

The Cleobury Clarion

OCTOBER 2013

Clee Hill W.I.



Jane Taylor (left) of the Shropshire Federation of Women's Institutes presents a commemorative 95 years certificate to Clee Hill W.I.

President Marina Clent

They're built to last on Clee Hill, from the ancient workings up on the tops to the people of the village and their institutions.

This year Clee Hill W.I. celebrated their 95th birthday with a gathering in the village hall, when Marina Clent, their President for the last 26 years - that long lasting habit again - received a special commemorative diploma from the Shropshire Federation.

We've told you about the remarkable Pat Williams before. This is a lady who was diagnosed with breast and liver cancer three and a half years ago and found a lot of help with counselling and treatments at The Haven in Hereford. Pat was so impressed with what they did that she started to raise funds to help their work - they are funded entirely by donations.

With husband Peter, daughter Victoria and some very good friends, she has organised a range of events to raise money for the cause. A few weeks ago The Haven asked if they could enter Pat in the UK Fundraiser Championship. And at the end of August they called to tell her she was overall winner, which means a cool £1000 to the charity of her choice, and could she please come to Hereford for the presentation. She has raised close to £7500 for The Haven, Midlands Air Ambulance and MacMillan Nurses; that will probably be at the Kings Arms, the Williams family's favourite watering place. We'll report on that and raise a glass to a true champion.

Wonderful Pat Williams



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The Cleobury Clarion. October 2013

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

POLICE STATION CLOSED

Cleobury's Police Station was due to be closed at the end of September. Please see our report on the coming November 6th Neighbourhood Watch meeting on Page 39, when all residents will be welcome.

THE LEGION GOES UNDERGROUND



90 metres down in the Welsh countryside and still smiling. From left Mrs Moss, Mrs Bunn and Mrs Carol Turner. (Picture courtesy of Dr Mark Baldwin)

The Royal British Legion and guests enjoyed a coach outing on September 3rd to the Big Pit, near Abergavenny. Once a major source of coal, it is now the Welsh National Mining Museum. In all, 34 people made

the trip and enjoyed a glimpse of the work miners used to do.

They descended some 90 metres in the 'cage' which holds 18 people and was the main means of getting to the coal face when the mine was operating. And they were also shown some of the older mining techniques and the underground stables. Life for the canaries that were a means of warning of gas in the mine was slightly better, as their cages were kept above ground.

THE FAR FOREST SHOW

The show surpassed expectations, a fantastic day. Stars included the Knights and Freemen Medieval Village re-enacting their battles, and other attractions included some beautiful dogs in the Forest Dog Rescue Show, while tractor rides provided a pleasant and alternative view of the show.

Cookery Demonstrations by some excellent local chefs, including Daren Bale from the Hop Pole were a hot favourite and amongst the new acts were young dancers from the Severnside School of Dance

and the fabulous Soft Option Appalachian Dancers.

Our new Food Court was a huge success, offering delights whilst listening to the acts including Mumbo-Jumbo, the Dead Beats and the Groove Diggers jazz band.

Fabulous weather helped make the day such a success and provide funding for the Far Forest Society Pavilion.

Congratulations to Show Manager David Bell and the committee members, who work all year round to make each show better than the one before. To see what we have in store next year on August 10th, please see our website: [www.farforestcountryside show.w.btck.co.uk](http://www.farforestcountrysideshow.w.btck.co.uk)

THANK YOU

A big Thank You to everybody for the kind messages, cards and flowers I have received since my return from hospital.

I am making slow but steady progress under the watchful eye of the editor.

Valerie Reynolds



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The Food & Ale Trail - Another Cleobury Success



All smiles as David Walford and daughter take in the scenery on their way through Mawley Hall.

The weather can be a fickle customer in September, and when the weather forecast warned of heavy rain coming on Friday the 6th, it seemed the Food and Ale Trail on the 7th might be a victim. But a sunny day with docile looking clouds dawned and by 9.30 there were people in big socks and boots walking up Love Lane to the Cleobury Country Centre, ready for a good day's walking with a little refreshment along the way.

The official word from organiser Carol Franklin is that 165 people actually set out on the walk. If there were any who didn't make the finish it is not clear, but as the walk made its way through Mawley Hall's

grounds there was talk of blisters. Not that such a minor matter stopped people smiling.

Ashley Pugh's mobile unit provided sustenance for the first food stop at The Rookery. People were full of praise for the effort that got them down the lane and ready to welcome the long line of walkers with hot drinks, pastries and cakes.

The well signed route took them on to the Golf Club, where a ploughman's lunch and a range of Mr Hobson's fine ales for the thirsty was available. With a slightly chilly breeze, the option of eating outside and taking in the scenery or keeping warm under cover was welcome. The Club is becoming quite a noted walking attraction, as well as offering one of the most scenic courses in the area. And those who indulged in a little ale to keep their energy up got a souvenir tankard to take home.

The walk on to Neen Savage and that lovely setting for the village hall was rewarded with cream teas accompanied by hot drinks or another Hobsons tipple. You won't be surprised that there were no reports of anyone passing out with thirst before the final leg took them to the ford and along the river back to Cleobury. There the Kings Arms offered burgers or pork baps with musical

accompaniment in the Rectory Field as Food and Ale gave way to Music and Ale.

Congratulations go to Carol Franklin for a great job in coordinating the whole walk and publicity, ably assisted by Alan Kimber and Chris Tibbetts. And to Susan Sharp, whose knowledge of the local footpaths was invaluable in plotting a route that showed off the South Shropshire countryside so well. And let's not forget the Cleobury Country team who made their Centre available as the hub of the operation. There were a lot of new faces in town that day, which suggests that the reputation of this happy event is spreading.

It rounded off with a musical evening in the Rectory Field, where the Kings Arms team made sure that nobody went hungry or thirsty and the volume drew people in.

The day was billed as part of the Cleobury Fringe, which seems to have shrunk down from a month of happenings to one day. The result was proof of the old saying that small is beautiful, though the original aim of the Fringe being the umbrella for a range of events seems to have disappeared. But nothing outside the event can detract from a Food and Ale Trail that grows in reputation.

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FIONA IN THE PUB

Faith In The Pub is normally an all-male event, where chaps can discuss chaps' matters and spare the ladies' blushes. But September saw new ground broken, when Fiona Hankin was welcomed to talk about credit unions and community banking in general and Shropshire's Fairshares operation in particular. She held her audience's attention for almost two hours and left us talking about the possibility of it happening in the Cleobury area.



Fiona Hankin - an ambassador for Shropshire's Fairshare.

She started with some horror stories, like the worst Pay Day Loan company who charge a crippling 5,200% per annum for loans - credit unions charge a maximum of 26.8%! She quoted

the cost of borrowing £500 over a year with one of the lower charges, which would cost a total of £941, or 272% interest. The obvious solution would be to put a cap on interest charges, but the government won't do that; we are the only country in Europe with that policy.

So these companies carry on with practices like a customer buying a TV set and having service charges added. And do you have your household insurance policy with you as proof that it will be covered against theft or damage. You don't? Then there's another service charge for insurance. For example, in a few minutes, that £1644 big screen number has gone up to over £4,000. These people are not there to be nice and help you.

Shropshire's Fairshare is very different. You join by signing up to pay an agreed amount into your savings account every month, and after 12 weeks of saving you can apply for a loan. There's no question of immediate loans, you have to prove that you are a steady payer with your own account first.

Last year this company made loans totalling £1.6 million; in Leeds the credit union is so successful that it's now offering mortgages. The more people

who join a credit union, the more finance to offer loans to those in need. You can see why their slogan is 'Local People Helping Local People'; it's exactly what they're doing.

There is even a Junior Members scheme, but that gives no right to a loan until the saver is 18. But it does establish a good habit of putting money away for the future.

This was a very interesting evening, mainly because people could see the benefit to the community of people in need being cared for instead of getting further into debt. There are talks going on and we can't say more than that. But do watch this space and do avoid the honey trap of an easy loan that's a money trap in reality.

PLEASE BE AWARE

Writing about the Wyre Forest this month on Page 49, Linda Iles describes the drama of the rutting season for the deer.

It's also time to remind all drivers passing through local forest areas this means the stags are not out to practise the Green Cross Code. They have more important things on their mind.

So please, drivers, drop the speed and keep a sharp eye out for the deer as they move about. If you hit one, damage to your car will be considerable and an innocent wild animal will die.



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CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

At the August meeting Ingrid Millington of Hillview Hardy Plants gave a talk and slide show on Colour with Bulbs. Spring is usually the time when we think of bulbs, but there are thousands to plant to give colour for every season. Ingrid showed fabulous pictures and the evening was a great success.

This year's Summer Garden Show had some very good entries. The Club would like to thank all helpers and exhibitors. Results were: - Vegetable, Fruit & Flower Cups won by Ted Mills, Harry Jenkins, Donna Hudson, John Griffiths Austin Fletcher and Marion Wilson. Cookery Cup won by Aileen Hood, Handicraft Cup by Marion Cox and Floral Art Cup jointly by Marion Wilson & Suzanne France. Children's Shields won by Ben Williams & Victor Coley.

Our next meeting on October 23rd features Michael Darville, who talks about 'Gardening An Arboretum'.

EARLY NOTICE

The Clee Hill branch of the Royal British Legion will be hosting their Annual Prize Bingo Night at the village hall on Saturday October 5th. Eyes down at 8.00, lots of prizes to be

won and all proceeds go to the Poppy Appeal.

THE READING GROUP

In September we reviewed 'The Black Hill' by Bruce Chatwin, a well-written novel most of us would have bypassed but for the Reading Group. Following twin boys from birth to death it gives us an insight into their harsh lives on a remote hillside farm near the Hereford/Welsh border. Some, but not all, empathised with the characters and we all appreciated the wonderful descriptive passages. Likened to a biography and variously described as lovely, moving, sad and even tedious, overall we decided it was a book to recommend.

If anyone wishes to join us to chat about "A Gentle Plea for Chaos" by Mirabel Osler, we meet again at Cleobury Library on 16th October at 7.30.

Deana Kimber 271754

YOUTH GROUPS AID

Another local body makes a generous offer to further work with young people. Roy Powell of the Cleobury Mortimer Crib League advises us that there are funds available to help any organisation working with youngsters in the Cleobury area.

Roy is the contact and would welcome enquiries on CM 270832.

KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

September has been a busy time, with new faces in Playgroup and our Parent/Carer group that runs on a Thursday morning.

We have been enjoying messy play, creative and cooking activities. The children were fascinated by the big pumpkin we came back to after the holiday and have been watching it grow some more. We've also been thinking about who we are and creating a display of our family photos.

The Playgroup will be having an Open Day, starting at 11.00am on Saturday 12th October, at the same time as the school. Everyone welcome. If you would like to see Playgroup in action, or would like your child to start sooner, please give us a call on 07794 166514.

Zoe Pearson

EARLY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

On Saturday November 9th, there will be a Christmas Fayre in the Victory Hall, Clows Top, in aid of Stockton and Pensax churches. Christmas goods, soup and a roll for lunch, and a grand raffle for a food and wines hamper. Parents won't be keen to hear of Christmas events this early, but worth putting in your diary.

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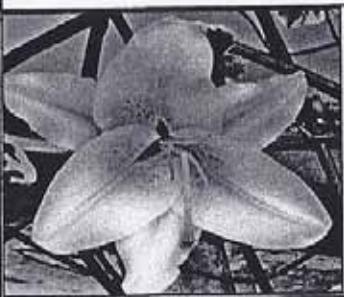
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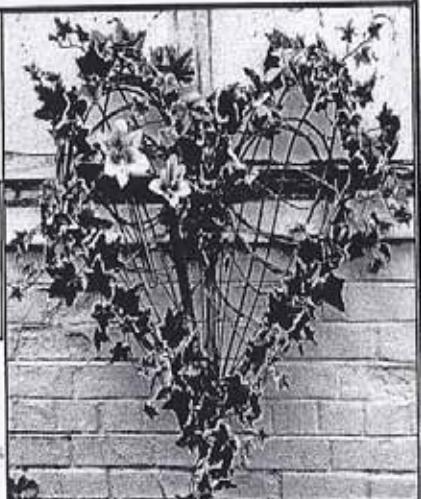
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We have been pleased to welcome our families back after our summer holidays. We have also welcomed our new reception children and some additions whose families have recently moved to the area. We have also been delighted to welcome back Mr Langdon who worked at Bayton during the last school year as part of his PGCE course. Mr Langdon is now teaching our year 2 children for three days a week and teaching PE across the whole school on the remaining two days.

As always, we have a busy half term planned, with trips to Lacon Childe for various sporting activities, KS2 will be having swimming lessons every week and Harriers Football Club are coaching our Y5/6 children each week. We also have after school clubs planned for every day of the week and the whole school are preparing for our Harvest Festival Service to be performed to our families on Friday, 18th October at Bayton Church. And just this week, our whole school has taken part in making a mosaic based on our school Values for Life. Once it is completed, this fantastic mosaic which will be displayed in our playground.

Furthermore, we are hosting our first ever Open Morning for existing and prospective families to come into school to see how our morning lessons, such as Read Write Inc (our literacy scheme), Maths and to watch our popular Open the Book Assembly. For interested families, this will be held on Thursday, 10th October from 9am until 11.30. For those families who are unable to attend we are also holding an additional Open Day on Saturday 12th October from 10am to 1pm.

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CLEOBURY CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting is on Tuesday October 15th at 2.00 in St Mary's Place.

**We are starting a new informal gathering ,coffee and chat,
on the first Wednesday of every month 10.30 -11.30 in The Kings Arms.**

Please do come and join us.

For further information please contact Wendy Duley on CM 270562

FUN RUN 2013

Unfortunately the Fun Run for BBC Children in Need and local

Children's Charities will not be going ahead this year.

We would welcome New Members to our committee and

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Caroline Bills on 01299 270249

Apologies to the charities concerned.

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Star of the Small Ads - Gareth at Cleobury Carpets



*Happy on the High Street,
Gareth Leach*

He won't tell you to boast about it, that's not his way. But when Gareth Leach sold the chippy on High Street and went into the carpet trade, he wanted to learn the craft of fitting. So he asked father Alan to make him a model with skirting board all around the edge. When he had some surplus from a job at work, he'd bring it home and fit it in this trial room to develop his skills.

By the time he opened his little shop on High Street ten years ago, he was able to do a fitting job really well.

He's still modest and admits to using more experienced men if he has a really big job. Like 300 metres to fit out a large hall in the area, where he got the job on recommendation. He gets lots of those.

He's learned a lot in 15 years and his main supplier is Victoria Carpets in Kidderminster, a company that's survived the hard times that closed most of the factories. "They're the best, the service is superb," he says "You won't beat them." He has a good contact there and can often buy the end of a roll at a very good price, which helps the customer's pocket.

The small shop is crowded with samples, dominated by the Victoria display. But he has no dreams of bigger premises and fancy displays. He owns the property and knows what an advantage that is: "Lower over-

heads." If you don't have a big rent bill to pay, your prices can be keener. And he drives around in a small van, not a limousine; lower overheads again.

He does a lot of work with natural fibre carpets. "Very long lasting and it looks great when it's down. But it is expensive to fit; you have to stick the underlay to the floor, then stick the carpet to the underlay."

He enjoys the work: "Every day's different, in the chip shop the same people would come in on the same day and say the same thing." There are days when the shop isn't open, which means he's busy and out fitting another job. Which can be as far away as London, where happy customer recommendations have brought a lot of work.

It's his high standard of fitting that wins him friends. "It's all about preparation, get that right and it's easy," he explains. I used to work in the carpet industry and can tell he's good. He's very good.

JR

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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

Every year, at this time, we talk about fireworks. You may all be getting bored with it by now, but I am still going to talk about it. Keep on reading; you may just pick up a hint or tip that you did not know before.

Of course, the main pets affected by the fireworks are our dogs. Symptoms of fright can vary massively from a little shivering, and keeping quiet to manic barking and toilet trouble. It is very difficult to comfort dogs in this situation, but there are a few things you can do to help minimise the stress.

Take them for a walk before dark, before the fireworks and bonfires start, to empty the tank, then come home and settle down to a nice quiet evening. Close the windows, close the curtains, turn the telly up a little to drown out some of the noise, and try not to act differently. Opinion varies, but I choose to believe that you should not comfort them – from their point of view, attention and fuss at this stressful time is just reassuring them that you are scared too. Try to ignore the whole situation and relax. You may be surprised how much of a difference these simple steps will have.

If you do need to take them outside during the noise, please keep them on a lead in case they choose to run away, and keep the walk to a minimum length. Also, please don't tell them off if they have an accident inside the house. The last thing they need at this time is more stress!

If you have any questions, feel free to book a free appointment with our nurse to talk about noise phobias, and how best to

help our friends through them. Of course, some pets are so very frightened that they need some calming medications to help them through. We can help in these cases, just book an appointment and we will be happy to discuss your options.

For those of you who are interested, Bubbles, my cat, is enjoying the big wide world, making friends, and enemies. He sometimes comes home with small scabs on his head, but nothing too serious. He has now decided that when a door is opened, there must be something very exciting on the other side, so he just has to go through it. Any door, anywhere! Of course, as the weather cools, the heating is just starting to kick in, so Bubbles has re-discovered his radiator shelf, and is slowly, ever so cleverly, clearing it of all of the items that are in his place. One at a time, night after night so we don't notice. Eventually he will have cleared the whole shelf, and will keep it clear for the whole winter. Clever little cat!

Thanks for reading,
Jeremy Hall BVMS MRCVS



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

NEW FACE AT THE TOP



Darren Reynolds, the new Head Teacher at Lacon Childe.

Some of the first words Darren Reynolds spoke when we met were "This is a lovely school. I'm very proud to be here." And with exam results at an all time high when the pundits were saying the national standard would be down, beauty is more than skin deep at Lacon Childe.

This is Mr Reynolds' first headship, a step up the ladder from his previous position as Deputy Head of the Chantry School at Martley, over the border in Worcestershire. He made a strong impression at his first assembly, according to some pupils we've spoken to, when he encouraged the children to take a pride in their school and all that it has to offer. His insistence upon school uniform being worn

hints at the standard he expects, with shirts and blouses properly tucked in.

Stopping Year 11 pupils going down into the town at lunch time was a shock to some systems used to visiting the chippy, but he happily explained the logic of the decision. "The school takes responsibility for the pupils from the time they arrive until the end of the school day. So why should I let them go out for an hour, not knowing where they are or what they're doing?"

He smiled at the way the objection has been overcome, with pupils ordering food and the chippy delivering. Such pupil initiative gets the nod of approval.

THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Members enjoyed a fascinating talk on mistletoe by Doctor Mike Jones in September. Most of us only know of the mistletoe bought and seen growing in the area; there are in fact about 450 species. It was good to see slides of mistletoe from other countries, some of which have pink flowers and red berries.

Doctor Mike regaled us with facts, myths and legends. Mistletoe is a parasitic plant, relying on its host for food, and it especially likes apple and

poplar trees in this area. Much of it is harvested for the Tenbury Mistletoe Sale, which is attended by people from all over the country.

We also had a competition for a container with four fruits or vegetables, won by Judy Sant.

On October 5th we have our Autumn Plant Sale at the Market Hall and we look forward to seeing many people there to purchase. Our next meeting is on October 7th, when Derek Walker will advise us about pot plants for Christmas.

Liz Smurthwaite

PLEASE COLLECT

Kate Pearce, Librarian at Lacon Childe School, has rather more paper than she needs:

There are a number of certificates at Lacon Childe School that have yet to be collected, including some from many years ago.

If you would like your certificates please call in at the school office, or if someone can come on your behalf, please send them along with a signed letter saying that they make take them. Exam bodies will charge to replace or reissue certificates, so please collect them.

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Happenings on High Street

GOODWILL KNITTING



The knitted adornments spread down the High Street.

Naturally there are notes at the entrance to Lloyds Bank.

There was a sudden outbreak of knitting in some secret hideaway during the summer months. The result was a series of special designs on shop premises and private houses, plus red roses around the Memorial Garden railing. The Clarion traced the source to the Severn Hospice Shop, where manager Gayna Woodland explained it was all done to cheer people up in the face of so much gloomy news. The knitting came from the Severn Craft Club, now grown from one meeting a week to three. The result makes people smile, and there's not much better than smiles.

Lloyds Bank was an obvious target; maybe the craftspeople will make a special blanket for the Black Horse. You'll see one of those on the counter, because the staff want everyone to know that good old Lloyds is back. It all happened officially on September 23rd and manager Sue Cole is in no doubt about the future: "Lloyds is staying in Cleobury Mortimer," she told us. No ifs or buts, they are staying.

And they're putting money into the community. Two local services have been nominated for a place in a competition to decide the most deserving cause in South Shropshire: Cleobury's Scouts and Guides and the Severn Hospice Shop. They will each get £300 for getting this far and anyone calling in to the High Street branch can pick up a disc and put it into the box with the name of their choice. There's a top prize of £3,000 to be won, so let's get the votes out and bring that money into our community. You have until November 1st to place your vote.

Lloyds has been a feature on the High Street for a long time, and their Cashpoint helps with anything from a Chinese meal to money for the weekly shop. They help our shops survive in this tough climate with that service, available 24 hours a day, seven

days a week. No other money outlet in the town can match it.

Sue Cole promised there will be no change in the services to be found in the bank; it will still open from 10.00 to 4.00, five days a week. And the staff smile at you when you walk in, with or without the knitted decoration.



Here's proof of the smiley habit, as Gayna Woodland of Severn Hospice cuts the opening ribbon with Sue Cole looking on.

GREAT AUCTION

The Royal British Legion auction of local produce on September 13th saw a fair old crush in the bar of the The Bell Inn and chairman Jim Hulme in good voice. The result was a total of £1028 raised for this year's Poppy Appeal, a very timely reminder that next month should see us all wearing the poppies and giving generously.

Another Page of Clarion Smalls

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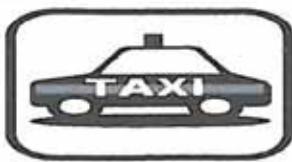
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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE PARISH PLAN PROGRESSES

Councillor Madge Shineton reports on an important project for the community's future:

A lively meeting on September 18th resulted in another step towards the production of a blue print for the future of Cleobury Mortimer. The Analysis of the Questionnaire was reviewed including the section on Traffic management and progress to date with Traffic Management Officers' proposal options. There were differing opinions with some of the proposals, which will be relayed to the Parish Council. Health and Fitness; youth activities and transport were also under discussion.

The Parish Plan Group agreed to accept the offer from Mrs Val Simpson to start the first draft of the plan for the next meeting on October 16th in the Market Hall, at 7.00pm. Photographs of the area will be considered to illustrate heritage and current views.

The next meetings will be on October 16th and November 20th both in the Market Hall at 7.00. Everyone is welcome.

Madge Shineton

SPARC THEATRE SPARKLES

The Sparc Theatre at Bishops Castle has a full programme for October. A good place for a special outing.

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Friday 11th Oct, 7.30pm

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Film: Epic (U)

Friday 18th Oct, 6.00pm

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National Theatre live: Hamlet

Tuesday 22nd Oct, 7.00pm

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Live music: Osiligi Maasai Warriors

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Family theatre: Boo and Bang!

Thursday 31st Oct, 2.00pm

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Nat Theatre live: Frankenstein

Thursday 31st Oct, 7.00pm

£10 adult/£7 child

AND ANOTHER BRIGHT SPARK

Cllr Jack Martin reports:

The Parish Council have organised a big clean-up around Cleobury on Thursday, October

3rd, with the help of the Street Scene department from Shropshire Council. Lacon Childe school have agreed to get involved and do a pick around their grounds, then there's a public session at 11:30am for which we need lots of volunteers to help go around town. Equipment will be provided.

I've set up a website for the Parish Hall to help inform people what is going on in the town. Just call www.cleoburyparishhall.weebly.com

Finally, a Parish Council newsletter. Our first one is due to go out soon, in a similar sort of fashion to the Clarion, to local businesses etc. It's a brief double sided newsletter with all the major points that have come up in the meetings. It will be a quarterly publication if these first few issues prove successful.

Jack Martin

ROCK BRIDGE CLUB

We are starting the Autumn season. We meet every Sunday at Rock Village Hall at 7.00 pm. New members welcome whether on own or with partner. The meetings are very sociable and relaxed. We do not play Duplicate Bridge. Just turn up or contact Luke Grant on 07854 951 330

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Letter from Westminster - Philip Dunne MP

In a rural area like the Ludlow constituency, we all rely on an efficient postal service. While email and other social media have become a prolific means of communication, we still need post boxes, offices and deliveries to our homes and offices. We have a high proportion of home working in Shropshire and while better broadband is on its way, many rely on Royal Mail for their business. The Government has recently announced plans for a flotation of Royal Mail shares on the London Stock Exchange and I want to make clear that the Post Office is not included in the sale.

With the number of letters we send in long-term decline and online shopping increasing, the Royal Mail needs to have access to the capital to compete with the internet, smart phones and international postal operators. Under successive governments Royal Mail has found it hard to secure the capital investment it needs to maintain or improve its service while technology allows competitors to advance.

That is why the public is being given the opportunity to buy shares in Royal Mail and these are being provided to 150,000 employees. By allowing Royal Mail access to private capital to invest, taxpayers will no longer have to provide funds for investment. This will secure the long term sustainability of the one price goes anywhere, six days a week service that we all rely on.

This universal service is protected by the Postal Services Act 2011, which can only be changed by both Houses of Parliament. It is also protected by Ofcom, who in June introduced new safeguards for postal services in rural communities.

Access to Royal Mail's network of 115,000 post boxes will now be protected with a requirement that 98% of all households across the UK should be within half a mile of a post box. Ofcom has made clear that Royal Mail already complies with the new criteria. This is an important protection, especially for those of us in rural areas, as it will apply across the UK for the first time.

The Post Office network of branches was separated from Royal Mail and is not included in the business being sold. There is a clear commitment under this government that there will be no closure of post offices. £1.34 billion in funding over four years has been committed to maintain the network of at least 11,500 post office branches across the UK.

Regardless of ownership, Royal Mail will continue to be the our universal service provider. It will deliver the six day week service, at uniform prices, to all 29 million addresses throughout the country. I want to reassure local residents that rural postal services will be safeguarded and South Shropshire will continue to receive the same quality service we currently enjoy.

Philip Dunne MP



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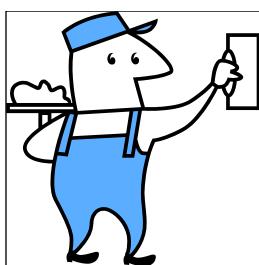
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The October Social Calendar

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Wed 2	10.00am	Walking for Health stroll out from the Sports Centre, Love Lane	Mandy Smith	CM 270312
	8.00pm	Whist Drive Night at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 3		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders walk out from Adams Hill car park, Client OS reference 926798	Alan	01299 400304
Sat 5	10.00am	Autumn Plant Sale in the Market Hall. SEE PAGE 21.		
Mon 7	8.00pm	Faith in the Pub meet at the Kings Arms, Church Street		
Tue 8	7.25am	St Mary's Breakfast Club meet at Lacon Childe School.	Gill Chapman	CM 270575
Wed 9	12.30pm	The Ladies Luncheon Club meet at The Plough, Far Forest	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
	7.30pm	Neen Savage WI met at the Village Hall to hear Miss Harrison talk about "Living Mosaic".		
	8.00pm	Royal British Legion meet at The Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thu 10		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AD GREEN RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	9.00am	Open Morning at Bayton Primary School. SEE PAGE 13.		
Fri 11	7.30pm	For 8.00pm. Mumbo Jumbo entertain at Neen Sollars Village Hall. SEE PAGE 35.		
	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall		
Sat 12	10.00am	Open Morning at Bayton Primary School. SEE PAGE 13.		
	11.00am	Open Morning at Kinlet School and neighbouring Family Playgroup.		
Wed 16	10.00am	Walking for Health – see Wednesday 2 nd above.		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 17		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		

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The October Social Calendar - continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders walk starts at the Sun and Slipper, Mamble. OS reference 689714		
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at Sports and Social Club, Love Lane	Alan	CM 270114
Fri 18	8.00pm	Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Sat 19	10.00am	Arts and Crafts Fayre at Severn Centre, Highley		
Tue 22	10.15am	"All About Dementia" course at St Elizabeth's Hall, Lower Street	Julia Wenlock	01743341995
Wed 23	7.45pm	Michael Darville talks about "Gardening an Arboretum" to the Clows Top Gardening Club, Victory Hall	Marion Williams	CM 270475
Thu 24		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND GREEN RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 25		Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 31		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	6.00pm	Family Halloween Fancy Dress Party, Sports and Social Club, Love Lane. DJ, Fancy Dress, Games, Raffle. Children must be accompanied by parents or carers.		
	7.30pm	Cleobury Players present "Carry on Jeeves" at Lacon Childe School. Runs for three nights. SEE PAGE 51		
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO NOVEMBER		
Wed 6	8.00pm	Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 7		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND GREEN RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 8	8.00pm	Clee Hill British Legion Bingo at the Village Hall. All proceeds to the Poppy Appeal.		

KINLET CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY, 11.00 til 2.00, SATURDAY OCTOBER 12th

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27 Whitcombs Orchard

Ideal opportunity for first time buyers. Shared ownership property offering 50% share for £81,500, with the opportunity to purchase up to 95%. The three-bedroom family home is well presented throughout. Garden and parking for three cars. Energy rating C.



NEW

OIRO £81,500 for 50% share

5 Furlongs Close

Three bedroom semi detached family home located in a popular residential area. Requiring some improvements the property comprises kitchen/diner, lounge, conservatory, three bedroom and bathroom. Double glazing and single garage. Energy rating F.



OIRO £149,000

Wayside • Hopton Bank

A most impressive five bedroom property with breathtaking gardens, occupying a total plot of approximately half an acre. Large gardens, complete with stocked fish pool, veg patch, orchard, greenhouses, shed, undercover barbecue area, patios and decking. Double garage with driveway and ample parking.



OIRO £285,000

Hartmann Close

Situated to the top of a cul-de-sac in a sought after well established location is this modern semi-detached two bedroom Bungalow. Offering accommodation comprising, kitchen, sitting room, family room and two bedrooms. Garden & stream to rear. Property offers ample parking. Energy rating D.



SOLD STC

OIRO £129,950

4 Furlongs Close

Conveniently situated four bedrooomed detached family house towards the fringe of town and with relatively open views from the rear towards surrounding countryside. Energy rating D.



Norbury • Tenbury Wells

A unique beautifully presented detached five bedroom residence. Set in exceptionally large mature gardens enjoying privacy and offering versatile accommodation. Having double glazed windows and cavity wall insulation. Energy rating E.



1 Stable Mews • Lion Lane

Modern three storey terraced house conveniently located close to all local amenities of Cleobury Mortimer. Ideal opportunity for first time buyer or investor. Energy rating C.

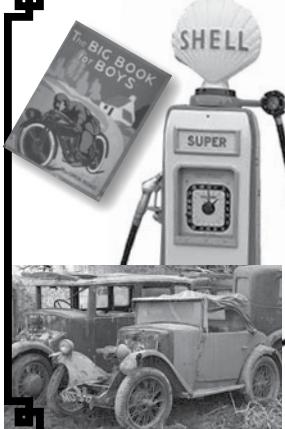


34 Orchard Court • Tenbury Wells

Attractive 2 bedroom bungalow stands on the edge of a secluded development having warden care, garden maintenance and within walking distance of the Town Centre. Benefiting from double glazing and central heating. Energy rating D.



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Clarion Coppers - with CSO Nick Morris

It looks as if it's time for everyone to be on guard because there has been a significant increase in break-ins and thefts in our area recently.

Two static caravans were broken into at Earls Ditton towards the end of August. Nothing was stolen from one, but a large amount of money and jewellery was taken from the second. Overnight on September 2nd/3rd, a tack room in Neen Sollars was broken into but fortunately nothing was stolen. Another shed in that area was broken into at about the same time and again nothing was stolen. On the same night frozen food in a freezer and golf clubs in a shed were stolen from a property in Childe Road. On September 6th/7th a garage in Lacon Close was broken into and a motorbike stolen. However, this was later found abandoned near Walford's Bridge. During the same night a parked car which was left unsecured in Langland Road was entered. A handbag was stolen with a purse containing £260 and a couple of store vouchers worth £10 each. Cards were not stolen but scattered about in the vehicle. Caught on CCTV at 0310hrs on September 9th were three youths entering two vehicles parked, (again unsecured!) on a drive in Orchard End. A Tomtom satnav was taken from one and a pair of football boots from the other.

Criminal damage was incurred to a parked vehicle in Tenbury Road on September 14th/15th. Two tyres were let down and bodywork scratched. Investigations are ongoing as there is a suspect for this. On September 18th just after 05:00am an observant and community minded member of the public reported some suspicious looking

characters in a car being driven slowly in the High Street area of town. This was followed up with several police officers being deployed to locate and pursue the vehicle. Luckily the registration number had been obtained which helped to identify it. It was finally caught up with in the West Midlands area and the two occupants arrested on suspicion of theft. The vehicle was found to be full of hubcaps and wheel trims, with another 130 hubcaps discovered elsewhere.

There were several reports later of thefts of hubcaps or wheeltrims in Leominster and on Hopton Bank. During the night of September 20th/21st there were two burglaries. At one, in a house and garage in Lea View, only a holdall was stolen which was found intact later by a neighbour. The other, at a house in Tenbury Road, an Ipad and laptop were stolen along with a wallet and purses. Items from the garage were stolen but not identified at the time of writing.

Lessons to be learnt here are:

- a) Do not leave valuable items in your vehicle on show or at all if possible.
- b) Always lock your vehicle if left unattended.
- c) If you see anything suspicious, get as many details as you can and call Police immediately on 101, (or 999 in an emergency only).

Finally, a date for your diary. A Neighbourhood Watch meeting is set for Wednesday, November 6th at 7:00pm in The Methodist Hall, where, amongst other things, everyone will be updated with how the West Mercia Police Force has been restructured.

Nick Morris

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CLEOBURY COCO'S BIRTHDAY

Katja Ward writes:

Recently I read an article by Esther Rantzen titled 'Why I'm setting up a 'Childline' for old people.' Her answer to the problem of loneliness in an ageing society was to set up a befriending helpline called The Silver Line. A simple idea, bringing great benefit to many.

In Cleobury Mortimer part of the answer to the problem is Cleobury Compassionate Communities, who work alongside others to befriend frail, vulnerable and isolated adults of any age, visit them at home or get them out and about. This month 'CoCo' celebrates its first official birthday and is about to recruit again with training on October 16th & 17th. If you would like to join us and give just one or two hours a week to make a real difference to someone, please contact Katja on 01299 270018 or cleoburycoco@hotmail.com.

THE GREAT KINLET BAKE-OFF

As part of Kinlet C of E Primary School & PTA's Autumn Fayre and open day on October 12th, we are holding a

'Great Kinlet Bake Off'. The categories are: Best Decorated Cupcake; My Favourite Bake (sweet) and the Given Recipe Challenge - see below for Miss Shippam's Lemon Syrup Loaf Cake. 1. Ingredients:

For the cake

125g butter, 175g caster sugar, 2 eggs, Zest of 1 lemon, 175g self-raising flour and 4 tbsp milk.

For the syrup

Juice of 1 lemon plus 100g icing sugar.

Method

Pre heat the oven to 180C/gas mark 4; Cream the butter and sugar; Mix the eggs and the zest; Add the flour; Mix in the milk; Bake in a large lined loaf tin for approx 45 mins until golden and risen.

Gently heat the lemon juice and icing sugar until dissolved.

Puncture the warm cake all over and pour on the syrup.

All categories have adult and children's sections. Entries must be 'homemade'. Awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place to be judged by Councillor Madge Shineton. Please submit your entries before 12 noon.

Rachel Robinson

RAMBLING IN TENBURY

Tenbury Rambling Club organises about 40 walks a year ranging from 3 to 10 miles. Each is led by an experienced

club member, who reconnoitres the route beforehand. Apart from getting out in the superb countryside, there is the opportunity to chat with interesting people from different walks of life. The winter programme also includes some indoor talks at Penlu Community Hall.

We have more than 50 members with a wide range of age and fitness. Our oldest active member, who led a walk near Clun in July, is 87 years old. Anyone interested is free to come along for a taster before deciding on membership, which costs £8.50 a year. Not many clubs give better value for money!

The contact is secretary Ian Stone on 01584 876698 or e-mail ian@pykefield.co.uk

INTRIGUING...

Just a reminder that the highly regarded Mumbo Jumbo will be appearing at Neen Sollars Village Hall on Friday the 11th.

The show is called Acoustic Blues and Free Kazoos, which suggests they don't take themselves too seriously. So it should be fun night.

Doors open at 7.30 and the gig starts at 8.00. Craig on 270054 can tell you more and even sell you tickets.

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Church Street. Cleobury Mortimer

'FLICKS IN THE STICKS

7.30 Saturday October 12th

"Summer in February"

TO ALL BRIDGE PLAYERS

Starting on Thursday 17th October, Bridge will be played from 2.00 until 4.30pm at the hall and fortnightly from then on. Cost will be £2 per person with tea and biscuits. It will be played in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere to suit all levels.

For more details and to book in contact Pat Smith 01299 270592

And coming up on November 16th:

A Silent Disco - Watch This Space!

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The Farming Page

Rachel Robinson with the Mawley Town News. Its (nearly) All About Arable...

As well as rearing livestock, milking cows and retailing some of our milk, here at Mawley Town Farm we are busy with our arable land, where we grow a variety of crops that are used to feed the cattle. A proportion of our land remains in permanent pasture – that is more traditional grassland that we never plough and is used for grazing cattle during the summer and store lambs through the winter. There are also grass fields that we plant with specific varieties such as ryegrass, which is fast growing and makes good grass silage due to its long stems and high sugar content. We can take four or five cuts of grass silage in a year but with each cut it loses some of its quality. If you pass big blue New Holland tractors with trailers piled high with grass, you will know its heading for the Mawley herd!

The harvest is later this year, due to late planting. In the autumn of 2012 we could not get onto many of our fields because of the wet ground, so crops that would normally be planted in the autumn had to wait until the spring. Despite the late start, the crops have done considerably well. We have 200 acres of maize planted as many of

you will have noticed..the maize loved the heat wave we had and we have a bumper crop of an estimated 15-20 tonnes of maize to the acre! The other crops - barley, oats, wheat and peas have recovered well from their cold wet start, and we are hoping for continued good weather as they ripen.

Now for some facts and figures for those of you interested in machinery. Our combine that will be very busy in the weeks to come is a New Holland CX840. With its 24' header it has a 295hp engine, a fuel capacity of 198 gallons (749.5 litres) and has hydrostatic drive and a four speed gear box. At 30' long and 13' high, we try to be considerate to other road users by choosing the quietest times of day when we have to navigate the big yellow beauty through the High Street.

Now from yellow to green – the solar and wind energy we have invested in is working well, and we have exported 5000 more units than we have imported, from a combination of the two generating stations.

Rachel Robinson



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October - Page 38

Clarion Clippings - The Local News

FROM THE POLICE COMMISSIONER

As Police and Crime Commissioner for West Mercia it has always been my aim to provide a strong and powerful voice for local communities on policing matters, ensuring that their views are considered when making decisions.

To help me I have prepared a draft engagement strategy which outlines how I propose to engage with communities and work with them to effectively reduce crime and disorder. I really value people's opinions and I would like to encourage as many people as possible to take a little time to read it and let me know their thoughts.

The document is available on my website: www.westmercianpcc.gov.uk. Any comments on the draft Community Engagement Strategy should be emailed to me at opcc@westmercianpnn.police.uk or sent by post to OPCC West Mercia, PO Box 487, Shrewsbury SY2 6WB.

The closing date for this consultation is **14 October 2013**.

*Bill Longmore, Commissioner
Editor's note: The document Mr Longmore refers to is 15 pages long and could not be called a model of brevity. JR*

BILL DUNN

That fine gentleman's family would like to say thank you:

Brenda, Alison, Vivian and Elizabeth wish to thank relations, neighbours and friends for their kindness and support after the sudden loss of Bill. We are touched by the many messages and cards and the hundreds who attended his cremation and thanksgiving services.

Donations of over £3000, from the service and a fund raising cricket match and pig roast organised by Cleobury Mortimer Cricket Club, have been shared between Midlands Air Ambulance Service, RABI and St Mary's Church, Cleobury Mortimer.

Special thanks to Rev Ashley Buck, his team, the choir and speakers for a wonderful service celebrating Bill's life. Also to funeral directors, AH Caldicott & Sons, for their kindness, consideration and expertise.

ONE BIG CHANGE COMING

In fact, by the time you read this in October it is scheduled to have happened. Cleobury's Police Station is to be closed. It's those cuts in funding again, with the County Council

struggling to keep services going with less money coming from Whitehall.

There is a Neighbourhood Watch meeting in the Methodist Hall on November 6th, starting at 7.00. WPC Ann O'Leary is due to explain what is happening and a higher ranking officer has been invited to tell us how future policing will operate. You don't have to be a Watch member to ask questions; the general public are invited to attend. Should be an interesting evening.

CLEE HILL W.I. GIFTS

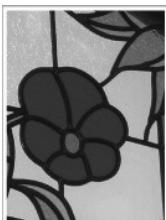


The friendly Clee Hill W.I. have been knitting squares to sew into blankets for Severn Hospice to sell. Left to right: Doreen and Janice Harper, Cath Evans of Severn Hospice, Marina Clent, Edie Whiteman and Hilda Trow, with finally Jane Leach of Severn. A warm hearted gesture that will help others.

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CONTACT DETAILS

Cleobury Mortimer Primary School

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Email: admin.cleoburmortimer@shropshirelg.net

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The Clarion Weekly Social Calendar

Day	Time	Event	Contact	Phone
Sun	08.30	Holy Communion, Parish Church		CM 270624
	09.45	Parish Communion, Parish Church		CM 270624
	09.00	Mass, St Elizabeth's, Lower Street	Canon Walsh	01584 872906
	10.30	Cleobury Country Archers, Lacon Childe Sports Field	Lesley Burnside	CM 271374
	10.30	New Life Church – for venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787
	11.00	Morning Service, Methodist Church	Rev H Roberts	01584 819649
Mon	08.00	Kinlet Family Playgroup, Kinlet School Mon to Fri		07794 166514
	08.00	Chorley Family Playgroup, Stottesdon School Mon to Fri	Zoe Day	01746 718769
	09.00	Peter Rabbit Nursery, Lacon Childe School Mon to Fri	April Rogers	CM 271418
	09.00	CM Playgroup, Primary School, Mon to Fri	Jane Preece	07816 193933
	09.30	Morning Workout, Sports Hall	Deena	CM 271317
	10.00	Age UK, Monday Club, St Mary's Place	Sarah Wilde	
	15.45	Gym Club with Ann Davis, Lacon Childe Mon & Wed	Don Carter	CM 270312
	17.30	Cubs Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Kate Pearce	07772 102986
	18.30	Karate Club, Lacon Childe School	John Nelson	CM 879210
	19.00	Tai Chi Class, Lacon Childe School	Rose Jacks	01584 875544
	19.30	Rangers Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Helen Smith	CM 270912
	19.45	Bingo, CM Sports & Social Club	Alan Evans	CM 270114
	20.00	Women's Clog Dancing Classes	Linda Small	01746 718624
	10.00	Nippers, Moths & Tots, Methodist Hall, Church Street	Emma	CM 272959
Tue	14.00	Friendship Club, Parish Hall, Church Street	Janet Rolston	CM 270353
	15.45	Ballet Class, Lacon Childe School	Liz Broadway	CM 251246
	17.00	Sports Roundabout, Sports Hall, Love Lane		CM 271317
	17.30	Beavers Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Becky Keeley	CM 271416
	18.45	Bridge Club Hopton Wafers Village Hall	Wendy Duley	CM 270562
	19.00	Bell Ringers' practice night, St Mary's Church	Liz Walker	CM 271808
	19.30	Modern Dance Sequence Club, Lacon Childe School	E Wrigglesworth	01562 822291
	10.30	Over 50s Relaxing Exercises, Doddington Village Hall	Freda Childe	01584 891180
Wed	16.45	Gym Club for 6 & over, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
	17.15	Brownies Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Rebecca Barnes	CM 272945
	19.00	Guides Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street		
	19.00	Yoga Class with Anna, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
	19.00	Zumba Class with Emma Forni, Lacon Childe School	Emma Forni	01746 862842
	19.30	CM Concert Brass Band practice, Parish Hall	Stella Wilcox	CM 270560
	19.30	New Life Church prayer meeting. For venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787
	19.45	Choir Practice, Parish Church	Philip Engleheart	CM 270627
	09.30	Little Tiddlers, Kinlet Family Playgroup, Kinlet School	Zoe Pearson	07794 166514
Thu	14.00	Scrabble Club, St Mary's Place, Non residents £1.00	Jo Booton	07969 104808
	16.45	Cleobury Comets Netball, CM Sports Centre term time	Mandy Smith	CM 271809
	17.30	Brownies Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Rebecca Barnes	CM 272945
	19.00	Bell Inn Band improvers rehearsal, Bell Inn, Lower Street		
	19.30	Tums and Bums, Lacon Childe School	Don Carter	CM 270312
	19.30	Adult 7-a-side Football League, CM Sports Centre	Dave Hinves	CM 271317
	20.00	Bell Inn Band rehearsal, Bell Inn, Lower Street		
	20.00	11-16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
	21.00	Over 16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317
	10.00	Tiny Stots, Chorley Playgroup, Stottesdon School	Zoe Day	01746 717769
Fri	10.00	Tiny Tots, Parish Hall	Bettina Poole	CM 271868
	17.30	Rainbows Meeting, girls 5-7 years, Old Pump House	Jean Basham	07792 813774
	19.00	Scout Meeting, Old Pump House, Church Street	Chris Andrews	CM 270937
	20.00	Badminton, CM Sports Centre		01584 881359
	10.30	Junior Coaching, CM Golf Club, Wyre Common	Robert Watkins	CM 271112

CLEOBURY MORTIMER SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

AUTUMN ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME

Saturday 14th September

Midnight Express Duo

Black County Music & Comedy



Saturday 5th October

Bonnie Diamond & Coe



Saturday 16th November

The Bev Pegg Band

Rock 'n' Roll Skiffle Comedy



Friday 20th December - **Senior Citizens Party**

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SUPPORTING LOCAL CHARITIES AND CLUBS

Entertainment shows and events raise money for good causes. Charities being supported this year are:



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SIMPLY FRESH WIN AWARDS



A very proud William Henry with the Shop With Me winners cup and Top 100 Independent Retailers certificate.

William Henry at Simply Fresh in Talbot Square had a pleasant surprise when he opened his mail and found a letter advising him he'd been judged one of the Top 100 Independent Retailers in the UK. The award came from the Independent Retailers Academy following a secret shopper's call and information William provided on his entry form.

And he recently took part in a Shop With Me competition, when retailers judged one another's shops. Just like a range of people do in the popular Dine With Me TV programme. The result was Cleobury's Simply Fresh being judged the winner and a small silver cup to put on display.

"I was so surprised and pleased to actually get two awards," said a very happy Mr Henry. "It's a tribute to my staff, who really are marvellous people." And to the man who took over a struggling store and made it such a welcoming success.

CLEOBURY W.I.

The President's party was held on August 13th in the Parish Hall. The members enjoyed a varied buffet with wine followed by a display of Line Dancing.

The monthly meeting was held on September 10th. After the Treasurer's report it was decided to donate £250 to the Nightingale Nursing Fund.

A letter was read from Angi Gregory resigning from her post of Secretary. The members thanked her for all her efforts on behalf of the W.I. and wished her a speedy recovery from her recent operation.

The President notified members that the NFWI had informed her that the subscription for 2014 would be increased to £34.70. Members were dismayed at this increase and asked the President to write to the NFWI expressing their views.

The speaker was Mr. Trumper who had previously taught at the local Primary School. He gave a very informative talk illustrated with slides on Ludlow in the 1960's. The competition of a hand made birthday card was won by Jill Chesterman and the flower of the month by Monica Downes.

The next meeting will be held on October 8th and the Speaker will be Mr. Swift talking about Bread Making. All are welcome to attend. Please arrive at the hall at 7.30p.m. or contact Jill Chesteman on 01299-271671.

VISITING BELLRINGERS

This month we have three bands of visiting ringers coming to ring the bells of St. Mary's on the following dates;

Saturday October 5th: 4.45 to 5.30pm. Shrewsbury Bellringers.

Saturday October 19th: 9.00 to 10.00am The Royal Naval Guild of Bellringers.

Saturday October 26th: 11.30 to 12.15pm Halesowen Bellringers.
Alec Osbaldeston

CRUVO!

A strange name, standing for Cricket, Rugby and Volleyball. It represents all those local clubs and its aim is to run fund raisers for the clubs and their base, the Sports and Social Club in Love Lane. We'll keep you up to date with their activities here in the Clarion and can tell you that on December 7th they'll have a Winter Ale and Whisky Festival at the club. More details in November, but we do believe it will not be a teetotal night.

The group are heading up an application for Parish Council funding to make modest alterations at the club to improve facilities and offer more room. You'll find forms in local shops and pubs to give the venture our support. Look out for a public meeting, probably at Lacon Childe School, where you can get more details of the proposal.

This is good stuff, with local club members working together to improve a well used facility. Please give them all your support.

SILLY BIT

'As of tomorrow, employees will only be able to access the building using individual security cards. Pictures will be taken next Wednesday and employees will receive their cards in two weeks.'

Fred Dales, Microsoft Corporation

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Linda Iles' October In The Forest

This is the season for one of the most dramatic events of the forest year, when the fallow deer begin the rut. The bucks meet at traditional rutting stands where they will challenge and fight to determine who should become the dominant buck, earning the right to mate with does in the area. You may come across these stands as you walk in the forest: a rubbing tree or stump surrounded by worn areas; or you may hear the strange groaning cries of the bucks as they issue their challenges. Other evidence includes frayed saplings and damaged bark where bucks have scent marked, tracks and skid marks at the scene of a fight or muddy wallows surrounded by tracks. This can sound quite intimidating but I can reassure you that the bucks have their minds on one thing and are not likely to notice your presence!

It should be a good time to see toadstools as well. The bracket fungus in the photo grows on old birch trees, of which there are many in the forest. Birches are very successful in colonising heath or clear-felled areas, but their dominance is temporary as they are eventually shaded out by oaks, after which they die. The birch polypore is also called razor-strop fungus, referring to one of its many uses. Another is as a provider of naturally antibiotic sticking plasters (I've

tried these and found them very good!) and, when the fruiting bodies are old and woody, a tough paper can be made from their pulp. There are other toadstools of all shapes and colours to be found in the forest but my advice is to eat nothing unless you're an experienced collector and are absolutely certain you've made a correct identification.

Events this month

On Saturday 19th October there are 2 two-hour **Fungus Forays** which will be great for beginners and cost £7 per person:

10.30am – 12.30pm at Hawkbatch, 2pm – 4pm at Earnwood car park (both on the B4194 Bewdley to Kinlet road). Bring a basket, small knife and notebook if possible. An additional ID guide is available at £4. Booking essential on 01299 266929.

Discovery Centre Open Day and Apple Juicing Demonstration

Every weekday during half term, Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November, the Forestry Commission's Community Discovery Centre will be open for visitors to enjoy the hands-on displays, watch birds through the one-way windows, follow the Sensory Trail and the Geological Time Trail. The unique 'Wild Side of Wyre' deer museum will also be open.

The team from the Wyre Community Land Trust will be apple juicing on site too, so bring your washed windfalls and help to turn them into delicious juice. Bring some sterilised bottles or buy plastic containers to take the juice home.

Lantern Making: Thursday October 31st. This is the perfect evening to make a lantern and carry it a short way into the forest to hear scary stories around a camp fire. Bring a clean, wide-necked jam jar with labels removed to make your lantern and wear warm clothing. Accompanied children only, £5 per child. Booking essential on 01299 266929. Meet at the Forestry Commission's main car park at Callow Hill at 4.45pm, finishing at 6.30pm.

Forest Friends for pre-school children meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at 10am outside the Forest Café at Callow Hill for Ranger-led fun, exploration and learning. It costs £3 for the first child and £1 for each participating sibling. On 3rd October they will be **shelter building**, and on 7th November **autumn colours** and other activities. On the other Thursdays in term time Forest Friends can meet informally and borrow a box of equipment and activities from the Forestry Commission Learning Team for £1 per child.

Linda Iles

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PLEASE TAKE WARNING



Dave Clark in the charred remains of what used to be a proud place of work.

We've written about Dave Clark on these pages before. He's a very accomplished engineer who lots of people call on to solve a problem. He even built the shed in his back garden, well insulated and full of personal mementoes as well as tools he'd accumulated over 40 or more years.

Back in August he was spending time helping his grandchildren when one of them said: "Grandad, your shed's smoking." A gas burner he'd turned right down had been accidentally put away and the place was well alight, the garden hose ineffective as the family waited for the Fire and Rescue Service to arrive.

Mary Clark takes up the story: "I'd just like to thank the fire crew and all the neighbours who helped. Gill Senior was great, she just walked in and said 'I'll look after the children' and rounded them up back to her house and looked after them."

"The fire crew were here for two hours before they'd put it out. It even spread to the greenhouse and those windows

melted; the fire crew reckoned the blaze was as hot as 900 degrees at one time."

The damage is so much more than the insurance can replace. Dave's diplomas going back through his career have all gone up in smoke; the range of tools he'd acquired for the lathe he bought and restored were lying on their shelf, fused into the melted plastic of their box. The man said very little when we called to picture the damage, still shocked at the extent and we suspect wondering how he'd let it happen. Such a careful, experienced man but he still made a mistake.

JEEVES TO VISIT CLEOBURY MORTIMER

That renowned gentleman's gentleman, Jeeves, will be here in Cleobury Mortimer at the end of the month. Not as a tourist, but as represented by well known playwright Mr P G Wodehouse, with the able assistance of the Cleobury Players.

They will gather in the hall of the Lacon Childe School For Fine Young People every evening at 7.00, from Thursday October 31st to Saturday November 2nd.

Mr Jeeves will be seen mixing with a certain Bill, who claims to be the Earl of Towcester and will find his calm demeanour tested by a big, white hunter who will be pursued by a wealthy American lady. Serves him right, she's probably hired by the Rhino's Revenge League.

Of note to regular Clarion readers will be Lord and Lady Carmoyle, who bear an uncanny resemblance to Mr Joe and Mrs Rosie Watson from the hamlet of Coreley. These fine people responded to an appeal for help in this journal and have been

rewarded with starring roles in the production; that'll teach 'em to keep quiet in future.

Tickets for this production are available on the High Street of Cleobury Mortimer, from either Cleobury News or Hands On Printing. We have not been advised of the price, perhaps because such talent is beyond price. Do try to go.

THE SILLY BIT

The British Penny

EU Directive No. 456179

In order to meet the conditions for joining the Single European currency, all citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland must be made aware that the phrase 'Spending a Penny' is not to be used after 31st December 2013.

From this date, the correct terminology will be: 'Euronating'.

Thank you for your attention.

AND EVEN SILLIER

Our printer Linda Fowler took up the August challenge to offer Songs for Swinging Golfers, to be sung by the Reid Warblers in their new home:

'I saw three chips come sailing by.'

'Hook the herald angels sing.'

'Ping Pong merrily on high.'

'Away in a bunker'

'The handicap and the ivy'

'While shepherds watched their blocks by night'

'Little bogey'

'Carol of the balls'

'Slicin' around the Christmas tree'

'Silent night, hole-in-one'

'On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me,

'A pro shop in a pear tree'

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SERVICE BEYOND



Brenda and Les Hunter behind the counter at Londis, looking very modest about international praise.

Our thanks to Mrs Tina Ranson of Upper Bromdon Farmhouse for this story. It goes back to June, when Mr and Mrs Best from Williamsburg in America were on tour and booked into Bromdon for an overnight stop. But they were having trouble finding the place and stopped in Cleobury to ask for directions.

With no luck. Until they looked in at the Post Office, where Brenda Hunter was behind the counter. Brenda called home, as husband Les knows the area very well; rather than give directions, he drove down into the High Street and led the Bests all the way to the farmhouse doorstep. Naturally our visitors were amazed at the level of help they'd been given and Mrs Ranson thought their generosity should be acknowledged.

Brenda and Les are impressively modest about the whole business. "Well, it's just what you do, to help people," was Brenda's comment. Les too took it in his stride: "Used to deliver feed to farms out that way, when I worked in Craven Arms," he explained. "Knew the

place well, so it was easy taking them there. But I was surprised that there was no local map on sale in the town."

Gwilym Butler knows Brenda and Les well, as they've both worked as posties and now in the shop. "They'll go out of their way to help folks," he confirmed. No argument about that.

A PRESSING ENGAGEMENT

Cleobury Country Farmers Market is planning an apple pressing at the next Farmers Market on October 19th in St Mary's Church. The public will be able to bring their own apples and a container, have them pressed and leave with some very lovely apple juice!

For more information call the Centre on 272300 or just turn up on the 19th armed with your apples.

Clare Todd

SANDRA'S SALE

Sandra at Top Totty has a sale on from October 5th to the 8th. She has up to 60 percent off stock items like hats, fascinators, jewellery and handbags. Sounds like bargain time

THE FOUNTAIN FUN RUNNERS

Helen at the Royal Fountain reminds us that the Fun Runners have moved their regular date from Wednesday to Thursday, as that suits members better. Same 7.00 o'clock start.

THE BIKE SHOW

Well, the weather wasn't exactly kind, with Sunday damp and overcast. Not the best conditions for riding your newly polished pride and joy out into Shropshire to savour the pleasures of Cleobury Mortimer and the ride over winding roads.

The bikes on show were fewer than last year, but still represented hundreds of hours of work and skill. Winning any class at this show is difficult, the standard is so high, and Ben Upton was amazed when his handsome 1956 500cc Tiger 100 was acclaimed Best Triumph. There was more to come, and when the voting slips had been counted up, his bike emerged as the visitors' choice, or The Best in the West. Mr Upton went home a very happy man.

There was local success, too. Steve Todd's rare 1945 Model 18 trials bike was voted Best Norton to get his hands on the Bernard Hooper Memorial Cup, presented in memory of a leading designer at that company's Wolverhampton factory. Bernard liked Cleobury and was a regular supporter of the old concerts in the Parish Church. And school caretaker Don Carter's rare Mexican Carabella scrambler was Third Best Competition Bike.

Best Isle of Man Racer went to John Shaw's lovely 1947 350cc Velocette, a bike he inherited from his father. The trophy is actually the figure of Mercury presented to J H White for finishing second in the 1936 350cc TT race. It was found in a skip when the Norton factory was located in Andover and such mementoes were not at all valued. Rescued by a man with a sense of history, it was presented to the Show.

As ever, catering by the PTA was great, featuring home made cakes donated by mums and fresh sandwiches made to order in the kitchen. People gave up their weekend after a week at work, just to help the show. A good community event. JR



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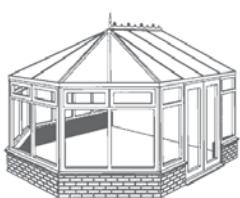
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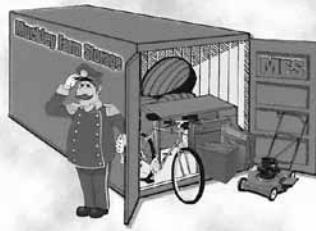
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In Business - Sue Brown, Chiropractor



Really getting down to it. Sue assesses Annette's posture in an everyday task at Hobson's.

This is a little different from the regular 'In Business' profiles, as we took a look at Sue Brown taking her gentle chiropractic skills out to industry. Quite a change from the quiet of her High Street clinic.

What she's developing as an additional service is an extension of the work she did with the RAF. There she recognised the problems helicopter pilots were having after a long shift flying a helicopter whose prime purpose is not comfort for the crew. She does have a very persuasive way as well as experience of the pilot's job, and she persuaded the helicopter training school to include special exercises to ease back pains that a day in a crouched position can produce. It is now part of the school's standard procedure and is being assessed for long term effects.

Her logic in taking the message to industry is simple: get your staff operating with correct posture and you'll reduce hours lost to back pains and related problems. The physical damage she deals with in her clinic is often something that could easily be prevented. Nick Davis was happy to cooperate and both office and warehouse staff were assessed and advised by Sue. Just how well it works we'll check on in six months. And we'll try to get some detail from the military's report; those people are always detached in their approach.

She watched every staff member go about their daily tasks, after she'd shown them Bob, her plastic spinal column, and explained how bad posture can put this vital nerve centre out of line and create pain. Correct seating is vital, with the bottom pushed back in the seat and the arms in a natural place. Adjustment of the seat is a legal requirement, because of the range of physical heights and regular tasks; she handed out a leaflet that gives details of the correct stance to adopt. Nick was listening and went off to find alternative chairs for the office staff.

Out in the warehouse the busy bottling plant means lots of lifting. A box of twelve full pint bottles is not a lot, but pick up

two in a regular motion and you need to get it right. Once more Sue was watching closely and analysing movement, then suggesting a less demanding way of lifting.

It's a very different task from the gentle manipulation Sue uses in the McTimoney method she applies to customers who can have a variety of ailments. Her reputation has grown enough for her to add a receptionist to meet and greet at the clinic, and she's looking to recruit another chiropractor to provide later opening and accommodate clients outside their working hours.

This business has grown quite remarkably since Sue quit the helicopter service and moved with her family into Cleobury Mortimer to offer a cure for a variety of pains that does not involve drugs.

I will admit a great respect for chiropractic, after discharge from National Service with severe seasonal asthma. Two years of self-injection of the grass pollen I was allergic to saw me dismissed with an assurance I was cured; the wheezing didn't agree. I went to a chiropractor full of doubt, but the results were very impressive and I would never question this treatment again. JR



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October 2013 - Volume Nine - Edition Seven

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E-Mail: editor@cleoburyclarion.co.uk

Printed by: Linda Fowler at **Glint Print** 01299 266657

The Clarion On The Web:www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk

*The Clarion is owned and published by
Cleobury Clarion Media Limited*

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IN THE NOVEMBER ISSUE IS OCTOBER 22nd**

Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers

CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR - 077 039 65064 Mrs Theresa Parfitt.

CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE - 01299 272300 In Love Lane. Open 09.00 to 5.00, Mon to Fri.

CITIZENS ADVICE - 08444 991100.

CLEOBURY MORTIMER POLICE STATION - 0300 333 3000. The Station is not manned full time; you can contact WPC Anne O'Leary direct at ann.oleary@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS AND GUIDES - 01299 270215. Robin Borns is the contact.

CRIMESTOPPERS - 0800 555 111. Free Police contact. Talk in confidence, to report any crime.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE - Women's Aid, 24 Hour support: 0800 783 1359

HOME FROM HOSPITAL - 01584 878046. For help over the first few weeks back home.

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

MARKET HALL- Dorothy CM272717, 07761 976650 mobile, or dorothymcbride@cleobury.org.uk

MEDICAL CENTRE - 01299 270209. At weekends, the Shrop Doc Service.

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NIGHTINGALE NURSING FUND - 01746 718210. Rosemary Abbiss is the contact.

PARISH COUNCIL - Clerk Matthew Sheehan is in the Market Hall from 9.00 'til 2.00, Monday to Friday. 01299 271154. The Council meets in the Market Hall on the first Monday of the month; meetings are open to the public, who may address the Council in the Democratic Session before the business starts. Website: www.cleobury.org.uk

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