

The Cleobury Clarion



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October 2014

A VERY SPECIAL GIFT



From left: Henry Jones, Robert Hodge, Sophia Robinson and Alice Ray.

A lovely communal gesture filled the afternoon for half of Lacon Childe's pupils on September 23rd. They gathered in the school hall to sit in silence as Robert Hodge, chairman of the History Society, spoke about the town's history and its changing fortunes over the centuries.

A thousand or so years ago the population was about 200 people, which made this a very significant place. Robert traced its story using local tales and

individuals, including one sad letter from a woman who left her children at the workhouse that used to be at the top of not Workhouse Bank. There was a note explaining that she could not feed them, was off to earn some money before collecting them, and asked that the oldest boy should not be beaten because he was a little slow. Cruel times.

The happy note was the gift to every pupil of the latest copy of the Cleobury Chronicles, in which every man killed in the 1914-18 Great War is listed and his details and story told. It's a cooperation between the History Society and the Royal British Legion, with support from the Parish Council, to see that every child in the parish has a copy of this significant record in this centenary year of the war. Robert asked the pupils to talk to their elders and possibly report back with any memories they could offer to add to the records. As he told the pupils, history is too often related to major events, seldom to the lives of ordinary people. Maybe this novel approach will add to the people's record.

THANK YOU

Readers who know of my current situation will understand the need to thank a lot of really good people for their help in recent weeks. On September 1st Valerie, the love of my life, lost her fight with cancer.

The support from friends and most of all my family has been quite amazing, not least help in bringing this issue of the Clarion to you. Valerie was my proof reader, whose eagle eye picked up my errors; my son David has taken on that onerous task and does it with equal accuracy. When my computer mouse died late on press day, printer Linda loaned me her remote control version and I am writing this at 10.00pm before sending 60 pages off through the ether to her.

A number of people assumed there would be no copy this month; Valerie would not have allowed that. I was tempted to devote this issue to her memory, but instead would like to offer it to every person of goodwill in this very fine community. Thank you all.

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The Cleobury Clarion. October 2014

NEW SERIES



*'On The Market' starts with Billy Auger and his tasty fruits.
See Page 17.*



*From Lacon Childe School to a starring role in 'Oliver' at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre.
See Page 23.*



*Happy, helpful people. TLC Care at Home are In Business.
See Page 55.*

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Valerie - A Life Well Lived

Writing this obituary for the woman who has filled my life with love for 49 years is not easy. When my son asked if I was the one to do it, my immediate reaction was that of course I was. But he was right, there is no way I can be objective, so I have taken words from many friends who wrote. Their respect and love for her is added to the many precious memories I hold forever.

Polly Shepherd wrote a truly moving card: 'Mrs Reynolds was a very important person to me in my childhood. I admired and trusted her, she was brilliant in sorting out bullying and very supportive of my family. She was the kind of woman I wanted to be when I grew up and at my PGCE interview I spoke about her as the sort of teacher I wanted to be.'

Head teachers she worked with naturally praised her. David Carr: 'There was no doubt in my mind that she was the right person and that conviction was totally borne out as she settled into the job and was very quickly confident and totally competent in it...her support for me and the school was total.'

From Ian Pringle: 'Valerie's tremendous loyalty and commitment to everything the school offered to the community it served was appreciated and valued by me. She knew and cared for everyone and always did her utmost to support the needs of parents, staff and students.'

Dr Gill Eatough: 'She was a superb deputy... she was utterly professional and had such a passion for the school. I valued her immensely at Lacon Childe



Valerie at her happiest, with Sophie, our youngest granddaughter. and as a friend. Hundreds of children have benefited from her wisdom and support as they grow up.'

Allan Gilhooley: 'She gave a great deal of help, support and advice. She had a passion for education and helping others... Lacon Childe School was a much better place because of the influence that Valerie had, whether it was through the major initiatives she introduced, managed and led, or just through a smile or a quiet chat which helped many a child, colleague or parent.'

Parent and school governor Clare Ratcliff: 'All our kids were lucky enough to experience her kindness and wise words while they were at Lacon Childe. She seemed to make it a very happy place for children to learn and develop.'

Brian Gadd worked with her at school and in the church, where she served as a warden: 'I always found her a good and comfortable friend, as well as a loyal and cheerful colleague, both at school and in our service to the church.'

She worked closely with great friend Celia Brown: 'From the

first day we met at the primary school gates, Valerie and I became firm friends. Little did we know that we would become work colleagues, and there was a special bond that lasted to this day.'

Clee Hill's Fay Vass liked her too: 'Firm but fair - other staff could've learned a lot! She certainly wasn't a pushover, but always listened to students.'

Ken, her brother-in-law: "Valerie was a very special lady, who touched so many lives for the better. May her God bless her, wherever she may be.'

And her friend of 61 years, Caroline Walker: 'Sitting in detention, writing out "I must not be late"! Playing sleuths in junk shops, teasing Mr Berry in RE and loving Doctor Osgerby. Becoming teachers; being daughters, bridesmaids, mums and eventually grandmas. What a lot one can pack into a friendship.'

I could fill two pages with such praise, she made so many friends in her 72 years. Dougie Perkins and Andy Greenwood traveled from Northampton to pay tribute to their old teacher. Iain Wylie flew in from Zurich on Monday, taxied out to her funeral on Tuesday and on Wednesday was back in Bern for a business meeting - not bad at 80! And too many people to mention who came to say goodbye and filled the Parish Church. Victoria Allen led the cortege through another High Street jam and did a wonderful job. And countless friends have offered condolences and help if ever I need it. May I add thanks from my family for the warmth and love this community showed us. *Jim Reynolds*

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THE SEVERN HOSPICE VINTAGE FAIR

This is the Severn Hospice's big occasion, when the very best of the donations over the past year are put on sale. All the branches contribute. so what you see is the pick of a very widespread crop.

It's in the lovely Wistanstow Village Hall, just off the A49 north of Craven Arms, where you'll find a vintage tea room to slake your thirst from china or nibble a cake like mother makes.

Open two days, from 11.00am to 4.00, it's over the weekend of October 4th and 5th. Well worth the journey and admission is a mere £1.00.

CLEOBURY MORTIMER W.I.

In September we enjoyed an interesting and amusing session looking at 1000 years of British food and cooking. Speaker Elizabeth Woodall brought a selection from her vast collection of cookery books, as well as talking about different styles of cooking through the ages, from the Canterbury Tales to Mrs Beeton on to Marguerite Patten and the present day celebrity chefs.

This month we have an open meeting; everyone is welcome to come and join us. We have Stella Mitchell from the Land of Lost

Content Museum in Craven Arms bringing some of her nostalgic items, talking about her collections of everyday items. On October 14th, 7.30 in the Parish Hall, followed by the AGM.

And finally, the W.I. Soup Lunch will be on Thursday October 16th, at the Parish Hall, from 12.00 until 2.00. Great value as always. Homemade soups and desserts, fresh crusty bread, followed by tea or coffee. Do come and join us. *Gillian Senior*

KINLET FAMILY PLAYGROUP

Playgroup is busy and buzzing with activity. We continue to hold our 'Little Tiddler' sessions on Thursday mornings, where any new child from birth to 5 can attend with a carer for £2.50. This gives full access to our facilities and toys, as well as a healthy snack. Bring this article along and have your first session free in October.

Kinlet School are hosting an Autumn Fayre on October 4th and Playgroup will be open from 11.00 to 2.00; drop in and see our lovely rural facilities. We are open Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during term time - give us a call on 07794 166514, or info@kinletfamilyplaygroup.co.uk for more info.

Zoe Pearson

THE BOWLING CLUB

We are coming to the end of another successful season and the weather has been very kind to us, all events have gone ahead as planned with no postponements.

Our charity fund raising days have been exceptional, with over £500 raised for the Air Ambulance and approximately £300 for the British Legion Poppy Appeal. Our thanks to Katerfresh and to The Lamp Inn for donations of food and competition prizes.

The season ends on September 28th when the green will close for essential maintenance. The AGM will be held on October 27th, in the clubhouse, at 7.30pm. Any proposals should be sent in writing to the secretary at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

Thanks again to everyone who has supported our events and here's to a successful 2015.

Lesley Burnside

A TREE COMING DOWN Derek Pearce asked that this notice be published:

The tree outside 17 Childe Road is being cut down, during the week commencing October 20th. The date will be confirmed nearer the time.

SILLY BIT

Q: What do you call a smart blonde?





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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE DENTAL PRACTICE EXPANDS



Looking very smart, the new sign outside the old Police Station, using the same mounting.

Cleobury Dental Practice is expanding and has acquired what used to be the Police Station next door to their Talbot Square surgery. When we took this picture, contractors were busy working on the conversion, a sure sign of success as the business takes on more patients.

When the constabulary moved out, their contractors had the job of clearing the office. But when they left, someone forgot to lock the place up. Can you imagine the headline if an unlocked ex Police Station had been vandalised? Fortunately the then owner, John Green, was told and he had a few words in the right ear to get the place made secure.

HISTORY AT OUR FEET

Robert Hodgson offers an invitation:

The History Society will be hosting an open evening on Wednesday, October 15th. Local resident Leigh Griffiths, a very keen metal detectorist and amateur historian, will show some of the objects she has found in the Cleobury Mortimer area, and lead a talk and quiz about the items. Some of them date back to Roman times and include some exciting finds.

Come along to Neen Savage Parish Hall for 7.30 pm – ample parking is available. Admission is £3 including refreshments.

STOTTESDON W.I.

A Late Summer Report of a glorious show season that concluded with two September events. Farlow School Fete, a happy occasion for families and visitors. It was a pleasure to spend time at the WI stand with friends, while children rode donkeys and tractors and clambered over the adventure playground.

Our own show included chocolate treats and fruit cakes, competing for the dubious honour of winning a class. Steff Bryan spent the day polishing silver cups, having carried off every category last year, so was

relieved to share 'firsts' this time with Carol Boulwood, Jenny Everingham and Clare Tibbits.

August saw us all fascinated by the intricate willow sculptures created by Alison Hastie who has designed a farm specialising in dozens of varieties, harvested to make baskets, life size animals and insect themed gardens. We are using her products for December's craft evening.

This month on the 22nd it's about Antiques – Going for a Song, with Mark Stafford-Lovatt at 7.30 in Chorley Village Hall.

WHOOPS!

Just passing through, stopped for a cuppa at Cleobury Cafe and glanced through your very interesting publication. We would like to point out that Copt Heath Golf Club is in Knowle near Solihull not Shrewsbury.

We are members of CHGC and watched some of the national event. Belated congrats to Emily, who is pictured with our own Clare Dowling.

Keith and Shirley Barrett.

Apologies for that error, entirely of my own making. I guessed that Copt Oak was near Shrewsbury - it rang a bell in what passes for a memory in my head - and did not bother to check. I will in future. JR

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Clarion Clippings -- The Local News

ROCK PATHFINDERS

Two dates for this friendly group of walkers to meet this month and explore some of the scenic splendours. All walkers are welcome:

Thursday 2nd. 10.30 at Hawford Mill, Hawford. On the northbound carriageway of the A449, location WR3 7SD. Alan on 01299 400304 can tell you more.

And on the 16th they gather at 10.30 in the Running Horse car park, Long Bank, Bewdley. That's at DY12 2QP if you're not familiar with the drive to points east of Cleobury. Same contact.

CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

October brings a richness of colour to the garden with displays of autumn foliage, autumn colours are at their best. Make the most of them, as they pass very quickly. The night frosts and clear sunny days bring out the intensity of the colours. Fruits and berries are an added attraction, not only to us but also the birds. There is still time to plant winter-flowering varieties such as pansies, violas and wall flowers. Plant your spring flowering bulbs from now until the end of November.

At the August meeting Mike King gave a power point

presentation on Carnivorous Plants; he is the national collection holder for these. A fascinating talk, which opened our eyes to the diversity of these Venus Fly Trap and Pitcher plants.

The Summer Garden Show had some very good entries, while sunshine gave it a real country show atmosphere. The Garden Club would like to say 'Thank you' to all helpers and exhibitors; without you there would be no show.

The results were: Vegetable, Fruit and Flower Cups won by Ted Mills, Harry Jenkins, Austin Fletcher and Marion Wilson; Cookery Cup by C. Jones; Handicraft Cup jointly by C. Lloyd & M. Cox; Floral Art Cup won by Marion Wilson and the Children's Shield won jointly by Daniel Williams & Hector Coley.

If you are a keen garden lover, then don't be afraid to come along. Non-members are welcome to any of our meetings. Our next is on Wednesday 22nd October, when David Morgan will give a talk entitled 'I'm Not Much Good At Gardening'.

Pauline Bowen

COCO NEWS

On October 18th the Goode Ensemble and volunteers are staging a Concert for Cleobury, to raise funds for CoCo. Violinist

Linda Fowler: " We'll be performing Bach's Brandenburg No 3, Karl Jenkins' sparky Palladio and some tangos, with a mix of pieces in between. We'll also have Kidderminster poet Tony Smith, reading his amusing takes on pub acquaintances from his new book."

The evening starts at 7.30, in the Parish Church. Tickets can be bought in the Severn Hospice shop, £9 in advance or £10 on the door.

THE READING GROUP

Zadie Smith's 'NW' set a new landmark for the group when we met in September. There was a unanimous dislike of the book, with very few members showing the stamina to even finish it. The generation gap poking its young tongue out? If so, why did our youngest reader agree with the rest. You will gather that it does not get our recommendation.

We meet again on Monday October 20th, 7.30 in the library, to see how members got along with this month's title, 'Fahrenheit 451' by Ray Bradbury. His explanatory subtitle is "The temperature at which book-paper catches fire and burns." Whether it lights our collective fire remains to be seen.

SILLY BIT

'Giving the government money and power is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys.' P J O'Rourke

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Also see what Kinlet Family Playgroup have to offer (2-5 Years) www.kinletfamilyplaygroup.co.uk Telephone: 07794 166514



Clarion Clippings - The Local News

EARLY CHRISTMAS MARKET AIDS CHARITY

Estivals, the luxury pampering centre high on Clee Hill at Cleeton St Mary, has an early Christmas Market on Thursday the 30th of this month. It will feature up to 15 invited local specialists, with a range from handmade silver jewellery to wooden toys. Home made food available as the event opens at 4.00 and will run into mid evening at 9.00.

Admission is £5.00 a head and includes mulled wine and a mince pie. Outside, the horses will be dressed as reindeer, while inside there will be a raffle every hour. All proceeds will be divided between Help For Heroes and Forest Dog Rescue. Martine can tell you more on 01584 891037.

FESTIVAL OF ART

Cleobury's Methodist Church is holding its Festival of Art On November 1st and 2nd this year. As this is also the church's 75th anniversary, they're hoping to have more work than ever on display, featuring original work by local artists, both for show and to sell.

Simon Prentice is the man in charge and all entries go through him. He's on 07989 475 5 8 9 o r e - m a i l simonp@zefyrgroup.com.

The doors will be open 10.00 to 5.00 on Saturday and 1.00 to 5.00 Sunday, the latter with a late start because the show now fills both the hall and the church. Admission is a very affordable £1.00

TITTERSTONE CLEE HIKE

Shropshire Wildlife Trust are hosting a ten mile autumn hike around the historic gem and wildlife centre that is Titterstone Clee on Sunday the 5th of this month. It's not going to be an easy stroll, taking six and a half hours to take in sights, sounds and historic gems before reaching Cleeton St Mary village hall for tea and cake. A full day out for £5.00 a head is not bad value at all. Starts at 9.30; more details from Diane Monether on dianem@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk or book your place on 01743 284280.

A QUIZ AT THE BELL

Julia Perkins is organising a fund raising quiz for Kidderminster and Worcester Hospitals and the children being treated there for Type 1 Diabetes. Funds go directly to the charity to help cover the cost of day trips and events when the kids can meet fellow sufferers and swap notes.

It all happens on October 23rd at The Bell Inn, noted hostelry

in Lower Street, where Janet and Martin now run the place and accommodate good causes like this. Start time 8.00 o'clock, £1.00 per person and after the quiz there's a raffle and an auction. 'Our previous nights have always been a great success, as Cleobury is such a great community to live in,' Julia explained. "Any raffle prizes or donations can be made direct to me, at 07855 324 545."

FREE BLOOD TESTS FOR PROSTATE CANCER

Pardon me for batting on about this, but prostate cancer can be successfully treated if diagnosis is early. There will be free blood tests at Kidderminster Town Hall on Tuesday, October 21st, from 6.30. Expect to queue, as this is still the standard test to detect the infection and with Sir Donald Sinden recently dying of it, there will be a demand for the service. And inside the Town Hall, Richard Viney, consultant urologist at the QE in Birmingham, will be talking about research into treatment for it. The Kidderminster Prostate Cancer Support Group is an excellent body; contact them at P O Box 3854, Kidderminster DY11 5WP. There is help and cure out there.



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Trainee Despatch / Store Functions Muller England Limited	To train in all aspects of dispatch and material stores and washing operations as cover for holidays. Varied job including dispatch, raw materials stores and assisting maintenance technician. Driving licence preferable for this job as driving cover may also be required.	Please apply in the first instance to: Jane Brant Human Resources Administrator Muller England Ltd High Street Cleobury Mortimer Kidderminster Worcs DY14 8DT 01299 272117 or 01299 270271
Chef/Cook Kings Arms	Experienced cook required, to work daytimes (10am-3pm) and evenings (6-8.30pm). Hours negotiable.	Please contact Wendy on 01299 271954
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On The Market - Augernik Fruit Farm



Billy Auger harvesting Red Devils. He and Dad planted the trees and brought them to fruit; not many fruit sellers can claim that.

25 years ago the Auger family moved from Essex, looking for a place to settle and farm. They found a 25 acre site at Hopton Wafers that used to be a fruit farm back in the 1930s and set about taking it back to its roots. Part of that history is the damazene tree in the entrance, a species reputedly brought back from Damascus by the Crusaders. If you're looking for heritage, it sprouts from every corner of this place.

All the trees on the land were planted and nurtured by Billy and his dad; sadly Auger Senior passed away earlier this year, so Billy's workload has increased.

But he's been keen on growing and selling since childhood days: "Mum and Dad used to do the craft markets and I'd be off selling door to door from a coster monger's barrow. When I was working in London I used to take my rhubarb in; one day the chief swede told me off and then asked if he could have five pounds of it for his wife!" You can see why he was happy to opt for the farm, where he lives with his mum, wife Liz and son. The house is a three-bedroomed Skandhus unit, bought as a kit and assembled on site by the Auger family and friends. It has no mains electricity; they have solar panels on the barn and a wind turbine, with a diesel generator for emergencies.

Billy is like most small farmers in the hours he works. "In the summer I start at about 7.00 and work on through until 9.00 or so in the evening. It takes me two days to pick the fruit and nuts for a market."

He's a walking history on fruit and names like Marjorie Sudley 1921 Seedling plums trip off his tongue. And did you know that the Tettenhall Dick pear was first recorded at a banquet given for Edward the Third in 1356?

He sells through markets and to people who find their way up

the challenging track to the barn; supermarket style smoothness does not apply here, but you won't find fresher fruit anywhere. We talked on Thursday and that day's picking of nuts was drying in trays ready for Saturday's Farmer's Market.

You wonder if he sells much of some little known species of fruits. He smiles: "I do well if I give people a taste, which supermarkets don't do. My fruits are picked when they're ripe, so they taste really good. Like greengages - you should pick them when they're yellow and splitting open." In the world of plastic packaged fruits flavour is almost secondary to looks; with Billy it's everything.

He has a wide range that is planted to give him produce from March through to December and he's a regular at Cleobury Country's Farmers Markets. Taste what he has on offer there and you could be tempted to join the growing number of people who find the farm in Hopton and bump along the track to discover just what a variety he can offer. "We're getting more people coming from Cleobury, and they say 'Now we know where you are, we'll come again.'" It's a journey worth making.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

CLEOBURY'S CRIB LEAGUE

The league runs through the winter months, where games are played on Wednesday nights in local hostels. Players pay to play, and at the end of the season the monies raised are distributed to voluntary organisations that deal with young people in our local community. We donate to Junior Sports Clubs, Youth Clubs, Playgroups, Play Areas, and Scouts and Guides. We currently have money available, and if you would like to be considered for a donation, please contact secretary Sarah Barnsley on CM 271885.

Roy Powell

HOT RANGE ROVER AT THE CENTRE



The Cleobury Fire and Rescue team were quickly on the spot and dealing with the emergency.

There was quite a blaze in the Cleobury Country Centre car park when a Range Rover burst into flames and black smoke billowed up. The Fire and Rescue team were quickly there and dealt with the fire, in a car with an lpg gas conversion. The temperature was high, enough to bubble the paint on the VW parked next to, while the Rangie did not look fit for work when the rescue truck took it away.

Apparently the Rover belongs to William Withers of Computer Repairs in Mamble. He captured the incident on his phone and put the film out that night on Facebook. Cool guy.

ARE FARLOW AND ORETON READY FOR THIS?

Kali Theatre take over the village hall at Farlow and Oretton on October 11th. All in the cause of entertainment, as they'll be presenting 'My Big Fat Cowpat Wedding', the story of the marriage between a country girl and city bred Indian lad. Guess who wears the wellies...

It promises to be an hilarious evening, climaxing with a disco Bhangra dance that everybody can join in. The Guardian said: 'The most enjoyably inventive piece of theatre I've seen this

year,' which does suggest it's well worth the £8.00 tickets, even more so if you're an OAP and pay only £5. It starts at 8.00, you can book your tickets on 01746 718642 or find out more on www.artsalive.co.uk

IN PRAISE OF...

Severn Edge Vets really did come up trumps when Jenks, our spaniel, was ill. He was retching, very distressed and a call to the surgery advised the Bridgnorth branch was open 24/7. There he got a thorough examination and a jab to calm him.

But he was going downhill and at 4.30 on Sunday morning had me out of bed. At 7.15 I phoned and off we went to Bridgnorth again. A blockage seemed likely, given the signs he was putting out, so he was taken into the hospital, where an X-ray confirmed the need for surgery. A peach stone was removed from his intestine, which had been slightly damaged by its passing, and he had a stay in hospital to get on the road to recovery.

Every day we had bulletins and updates, sometimes asking for consent to a procedure, always cheerful. He was our 40th wedding anniversary from our sons, so deserved such top treatment. *Jim Reynolds*



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The Severn Edge Vets Pets Page

Beware the Toxic Flea treatments...

Over the last few months we have seen nothing shy of an epidemic of fleas hopping into our surgery. The warm, humid summer has provided them with perfect breeding conditions, and they have thrived. Rest assured, if you are struggling with the little critters, you are not alone.

Treating a flea infestation is not always as simple as just using a generic spot-on formulation. The fleas mainly sit in the house, not on the dog or cat, so a multi-treatment approach is nearly always needed. Of course, pop in and have a little chat about the best options for your pet, and we will be more than willing to help get on top of the situation as quickly and efficiently as possible.

However, I come bearing a warning. Flea treatments are no longer only available to purchase from Vets, now there are ever-stronger ingredients available over the counter from pharmacies and shops. These products, if used correctly, are perfectly safe, BUT there is a hidden danger. Many flea products available to buy off the shelf for dogs contain an active ingredient called Permethrin. This is deadly to fleas, but safe when used at the right dose on dogs.

Permethrin is extremely toxic to cats. Exposure to the toxin can lead to tremors, twitches, blindness and even seizures. In the worst cases the poor animal may even die. Needless to say, it is very important to make sure you don't apply a dogs' flea product to your cat, but close contact and mutual grooming can also lead to your cat being exposed to the permethrin that you applied to the dog.

The safest option is to avoid permethrin based flea treatments altogether if you have cats. If you don't know, or are unsure of

anything – please don't hesitate to pick up the phone and ring us for a chat.

If you have any concerns with your pet's health, please don't hesitate to contact us on 01299 271967.

Thanks for reading

Jeremy Hall BVMS MRCVS.

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He has a lot of experience to call on, with 18 years of long distance races, triathlons and Iron Man races behind him. An Iron Man contest covers a 2.4

mile swim, a 112 mile cycle race and a full 26 mile marathon to round it off, so when he claims to know the human body at peak performance he can back it with experience. And he's been through injury as well.

He covers cycling too, having trained with physiotherapists who have worked for some top professional cycle teams. It adds up to an impressive fund of knowledge. An additional advantage is his willingness to work in the morning or evening, to help patients whose working life means a late journey home. James is on 07506 287 191 or info@jstherapist.co.uk

A BIG ROLE FOR OLLIE



Ollie Hart-Bradford, a Lacon Childe student making his mark on stage.

The Clarion has always sung the praises of the drama productions at Lacon Childe School. Drama master Arthur Short sets a very high standard for the pupils and they rise to the occasion. 14 and 15 year olds

presenting Shakespeare with no prompting at all is something you don't find very often.

Ollie Hart-Bradford, whose proud mum Julie runs Jules, the jewellery shop on High Street, has landed the role of The Artful Dodger in the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre's production of Lionel Bart's wonderful 'Oliver'. One of the influences in Ollie's development has been Lacon Childe, and here he is moving up the scale. The musical runs from October 14th to 18th, with a Wednesday matinee. The Box Office number is 01902 429212.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

We're not going to tell you how many shopping days before Santa does his rounds. But it does right to tell you that Carrot Tops are offering their range of hampers again, with a good range of eatables to make up a special gift. You surely know where they are, the greeting is always warm and they'll deliver to you if you prefer. (Would our reader in Los Angeles please ignore that last sentence).

MADGE'S SURGERY

Shropshire Councillor Madge Shingleton will hold a Surgery on November 8th from 9.00 to 11.00 am in the Market Hall, Church Street.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local Bus Farce

NEW BUS TIMETABLE

Steve Todd has been looking into the matter and is less than impressed:

A new bus timetable for Cleobury came into force on 3rd September and it must count as one of the UK's best kept secrets. There has been no information from Shropshire Council and the timetables on the Cleobury bus stops have still not been changed as I write this on 21 September. As a matter of interest, the information on Worcestershire bus stops was changed within two days.

There have been a number of changes to the times and routes and the service has been renumbered 2L. The main changes are the replacement of the 9.35 to Kidderminster with a 9.10 departure thus threatening the use of bus passes. These were also accepted on the 9.25 to Ludlow where a special concession allowed their use as the next service was more than 90 minutes later. This later service has now been brought forward to 10.43 which negated that scheme. However, thanks to the efforts of Councillor Madge Shineton, a fresh concession has been agreed so that passes should be accepted on both the 9.10 and 9.25

services. Having said this, the news seems to be taking its time to cascade (trickle?) down to the drivers as some are apparently still refusing to accept passes on these services.

Madge has also managed to obtain a copy of the new timetable (from Worcestershire Council!) although this has proved wrong on a couple of points in that the 15.45 departure from Ludlow is now the 15.55 as it left too early for the College students to catch it. The other more important error is the fact that the return services from Kidderminster **do not** start from the Bus Station as shown but from the Town Hall. This seems odd as the bus seems to sit in the Bus Station until the service is due to operate, so why not pick up the passengers there? We have now been able to obtain a single corrected copy of the timetable which Clare at Cleobury Country will be copying and these should be available from the Cleobury Country Centre and the Market Hall by the time you read this. In addition, we hope to post the correct details on the town centre bus stops as soon as we can. Apparently, Diamond are supposed to provide sufficient copies of timetables under the terms of

their contract but going on previous experience, don't hold your breath.

You will also need to note that in addition to diverting around Hales Park, the 2L now also meanders around Bark Hill and Habberley on its way to Kidderminster with most journeys taking around 55 minutes. As I understand that Shropshire Council pay the bulk of the subsidy on this service, I hope the residents of Worcestershire are duly grateful. Apart from the above, services will continue as normal with regular breakdowns included at no extra cost...

I think we appreciate the financial constraints that Shropshire Council has to operate under but would it really be so difficult to set out the problems and the reasons for the changes rather than just stay silent?

Steve Todd

Editor's footnote: My thanks to Steve for this explanation of the bus situation, which I know has taxed a lot of passengers. And thanks to both Steve and Iris for putting up notices and timetables that now explain to passengers what is going on. This is, after all, a public service and as such it should tell its customers about changes to any schedule. JR.

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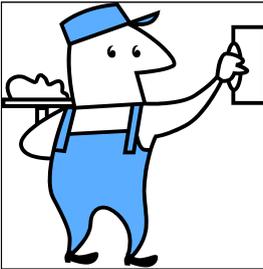
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Letter from Westminster - Philip Dunne MP

Last month's result from the referendum in Scotland settles that we shall remain a United Kingdom. The Scottish National Party won the last elections to the Scottish Parliament in 2011 on a platform to put a vote on independence to the people. The clear outcome rejecting independence has been accepted by Alex Salmond who has quite properly resigned, as he would have lacked credibility in negotiating new constitutional arrangements for Scotland.

What implications does this have for England? The Prime Minister announced on the morning after Scotland voted, that William Hague would chair a Cabinet Committee to draw up plans for a fair settlement for the rest of the UK alongside new powers for Scotland. We now have a chance to change the way the British people are governed for the better. This will address the unfairness of the present system, the infamous West Lothian question first raised by former Labour MP Tam Dalyell, whereby Scottish MPs vote on matters affecting England but not Scotland where powers have been devolved to the Scottish Parliament. The three pro-union political parties have made commitments on further powers for the Scottish Parliament.

Just as Scotland will vote separately in the Scottish Parliament on issues of tax, spending and welfare, so too England, Wales and Northern Ireland should be able to vote on these issues. Agreeing the details for the other nations of the UK should take place in tandem with the settlement for Scotland, on a cross-party basis.

So there is now a unique opportunity for our United Kingdom to come together positively. A vital part of that will be a balanced settlement –

fair to people in Scotland and to everyone in England, Wales and Northern Ireland as well. This settlement should be reached with a cross-party approach and with civic society. It is important for widespread acceptance of constitutional change with broad civic engagement on how to improve governance in the UK, including how to empower our great cities. Some seem keen to kick this issue into the long grass, but the party leaders made a joint commitment to publish draft legislation on devolving more powers to Scotland by January. This will also require widespread support for an equal settlement for England - English votes for English laws.

Some have called for a separate English Parliament. I believe Hague will look at this. But I am not convinced there is public appetite for a separate English Parliament, which would increase the cost of politics and the number of politicians. Separate votes for English MPs seem a better way to achieve this. Another issue of legitimate concern in England is continued application of the Barnett formula under which Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales receive a higher proportion of spending per head than England.

The Prime Minister committed to bring forward draft clauses for further devolution of powers on a set timetable. Passing legislation through Westminster will take place after the next general election, allowing voters across the United Kingdom, including here in Shropshire, the opportunity to express their view.



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The October Clarion Social Calendar

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Wed 1	10.00am	Walking for Health leaves from the Sports Centre, Cleobury Mortimer	Mandy Smith	01299 270312
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 2		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders meet at Hawford Mill WR3 7SD. For more details SEE PAGE 11.	Alan	01299 400304
Sat 4	8.00am to 11.00am	Knowle Sports Sale on the sports ground, Knowle, Clee Hill	Audrey Taylor	01584 890644
	11.00am	Kinlet Primary School's Autumn Fayre in a lovely setting. PAGE 25		
Sat 4/ Sun 5	11.00am	The Severn Hospice Vintage Sale at Wistanstow Village Hall, near Craven Arms, SY7 8DQ. SEE PAGE 7.		01743 272082
Sun 5	9.30am	Ten Mile Hike from Titterstone Clee to Cleeton St Mary and welcome tea. PAGE 13.		
	10.00am	Discover Bewdley Harvest Fair	Ellie Hooper	01299 405516
Mon 6	7.00am	Cleobury Mortimer Parish Council meet in the Market Hall. Parishioners may bring concerns to the Council's notice in the 15 minutes public session before the meeting.	Matt Sheehan	CM 271154
Wed 8	1.00pm	Cleobury Mortimer Ladies Luncheon meet at the Plough Inn, Far Forest	Alison Osborne	01584 890414
	7.00pm	The Library hosts the Shropshire launch of Frank Westworth's first novel "The Last Act of Charity" PAGE 39.		
	7.30pm	Neen Savage WI hosts Richard Swift's breadmaking demonstration in the village hall.	Angela Flowers	CM 270318
	7.30pm	Sarah Attwood visits from America to talk about John Ruskin and the environment. In the Ruskin Studio, Uncilys Farm, Wyre Forest, DY12 2LR. SEE PAGE 47	Linda Iles	01299 403691
	8.00pm	The Royal British Legion meet in the Bell Inn, Lower Street		
Thu 9		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
Fri 10	8.00pm	Bingo Night at Cleeton St Mary Village Hall. Proceeds to the hall.		
Sat 11	8.00am	Something different! Farlow Village Hall presents "My Big Fat Cowpat Wedding". PAGE 25		
Tue 14	7.25am	The Breakfast Club meet at Lacon Childe School, where Christopher Joynson talks about the British Legion and "Battle Back".		
	7.30am	Cleobury WI meet in the Parish Hall, Church Street. PAGE 7.		

Cleobury Carers Group have two dates this month. On the 7th they have a Basic First Aid course at 10.30 in St Elizabeth's Hall in Lower Street, and on the 21st a Support Group meeting at 2.00 in St Mary's meeting room.

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The October Social Calendar - continued

Date	Time	Details	Contact	Telephone Number
Tue 14 to Sat 18		Lionel Bart's musical "Oliver" is at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre, with local lad Ollie Hart-Bradford in the starring role. SEE PAGE 23.		01902 429212
Wed 15	10.00am	Last walk of the season for Walking for Health starts from Cleobury Mortimer Sports Centre	Mandy Smith	01299 270312
	7.30pm	History Society meet at Neen Savage Village Hall. Leigh Griffiths talks about "History at our Feet". Admission £3.00. PAGE 9.		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 16		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	12.00pm	Cleobury WI Soup Lunch, in the Parish Hall, Church Street. PAGE 7		
	10.30am	Rock Pathfinders gather at the Running Horse, Long Bank, Bewdley. PAGE 11		
	7.45pm	Whist Drive at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane		
Sat 18	9.30am	Cleobury Country Farmer's Market is in and around the Parish Church and Market Hall. PAGE 17		
	7.30pm	CoCo's Concert for Cleobury is in the Parish Church. Good music and amusing poetry. PAGE 11.		
Mon 20	7.30pm	Free PSA blood tests at Kidderminster Town Hall to check for prostate cancer. PAGE 13		
Wed 22	7.30pm	Stottesdon WI meet at Chorley Village Hall: ANTIQUES – Going For a Song". PAGE 9		
	7.45pm	Clows Top Gardening Club, Victory Hall. David Morgan: "I'm not much good at gardening". PAGE 11	Marion Wilson	CM270475
Thu 23		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		
	7.00pm	Autumn Fruits promises some fruity readings at the library, with fruity prizes to be won. £3.00 tickets from the library or pay on the door. PAGE 39.		
	8.00pm	Quiz Night at The Bell, Lower Street. Plus raffle at auction for charity. PAGE 13.		
Fri 24	8.00pm	Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Mon 27		GREEN WHEELIE BINS EMPTIED TODAY		
	4.00pm	Christmas Market at Estivals in Cleeton St Mary, with a selection of special local products on offer. Proceeds to charity. PAGE 13	Martine	01584 891037
Fri 31	8.00pm	Bingo Night, Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
		AND LOOKING FORWARD TO NOVEMBER		
Sat 1/ Sun 2		Festival of Art at Methodist Church and Hall. PAGE 13		
Wed 5		HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MAY REYNOLDS!		
	8.00pm	Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall	Sonia Pearsall	01584 890874
Thu 6		BLACK WHEELIE BINS AND RECYCLE BOXES EMPTIED TODAY		

The Wyre Forest Futuristic Fair is one of the most important events of the month. It's at Uncllys Farm, near Bewdley, on the 18th. PLEASE SEE PAGE 53.



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Prospect House - Clee Hill

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42 Vaughan Road - Cleobury Mortimer

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8 New Buildings - Clee Hill

This mid-terraced property is located in Clee Hill. Comprising 3 bedrooms, kitchen/diner, lounge, bathroom and rear garden. Benefitting from double glazing throughout, oil fired central heating and spectacular views over the surrounding countryside. Energy Rating D



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13 Lacon Close - Cleobury Mortimer

Two bedroom semi detached property located in popular residential area with garage and driveway parking. Accommodation comprises lounge with wood burner, kitchen and integrated oven and space for table and chairs. Two bedrooms and bathroom on the first floor. Garden to front and rear. Energy Rating E.



4 Ronhill Lane - Cleobury Mortimer

Recently fully refurbished detached bungalow situated close to the town centre and local amenities and schools. Front Entrance Storm Porch. Hallway. Newly fitted Kitchen with white gloss units, ceramic hob and electric oven and extractor hood. Double doors into Lounge with wall mounted electric feature fire. Energy Rating F



2 Moorfields - Mable

Four bedroomed detached house set in a desirable village setting with glorious views over the surrounding countryside with the added benefit of a garage conversion to make it suitable for multi-generational living. Four bedrooms, master with en suite. Two reception rooms and conservatory. Energy Rating E



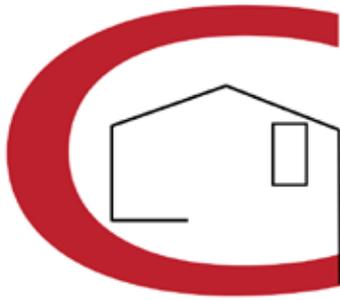
1 Lowe Court - Stockton-On-Teme

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Crimes reported in the last month:

At Burford Nurseries £1500 of damage was done to a door and frame when burglary was attempted on August 16th/17th. The burglars revisited on September 2nd/3rd to steal tools, ornaments and plants. A dog was put to sleep after a sheep-worrying incident which caused fatal injuries to two sheep worth £600, at Hopton Wafers on August 22nd. At a farm in Oreton, two tractors had pipes cut and diesel drained on August 24th/25th. At 11:00pm on August 31st three teenage girls were 'invited' to get into a passing car, a black Audi A5 with blacked out windows. It was seen speeding through the traffic lights on Ludlow Road before stopping with hazard lights on. It is thought three or four black males were in the car. No offences occurred and checks showed there had been no linked incidents or further reports. However, this was very unnerving for the girls. Two high value Purdey shotguns and two other shotguns, plus ammunition and a television were stolen from a farmhouse in Burford on September 2nd/3rd whilst the victim was in bed asleep. A burglary was attempted in the early hours of September 5th in Farlow; another attempt, also in Farlow, was foiled when a skinny male in a grey hooded top was disturbed just after 1:00am on September 6th. Three chainsaws were stolen from an unlocked shed in Baveney, sometime on September 13th. A pit bike was stolen from farm buildings behind locked gates in Oreton on September 14th/15th. Three males were disturbed when attempting to gain entry to the office of Acre Caravan Site near Far Forest on September 18th. It's thought they had knowledge of what was inside to steal. A mower worth £600 was stolen from a property in Burford. Neighbours noticed a green Ford

Transit pick-up in the area during the week prior to the theft; checks on the registration number showed the keeper is a known offender.

On September 5th a resident reported that her six year old daughter came home with cuts caused by a razor blade discarded in the playpark in Hartmann Close. She took her little girl to hospital, where an injection was given for Hepatitis B; further injections and blood tests will be carried out. It's difficult to stop brainless idiots leaving dangerous items where they can cause injury to children. Regular monitoring of the parks - not only by police personnel - and regular litter picking will help stop incidents like this. Antisocial behaviour is best reported to the police on 101; if an officer is available it can be dealt with straight away. A complaint was received recently of older youngsters, some in school uniform, involved in perceived antisocial behaviour at Love Lane playpark inhibiting the under 11s from playing. If this is not reported straight away or any names passed on, then little can be done. I patrol the playparks regularly but cannot accuse anyone of antisocial behaviour unless I see it or it has been reported. When I see groups of older youngsters in the playparks I ask them to ensure that they try to keep any noise down if it is late, and to put litter in a bin. Parents could take some responsibility and ensure that their children behave in an accepted manner. A small minority are well short of manners and are desperately in need of being taught to respect others. These children show up their parents' lack of interest in their offspring. Also, check if they have lights on their bikes when they are out in darkness. I hope I've hit a nerve here with the ones I have in mind.



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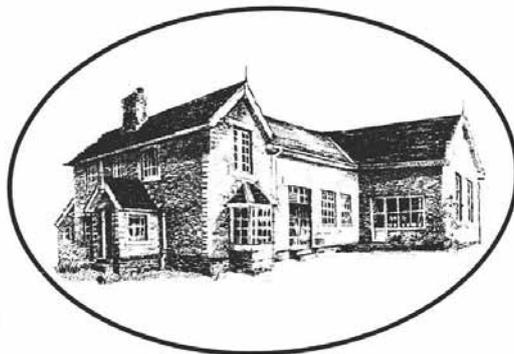


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During our last school year we introduced a Play 2 Learn programme for our Year 3 and 4 class whereby they learnt to play the flute during music lessons. We were pleased to see a few of our girls go on to have private tuition with the Play 2 Learn tutor.

This month we have received our next batch of instruments and we are going for broke this year as we have 20 violins and 8 cellos for our year 5 and 6 children to get to grips with. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to be able to have such instruments and really have the time to try them out properly.



We are told that learning to read music and play a musical instrument is also a great way to improve mathematical skills, because of the patterns and rhythms.

To further our children's musical education, the whole of KS2 will be travelling to Worcester at the beginning of October to see the film of Ten Pieces which is designed to inspire children to enjoy classical music by introducing it to them at a young age. We know as adults that when we hear a very famous classical tune we usually say that we like it and that is because we have been exposed to it many times and enjoy the familiarity. We hope that some of this may rub off on our pupils and that they will feel a bond with these pieces. We have other work planned during the year to follow up on this.

Finally, we are holding an open day for prospective new families in school on Thursday, 6th November 2014 from 9am onwards. If you are unable to make this date, but would like to have a look around our school, please contact the school office to make an appointment.

We currently have places available in our new year 1 and year 5 classes. For further details about our school, contact the office on 01299 832393. Alternatively, visit our website at www.baytonpri.worcs.sch.uk

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The Farming Page - Rachel Robinson of Mawley Town Farm and Mawley Milk

A brief look out the windows... 'where have the swallows gone?' They have the benefit of spending the next few months in warmer climes - how we all wish for a bit of that! Hopefully by the time you read this all our maize will be harvested and the winter supplies will be gathered in. If we lived in New Zealand where grass is aplenty most of the year, we would be 'block calving', that is we would have all of our cows calving down in February ready for the spring grass to give an influx of milk over the next few months, however; our climate does not allow for all-year grazing. So typically in the UK, our cows calve all year round, meaning that our calf pens have a steady supply of youngsters and we always have an age range of calves in our shed from 'baby' calves through to weaned 6 month-olds. The main benefit of all-year calving is the steady supply of milk. British dairy farmers produce 11 billion litres of milk a year, most which is consumed fresh and around 6 billion is processed into cheese, butter and dried milk. We only process a small amount of milk

every day here at Mawley, the rest of what we produce is under contract with Dairy Crest and we have to accurately forecast our milk production for the next 12 months.

The badger cull debate rumbles on, with both sides of the argument strongly defending their corner. Our next bTB test is due in November; something that we all dread. We were hit terribly in 2010, losing over 80 of our homebred cows to the disease. I will end my article with some UK bTB facts and figures. 233,383 cattle have been culled due to bTB between 2008-2013. There were 4763 new outbreaks in 2013. It has cost the taxpayer £500 million to control the disease in the past 10 years. Up to 1 in 3 badgers in disease hotspots have TB. The Welsh Assembly vaccinated badgers in 2012 at a cost of £662 per badger; whilst vaccination has a part to play in the control of disease it cannot cure an animal that is already infected. Lets hope for a sensible solution to control TB for the sake of our cattle and wildlife.

Rachel



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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

BUSY MONTH AT THE LIBRARY



As well as the business of lending books, DVDs and giving advice on all sorts of matters, the library has two events worth your attention this month. Both organised by the Friends to boost interest in this great asset of the town's.

On the 8th, the multi talented Frank Westworth travels up from Cornwall for the Shropshire launch of his debut novel 'A Last Act of Charity.' Few of the people who read his amusing editorials in motorbike magazines will be aware that Frank is an ex professional guitar player who toured with The Incredible String Band (ask you dad) and has played with Wizard.

He has launched some very successful bike titles and is the best editor I have worked with in over 40 years in the writing business. Do not expect his debut novel to be on the Mills and Boone shelf in any reading

establishment, he'll tell his tale with no punches pulled. The fact that leading author R J Ellory has enthusiastically endorsed the front cover suggests this may be the start of another success story for Mr Westworth. He'll be signing copies and chatting, possibly submitting to an interview if we can pin him down. Should be a good evening. And at just £3.00 for entry

Two weeks later, on the 23rd, there's a novel approach to a quiz with Autumn Fruits. As this is the season of mellow fruitfulness, Graham Simpson of the Reading Group has drawn a selection of books with a fruity connection. Members of the group will read extracts and you have to identify which book it comes from. The Reading Group are a happy lot, who don't take themselves too seriously, so expect to laugh and possibly be puzzled; sounds like the ideal quiz formula.

Again, admission costs £3.00, as these events are being run to raise funds for the Friends to help them promote use of the range of facilities at the library. There are decisions to be made at a much higher level about the future of the service and events like this help to make it clear that our library is alive and wanted by the community.

EXPERT BREAD MAKING AT NEEN SAVAGE

The W.I.meeting at Neen Savage village hall this month - on the 8th - features Richard Swift of Swift's Bakery on Clee Hill. This is a company with a great reputation in the area and Richard will be giving a practical demonstration of making the staff of life and offering samples of his renowned skill. You can even buy some of his breads - and if you've never tasted them, you really should try one.

The evening is open to all, admission for guests is £4.00 a head and includes a light refreshment buffet and a raffle ticket. Angela Flowers on CM 270318 can tell you more.

CONGRATULATIONS

To the 20 parishioner volunteers in Neen Savage who have worked on the Community Led Plan that is due to be debated and hopefully adopted by the Parish Council at their next meeting.

It really is a very fine looking production, well presented and reasoned, with a lot of statistical information to support its conclusions and suggested path for the future. Chairman Mike Hurley thanks all those who put in time and effort to produce a plan to be proud of.



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CONTACT DETAILS

Cleobury Mortimer Primary School

Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, Nr Kidderminster,
Shropshire, DY14 8PE

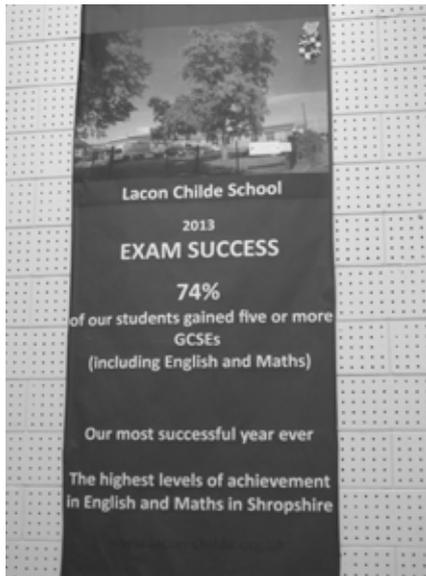
Tel: 01299 270313

Email: admin.cleoburymortimer@shropshirelg.net

Website: cleoburymortimerprimaryschool.ethink.org.uk

Clarion Clippings - The Local News

SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF



We couldn't resist taking a shot of this banner, proudly shown on the wall of the main hall in Lacon Childe School. It just reminds the pupils, and we should not forget either, how good results at our community school can be. A tribute to everyone there; pupils, teachers and all involved in the vital work of education.

THE CANAPES ARE DELAYED

The Friends of Saint Mary's Church were planning a Canapes and Collectibles evening at Mawley Hall for the 17th of this month. Sadly, due to circumstances beyond the organisers' control, the event

has had to be postponed and they are working on an alternative. Watch this space for a new announcement.

When one of these evenings, was run as part of the old Cleobury Fringe, it was a great success. John Carter giving valuations on pieces ranging from family heirlooms to car boot oddities is good entertainment, not to mention the reaction to good news. And the canapés were good too.

GOOD GIG COMING



Oliver Carpenter and Chris Lomas intend to make you laugh too.

The Milson and Neen Sollars Victory Hall offers a good evening for blues people on the 18th this month. Mumbo Jumbo are currently riding high with strong reviews for their 'Life of Riley' album and a nomination for a British Blues Award for

Best Songwriting. They are local man Oliver Carpenter on vocals and trumpet, Chris Lomas on vocals, ukulele and bass, and Phil Ball on piano and squeezebox and they promise a variety of music and a sense of humour. Anyone who plays the squeeze box needs one of those, of course.

It starts at 8.00, tickets are £8.00, from mumbo-jumbo.biz or from Craig on 01299 270054.

AND AT CLOWS TOP...

Victory Hall has two October offerings. On the 2nd 'A Thousand Kisses Deep' features Jazz Vocalist of the Year Christine Tobin. Doors open at 7.00, tickets £11.00 including supper, or £9.00 without.

And then on the 25th it's 'The Victory Hall's 60th Anniversary' and a 1950s Party Night featuring the Bravo Boys. 50s costume optional - Granddad's suit should be OK - and there will be dancing, supper, a bar and probably a lot more fun than they had in the rather drab 1950s until Bill Haley and Little Richard hit the scene. Tickets £12.00 - you could almost buy the Hall for that in 1950. All bookings through 01299 832456 or 8 3 2 0 4 4 or www.clowstopvictoryhall@gmail.com



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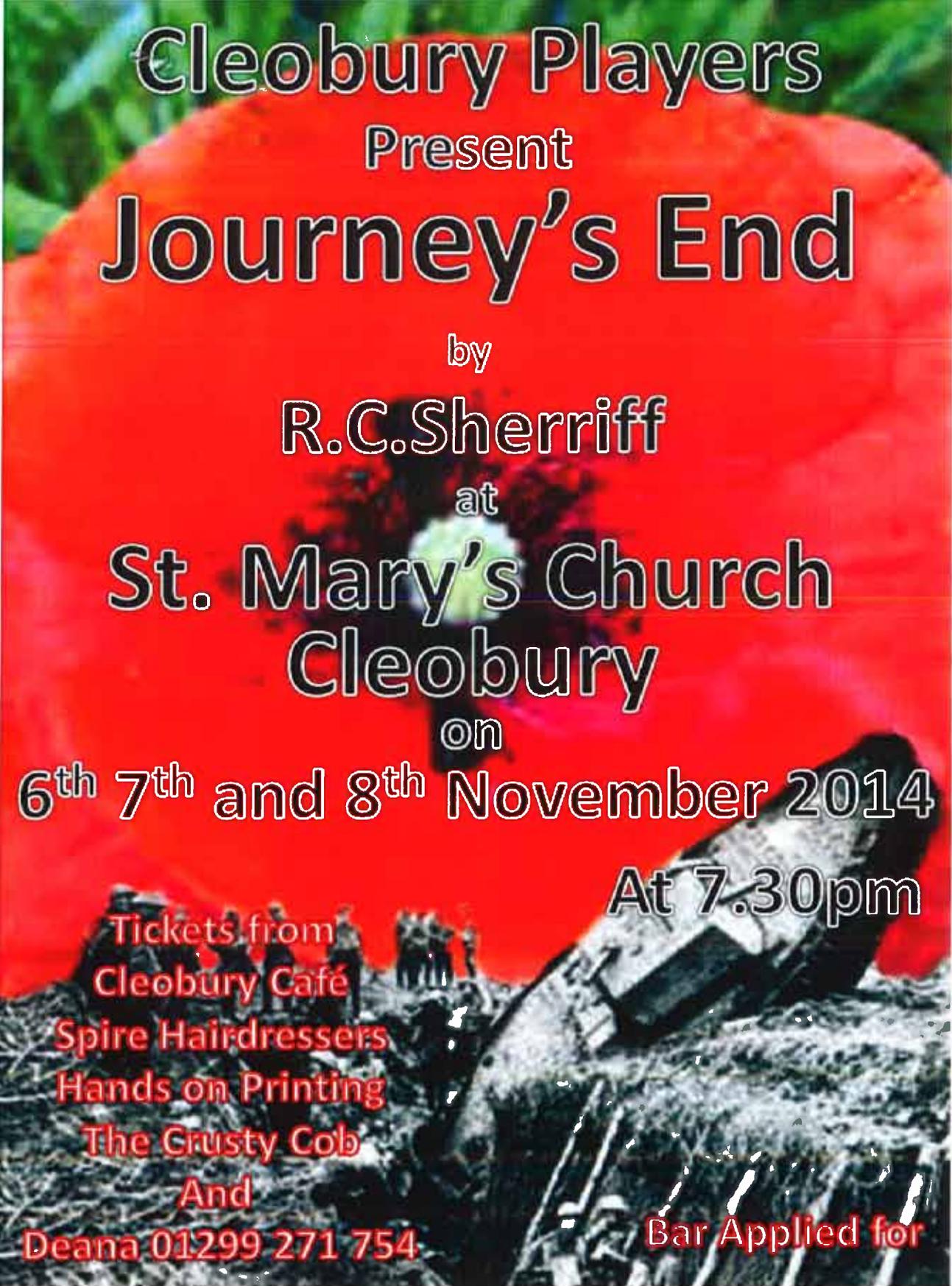
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The Clarion Weekly Social Calendar

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	CM 272638	
	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	
	Tue	10.00	Nippers, Moths & Tots, Methodist Hall, Church Street	Emma	CM 272959
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		Chas Beale Dance Club, Lacon Childe School	Betty Ladek	CM 270332	
Wed		10.30	Over 50s Relaxing Exercises, Doddington Village Hall	Freda Childe	01584 891180
		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	Dorothy McBride	CM 272717	
	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	Debbie Fowler	01562 743304	
	19.30	New Life Church prayer meeting. For venue call	Derek Morris	CM 270787	
19.45	Choir Practice, Parish Church	Philip Engleheart	CM 270627		
Thu	09.30	Little Tiddlers, Kinlet Family Playgroup, Kinlet School	Zoe Pearson	07794 166514	
	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	
	19.30	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	
	14.00	CM Bridge Club, Parish Hall, Church Street	Pat Smith	CM 270592	
	20.00	11-16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317	
	21.00	Over 16s Badminton Club, CM Sports Centre		CM 271317	
	Fri	10.00	Tiny Stots, Chorley Playgroup, Stottesdon School	Zoe Day	01746 718769
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	
Sat	10.30	Junior Coaching, CM Golf Club, Wyre Common	Phil Moore	CM 271112	

CLEOBURY MORTIMER SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMME

Sunday 25th May - **CRUVO CARRIBEAN DAY**

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Saturday 7th June - **A NIGHT OF MUSIC & COMEDY** - *Back by Popular Demand* - **BONNIE DIAMOND & COE**

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Saturday 28th June - **A NIGHT OF MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT** *with Brilliant Duo* - **SUNSET HARMONY**

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Saturday 20th September - **COUNTRY & ROCK 'N' ROLL NIGHT** *with Alan Williams*

★★★★

Friday 17th October - **ABBA NIGHT**

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Friday 12th December - **SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY**

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- Health & Safety Level 2, 1 Day; Wednesday 12th Nov.

Business Networking this month:

Wednesday 15th October.

For more information on training courses at
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Linda Iles

October In The Wyre Forest



Squirrels are cute, aren't they?

That's a question that will divide opinions depending on location and the background of the responder. Around here, the image of a grey squirrel will spring to mind, since they had successfully established themselves and replaced the reds by the 1930s. They are attractive animals: agile, playful and bold to the point of cheek. Put peanuts out for the birds around here and a squirrel will do its utmost to have them, stealing the whole feeder if possible. Here lies the problem. They are opportunists and have added hazelnuts, apples, plums, the bark, buds and shoots of trees to their menu, even eating eggs and nestlings on occasions when plant food is scarce. This

has a dramatic effect on the woodland food web: bad news not just for the red squirrels but also for woodland birds and the woodlands themselves.



Typical squirrel damage to a beech tree. The tree has survived and grown, but the timber it produces has very little commercial value.

We recently visited a Herefordshire woodland belonging to the Duchy of Cornwall and saw a well-managed mixture of oak, cherry, rowan, hazel, walnut, sweet chestnut and other trees, but also heard about the struggle to grow good timber trees where deer and squirrels can do so much damage. It was pointed out that the fine specimens we could see there and elsewhere in England had been established before the real explosion in grey squirrel numbers 30 to 40 years

ago and that, unless something is done about their numbers, we won't be seeing them again. Trees may be killed by bark stripping or, even if they survive, will carry the marks of the damage in their timber, making it useless as anything but firewood. The reality is that the value of the end product is what ensures the survival of our forests, whatever petitions we sign.

On a rather different note, you are invited to a talk on Wednesday October 8th at 7.30pm in the Ruskin Studio, Uncllys Farm, DY12 2LR. Sara Atwood, an American academic who is leading the development of John Ruskin's Guild of St George in the States, will be talking about Ruskin and the environment: in particular her efforts to live out some of Ruskin's ideals in her teaching and work at her own and son's school gardens. The evening will be informal and not at all stuffy! Ring 01299 403691 for more information.

Linda Iles

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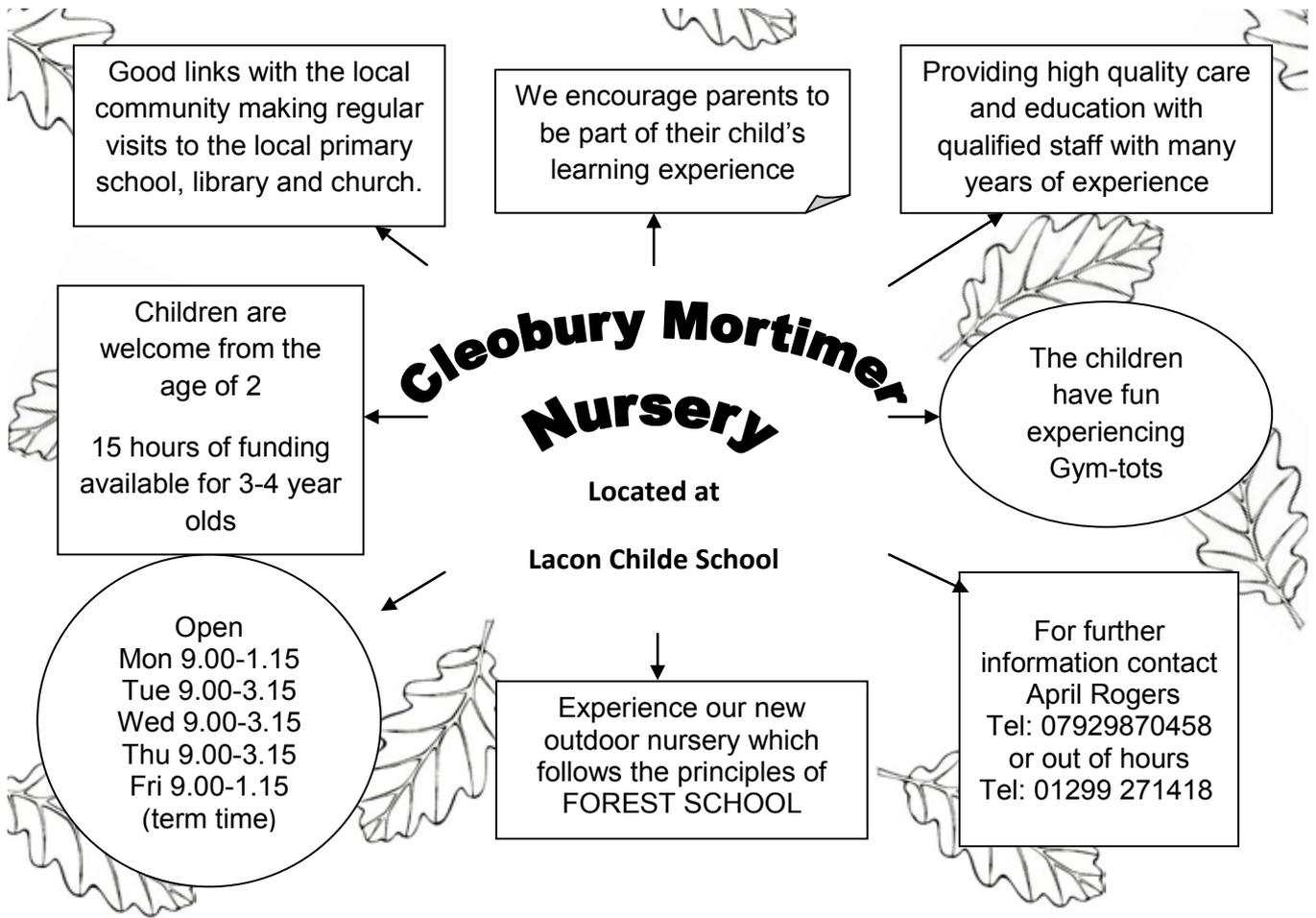


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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

MR HOBSON ENTERTAINS

Hobson's are making good use of the fine entertainment area they opened earlier this year. They are developing some food themes for the autumn and winter months and for October there's a range to suit most tastes:

On the 2nd - get in now if you want to book a place - it's Cider and Food Matching. Ciders from Oldfields Orchard and Once Upon a Tree (neat title) and food to surprise and delight from 4cSons. £25.00 a head. It all starts at 7.15.

On the 9th it's Fish Night, teaming up with the Ludlow Fish House for demonstrations, tastings and food matching with drinks again. £15.00 a head, 7.00 start.

And to round off the month, on the 23rd the attraction is Cooking With Cleopatra and an Egyptian cooking and pharaonic beer experience. Cookery course with Marina Ibrahim, a three course mezze meal, cooking tuition, recipe cards and a brewery tour. Big night, lots to do, £45.00 a head and it runs from 6.00 to 10.00. Just a tip for a Cleopatra Night - don't try the asp pate!

Great idea to spread the Hobsons word and taste. Enjoy.

AMANDA - A GOOD APPROACH

Amanda Horton has been advertising in the Clarion for a year or more and I'm ashamed to say I've never met her. That doesn't fit in with the friendly attitude the Clarion tries to portray to both readers and our trade advertisers.

Amanda's new advert on Page 42 offers a helping hand to get computer novices going and in touch with a very big world of information. If you're a competent user, please don't dismiss the need to get others on the same wavelength. New people looking at your business website can be good news.

So I'm going to interview the lady and tell her story soon in an 'In Business' feature, when I hope to find out what got her into business as a guide to the untrained. I know what that's like. Look out for a story coming in the next few months.

THE BRITISH LEGION DO IT AGAIN

The Legion's traditional Harvest Time Auction at The Bell on September 12th saw the place crowded, as usual for this fund raiser. There's a lot more than the auction going on, but chairman Jim Hulme and his individual style makes

that part of the evening go with a swing. Let's face it, a pint or two does tend to loosen the wallet strings a bit.

With some pledged money still to come in, we are told the evening raised a cool £1080, which is a tidy sum for one evening's work for the Poppy Appeal. Congratulations to all involved.

WEDDING FAIR

Just a reminder about the Wedding Fair on Saturday the 4th of this month. It's in the Fountain Inn at Oldwood, near Tenbury Wells. If you're a sat navver, it's at WR15 8TB.

Starts at 2.00 and runs through until 6.00, to give the brides and grooms a full afternoon of dreaming and possibly ordering for the Big Day. Lisa at 01584 810701, or Clare at 07980 580 770 can tell you more.

CAMERA CLASSES WITH CLAIRE

Claire Carter, whose lovely wildlife photos adorn the shop window at 10 Church Street, is offering to pass on some of her skills at workshops, mainly up on Clee Hill with Hawk Eye and his birds of prey. The first is on November 1st and monthly from then on. Look in at www.CarterArt.co.uk for more information.

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

MR ROBERT HODGE



Robert probably won't thank me for writing this, but the man whose smiling face appears on this month's front cover does a great deal of work for this area without shouting or asking for praise. He is extremely modest, yet has a range of talents that make his help invaluable to others.

I first met him over the phone, when he suggested that the Clarion should have a website to reach a wider public. I agreed, but did not have the skill to handle such a thing. And some hair raising stories about website costs in the publishing industry really did make me wary - like £15,000 to create a site for a magazine I worked on. And if you had a look at what we were doing and fancied buying a copy, you couldn't, not

on this website! You sometimes wonder who writes the contracts for such people.

Robert was not moved by such tales: "I'll set it up for you, all you have is pay the registration fee," he explained. I haven't looked back since, and we have readers in Singapore and New Zealand. All that for no charge.

He was one of the group who put together Hopton Wafers' Parish Plan and gave advice to Neen Savage about preparing their excellent presentation. With an interest in history, he asked if he could go along to the History Society meetings and came away from one newly elected as the chairman. He is studying local history for his PhD, one of his projects since retiring, buying the house in Hopton and hoping for a quiet life. Some hope!

He is treasurer of the Friends of Cleobury Mortimer Library and recently spent a day helping his son and daughter in law move into a new flat in London. When you hear what a one bedroom place in a decent location costs down there, you can see why he prefers Hopton. He makes no demands upon friends, a quiet spoken valuable addition to our community. JR

FUTURISTIC FOREST FAIR

Future ideas for the Wyre Forest will be on show at the Futuristic Forest Fair on Saturday the 18th. It will be at Uncllys Farm, near Bewdley and will run from 9.00 (the first guided walk around the area starts at 10.00) until 4.00 or thereabouts.

The Wyre is the largest area of contiguous ancient woodland in England, so a rather special facility that needs proper care and planning. This is a chance to see ancient crafts being practised and examine some of the suggestions to keep it in public use for the future. Not so much for your children, more your grandchildren.

Linda Iles - who lives with husband John at Uncllys - opens eyes with her excellent column about the forest. Here is a chance to see something of the area that inspires her words and to give your views on how the area can be sensibly carried into a useful future, with its diverse wildlife encouraged and protected. It's a far sighted idea from Wyre Forest Landscape Partnership that deserves a strong response and support for their work.

Ellie Hooper can tell you more about the day on 01299 405516.



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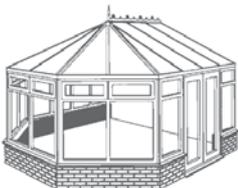
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IN BUSINESS: TLC Care At Home



The TLC Team. Left to right Lauren, Charlotte and Paula. And in front Jacqui, who's to blame for all this.

This is not a cold, dispassionate article about a local service, even though it may deserve praise from a less biased source than me. This is the team chosen by the local authority to support my family through my wife's last days. If that means this report is prejudiced, I am proud to admit it.

TLC is headed by Jacqui Jackson. She started the business because her daughter worked in care and was upset that a lady whose family had already paid for two years' care faced extra charges to provide cover when the patient needed

to use the toilet at night! She set out to do the job better, to recruit people who cared. "People with a compassionate nature," as she puts it. The team of three who led loving care in my home joined Jacqui to talk about their work.

Lauren has a deep, dark-eyed beauty and came from a background of care work with Headway, the charity who help people with head injuries. She was working as a hairdresser and moved to care work to make enough to finance a mobile hair service. But found she was drawn into care service, did a college course and now wants to move on into a full nursing career.

Charlotte is 21, the youngest of the team, who did a variety of jobs before moving into care work in Bridgnorth and taking up the chance of local service with TLC. Not to mention no more 6.00am starts. "You see that clients need something and you just do it. You want to give something back."

Paula has four children and had done a variety of jobs before she joined TLC: "You can't just do what the book says, you've got to do the job properly. I want to give the best I can provide, to show people that we do care."

And Lauren: "You get a real buzz from seeing people react to what you do. I love it."

They talk and laugh together, more like friends than the work team they actually are. Jacqui again: "There's a lot of stress in care job, cannot help becoming attached to the people support. It's inevitable." A social worker reporting on the care the team provide commented: "What better than the sound of laughter?" They bring their smiles and an atmosphere of happiness into what can too often be a tense situation. My own experience includes an evening when they were due to leave at 7.50, but they were helping the community nurse and didn't leave until 8.30, refusing an offer of extra payment. When my wife said how sad she was not to have her hair done, ex hairdresser Lauren brought her kit in next day and did a great job. Payment? A shake of the head 'No!'

With such a good team, what does Jacqui see of future growth? "I've got another team in Tenbury Wells, then maybe Bewdley, Highley and towards Ludlow." If she can maintain this level of care and compassion, she'll be welcome wherever she goes.

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The Cleobury Clarion Local Information Page

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THE DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE IS SEPTEMBER 22nd

Clarion Contacts - Useful Local Telephone Numbers and Emails

CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR - 07703 965 064 Theresa Parfitt; theresa.25016@hotmail.co.uk

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CLEOBURY COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES (CoCo) - 01299 270018. Katja Ward is the contact; office hours 10.00 to 12.00 noon Wednesday only.

CLEOBURY MORTIMER LIBRARY - 01299 272301. Vicki Alexander is our librarian. Open 9.00 to 5.00 Monday to Friday and 10.00 to 1.00 Saturdays.

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

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Knightwood - Broadheath

This delightful detached bungalow is located in the village of Broadheath approximately 5 miles from the market town of Tenbury Wells and is available with no onward chain. Having been recently modernized and updated the property provides good spacious living. With accommodation to include: large entrance hallway, living room with open fire, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, master bedroom with dressing room and ensuite and two further double bedrooms. Energy Rating E



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18 Holly Road - Tenbury Wells

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Birches Cottages - Hampton Charles

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