

THERE WILL BE AN **ELECTION**

As if you hadn't noticed! This note is simply to promise that we won't be giving valuable space to tell you what you already know. We acknowledge that fact that Philip Dunn has ended his time as a serving Member of Parliament, we have thanked him for his service to this community and wish him well. And that's the last we'll say about politics until our new MP is decided.

ACTION ON DOGS

Congratulations to the Town Council on taking positive action on the matter of dogs and the little messages they leave on our pavements. The real offenders are owners who don't clear up what their animals pass; dogs can't carry poo bags but their owners can and should.

So if an owner doesn't clear up after their charge they can be fined a fixed penalty of £100, or £50 if they pay promptly. More about this on Page 59.

IT'S SUMMER!

Two nights ago, on May 23rd, the temperature was low enough to consider turning the heating on, when what most folks see as the summer was little more than a week ahead. Just a few days before, the sun was baking and the ground was recovering from a record rainfall for the season. Television weather forecasters must have been hanging their heads in shame at the way the planet just played havoc with what the nation too often sees as their promises.

At one time, some years ago, minor politicians with more ego than sense on parade, were in the habit of dismissing warnings of the consequences of ignoring the warming of the planet. We don't seem to hear much from them today.

Let's accept that Mother Earth German army back. does not like the way we treat her and she's inclined to grumble about it. We are in the season known as summer, but don't expect graceful sunshine for months on end.

D-DAY JUNE 6th



This is Greg Dare, who will be in Normandy when you read this, joining a march of Light Infantry men from Utah Beach to Pegasus Bridge. It's to take part in a D-Day parade that commemorates the landing of Allied troops on the French beaches to push the

We couldn't include this photo last month, just not enough room. But it's a reminder of the military men to whom we owe so much. This is a free country because of their simple courage.



Cleobury Clarion - June 2024.



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THE CLEOBURY CLARION. JUNE 2024



Ludlow Dog Day will be here next month and here's an action shot just to remind you that it's not all about posing.More about the day on Page 11



Linda Iles writes with warmth about these Dexter cattle to be seen at Saint George's Farm on Tanner Hill. See Page 21



Appointed as Songwriter in Residence, Sid Peacock will be seen and heard all around Clee Hill. See Page 48.

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Cleobury Clarion - June 202

CLOWS TOP GARDEN CLUB

This month old friend and broadcaster Reg Moule is giving us the benefit of his experience on "Wall Shrubs and Climbers". Reg has managed Nurseries and Garden Centres; he is also a well known broadcaster and writer of articles in the press. He answered listener's questions on BBC Hereford and Worcester, and Radio 2. Some of us remember Reg and Mike George in "Gardeners' Question Time" in Clows Top Victory Hall some years back.

June is also the month for the "Rose and Sweet Pea Show" This is for members only and there are six classes; Single Rose, Dark Colour; Single Rose, Pale Colour; Three Roses, Hybrid "T", mixed, or One Variety: Three Stems Spray Roses; Rose With the Best Perfume; Five Sweet Peas.

Exhibits to be staged between 6.30 and 7pm please.

We will still be holding the flower of the month competition, and bringing our magazines to swap. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available as always..

See you on the June 26th. *Judith*

A BUSY MONTH IN NEEN SOLLARS

Saturday, June 15th. A Pets' Service will be held in Saint Mary's church, starting at 3.00. A lovely fun afternoon.

Sunday, June 23rd features an Open Gardens Day from 2.00 to 6.00. Tickets £10 per adult, Under 16s free. Map comes with a lucky number to maybe win a gardening hamper. Proceeds shared between Saint Mary's church, New Savage and the Edwards and Hinckesman Foundation. More details from Emma H a y w o o d a t ghaywood137@btinternet.com

Friday June 28th. David Poyner gives an historic lecture on 'The Wyre Forest Coalfield' in Saint Mary's church. Tickets £10 include a glass of wine or soft drink, from Emma Haywood on 07748 131 486.

Emma Haywood

RHYME TIMER

WANTED

Would you like to run a small Rhyme Time Group at Cleobury Library?

We are looking for a volunteer to run a session once a month in Cleobury Library, time to suit.

We have a bag of instruments and loads of books that might be used for a half hour session!

Please call the centre on 01299 272300 and offer your help.

Clare Todd

PRIZE BINGO AT CORELEY

Prize Bingo at the Coreley Memorial Hall Friday 21st June. Eyes down at 8:0pm In aid of Coreley Football Club, St Peter's Church and Coreley Village Memorial Hall.

Anton Schooley

CLOWS TOP VILLAGE HALL

Friday June 7th is our next quiz night. Doors open at 6.45pm for a 7.30 pm start. Food van on site, so get your tea and eat inside. Well stocked bar. Teams up to six \pounds 2.50 per person. Ring Steve to book a table on 07738 014 884.

On Saturday June 15th we have an Equine Sale. 10.30am to 1.30pm. £1.00 pound admission; £10 per table. Refreshments available. Ring Julia on 07941899624

On Friday June 28th our Wildlife Group will meet; doors open at 7.00 for a wildlife quiz followed by John Medlock talking about the Jaguar, mammals and birds of Brazil. Bar and refreshments, free tea and coffee all night. Members free, £5.00 on the door.

Welcome to our three new committee members Mike, Julia and Di. *Steve Woodison*

STAFF WANTED

Part-time Kitchen/Bar staff required at The Fighting Cocks Inn, Stottesdon. To apply please call Annie on 01746 718270.

AFTERNOON TEA

Melville and Hopton Bank Chapel are hosting an Afternoon Tea on June 12th at 3.00p.m in Hopton Bank Chapel. Everyone welcome. Ruth Downes



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What does a governor need to be?

Passionate about making a difference Interested in the wellbeing of pupils and students Able to bring appropriate skills and experience or willing to learn Able to commit time and energy to the work of the local governing body Able to occasionally visit the school during the working day Able to work as part of a team

What next?

Apply to be a governor! Please contact Hannah Coleman, Governance Professional, at <u>hannah.coleman@laconchildeschool.wo.uk</u> for an application form or if you have any queries.

We very much look forward to hearing from you!

SGET, Lacon Childe School, Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8PE



Shropshire Hills National Landscape

10am -12.45pm: presentations & workshops networking & light lunch

1 - 3.30pm: choice of field trips



Shropshire Hills Summer Forum & Field Visits Thursday 13th June, Clee Hill Village Hall (SY8 3NZ)



Working in partnership to protect and regenerate the Shropshire Hills National Landscape

Join us to hear about our work with farmers and landowners, community and local interest groups. Share your views, concerns and priorities for the future of this special landscape.

• Field visit options:

Farming in Protected Landscapes - farm visit to see how funding is supporting farmers in the Clee Hills.

Our Upland Commons - a walk on Clee Liberty to hear about the project and community archaeology activity.

Abdon District Dormouse Project - community conservation in action.

This is a free event and open to invitees and interested members of the public.

Booking essential. Please contact us with your preferred choice of field visit and any dietary requirements, by 5th June.

(you are welcome to attend just the morning Forum if you prefer)

Email **shropshirehills-nl@shropshire.gov.uk**, or call **01743 254740**.

www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk

Come by bus: 292 Kidderminster - Ludlow bus service stops outside the Clee Hill Village Hall.



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Cleobury Clarion - May 24

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The Bowls Club is back, which means

WOOD WORDS

"Rain, rain go away...... please don't spoil our taster day!"

Not quite the rhyme my mother used to recite – but relevant to our May 13th Taster Session, when attending club members were able to get in some extra wet weather practise.....attending new comers should not be put off and hopefully the next taster on Monday the 10th of June (6.30pm) will attract some sunshine and wannabe bowlers!

Club league games have produced mixed results; in the Highley League newly promoted Mortimer winning five fixtures; Cleobury the same in the Ludlow League and in the Mid Shropshire League, Cleobury Mortimer hold mid-way position (all club fixtures/results and events are on website cleoburybowls.org.uk

The in-house Sunday League is progressing with fierce competition at the top resulting in Burford Bashers leading, whilst Jason's Argonauts remain firmly in the basement. The Sunday League will be disrupted for three weeks after June 16th: On 23rd June we host Ludlow League Doubles; 30th of June is Captains Day and on July the 7th, no games due to road closures for The Cleobury Run.

On a final note, club members enjoyed tasty cakes <u>and</u> bowls at the Cleobury WI Taster Night on Monday 20th of May, and hope that WI members rush to join, since all in attendance enjoyed the cakes!!

Yours in bowls *Smiffy* (07494 016137)

WILD FLOWER MEADOW WALK

What a lovely idea from the Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group. On Saturday June 8th they are having a Wild Flower Meadow Walk, from 2.00 to 4.00, location to be revealed when you book y o u r place with suzannetumnus@btinternet.com

No charge, just donations to the Wildlife Group. Two hours walking through meadows of flowers, it sounds simply lovely.

THE READING GROUP

On a pleasant sunny evening we settled down with a cold drink to share our thoughts on 'My Family and Other Animals' by Gerald Durrell. A book full of sunshine and such a great title. Set in Corfu, with beautiful descriptions of the beaches, fields, olive trees etc., we felt we could have been there. What a family, even allowing for exaggeration they were a family living a dramatic life. Mother

seemed to be unflappable with various animals in the house causing trouble, not to mention her offspring! Being set in 1935/39, a different era it was rather dated. Maybe not a bad thing, present life so different with all the electronic gadgets. It was remarked that taking animals from their natural habitat was not a good idea. Charming writing, very pleasant and overall a delightful easy read. We go even further back next month, with 'Will and Tom', an historical novel set in 1797, written by Matthew Plampin, an author we haven't come across before. Meeting on Monday June 17th to shared opinions.

Geraldine Kimber 01299271754

FESTIVAL DISCO

Time to let your hair down. In the evening , after the Cleobury Festival on Saturday 22 June, the Parish Hall is hosting an 80s disco with local DJ Paran. Rediscover the lost years of your youth – or discover anew some of the best music of the last century – and dance the night away. Tickets £5 on the door at 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Bar open throughout.

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THE BREAKFAST CLUB

In May, members met to hear Angela Drennan describe the trials and tribulations of a trip last year to Las Vegas and the Colorado River. Everything was booked and seemed to be arranged, but gremlins infiltrated when her Satnav failed to locate her access to Heathrow. In the terminal, further problems arose as a fellow passenger fell to the ground, having a fit, so Angela had to get assistance – difficult when so few staff were on duty.

Once in the USA, she had a battle with the car hire company, where she had paid for the hire and insurance. The company insisted that she pay another \$100 for insurance, even though she had already prepaid, and much the same happened at her hotel, who insisted that she hadn't paid (which she had). Hoping later to change £20 notes and get small dollar bills in exchange, she was thwarted in the hotel, and in the Bank of America, who wouldn't even allow her to use the ATM, as she 'wasn't a customer'.

Coming back after her short break, on the plane her air-con would only blow icy air for the whole of the journey, so she had to sit for hours wrapped in coats and blankets. Back home, she imagined that she shaken off the gremlins but, to her dismay, she found the oven control wouldn't work. After her long series of mishaps, she recalled those famous words of Kenneth Williams ' 'Infamy, infamy, they've all got it in for me'. The Club's next meeting will be on 12 June 12th, when Liz Smith will speak about 'Animals & Children'. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Angela Drennan (270636) to book a place. Mark Baldwin

LUDLOW DOG DAY

On Sunday July 28th the gates of Stokesay Court will open for a fun-packed day for dogs at the start of another Ludlow Dog Day. For the event's tenth anniversary year, Ludlow Rotary Club will be welcoming back inspirational displays and training tutorials which owners can try at home as well as holding a wide range of fun dog competitions and activities.

Held in the grounds of Stokesay Court, approximately six miles north of Ludlow and just off the A49, the day is all about fun for the whole family, particularly our furry friends. Dogs can take part in over 21 competitions, from the scruffiest mutt and waggiest tail to the cutest puppy.

There are *have-a-go* events including dog agility, flyball, and hoopers, while gun dogs will be able to demonstrate their ability to retrieve...or not!

Demonstrations throughout the day include favourites such as the *Paws for Thought Display Team* and *Bliss Gate Dog Obedience Team* alongside *All Positive Dog Services with hoopers, loose lead and learn a trick* and *scenting training*.

As well as the doggy events, there will be plenty of stalls to enjoy whether selling dog and country related goods or pampering to human needs such as the food stalls, the drinks bar, and the popular tea tent. Money raised in past years has enabled Ludlow Rotary to distribute over £140,000 amongst a wide range of charities and community organisations. The club plans to use this year's event to support 'Ludlow Rotary Cares', the club's community grants scheme, as well as other deserving causes.

For more information on this opportunity to enjoy a wonderful day in a glorious setting while supporting numerous community and charitable needs, see www.ludlowdogday.org.uk.

FLICKS IN THE STICKS

On Saturday 15 June at 7.30, we are showing AFTERSUN starring Paul Mescal. A debut film by Scottish writer-director Charlotte Wells, Aftersun juxtaposes a hopeful comingof-age story with a poignant, intimate family portrait that leaves an indelible impression. At a fading vacation resort in the late 1990s, 11-year-old Sophie (Frankie Corio) treasures rare time together with her loving and idealistic father, Calum (Paul Mescal). As a world of adolescence creeps into view, beyond her eye Calum struggles under the weight of life outside of fatherhood. Twenty years later, Sophie's tender recollections of their last holiday become a powerful and heartrending portrait of their relationship, as she tries to reconcile the father she knew with the man she didn't.



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80th ANNIVERSARY OF THE D-DAY LANDINGS

It was a major turning point in the 1939 - 45 Second World War. Allied forces, British, American and Commonwealth troops crossed the Channel from England to land on the French coast and fight their way inland. It was the day the German forces were halted and forced into retreat.

On Thursday June 6th we will recall that memorable day here in Cleobury Mortimer. At 6.30 the church bells will ring out and a festive spirit will be alive in the town. At 9.00 there will be a Remembrance Ceremony and lighting of the Town Beacon on the Sports Field behind the Sports and Social Club, which will be open from 8.00 to serve the thirst and hunger of the occasion.

AGE U.K.

The Shropshire branch of Age UK is looking to expand its Digital Inclusion Project work in this area. They're planning to recruit volunteers who know how to use a tablet, smartphone or computer and can spare a few hours each week to teach someone the basics. They visited Cleobury and Ludlow recently and realise how much the closure of the bank and the Post Office has affected senior members of the community.

Volunteers are known as Digital Inclusion Champions and help those who don't use the modern communication tools how to operate them and feel confident to contact people and services. It's a great idea and when they arrive at Saint Mary's Place on June 27th I will personally be there to report and to learn. They'll cover topics like being scam aware, using a tablet or computer, shopping safely online, switching suppliers and BT stuff.

This is such a good idea. All credit to Age UK in talking to people and making basic help available. If you wish to get in touch with Age UK Shropshire about Digital Inclusion in this area, the contact number is 01743 233 123 or email enquiries@ageukstw.or.uk

BIG BAND CONCERT On 21st June, The Friends of St Mary's will welcome the first visit of the well known and respected Wyre Forest Big Band. They will treat us to an evening of big band classics, swing, jazz and rock and roll so there should be something for all lovers of live music.

The evening will consist of two parts with an interval during which light refreshments will be served. Tickets cost £15 which includes the refreshments and are on sale now from Cleobury Pharmacy, the Library and Spire Hairdressers. They can also be obtained from Friends Committee members. Numbers are limited and any remaining tickets will be sold on the door. This should be a very entertaining evening, so don't miss it!.

Steve Todd.

THE MENS SHED

The Annual Trustees' Meeting was held at Peter

Blackburn's house on May 21st. Nigel Reid and Jim Reynolds were welcomed as new trustees and Neil Tysall confirmed his resignation as treasurer with Nigel Reid taking over that role. All approved.

Peter Blackburn was reelected as chairman and it was agreed that he have a vice chair to help with the workload. It was agreed that the website be better used to publicise the work of the Shed and help boost membership.

The co-operation in launching the new Shed Ale by Hobsons Brewery was welcomed; this idea originally came from Bill Duley and will boost Mens Shed awareness nationally.

The next meeting of the trustees will be on November 12th, with other meetings when necessary in the interim.

MORE MENS SHED

The Shed have been helping the Friday Games Club at Saint Mary's Place and a recent note said "Please accept the enclosed donation with our grateful thanks."

It's what the Shed aims to do - use the varied skills of its members to help others.



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FLICKS



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A superb and searingly emotional debut film by Scottish writer-director Charlotte Wells, Aftersun juxtaposes a hopeful coming-of-age story with a poignant, intimate family portrait that leaves an indelible impression. At a fading vacation resort in the late 1990s, 11-year-old Sophie (Frankie Corio) treasures rare time together with her loving and idealistic father, Calum(Paul Mescal). As a world of adolescence creeps into view, beyond her eye Calum struggles under the weight of life outside of fatherhood. Twenty years later, Sophie's tender recollections of their last holiday become a powerful and heartrending portrait of their relationship, as she tries to reconcile the father, she knew with the man she didn't. Starring: Paul Mescal, Frankie Corio

Starring: Paul Mescal, Frankie Corio

15 June 7.30pm

Aftersun

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22 JUNE 7.00 FOR 7.30 **80s disco**

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GIVING BLOOD, HELPING OTHERS

125 blood donors gathered at Villa Park recently to be presented with certificates to thank them for their kindness. Amongst them was Phil Westwood, a centurion in this business, who says there was a lady from Hopton Wafers also there, but he didn't get her name.



Phil's certificate. Something to be very proud of.

"There were two ladies invited to speak about how donations and the care from the NHS saved their lives," he reports. "One who is in remission from cancer and a young mother who lost three litres of blood after giving birth. Both ladies called us 'silent heroes'."

THE PUDDING CLUB

We'll let Katja explain this one: "It's a lovely fundraiser for Cleobury Community Hub, raising funds towards its planned new build, which will place it even more at the centre of our community. A lovely, laid back afternoon, indoors and out on the decking, with gentle live guitar music to enjoy, while you try all the pudding you like. With tea, coffee and squash included. The coffee shop will also be open for the usual array of coffee and drinks and do bring some cash for the raffle."

"I hope you can just come along and enjoy, but if you'd like to make a pudding, offer a small cheeseboard or a raffle prize, please let me know." Katie is at the Medical Centre on 270209 on Tuesday and Thursday.

All this is on Saturday June 8th, from 4.00 to 7.00pm, and tickets cost £10 for adults and a mere £3 for children. Go on, spoil yourself!

PROSTATE CANCER BREAKTHROUGH

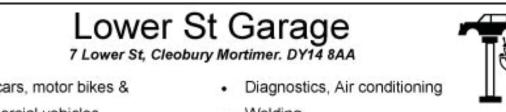
12,000 men die of prostate cancer each year and it's the

most common form of cancer that doesn't have a screening programme. It seems that may be about to change with the launch of a £42 million research programme by Prostate Cancer UK.

It will be known as the TRANSFORM trial and its aim is to find the best way to screen men for prostate cancer. It will involve hundreds of thousands of men, compare the most promising tests and provide evidence of the best way to screen for the disease.

The trial is being set up and the team expect the first men to be invited to take part early next year. At first men aged from 45 to 75 will be invited by their GP to take part, carefully selected to reflect the population of UK. At this stage it is estimated that significant evidence will seen in about three years. That may seem a long time if you have already been diagnosed, but such a major advance as this may prove to be has to be very thoroughly conducted.

What it represents at this early stage is hope of a full screening facility and early treatment when the evidence is fully assessed. And that is very good news.



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Collect your Clarion in Cleobury from: Londis, Cleoburrs, Cleobury Cafe, Severn Hospice Shop, Mid Counties Co-op, Purslows, The Library. And out in the county:

The Blount Arms, Heath Farm Meats, Clee Hill Stores, Clows Top Store, The Colliers Cafe, Sun & Slipper, Mamble; Hopton Bank Service Station; Ludlow Library; 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, Neen Sollars and Stottesdon.



CLEOBURY W.I.

"Are you sitting comfortably?" asked Sue Brown at the May monthly meeting of the WI. A quick scan of the room and there was not a single crossed leg to be seen! Clearly the WI members were going to take Cleobury Mortimer's chiropractor very seriously. Sue gave a most thought-provoking talk illustrating the dos and don'ts in our everyday lives. She put to bed the horror stories of the past of bone cracking pain to rectify musculoskeletal problems and assured us that modern day care realigns the spine or pelvis through individual joint adjustments. Sue will be giving her £30 cheque to the Hands for Heroes charity honouring our courageous service men and women, both serving and retired by providing free chiropractic care.

More recently, on a glorious May evening, the WI enjoyed a taster session of Crown Green Bowls at the CMBC. We received excellent guidance on the rudiments of delivering our bowls in good fashion towards the jack. In good WI tradition, cake was brought along to share with our bowling instructors in exchange for a well-earned cuppa at the end of the evening. We thank the CMBC for their extremely warm welcome.

Planning is well underway for numerous outings in the forthcoming summer months:

Afternoon Tea and Chat at the Fountain Pub on Monday June 3^{rd} at 3.00 pm for £5

Visit to Wildegoose Garden Nursery near Munslow on Thursday June 27thVisit to Three Ashes Dairy Farm & Laura's Delicious Ice cream on Friday July 19th

Please contact Judy on 01299 270983 or email judysant10@gmail.com for further information on joining our thriving WI. Check out the Cleobury Mortimer WI Facebook page.

Sally Serrell-Cooke

THE NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND

It is well over 20 years since our District Nurses saw the need to start a branch of the Nightingale Nursing Fund in this area. There were already several branches in under the umbrella of Dr Barritt at Bayston Hill Medical Practice. Since then the branches have all closed leaving just our local one.

How the world has changed! We do not have the same role for District Nurses going into patients' homes to see the need when there were changes in patients health that needed additional care beyond what they provided. The fund was used for paying nurses, carers and palliative care nurses in times of a medical crisis.

The trustees of the fund have changed to accommodate these additional challenges. Covid, dare I mention it, has changed the world. Since then we have found the fund has not been accessed as much. So a rethink w a s n e e d e d a s w e h a d considerable monies in the fund that was necessary due to the unforeseen cost of care. We hope that you will agree we have come to the correct conclusion.

The trustees felt that the money had been raised locally and it should benefit the patients it was intended for. As the NNF is registered with the Charity Commission we had to follow the constitution--- which was on closure the funds should go to registered nursing/caring charities.

Cleobury Compassionate Communities have now registered with the Charity Commission. So the decision was made to donate £20,000.00 to the Severn Hospice at Home (charity number 512394) for their work in our local community with the remainder £10,939.67 was donated to "CoCo" (charity number 1206755) for their caring work in the local community.

The trustees would like to say a huge 'thank you' to all who have supported the fund and raised monies in the past. Due to confidentiality we have never been able to disclose who has benefited, but there are many grateful patients and their families who have appreciated the extra care we have been able to fund.

Our kind regards to all who have been involved in the fund over the years

The Trustees: Gill Shorter, Treasurer, Debbie Brown, Secretary and Rosemary Abbiss Chairman.

What can anyone say to this small but vital and caring group who have added to the great fund of care and love the Nightingale Nursing Fund has represented over it life?

Our grateful thanks go to every single person who has given time, care or donations to a much admired and simply gentle and loving group of carers. Our love in turn goes to you all.



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Linda Iles



June in the Wyre Forest

This is a wonderful time of year in the natural world. It's all go – we have a Pied Flycatcher's nest in a bird box at the back of the farm's vegetable garden (more like the wildflower patch at the moment), the House Martins are investigating the farmhouse eaves and each evening we have bats doing circuits of the house and outbuildings. Crevices in the walls are full of nesting Sparrows, Blue Tits and Mason Bees. I feel that I have to say, 'Excuse me', just moving about the place, interrupting as I do the important business of feeding and breeding.

The meadows are a delight. The Cowslips and Lady's Smock have given way to buttercups, Red Clover, Pignut, Yellow Rattle, Knapweed and meadow grasses such as Sweet Vernal Grass. Year by year we try to increase their diversity by reducing the fertility of the soil. The odd bit of cow, sheep or deer dung is fine but artificial fertiliser or slurry-spreading would encourage grassland bullies such as Ryegrass, Docks, thistles and Nettles. Yellow Rattle is often mentioned as being a highly-desirable constituent of wildflower meadows because it is a hemi-parasite of grasses, reducing their vigour by taking some of the sugars they produce. Grazing is an important part of the plan too. Spring grazing is followed by haymaking then the remaining grass is eaten off by cattle or sheep. Twenty years ago we started the herd of Dexter cattle at Uncllys by buying a cow (Amani, pregnant with Percy) and calf, Gwillan, from Stuart Norgrove at Haye Farm. Breeding and further purchases took the herd to over fifty, and then in 2010 they were bought by the Wyre Community Land Trust (WCLT) who continue the job of grazing many small meadows in this area.

Many local people have been partners in this conservation effort, volunteering with work such as checking the cattle, moving them to new pastures or home for TB tests, fencing meadows and putting in water supplies. Open Farm Sunday on 9th June is an opportunity for all ages to visit the headquarters of the WCLT at St George's Farm, Tanners Hill, Bewdley, DY12 2LS (signed from The Hop Pole) from 11am to 4pm.



The June 9th Open Farm at the Wyre Community Land Trust will include a chance to see these handsome Dexter Cattle.

They will meet the small herd of Dexter cattle and there will be guided walks around the woodland, orchard, meadow and woodyard to explain what the Land Trust does. There will also be a children's activity and green woodworking for adults, local producers including Wildjac with their array of botanically-inspired spirits, and Peter the Bee with native wildflower plants. Apple juice and wood products will be on sale and you can buy light refreshments or bring your own picnic. For more information contact Liz: 07905188856,

liz@wyreclt.org.uk

Linda Iles



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Sunday 2nd June: Sunday 9th June:

Sunday 16th June:

10.00am Family Eucharist 8.30am Said Eucharist 10.00am Parish Eucharist 10.00am Parish Eucharist Sunday 23rd June: 10.00am Parish Eucharist Every Wednesday: 10.00am Eucharist

Every Thursday: 10.00am – 11.30am: Drop in at St Mary's. Drop in for a free cup of tea or coffee.

St Michael and All Angels', Hopton Wafers

Sunday 2nd June: 9.30am Eucharist Sunday 16th June: 9.30am Eucharist Sunday 30th June: 10.00am Benefice Eucharist

St John's, Doddington

Sunday 2nd June: 11.00am Eucharist Sunday 16th June: 3.00pm Evening Prayer

All Saints', Neen Sollars

Sunday 2nd June: 11.00am Village Worship Sunday 9th June: 11.00am Village Worship Sunday 16th June: 11.00am Village Worship Sunday 23rd June: 11.00am Village Eucharist

St George's, Milson

Sunday 2nd June: 6.00pm Even Song Sunday 16th June: 11.00am Parish Eucharist

St Mary's, Neen Savage

Sunday 2nd June: 6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP) Saturday 15th June: 3.00pm Pet Service Sunday 16th June: 9.00am Parish Eucharist (BCP)

St John the Baptist, Kinlet

Sunday 9th June: 11.15am Parish Eucharist (BCP) Sunday 23rd June: 6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Leadership Team:

Rector: Reverend Prebendary Ashley Buck: 07477 165602 Curate: Reverend Sarah Lupton Church Office: Open Tuesday & Thursday 8.00am – 2.00pm Email: cleoburychurch@hotmail.com Website: www.cmbenefice.com



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Philip Dunne's Final Letter from Westminster

Last month, I was pleased to attend a number of events, including a debate in the House of Commons, as part of the build up towards the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings as the launchpad for the liberation of Europe.

This is part of my role as one of two parliamentary Commissioners of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, marking a tradition going back to the origins of the Commission over 100 years ago.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for some 23,000 war memorials and cemeteries across 153 countries and territories around the globe, helping us all to honour and commemorative the 1.7 million Commonwealth casualties who lost their life through war.

People from Shropshire have always answered the call of duty when our country has been threatened, and so it is no surprise we have a number of war graves in the south of the county, where more than 200 casualties from World War One and World War Two are buried at 74 locations across the Ludlow Constituency - with over 30 commemorations at Bridgnorth Cemetery, the largest site in South Shropshire.

Last month, to mark War Graves Week, I paid my respects at one of these sites in the deconsecrated churchyard of St Leonard's in Ludlow, where volunteers help keep the war graves in good order. I also was pleased to raise War Graves Week with the Prime Minister at PMQs, to make clear standing up to tyrants who bring about war in Europe is as much in our national interest today as it was 80 years ago.

Many people in Shropshire will have connections to those who served, including during the D-Day landings. Interestingly, one of my predecessors as MP for Ludlow from 1945-51, Lt Col Uvedale Corbett, won the Distinguished Service Order for his actions during the Normandy landings and breakout.

Last autumn I visited Salerno in Italy, where Commonwealth and American forces landed to form a beachhead in late 1943, where over 1,800 servicemen are commemorated. It was a particularly poignant trip for me, since my grandfather won his Military Cross there with the Commandos, and my father-in-law wrote an account of the landing for the liberation of Italy. There are few experiences more moving or evocative than visiting any of our battlefield cemeteries and seeing the ranks of the iconic headstones which mark the graves of the fallen. But in reality, our work spans historic preservation of monuments, worldwide expertise in horticulture, and the research and record management that goes into sustaining our database of millions of casualties, as well as continuing recovery and forensic identification of remains.

The 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings this month may well be the last significant milestone commemoration of the D-Day landings attended by veterans of the campaign. So it is a particularly poignant commemoration – but it also highlights just how important it is that younger generations take up the mantle of remembrance.

Normandy will of course be the centrepoint of commemorations, where the Commission has 116 cemeteries and memorials, which mark the graves of 25,000 fallen service personnel.

I encourage parents and grandparents in South Shropshire who share a desire to want to keep alive the memory of those who served to engage children and young adults in remembering those who gave their lives for their country – whether by visiting a local war grave, or taking part in one of the services of remembrance either in June or November. You can find more information on local war graves on our website at <u>www.cwgc.org</u>

Philip Dunne

As this is the final Letter from Westminster from Mr Dunne, I would like to wish him well and thank him for the time he has given to compiling a newsy letter for this and many other local newsletters. I wish him a peaceful and happy retirement to his farm, if farming can ever achieve that state. Jim Reynolds.



ROCK PATHFINDERS

Thursday June 6th. 10.30 start from Mortimer Forest Blackpool car park, Ludlow, SY8 4EQ. Bring a packed lunch.

Thursday June 20th. 10.30 start from the Six Ashes pub, Six Ashes Road, Bridgnorth WV15 6EJ

Further details: www.rockpathfinders.uk

THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

The sun has finally put in an appearance and lovely weather has been a feature of all the CMFA activities in May. What a difference a month makes!

The bluebells were in abundance in the Wyre Forest when twenty five people walked from the Cleobury Golf Club on the Sunday of the first Bank Holiday in May. This magnificent turnout was swelled by the supporters of the Wyre Forest SustFest. This an annual two week event promotes a more sustainable future. We were able to avoid any remaining muddy area as the route meandered through the Halfway along the forest. walk we left the forest and proceeded on pasture, track and footpaths to return to the starting point. The beautiful weather highlighted the far reaching views. This undulating five mile walk received favourable comments from the walkers. A copy of CMFA walk No 23, The Three Coppices can be found on the CMFA website or purchased from the Golf Club in a pack of local walks.

Further to my report in the May edition, if anyone has followed a leafleted walk, the CMFA would like to know of any difficulties experienced, such as obstructing vegetation or damaged/ difficult stiles/gates that need The Footpath repair. Guardian scheme was set up with this in mind. Volunteers check and where possible and necessary, clear vegetation on their chosen paths, or identify where more assistance is required. If you walk regularly in the area, and are interested in keeping our footpath network open for all, why not join us and become a Footpath Guardian by contacting Mazella zellcmfa@gmail.comI

It was a beautiful day for our first Walking for Health Away Day. Starting at the Doddington Village Hall we walked along the road passing the church and the newly rebuilt cattle grid to join the path leading to Clee Hill. Passing several groups of sheep with lambs the circular 1.75 mile walk was mainly on gravel with some inclines. The views were outstanding although the haze obscured the Malvern Hills in the distance. Returning to the hall we enjoyed a wonderful spread of tea, coffee and home made cakes provided by volunteers from St John's Church. The

second walk of the month was local to Cleobury followed by delicious refreshments at the Market Hall courtesy of CoCo. We travel to Wyre Forest for the Away Day on Wednesday June 12th. Please meet as usual at Cleobury Sports Centre Car Park, Love Lane, for a 10.00am departure where car share will be available if required.

On Saturday May 25th our Social Walk was in Clifton on Teme. The 5.5 mile circular walk to Ham Bridge was not very demanding and had some excellent views. After an enjoyable walking break in Beckford Worcestershire it was good to be back on home ground.

Details of all CMFA activities are on our website <u>www.cmfa.co.uk</u> *Veronica Hargreaves*

WALKING FOR

HEALTH

An Away Day on the 12th features in this month's programme, with cars in use to reach the Wyre Forest Visitor Centre. Gather at the Sports Centre car park in Love Lane for departure at 10.00. There will be a parking charge to meet, which at £4.00 per car is hardly a bargain, but the catering was good last time I went there.

The second date is the 26th, when the familiar pattern will be followed, with a visit to the CoCo Coffee Morning to round the event off with a good flavour.





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Hobsons Summer Party

We are holding a Summer party at Hobsons Brewery Taproom, Saturday 6th July, 12pm – 9pm. The event is ticketed but under 18's go free.

Guests can expect street food from Mukaase Afro-Caribbean Cuisine and wood-fired pizzas from The Pizza Trailer. There will also be a range of stallholders including Shropshire Salumi, Mr T's Pies, Broad Bean Deli, appleTeme, Apostle Coffee and Nanny Janny's Jersey ice-cream!

Hobsons beers will be pouring from the Taproom bar and airstream bar Sylvia, guests will also have the opportunity to try a brand new collaborative beer when it launches for the first time at the Summer bash.

There will be live music as well as kids entertainment scheduled throughout the day.

Last year tickets for Hobsons' Summer party sold out so don't delay, tickets are available now on Hobsons Brewery's website: <u>www.hobsons-brewery.co.uk</u>



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gures from the Bank of England released recently confirm a irge in borrowers taking out mortgages for longer periods id beyond the state pension age in order to lower payment costs.

ne rental market also has high demand and a lack available properties, causing intense competition between stential tenants who are unable to afford to purchase a home.

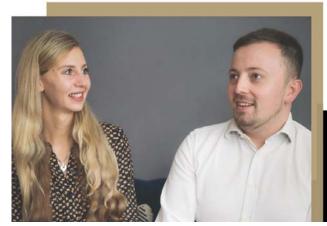


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Doddington Lodge is a place where friendships are made and special moments are shared. We organise many fun activities that everyone can get involved with, whether that's a sing along, arts and crafts, collecting fresh veg from the allotment or just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

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.





Come along! Coffee morning on Friday 14th June 2024

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, June 14th, 2024, from 10 am until midday.

We look forward to seeing you!

www.doddingtonlodge.com | E: enquiries@doddingtonlodge.com | T: 01584 707084 Doddington Lodge, Residential Care Home, Doddington, Nr Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 0HJ. f 9 1 in Remember to follow up

Cleobury Clarion April 2024

Doddington Lodge Residential Care Home

HAT-TRICK FINALISTS IN THE CARE HOME AWARDS 2024

We had a fantastic time as a finalist at The Care Home Awards 2024. It was truly an honour to be nominated in three different categories, showcasing our amazing team's hard work and dedication. Being recognised is a testament to the exceptional efforts and unwavering commitment of everyone involved with Doddington Lodge.

A huge thank you to everyone who made the event so special. Your support and encouragement mean the world to us. From our dedicated staff who continuously strive for excellence, to our loyal community who believe in our vision, every single one of you played a vital role in this achievement.

Here's to many more milestones and achievements in the future! We are excited about what lies ahead and are more motivated than ever to reach new heights. Thank you once again for being part of our journey.





A SUNNY VISIT TO LUDLOW CASTLE

What a fantastic day out we had at Ludlow Castle! The sun was shining brightly, making the whole town look even more picturesque. The views from the castle tower were breathtaking with a beautiful view of the surrounding countryside.

After exploring the castle grounds what better way to top off such a wonderful day than with some delicious traditional fish & chips!

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Petunias and Patter: Navigating Open Garden Season

Summer has officially arrived, dragging the reluctant sun out from behind a cloudy curtain and finally cracking on with the serious job of turbocharging the garden. Not only does this mean that the lawnmower is finally getting a decent workout, but it also marks the start of the 'open garden' season a period when gardens of every conceivable size and shape throw open their gates, welcoming neighbours and complete strangers to parade and enjoy/judge/offer their opinions on the previous months' hard work. It's akin to letting people rifle through your underwear drawer and then critique your choice in boxer shorts.

But don't get me wrong—this isn't a bad thing. Far from it, actually. The act of inviting people you barely know into your garden is a delightful blend of generous sharing and a hint of showing off. After all, if your roses are blushing in full bloom or your petunias are perfectly poised, why not let the world bask in their beauty? It's a testament to the hours spent weeding, watering, and whispering sweet nothings to each individual element of your garden. And let's face it, there's a particular pleasure in hearing a stranger gush over your hydrangeas.

For true connoisseurs of the open garden world, there exists the 'Yellow Book'—the crème de la crème of garden tours, a nationwide showcase that supports a whole host of charities. To make it into the Yellow Book, a garden must meet strict criteria, from the quality of the planting (obvs) to the practicalities of parking and, crucially, the standard of the tea and cakes served. It's the horticultural equivalent of a Michelin star. I confess that getting our garden listed in the Yellow Book is a dream of mine. The only hurdle, aside from persuading my wife that we have enough teacups, is ensuring our garden meets the high standards required. This year, we're having a few trial runs. Neen Savage is once again punching above its weight and hosting an open gardens festival (23rd June, if you're interested - visit <u>vitallink.co.uk</u> for details). Our humble plot has made the list, and so begins the frantic preparation: mowing lawns with the urgency of a Wimbledon groundskeeper, watering pots like there's no tomorrow, and pleading with the annuals—the most petulant and moody of all plants—to bloom on cue.

As part of the preparation, I've been honing my patter as the garden guide. "To your right, you'll see the National Collection of Stinging Nettles," I'll declare with confidence, "and this bed features a curated selection of thistles, daisies and dandelions."

You get the idea - if all else fails, I rely on the trusty fallback: "We're big fans of rewilding and are in the process of handing parts of the garden back to nature." A word to the wise - this is the perfect excuse for any patch that looks more jungle than manicured garden.

Regardless of the weather, the state of the planting, or the length of the grass, I'm confident we'll have a splendid time and raise a triumphant glass at the end of the day. After all, the essence of gardening isn't just about pristine borders and perfectly pruned roses; it's about the joy of sharing, the conversations sparked by a blooming clematis ("*no*, *I don't know the name or when is best to prune it*"), and the camaraderie over a shared admiration for all things green. As in previous years, we'll meet lovely people, swap gardening tips, and learn a few things along the way.

So, if you find yourself wandering through a garden this season, take a moment to appreciate the love and effort poured into every corner. And if you happen to be the one opening your garden gates, remember that a little showing off never hurt anyone (and trust me on the rewilding thing).

Simon Morton



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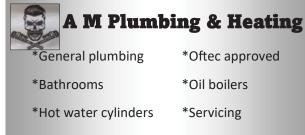


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A recent news item from the BBC said a tumble dryer had caught fire but that a dog had been rescued. What sort of owner would put a dog in a tumble dryer?. I know they can be buggers to dry sometimes but that was a bit excessive. To compound the problem, the body of the article had a typo so it read 'tumble fryer' which made things look even worse as there's drying and then there's cooking...Another story about a court case said that a man had gone to the victims house and 'touched her in her kitchen' so no wonder he had been charged.

Much coverage about aggressive cyclists riding on pavements and ignoring red lights and other traffic rules. Apparently, any attempt to remonstrate with the culprits results in abuse and threats of violence. I wonder if this attitude has been fuelled by the fact that cyclists are now deemed never to be at fault in accidents regardless of the circumstances. If so, perhaps 'Cycle Lanes' should be renamed 'Psycho Lanes'. More traffic news as it has been proposed to make it legal for vans to park on double yellow lines when loading and unloading. Not sure that this will change anything as they already do...

There appears to be a trend emerging for priests to abseil down their churches to raise funds (does this seem like a plan Ashley?). One church in Leominster went further and offered anyone the chance to abseil down the tower. I'm not sure that participation was encouraged when it was discovered that the event sponsor was Co-Op Funeral Care...

The result of the recent election for PCC resulted in John Campion, the existing incumbent being re elected albeit with a much reduced majority. This has been followed by the news that West Mercia Police have been marked 'inadequate' in respect of their systems for dealing with serious organised crime, following a recent inspection by H M Inspector of Constabulary. Our PCC has never been slow to share details of all the things he claims to have been doing to improve WMP so he has now had to announce that he is 'disappointed' with the result and will be meeting the (Temporary) Chief Constable to discuss this. Not sure whether this will be a 'six of the best' type of meeting but before any punishment is considered, the length that the participants have been in their posts: (Temporary Chief Constable 7 months, Police and Crime Commissioner 8 years), may be a relevant factor in apportioning blame... But not to worry, a permanent replacement for the Chief Constable has been hand picked (sorry selected as a result of 'a vigorous and open process') and rumour has it that it is not the individual that the troops would have chosen, so what could possibly go wrong?.

Have you tried shopping at Cleoburrs yet?. If not, you should. The place is an Aladdin's Cave and Rob, the proprietor, is very helpful. He rarely fails to find what I am looking for and if he hasn't got it, he gets it, so before you go off to Ludlow, Kidderminster or wherever, try a local outlet first. Highly recommended.

Most of you will have visited a branch of Greggs for their sausage rolls if nothing else. As you would expect, they also do coffee but one variety has caused difficulties for some of their staff 'oop north'. One customer asked for an expresso and was warned they were only tiny... In another case, a customer waited ten minutes for an expresso. He was then given a pint of the stuff, with the staff apologising for the wait saying that it only came out of the machine in tiny spurts...

Would you prefer Heaven or Hell?. When Dorothy Parker was asked this, she replied she would prefer Heaven for the comfort but Hell for the company. A valid point I think.

More Clarion Smalls



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HELPING AN AMAZING MAN CONNECT TO OUR COMMUNITY

Cleobury Compassionate Communities (CoCo) offers free support through its befriending service, which provides one to one companionship and practical support to adults who for a variety of reasons feel isolated. Loneliness through loss of health and mobility, anguish from mental health issues or perhaps through disability can feel more manageable when a friend is there to listen and provide practical support. This service helps people keep their independence and keep them connected to their community. CoCo has recently become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), governed by a Board of Trustees.

One young person who came to CoCo just over a year ago is Nick. Nick is an incredible individual with a great sense of humour but has struggled due to being blind and experiencing mental health issues. Nick explains how his life has improved since meeting two CoCo volunteers, Anthony and Janet, who befriended and support him. Walking is one of the activities they regularly do together, which is especially important not only for exercise and talking, but to help facilitate the process for Nick to be allocated a guide dog. It can take two years for a dog to become available and in preparation Nick must be familiar with three key routes

and able to identify and navigate hazards along the way.

Anthony has built a strong friendship with Nick, which is evident from the humour and banter they share. Anthony has been able to signpost Nick to other community social groups such as the Men's Shed, where Nick has further extended his friendship group which he is clearly enjoying.

Despite losing his sight at the age of nine, Nick lives independently. His volunteer friend is in awe of his resilience and resourcefulness. Nick hopes that his story will encourage others to reach out to the CoCo team too. Even if just one more person experiences that new friendship this would be a worthwhile result. Nick's story also clearly demonstrates CoCo is not just there for the older generation but is there for any adult whose health suffers due to isolation and loneliness.

Those wishing to offer friendship through this volunteering network find contributing incredibly rewarding and build true friendships in the heart of the community too. Volunteers come from various walks of life and the charity's coordinator Katja Jones has an amazing knack of matching personalities to help build these special friendships.

If you would like to be involved, please get in touch about volunteering or a referral: 07966 080 111 or email <u>cleoburycoco@hotmail.com</u> *Cherry Blumberg Coco Volunteer and Trustee.*

THE HILLS ARE ALIVE



The Voice of Clee Hill? Sid Peacock will be seen and heard around the hill.

The *Beacon on the Hill* project team are delighted to announce the appointment of Clee Hill's songwriter in residence. Sid Peacock will be working with local communities to research and write a new piece of music which celebrates this unique place and its people. For the next twelve months he will be composing and rehearsing with local singers and musicians ready for a series of performances next year.

Sid will be looking for people who are interested in music to become involved. This is a chance to showcase the character of this area but also the talent of its people. If you have a musical talent and live in the area, he would really like to hear from you.

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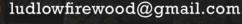


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Community Contacts for Clarion Readers

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CLEOBURY DENTAL PRACTICE		01299 271747	www.cleoburydental.co.uk	
CLEOBURY CARERS	Michelle	01743 341995	carerssupport@shropshire.gov.uk	
CLEOBURY COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES	Katja Jones	07966 080111	Tuesday and Thursday at the Medical Centre	
CLEOBURY LIBRARY		01299 272301	Open 9 to 7 Mon, 9 to 5 Tues/Fri, 10 to 1 Sat.	
LOCAL POLICE				
CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS	Lowri Hughes		cleoburybeavers@gmail.com_	
CRIMESTOPPERS	Free Police contact	0800 555 111	Talk in confidence, to report any crime.	
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE		0800 783 1359	Women's Aid, 24 Hour support:	
HOME FROM HOSPITAL	Age UK	01584 878046	Help over the first weeks back home	
MARKET HALL	Sam	07385 698574	markethall@cleobury.org.uk	
MEDICAL CENTRE		01299 270209	Out of surgery hours, use the Shrop Doc Service	
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NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND	Rosemary Abbiss	01746 718451		
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St MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT	Mark Greaves	07828 116810	mark.stmarys@live.co.uk	
SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL		0345 678 9000		
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The Cleobury Clarion Social Calendar for June

Mon. 3rd. 3.00 Cleobury W.I. Tea and Chat at the Royal Fountain.	PAGE 17
Tue. 4th 2.00 Carers Only Peer Group meet at St. Mary's Place.	
Wed. 5th. GENERAL WASTE BINS EMPTIED TODAY	
6.00 to 7.00. Late Night at the Food Bank, Market Hall.	
7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	
Thu. 6th. 10.30 Rock Pathfinders walk out from Mortimer Forest Blackpool car park.	PAGE 27
6.30. The church bells ring out for our D-Day memorial.	PAGE 13.
9.00 D-Day Remembrance Ceremony, Sports Field.	PAGE 13
Fri. 7th. Quiz Night, Victory Hall, Clows Top	PAGE 5
Sat. 8th. 2.00. Wild Flower Meadow Walk with Clee Hill Wildlife Group.	PAGE 7
4.00 The Pudding Club is open at the Community Hub	PAGE 15
Sun. 9th. 11.00 Wyre Community Land Trust Open Day	PAGE 21
Wed. 12th. GARDEN AND FOOD WASTE BINS EMPTIED TODAY	
7.30. St Mary's Breakfast Club meet at the Golf Club.	PAGE 11
10.00 Walking for Health have an Away Day at Wyre Forest.	PAGE 27
10.00 CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall	D A A F A
3.00 Afternoon Tea, Hopton Bank Chapel.	PAGE 5
Fri. 14th. 10.00 Coffee Morning at Doddington Lodge	PAGE 32
8.00 Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	
Sat.15th. 9.00 Cleobury Country Farmers Market at the Parish Church.	
10.30 Equine Sale, Victory Hall, Clows Top.	PAGE 5
3.00 Pets' Service, St. Mary's church, Neen Sollars.	PAGE 5
7.30 Flicks In The Sticks at the Parish Hall presents AFTERSUN.	PAGE 11
Wed. 19th. GENERAL WASTE BINS EMPTIED TODAY	
7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	
Thu. 20th. 10.30 Rock Pathfinders walk out from Six Ashes pub in Bridgnorth.	PAGE 27 PAGE 5
Fri. 21st. 8.00 Prize Bingo at Coreley Memorial Hall.	PAGE 5 PAGE 13
8.00 Big Band Concert at the Parish Church Sat. 22nd. 12.00 noon. Cleobury Festival on the Sports & Social Club Field.	PAGE 13 PAGE 44
7.00 Festival Disco, Parish Hall.	PAGE 7
Sun. 23rd. 2.00 Open Gardens Day at Neen Sollars.	PAGE 5
Wed. 26th GARDEN AND FOOD WASTE BINS EMPTIED TODAY	I AGE 5
10.00 Walking for Health step out from the Market Hall	
10.0. CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall.	
7.00. Clows Top Garden Club. Reg Moule and Rose & Sweet Pea Show.	PAGE 5
Thu. 27th. 11.00. Age UK visit St Mary's Place for scam awareness advice.	PAGE 13
Cleobury W.I. visit Wildegoose Garden Nursery.	PAGE 17
Fri. 28th. 7.00. Wildlife Group meet at Victory Hall, Clows Top.	PAGE 5
'The Wyre Forest Coalfield' lecture at St Mary's, Neen Sollars.	PAGE 5
8.00 Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall	171020
AND LOOKING AHEAD TO JULY	
Wed. 3rd. GENERAL WASTE BINS EMPTIED TODAY	
7.30. Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.	
Sat. 6th. 12.00 noon Hobsons Summer Party.	PAGE 20
REGULAR EVENTS OF INTEREST	
Monday: 8.00. Bingo Nights at the Market Hall, Church Street.	
Tuesday: 8.00 Friendship Club meets at the Parish Hall.	
Thursday morning: Saint Mary's Church coffee and chat session.	
7.30 Tina Hobin Birth Dance and good health class meet at the Market Hall.	
-	

LET'S BEAT THE SCAMMERS

In the May edition of this comprehensive publication, there were 2 examples of how technology is overtaking our lives. The examples were of major companies that will only now communicate with their customers by electronic means. I.e. Email or Web sites.

But not everyone has access to the Internet or Email.

I focussed in early editions on criminal activity that targeted people in their homes, namely fraudulent doorstep salespeople, selling fake or overpriced goods or building services claiming work needed to be carried out in or around the owner's property.

Sadly, while these fraudulent activities still remain, the use of electronic means provides the criminal fraternity, faster, easier and very high volume targets from which to reap rewards. This is not to be taken lightly as records show that scam fraud in 2023 amounted to over £2.3 Billion in England and Wales affecting over 4 million of the population.

In our area this could represent around 2300 people. With average loss per head across the country is £575 per head then one can see that internet/email/electronic fraud is very profitable for very little effort.

Email addresses are bought and sold by criminals on the underground side of the Web and a scammer targeting 100,000 emails a day can expect a return of over 58% who will open the email.

If just 1% of people respond and are hooked into a scam, the scammer wins.

In the last month, this author has foiled 3 sophisticated email approaches, which could easily have been more effective to many of us.

For me the message is clear and has to be continually promoted. Scammers are getting more and more sophisticated. Scammers can disguise themselves to make their identity look very authentic and through the use of electronic means can operate with impunity from anywhere in the world.

Here is the ever present reminder of how to protect yourself.

NEVER open an email if you doubt its validity or do not expect or normally hear from that person or company.

NEVER answer a phone call or message on you phone if the number is unknown to you. The people you regularly have contact with should be in your contacts list (with a name or even photo). When they call you, know it's them.

A genuine caller will try again either by a different method or a few seconds later. Scammers don't waste time on that, they just move on, so block the number on your phone.

DO NOT BE FOOLED into a text message supposedly coming from a family member claiming their phone is damaged and that's why the number is different. Delete the message and block the number and then call that family member, ideally from a different phone, using the number you know is theirs. You will be surprised that they had no idea they were being impersonated and best of all, you will have foiled a scam.

It's a sad state of the world we live in where we now have to look at everything suspiciously in order to protect ourselves.

Stay safe, thanks for reading and don't let them win.

Nigel Reid

Paul Harding



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How to contact the Town Council

Telephone: 01299 271154 or 07483 112290 Email: <u>council@cleobury.org.uk</u> Speak to us at the Councillor Surgeries held on the third Saturday of every month in the Market Hall.

Councillor Surgery

Cllr Guy James attended the monthly Councillor Surgery held in the Market Hall, alongside the Farmers Market, on Saturday 18th May. If you have an issue you want to raise, you can contact the office on the details above or drop into the next monthly Councillor Surgery on Saturday 15th June.

D-DAY Commemoration/Celebration

The 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings is on Thursday 6th June. Nationwide, there will be a number of ways that communities will pay 'tribute' to the thousands who sacrificed so much in helping secure the freedom we all enjoy today. In Cleobury, we are working with St Mary's and the British Legion to mark this occasion. The bell-ringers will 'Ring out for Peace' at 6.30pm and we will light our Beacon on the Playing Field at 9.15pm. The Sports and Social Club will be open from 8pm for refreshments.

Cleobury Festival 2024

This event is on Saturday 22nd June and starts at 12 noon on the Playing Field. We have confirmed the falconry display; live performances of dance, music and storytelling; a static motor vehicle show; the dog show; craft, produce and table top stalls from local groups and organisations; emergency services information stands; various food and drink providers as well as the Sports and Social Club being open. There will be other events on in the evening including an 80's disco in the Parish Hall.

Dog Fouling

Following an eight week consultation period Shropshire Council have recently approved a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for Shropshire to help tackle dog fouling and nuisance, in response to public complaints. This will come into force from Saturday 1st June 2024 (subject to completion of the appeal period). The PSPO will enable Shropshire Council and the police to:

- Issue fixed penalty notices of £100 or £50 if paid within 10 days to owners who allow their animal to foul pavements and public amenity spaces without clearing up afterwards.
- Dogs will also be excluded from fenced play and sports areas.
- Dogs will be required to wear a lead on the highway.
- Officers will also have the power to ask for a dog to be put on a lead in public areas where they are not under control of their owner or are acting aggressively.

If you have any dog-related concerns or would like to report an issue, please report directly to Shropshire Council via one of the routes below:

- Report on Shropshire Council's website <u>www.shropshire.gov.uk/roads-and-highways/report-a-fault-or-concern</u>
- Call the Customer Service Centre on **0345 678 9006.**
- Report via the FixMyStreet mobile app.

Dates for your Diary

Next Council Meeting – Monday 3rd June 2024 at 6.30pm, at the Cleobury Country Centre. D-Day Events – Thursday 6th June 2024, bell-ringing at 6.30pm, lighting beacon at 9.15pm on the Playing Field. Councillor Surgery – Saturday 15th June 2024, from 10am – 12noon, at the Market Hall. Cleobury Festival - Saturday 22nd June 2024, from 12noon – 7pm on the Playing Field.

> Report for Clarion – June 2024

Where is AI today in modern society and where is it going?

In the first article, we looked at what Artificial Intelligence (AI) was. With the rate of technical development in computing, new hardware and software avenues emerge where opportunities exist to effect significant change in our lives.

Before AI, we had machinery performing the tasks that created products we bought and used in our This was the start of the every day lives. Industrial Revolution. The pace picked up rapidly with machines being created to manufacture just about everything from clothing to cars.

Huge production lines of people became replaced by machines controlled by computers that replicate hundreds of simple tasks, accurately, tirelessly and faster than the workers they replaced.

We call these machines 'Robots' and they are effectively mechanical devices that are controlled by a computer. In this context, similar to computer programming, they follow a very specific set of instructions with no deviation.

So where does AI come in? you ask

Take an example of a worker on a car production line. His job is o screw 4 nuts on to a car wheel as it passes him on the line. Beside him he has a large box of nuts to complete the task. Suddenly he picks one up and it is damaged and can't be used. So he discards it and picks up one that is ok. On a robotic controlled production line, the robot more a personalised and tailored experience. picks up a nut but is unable to know if it is damaged so tries to force it on causing a problem which could stop the entire production line. Not good and potentially expensive.

the capability to 'see' the nut it picks up through a Overall, AI in social media has transformed the tiny camera built into its arm. The visual way we connect, interact, and consume content, representation of the nut is compared to the design making it more efficient and personalised for users. of a good nut and rejected if incorrect. This all

happens in microseconds, where AI makes the decision if the nut is good or bad.

AI is a sophisticated set of rules in a computer that can make decisions by passing the need for human interaction.

It is believed that the use of AI provides opportunity that might make our lives better.

There is currently development in the use of AI in Social Media.

Social interactions have existed since man first learned to communicate. From early Stone Age scribbling to the development of paper and the concept or recording things by writing them down. We used to interact in the street, over the garden wall, shout across the road or whatever. But we now use devices (Media) to do this. Hence the emergence of the term "social media"

First mobile phones that were small and could fit in your pocket were made in their millions by Nokia in Finland. They enabled us to stay in touch when away from a landline telephone. Subsequent additions of a camera and memory turned the simple mobile phone concept into a very sophisticated miniature but powerful computer.

The impact of AI in social media has been significant and far-reaching. AI algorithms (programs) have revolutionised the way content is curated and personalised for users, leading to a

AI-powered systems analyse user data and behaviour to suggest relevant content, to increase user engagement and retention. Additionally, AI helps detect and filter out inappropriate or harmful With AI we add to this process and give the robot content, ensuring a safer online environment. Nigel Reid

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OPENING TIMES

FACILITIES INCLUDE:

Gym A.M. Exercise Classes 🕅 Sports Hall **Outside Astro Pitch** Įφο

\$€ ₩ Netball

CARDIO PILATES & STRENGTH

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Tennis Courts

CLASS TIMETABLE

9.15 - 10am

MON

MON	7.30am - 10am ^{10am-12.30pm CP Referra} 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.

	ng required for Exercise ne or at the Centre	e classes	CLEOBURY MORTIMER Dy 14 8PE	
FRI	6 - 6.45pm	STRETCH & RELAX	TEME CLEOBURY Love Lane	
THU	6 - 6.45pm 7 - 7.45pm	STEP & SCULF SPIN		
WED	5.15 - 6pm 6 - 6.45pm	PILATES CIRCUITS		
TUES	9.15 - 10am 10.15 - 11am 6.15 - 7pm	YOGA YOGA TRX		
	6.30 - 7.15pm	BODY PUMP		



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