

# The Cleobury Clarion



## SERVING CLEOBURY COUNTRY

MAY 2015

### KUDOS BLENDS - THE TOWN'S BIG SUCCESS STORY



*Phillip Dunne unveils the plaque commemorating Kudos's latest expansion, as director Dinnie Jordan looks on.*

Only a really significant event could persuade an ex-MP out canvassing local votes to take a break and unveil a plaque. On April 2nd Phillip Dunne did just that, and called in at Kudos Blends on the Old Station Business Park in his campaign camper to do the honours.

It was also the formal opening of the company's new reception area plus meeting and training facilities. Another chapter in a remarkable success story that started 15 years ago with a loan from Dinnie's parents and a so-called office in the box room of her mentor's home in Chaddeley Corbett.

Today Kudos is a global operator in its business of supplying quality raising agents to the baking industry, employing close to 40 people and growing fast. But it retains a friendly working atmosphere, where the staff all smile and will tell you that they enjoy working in this little Shropshire diamond of a business.

**See Page 19 for the Kudos Story**

### AND HERE'S A CHANCE TO SHARE SUCCESS

The Annual Parish Meeting on April 20th was a very good one, with lots of positives to report. Guest speakers were Mick Simpson, on the West Mercia 'We Don't Buy Crime' campaign that will check on local used goods sources to

make sure they're all honest. Dealers are signing up and agreeing to check that what they take in is honestly owned and not the proceeds of theft. If anything is, it will be confiscated.

Then Gary Higgins talked about the remarkable, invisible Smartwater that can mark your property and be traced by an ultra-violet torch. Smartwater has a great track record and a growing global reputation, and West Mercia are equipping all its officers with UV torches to check on goods and trace their ownership.

Gary wants Cleobury to be the first small rural town to carry the Smartwater Town warning. This means warning signs on the town approaches, to discourage burglars and send them away empty handed - they hate Smartwater.

To earn this title, we need to commit to buying a bottle and marking our goods. If enough of us register interest, the price will come down below £10 a bottle - buy it on the internet today and it will cost you £60.

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# **The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page**

## **May 2015 - Volume Thirteen - Edition Two**

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

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE IS MAY 24th**

### **Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers and Emails**

**CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR** - 07703 965 064 Theresa Parfitt; [theresa.25016@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

**CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS AND GUIDES:** **Iain Smith CM 271809**

**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

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

**MARKET HALL**- **Dorothy CM272717, 07761 976650 mobile**, or [dorothymcbride@cleobury.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:mark.stmarys@live.co.uk)**

**SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL** - 0345 678 9000

**SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM** - E-mail [richard@ssyf.net](mailto: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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# The Cleobury Clarion. May 2015



*Stage presence plus. Juliet Kelly at Clows Top.  
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*Everything's going up at Kudos Blends.  
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*In Business - John Hands at Hands On Printing.  
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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## MISSING DUCKS

**An appeal from Severn Hospice Shop:**

Have you seen Dyllys, Daffy, Claude, Beatrice, Deirdre, Crackers, Emily or Doris?

These little yellow ducks are still missing; if you found one, please claim your reward at the Severn Hospice Shop. We need to know they have found loving new homes.

## CLEOBURY

### COMMUNITY GARDEN

**This is an idea from Clare Todd. We'll let her explain:**

Cleobury Country Ltd have teamed up with Lacon Childe School to offer out the small allotments, to the side of the school, to the public from May 1st, through till the end of September.

These are very small plots, about 6ft x 4ft, ideal for those gardeners who want to grow a small amount of veg for the summer, and will cost £5 per plot (not all plots are the same size!) and its very much "a first come first served basis" so get in touch soon.

If you're interested please call the Cleobury Country Centre on 01299 272300 to find out more. Let's get growing!

## WELL PRICED FLICKS

### OUT IN THE STICKS

Keen to see the award winning 'Imitation Game' movie, I went to the Parish Hall 'Flicks in the Sticks' in April. The first time I'd ever been to one of these attractions.

The first pleasant surprise was the price: 'Three pounds, please,' said Ron Breakwell. And there was a modest bar, where a pint came in a can, with a proper glass, and cost just a pound. At such low prices, I couldn't refuse the chance to buy raffle tickets - another pound. A fiver all in and sit where you like in the crowded hall. Even the seats were good, part of the constant drive to improve the facilities.

Before the film started, Mark Baldwin explained that it was less than 100 percent accurate in some respects, but what do you expect from the movies. Mark had his ex-U Boat Enigma machine on show, which had actually been used in this story of the Bletchley listening complex and the remarkable contribution it had

made to reducing the length of the war. He is giving a more accurate talk about the Codebreakers in the Parish Hall on May 22nd, at 7.30, with all proceeds to the Severn Hospice.

But back at The Flicks it was a good film to watch and in the interval I chatted to a couple who'd travelled from Craven Arms to see it. A good evening's entertainment that filled three hours, cost very little and made a profit for the Hall. JR

## THE TITTERSTONE

### TOTTER

Lovely title for an event. This is early notice of a sponsored walk on June 21st. It starts from Cleeton St Mary Village Hall and covers nine miles that take in some of the great heritage sites on the Hill. It's a cooperation between Titterstone Clee Heritage Trust and the South Shropshire Youth Forum. Visit [www.thecleehilltrust.co.uk](http://www.thecleehilltrust.co.uk) for more details and we'll have more to say in next month's issue. Good to see more being done to help people enjoy Clee Hill and its hidden gems.

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## ROCK MONTHLY WALKS

With the approach of summer, Rock Pathfinders offer an evening walk this month. It's on Thursday the 7th, starting at 7.00 from Cornmeadow Lane, next to Claines church, north of Worcester. Sat nav WR3 7RD or Ordnance Survey reference 851589. All walkers welcome.

Back to the normal morning start at 10.30 on the 21st, from The Great Western Inn on the Kidderminster Road out of Bewdley. DY12 1BY or OS 790754.

In both cases, Alan on 01299 400304 can tell you more.

## KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

We began Summer Term with very welcome warm weather, and the children enjoyed getting outside in the sand and water trays, and watching some very exciting developments on the building site for the new houses in Kinlet. They watched, amazed as a huge crane lifted a whole roof onto a house one afternoon.

This term we are learning about dinosaurs and have lots of stories and activities. We are busy making dino footprints in paint and salt dough, and

comparing them to our own feet, and also singing some new dino songs.

*Zoe Pearson*

## CLEOBURY W.I.

The April meeting was well attended, as we welcomed a number of visitors. We were entertained by our speaker, Elizabeth Woodall from Ludlow, and her amazing collection of WI memorabilia. This featured items from commemorative plates, to regional badges and books published by the WI. We were able to inspect all these while we enjoyed home made cakes and tea. A very enjoyable meeting.

This month we will be meeting at our President's home for an evening of old fashioned board games.

*Gillian Senior*

## BEWDLEY SPRING FAIR

The theme for this May 3rd/4th Bank Holiday event is Discover Bewdley. A very good idea; it's a lovely little town with lots of history to uncover and a range of events to see.

The museum will be open and programmes for the weekend will be available from the Tourist Information Centre in there. There's a rare chance to climb the tower of St Anne's church, the local produce and

craft markets will spread along Severnside North and South on both days and on Monday there's a Salad Challenge when local chefs compete before an audience to make the best natural dish. In Jubilee Gardens there's a green Market Garden and around the town you'll see street entertainers.

It's all about a happy, relaxed atmosphere with no pressure to hurry. And you can bet the pubs will be open and buzzing. Enjoy.

## FISH AND CHIPS AND A GOOD BAND TO ENTERTAIN

As ever, the Parish Hall will be busy in May, with a Fish and Chip Supper Evening planned for Saturday the 16th, when Cleobury Concert Brass will be providing the entertainment. All this for just £7.00, admission by ticket only so that the food can be ordered for the right number.

JackMartin is the man with the tickets and you'll find him on 07534 241630. It all gets under way at 7.30 and you can expect a cracking evening.

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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### ANOTHER GREAT SHINDIG SUCCESS



*Juliet Kelly wowed the Clows Top audience with her stage presence and super voice.*

The season of four jazz evenings at Clows Top Victory Hall rounded off with the rich sound of Juliet Kelly offering a selection of numbers associated with some of the greatest jazz divas. This is a lady with real physical presence, tall herself but appearing even more so with a small hat at a saucy angle.

The evening started with the traditional supper, a choice of two courses for a mighty affordable £2.00. The room was laid out with tables for eight or ten, candelabra providing the light and a good atmosphere.

Keyboard man Dave Frankel - her only accompanist - was first on stage and then the lady herself. She has the relaxed chatty way of introducing each song that only comes with experience, evoking memories of events that stay in the mind and had some couples holding hands to share the moment.

She started with "I put a spell on you," recalling Nina Simone, and moved through the lovely 'April in Paris' to render Billie Holliday's 'My Man'. I'll confess that when she sang 'Every Time We Say Goodbye' and brought back memories of Ella Fitzgerald singing on one of the first discs we bought in our marriage, I stopped making notes, on the edge of tears.

At the end, the audience did not want to let her go and we walked out on our own clouds. If you get the chance to hear Juliet sing, grab it with both hands. This winter series of evenings was served by agency Shindig, working with Worcestershire Council, and they deserve praise for being so imaginative. And those who run Victory Hall so well for the Clows Top community should take a bow too. More, please.

JR

### STOTTESDON W.I.

'Whack It Smack It' was the theme for a lively April evening of music making with Mal Brown, who creates mini scratch orchestras with instruments from tin cans, tubing, car parts and oil drums. His enthusiasm and ingenuity is infectious, and we all took part with gusto.

Our next meeting, by way of contrast, is a Tour of Hobson's brewery, including supper, on May 20th. Numbers are strictly limited, but there may be a few spaces, so please get in touch for details.

Open to all is An Introduction to Tai Chi by Rose Jacks at Farlow Village Hall on June 17th at 7.30 pm. Do come and join us.

Marian Wootton

### MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT STREET COLLECTION

The collecting tins will be out on the High Street on May 16th, from 9.00 until 1.00. It's for a charity that does vital work helping those at a time of great stress and deserves every penny you can spare. Please be generous, as Cleobury Mortimer people and our visitors always are.

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

A packed hall greeted Wade Muggleton for his April talk on 'Maximising Backyard Fruit and Veg'. Wade's advice is not to worry about the size of your plot but accept it and plan wisely. He does not have a large garden but is able to provide enough fruit and veg to feed his family all year round. Why bother to plant up your garden? Freshness, healthy eating, food security (you know where it has come from), money saving, good for the environment and great fun.

Before you start, think what you use in your home, prioritise high useage, then sort out your growing beds. He likes raised beds you can tend without having to step on the soil, just forks them over and never digs. Perennial crops cut labour, so a good few fruit trees and bushes are money saving. Select a good area to plant, so that you can harvest easily; some can be grown in containers; he has many that he moves into all kinds of spaces and grows successive crops of salad plants right through the season. He is a great believer in liquid feeds and makes several different kinds: comfrey, nettle

and worm which he gives to his crops weekly .

He advised to always sow and plant things close together to maximise production and keep down the space available to weeds. He also utilises all manner of items to cover and protect his crops from frost and birds. The talk came with pictures of his garden in various states of production and it was good to see the results of the family's hard work when they were harvesting. We all felt very enthused and left the meeting keen to improve our plots.

*Liz Smurthwaite*

## COCO NEWS

Cleobury Compassionate Communities held a successful raffle in April, for a large Easter egg donated by Shaunah Murrell. The result was £250 raised for the funds and the winner then handed the egg on to the Severn Hospice shop for them to raffle.

The next event is a pub team quiz at The Bell Inn on May 14th. CoCo is really making its mark, with 25 volunteers now trained to give support in the community. If you would like to support their work, the contact is Katja Jones, whose office number is CM 270018, mobile 07966 080111 or email

the lady on [cleoburycoco@hotmail.com](mailto:cleoburycoco@hotmail.com)

## THE KITES ARE COMING

The Shropshire Kite Festival is due back in Cleobury on June 20th and 21st. As before, it will be in the grounds of Lacon Childe School and flyers from all over the country will make visitors welcome.

Paul and Helene Morgan from specialists kite dealers Kite Bums of Wem are organising the event and are full of praise for the town and the cooperation from Kristien Wood at Lacon Childe. They promise kites, windsocks and banners, plus kites made and flown by pupils of both Lacon Childe and Phoenix Schools. The variety of styles is amazing, with four lines doing manoeuvres that look impossible but aren't if you're skilled enough. They include four line kites than can drag you along on three wheeled buggies.

All this is free. When the wind is up and everyone wants to fly, it's a riot of movement and colour. There's a chance you'll be bitten by the kite bug, in which case the traders on site will be happy to advise. Just look up in the sky on June 20/21st and follow the colours.



## Home Support Services

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## The Clarion Jobs Page

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Nursery Practitioners Ever After Day Nursery, CM	Looking for nursery practitioners with a level 2 or level 3 qualification in childcare to join the team at Ever After Day Nursery. Full and part time working hours are available.	Please email your CV to: everafterdaynursery@hotmail.co.uk  Or Contact Lorna Yapp or Sarita Smith on 01299 272777
Loadall Driver/ Labourer Saxonby, Kinlet	Candidate must have appropriate CSCS Cards and experience of working on a building site.	Please contact Tony Robson, site manager ,for more details on: 07531340642
Full Time Administrator GPC74, CM	Monday –Friday 8.30am-5pm Candidate should be able to plan and organise work load to ensure that time tables are met, have good IT skills and have experience in working with Microsoft outlook, work and excel. Be capable of writing business letter and emails with experience of customer service and excellent telephone manner. All candidates must have previous experience.	For a detailed job description or to apply contact: emma.purchase@gpc74.com



### **Shropshire** Fire and Rescue Service

#### **On-Call Firefighters Cleobury Mortimer (Retained Duty System)**

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service is currently looking to recruit on-call firefighters at Cleobury Mortimer Fire Station. On-call firefighters agree to be available for a certain number of hours per week; they carry a pager and must be able to get to the fire station within five minutes. For this they are paid between £1,587 - £2,116 per annum (dependent on contract) as a Retaining Fee plus payments for attending incidents and drill evenings at Cleobury Mortimer fire station.

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For an information pack please contact us on 01743 260220, or email [HRAssistants@shropshirefire.gov.uk](mailto:HRAssistants@shropshirefire.gov.uk), **stating your name, address and quoting Cleobury Mortimer**

**Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service is committed to equality and diversity at work. We positively welcome applications from disabled people and minority groups who are under-represented in our Service.**



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## On the Market - Headway



*The team: Jan, Ray and Jenny.*

Headway is a national charity, here to help people who have suffered a head injury or a stroke. Every month the local team takes a stall at the Farmer's Market, spreading the word about the charity's help and selling greetings cards that they have designed, printed and finished themselves.

The trio got involved through Ray White suffering a stroke ten years ago and being referred to Headway by Kidderminster Hospital. Very grateful for the aid that has helped him along the road to recovery, they knuckled down to support the cause. One of Ray's contributions when he was well enough was to run a gardening club for the local branch.

The card business started off as a minor fund raiser, selling just to Headway members and friends at first, but the success was enough to encourage expansion to take in local table top events and farmer's markets. All three of the team are involved in making them, topping up stocks between markets and really working hard on the run up to Christmas, when demand is naturally strong. One of the

most appealing aspects of their range is that you won't see a card like yours on every friend's mantelpiece.

'It's our way of saying 'Thank you' for the charity's help, and all funds are gratefully received and much needed," Jenny told us. "And we can't thank the Cleobury Farmers' Market enough for having us here."

Paul from Scrummy Stuff officially retired from market work at the March event, but couldn't stay away in April. We'll tell you about the new people doing meat in the next issue.

A new stall holder here on April 18th was Guy Neath of Vegetable Garden, selling their local produce boxes of fruit and veg, delivered weekly with minimal food miles. 01299 896212.

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## Kudos Blends Celebrate 15 Years of Success



*Philip Dunne greets Dinnie Jordan outside the impressive new building*  
It's one of the biggest success stories in the area. Local girl has a dream of starting her own business, quits job in industry and gets her folks to back her. 15 years later, that business is a global operation, employing nearly 40 people in this area, and hitting a turnover of £6 million. And it's just up the Bridgnorth Road, on the Old Station Business Park.

Dinnie Jordan and her smiling staff greeted old friends, customers and family to the Kudos HQ on April 2nd, when Philip Dunne did the honours and cut the tape to open an extension that links buildings and includes a new reception area. Visitors got a chance to tour the works and see the operation for themselves.

We naturally went along and were asked to put on hygienic headgear, overall and boots as we were entering a food stuff blending area. All the staff wear the same garments, observing strict hygiene rules. We were shown around in the middle of a busy shift, the hi-lift fork truck moving bags of material up to the second floor level and pallets of blended product down below to be despatched. The blends are mixed through a series of hoppers with blowers at each level. There's dust in the air, but everywhere it's clean.



*A container of material goes up to second floor level to begin its descent through the blending process to ground level.*

Amongst speakers in an array of rooms was Dinnie herself,

telling how she sat in a nominal office waiting for the phone to ring during those early days. She admitted she was on the verge of going back to her family and saying it hadn't worked, when a call from a major baking group opened the door to future success.

Philip Dunne recalled opening the warehouse building three years ago, when turnover was about £1 million. Today it's £6 million as Kudos continue the big push in America. Bob Jordan, Dinnie's father, was quietly smiling in the background, proud of a shrewd investment in family talent.

The happy atmosphere that prevails throughout the works is a product of Dinnie's willingness to involve everyone in the celebration and recognise the contribution they have all made. From the person sweeping the floor to the MD herself, they work as a team and succeed; it's a model of modern management thinking getting the best from everyone. As one man said: "Best boss I've ever worked for."

There was a raffle, the prize ticket drawn at the evening dinner at The Zanzibarn, which produced a donation of £500 to the Macmillan Cancer Support fund. The final good touch.

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# The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

## Cancer in Pets

The word 'cancer' strikes fear into the heart of many pet owners, and unfortunately it's something we see all too commonly. However, if caught early there are often treatment options available to help slow (if not cure) progression of the disease and ensure that a good quality of life is maintained.

The correct term for cancer is 'neoplasia' which means 'an abnormal growth of new cells'. Tumours can be 'benign' which means that the tumour won't spread to other parts of the body, and does not usually destroy or alter surrounding tissue. An example of this that we see commonly is a 'lipoma', which is a benign tumour composed of fatty tissue.

Sometimes however, tumours are 'malignant' which means that they can spread (metastasize) to other sites in the body, or invade and destroy tissues. Malignant tumours tend to grow quickly. An example of a malignant tumour is an 'osteosarcoma', which is a tumour of bone.

Cancer is something that can affect any part of the body, and hence can cause many different symptoms. For example, cancer affecting the gastrointestinal system can cause loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea and weight loss.

There are a variety of tests used to help detect cancer including blood tests, x-rays and ultrasound scans. Samples can often be taken from a suspected tumour either with a needle or by biopsy to determine what type of cells are present, and to help decide what treatment may be the most appropriate.

Depending on the type and location of neoplasia, surgery may be a suitable treatment, for example to remove a tumour on the skin, and this is often curative. Chemotherapy is also available for animals, just as for people, and the cancer we use this for most commonly is lymphoma. We do not use as high doses as in people as the side effects are not tolerable for animals. Therefore the aim of chemotherapy is usually to induce a period of 'remission' (where we see no signs of the cancer) rather than to be curative, although remission can last for many months to years in some cases. Radiotherapy is also available for animals, just as for people, although this is at specialist centres only rather than your local veterinary practice.

Pets do regularly get non-cancerous lumps and bumps, but it's always worthwhile to have them checked by your vet as there are more options available to treat cancer if caught early.

*Rachel Saunders*

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## Happening on High Street

### SHE DID IT!



*Andrea Ford at the end of the Brighton Marathon, with her finisher's medal and a smile that ignores the pain.*

Andrea Ford, one very determined young mum from Lower Inhedge, has achieved her great ambition and completed a full length marathon run. She covered the 26.2 miles of the April Brighton event in an impressive 4 hours and 23 minutes to earn her finisher's medal.

"A tough day," she told the Clarion. "It was warmer than expected and I suffered with severe cramp in the latter stages of the race and had to stop a few times to stretch it off."

"I'm pleased to say that I have beaten my fundraising

target of £500 for the Miscarriage Association too. I've enjoyed marathon training so much that I've signed up for the Liverpool Rock n' Roll marathon on June 14th. I want to keep running long distances and raising awareness of child loss."

### DEMONSTRATION EVENING AT KIM'S

Kim Stanley's Health and Beauty Salon has a special open evening on Monday the 11th this month, from 6.00 through to 8.00.

She will be demonstrating the new Jessica Phenom nail polish system and offering the chance to try other new products that she's added to the quality range. And Kate Jones will be showing off the Reiki Master skills 20 years of practise has developed.

Light refreshments will be served, as you would expect in such an establishment.

### THE MANOR HOUSE

It seems that the eyesore on the High Street may be getting some attention at long last. The deterioration of the Manor House has been a blight that many people have complained about, and the county council officers at meetings here have been

given some serious ear bending by residents asking why it has been allowed to go so far downhill. For a building that was once the pride of the town, it has been a sad experience to watch it become such a mess.

There is good news of a sort, though we have no official word on what is being done. One source has said that the place is to be sold and that the scaffolding that now covers its frontage is part of restoration prior to it going on the market.

### ONWARD ENIGMA!

A follow up to Dr Mark Baldwin's showing of his Enigma coding machine at the Flick in the Sticks night here in April was a call from the Sticks organiser, asking if he would take his machine and talk about it at other local film nights. Dr Baldwin was slightly overwhelmed to then get a list of twelve venues in the area, where he and the Enigma machine that appears in the film 'Imitation Game' will be appearing. It seems that his fame is spreading and that he'll be rather busy through May and June. It's the quality of Cleobury shining through, of course.

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

A walk through Mawley Hall grounds never fails to delight. As the snowdrops fade away, flowers appear to replace them. Buds and blossom add more colour and show spring is here. The Parish Walk at the beginning of April was blessed with good weather as we walked along the river, through Mawley grounds, continuing across the road towards the Golf Club. Tempting though it was to stop for a little refreshment, we continued back to Newbridge, along the river to Walford's Bridge, up Workhouse Bank and returned to the church. A few had our customary drink and chat at the KA before heading home.

Our May Social Walk is scheduled for the 16<sup>th</sup>, and the Parish Walk is on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Children and adults are welcome on the Parish Walks, a great way to see the countryside from another aspect, not to mention the benefits of exercise and fresh air. We meet the first Sunday of the month outside the church to walk at 10.00am.

The walks are about two hours long, walking around Cleobury Mortimer. There may be mud and stout shoes or boots are recommended.

## THE READING GROUP

"After the Fire, A Still Small Voice" by Evie Wyld.

A well-written story set in Australia, by a new author, dealing with loss and trauma and how events affect different generations. Narrated in alternate chapters by two men, whose fathers had served in Korea and Vietnam, a few found this format unsettling. Very atmospheric and with an excellent ending this novel was appreciated by most of the group.

Our book for May is "Big Brother" by Lionel Shriver, which we will discuss on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm at Cleobury library.

*Deana Kimber 271754*

## CLEOBURY CARERS' GROUP

Instead of our usual monthly meeting in April, we had a fascinating tour of Mawley Town Farm followed by lunch at the Golf Club. Many thanks to the Robinson family for showing us around and explaining all about the robotic milking machines.

We are back to normal this month, with coffee and chat at The Kings Arms on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 am and a meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 2.00 pm in St Mary's Place

Please contact me on CM 270562 if you require any further information.

*Wendy Duley*

## THE TEMPEST AT KINLET HALL

Outdoor theatre company Rain or Shine - that title tells you that they don't run and hide when a shower falls - will be at Kinlet Hall on June 12<sup>th</sup>, with their production of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest'. This is a play that makes demands of the actors, who seldom have the right setting to portray a mysterious island ruled by a sorcerer. But it does bring out the best in any cast and is well worth the journey to watch.

Tickets are £13.50, with concessions at £11.50 and children £6.50. Gates open at 6.00 to give you time for a picnic before the production begins at 7.30. In the grounds of the wonderful old Hall, it should be quite a treat. Book your place on 01299 841 230 or online via [rainorshine.co.uk](http://rainorshine.co.uk)

Well done Kinlet Hall for another brave theatrical venture.



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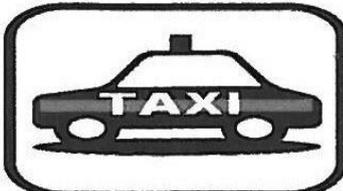
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## The May Clarion Social Calendar

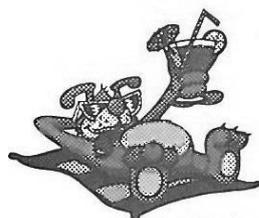
Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Sat 2	08.00am	Sale of Household Goods at Knowle Sports Association, Tenbury Road, Knowle.	Audrey Taylor	01584 890644
Sun 3		Rock Pathfinders and Midlands Air Ambulance are fund raising with the Pound the Bounds Walk, starting from Rock Village Hall.	Sue Humphries	01299 400304
	10.00am	The Footpath Association meet at the Parish Church for their monthly Parish Walk		
	1.00pm	Open Day at Mannerly Mutts, Jo Bargman's home and dog place on Catherton Common. All mutts welcome, just follow the signs for a great doggy occasion. And it's free! DY14 0JJ on your satnav.		
Sun 3/ Mon 4		It's Bewdley Spring Fair, with the town alive and smiling. SEE PAGE 9.		
Wed 6	10.00	Walking for Health, Sports Centre	Mandy Smith	CM 270312
	10.30	Coffee and Chat morning for Cleobury Carers at the KA.		
	8.00	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 7		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
		Apparently there's an election on today. Please do your civic duty and vote.		
	7.00	Evening walk with Rock Pathfinders, starting from Cornmeadow Lane, Claines, near Worcester. Alan 01299 400304. SEE PAGE 9.	Alan	01299 400304
Sun 10	7.30	John Tucker leads a Bird Walk for Bird Song, starting from the Novers car park.	Anton Schooley	01584 891514
Mon 11	6.00 to 8.00	Demonstration evening at Kim Stanley's Health and Beauty Salon, with the new Jessica Phenom nail polishing and Kate Jones Reiki skills starring. SEE PAGE 23.		
Tue 12	7.30	St Mary's Breakfast Club, CM Golf Club. Rosemary Winnall: "Natural History of Wyre Forest."		
	7.00	CM Parish Council's AGM. Market Hall, Church Street.	Matt Sheehan	CM 271154
Wed 13	7.30	Neen Savage W.I. Open Meeting at the village hall. Speaker: Mrs I Barnard 'Life as a War Correspondent.'	Angela Flowers	CM 270318
	8.00	The Royal British Legion branch meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street.		
Thu 14		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		

**LATE ENTRIES: Friday 8th. 1.00 to 4.00 Open Afternoon for Clear Hear at Cleobury Country Centre.**

**Saturday 9th. 10.00 to 5.00 Open Day, Wyre Forest Funeral Services, Talbot Square.**

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## The May Social Calendar Continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
		Pub Team Quiz at The Bell Inn, Lower Street. Raising funds for Cleobury CoCo. SEE PAGE 13 - it's nothing to do with the cocoa you drink.		
Fri 15	8.00	Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 16	9.00	Macmillan Cancer Support will have a street collection in the town for this excellent charity. Please give generously.		
	9.30	The Farmers' Market is in and around the Parish Church. Some good stuff to buy there. SEE PAGE 17.		
	10.00	The CMFA's Social Walk leaves from the church and ends at the KA. Sensible. SEE PAGE 25		
	7.30	Clows Top Gardening Club, Victory Hall. Plant sale and coffee morning.	Marion Wilson	CM 270475
	7.30	Fish and Chip Supper at the Parish Hall, serenaded by Cleobury Concert Brass. Strictly ticket only - Jack Martin is the man to call	Jack Martin	07534241630
Mon 18		The Reading Group meet at the library, to discuss their latest tome. SEE PAGE 25.	Deanna	CM 271754
Tue 19	2.00	Cleobury Carers gather at St Mary's Place for tea, talk and mutual support. SEE PAGE 25		
Wed 20	10.00	Walking for Health stroll from the Sports Centre	Mandy Smith	CM 270312
	8.00	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall. Sonia, 01584 890874	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 21		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30	Rock Pathfinders walk out Great Western Inn, Bewdley. SEE PAGE 9	Alan	01299 400304
	7.45	Whist Drive, Sports and Social Club, Love Lane.	Alan Evans	CM 270114
Fri 22	8.00	Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall.	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sun 25 to 31st		Bewdley Bike Week. Lots of two wheeled events around the town.		
Wed 27	7.30	Clows Top Gardening Club, Victory Hall. Leigh Griffiths on 'Digging for Fun'		
		Proposed date for three days closure of Catherton Road between Stone House and Catherton Common. Look out for signs that will confirm the date; diversions will be posted.		
Thu 28		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY AND LOOKING FORWARD TO JUNE		
Wed 3	8.00	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 4		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		



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## Letter from Ludlow - Philip Dunne

As this month voters go to the polls on Thursday 7th, I hope readers will understand why I am breaking with my tradition for this column, and take this opportunity to make my case as the Conservative candidate for your vote.

I first stood for Parliament back in 2005 because I wanted to deliver a better life for all in Shropshire – and that hasn't changed. I want the best for Shropshire, and my plan for the Ludlow constituency includes; supporting businesses to create more jobs for people in Cleobury Mortimer and across South Shropshire; cutting taxes for all; fighting for fairer funding for our rural schools; working to secure quality healthcare, including campaigning for Urgent Care Centres in our local community hospitals and more effective GP access and ambulance cover; campaigning to improve broadband and mobile connectivity; and standing up for pensioners to ensure a fair state pension, capping care costs and reforming savings.

In our Conservative Party manifesto we have set out a clear plan for every stage of life. For new born babies, we want first-class medical care. For children, we want more excellent schools. As people look for their first job, we are building a healthy economy with greater career prospects, and the chance to earn a decent income to support yourself and

your family. As people look to raise a family in their own home, we want to provide more childcare, and help them gain a foot on the housing ladder. As we get older, we will ensure dignity in retirement. Throughout, we will support our NHS so if you or your family fall ill, you will get the care you need.

Despite what other parties would have you believe, none of the above is possible without a strong economy – it's the foundation upon which we can properly fund all public spending, without increasing the deficit and leaving our children to pay for it.

In the last two weeks we have seen encouraging statistics about our long term economic plan. The independent Office for National Statistics have confirmed that unemployment is down 62% in the Ludlow Constituency since 2010. That means more people in Cleobury Mortimer now have the stability that comes from a regular pay-packet. We also saw that government borrowing is down by £11.1 billion in the year to March 2015, and tax revenues are up £22.6 billion. This shows our economy is moving in the right direction, and we are getting on top of the deficit.

I urge you to vote Conservative on May 7th so we can finish the job, and secure a better future for Shropshire and Britain.

*Philip Dunne*

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB GETS A MAKEOVER



*New man with his hand on the new pump - Andy Goold.*

It's big change time at the Sports and Social Club, that popular venue on Love Lane with a frontage onto the town sports field. As Andy Goold, the new club steward, puts it: "The biggest beer garden in the town."

There's a new look about the place, after a brief closure from March 31st to April 2nd and a blitz by a gang of keen volunteers. "I was humbled to say the least, at the huge effort made by members of the rugby, football and volleyball clubs," said Andy. "Not to mention those who just turned up to see what they could do for a couple of hours. The list of individuals is too great to go through, but it was a cracking job done."

The place has had a repaint throughout. Removing old wallpaper to leave the same colour throughout makes the place look bigger, even if the shade is that old builder's favourite, Magnolia. There's new furniture, a juke box (didn't get to see the selection, just hope it's a bit beyond the predictable) and a pool table.

The opening hours are now late afternoon Monday to

Friday and 12.00 noon on Saturday and Sunday. No one told us the closing time, but you can bet it's some time after 9.00.

The place is available for hire for all sorts of occasions, from funeral wakes to birthday parties. A call to CM 271448 will get you full information on that side. And you can bet that the long established habit of live music and comedians will carry on as before.

Credit should go to those who set up the club after the closure of the old Muller's Social Club and have kept it up and running. None more than Dave 'Peddler' Morris, who put in long hours and helped make the place the natural home for most of the town's sports clubs. That's a proud heritage for the new generation to acknowledge and carry forward.

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## **CLEOBURY MORTIMER SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB** **NEW 2015 ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME**

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February - **HORSE RACE NIGHT** - Hosted by Cleobury Mortimer Volleyball Club

★★★★

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March - **WICKED LIZARDS - DISCO - KARAOKE** - Hosted by Cleobury Mortimer Rugby Club

★★★★

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March - **EASTER FAMILY PARTY** - Easter Bonnet Competition - Fancy Dress - Games 5pm-7pm

★★★★



Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April - **NUTTY 2 TONES** - Brilliant *Madness* Tribute Act

★★★★

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April - **'RED or BLACK'** - Hosted by CRUVO

★★★★



Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July - **FAMILY SUMMER DAY** - Disco - Games - Bouncy Castle - BBQ 12pm-4pm

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Individual Membership	£3.00	
Senior Citizens Membership	Single £2.00 Joint £3.00	

### **FUTURE DATES FOR THE DIARY**

Friday 18th September	70's & 80's THEMED DISCO
Saturday 31st October	FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY
Saturday 7th November	CRUVO FIREWORK PARTY
Saturday 14th November	COVER GIRLS - 1940's Theme
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY
NEW YEARS PARTY	MOTOWN TRIBUTE NIGHT

### **SOCIAL CLUB IS AVAILABLE FOR HIRE DURING THE DAY & NIGHT**

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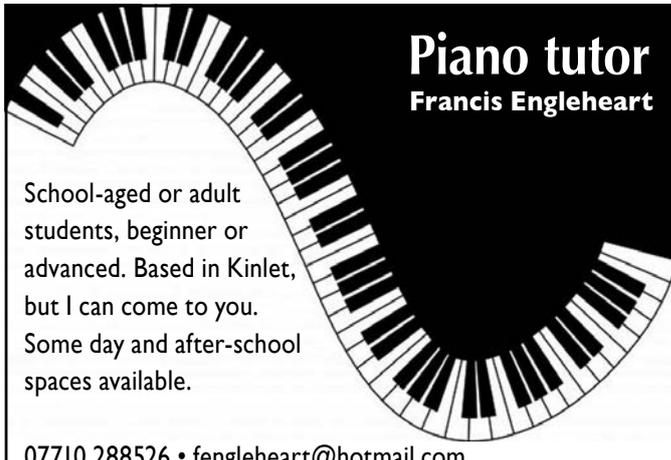
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## Clarion Clippings - The Local News

### LIFE CAN BEGIN AGAIN AT 58



*Dave Hives - moving on as new horizons beckon.*

Dave Hives and his family moved to Cleobury Mortimer in 1980, when he was a newly qualified sports teacher at Lacon Childe. He was keen and energetic, making his mark before moving just up Love Lane to run the Sports Hall before taking over as Sports Development Officer for the old South Shropshire District Council.

When Shropshire became a Unitary Authority he was one of three Area Managers covering the county. Then came austerity and restructuring, and in December 2013 he was given three months notice of redundancy. 34 years service with the county meant he was fairly treated, with a payout and a pension plus a lot to be proud of: "When I came to Shropshire in 1980 leisure was a new idea. We developed quality facilities across the county."

"South Shropshire District Council was excellent and I

enjoyed working for them for over 20 years. There were some really good officers at the top," he says. But he wanted work, to make a little extra and give his wife Cath the chance to retire if she chose. "I did consider going back into education, but I wanted self employment and to have my own business." He looked at driving school opportunities and the AA and the British School of Motoring seemed to be the best prospects - they are part of the same company.

He opted for BSM and paid for his own training in their methods; when he'd passed all three required tests he took out a weekly franchise. For that he gets a car - his first is a Vauxhall Corsa - business support including courses to further his knowledge, and advertising. The car is sign written with his name and the BSM contact number and it will be replaced roughly once a year. Now he needs to go out and look for business and as it builds, he can expect to be covering up to 1,000 miles a week in this sparsely populated area, where each pupil will normally be a long from the next. Those pupils will range from complete novices to more experienced beginners who just need their driving technique given a final polish. When we talked he'd seen his first pupil pass his test: "That means I've got a 100 percent success rate," he joked.

The modern driving test is a much more demanding experience than veterans ever had to deal with. The theory

side comprises two parts, the Hazard Perception videos and 100 multiple choice questions, divided into four sections, and pupils have to score at least 20 out of 25 in each section to move on to the practical stuff out on the highway. They also have to know how to check oil and water levels and be able to deal with minor roadside problems.

The driving side takes 40 to 45 minutes and includes both town and rural areas. If all that sounds a bit stiff compared with the standards of the 50s and 60s, it does mean that new drivers attain a decent standard before they're let loose. Let's face it, modern traffic demands a good level of concentration and awareness.

Dave is aiming to be available more than 60 hours a week, but can book off if he needs a rest. His aim is 20 pupils a week and there were quite a few bookings in his diary when we talked. So a man of mature years can find another career if he's really determined, but after all the sports work, does he enjoy this new direction? "Oh yes, it's great fun," he assured us.

Dave's on 07976 757 359, [davidhives@btinternet.com](mailto:davidhives@btinternet.com), [www.facebook.com.dhdrivinggschool](http://www.facebook.com.dhdrivinggschool)

#### **SILLY BIT**

**In the 60s people took acid to make the world seem weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.**

**All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.**

**Death is the Number One killer in the world.**

# Paul Harding



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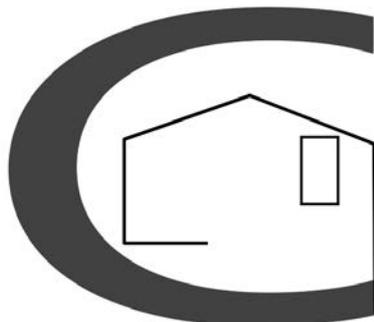
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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## ON THE BUSES

Spacial Investigator Steve Todd, known in official circles as 'Todd the Intrepid' reports:

Another quiet month with less than the usual number of breakdowns, although there is still no guarantee that you will get to your destination on time. We have been to Ludlow twice during April and have been spot on time both ways. We haven't tried to get to Kidderminster yet as we would need to take a meal to eat en route even if it was on time. We have been told that one driver got so lost that one bus ended up in Ironbridge!. This does sound a little excessive, even by Diamond standards but if you were on that bus, let me know.

Still no sign that the 2L departs from the usual stop in Corve Street so not ideal if you are unfamiliar with the area. On the other hand, the bus stop at Ludlow Leisure Centre still shows the 2L stopping there but there was no-one queuing, so they must have got fed up or died waiting. No more news on any timetable changes although that doesn't mean there won't be any and still no call re the availability of timetable from the Kiddy depot. I'm really

glad I haven't spent the last five weeks sitting by the phone just in case.

As I write this on April 24th drivers are still charging users of the 9.19 to Kiddy £1. This is despite Shropshire Council's repeated assurances that this had been sorted. Mind you, yesterday the 9.19 didn't arrive until after 9.30 so that was a quid saved. The Traffic Commissioners in Birmingham are still looking into various complaints about Diamond and have asked for copies of future 'On the buses' articles for information so if you have any other bad experiences on the 2L, let me know and I will include them.

However, there has been a development; a meeting between Shropshire and Worcestershire Councils to discuss the situation and apparently Diamond will be reminded (again!) not to raise a charge. I haven't yet found out what else was discussed but at least they have now met each other. When I asked Shropshire for the name of their Worcestershire contact a while ago, they told me that they didn't have it. As a cynic, this makes me think that either they were being 'economical with the truth' and closing ranks or that they genuinely

didn't know the name of their opposite number in the next county in which case, words fail me...

*Steve Todd*

## MR TODD AGAIN



This is Steve in his role as treasurer of the Borders Classic Bike Club. He recently handed over a cheque for £250 to Annie Roper, the new local coordinator for Midlands Air Ambulance. The club have a raffle at their monthly meetings at The Blount Arms and the proceeds from that and the sale of tools donated by a well wisher made up the payment.

The Borders Club have a special guest on May 14th, when nine times sidecar TT winner Mick Boddice will be talking. Starts at 8.00, all bike enthusiasts will be welcome. No entry charge.



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## **The Farming Page - Catherine and John Evans of Broome Park Farm**

After a busy few months we have finally finished lambing and you may have noticed all the ewes and lambs in the fields around Cleobury. This year we have been overwhelmed by the number of multiple births – in an ideal world each ewe would have twins but this year we have had over 100 sets of triplets so have had to set up a milk bar feeding station for the extra lambs. I have bottle fed 4 lambs, both couples from sets of quads, with lots of help from our B&B guests! It always surprises me that even the most austere guest (of any age) goes weak at the knees at the mention of bottle feeding!

The farm have also invested in a new toy for John – a self propelled sprayer. This enables him to go out and spray the crops without waiting for the right tractor to become available. It also has a larger water tank allowing a bigger area to be sprayed before needing to be filled up, saving precious time. At this time of the year crops are sprayed with fungicides and pesticides to combat weeds and pests, hopefully ensuring a good yield come harvest time.

The majority of planting has now been finished, with only the maize left to plant and the next big jobs are shearing and hay/silage

making. At the moment the farmer is hoping for rain to help the crops grow but a spell of dry weather will be needed to make good hay, ideally 3 or 4 consecutive days, as once the grass is cut it needs to dry out before baling, but if left too long due to a shower or two the goodness is lost. We bale most of our hay into large round bales which can be handled mechanically and fed directly to the cattle with only a small number of traditionally sized small bales, easier to man handle for horses and hobby farmers. Silage is also made from grass but this time it doesn't need to dry out so much and is wrapped in plastic to be kept for winter feeding, you can often see the big round bales of silage in the fields until the farmer has time to gather them up.

As you can tell, weather is always a big topic of conversation in our house, forecasts avidly watched and checked online morning, noon and night. Personally I think the best thing is to look out of the window, as despite all the sophisticated prediction tools available to modern forecasters, they never quite seem to get it right! Let's hope for a long hot summer without too much rain.

*John and Catherine Evans*



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# Clarion Coppers with CPSO Nick Morris



The first crime report for our area since the last issue was a burglary in Catherton Road at 3:25am on March 16th when a garage was broken into and power tools stolen. The offenders were believed to have been in a white Citroen Berlingo in cloned plates - FL55 KCX. Another burglary at a garage occurred on March 19th/20th in High Street, Stottesdon. Again, power tools were stolen. A shed burglary took place soon after midday on March 22nd in Stanbrook Road, Burford. The shed had been left insecure and power tools stolen from inside. Overnight on March 22nd/23rd access was gained to a shed at the Activity Centre in Stottesdon where a mountain bike and power tools were stolen. A single axle trailer worth £500 was stolen from the old Horse and Jockey site at Far Forest after Harris fencing had been cut at approximately 10:45pm on March 26th. Between 6:15am and 6:30am on April 5th, a Mitsubishi L200 parked on the lay-by at Hollywaste had six LED lights stolen. Two males were observed at the scene in a white Ford Transit - SN64 MDK - which was located, but the owner denied committing the offence. Enquiries are ongoing. An attempted burglary occurred at 2:40am on April 18th at a house in Furlongs Road. The victim had heard a noise whilst she was in bed and went downstairs to investigate. She was shocked to discover an unknown male standing inside the house who ran off after she screamed at him demanding to know what he was doing there. This male was described as being 6ft tall and of a skinny build. He was wearing blue jeans, white trainers and a black hoodie with the hood up. It is possible that his intention was to locate the car keys in order to steal the victim's car. Between 5:30pm and 7:00pm on April 19th a resident of Vaughan Road saw a hand appear

above her garden fence and rip part of the Sky 'dish' off, causing £15 worth of damage. The offender had gone by the time the victim had gone out to investigate. Between 3:00pm on April 17th and 7:15am on April 20th, a building site cabin was broken into at Kinlet. A laptop computer and a camera were stolen together with sets of keys to machinery and site buildings. On the evening of April 8th, a well known male resident of Cleobury was arrested at Tuffins for a breach of an antisocial behaviour order, criminal damage and assault. He was remanded in custody whilst waiting to be dealt with by the Court.

It's the time of year when we see an increase in garden crime. Shed breaks are common and because sheds are not generally designed for safe storage, it is advised that valuable equipment is not stored in them. If there is no alternative storage place, then fit a closed shackle padlock to the door. Fittings should be bolted through the door, and screws concealed. Fit grilles or mesh to any windows and fit an alarm. Secure valuable items inside the shed by chaining them together or lock them to a secure fixture. Any items stored in a garage would be safer if they were secured in the same way, so that if a thief breaks in they would be difficult to take away. It seems obvious, but never leave an insecure shed or garage. It only takes an opportunist thief seconds to enter and take your chainsaw or strimmer that you were intending to use later in the day! Always lock the outside doors of your house. Thieves are known to enter houses, take car keys hanging on a hook near the door and pinch the car. Easy peasy! Always try to be security minded. If you do all you can to inhibit thieves you will be more able to relax.



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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## THE MUMFORD FAMILY: A STATEMENT

The Mumford family would like to make it clear that the names of Basil, Barbara and Stewart Mumford, along with Stewart Mumford Architectural Services, have had no connection with the company trading as Mumfords Ironmongers, nor any publication using the Mumford name, in the last 22 years.

## THE MOONWALKING WOODISONS

Julia Woodison has completed the Moonwalk in London every year since 2009, all to raise funds for Breast Cancer.

It's a big task, 26.2 miles to be covered through the night, which the cold weather of the last two years has not made any easier. But that's the world

of fund-raising, where people shrug off weather and hardship for the best of reasons.



This year Julia is leading a team comprising her daughter Laura, seen with her in the picture, and friend Natalie Smith. You can sponsor them on [www.justgiving.com/julia-woodison-laura-cripps](http://www.justgiving.com/julia-woodison-laura-cripps). No matter if it's a small sum, support is what counts.

## CHAMPERS TO CIDER



*Nick James (left) gets to know Nick Davies of partner company Hobsons Brewery.*

The Lambswick Drinks Company, makers of the Oldfields Orchard cider in Tenbury Wells, has a new chairman. It's Nick James, recently retired from the UK subsidiary of Champagne Pol Roger, and a man whose roots go back to the cider county of Herefordshire. Oldfield Cider is sold at the Cleobury Farmers Market from the Hobson's stall and does go down well.

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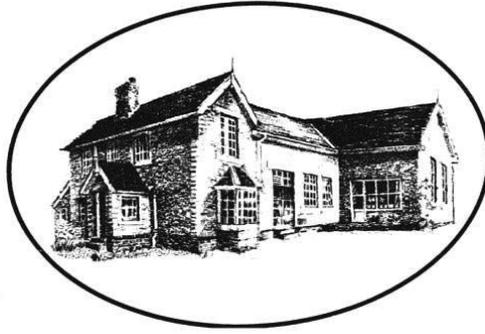
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Last week we received the list of the names of children who have been allocated a place in September's Reception class. We are delighted that we will be welcoming a full class in September, many of these children are pupils at Little Learners, the excellent nursery situated next to our school.

During the school year, our Reception class works closely with the nursery to ensure that the transition from pre-school to reception class runs smoothly. Our reception teacher regularly takes her class to the nursery and hosts sessions for rising five nursery children in school, for story time activities and special events, the most recent being Chinese New Year. The nursery children use our playground on a daily basis, where the children enjoy the delights of our wooded area and climbing facilities.

To further help the transition from nursery school to reception class, our new intake will enjoy four induction afternoons and one whole day in school, where they will take part in the school routine and get to know their teacher. It is also a great opportunity for the new children's parents to see their children in their new setting, experience dropping their children off and collecting them and get to the know the school and staff.

This September we welcome our own new Reception teacher, Mrs Westmacott who has experience both in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. She has recently moved into the area and we wish her all the best as she joins our school community.

*We currently have places available in our year 1 class. For further details about our school, contact the office on 01299 832393. Alternatively, visit our website at [www.baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk](http://www.baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk)*



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- Exciting topics
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## CONTACT DETAILS

**Cleobury Mortimer Primary School**

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Shropshire, DY14 8PE

Tel: 01299 270313

Email: [admin.cleoburymortimer@shropshirelg.net](mailto:admin.cleoburymortimer@shropshirelg.net)

Website: [cleoburymortimerprimaryschool.ethink.org.uk](http://cleoburymortimerprimaryschool.ethink.org.uk)

# Linda Iles

## May In The Wyre Forest



The arrival of warm weather last month turned my attention to some of the wildlife of the forest that appear to enjoy basking in the sunshine as much as I do. They are the reptiles and, being cold blooded, rely on the temperature around them to raise their bodies to a fully-functioning state. One of the sites where the Wyre Community Land Trust volunteers have been working in recent months is a haven for lizards. I suspect that the clearing of bramble, planting of orchard trees and reintroduction of grazing may make it less attractive to the lizards but they will still have sunbathing spots and places to hide. Most people taking a walk in the forest on a sunny day in spring, summer or autumn will catch sight of a lizard taking advantage of a nice warm rock.

The same is not true of slow worms, which are in fact legless lizards. These beautiful, bronze-coloured creatures are fairly common around the farm but like cooler, damper places. I often find them hiding under some sheets of corrugated iron in the yard. I wish them well and a hearty appetite for the slugs they feed on.



The adder, which less than a century ago was still plentiful and locally common in the Wyre Forest, is now restricted to just a few small isolated "island" populations and probably numbers less than 100 individuals in total. Their continuing decline may be due to many factors, including habitat degradation, accidental and deliberate disturbance by people, and an increase in their natural predators such as buzzards, pheasants and crows.

The best time to look for them is as they bask in the morning before the sun gets too hot, but they are notoriously difficult to see and will disappear back under cover as soon as they sense the vibrations heralding the approach of humans. They eat lizards and small mammals such as voles and mice, and favour sunny banks, especially in heathland. The first individuals appear from

hibernation in March and they will slough off their old skins during the spring. After courtship and mating in April and May the adults go their separate ways and the females give birth in September. Five to twenty eggs can be produced but since the shells rupture on laying the female appears to give birth to live young. Dropping temperatures in October trigger a return to hibernation underground among rocks or under tree stumps.

'Fauna Britannica', Stefan Buczacki's wonderful collection of scientific information, literary references and folklore about our native wildlife, has some fascinating stories about adders. One remedy for snake bites (now pretty rare and almost never fatal) was to apply water strained through a 'bag of heads', containing heads of an adder, toad and newt. There are also references to the supposed protective properties of the ash tree. I could go on, but instead encourage you to look them up for yourself.

The photo of the male adder was taken by Rosemary Winnall.

Linda Iles

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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News



The Friends of Cleobury Mortimer Library are planning to promote interest in the work of Cleobury based writer Simon Evans. He worked as a postman, but gained fame as a writer, poet and regular BBC broadcaster in the 1930s.

Evans was gassed during the 1914-18 First World War and moved to Shropshire to improve his health with the better air than his home city of Liverpool. One of the events in his honour is a photographic competition. More news next month.

## “MY SIMON EVANS WAY” PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

**Simon Evans**, the postman/poet of Cleobury Mortimer would have been **120 years old** this August and to celebrate, the **Friends of Cleobury Mortimer Library** are organising walks, talks and much more, over the weekend of **August 8/9/10 2015**.

For **“MY SIMON EVANS WAY”** we invite you to submit photos that show your impression of the rural life encountered by Simon Evans on his postal round. That could be anything from views of the Clee Hills, riverbanks, farms and farmhouses, churches, to flowers, wildlife or just people. It's up to you. The Simon Evans Way starts and ends in Cleobury Mortimer and takes in both sides of the River Rea up to Stottesdon and beyond.

There will be prizes for best entries in each class as judged by **Claire Carter**, Cleobury's own award winning photographer and the top 12 photos will feature in a **2016 calendar**.

Competition rules:

1. There are two classes for entries: adults and young people (16 and under)
2. Entries to be as colour landscape prints A4 size on photo quality paper + a digital copy (jpg)
3. Judging at Library/Cleobury Country Centre on the afternoon of August 8th 2015.
4. Entry costs £1 per photo. Prints to be sent/handed in at the library, digital copies (and any queries) email [gsimp001@gmail.com](mailto:gsimp001@gmail.com)
5. Final date for entries July 25<sup>th</sup>
6. All entries must be accompanied with a title and location and the entrants name.
7. Prints entered should be the entrant's own work (apart from the printing process)
8. The entrants give their permission for the organisers to use their photos in a calendar

## PRIMARY SCHOOL MEMORIAL

Last November the Clarion reported work being done in Cleobury Primary School's inner quadrangle, with a forecast that the restoration work would be finished by Remembrance Sunday. We should all know by now that the road to Hell is paved with good intentions and that deadline wasn't met.

But we were invited to have another look at the work now, with the gardens planted out and in full bloom. Sadly we can't show you the colours, but the place is really warm and welcoming.



It's an area the children can use for quiet times and part of the work is a corner bed of red poppies in glass, the craft of Fiona Calderwood, known to her fellow PTA members as Artist in Residence. Joking aside, she is a very talented lady.



The poppies are there as a permanent reminder for the children that we owe a great deal to earlier generations and in part explain what the annual Remembrance Day parade is about.



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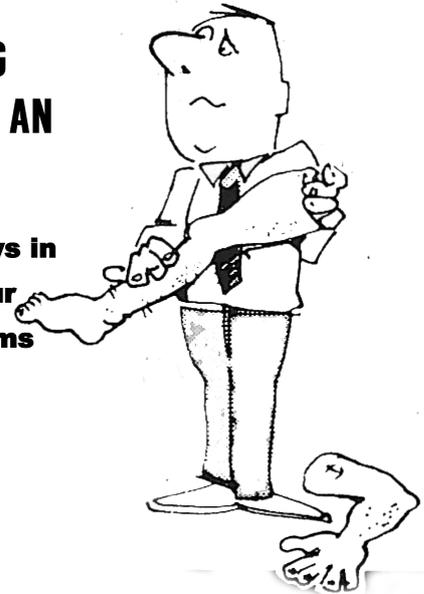
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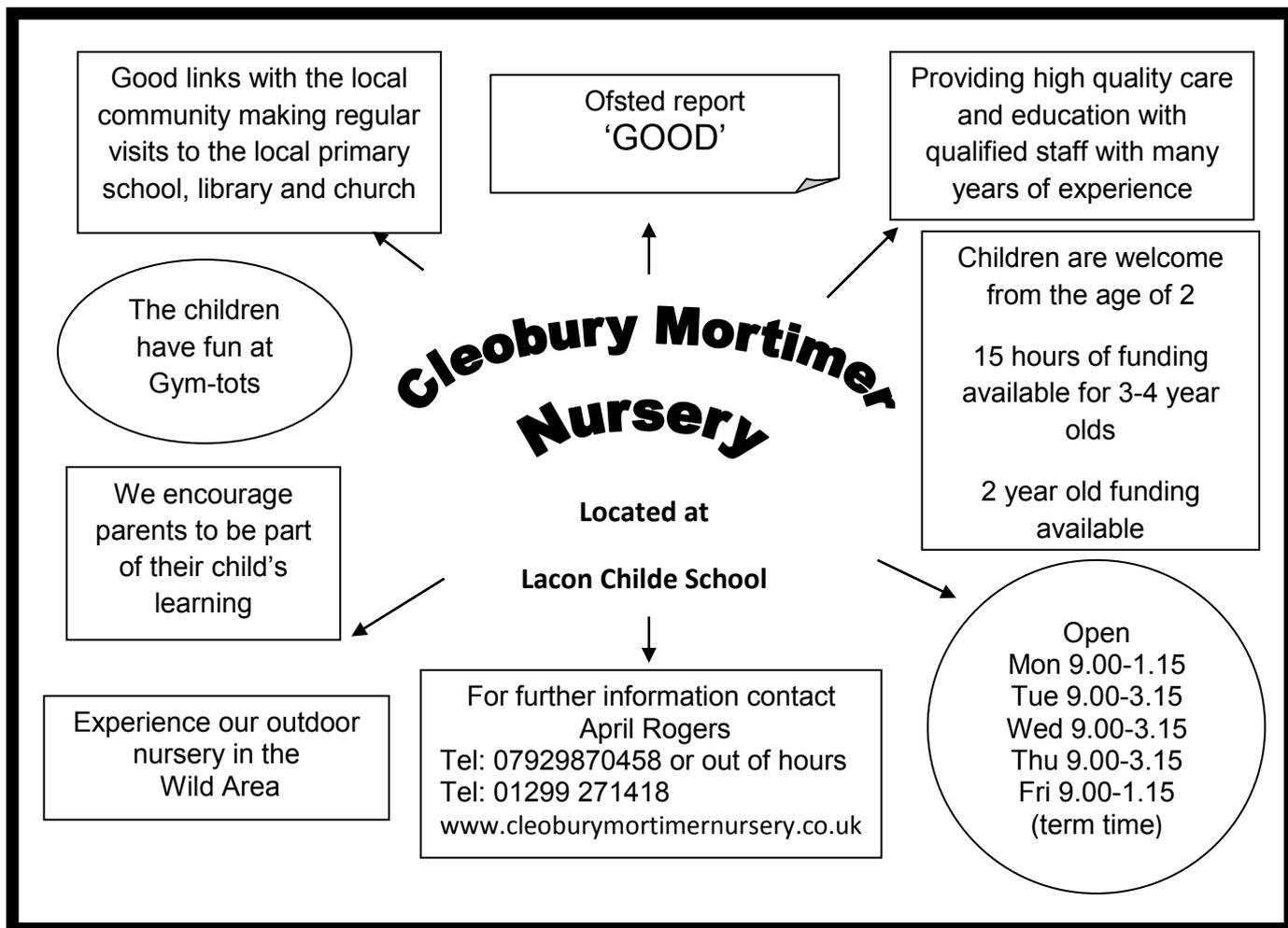


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# Clarion Clippings - The Local News

## CLEAR HEAR OPEN AFTERNOON

This is one of the new services attracted to the town by the development of the Medical Centre. Charmain Leek has 28 years experience of the business of hearing, and is qualified to handle both NHS work and private practice.

She established Clear Hear in 2004 as an independent company with no ties to a particular brand of hearing aids. That means she can make a recommendation of the best by selecting from the widest possible range of appliances. It's a measure of her flexible approach that she offers a free 30 day trial with hearing aids, explaining: "It's essential to wear hearing aids in your normal life-style. Trying them in a consulting room is not a true snapshot of the noisy world we live in. We have even met clients in their local coffee shops to provide discreet fine tuning with all the noise around us."

There is not enough room at her regular Medical Centre base to show off all that she has to offer and to accommodate a lot of people. So on Friday May 8th she is hosting an Open Afternoon at

Cleobury Country Centre in Love Lane, where people can look, chat and ask advice. She will be there from 1.00 until 4.00 and refreshments will be provided.

If you can't make it there on the day, a call to her on 0800 731 8545 or an email to [clearhear@btinternet.com](mailto:clearhear@btinternet.com) will get her personal attention.

## AND AN OPEN DAY

Adrian Satterly of Wyre Forest Funeral Services is hosting an Open Day at his Talbot Square offices on Saturday, May 9th. He'll be there from 10.00 until 5.00, happy to talk about his service and also to celebrate one year working from this location.

Funeral directors are people you call on only in time of crisis, and they need a gentle, quiet approach to make people feel at ease. So no pressure selling, just gentle chat and a little refreshment if you feel the need.

## EMILY WINS AGAIN

The phenomenon that is Emily Price continues on her winning way. On April 17th she contested the Shropshire Under 18s Schools County Championship and won the title for the third consecutive year.



*Emily with her Shropshire Schools Champion trophies.*

It was no easy walkover, with Emily five over par on the first nine holes. But she rallied strongly on the run to the finish, with four birdies (that's a hole in one stroke less than par) to end the day seven points clear of her nearest rival.

This success qualifies her for higher competitions and she'll be contesting the Under 18s Regional Championship on her home course, here at Cleobury Mortimer. As well as that, she'll be in the English Schools Under 16 final, to be played in Leicestershire. All this and preparing for her GCSEs at Lacon Childe. Quite a lady.



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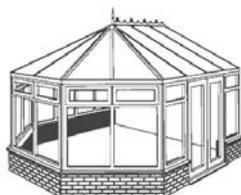
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## IN BUSINESS: Hands On Printing



John Hands has been trading on the High Street for two years come July. Yet people walk past his modest shopfront next door to Bowketts Food Emporium ("Their sandwiches are excellent," he says) and don't realise what goes on there. Having sat and talked to the man, we can tell you that No 43 is like a Service Tardis, with a great deal inside.

He's a multi-talented man in the matter of photos and printing, first taking pictures as an 11 year old schoolboy, developing and printing at home. His experience covers everything from glass plate cameras through to current generation digital devices. His

first job was in publicity at the Avery scales factory, then on into the printing industry and some unusual techniques to get the biggest prints developed, like lying them on the floor and washing off with mops. If you have a 20 feet wide print and a six feet long sink, that is.

He did a lot of wedding photos and smiles at the memory: "You have to control maybe 80 people you've never met before. I remember one school teacher admiring how I did it and telling me she'd had three years at college to learn that." Today his photo work is mainly passport pictures, which at £4.00 for six are great value; he knows a place not many miles away where they charge £10!

Printing keeps him busy, small batches for local traders his speciality, if you can call 10,000 leaflets a small batch. He can handle posters and banners, up to 24 inches (60cm) wide by any length. The same principle of charging a realistic price, not trying to make a killing, brings work from people who get a pleasant surprise when he quotes a price. "I learned from Indian traders I knew in the

West Midlands," he explains. "If they could buy at a good price, they'd sell at a good price too."

Below the small shop is a bigger basement, with equipment to convert all sorts of pictures and recordings to modern formats. Transparent slides to DVDs; video tapes, too. Old cine films to DVDs, and if the sound is bad he'll record music over the top to keep the crackles at bay. If you want a favourite print framed, he has a range of popular size frames in stock. And he does photo copying, black and white or colour, up to A3 size.

What all this amounts to is a shop where you walk in thinking it can't be done in this small rural town and the man says 'Yes' and charges a modest price. "I'm happy making a little bit, I'm not greedy," he says.

Which explains why Hands On is the shop we recommend to anyone who wants a copy of a photo published in the Clarion, happy to point people who don't have a computer and printer to a man who does.

And if that helps spread the word about his helpful attitude, he deserves it.

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