

# The Cleobury Clarion

## FIGHTING POLIO

Ludlow Rotary Club are inviting everyone in this area to join a global drive to rid the world of polio. 40 years ago 350,000 children a year were being paralysed. The fight began then and now the disease is endemic only in Pakistan and Afghanistan, but the drive is still on, with the aim of wiping the disease away altogether.

On Sunday the 22nd this month, you can sign on at Ludlow for a route to follow and walk just one mile. You can contribute just £1.00 pound, more if you choose, and for every pound raised the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will add another £2.00.

Ludlow organiser Tom Hunt explained: "There's no cure for polio but there is a safe vaccine which we need to continue to roll out until there are no more cases."

So take a gentle walk around Ludlow, donate and help remove a dreadful disease.

## TALBOT SQUARE

How sad it has been to walk through Talbot Square in recent times and witness the way the place has deteriorated. The state of what was once a smart Simply Fresh grocery store is the worst eyesore, with the funeral parlour opposite becoming more dowdy and unkempt.

The sole good signs are the Dental Practice and the Stable Tavern, both well kept and businesslike, but let down by the neighbours. So it was good to see notice of a planning consent application to convert the funeral parlour units into accommodation. If there are more residents in that area, perhaps pressure to have better lighting that would make walking through the square in the dark a little safer will be successful. The place does have an aid of neglect that the town does not justify and those of us who know and love the place would applaud such an effort.

## DES AND SONIA'S BIG CELEBRATION



*Des and Sonia Gwillam's 60th wedding anniversary and (whisper it) Sonia's 80th birthday deserved a big party and thanks to their family they got it. The Sports and Social Club was the place for the event*

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## THE CLEOBURY CLARION, OCTOBER 2023



*Melissa Hunt Jewellery  
See page 13.*



*Climbing Kilimanjaro  
at the age of 76!  
See Page 19.*



*John Gleave - Town  
Council Chairman.  
Page 48.*

### ***And On Other Pages....***

- |                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 5 - The Breakfast Club          | 33/34 - Doddington Lodge   |
| 7- The Volleyball Club          | 38 - Learning to Grow Food |
| 9 - Walk A Mile Against Polio   | 42- Mrs Grumpy             |
| 11 - Keith Pybus                | 56 - Community Contacts    |
| 21 - Philip Dunne MP1           | 57 - The Social Calendar   |
| 23 - October in the Wyre Forest | 58- Lisa Baldwin           |
| 25 - Philip Dunne MP2           | 60 - Royal British Legion  |
| 26 - Stepping Out !             | 61 - Powers of Attorney    |
| 28 - Simon Morton in the garden | 63 - Town Council Report   |
| 29 - Cleobury Benefice          |                            |
| 32 - Clarion Information        |                            |



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## THE NEW NOTES SINGERS

Come and enjoy an evening of light musical entertainment for everyone on Saturday 28th October from 7- 9pm at Clew Hill Village Hall.

Tickets are £8 and include tea or coffee and cakes. Contact Margaret on 01584 890834 or Barbara on 01584 892050 or email [bhall@gmail.com](mailto:bhall@gmail.com) or pay at the door on the night.

Proceeds in aid of the Village Hall and New Notes.

*Jane Barnes*

## THE BREAKFAST CLUB

In September 21 members assembled for a talk on the Isles of Scilly. Mark Baldwin gave a brief Powerpoint introduction to set the scene, reminding everyone that the five occupied islands are smaller than our parish, and have a lower population. They have been occupied, and farmed, for some thousands of years, but the sea level has risen and the sea now covers much of the area cultivated by islanders a few thousand years ago.

Bill Duley then provided more detail on a number of points, explaining how climate change has meant that many crops formerly exported to the mainland, can now be grown on the mainland itself, so the islands have been robbed of their advantage. One island, St Mary's, has about 80% of the whole population, and this is where most visitors stay, using the regular small boat service to travel to the other islands. Not surprisingly, the pace of

life on the islands is unlike that in the rest of Cornwall, and they provide a wonderful place for a holiday, whether you are interested in history, bird-watching, the sub-tropical gardens of Tresco, wreck-diving, or just want to enjoy a virtually car-free environment.

Bill added a little about Star Castle, built in 1593 as a defensive structure on Garrison Hill by Queen Elizabeth and modified over the years. Originally the perceived attackers would have been Spanish, but later they would have been French. The last military upgrade was in the early twentieth century, but the castle itself is now a 4-star hotel.

Next month's meeting is on October 10th, when Kit Smith will be exploring and explaining one of the great ecological revelations of the past few years – the extraordinary interaction between trees and their extensive underground fungal connections. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Angela Drennan (270636) to book a place.

*Mark Baldwin*

## MELVILLE CHAPEL, ORETON

Soup lunch 11th October  
12.30p.m to 2.00p.m.

Quiz Night and Supper 27th  
October 7.00p.m.

*Ruth Downes*

## " TWO STROKES NOT OUT"

The Stroke Support Group, now combined with those living with Parkinson's

Disease, would like to invite Clarion readers to join us at our October meeting – 2.00 o'clock on Tuesday Oct 24<sup>th</sup> in the St Mary's Place Community Room. We will have a guest speaker: Sas Freeman who is the author of the book with this name. Sas lives locally and had two strokes at a young age and has made a remarkable new career as an author and artist and a volunteer working with several related charities. Her voluntary work includes work for the British Heart Foundation and the Stroke Association as well as work with the NHS on improving services for neurological conditions.

It promises to be a light hearted afternoon despite the tough subject and we hope that guests will join us for this. No charge and free tea and cake and the opportunity to buy one or two early Christmas presents . If you would like to come it would help if you let Katja Jones know either by calling Katja on 07966080111 or via her email – [cleoburycoco@hotmail.com](mailto:cleoburycoco@hotmail.com)

*Graham Simpson*

## FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas Fair in aid of Severn Hospice on Saturday 25th November 11 - 2.00pm at Broome Park Farm, Catherton Road, CM. Christmas Crafts, Chocolate Tombola, Cake Stall, Raffle and Refreshments. Free entry, plenty of parking.

*Catherine Evans*

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## **BROOME PARK IN THE NEWS AGAIN**

Broome Park Farm B&B has been short listed in two categories in the 2024 West Midlands Tourism Awards!. We have reached the final three for both Best Small Serviced Accommodation Provider of the Year and Best Ethical, Responsible and Sustainable Tourism Business. Winners will be announced at an event in the Spring - wish us luck as we fly the flag for Cleobury Mortimer!

*Catherine Evans*

## **THE VOLLEYBALL CLUB**

### **A great run of success!**

The mens team finished 1st in their division and gained a promotion to division 1, the ladies 1st team came 3rd in division 1 and the ladies 2 team came second in theirs. Both mens and ladies 1st teams played in the final of the West Midlands Cup and both came away with the gold medal. We also have two junior players currently representing England in their junior programme, and we have multiple junior members who represented West Midlands in the Inter-regional championships, four of which captained their teams. I am happy to do a write up about it. I think it's great to showcase local talent and I think it's really well deserved.

*Emma Gallagher*

## **CLEOBURY W.I.**

The local walk at the end of August, was popular and 13 walkers, a toddler and two dogs were joined by a few

non-walkers. On September 3rd a few members took part in a wild swimming event in line with the WI national Clean Rivers Campaign. This was part of a drive to attain safe water status for the River Teme at the Linney in Ludlow, and the event was very well attended.

The Shrewsbury Town Crier had to postpone his visit to talk to us in September. However, an enjoyable evening was organised instead, with Judy kindly entertaining us with an interesting talk about the WI through the decades. This was followed by a light-hearted quiz, organised by Fran. Thanks to Judy, Maggie and Diane who spent a morning recently tidying up the Centenary garden.

We welcome April Boardman from The Well Being in Tenbury to our meeting on October 10<sup>th</sup>. April is a qualified holistic medicine practitioner who offers a range of therapies for physical, spiritual and emotional welfare, and will guide us through the benefits of relaxation for our health and wellbeing. Refreshments will be served from 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

There will be a tea and cake afternoon on October 18<sup>th</sup> at 3pm at The Fountain Inn. The cost is £4. A date for your diaries is our first Winter Warmer Lunch on Wednesday November 15<sup>th</sup> from 12-2pm at the Parish Hall. Please note the change in venue. We will be asking for volunteers to

make soups and desserts, and also helpers at what is usually a popular event. Anyone interested to becoming a part of our busy and thriving branch of WI should contact Judy on 01299 270983 or email [judysant10@gmail.com](mailto:judysant10@gmail.com)

*Val Sniadowski*

## **ROAD CLOSURE**

Contractors Kier notify a road closure between Cleobury and Lembrook Bridge at Far Forest between October 2nd and November 3rd. As ever, dates are subject to weather or other circumstances. They do ask that vehicles are not parked on the road when work is due or under way.

The times are 9.30 am to 4.00 on weekdays and 7.30 am to 5.00 on weekends. Weekend working suggests that they'll be getting on with the job and not wasting any time, which is good news for commuters and business traffic.

## **ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**

At the Cleobury Branch's Annual General Meeting in September chairman Mike Hermolle stood down and Paul Serrell-Cooke was voted in as his replacement. Paul was a long term serving officer in the Royal Air Force and is the obvious choice to replace Mike. His success as a quality picture framer is a hint of his ability to take on a new challenge and very soon operate. We wish him well in this new situation.



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### **WALK A MILE - YOU'LL NEVER FIND A BETTER REASON**

Members of Ludlow Rotary Club are inviting residents of Ludlow and the surrounding area, young and old, to join them in "walking a mile for polio".

For almost 40 years Rotary International has been battling to eradicate polio from the world. When it launched its global campaign to fight the crippling and sometimes deadly disease, more than 350,000 children were being paralysed by polio every year in 125 countries. Today, as a result of an intensive immunisation programme, the incidence of polio has been reduced by 99.9% and the wild polio virus is now only endemic in Pakistan and Afghanistan where less than 10 cases have been identified so far this year. Rotary International, along with other agencies, continues to raise funds to bring this devastating and crippling disease to a world-wide end.

Ludlow Rotary is supporting this global effort, and invites all to join them in "walking a mile for polio" any time between 10am and 12 noon on Sunday 22 October.

A number of routes starting from a registration point by the entrance to Ludlow Castle and suitable for all levels of fitness have been selected for the purpose. No individual will be asked to give more than £1 - but as many pounds as possible will be welcomed!

Every donation to Rotary will be trebled by the Bill &

Melinda Gates Foundation, so every £1 will become £3.

Ludlow Rotary organiser Tom Hunt said "Until polio is totally eradicated, every child is at risk of this highly infectious, potentially life-threatening and paralysing disease."

"There is no cure for polio but there is a safe and effective vaccine which we need to continue to roll out until there are no more cases."

"When the world is finally declared polio free, it will be just the second human disease ever to be eradicated, after smallpox."

"Please help Rotary to wipe the life threatening and disabling poliovirus off the face of the earth simply by walking a mile for polio, and donating £1."

### **FLICKS IN THE STICKS**

On October 16th, at the Parish Hall, we will be showing "Mrs Harris goes to Paris", a humorously heartwarming tale about a London housecleaner (played by Lesley Manville), who thinks her lonely life might turn around if she can become the owner of a Christian Dior gown - an uplifting story of how an ordinary woman becomes an extraordinary inspiration by daring to follow her dreams. Tickets £5 - bar, tea and coffee.

### **PARISH HALL EVENTS**

The Cosford Military Wives Choir will give a concert performance of all-time favourites on Saturday 7th October at 7.00pm for

7.30pm. Tickets £10 online at [www.cleoburyparishhall.uk](http://www.cleoburyparishhall.uk), by ringing 01299 271713, or at the door. The bar will be open.

On Saturday 25 November we have planned a Folk Evening. Highly talented young singer-guitarist, Ben R o b e r t s o n ([www.benrobertsonmusic.co.uk](http://www.benrobertsonmusic.co.uk)), who has appeared at the Beardy Folk Festival along with a number of other folk festivals across the country will be performing, promising a relaxing evening of good music, a two-course meal and an open bar. Tickets £15 online at [www.cleoburyparishhall.uk](http://www.cleoburyparishhall.uk), or by ringing 01299 271713.

### **FESTIVE MARKET**

Farlow and Oretton Hall are combining with Melville Chapel to present a Festive Market on November 11th, from 10.00 through to 2.00pm.

Crafts, gifts and produce stalls, plus refreshments, cakes and a raffle on offer for early Christmas shopping.

More details from Lucy on 01746 718642 or Joanne on 01584 891553. All proceeds will be shared between the two halls - sounds like a good Christmas spirit event.

### **THE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB**

In a neat idea that will get members out and walking in the countryside (woodside?) the club are organising a visit to Wyre Forest on the 14th to spend the day in that fine area. That will be followed four days later with a Show and Tell evening at the Market Hall. Paul Serrell-Cooke can tell you more: 07791 378240.



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**FLICKS IN THE STICKS**

*Don't forget to dress up!*

**Mrs. Harris Goes to PARIS**

**21 October 7.30pm - Mrs Harris goes to Paris**

Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris tells a humorously heartwarming tale about London housecleaner Ada Harris, who thinks her lonely life might turn around if she can become the owner of a Christian Dior gown. Saying goodbye to friends like Archie won't be easy, and neither will be winning over elite people in Paris from Mme Colbert to idealistic accountant André. But Ada's irrepressible charm just might end up saving the whole House of Dior in this uplifting story of how an ordinary woman becomes an extraordinary inspiration by daring to follow her dreams. *Starring Lesley Manville, Jason Isaacs, Isabelle Huppert*

**Tickets £5 - Bar, tea, coffee, cake**

**military wives Choirs**  
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The Cosford Military Wives Choir, formed in 2012, will give a concert of favourites on Saturday 7 October at 7.00 for 7.30pm.

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## CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

This month, on the 25th, at 7.30, we are welcoming Angela Thompson, who is well known locally for talks on her travels on the Silk Road in search of textiles, particularly beaded work from the north eastern valleys of Pakistan.

Angela is also a keen gardener and she has been observing her surroundings during her travels. She is going to talk to us on "Gardens of The Silk Road"

Do come along, we are assured of an entertaining evening

*Judith Lawson*

## CLEOBURY GARDENERS

On Monday the 9th Flo Straughan will present 'Creating a Dry Garden' when we meet at St Elizabeth's Hall on Lower Street at 7.30.

Saturday the 21st sees our Coffee Morning in the Market Hall, open from 10.00 to 12.00 noon, with plants and produce on sale. All to raise funds to aid the pleaching of the lime trees on the High Street.

## TENBURY APPLEFEST

Ever since my family moved here I've loved the way that Tenbury is known as The Town

in the Orchard. As a kid they were my favourite fruit and when the supply at home ran out there was always a choice to be had if you went scrumping and were prepared to run when necessary.

So on Saturday the 7th I'm off to the Applefest at The Burgage, prepared to pay for a special treat. The event is on from 10.00 to 4.30 to sample the fruit and a range of other attractions. At £5.00 admission it sounds like very good value. We'll let you know.

*Jim Reynolds*

## KEITH PYBUS

This wonderful writer, whose book 'Blue Remembered Hills' was a masterpiece, died on September 1st. His daughter Catherine's note sums the man up:

"Keith died at home last Friday aged 85. When the undertaker arrived a few hours later she told us Keith had given her a funeral plan: he wanted a green burial, a willow coffin and a New Orleans marching band.

She then said "There is one other thing - and I don't know if I should tell you..." Apparently Keith had wanted to hire a beautiful actress to wear big dark glasses and a wide-brimmed black hat and

stand some way from the congregation: so that everyone would think he had a mistress...

And in that wonderful reminder of Keith's wit and theatricality I felt we had got Keith back. And we will be hiring a marching band and an actress for a funeral on 16th."

So he left this world in style with a final laugh. Saint Peter probably personally greeted the man at the Pearly Gates.

## CLOWS TOP VICTORY HALL

At 6.30pm on Saturday October 7th a Murder Mystery, entitled Die de Die, based on a 1950's Holiday Camp, will be staged. With supper included tickets will be £25 and are available from Carolyne on 01299 832229.

It will be Barn Dance time at 7pm on October 14th with adult tickets costing £12 and under 16's £5. Details of how to book tickets below.

At 1.30pm on October 21st a Jumble Sale will take place at the Hall, proceeds going to the planned extension works at the rear of the Hall.

The Wildlife Club meet at 7.00 on the 24th and will include a talk about the Cuan Wildlife Rescue Centre.

*Nigel Caldicott*



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I found Melissa Hunt Jewellery at the Cleobury Farmers Market and was struck by the intricate details of the piece I was looking at. There's no shortage of people selling a wide range of jewellery, but the capacity to design, manufacture then sell is rather rare.

She learnt her craft at Sir John Cass School of Art in Whitechapel, London and emerged in to the wide world with a BA (Hons) and a determination to work for herself. A sure sign of her single mindedness at such an early age. For twenty years she shared studio space with other artists and makers in the capital until ten years ago when the programme to build Cross Rail included the demolition of the building and the group having to move on. Some of them came to blessed Shropshire, Melissa to Ludlow then last year to a cottage here in Cleobury.

She sells her work at the Farmers Market and at the monthly Brampton Bryan Open Studio days, where her studio is based. It's also here that she offers training in the craft in addition to the tuition offered at Westhope Craft College in Craven Arms. Of

course, she can offer her craft to produce whatever a private customer might want.

Melissa was commissioned to write a craft book 'Stone Setting for Jewellery Makers' and reviews on Amazon have encouraged sales. Another acknowledgement of her



considerable skill. So is she happy in her independence? "Yes" is the instant reply. And what is the best part of it? "Planning my day and choosing to practice traditional crafts."

Melissa's website address is [www.melissahuntjewellery.com](http://www.melissahuntjewellery.com)

### FROM THE BANDROOM

We went to the National Finals and put on a great performance, but didn't get the result we would have liked

Now that the Finals are behind us, we move onto rehearsing for our next competition, which will be the Wychavon Brass Festival on 4<sup>th</sup> November. An entertainment contest where our theme will be 'Light'

We also have a new conductor at the helm, a huge welcome to David Nicholson, who brings with him a wealth of experience on the brass band circuit.

Matt Ludford King has left us for pastures new, he was offered the MD position in a higher section band after passing his Masters this summer, we all wish him well.

New players are always welcome, so please come along to our friendly practices on Tuesday evenings 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

*Katie Griffiths*

### CLEE HILL WILDLIFE

At the AGM in September Sue Dawes stepped down after a long spell as chair and Suzanne Thomnousse stepped up to fill the vacancy. Wildgoose Nursery talked about wildlife gardening and in the raffle a bottle of House of Commons whisky was won by the editor, who's on the wagon!

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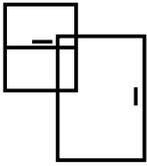


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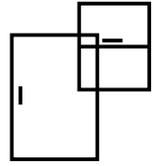
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## THE LATEST FROM CORAL & TOM...

The Bank of England voted to keep the base rate at 5.25% on 22nd September, contrary to most predictions of a further increase. This combined with lenders slowly reducing rates over the last few months, gives some positivity to the tough housing market that we are experiencing

The expected increase of instructions from the end of school holidays has delivered a further 153 property listings across DY10-DY14 since the start of September to the time of writing, making a total of 895 property listings available (according to Rightmove data). With 508 currently being advertised as sold, this means just under four in ten houses on the market being SSTC, leaving lots of choice for buyers currently and sellers battling to attract a purchaser. It is more important than ever for homeowners to have an agent that provides top class marketing and who work hard with and for you to achieve a sale in a timely manner.

If you would to talk about the market and how its affecting your property value or about an impending move, please do not hesitate to contact us for a chat.

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## CLIMBING KILIMANJARO AT 76 YEARS OLD

Pete and Pauline Jackson are a fit and respectable couple, recently moved into Cleobury and liking what they find very much. He drives a bus for Moor Park School in Ludlow and they both enjoy walking. A typical English pair with one rather eccentric exception: Pete is planning to scale Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest free standing mountain in the world at 19,340 feet, next September.



He's been raising money for a range of charities for years, including taking on the National Three Peaks Challenge, when the sight of hundreds of walkers coming down Sca Fell in the early

morning dark, helmet lights all aglow, he says was "Like a Christmas Tree!" Thousands of pounds raised for others and now it's his family's turn.

His daughter has heart problems and his son Raynaud's Syndrome; both are very debilitating and Peter is determined to help fund the Heart Foundation and Raynaud's Syndrome in its support of his children. His first aim is to raise £3,000 to cover his travel and modest living costs with travel agency Global Adventures, then he wants to bring in £8,000 to split between the two services that support his children. You cannot help but admire the man and his ambition.

So when is he planning on giving up after this extreme effort is over? "I'm not," is the immediate response. It would help him reach the £3,000 initial target if a company would sponsor him, but that's a dream at the moment. In the meantime he's walking as well as training in the gym.

If you'd like to support this old trekker in his noble aim, he has a gofundme page: [www.gofundme.com/f/an-old-trekker-needs-a-bit-of-help](http://www.gofundme.com/f/an-old-trekker-needs-a-bit-of-help)

## THE READING GROUP

The Tobacconist by Robert Seethaler. We all found this an easy read although not all enjoyed it. In 1937 Franz, aged 17 leaves his mother and home in the Austrian Lake District, travelling to Vienna to be apprenticed to Otto Trsnyek, the tobacconist. Franz eventually befriends Professor Freud, a regular customer and they have many discussions. We follow Franz into adulthood with his love life and relationship with a young lady, Anaska. With the rise of Hitler, the story gets darker and the second world war is seen through different eyes. It highlights the futility of war and the persecution of Jews, provoking a discussion on how little some things have changed. We pondered about the translation but generally thought it was well written. All discovered we had learned something from the read. Our next meeting will be on October 16<sup>th</sup>. We have a full group at present but if anyone is interested in starting up another group give me a call. Deana Kimber, 01299 271754.

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## PHILIP DUNNE MP

You should all know by now that Philip Dunne has decided not to stand for election whenever it reoccurs. I have got to know the man as a regular contributor to these pages who cooperates with the apolitical policy I apply to all contributions, with the possible exception of Ariadne J Grumpy, who is beyond control.



I took my lady love to Philip's Ludlow office recently; she because he had invited her to discuss the lack of local services after she had written a complaint, I because it was an opportunity to present him with one of the Clarion pens presented to contributors who have helped make this newsletter a success. He was surprised and pleased, I was overdue to thank him. All was well.

I am not by nature a Conservative, but that doesn't stop me admiring a man who works hard, has never to my knowledge been involved in unsavoury behaviour and does answer letters from his constituents. I know about that because several years ago I asked

for his help and he gave me a totally honest and simple reply to a letter that solved the problem. It was like this....

My elder son was living in Munich and was courting a young lady now his wife. Iain wanted to bring Elena to England to meet his parents and applied for a visa. That was the trigger of a long argument with British Border Control that had him travelling from Munich to their office at Dusseldorf, each time to meet refusal, even when he explained to the official that he had not made an error in his application, which the official finally agreed was so after being persuaded to look at the instruction my son followed.

He was thoroughly fed up and said so during a call home. I suggested I should write to Philip Dunne; after all he was MP to both of us. I wrote, explaining the situation and emphasising that the lady concerned was a property owner and fully employed back home in Shanghai. If it would help, my wife and I would vouch for the lady and stand surety that she would not be trying to find employment in either Germany or England.

Philip Dunne's reply was a model of correctness, explaining the correct procedure that Border Control followed and beginning his final paragraph with the phrase "...I will speak to the Minister..." It was on Parliamentary notepaper, the famous portcullis on the heading. I sent it straight through to Iain, who was due in Dusseldorf (I remember him telling me that I in Cleobury was nearer to Dusseldorf than he was in Munich) the next day.

He got the visa and when he and Elena came here for Christmas they met Philip Dunne at the Father Christmas ceremony of switching on the Christmas lights.

I have voted for Mr Dunne ever since and wish him a well earned and and happy retirement .

*Jim Reynolds*



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## LOCAL DEER

Most of the deer seen in the Wyre Forest are Fallow Deer. They are a familiar sight in the quieter parts of the forest and at this time of the year the bucks will have moved to their rutting grounds where they will contest their right to mate with a harem of females. As well as the Fallow Deer there are a growing number of both the exotic Muntjac and the Roe Deer. Even in 2015 Roe were rarely seen in the forest (according to 'The Nature of Wyre' by the Wyre Forest Study Group) and it may come as a surprise to hear that they are native to the British Isles, alongside Red Deer.



During 2020's lockdown we frequently saw one lone individual on our walks in the Coldharbour Coppice area of the forest and sightings are gradually becoming more frequent. The buck in Mick Farmer's photo was seen in Withybed Wood near Buttonoak and I believe they are often

in that area. It is very probable that they are now breeding in Wyre rather than wandering in from nearby populations. The 2023 spring census reported sightings of 26 Roe Deer. However, for the first time a drone survey, using thermal imaging, was also carried out and it located 48 Roe, fairly well scattered in groups of up to 4 individuals throughout the forest.

As you can see from the photo, the Roe have a chestnut coat without spots, a big black nose and a white chin. Smaller than the Fallow and larger (and more elegant) than the Muntjac, the bucks have short antlers which are much less extravagantly-branched than those of the Fallow, having up to 3 points. At this time of year they may have shed their antlers, having already mated earlier than the Fallow in July and August. The mated does then delay the implantation of the fertilised eggs and give birth, often to twins or even triplets, in May or June. The kids are spotted with white and must make a very pretty sight.

Deer in general are masters of detection and it is very rare to see them before they see you. Consequently the pale, buff-coloured rump of the Roe may be almost all you see of it as it bounds away from you!

*Linda Iles*

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## Philip Dunne's Letter from Westminster

Last month, in my role as a Commonwealth War Graves Commissioner, I joined a delegation on a visit to war grave sites in Italy, eighty years after the first Allied landings on mainland Europe presaged the end of WW2.

We saw some of the impressive work being undertaken to ensure those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the two World Wars are remembered and honoured by future generations.

It is impossible to walk among the immaculate rows of white headstones and not be moved. As time moves on, and living memory moves to becoming history, such a tangible reminder of the human cost of war is important as we seek to impress upon younger people the sacrifices of previous generations.

For those not aware, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission was founded in 1917, and its mission is to commemorate the nearly 1.7 million Commonwealth servicemen and women who died in the two World Wars, along with the countless others who perished in subsequent conflicts. The Commission operates in 153 countries and territories, ensuring that the final resting places of those who fought and died are well maintained and that their stories continue to be told.

By my estimation there are around 65 CWGC grave sites in South Shropshire, spread all across the constituency. Details of all of these sites, including the names of those commemorated, can be found at the very useful CWGC website: [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org). I would encourage readers to find out their nearest site, perhaps in the lead up to Remembrance Sunday next month. The CWGC is always looking for volunteers to help maintain the more isolated graves and the website gives details of how to volunteer to look after a grave near you.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission draws its Commissioners from political, diplomatic, academic and military figures, from across the Commonwealth nations. I was appointed a Commissioner in 2019 and have been joined on the Commission by senior military officers from each service,

with an admiral from the Royal Navy recently appointed as new Vice Chairman, being joined by a senior British Army general and Royal Air Force air marshal this summer, with each of whom I had worked when at the Ministry of Defence.

While known for the upkeep of grave sites, the CWGC's work extends beyond the confines of cemeteries and memorials. Through research and documentation, it seeks to ensure that every individual's story is known and appreciated – reminding us that behind every headstone is a life that was lived, and a family that grieved.

As custodians of a large amount of outside space, the Commission also has an interesting role to play in pioneering horticultural excellence around the world. Certainly in the larger Commission maintained sites, such as those I visited on my trip, the beautifully maintained gardens and landscaping adds to the tranquil and contemplative atmosphere of rows of headstones and names etched in stone. It is a fitting tribute to those who gave their lives for a more peaceful world. As my own small act of commemoration I was able to plant a rose in the Cassino cemetery, near the graves of those I presumed had fought with my late father-in-law in the Italian campaign in the autumn of 1944 when two battalions of the Scots Guards had landed at Salerno in September 1944, steadily fighting their way up the Apennines to Rome.

My role as one of only two parliamentarian Commissioners of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission is an immense honour and a privilege. The work we do is not just about maintaining graves - it is about preserving the memory of those who paid the highest price for our freedom, ensuring their stories are told and their sacrifices are never forgotten.

*Philip Dunne*

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

Last month during a walk by the River Rea near Papermills Cottages one of our members spotted a kingfisher. For many decades the river was very industrial with many mills along its banks particularly papermills. It is now known for its abundance of wildlife. The glorious sunshine was a treat for the people who joined the Country Walk in September. We welcomed six new people, a couple from Bayton, another couple who had moved to Cleobury at Christmas and two people visiting from the North East. The walk was based on leaflet 17: A Round of Golf. This lovely varied walk traces a rough circle around Cleobury, passing through farmland, the Golf club and Mawley Estate. Going along the path from Upper Forge to the Bayton road the views over Cleobury are stunning. The next walk is on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October starting at 10.00am outside St Mary's church. Walking For Health is always popular and well supported. Eighteen people went on last month's Away Day to Arley. We usually go there in June so it was

interesting to see the countryside so different during our walk. The two mile walk from the car park by the river Severn to the Arboretum is a mixture of lanes, pastures and an orchard. A welcome break at the Tea Rooms before heading downhill back to the car park. A reminder that we meet at 10.00 am on the second and fourth Wednesday outside St Mary's church. A leisurely walk lasting about an hour followed by refreshments and a chat at the CoCo coffee morning in the Market Hall. Although it was a rainy morning for the work party the planned work was completed. Working just outside Milson two stiles were repaired and two dog gates fitted at Bassardsbank. The group then split into two. One half cleared a local path while the others headed back to Cleobury to repair a couple of rotten slats on the bridge between Workhouse Bank and Cleanlyseat. Rotten slats are a regular occurrence particularly on bridges under trees. Falling leaves build up and cause the rot. It would be a great

help if anyone seeing a leaf build up on bridges would scrape them off the wood. This can be done very simply with the side of a boot.

The Hunter Full Moon is on October 28<sup>th</sup>. This bright moon together with longer nights are perfect conditions for night stalking. Like the Harvest Moon last month the name reflects the season for gathering food for the Winter.

CMFA activities are on our website [www.cmfa.co.uk](http://www.cmfa.co.uk) and also on Facebook.

*Veronica Hargreaves*

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## Simon Morton In The Garden

### Digital Daisies - The Future Of Gardening?

Much has been written about Artificial Intelligence.

If you subscribe to all the scaremongering (and there is a lot of it), you'd be justified in thinking that the role of 'expert' will be redundant within the next 12 months. Monty, Alan and their like must be quaking in their wellies. But do they *really* have anything to worry about?

I decided to put AI-powered Chat-GPT to the test and asked the questions that really matter - what are the top five things I should be doing right now to prepare for Autumn?

So, dear reader, I present the AI version of Autumn gardening and then the reality, at least based on my own experiences:

#### Chat-GPT Tip No 1 - Tidy Up

Start by removing spent summer flowers, dead foliage, and any other debris. Not only will this make your garden look better, but it also reduces hiding places for pests and diseases.

**My Reality** - Clearing beds is one thing. Keeping them clear is very much another. In my experience, it's the perfect way to allow weeds to flourish. Hours, if not days, of backbreaking work are rewarded with a bed awash with bloody weeds.

#### Chat-GPT Tip No 2 - Mulch Beds and Borders

After cleaning up, add a layer of mulch to your flower beds and borders. This insulates the soil, keeping it warmer for longer and protecting plant roots. Choose organic mulch like compost, leaf mould, or well-rotted manure for best results.

**My Reality** - You're so knackered from completing Tip 1 that the thought of barrowing muck around the garden is laughable. Sorry - it's not happening. Yes, I know it's supposed to help, but you can stick it. I need a cuppa.

#### Chat-GPT Tip No 3 - Protect Tender Plants

Wrap tender plants or move them indoors to protect them from the cold. Plants such as fuchsias and geraniums can either be moved inside or covered with fleece to help them survive the winter.

**My Reality** - Argue with wife about bringing plants into the house over winter. Her stance is clear - having mouldy and dying plants dotted around on window sills is not what she had in mind for an interior design scheme. I immediately back down, recognising the futility of any counterargument ever since the 'home brew in the airing cupboard' incident of 2019.

#### Chat-GPT Tip No 4 - Plant Spring Bulbs

Now is the time to plant bulbs like daffodils, tulips, and crocuses. These should be in the ground before the first frost to ensure a beautiful and colourful garden in the spring.

**My Reality** - I lose the scrap of paper that highlighted the gaps from this year. Decide that the on-their-last-legs tulips already in the ground will have to suffice. We'll cross this particular bridge next year, where, once again, we'll have lost the all-important piece of paper with the gaps on. And repeat.

#### Chat-GPT Tip No 5 - Lawn Care

Give your lawn a good, thorough rake to remove thatch and moss. This is also the perfect time to patch up any bald spots with grass seed.

**My Reality** - Make a half-hearted attempt at raking the grass and quickly conclude that moss and dandelions are actually rather aesthetically pleasing. Decide to file the whole endeavour under the title 'Rewilding' and speak no more of it.

**Sorry, Chat-GPT** - until you can factor in human frailties/my penchant for cocking things up, you're still no threat to the everyday gardener.

*Simon Morton*



**Cleobury Mortimer Benefice**  
**Church services throughout the Benefice in October 2023**  
**St Mary's Cleobury Mortimer**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October – 10.00am Harvest Family Eucharist  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October – 8.30am Said Eucharist  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October – 10.00am Eucharist  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 10.00am Eucharist  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – 10.00am Eucharist  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October – 10.00am Benefice Eucharist

Every Wednesday – 10.00am Eucharist  
Every Thursday – 10.00-11.30am - Drop in at St Mary's with the Pastoral Care Group & Stay and Play.

**St Michael and All Angels', Hopton Wafers**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October – 9.30am Eucharist  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 9.30am Eucharist

**St John the Baptist, Doddington**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October – 11.00am Eucharist  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 3.00pm Evening Prayer

**All Saints', Neen Sollars**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October – 11.00am Village Worship  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October – 11.00am Village Worship  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 11.00am Village Worship  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – 11.00am Village Eucharist

**St George's, Milson**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October – 6.00pm Evening Prayer  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 11.00am Eucharist

**St Mary's, Neen Savage**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October – 6.00pm – Evening Prayer BCP  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October – 9.00am Eucharist BCP  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October – 6.00pm Harvest Service

**St John the Baptist, Kinlet**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October – 11.15am Eucharist BCP  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October – 6.00pm Harvest Evening Prayer BCP

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

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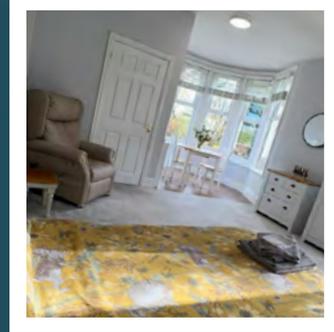
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## Wendy Shines Bright - Finalist for Lifetime Achievement in Care at the National Care Awards 2023!



We are thrilled to announce that Wendy, our very own Senior Carer here at Doddington Lodge, has been chosen as a finalist for the National Care Awards 2023 in the category of 'Lifetime Achievement in Care.' This is a huge honour and a testament to Wendy's exceptional commitment to providing compassionate care to our residents and always going above and beyond for the residents as well as their family, friends and the team at Doddington Lodge.

We couldn't be more proud of her and wish her the best of luck at the upcoming London red carpet event on Friday 24th November at the Platinum Suite, Excel, London. Congratulations Wendy!

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## THE SHOE BOX NEWS

Sorry I haven't been in touch about the shoe-box appeal. To some extent I have taken over from Jenny, but only in as much that I just collect all donations and pass them on to the Teams 4U. This is the same charity that Jenny passed her completed shoe boxes to; I just don't have the time to pack boxes, but I am happy to receive and pass them on. If you have small complete toys and games, plus anything that we can fill the boxes with, that would be great. Please ensure it is useable, clean and tidy, whatever you donate.

Regards Keith 0797630 7889.



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## CLEOBURY GARDENERS - LEARNING TO GROW FOOD

Last year, we gave our annual growing competition for pre-school and primary-age children a new look, launching 'Learning to Grow Food' to help them understand better how the fruits and vegetables they eat are grown. They learned so much about seeds and growing conditions, thoroughly enjoying the brief they'd been given, that this year, supported by a £250 grant from The Rotary Club of Ludlow, we extended it to explore whether seed size matters.

It is often difficult for nurseries and schools to fit competitions into their timetables given the demands of the statutory curriculum but three pre-schools and four primary schools entered, often involving whole groups and classes: in all, it was enjoyed by well over 120 local children. In March, they were given a selection of seeds of varying sizes (radish, cress, lettuce, carrots and pumpkins) and a bag of peat-free compost, kindly supplied by Farlow Farm Nursery. The children used their knowledge and imagination to explore ways of germinating the seeds and then growing them on to strong productive plants to eat. During the planting and growing period, they kept a log of their activities to show: the key events; any problems with growing their seeds and how they solved them; any advice they sought; how the growing conditions influenced their crops; and their overall successes and failures. We visited them in July to judge the logs and the produce, and it was obvious that they had learned a lot about growing food and how seeds of different sizes have varying rates of germination and growth to maturity; it was equally obvious that they had enjoyed the activities and eating what they had grown.

In the pre-school group, Stottesdon Gateway Nursery won first prize, with Abkats Nursery runners-up; Farlow Church of England Primary School won first prize in the schools' category and Kinlet Church

of England Primary School was runner-up. Prizes were strong garden forks and rakes designed specifically for children that will last for years to come. In addition, all of those who entered this year have been given a bug hotel in preparation for the 2024 competition that will focus on the role of pollinators. They can't wait to get going so they'll have plenty of pollinators for next year's competition crops!

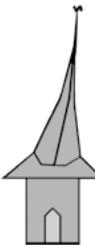
*Flo Hadley*

## SIMON EVANS – HIS LIFE AND WORK.

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, The Friends of St Mary's will welcome Dr Mark Baldwin who will give an illustrated talk on the life and work of the man who is probably Cleobury Mortimer's best known inhabitant. He was a soldier, postman, author and an early broadcaster enthralled audiences with his accounts of life in rural Shropshire in the days before World War 2. Many of you will be aware that the 'Simon Evans Way' is named after him as it is largely based on the route he followed during his time as a local postman, covering over 20 miles every day in all weathers. Those of you who have recently moved to Cleobury may not be familiar with his story which went from being gassed in the trenches in World War 1 to life in a small Shropshire market town. As ever with a Mark Baldwin presentation, this is bound to be an entertaining evening.

The event takes place in St Mary's Church, Cleobury Mortimer at 7.30 pm and tickets cost £8 which includes light refreshments. They are available from Spire Hairdressers, Cleobury Pharmacy, Cleobury Library, Diane Waddington 01299 272820, Angela Drennan 01299 270636 or Friends Committee members.

*Steve Todd.*



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Just what we need in Cleobury – a vape shop... We already have to skirt round quantities of discarded packaging when out and about and this won't improve things as it appears that vape users, like many dog owners, haven't yet grasped the concept of using bins. This might be helped if the government's slow realisation that the disposable flavoured and coloured versions are proving irresistible and harmful to youngsters, results in them being banned. I wouldn't hold your breath though as it has been revealed that the Tories have had a donation of £350,000 from a company linked to the marketing of these devices. Interestingly, China, where most are manufactured, has banned flavoured versions although they are happy to carry on selling them to the idiot westerners... Rishi has now stated that a ban will happen 'within weeks' but we shall see..

More woke news. Should you be misguided enough to drink Bud Light, said by at least one observer to taste like 'a heady mix of washing up liquid and processed gerbil', you may be aware of their recent ad campaign which features a transgender 'influencer' who specialises in offensive caricatures of what it is like to be a woman. The result?, a backlash culminating in a 10.5% decline in takings in the key US market, primarily due to sales of that specific product plummeting. Clearly this approach has not gone down well with the good ol' boys (and girls), although it came as a surprise to AB InBev, the producer.

The HS 0.9 fiasco gets worse and worse. A recent report from the Treasury suggests either stopping at Birmingham or rescheduling (i.e. delaying) the stretch further north. This seems to be a desperate attempt to free up some spending to allow tax cuts prior to the General Election but it is interesting that neither the prime minister nor the chancellor expressed support for the completion of the project as planned when asked to do so. Neither of those options does anything for levelling up and if the northern section is scrapped, we could end up with a spend of £100 billion for a line from London to Birmingham (note to Treasury: we already have one...). So, what to call it in that case?.

HS 0.5 would probably cover it...

Given that the price of stamps has now increased again, perhaps it's just as well we can't get any from our friendly local P.O. although Londis and Cleobury Library have them. No news yet on what is happening about a replacement. The Post Office will only say that there are plans but not what they might be. There was a rumour floating around that an existing local business might be taking it on but that has gone quiet so we shall see.

Talking Post Office performance, some useful stats courtesy of 'Private Eye'. Losses 2022: £419 million. Dividends paid to shareholders since 2021: £477 million. UK postcodes where delivery targets were met this summer: 0.

The Mullers factory site is shown as 'under offer' and there is a rumour that a large retailer may be eyeing it up. Another take on this says that an engineering firm is interested. As with all such stories, they may or may not have legs so another case of wait and see. My bet is on more houses but what do I know?

We are told that, as part of the government's 'Net Zero' policy, sales of oil boilers will be banned from 2026, well before a similar ban on gas units. Never mind, we are offered a wonderful high tech replacement in the form of air or ground source heating systems. These work well in theory but, as usual with such technologies, the actual performance is less impressive. Not to worry though, our leaders are offering a £5,000 grant towards the cost. Note the word 'towards' which is important as the actual cost, depending on a number of factors such as the age of the premises, levels of insulation etc, is likely to be far higher. Even then, reports indicate that they might not make your house very warm but perhaps global warming will take care of that...

*Ariadne J Grumpy*

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## THE MAN IN CHARGE

John Greaves is a relative newcomer to Cleobury who didn't expect to stay long. But like so many he grew to like the place and is still here and very much involved. He was coopted onto the Town Council in May 2020 and three years later was voted into the privilege of leading the Town Council.



So the new boy really made good, but his qualification as an engineer and work record with the aerospace and automotive industries before his current position heading an energy think tank make it clear that he knows what he's doing.

The council he leads is logically organised, with teams covering finance, employment, and public engagement plus health, safety and environment that reflect the experience and knowledge of its members. And in addition they can bring in members of the community with specialist knowledge when it's needed. What it amounts to is not the council making decisions and dictating actions, more the community using its talents to make decisions. That's good logic that suggests well judged action for us all, with

party politics and personal interests not allowed when they meet.

Talk to John and other councillors, available at their meet-the-public facility at the monthly Farmers' Market and they listen, discuss and will advise whenever they can. They might mention the fact that in 2026 the town will be celebrating 800 years since it was awarded a Market Town Charter as a town. The 2026 Town Festival should be quite something!

Looking to the future, John wants to build the reputation of the place and draw people to visit us. His aim is prosperity and strength in what we have to offer, particularly for the young who want to stay here in decent employment and college graduates who want to find the posts that their qualifications justify. No small ambition, but a reflection of vision. He has a personal challenge in bringing the facilities at the Golf Club and the Pioneer Centre into greater involvement with the townspeople.

The Council is now up to full strength with nine members, the first time for something like five years. Whatever the state of the nation as presented by most of the media, there's a feeling of optimism about the group of people who currently lead us. It should be an interesting ride.

## ADAM PONSFORD'S FUND RAISING

**News from Lacon Childe pupil Adam on his fund raising to help finance his trip to Africa next year.**

Fund raising efforts slowed down over the Summer Holidays. There will be further sweet sales at school and possibly a coffee morning together with stalls at various Christmas Fairs. My final event takes place at Kinlet Village Hall on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 11am-5pm which is a Family Fun Christmas Fair with Craft Stalls selling affordable Christmas Gifts along with traditional tombola type stalls. I now need your help - I am looking for crafters who wish to have their own stall on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. If you are interested please contact Rachael on 07715030510 to book. There are only limited numbers and they are going quickly. More details about the Christmas Fair next month. Thank you everyone for your help in supporting my journey. *Adam*

## THE PARISH HALL

There's been a lot of work done on the Parish Hall in the past year, with something like £35,000 raised and spent on this popular venue.

The bell tower has been replaced, the front wall repointed, the electrics fixed, an industrial dishwasher installed and the redecoration completed.

The committee who've done so much for the place deserve congratulations for their efforts. It's a big, busy place.



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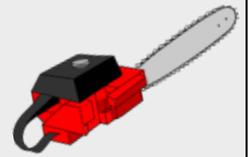
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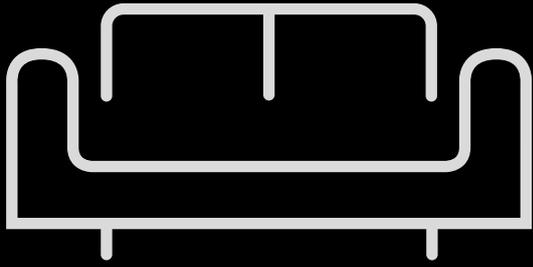
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SOUTH SHROPSHIRE YOUTH FORUM		<b>01584 874922</b>	
VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME		<b>01299 666119</b>	Mandy Smith
WASTE DISPOSAL		<b>0345 678 9007</b>	The contractor is Veolia
WATER SUPPLY EMERGENCIES	Severn Trent	<b>0800 783 4444</b>	
NEWLIFE CHURCH	Pastor E Stirrup	<b>01562 630595</b>	Sunday services at 10.30

## THE OCTOBER SOCIAL CALENDAR

- Mon. 2nd. 09.30. Road closure on A4171 begins. PAGE 7  
7.00. Town Council meeting at Cleobury Country Centre, Love Lane.
- Tue. 3rd. 2.00. Carer Only Support Group meeting, St Mary's Place, Love Lane
- Wed. 4th **DOMESTIC RUBBISH AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED TODAY**  
6.00 to 7.00 Late Night at the Food Bank, Market Hall, Church Street.  
7.30. Photography Club meet at the Market Hall.  
7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall
- Thu. 5th. 10.00 Rock Pathfinders step out from Bartley Church, WR6 6QE
- Sat. 7th. 10.00 Tenbury Applefest at The Town in An Orchard. PAGE 11  
6.30. Murder mystery "Die de Die" at Clows Top Victory Hall. PAGE 11  
7.00. Cosford Military Wives in concert at the Parish Hall PAGE 9
- Mon. 9th. 7.30 Cleobury Gardeners meet at St Mary's Hall. PAGE 11
- Tue. 10th. 7.30. Cleobury W.I. meeting at the Market Hall PAGE 7  
7.30. Breakfast Club meet at the Gold Club. Angela Brennan CM 270636 PAGE 5
- Wed. 11th. **GREEN GARDEN RUBBISH BINS EMPTIED TODAY**  
10.00. CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall, Church Street.  
12.30 Soup Lunch at Melville Chapel, Orteton PAGE 5
- Fri. 13th. 8.00. Bingo Evening at Doddington Village Hall.
- Sat. 14th. 7.00. Barn Dance Time at Clows Top Victory Hall. PAGE 11  
Photography Club have a Woodland session in Far Forest.
- Wed. 18th. **DOMESTIC RUBBISH AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED TODAY**  
3.00. Cleobury W.I. tea and cake at the Royal Fountain Inn. PAGE 7  
7.00. Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.  
7.30. Photography Club meet at the Market Hall to Show and Tell.
- Thu. 19th 10.00. Rock Pathfinders begin their walk at Bodenham Arboretum, DY11 5TB
- Fri. 20th 7.30. Royal British Legion dinner in aid of Poppy Appeal. PAGE 60
- Sat. 21st. 1.30. Jumble Sale at Clows Top Victory Hall. PAGE 11  
7.30. Flicks in the Sticks at CM Parish Hall: "Mrs Harris Goes to Paris" PAGE 9
- Sun. 22nd. 10.00 Walk a Mile for Polio starts at Ludlow Castle. A great idea! PAGE 9
- Tue. 24th. 2.00. Stroke Support Group, Community Room, St Mary's Place, Love Lane. PAGE 5
- Wed. 25th. **GREEN GARDEN RUBBISH BINS EMPTIED TODAY**  
10.00. CoCo Coffee Morning, Market Hall, Church Street.  
7.30. Clows Top Garden Club. Angela Thompson on The Silk Road. PAGE 11
- Fri. 27th. 7.00. Quiz Night and Supper, Melville Chapel, Oreton. PAGE 5  
8.00. Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.
- Mon. 30th 7.30. The Nearly Dead Poets Society meet at the town library, Love Lane.
- AND LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER:**
- Wed. 1st. **DOMESTIC RUBBISH AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED TODAY**  
The Photography Club meet at the Market Hall.
- Wed. 25th. 7.30. Clows Top Garden Club. Angela Thompson on The Silk Road. PAGE 11
- REGULAR EVENTS OF LOCAL INTEREST**
- Monday at 8.00. Bingo Night at the Market Hall.
- Tuesday 2.00. Friendship Club meet at the Parish Hall.
- Thursday 11.00 Drop-In Morning at the Parish Church. Chat, take tea and maybe talk problems.  
2.00. Tina Hobin's Exercise for the mature at St Mary's Centre, Love Lane  
7.30. Tina Hobin's Ancient Egyptian Birth Dance and good health. At Market Hall.

**IS YOUR LOCAL EVENT NOT ON THIS BUSY PAGE?  
CONTACT THE EDITOR ON 01299 270642**



### Letter from America.

### Lisa Baldwin's advice.

#### Question

I have a temper. This is nothing new. I have struggled with it most of my life. I have lost friends because of it. I say things that I regret later. Even if I apologize, sometimes the damage is done and cannot be reversed. I also yell a great deal while driving. I know that anger can be a sign of depression, but I have been tested and it is not the case for me. What can I do?

#### Answer

There are times in life when anger can be positive. It can be directed into action. It can motivate us to make changes in our lives. It can also serve to make changes in our families and our world. It can be transformative if kept in check and directed toward positive outcomes.

Anger can also take forms that are not constructive. For some it may be yelling, for another it may take a more passive-aggressive form. This includes remaining quiet, but seething inside with resentment. Whatever form it takes, there tend to be basic ways of thinking that contribute to escalating anger within.

Taking offense and personalizing situations are often found in those with anger issues. "How dare that driver cut ME off?" "I am being disrespected when you don't say good morning to ME!" There are often rigid assumptions as to how others should behave.

If you find yourself getting angry, take a pause and ask yourself if the situation is really about you.

Isn't that driver is likely to cut anyone off? Perhaps the driver is having a bad morning and is in a hurry for some reason that has nothing to do with you.

Learn to ask questions of others such as "help me to understand what you meant by....." instead of assuming a negative intention that may not be there.

Decide not to react until you have more information. Stay curious and remain open-minded to another's point of view.

Self care is also an important part of managing anger. Getting enough sleep, eating healthily, and vigorous exercise can also be helpful. Seek to have balance in your life. Avoid alcohol if you tend to say things you regret while drinking.

Keep a journal and take time for self-reflection. Ask yourself what assumptions you are making about a person or situation. What are you fearful of? Are you uncomfortable with uncertainty? Do you have a need to control outcomes with others?

By becoming self-aware, we are able to look at our assumptions squarely and consider how they are contributing to angry outbursts. Even though you may have had a problem with your temper for many years, you will improve by understanding yourself and your personal thinking patterns. With this understanding you can choose to react differently, which will improve your relationships with others.

*Lisa Baldwin*

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

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

After five years in the role, during which he had to guide the Branch safely through the global pandemic and the resultant national lockdown period, Mike Hermolle stood down from his position as Chairman at the Annual General Meeting on 13 September. We are hugely grateful to him for all that he has done for the Branch. Mike will remain a part of the Branch and will continue to provide support to those who need it through the welfare structure.

Paul Serrell-Cooke was then elected Chairman. No stranger to the Branch, having joined when he retired from the RAF, Paul has been an active member. He is looking forward to working with the Branch to continue the good work that the Branch does.

The Committee is currently seeking a volunteer for the role of Secretary, so if you are at all interested in the position, please let Paul know. He can be contacted on 07791 378240.

From a Royal British Legion perspective, our busy season is fast approaching. Dates for the diary include: **Friday 20th October:** Fish & Chip Supper in Aid of the Poppy Appeal. 7.30 for 8.00 in the Parish Hall; licensed bar, entertainment by Bridgnorth Ukulele Band. Tickets are £12.00 a head, available from the usual Branch members.

**Saturday 11th November,** at 11.00am: Remembrance Day Silence at the Memorial Garden, St Mary's Church.

**Sunday 12th November:** Remembrance Day Parade and Service – details to follow in the October Clarion.

Finally, please support the poppy appeal when poppies go on sale in a number of the local shops and businesses within Cleobury Mortimer or when you see members of the branch selling them in the town.

### WOOD WORDS

Don't time fly! Seems just a short time ago I was reporting it was "only a few weeks to mid- April" when the "new season begins". Now it's nearly over!

The green closes on October the 2<sup>nd</sup> and end of season treatment will begin the process of putting the grass to bed for the winter. This shouldn't be a problem for students at Lacon Childe School where a weekly indoor bowls session organized by club members Joe and Lesley Burnside is available during school time..

An end of season celebration may be appropriate for Mortimer Team who narrowly beat Horsehay B (1 point) in the semi final of the Highley League Presidents Cup reaching the final to be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October at Bridgnorth. Well done the team!

Regretfully Presidents Day and David Taylor's Air Ambulance event was postponed from September the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. Unknown at time of going to press. This is an annual game – Presidents team versus Captains team – The event resulting in a donation to local Air Ambulance charity.

The Club have had a very eventful season during 2023 and readers are reminded that information is available on the club website [cleoburybowls.org.uk](http://cleoburybowls.org.uk). A feature of the season has been the introduction of "Taster Sessions" well received by visiting new comers and our thanks go to Uncle Jim and the Cleobury Clarion for inclusion of information in the very informative local publication. Further news will be provided in these columns of future editions.

*Smiffy. 07494 016137.*

### SAINT JOHN'S

We invite you to a Musical Afternoon Tea with Trevor Wood on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 2.30. A varied afternoon of music to dance to, words to listen to; a traditional country afternoon. And what would one of our Events be without a raffle? It'll be there!

Thanks to all who sponsored us for Ride & Stride - we enjoyed local churches including newly-refurbished Stottesdon - and raised £430 inc Gift Aid - an increase on last year which is the right way to go. Thank you to all involved in our Harvest Festival - a beautifully decorated church; bountiful donations of produce; and generous bidding at the fun auction. We raised c£86 to help with disaster relief in Morocco. To find out more about any of the above, or to support us in any way, visit [achurchnearyou.com/church/10505/](http://achurchnearyou.com/church/10505/), follow us on Facebook (@stjohnsdoddington), or contact us: [stjohnsdoddington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsdoddington@gmail.com) 01584 318036 *Celia Gibb*

## Do you have Powers of Attorney dated pre-2007?

From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007, Enduring Powers of Attorney (EPA) were replaced by Lasting Powers of Attorney.

Lasting Powers of Attorney enable you to grant powers to another person enabling them to make decisions on your behalf, allowing you to plan for your future health and financial needs if circumstances change.

A very important advantage of the new Lasting Powers of Attorney is that there are two Powers of Attorney. There is one specifically for your health and welfare and then another for your property and financial matters whereas with the old Enduring Powers of Attorney, they only assisted with your property and financial matters.

### Disadvantages of Enduring Powers of Attorney

- Registration with the Office of Public Guardian is carried out only when the person starts to lose capacity; if the Office of Public Guardian find that the document is invalid for any reason, it will not be registered, and the person may no longer have sufficient capacity to correct that mistake. If this was to happen, then the person would be reliant on somebody applying to be their deputy leaving them in a very vulnerable position with no-one appointed to act until the Court of Protection appoints a deputy. This can take a year or more.
- The cost of registration of an Enduring Power of Attorney can often be the same as putting in place new Lasting Powers of Attorney.
- Enduring Powers of Attorney do not give Attorneys power to make decisions in respect of health and welfare matters.

### Advantages of Lasting Powers of Attorney

- Registration of the Lasting Powers of Attorney starts after you and your Attorneys have signed the documents giving peace of mind. Registration can take anywhere from two to four months. It is therefore advisable to plan ahead and get the documents in place well before they might be needed.
- Lasting Powers of Attorney can be used at any age, for example it may be useful if you spend long periods of time abroad. It is not just about getting old and losing capacity. You may want to consider putting Powers of Attorney in place for your children when they turn 18. When your child turns 18 you no longer have power to make decisions for them. If your child had an accident and lost capacity, wouldn't you still like to be able to assist them?
- Lasting Powers of Attorney for health enable your Attorneys to appeal any funding decisions for care.
- The Health and Welfare Lasting Powers of Attorney also enable Attorneys to assist with life sustaining treatment decisions.
- Next of kin means nothing in law. It is necessary to be appointed as the person's Attorney.
- A Property and Financial Lasting Power of Attorney is recognised by all financial institutions. Some financial institutions no longer accept Enduring Powers of Attorney.
- It is possible for the person to include preferences and instructions for their Attorneys to follow about their specific needs/requirements regarding their care, their religious views and anything else specific to that person.

If you would like to discuss Lasting Powers of Attorney in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact Westons Wills and Probate on 01299 405873 located at 18 Severn Side South, Bewdley, DY12 2DX.



# Ludlow Motors

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### **New Team Member**

We have great pleasure in welcoming Les Ginns to the Town Council team. Les will be working alongside Richard as Maintenance Assistant.

### **New planters**

As you probably will have noticed, we have positioned two new planters on the High Street near the pedestrian crossing. We're hoping this will discourage parking on the pavement and visually enhance the High Street.

### **Hedges**

We have received several complaints from residents regarding overgrown hedges. Please note you are permitted to trim back any hedges, branches or roots that encroach the boundary line. The resident that owns the hedge must ensure that it is well maintained enough that it does not cause any damage to any property. The primary consideration for the Town Council is clear access to footpaths for members of the public and we would appreciate your consideration with this.

### **Councillor Surgery**

The Councillor surgery at the Market Hall took place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September and representatives of the Town Council were available for members of the public to talk to, in order to express any concerns that they may have in respect of the town. Concerns raised:

1. Overgrown graves and fallen branches in the cemetery. The Town Council will take steps to contact those responsible for maintaining the graves and will also ensure that the broken branches around the cemetery are removed as soon as possible.
  2. Overgrown paths have not improved since the issue was first reported. We are currently in negotiation with Shropshire Council for funding to help them with paths within the town and we are hoping this can be resolved soon.
  3. Ivy is growing up some very old yew trees in the churchyard. We will ensure this will be removed this winter.
- If you have any local concerns or would just like to pop by and say hello, we will be at the Market Hall again on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October from 10:00am to 12:00pm**. We hope to see you there.

### **QEII Park redesign**

We are looking to redesign the QEII Park. What facilities would you like to see there? Benches, flower beds, wildlife corridor, pavilion, croquet court, fairy glen woodland trail? This is a community space, and we would really like you to be involved in the process of redesigning and deciding what facilities the area should offer. Please contact the Town Council on 01299 271154 or email the council, [council@cleobury.org.uk](mailto:council@cleobury.org.uk) to register your interest.

### **Lime Tree Pleaching**

Work on pleaching the Lime Trees on the High Street will be commencing Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

### **The Childe Endowment Trust**

The Childe Endowment Trust has recently had its round of applications and interviews. It has distributed just under £8000 to 12 local applicants to help them with their further education. The trustees were particularly impressed with the quality of the applicants and the variety of talents we have locally for budding professionals.

### **The Cleobury Mortimer Medical Centre**

The Cleobury Mortimer Medical Centre has relaunched its Patient's Voice group. This is an important volunteer body that offers patient feedback to the centre's business managers and medical professionals. It is a link between the NHS and the community that it serves. Please contact Cate, who is the Business Manager at the surgery [cate.tolley@nhs.net](mailto:cate.tolley@nhs.net). Everyone is welcome to get involved.

**Next Council Meeting Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023, 6.30pm at the Cleobury Country Centre.** Everyone welcome.



# eme CLEOBURY

## FACILITIES INCLUDE:

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

## OPENING TIMES

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

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

## CLASS TIMETABLE

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

Pre-Booking required for Exercise classes  
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