as a young mum, is planning to promote a Summer Quiz during the school holiday. Look in at the library for a £1.00 copy of the questions and expect a tempting prize to tempt the money out of your pocket. All proceeds go to help the work of the Friends in putting on events.

PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER FETE

Primary School events are always special, largely because of the children's air of innocence. Cleobury's Midsummer Fayre is on the 19th this month, starting at 4.30 and offering pony rides, penalty shoot-out, a bouncy castle, face painting, tumbolas, home made cakes, ice cream, hot food and quite an impressive range of stalls. It all ends at 6.30, giving you time to get home at a reasonable hour. Some of the outdoor activities are subject to the English weather, but that is generally in a cooperative mood for this occasion. A very happy place to be for a couple of hours.

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★★★★

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

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

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

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

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Linda Iles

June In The Wyre Forest



Living in the middle of the forest, as we do, one is always aware of being in someone else's territory. The cuckoo has been calling every day to establish its 'pitch', the sparrows have moved into their customary holes in the house walls and the bats are beginning to do their circuits. During the night we are visited by deer, which leave their droppings as a calling card, and badgers, which dig and roll back the turf in our orchards as they look for earthworms and cockchafer beetle larvae. (As I don't like to tempt fate I won't say too much about our defences against visits to the garden).

The territory of a badger, that is, the area which a family group living in the same sett will defend as their own, is on average 50 hectares. It will be larger where the habitat is poor and smaller if there is plenty of food available. They particularly thrive around arable fields where the supply of worms is good and they might get away with some of the crop too. I once saw a big pile of stripped corn cobs at the edge of a field in Arley, and can easily imagine the farmer's annoyance. They are very persistent animals, so I hope they don't start to show any interest in our hen house, which wouldn't withstand a concerted attack.



The fallow deer also move fairly freely through the forest and beyond its limits. Excursions into neighbouring farmland are not without their dangers as the landowners are within their rights to shoot them. The numbers of mature bucks have dropped in recent years, possibly because they were in the habit of wandering where they were only welcome as trophies or Sunday dinners. There could be serious consequences for the vigour of the Wyre herd, which relies on the selection of the strongest males during the autumn contests of the rut. By this stage of the year the bucks will have shed their old antlers and the new ones will start to appear, covered in the velvet which carries the blood supply to the growing bone.

During the winter the does stay in small, family groups but can sometimes congregate with the young males in bigger herds. This month they will give birth to their fawns, which are hidden in foliage for the first day of their lives so that the mothers can go off to graze. For most of the summer the doe and fawn will move about the forest together. There is a white doe that has visited our fields regularly with a dark fawn from last year - I wonder if we'll see a new baby with them towards the end of the month?

If you would like to own a copy of an informative guide to the wildlife, geology, history and present day management of England's largest ancient oak woodland I still have plenty of copies of 'The Wyre Forest' left. The booklet is beautifully illustrated and costs £5. Contact me on 01299 488083 or get your copy at Bewdley Museum/TIC.

Linda Iles

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JULY Fish Night - Thurs 16th July £20

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AUG BBQ frenzy - Thurs 13th August £20

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OCT Curry Night - Thurs 15th Oct £20

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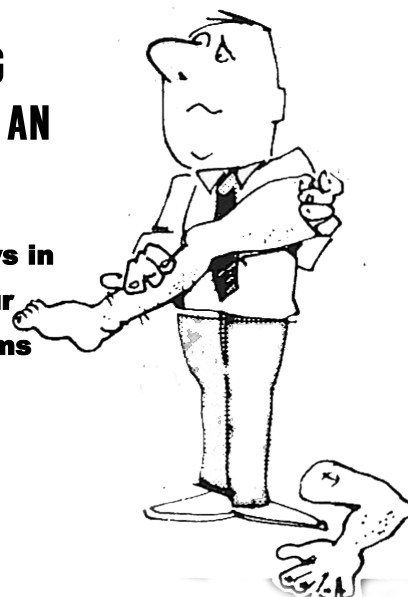
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AN UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL

Recently we had to replace our integrated fridge freezer. I managed to remove the old appliance but the replacement was slightly larger and as DIY as far as I am concerned is "Destroy it yourself" I decided to do what I always do in these situations; ask the editor if he could recommend anyone.

Jim said TDC, so I contacted Tim who came and arranged a time for the work to be done, Tim duly arrived and with great patience, perseverance, and cheerfulness carried out a very difficult task.

I am sure if we had engaged a "big" company, there would have been much "shaking of heads and tutting" and I honestly don't think they would have been able to have done the work!

Tim Clare; take a very well deserved bow.

Philip Westwood, 6, Cinema Court.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

A VERY SPECIAL PERSON



Peter Williams, as thousands remember him.

Peter Williams became famous as a racing motorcyclist with a talent for engineering. He could think originally, put his design on paper, develop the machine to race winning form and ride it to victory. A very unusual blend of many abilities.

His racing career ended in 1974, when he crashed badly at Oulton Park and was near death. His recovery has been a really heroic tale, limited mobility not stopping him working, thinking and smiling through it all. He has worked on design at both Cosworth Engineering and Lotus Cars, he is building an exclusive batch of 25 replicas of the machine he raced to victory in the Isle of Man TT in 1973 and in his mid 70s is currently working on design at a diesel engine maker in Stafford. It's because he's in the West Midlands for a one

year contract that we have been able to arrange for him to host an evening at Lacon Childe School on July 3rd. He has a taste for Hobson's fine ales, and they are arranging a special bottling of a Peter Williams beer to mark the occasion.

Even if you have no interest in motorcycles, this is a man worth listening to. He is very modest, tells it like it is and spills the beans on some famous names if I can remember to ask the right questions. All proceeds from the evening go to the school PTA and at a fiver a head it's a really good value chance to hear such a talented man talk. Starts at 7.30; ends when he says 'Enough'.

Jim Reynolds

OPEN DAY AT HOPE BAGOT

Richard Morley explains:

South Shropshire Youth Forum have been running a 12 week heritage project with pupils from Lacon Childe at Hope Bagot and Kinlet Churches. The project has been delivered with Caring For God's Acre and Historic Graves, and included learning about and exploring the local landscape, practical conservation work and the recording of 125 gravestones to go on a national database run by Historic Graves.

The pupils are holding an open day on Tuesday June 2nd at Hope Bagot Village Hall (SY8 3AF) between 12.00 and 2.00pm. They will be showing people around the site and demonstrating how they recorded the gravestones. There will be a buffet lunch available.

Please feel free to drop in and see what we have done. If you could let us know in advance that would be helpful.

Richard. richssyf@yahoo.com

JUTTA PATTERSON

Jutta and Terry Patterson have been running Birch Hill Kennels since taking over in 1996. The name change to Birch Hill Dog Rescue reflected the change they brought about, moving from a commercial boarding kennels to concentrate on the need for a rescue service.

Sadly, Jutta died on May 10th, and everyone we've spoken to who walked dogs for her or helped in some way has spoken of her warm love of dogs that she would not have put down, but kept them until they could be found a new home. That meant sacrifices for her and Terry, but they just got on with the work. Our sympathies go to Terry and all involved with this very special, quiet lady.



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THE NEEN SAVAGE SCARECROW CONVENTION

Happening in their fine village hall, Neen Savage's annual scarecrow convention is on July 4th this year. So it's no surprise that the theme is an American one. Scarecrows in place for the 2.00 o'clock start, please, and the judging will be at 4.00.

Possible ideas the organisers have listed are Stars and Stripes, Uncle Sam, Statue of Liberty, Mickey Mouse, Bald Eagle, Elvis Presley, Cowboys and even Indians. In support will be the annual Fete, which means a range of stalls, refreshments and a bar. It's the sort of event that will attract people from all around, not just within the community.

And on the subject of Neen's village hall, a reminder that they have a whist drive there on the 25th, starting at 8.00.

ROAD CLOSURE

There's a scheduled closure of The Hurst on June 26th, when three manhole covers will be replaced, outside No 12. The road is expected to be closed from 8.00 until 11.00 in the morning, so best to avoid that part of town on the day. Expect signs and if they give you a diversion, follow it.

THE PARKERS' LONG JOURNEY COMPLETED

The Parker children who set out to cover the route followed by Grandad Bert when he was force marched 680 miles from Poland to Germany have done it. They didn't suffer the hardships Grandad did, but headwinds, cobbled roads and the odd drop of rain didn't make life easy for them. And so far they've raised £9,000 of their £10,000 target in aid of Unicef and the Lily Foundation.



Made it! Chris, Rose and David celebrate their arrival after 680 miles of pedalling.

Dad and Mum Steve and Anne set out to meet them, but hit a snag in the form of a German railway strike. Friends with a camper van came to the rescue and got them there in time to greet the kids. You can read their blog on Facebook,

where extracts from Grandad Bert's personal log 70 years ago hints at the hardships he and thousands of others suffered on that trek. Boots tied up with string, clothes falling apart, in the Polish winter. Tough men with descendants rightly proud of what they did.

CELEBRATE

STOTTESDON'S BELLS

Stottesdon Church will be open from 5.00 to 8.00 on June 16th as the community celebrates the 10th anniversary of the bells being restored. And how's this for a piece of local ringing history: "Rung before the reign of Elizabeth the First, recast and rehung before American Independence and falling silent for 56 years until restored to full circle ringing in June 2005."

And the newly restored 160 year old Turret Clock, conserved thanks to a grant from the Lottery Heritage Fund, will be accessible for your inspection. If you feel fit, you can climb up to the bell chamber and maybe try your hand at ringing the bells.

Back downstairs you'll find tea and cake to restore energy and maybe learn a little more about this wonderful piece of church history. Well worth the trip over the hills to visit the village.



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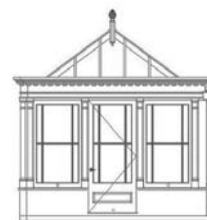
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IN BUSINESS: Mannerly Mutts



The crew. From left: Jackie Knight, Steve Tolley and Jo Bargman. IT man Chris Bargman was getting the tea.

Jo Bargman has this great passion for dogs. And with a lot of hard graft and careful planning, she and husband Chris have developed a rather special centre up on Catherton Common. Almost Doggy Heaven.

Three years ago Jo separated the acclaimed breeding side of the business from the obedience training and started Mannerly Mutts. A year ago friend Steve Tolley retired from his day job as a Police dog handler and joined Jo to help with walking and home

boarding. And as the demand for training and obedience work grew, Jackie Knight started giving healthy Agility classes to add to the range of dog specific services on offer.

The demand for what they offer is growing fast. Steve arrived to explain that he's really busy walking and boarding at the moment, but he'd just taken on a new customer starting in May 2016!

There's been a lot of work done on the Catherton site, with an agility arena, surfaced for dogs but also suitable for horses when Jo and Chris can find the time to take a ride.

In the corner of the arena is a smartly painted Portacabin that wasn't in that state when they bought it - hard work brought that transformation. That unit was put in to hold consultations for troubled dogs brought for behaviour training. And for the agility work showcased at their recent Open Day, some equipment was home built, but all is up to Kennel Club standard. They don't have money to squander, but that doesn't compromise what they do in any way.

Sitting and talking about the advances made in three years, Jo reflected: "It feels like it almost happened by accident,

getting to this stage so quickly. But I don't want it to get too big, don't want to lose the quality of service and friendly environment."

She is always learning, building knowledge about care and training. The courses she offers in nearby Farlow village hall include puppies and adults; that's adult dogs and humans, as owners begin to see how much better life is with a dog that wants to work with you. A move to help with that has been taking on the Albion range of natural raw foods: "Dogs react to their diet, just like children do. They're better away from additives and chemicals."

There's a relaxed attitude of cooperation amongst the three of them, but no complacency. "You've got to keep your standards up, there's no excuse for easing off and thinking you can't improve," says Steve.

So there's no plan to build up the connections and sell off the property and its attached business to finance a distant retirement? She nearly spits feathers at the very idea: "It's never entered my head. This is what I've always wanted to do. It's my passion!"

And that certainly shows in this place.



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

ON THE BUSES

Still no feedback on the Worcestershire/Shropshire meeting. Diamond were to be 'reminded' that they should not charge on the 9.19 to Kiddy but not surprisingly, they are still taking the money. Clearly another victory for customer power – whatever happened to 'The Customer is King'? Timetables are still conspicuous by their absence and what makes this worse is the fact that other counties can make this work. In rural Norfolk, comprehensive timetables are available on all buses which are run by a much smaller company than Diamond, so it can be done. Talking of time tables, I read recently that Swiss Railways start planning timetable changes FOUR YEARS in advance. They take two years to work out the proposed changes, a further year to fine tune them and publish the details a year ahead of implementation. We are lucky to get four days notice.

There is a rumour that Diamond are going to run package holidays – presumably they will specialise in mystery tours as the destinations will be a mystery to the drivers as well as the passengers...

I am told that the subject of buses is due to be discussed at the next LJC (Local Joint Committee) meeting to be held in July. The exact date and place have not been finalised but I gather that a representative of Shropshire Council will be invited to attend. It's a public meeting so watch the next instalment of this series for details and try to

attend if you want to make your views heard. It would be useful to have a good attendance if only to show Shropshire Council that it is not just one old fool that has problems with the current set up.

Steve Todd

MOFFATS SCHOOL WASH CARS FOR NEPAL



We don't know this young lady's name, but we do know she deserves praise for giving time and effort to help others.

Emma McVean reports:

For two weeks, boarding children at Moffats School washed cars to raise funds for the survivors of the Nepalese earthquakes.

"We like to take the lead from the children when it comes to helping others," explained Head, Mrs Robin McCarthy. "They wanted to do something and the idea of washing cars – those belonging to staff or collecting day parents – was born."

An international squad of car washers from Thailand, Angola, Spain, Norway and Britain were ready and waiting, charging £5 per car. For a group of only 25 boarders, an impressive amount of £210.50 was raised which was doubled by an anonymous donor to £421.

PENSAX CHURCH FAYRE

A warm welcome for the family and lots to do is the promise from Pensax Church Fayre. It starts at 2.00 on Saturday the 27th this month and will be in the Clows Top Victory Hall. A sensible choice that means nothing stops if there's the odd drop of rain.

A raffle, stalls, cakes, refreshments and tombola are amongst the attractions.

FOND FAREWELL

The van den Bergs have been over here visiting family and now head back home to South Africa. They clearly carry fond memories of their stay:

'It is with great sadness that we are heading home to South Africa, after a blissful holiday of three months in Cleobury Mortimer. We want to thank our kids Tom and Nadia for accommodating and pampering us for the duration of our holiday. It was a privilege and honour to be part of our twin granddaughters, Annabelle and Megan's development over this period. Many thanks to Ben and Hannah, Maurice and Irene as well as Simon and Mary-Lou for the outings and lovely dinners together. The memories will always be with us. To all our other friends, thanks a lot for the friendships established. God bless you all!

Frikkie and Wilma van den Berg

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