# Cleobury Clarion

## THE REMARKABLE PETER JACKSON



High up on Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa, 76 year old Peter pauses for a photo before continuing the climb to the 5895 metre peak. When he got there he needed medical attention before tackling the seven hour trek back to base

It's quite a remarkable story. He's not the first Cleobury resident to tackle that climb, but he's certainly the oldest. A new local hero! His story is on Page 29.

## **REMEMBRANCE WEEKEND**

Not an official title, but with Remembrance Sunday and the great display of loyalty followed by the November 11th assembly at the town's memorial that will climax with the national Two Minute Silence, we will have a weekend to remember.

It's a remarkable occasion. with the Church of England and Royal British Legion cooperating to remember those lost in conflict. It tends to make many stop, wonder and say a brief prayer of thanks. In a world where the wars in the Middle East and between Russia and Ukraine dominate our news bulletins. families must fear for a future that their children and grandchildren will face.

Whether you make a donation to our forces' support funds, to the charities that work tirelessly to help the wounded and bereaved or just keep working to support your own, may God bless you.

## WELL DONE, THE **REGAL**

The Regal Theatre, that works so hard to bring visitors to Tenbury Wells, had a heart stopping experience with the heavy rains of October 17th. It poured down and the result was the River Teme rising far enough to flood the main street.

Every business along that normally busy thoroughfare was fighting to stay open and the theatre staff, many of them volunteers, were amongst them. They reported one panic moment when water came through the auditorium wall, but the reaction was quick and effective.

The Regal was open for business and entertainment on the evening of the 18th. In time for the great Fairport Convention folk-rock stars to celebrate their 57th anniversary. The theatre manager spent 16 hours on site in the battle to open. That man deserves a round of applause.

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### THE CLEOBURY CLARION NOVEMBER 2024



Pothole of the Month. Did you really think they'd vanished? We found this selection on Page 15



We Went to Market and found some very tasty Treats. Like Berry's ice creams - yummy! Page 45



Grace Young's GKY Dancers will be a big attraction at Ludlow's Winter Festival Page 47

## And On Other Pages...

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Adrian T

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# CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

What an entertaining evening we had in September with Simon Gulliver. (I am writing this before we meet in October). Simon talked about colour through the seasons. Not only is he knowledgeable, he is also very entertaining. Such a pity more people were not there to appreciate his pearls of wisdom.

September was also the occasion of our Autumn Show. A healthy number of exhibits were judged by Derek Walker, who very kindly stepped in as Marion was in hospital.

Now to November. This is the AGM, but, do not fear, the business part is speedily dispatched. We are then free to enjoy the Supper which is a Bring and Share Meal. We are also pleased to welcome Louise, from Angel Gardens, who will talk about Winter Containers.

This is the last meeting of 2024. We will be back at Clows Top Victory Hall on January 22nd, 2025, when we would like to welcome lots of new members. Only £10 annual membership! Such a small amount for access to all that horticultural knowledge and trips to interesting local gardens. Make joining the Clows Top Gardening Club one of your New Year's Resolutions! Questions? Contact Tracey 07450-653920.

We hope to see you all on the 27th at 7 - 7.30 pm. *Judith Lawson* 

## CONTACTING OUR MP

Stuart Anderson is certainly getting out and about to meet his constituents, issuing a list of surgeries where he'll be making himself available to listen, learn and advise. On November 15th he'll be here in Cleobury and on the 29th in Ludlow.

If you want to speak to the man face to face, you can make an appointment. No times or precise locations are made public before the event, as a matter of security, but you can contact his staff on 01584 8 7 2 1 8 7, e m a il stuart.anderson.mp@parliamen t.uk or his website www.stuart.anderson.org.uk

# SPECIAL LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

I was in Heath Farms Meats, encouraged to take two more of their fine rump steaks after my lady told me that my offering the week before had been the best steaks she'd ever eaten. If an amateur like me can be given such praise, the quality of the meat was obvious.

I explained this to Sid, who asked when this was and the explained "That would have been Betty and this is from the other side of the heifer." They don't just breed the cattle from which the steaks come, they know it by name! Not quite what you get at the local supermarket, far less at some distant hypermarket. JR

## SAINT MARY'S BEER FESTIVAL

Another great community event in the church. Our Beer Festival

took place over the weekend of 27th/28th September and many people and families came to enjoy the occasion. It was a real bonus to have the Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass playing on Saturday afternoon – a chance for everyone to listen to them and Mums, Dads and children to dance to the music! Everything to do with the day was sourced from local traders and many were there on the Hobsons Brewery masterminded the beer side of things and without them we should certainly not have managed - thank you for a huge amount of work, expertise and beer! Thank you too to the many local businesses who sponsored the beer - a real community effort.

Most of all, thank you all for coming to support the event and enabling us to raise money for improvements to the church to make it a better place for everyone to be in. In the run up to Christmas we have the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November and the Community Carol Service on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 6 pm. Put the dates in your diary and come and join us.

Liz. Smith

## NOT QUITE SO SILLY BIT

Some of the biggest cases of mistaken identity are among intellectuals who have trouble remembering that they are not God.

A man asked a fairy to make him more attractive to women, so she turned him into a credit card.



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## **CLOWS TOP VICTORY HALL**

What a busy month September was. A Wildlife Club meeting, very well attended jumble sale, another successful barn dance, and our first ever family Halloween party.

Coming up we have our annual Christmas Fayre on Sunday November 24th, 10am to 1pm. The hall will be filled with stalls (sold out already) and all the We have really enjoyed usual refreshments. Plus live music from Trevor Wood. Father Christmas is also expected to visit us in his grotto.

On November 29th our final Protection of Birds talking to us about his work. In particular results in the December edition. with satellite tagging and roughmember, just turn up.

thanks to all who have mince pie or two! supported us this year, we hope you see you in 2025.

Steve Woodison

## CHRISTMAS FAYRE AT KINLET

The Village Hall at Kinlet is planning a big Christmas Fayre for November 9th. It will be open from 12.00 noon until 4.00 with Santa there to greet with a attractions. Take your host of pick from a tombola, raffle, dog Neen Savage WI are holding a readings, sweet stalls, face from the Kinlet Kabin, chip shop

vouchers from the excellent bring cash! Eagle and Serpent, a cash prize Catherine Evans of £30 and many more, If you n need to feed, the Kabin will be open until late as a special service.

Ambulance. Sounds too good to

## CLEOBURY CONCERT BRASS

performing at a couple of local concerts, St Marys Beer Festival and our own Fish & Chip concert on 12th October.

Next up is the Wychavon Wildlife Club meeting to end our Entertainment Contest which we 3rd year, sees Jack Ashton Booth will be competing in on October from the Royal Society for the 17th. Our theme is the music of Queen, I hope to report good

Our next concert will be on 1st legged hawks from south December in St Marys Church, America. You don't have to be a this evening promises to get you in the festive spirit with an That's about it for now. Many entertaining programme and a

> Tickets are available now from the ticket link on our website, from Hazel on 07904372775 or from Cleobury Wash House very soon.

> To discuss options, please contact our secretary Amanda on 01584 891199

*Katie Griffiths* 

## ONE POT BARGAIN LUNCH

items, candy floss, tarot One Pot Lunch on Thursday 28th November from 12 - 2pm in painting, arts and crafts, gem Cleobury Market Hall. For just stones, woodwork from £5 enjoy a bowl of delicious stew Shropshire trees, children's gifts, - meat or veg options and a fused glass, jewellery from Ian traditional pudding, whilst Quartermaine, £20 vouchers supporting Oak Care Farm.

vouchers from Merchants, There will also be a raffle. Please

## **NEW NOTES CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

All this in aid of Air The New Notes Singers will be holding their Christmas concert at Clee Hill Village Hall on December 7th. It starts at 7.00 to make travel easier in the winter weather, tickets are £8.00 and that includes tea or coffee plus cakes. Tickets at the door or from any choir member.

### **MELVILLE CHAPEL**

Ruth Downes gives details of November events in the newly restored chapel:

Remembrance Service, 10th November 10.30a.m

Soup Lunch 13th November 12.30p.m-2.00p.m. Everyone

Christmas Craft Fair, with Oreton and Farlow Village Hall. 23rd November, 10.30 to 2.30 Lots of lovely Christmas Goodies to buy. Ruth

### THANK YOU

After our recent celebration of 60 years of marriage, we would like to thank family and friends for all the good wishes, cards and presents we received for our diamond wedding anniversary. Ian and Dave Percival

### SILLY BITS

A white horse walks into a pub and the barman says "Wow. We've got a scotch named after you." "What?" Says the horse. "Eric?"

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### THE BREAKFAST CLUB

October 8th was the 35th anniversary of the first meeting of the Club, and also the day when 20 members met at the Golf Club to hear Jackie Handy tell us something of the delights and pains of her recent walk along the Camino de Santiago. Many will have heard of the famous pilgrim routes, starting from numerous European towns, but all leading to Santiago de Compostela in north-western Spain, where it is believed the remains of Saint James are interred in its cathedral.

Jackie explained that she wished to do the walk from St Jean Pied de Port in France, covering up to 35 km each day and carrying her own clothing etc in a backpack, to raise money for Dementia UK. Pilgrims are well catered for, with albergues along the route in which pilgrims can stay overnight for about €20, which also covers an evening meal. As with any serious walking, footwear is allimportant, and Jackie obviously chose well, as she reached Santiago de Compostela in 32 days without boasting a single blister - after walking over 800 km (500 miles).

To get a certificate of completion (or *compostela*) pilgrims must get their 'pilgrim passport' (or *credencial*) stamped

at some of the numerous shops and churches along the way, and must clock up at least 100 km, and two stamps daily. Jackie graphically described and illustrated the splendid scenery along her route, and high-lighted the sense of *camaraderie* which develops amongst the walkers.

The Club's next meeting will be at the Golf Club on 12 November, when Paul Kemp will explain the work he does on 'Mediation'. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Angela Drennan (270636).

Mark Baldwin

## The Friends of St Mary's Church Cleobury Mortimer present:

# The Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra at St Mary's Church Cleobury Mortimer

On December 8th we will be hosting a visit from the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra who will be performing at St Mary's Church at 7.30 pm. This is only possible due to the generous support of John and Judy Sant and will be a rare opportunity to see them without travelling. The works they are planning to perform are as follows:

**Bruch:** Violin Concerto No 1. **Brahms:** Symphony No 3.

The soloist will be Charlotte Moseley (violin) and the Conductor will be Michael Lloyd. As always, this programme may be subject to change.

Those who have attended past performances will know how the music soars in the beautiful and historic surroundings of St Mary's so an uplifting evening is in store.

Tickets are available from the usual outlets in Cleobury Pharmacy, Library and Spire Hairdressers as well as Friends Committee members or on the door (if still available) and, new for this year, there is a dedicated E Mail address for online ticket orders which is: cmthefriends@gmail.com

Tickets will cost £20 each to include a drink and numbers will be limited to the safe capacity of the venue so if you are intending to come, please book early to avoid disappointment.

Steve Todd.

### SILLY BITS

Do all fairy tales begin with "Once upon a time"?
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### CLEOBURY W.I.

As Autumn arrives it is time to turn our attention to Remembrance Day and with this theme in mind the WI welcomed Nick Perry, a representative from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to talk to our October meeting. We were delighted to welcome so many visitors from both the Royal British Legion and the local community. The generosity shown for refreshments that evening raised £74 for the Old Comrades Fund within the local RBL branch.

On a lighter note, the WI enjoyed an outing to the Regal in Tenbury to reminisce on our youthful moments watching the original Grease film starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John. It certainly brought back many memories of life in the late 50s.

The next two months will be busy for WI members as they embark on one of their fundraising events; the Winter Warmer Soup Lunch on Wednesday 6th November in the Parish Hall from 12-2pm. Everyone is welcome, payment is on the door, £5 for soup and

bread and a choice of lovely Ekback. Set in Sweden in the desserts. Watch out for the early 1700's it starts with the launch of all the lovely new condiments sets which took part remote settlement in Sweden in the recent WI competition!

the Remembrance Day Parade on Sunday 10th November and laying a wreath to pay their respects to war veterans both locally and nationally.

The next official WI meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th November at 7.30pm. The theme will be Christmas Foliage Church. Decorations delivered by Bill White welcomed from Far descriptions and enjoyed the Forest.

Future WI events:

A visit to the Magna Chocolate Factory on Thursday 14th November

Morning Coffee on Thursday 21st November at Burford Garden Centre @ 1030am

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

Sally Serrell-Cooke

### THE READING GROUP

This month's book was Wolf Winter, a debut novel by Cecilia

arrival of a Finnish family at a dominated by a mountain that is The WI will be represented at viewed as threatening. Their daughter discovers a dead bodyprobably murdered by a person rather than killed by an animal. The story covers what happens through the very harsh Wolf Winter. It then becomes a who dunnit with spirits, talking ghosts and involvement of the

> Most of us enjoyed her vivid read but some found it very dark. It certainly provoked some active discussion.

David Ogden

## NORTHERN SOUL DISCO

### 18th November at 9.00

email The Parish Hall is hosting a Northern Soul disco with local DI Paran. Rediscover the lost vears of your youth - or discover anew some of the best music of last century - and dance the Tickets £5 on the night away. door at 9.00pm. Bar open throughout.



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### ROCK PATHFINDERS

Two walks this month for this enthusiastic local group: Thursday the 7th, starting at 10am from Blackstone Picnic Car Park, off the A456 Bewdley DY12 1PU

Thursday the 21st, starting at 10am, from The Fountain Inn, Oldwood, Tenbury Wells **WR15 8TB** 

For further details and any other announcements or changes please visit website www.rockpathfinder s.uk

Sue Humphries

## THE FOOTPATH **ASSOCIATION**

As we move rapidly into Autumn, CMFA continues to look after footpaths around Cleobury Mortimer. We are relieved to have a reprieve from clearance of weeds although some hardy greenery has crept back on some paths. Secateurs are with me at all times!!!

Seven walkers altogether, including two visitors to the encounter any issues on area, joined our Sunday footpaths around the area. country walk. The weather Our work parties also was cloudy but fortunately continue tirelessly stayed dry.

route. It was quite energetic can enjoy our beautiful with some steep climbs, paths. however the views on this colours of the autumnal trees information. add to the beauty of the scenery.

Outdoor Active website.

Thank you so much to all Joy Wilkinson our footpath guardians who have adopted a path or route to look after and to those who help us keep paths in good condition.

Please let us know if you

repairing, building, installing CMFA's "Hobson's Choice and improving, giving their (Walk 9), was the chosen time freely to ensure walkers

If you enjoy walking and route can be spectacular, would like to join our group, making the climbs please contact us. We walk worthwhile. The Abberley locally the first Sunday of hills, Abberley clocktower every month, meeting and The Malverns can be outside the church at seen from high points on the 10.00am. Please visit our route and the changing website for further

Help is always welcomed to help maintain walking routes All our walk leaflets can be around Cleobury Mortimer. bought locally and can also If you would like to offer be printed from our website your services, please contact or downloaded from us though our website or zellcmfa@gmail.com

### SILLY BIT

Women spend more time wondering what men are thinking than men spend thinking.

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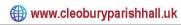
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Bet on a remote island off the west coast of Ireland. THE BANSHEES OF INISHERIN follows lifelong friends Padraic (Colin Farrell) and Colm (Brendan Gleeson), who find themselves at an impasse when Colm unexpectedly puts an end to their friendship. A stunned Padraic, aided by his sister Siobhan(Kerry Condon) and troubled young islander Dominic (Barry Keoghan), endeavours to repair the relationship, refusing to take no for an answer. But Padraic's repeated efforts only strengthen his former friend's reresolve and when Colm delivers a desperate ultimatum, events swiftly escalate, with shocking consequences.

Saturday 16 November 7.00 for 7.30 Tickets £5 - Bar, tea, coffee, cake



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# THE BEACON ON THE HILL

The project is making big strides in creating a new community space and heritage gateway in Doddington. Conservation builders have begun vital work at St John's to repair floors and windows while creating a new servery and display spaces along with a toilet and some improved heating.



Some of the tiles that will be used in the new server.

This month local ceramicist Sue Dawes has been leading workshops for people to create new tiles inspired by the Victorian ones in the church. These tiles will be used in the new servery area and reflect the church's history using impressions made by leaves and found objects. Everyone

who came to add their touch to the church also made tiles to take home.

On 23rd November we will be making Christmas wreaths from holly and ivy collected from the slopes of the Clee hills. These plants have some fascinating folklore attached to them which artist Suzanne Thomas will share as she leads the session. To book visit h t t p s : //www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-johns-church-doddington-south-shropshire/t-avgqlkk

Our songwriter in residence Sid Peacock has been busy working with local groups to write works for the *Song of the Hill*. He is now looking for local singers and musicians to help bring these Clee Hill songs to life. If you have a talent and would like the experience of working with others to perform in the grand finale in May, please contact sidpeacock@gmail.com

The new St John's website has gone live and features work by schools, colleges and volunteers all celebrating the heritage of the area. stjohnsdoddington.org will grow and develop as more people share their stories and collections. Take a look and let

us know what you think or if you have anything to contribute.

The Clee hills have such a rich community heritage, if you want to get involved in celebrating this the *Beacon on the Hill* team would love to hear from you. Get in touch with Jim or Celia stjohnsdoddington@gmail.com *Jim Grevatte* 

# POTHOLE OF THE MONTH



If you're driving out to Heath Farm Meats from Kinlet, the road seems to deteriorate a little more with every trip. We chose this rough strip because it's visible, but under the more wooded stretches it's not easy to see what you're heading for before you feel the crunch and vibration.

Plans to repair this highway? With the county on the edge of bankruptcy, little hope of that.

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## Clarion Clippings. - The Local News

### THE VANISHING SIGN

It was a dark and stormy night'. Oh, hang on, apparently these are the words that established authors say you should never ever use at the start of a story. So I won't. 'Once upon a time'. That's much better and clearly has never been used before so it will be perfect. This case concerns the removal (theft?) of a sign advertising the Borders Classic Bike Show at Lacon Childe school from the roadside near the cemetery. One day it was there and the next it wasn't. A comprehensive search failed to locate it and enquiries, aided by the ever helpful Town Council narrowed the possible perpetrators down to Shropshire Council and in particular Bridgnorth Highways.

For context, this was a new sign, one of two, to replace the near 40 year old originals as they were showing their age. The frames of the replacements had been lovingly hand crafted from rare and exotic timbers (OK, they were bits of old pallet) but the inspiration and ageless skill that went into their construction resulted in a work of sheer genius although data protection rules prevent me from mentioning who the craftsperson was. Anyway, Bridgnorth Highways were contacted and responded promptly- surely a first for Shropshire Council- to say that they had taken it 'for health and safety' reasons and because 'a complaint' had been received and it was currently at a depot in Shrewsbury. If only 'a complaint' was acted upon this swiftly in the case of potholes...This was followed almost immediately by another message to say that there was no point in going there as there is no public access.

This whole affair strikes me as strange as its identical twin at the bottom of town was untouched nor were a number of other roadside notices on various verges 'twixt here and Ludlow so why pick on ours?. Whilst it is true that some signs are placed and never removed thus

becoming an eyesore, the bike show ones are always removed by the day after the event. A later message said that the sign was now outside a different depot in Shrewsbury where it would stay for a week before being destroyed. As I didn't fancy a 70 odd mile round trip to get it, I asked if it could be moved nearer and offered several possibilities to achieve that as well as suggesting that perhaps a code of conduct could be agreed to facilitate the use of such temporary signs but prevent long term flyposting etc. So far the response has been total silence so I can only assume that the notice is no more.....The correspondence also mentioned that displaying a sign in such locations requires a licence but these are never granted so don't bother applying.

No doubt you are all familiar with the provisions of section 1(1) of the Theft Act 1968 which states that an offence is committed if a person appropriates the property of another with the intention of permanently depriving the other of it. It could be argued that sticking it on a verge 35 miles away is an intent to return it but I'm not sure this is a get out. After all, If I took your car and later said you could have it back if you travelled to Albania to collect it, I don't think that counts. And, as to us in Cleobury, Shrewsbury is much like Albania, I rest my case officer.

I will update you of any developments should the Editor or any reader be misguided enough to be interested. Now what happened to the rest of those pallets...

P.S. Just found a sign still being displayed which warns of a road closure in Lion Lane on 12<sup>th</sup> September. The poster? Shropshire Council. But fear not chaps, I have safely removed it for you and should you want it back it will available for collection in Cleobury for 7 days following 'Clarion' publication after which time it will be destroyed... *Steve Todd* 



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The acorns and beech nuts have fallen, birds have eaten the rowan berries and the last blackberries have shrivelled on the bramble bushes. The colour is gradually draining out of the forest but the wild service trees still stand out in the forest like orange flames and holly berries glow among the spiky green leaves.

Male and female fallow deer have gone their separate ways after the rut and most mammals are now making themselves ready for the winter. Badgers will renew the bedding in their underground setts and moles will line their chambers with dry grass and moss, in plentiful times adding a store of worms, decapitated and tied in a knot! (See *Fauna Britannica* by Stefan Buczacki). Other creatures also make stores of food. Perhaps you may come across a cache of cherry stones belonging to a wood mouse or find acorns buried by a squirrel or jay. For some their food is available all winter and they have to stay active to get it.

One such is the weasel, which follows the paths and tunnels of mice, voles, shrews and to hunt them down. The weasel is the smallest of Britain's mustelids: the family they share with stoats, polecats, martens and badgers. The Latin generic name – Mustela - comes from 'mus' (mouse) and 'telum' (javelin), ie a long, thin and fast mouse! An adult is 6 to 8.5 inches long, the males being larger than females. It is a law of physics that a large hot body will retain its heat longer than a small hot body and, being so small, weasels have to eat one third of their body weight every 24 hours to replenish their energy. In a year when their rodent prey have bred successfully they

too will flourish. (A bank vole can have four or five litters a year and the young become sexually mature in four to five weeks. I don't know how well they've done this year but I would have thought that anything trying to rear young whether in a nest above ground or a burrow below would have run the risk of being washed out). Weasel mothers have four or five kits in spring but when food is abundant they may have a second litter in July or August.



What a fine specimen, captured by Keven Law.

At this time of year young weasels will be leaving their parents to strike off on their own and you may be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of these quick little creatures crossing a road or path just ahead of you. Such an encounter would have been thought definitely unlucky in other times and in some other cultures. It's a pity that these fierce but attractive little animals have such a bad reputation, from the ruthless criminals in 'The Wind in the Willows' to the term 'weasely words' meaning vague, equivocal or just downright misleading!

Linda Iles

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my decision h contest. It schools.

has been a great privilege to have served three Prime Ministers and a Leader of the Opposition in has sadly increased in South Shropshire. I want to the Whip's Office since 2022. I have shared see this worrying trend affecting rural responsibility for coordinating my party's communities like ours changed for the better. So, I contribution to parliamentary business. I am looking forward to the opportunity that returning to the backbenches affords me to dedicate more account on this. While I welcome the time to South Shropshire.

returned and resulted in flash flooding across South Shropshire. This has greatly affected villages such as All Stretton, where I have seen its support the many communities in South impact first-hand. Following my visit, I have called on the government to drive down flood risk from every angle and take urgent action to help those impacted. This can be achieved, for example, by reforming the Flooding Recovery Fund so that support is more easily activated following localised flooding.

attended advice surgeries I have held across the constituency. My team and I have been following impact of increased energy costs this winter, up on requests, as well as many others I have received via email, phone, and letter. In the coming months, my surgeries will be touring other parts of South Shropshire. Head to my website or get in touch to find out when I'm in vour area.

phone signal and broadband connectivity. I am the cost of everyday essentials like energy. I would delighted that after engaging with Openreach and EE, we were able to get a phone mast fixed in apply for Pension Credit so they can receive Stanton Long, which covers a lot of Much support this winter. Wenlock and had been out of service for several Stuart Anderson

Ahead of months. I am raising the issue of rural writing to connectivity in partnership with the local council you. I have to seek investment from the Government for announced areas like South Shropshire.

I have also been raising rural concerns in to return to Parliament, for example speaking up for the many e students affected by the new government's backbenches decision to impose VAT on independent after the education. This will impact almost a thousand conclusion of pupils in South Shropshire who attend schools like e Concord College, Bedstone College, and Moor leadership Park, as well as increasing the pressure on state

Since the General Election, youth unemployment used the Department for Work and Pensions Question Time in Parliament to hold Ministers to government's intention to deliver a plan to As autumn descends, inclement weather has address this topic, I want to see a clear focus included on rural communities.

It has been great to meet with people and Shropshire. I enjoyed my visit to Dorrington Village Hall for the Macmillan Coffee Morning, as well as joining the Friends of Stanmore Country Park for the unveiling of a hand-crafted listening seat and enjoying the local delights on display at the Ludlow Food Festival. I have appreciated meeting with local mayors and councillors to get I have greatly appreciated meeting those who an insight into the challenges faced in their areas.

Households across Shropshire will be feeling the especially following the removal of winter fuel payments from those not in receipt of meanstested benefits like Pension Credit. I am glad my campaign to extend the Household Support Fund has resulted in an extra £2 million for struggling households across Shropshire. It will empower the One of these key issues has been on mobile Council to continue supporting those in need with also encourage anyone who may be eligible to

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## Cleobury Mortimer Benefice Church services throughout the Benefice in November

### **St Mary's Cleobury Mortimer**

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: 10.00am Family Eucharist Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November:8.30am Said Eucharist 10.45am Service of Remembrance in Church following the parade. Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November: 10.00am Parish Eucharist

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November: 10.00am Parish Eucharist Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November: 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 3<sup>rd</sup> November: 9.30am Parish Eucharist Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November: 10.00am Remembrance Service

### St John's, Doddington

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: 11.00am Parish Eucharist Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November: 10.55am Remembrance Service Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November: 3.00pm Evening Prayer

### All Saints', Neen Sollars

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: 11.00am Village Worship Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November: 10.50am Remembrance Service Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November:11.00am Village Worship Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November: 11.00am Village Eucharist

### St George's, Milson

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: 6.00pm Evensong Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November: 10.50am Remembrance Service

### St Mary's, Neen Savage

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November: 6.00pm Evensong (BCP) Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November: 10.50am Remembrance Service Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November: 9.00am Parish Eucharist (BCP)

### St John the Baptist, Kinlet

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November: 10.30am Remembrance Service Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November: 6.00pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

### **Leadership Team:**

Rector: Reverend Prebendary Ashley Buck: 07477 165602

Curate: Reverend Sarah Lupton

Church Office: Open Thursday 8.00am – 4.00pm

Email: <u>cleoburychurch@hotmail.com</u> Website: <u>www.cmbenefice.com</u>



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## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION NEWS

Remembrance Events: This vear's Remembrance Parade and Service will take place on Sunday 10th November. If you plan to march as part of the parade, please gather in the Talbot Car Park from 10.20am, to be ready to set-off at 10.45am. The parade will march to the Memorial Garden for the service that starts at 10.50am. There will be a briefing for the leaders, wreath bearers and standard bearers of those organisations marching as part of the parade, which will be held at 6.30pm on 7 November in St Mary's Church. briefing is intended to explain what happens on the day and to ensure everyone is comfortable with what they are meant to do. On Monday 11th November, there will be a short service at the Memorial Garden at 10.45am, which finishes with the observing of the national 2 minutes silence.

Harvest Auction: We began the activities with our Annual Harvest Auction on Saturday 12th October, which was held in the Cleobury Mortimer Sports and Social Club. We would like to publicly thank all who so generously gave donations to the event, and everybody who supported the event and dug so generously into their pockets to make it such a success. were able to auction some fabulous "lots", which ensured fiercely competitive bidding right across a packed room. The evening proved to be great fun and, as importantly, raised

nearly £1,500.00 for the Old Comrades Fund.

The money raised will support local ex-Servicemen and their families who need a helping hand. Finally, my thanks to David Taylor (Auctioneer for the evening) and other members of the RBL "team" for their help and support in the lead up to and running of the evening.

Paul Serrell-Cooke

## CLEOBURY GARDENERS

Many will be aware of our annual watering-can rattling on the High Street asking for donations for the Cleobury Gardeners contribution to the Tree Pleaching Fund for the Historic Lime Trees, but this year we thought we might be warmer inside, as indeed we It was an appropriate day as Lewis Arborcare, who have the contract for this work, were already visible up the ladders carrying out the This means the pleaching. trees will be ready in good time for the installation of the Christmas Lights. A big thank you to those who donated, and also spent some time with us talking about the pleasure they derive from the presence of Lime Trees.

We are very pleased to announce the launch of our new website, and here you can find details of all our activities and information pages. For example, if you would like to remind yourself of exactly why and how we continue to have these historic trees, and in fact what pleaching means and how it is done, their full history and

the answers to all your questions can be found on our w e b s i t e : cleoburygardeners.co.uk.

Our meetings are on a Monday generally, and we are always pleased to welcome visitors, for a charge of £5 including light refreshments. Contact details are on the website. Enjoy the trees, the Christmas lights and our website.

Linda Ashman

# FLICKS IN THE STICKS

Parish Hall, November 16th 7.00 for 7.30 'THE BANSHES OF INISHERIN'

A simple but impactful plot delivered with the most beautiful and serene backdrop of the Irish countryside. This film is heartwarming and heartbreaking at the same time, and leaves you with a whole load of emotional baggage to ponder about. Two lifelong friends find themselves at an impasse when one abruptly ends their relationship, with alarming consequences for both of them.

# IAN CASEY IN CABARET

6 December - 7.00 for 7.30pm

After a huge success earlier this year, Ian Casey returns for an evening of cabaret, with a Christmas theme. Tickets £15, including a two-course dinner, are available from Gabby Franklin on 01299 271713, or at www.cleoburyparishhall.uk/cabaret. Bar, including cocktails.

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I did it! After 15 months of planning and training I completed my challenge of climbing Kilimanjaro, and yes it was very hard. Like some of the others, I did need medical treatment for exhaustion on the summit (5,895m) after collapsing. Thankfully the doctors sorted me out to be able to do the severn hour trek down to our camp.

The story began with meeting my 15 colleagues at Heathrow for the first time. We flew to Addis Ababa then onto Kilimanjaro Airport, arriving in 30 degrees heat. After being transported to our Lodge for the night we had briefings by our head guide and the doctors (yes, believe it or not we had Doc Martin and he had heard all the jokes!) they were checking all of our kit which we then had to split into three bags; one left at the Lodge for party night on our return, one which the porters carried each day for us and our day rucksack for water, snacks and waterproofs. Lastly, we had our medical checks.

We left at 6.00am by coach to the main gate of Kilimanjaro National Park to complete the paperwork and security checks, (they were as tight as Heathrow) searching for plastic, drugs and fire arms, No one is allowed in the park without this and signed paperwork we could go no further. Pleased to say we were all clear. Then we were off on five hour trek through the rain forest onto to our first camp Machame (2,800m) which was all set up with tea and coffee waiting for us. This was to be the format for the rest of the week. We were given our tent which had our main bag in, we sorted this out and then off to the mess tent for our meal. The Doctor came to test our oxygen and heart rate, he also stayed to check that we were eating properly (one of the signs of altitude sickness is lack of appetite) this was done at EVERY meal time. After our meal we all turned in for the night. At 5.00am the following morning, breakfast and meds. Check. Day 2 was seven hours of very hard going to Shira camp (3,750m). Food, med checks and sleep again. Day 3, 5.00am, same routine, after med checks we set off for another long hard day which included some climbing and trekking over

sandy Moorland arriving at Barranco camp (4.000m) with a great view of the Wall. again we were treated to a very welcome meal, med check and off to bed again for a well deserved sleep. Day 4 another early morning when we started to climb Barranco Wall (Death Wall-Look it up) Oh my days, 5hrs of rock climbing phew, that was really hard. I made it but lost the skin of the ends of the fingers, ouch! Our new camp Karanga (4.800m) was in view but still took two hrs to get there, tea and coffee with popcorn waiting for us. Then our meal, med checks and off to bed. We had a lie in till 6.00am, same routine with breakfast and med checks. then off for 5hrs walking and climbing to Base Camp (4,950). We arrived for lunch & med checks then bed and rest as we were going to set off at 8.00pm to the summit. Head torches on, we set off arriving at 7.00am; that's when I needed medical help after collapsing with exhaustion. The doctors were brilliant, working on my legs and hips bearing in mind it was 19 below. When I came round I was lying down on the path having had my 5 pairs of trousers taken off by the doctors and they were working on each leg getting me mobile enough for the 7hrs hike down to the Millennium camp (3,730). When they were happy that I could continue I started down with my amazing guide Thomas (this trip was his 143rd trip up Killi) It was very hard going but we got quicker going down because we were getting more oxygen in our lungs. Thomas was the hero of the hour as he carried my rucksack down. The cup of tea on arrival at the camp was more than Once everyone else arrived it was business as usual, meal, med checks and very well earned sleep until 6.00am when we prepared for our final descent to the back gate of the park. More paperwork, more checks then back to the Arrival at the lodge saw everyone heading to their rooms for a shower, we were ready for a little bit of luxury. Last but not least, the debrief, final med checks and a beer.

My Family and the Charities would like to thank everyone for their help and support. Pete.



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## DODDINGTON LODGE SHORTLISTED FOR CARING UK AWARDS 2024



We are overjoyed to announce that Doddington Lodge has been shortlisted for the Caring UK Awards 2024 in the category of 'Quality in Housekeeping'! This incredible recognition is a true testament to our amazing team's passion, hard work, and dedication.

This nomination means so much to us because it reflects the incredible spirit and dedication of our team. Each member brings their heart and soul to their work, creating a home where our residents can truly thrive. We are so proud of what we've achieved together as a family and community.

"The awards ceremony will be held at the Athena on Thursday, December 5th, and we couldn't be prouder to represent our Doddington Lodge family." -Housekeeping Team.

Watch this space for more news as we prepare for the big night – fingers crossed!

Shavaughne and Lesly Take the Stage at the Care Show Birmingham: Championing Workforce & Wellbeing in the Care Sector!

Recently, our very own Shavaughne and Lesly proudly represented Doddington Lodge as guest panel speakers at the Care Show Birmingham! They had the fantastic opportunity to dive into key discussions around People, Workforce & Wellbeing, with a special focus on "People First: Recognising the Value of the International Workforce while Navigating Home Office Regulations and Audits."

We couldn't be prouder of Shavaughne and Lesly for contributing to these vital conversations that shape the future of the care sector. Their passion and expertise truly reflect our commitment to excellence at Doddington Lodge.





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

Doddington Lodge, Residential Care Home, Doddington, Nr Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 0HJ.







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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.









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

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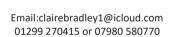
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## Can Do Better

I always hated getting school reports. They were like small, passive-aggressive dossiers drafted by teachers who clearly had something against my more casual approach to education.

One year, the school made the grave error of handing the reports directly to us pupils to take home. Mine, naturally, didn't make it. "The teachers didn't bother this term due to industrial action," I told my parents. It was the seventies, after all—everyone was on strike. And miraculously, they bought it.

Now, here I am, decades later, in a strange twist of fate, dishing out a report of my own. But this time, it's not about academic progress (or the lack thereof)—it's about my garden. Yes, it's a "summer term" review of the state of flora, fauna, and general horticultural ambition. And much like my old school reports, the results are... well, mixed.

### FLORA & FAUNA - C+

The garden has had *some* successes, but overall, it seems to have been a tad distracted. As always, the Cosmos performed admirably. They're the star pupils—showing up every year, no questions asked, handing in their homework with minimal fuss. The sunflowers, too, held their heads high. But there were some unnecessary distractions. Take, for example, the utterly misguided decision to sow hundreds of rudbeckia. What was the garden thinking? It was a classic case of biting off more than it could chew.

**Teacher's Comments:** "Shows enthusiasm but lacks focus. You have potential, but you need to concentrate. Read the question before answering. Must do better."

### **PLANTING SCHEMES - D**

This is where things really fell apart. The garden had grand aspirations, hoping to create a display worthy of being featured in glossy gardening magazines. But ambition quickly gave way to reality. You can't sow endless seeds, create the perfect scheme *and* keep up with the weeding all at once. It's just not possible.

It has to be said that the relentless self-seeding Verbena didn't help your cause, spreading like a well-meaning but overly eager student who can't stop raising their hand. The weeds, of course, were quick to exploit this failure, surging ahead in the rankings.

**Teacher's Comments:** "You're a dreamer, Garden, but not necessarily in a good way. You must manage your time better, and while I understand the weather was challenging, there is no excuse. Other gardens have managed, so why can't you?"

### <u>CREATIVITY – B+</u>

Credit where credit's due. The garden *did* try to think outside the box. The firepit was a promising idea—creating a space for the family to gather, roast marshmallows, and engage in deep conversation under the stars. Unfortunately, relocating the firepit to a less convenient spot meant it saw little use. In fact, it was only visited by you and your overly enthusiastic friends after a few beersneither big nor clever.

And let's not forget the pond plants, valiantly trying to survive the regular onslaught of an overenthusiastic puppy.

**Teacher's Comments:** "Good effort and attempt at innovative thinking. Next year, it would benefit from better planning and puppy-proofing. Keep up the creative spirit."

### **IN SUMMARY**

Let's face it - this was not the garden's finest term, but there are signs of progress. The basic framework is there, but it needs better execution. Still, I'm a glass-half-full sort of chap, so let's summarise this as a garden with room for improvement, OK?

Let's see how next summer performs. *Simon Morton* 



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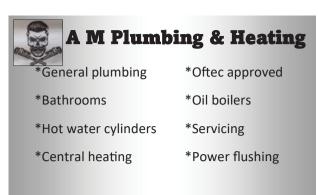
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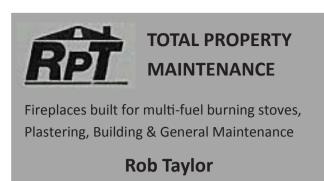
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#### **MRS GRUMPY**

'Greenbingate' rumbles on. Apparently Shropshire Council underestimated demand as after weeks spent cajoling and threatening us in order to make us sign up, they are surprised that we have. This has caused delays in issuing the stickers and we were told that bins would be emptied as normal until all orders had been fulfilled. But... after all the effort expended in telling us how difficult the stickers would be to remove, we don't need to bother with this aspect as apparently they are falling off by themselves and replacements are now being sourced from a different manufacturer. As a result, the whole exercise has been put back a month and will now commence from 4th November which is roughly when you should be reading this. The good news: subscriptions will now run from November to October so we haven't lost a month of paid collections. The bad news: They will have had our money for an extra month so I hope they have invested it wisely, especially given that they have the largest projected deficit per head of population (£191) and their estimated deficit for 2025 in relation to their reserves will virtually wipe the latter out (£37 million vs £38 million...).

More on the arrival of our Post Office (or not). Apparently Stuart Anderson, our new MP, has made enquiries about the state of play on this and has been told by the Post Office that someone is 'in training to take over'. As this is the same response that has been trotted out for some months, I see two possibilities here. Either a: this is a very long course or b: the PO is telling porkies. You choose (although I know that your decision will not be influenced by the integrity and honesty so evident in the recent activities of said organisation)....

Like buses, you wait forever and then two come at once. We now have two planning applications for nursing homes/institutions on the table. The first is yet another revamp of the previously built (and then immediately demolished) building opposite the old Mullers site. You may recall that last year, an application was submitted for an enlarged

building on the site which was rejected. The latest amendment reverts back largely to the original approved specification so may have an easier passage through the system. The planning reference no is 23/03056/FUL should vou be interested.

The second application concerns the old medical centre in Pinkham and seems to be for a care home/institution. It's difficult to tell which as the definition is a wide one. The application leaves the outside of the building largely unchanged apart from rendering to the exterior walls of the first floor. Interestingly, the internal arrangement consists largely of en suite rooms with limited common/dining provision on the ground floor. The outside will be given up to car parking so no sign of outside recreation space. It will be good to see the building back in use although the question remains 'what as?'. The planning application reference for this is: 24/03761/FUL.

Both are due to be discussed at the next Town Council meeting on 4th November.

Much discussion on social media forums about the right to free speech vs the freedom to offend. As with many aspects of such discussions, things can get heated but Voltaire hit the nail on the head when he said 'those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities' so the freedom to offend should be handled with care. Donald Trump (and others) please note.

Bad news for partners in the UK division of accountants/consultants, Deloittes. They will have to take a 5% pay cut and will have to struggle by on only around £1 million each. No doubt should the begging bowl be passed round, you will all donate generously by dipping into your winter fuel allowance. Oh....

Ariadne J Grumpy



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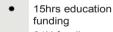
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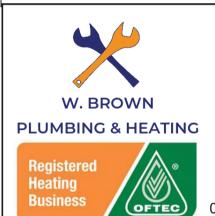


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Charlie Brown is named after Brewer Charlie Edwards, the creator of this month's cask special! A rich nutty brown ale with earthy undertones and notes of caramel and toffee. An all-British line up of hops in Northdown, Target and East Kent Goldings make for a complex, smooth and beautifully balanced beer.

Keep an eye on Hobsons socials for a list of all pubs stocking Charlie Brown this month, including Cleobury pubs on our doorstep!

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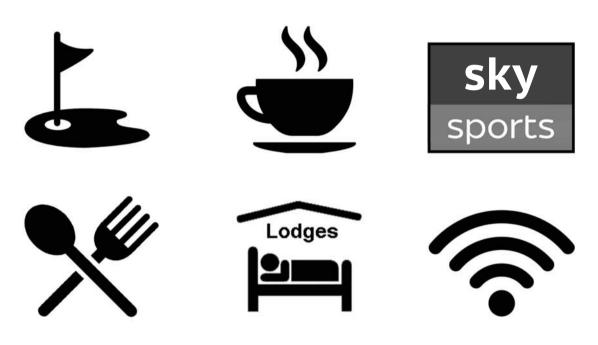


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#### THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

I've lived In Cleobury since the autumn of 1978, when our family moved here from Bolton. Our two sons went through the primary school, on to Lacon Childe and then university. Since those distant days three granddaughters have been following the same route and my great grandson will probably do the same, I'm telling you this because I have a great respect for the primary school and the seeds of a good education they planted in my sons' thinking.

It was an interesting experience to visit the school recently and talk to head teacher Sarah Desborough and Chair of Governors James Payton. They are conducting a public consultation to present to the county authorities to get permission to fence off part of the playing field next to the school so that it can be used safely and securely during school hours. The fence will be flexible and the area available to the public outside school hours. The field is there for the community to use; what the school wants is safe use for its pupils; your children today, my children before them.

The success of the school; with its Ofsted rating of "Good Provider", winner of a Gold award in the 2023-24 School Games, a Safer School, a rating as a Music Mark School, marks it out as a place our whole community should be proud of. And just as the town grows and will grow more in the coming years, the school will also grow

too and the need for space with it.

What the school is looking for in its public consultation is ideas from parents of today's pupils of what they want to see develop in the future. It is a community school, our community, and we can all have a say in its future.

Certainly fencing off the area used by the children will prevent stray dogs fouling the area, with the risk of serious damage to health if a child should fall in that area. Adults are also at risk, and a friend who has worked in a hospital and seen the awful effects upon a young child affected by dog fouling. As a decent community, surely nobody can argue with keeping children safe.

The Public Consultation runs it goes in the bin. from October 18th to November
29th, with public meetings as with the Hamn listed: it's all the real th

November 11th. 6.00 to 7.30pm at Cleobury Community Hub.

November 15th. 4.00 to 5.30pm at the Community Hub.

November 16th. 9.30 to 12.30pm at Cleobury Farmers Market.

November 18th. 6.00 to 7.30pm at the Community Hub.

Let's be proud of our children and the school that cares for them and provides an education that will guide their future. *Jim Reynolds* 

### WE WENT TO MARKET

It seems you can almost always find a new face or product at the Farmers' Market. It's not a place you go looking for the very lowest price, that's for the Aldi enthusiasts amongst us. That's not a criticism of that very popular company, but I like to find the special treats that local markets can provide. Just a little something to make you feel good.

In October I stopped to look at the Jerry's stall, where the offer was a range of ice creams in small pots. 100 ml is enough to give you a good idea of just what the taste is like and I chose a Ginger Crush and a Damson and Sloe Gin for my lady and I to take over lunch. We agreed they were very interesting and at £2.00 a pot an affordable treat.

We both enjoy muesli at breakfast and Hammonds of Shrophire obviously tempted us. It impressed that there's just what you want and no dust like Tina removes by shaking other brands' product through a sieve. She tells me it's dried milk and it goes in the bin.

No such treatment necessary with the Hammonds product, it's all the real thing you eat. It's my choice in future, not a cheap product, but a really good one..

And on the way out we picked up a couple of bottles of apple juice. A lovely drink in the cool of October, it will be even better in the summer of 2025.

That's the market, a friendly place where people smile and chat and take home something rather special to eat. In a brief chat with a friend he told me he'd read that in a review of Shropshire and its attractions, Cleobury Mortimer is the most popular choice of places to move to.

Good Lord, we've been discovered!

Jim Reynolds



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## GKY DANCERS STAR AT LUDLOW

Grace Young's GKY Dance is a local force for youth and dance talent. In seven years this young woman has grown her dance classes to cover the Cleobury and Ludlow area plus south Staffordshire. Tutoring young ladies from 7 up to 17 years of age, she has a register of 250 pupils.

And at the coming Ludlow Winter Festival running from November 22nd to the 24th, her pupils will be starring on the 23rd The group will be drawn from the Cleobury area and from Ludlow and Clee Hills.



Their contribution will be to dance in support of the opening with three different routines. A big ask of young talent, but they've all been training and rehearsing hard with Grace and her staff. Grace has seen shy young ladies join her classes and develop confidence as they dance with the established members. Dancing as part of a big event like the Winter Festival will confirm their progress and self confidence. If you are in Ludlow on the 23rd, get along to the opening ceremony and applaud young people working hard to make the event a success.

#### **JANET MOSS**

She was a remarkable lady, so quiet, polite and renowned for walking down from her house in Saint Mary's Close to shop on the High Street. She was doing that into her 90s, sometimes on her own, sometimes with a neighbour or friend, but very much an independent person until very late in a life that ended at 101 years.

At her memorial service in the parish church where she was so well known and loved, the British Legion was one body to mourn her passing, their oldest member. Others spoke of the way she inspired people who met her with quiet grace, plus an ability to establish a friendly relationship with them. "I'm so old that people can talk to me about early days," she'd explain.

It is appropriate that fellow Legion member David Walford should write s poem in her honour:

The day before her 98th birthday 1st May 2021.

Janet Moss caused a bit of chaos

By completing her final 100<sup>th</sup> lap

Sponsorship for the Royal British legion old comrades, Around St. Marys place Cleobury Mortimer

... Via the memorial garden.

Supported by her walking frame

With a union jack stuck in the side

And her birthday balloon tethered to it

... happily bouncing along,

Accompanied by her friend Pauline

Whose birthday happened to be on the same day.

Applauded by Royal British Legion Members She finished by cutting her birthday cake.

Now alas her time has come to say Adieu Having reached the ripe old age of 101.

We will miss you, Janet Moss.

Your gentle smile, That mop of curly grey hair And can only wonder with awe

At your life's past memories.

Lest we forget,
...We will remember her.
That heart of gold.
That gentle soul,
Who now abides in heaven
Free from mortal flesh,
Surrounded by angels
In the great cosmos.

#### CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Hopton Wafers Village Hall has a special event on Saturday the 30th, starting at 2.00. It's all about making Christmas gifts, from cards to tree decorations, willow wreaths, table centres, baubles and much more. Great for families to work together.

Admission is £5.00 for adults and £3.00 for children, with a special rate for families. A nice generous touch is the provision of tea, coffee and squash free.

And of course there's a cake stall and a raffle.

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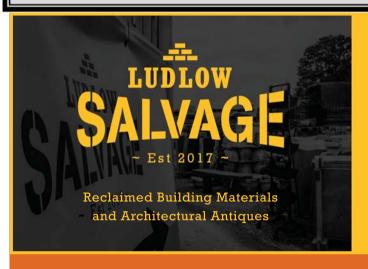


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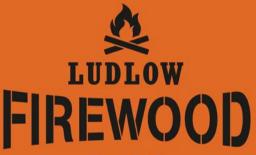




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#### Let's Beat the Scammers

If you are reading this and you were born in information is traded on the black market by this century you would probably be referred to as a Millennial. If you were born in the last century, lets say from 1950 onwards, you will remember how you filled your childhood days, with dolls and toy soldiers, making imaginary games either on your own or with friends.

As you grew up you socialised in the street, maybe the local café or pub or even a restaurant technology came into being towards the end of the last century and has literally exploded in it's lives.

One of the most significant developments is the way we communicate and our new 'must have' accessory is Social Media. Loosely defined as methods of communicating between ourselves other than using our voices in face to face Fraud and the higher level environments.

While the more mature of us are possibly wary of this, the Millennials' have embraced this culture and will continue to find ways enhance the capability, dare I say it, until we stop using some of the capabilities that our bodies were originally intended to use.

But coupled with this the evil elements of our society not just in the country, but worldwide are also seeking to find and develop ways of feathering their own nests at our expense.

Be in no doubt that this crime collectively known as fraud is now more widely known as SCAMMING.

frequently than that, the authorities advise us that a certain scam or other has popped up, sometimes as new method or more likely a variation on one of the several themes that exist today.

To be successful the scammer must be able to gather some information about their target and personal information most often comes from sources that should be protecting the data much more robustly than they are.

Large companies, small; companies, Banks and Finance institutions are all guilty of lack of total protection of their customer data and the

the evil perpetrators of scams.

I have been made aware recently of the revival of scam techniques that fall into the category of Romance Scams, Charity scams, Imposter scams, Grandparent scams, email fraud, Money transfer scams and Sale of non existent goods scams.

These are a few of the main ones, but on special occasions. Our very modern age of variations exist in nearly all cases. Some you the reader may not have heard of, but building awareness and challenging the unexpected goes development of almost every aspect of our a long way to protecting yourself from being a victim.

> It is encouraging to know that specialised departments are being set up to address these crimes and organisations such as Neighbourhood Alert, Which Magazine, Action National Cyber Security Centre are getting on board with detection and prevention systems to help us stay safe.

> Our finance institutions such as the major Banks have been slower to react, claiming in the past when a victim gives out personal banking details believing the scammer is genuine, then the victim is at fault.

> It is encouraging that a recent agreement amongst the Banks is that refunding lost money through scams will be easier, but with a caveat that the victim 'should have followed advice from his/her bank'.

Banks have also signed up to the 159 system Nearly every week and sometimes even more that I wrote about last month, and anyone who has any doubt about a transaction on their account can us either system to immediately be put in touch with the Fraud department of their Bank. If you are a Millennial, go online and research all the various material you can on preventing being a victim. Otherwise if you are not technically minded, ask a family member to help you. If in doubt, don't just agree to something, always check what you are being asked to do.

Nigel Reid

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#### **About us**

EnergyZone is one of the largest renewable energy companies in the Midlands, having provided domestic and commercial sustainable energy solutions for over 20 years.

Based next to Hobsons Brewery in Cleobury Mortimer, we are your local experts in renewable and low carbon energy.

The current energy crisis has been incredibly eye-opening as we come to realise how reliant we are on other countries for fuel. Wouldn't it be nice to become more independent and less reliant on the volatile energy prices... well, that's where we can help!

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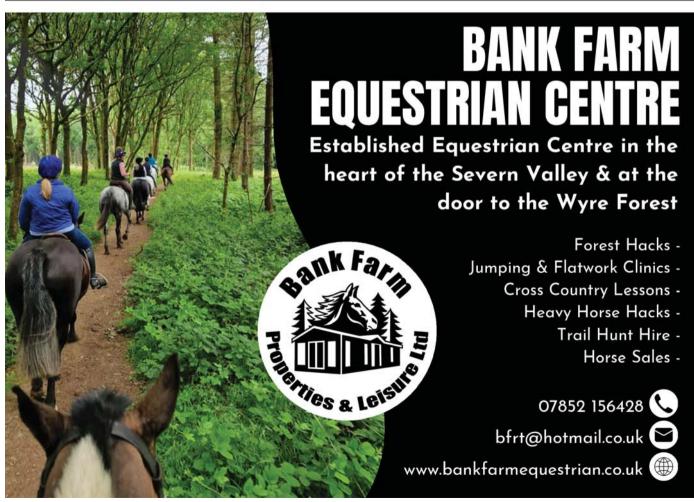












#### The Cleobury Clarion Social Calendar for November

Mon. 4th 7.00 The Town Council meet in the Cleobuey Country Centre. Tue. 5th. 2.00. Carer Support Group meets at St Mary's Place, Love Lane.	PAGE 58
Wed. 6th GENERAL WASTE BINS EMPTIED.	
12.00 W>I< Winter Warmer Soup Lunch, Market Hall.	PAGE 11
6.00 Late night opening at the Food Bank in the Market Hall.	IAGE II
7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	
	PAGE 13
Thu. 7rh. 10.00 Rock Pathfinders walk out from Blackstone car park in Bewdley.	PAGE 33
Fri. 8th 10.00. Coffee Morning at Doddington Lodge.	
Sat. 9th 12.00 noon. Christmas Fairy at Kinlet Village Hall in air of Air Ambulance. Sun. 10th 11.00 Remembrance Parade will be at the War Memorial.	PAGE 7
	PAGE 27
Mon. 11th 10.45 Memorial service at the War Memorial followed by national silence.	PAGE 27
Tue. 12th 7.30am The Breakfast Club meet at the Golf Club.	PAGE 9
7.30pm Cleobury W.I. meet at the Market Hall.	PAGE 11
Wed. 13th GARDEN AND FOOD WASTE BINS EMPTIED	
10.00 Walking for Health steps out from the Market Hall.	
10.00 CoCo coffee morning at the Market Hall.	DA CE E
12.30. Soup Lunch at Melville Chapel, Oreton.	PAGE 7
7.00 Royal British Legion meet at the Sports and Social Club	
Fri. 15th. Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	
Sat. 16th 09.00 Cleobury Country Farmers Market at the Parish Church.	D. CE =0
10.00 Town Councillors meet the public at the Market Hall.	PAGE 58
7.00 Flicks in the Sticks, Parish Hall, features "The Banshees of Inisherin"	PAGE 27
Wed. 20th GENERAL WASTE BINS EMPTIED	
7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.	
Thu. 21st 10.00 Rock Pathfinders walk starts at Fountain Inn, Tenbury Wells.	PAGE 13
10.30 Cleobury W.I.coffee morning at Burford Garden Centre.	PAGE 11
Fri. 22nd 9.00 Northern Soul Disco at the Parish Hall.	PAGE 11
Sat. 23rd 10.30 Christmas Craft Fair, Barlow and Oreton village hall.	PAGE 7
Sun. 24th. 10.00 Clows Top Christmas Fairy at Victory Hall.	PAGE 7
Wed. 27th GARDEN AND FOOD WASTE BINS EMPTIED	
10.00 Walking for Health starts at the Market Hall.	
10.00 CoCo coffee morning at the Market Hall	
7.30. Clows Top Garden Club meet at the Victory Hall.	PAGE 5
Thu. 28th 12.00 noon. Neen Savage W.I. One Pot Lunch in the Market Hall.	PAGE 7
Fri. 29th. 7.30 Clows Top Wildlife Club meet at the Victory Hall.	PAGE 7
8.00 Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	
Sat. 30th 2.00 Christmas Crafting at Hopton Village Hall.	PAGE 47
3.00 Christmas Fair at the Parish Church.	PAGE 58
AND LOOKING FORWARD TO DECEMBER	
Sun. 1st 7.00. Cleobury Concert Brass perform in the Parish church.	PAGE 7
Wed. 4th 7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.	
Sat. 7th. 7.00. New Notes Singers Christmas concert in Clee Hill Village Hall.	PAGE 7
Sun. 8th 7.30 Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra concert at The Parish church.	PAGE 9

### DEADLINE FOR THE DECEMBER/JANUARY CLARION: NOVEMBER 22nd

Editor and Advertising Sales: Jim Reynolds, 4 Childe Road, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire, DY 14 8PA

Tel: 01299 270642 Mobile: 07410 977 212 E:<u>editor@cleoburyclarion.co.uk</u>
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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.

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#### THE LATEST FROM CORAL & TOM ...

s the market enters the last quarter, we have seen steady tivity following the children returning to school, with milarities in the market comparable to before the pandemic. Here are many people eagerly awaiting the latest budget the chancellor set to make a number of changes, as sell as the next Bank of England base rate review which any forecasters are predicting there to be another reduction the base rate. A base rate cut should hopefully lead to a usier end of the year than we normally see, with id-November to Christmas time seeing a traditionally lieter period in the property market so we will eagerly be atching the news as it unfolds!



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you are considering a move next year, now is a great time to see what your home is worth and art any of the jobs that will help make you more saleable. Please do get in contact us for a chat if you would like for us to organize a visit for advice on how best to ready your home for market



Coralie Walrond MNAEA MARLA Tom Jackson MNAEA





#### How to contact the Town Council

Telephone: 01299 271154 or 07483 112290

Email: council@cleobury.org.uk

Speak to us at the Councillor Surgeries held on the third Saturday of every month in the Market Hall.

#### **Councillor Surgery**

Cllr Abbatiello, the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk attended the monthly Councillor Surgery held in the Market Hall, alongside the Farmers Market, on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Items raised included queries on current planning submissions, water quality in the River Rea and the consultation currently being undertaken by Cleobury Mortimer Primary School regarding the proposed erection of a fence on the Playing Field. 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 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

#### **Remembrance Sunday**

Remembrance Sunday falls on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024. The Parade will depart from Childe Road East Car Park at 10.45am, with a service at St Mary's commencing at the Memorial Garden at 11am.

#### **Christmas Events**

This years Christmas Fayre will take place on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at St Mary's Church. Stalls will be open from 3pm within the Church. The annual light switch on will then take place at 5pm. Booking is still available for stall holders. If you would like to be part of this event, please contact the office on the details above.

There will also be the annual Christmas Window Display competition with a chance to win the Clarion Cup.

#### **Highway Maintenance**

Please note that any issues with public highways and footpaths should be reported to Shropshire Council. This can be done by telephone – 0345 678 9000, email – <a href="mailto:customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk">customer.service@shropshire.gov.uk</a>, online through Shropshire Council's website <a href="https://www.shropshire.gov.uk">www.shropshire.gov.uk</a> or use the Fix My Street app.

#### **Councillor Vacancy**

The Town Council currently has a vacancy for a Councillor. If you have good local knowledge and are interested in our community, have good communication skills, are keen to work with community partners and can attend monthly Town Council meetings then please consider joining us. For more information, please contact us on the details at the top of this page.

#### Grants available to community groups

The Town Council has some funding available to support local community groups based in Cleobury Mortimer. Grants are available for activities or for equipment. If you have a project or activity which would benefit from some financial support, please contact the Town Council for further information and an application form.

#### **Dates for your Diary**

Next Council Meeting – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7pm, at the Cleobury Country Centre. Remembrance Parade – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 10.45am, leaving from Childe Road East Car Park. Councillor Surgery – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024, from 10am – 12noon, at the Market Hall. Christmas Fayre – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024, from 3pm – 5.30pm, at St Mary's Church. Light Switch – on at 5pm.

Report for Clarion – November 2024



#### **CLEOBURY COMMUNITY HUB**

#### Coffee Shop, Climb61, Youth Events

Mondays - 9:30am--8pm Tuesdays - 9:30am--8pm Fridays - 9:30am-5:30pm

#### Barista coffee, Paninis, Cakes and Milkshakes

FOCUS ON: November...

Saturday 2nd November - all age Mexican Night 4pm-8pm: £10 Adult, £5 Child

(under 5 free)

Saturday 23rd November - Christmas SWAG making workshop:

10:45am-1pm. (Please email <a href="mailto:samantha.dolphin@outlook.com">samantha.dolphin@outlook.com</a> for booking)

#### **Activities**

Rock Tots (0-5years): Mondays: 10am-12pm - Soft Play, Intro to

bouldering and a healthy snack lunch (£5.70)

Kids Climbing Club (7s-11s): Mondays: 3:30pm-5pm (£6)

Adult/Family Social Climb: Mondays: 12pm-3pm & 5:30pm-8pm (£4,

£1 shoe hire)

FREE Youth Drop-in: Tuesdays: 3:30pm-5:30pm

**Adult/Family Social Climb:** Tuesdays: 9:30am-7:30pm (£4, £1 shoe hire)

**Hub Youth:** Wednesdays: 6:30pm-8pm (£2)

Good Grief Café: Thursdays: 1st Thurs (2pm), 3rd Thurs (7pm)
Ladies Night Bouldering: Thursdays: 1st Thurs - 6pm-8pm (£5.50)

**Open Bouldering** 

for all ages: Fridays: 9:30am-5:30pm (£3 child, £4 adult,

£1 shoe hire)

**Sunday Session:** Sundays: Faith exploration, partnering with

Lifecentral Church (LC) - 2:30pm: climb, games, refreshments and donuts. 4pm-5:30pm - Stream LC

Next fundraiser... Saturday 2nd November - Mexican Night 4pm-8pm

Email: climb61@cleoburyhub.org.uk

A

**Cleobury Community Hub** 

Tel: 07828 116810



@cleoburycommunityhub



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	6.30 - 7.15pm	BODY PUMP

TUES	9.15 - 10am	YOGA
	10.15 - 11am	YOGA
	6.15 - 7pm	TRX

WED	5.15 - 6pm	PILATES
	6 - 6 45pm	CIRCUITS

THU	6 - 6.45pm	STEP & SCULPT
		O D 11 1

7 - 7.45pm **STRETCH** 6 - 6.45pm

& RELAX

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	3.30pm - 10pm
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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.













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