

# The Cleobury Clarion

## IS THIS THE BEST TITLE FOR AN EVENT?

We do have a rather charming Cleobury Mortimer habit of giving unusual events or animals eccentric names. Like the Asbo Rabbit that attacked neighbouring gardens and drew Police attention. Big laughs all round on that occasion.

To get up to date as 2024 closes, how about the Cleobury Mortimer Sausage Dog Social Walk for this year's daftest name? Melissa Romeo of the Cleobury Barbers Shop is to blame for this and she tells us with a smile that the first CMSDSW drew about 60 entries. She wants more for the December event on the 22nd. starting at 11.00 from the Sports and Social Club. If you have a sausage dog and a sense of humour, where else would you want to be? More details on Page 29.



Memorial Sunday captured in this photo by Craig Kershaw as British Legion flagman Dave Clarke raises the standard at the Sunday memorial service at the war memorial.

This particular day is one of the most important in our year, with the main street lined with spectators out to see the parade and join in the national two minutes silence. You could almost have heard a pin drop. Well done, Cleobury.

## THE ROCK AND DISTRICT NEWS

My friend Peter Bill advises that the December issue of his Rock and District News will be the last. Peter was the man who offered advice when I started the Cleobury Clarion almost 20 years ago and we have remained rivals but friends ever since. I do love the colour front cover photos he uses; I suspect he knows the right people for those. Yes, I am jealous.

He has tried to sell the title on, but had no success after a year or so. Thank you for your friendship, Peter, and a very happy retirement.

## CASPER

You should be reading this on December 1st. Four days ago, on November 27th, my great grandson Casper was a year old. He smiles, he's trying hard to walk and I think he's just wonderful, as a great grandfather should.

## Mawley Milk

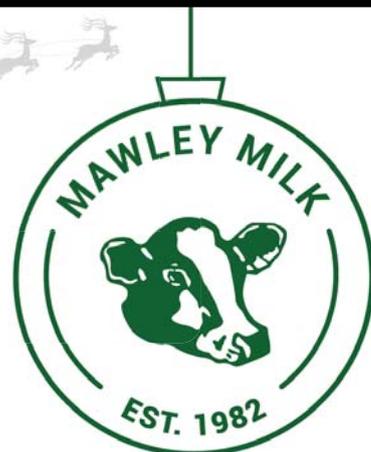
Fresh milk and cream from Cleobury Mortimer

5p from the sale of every 4 pint semi skimmed sold during December will be donated to the Birmingham Childrens Hospital

[www.mawleytownfarm.co.uk](http://www.mawleytownfarm.co.uk)

*on behalf of Margaret Robinsons family, we sincerely thank you for your kind thoughts and support during this difficult year.*

*Wishing you a very happy Christmas and peaceful new year*





# Victoria Allen Funeral Services

An Independent Family Business offering a  
Personal and Professional Service

Over 25 years' Experience

Competitively Priced

Private Chapel of Rest

Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funeral Plans

Covering All Areas

Home Visits Available

**01584 879035**

24 Hour Service

8 Charlton Rise, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 1ND

[www.vallenfuneralsludlow.co.uk](http://www.vallenfuneralsludlow.co.uk)

Email: [vafs@btinternet.com](mailto:vafs@btinternet.com)





*The Rugby Club's  
Vice President's  
Lunch.  
See Page 11.*



*A Lesson in Reviving  
Swallows.  
See Page 15.*



*A Memorable Day  
On The Hill.  
See Page 47.*

### And On Other Pages...

- 5 - Lacon Childe School P.T.A.
- 7 - Roving Nativity
- 9 - Cleobury W.I.
- 13 - Stepping Out
- 16 - Far Forest Stores
- 17 - Birmingham Philharmonic
- 21 - December in the Wyre Forest
- 23 - Stuart Anderson MP
- 25 - Cleobury Benefice
- 27 - Super Beacon on the Hill
- 29 - About Our Library
- 32/33 - Doddington Lodge
- 35 - Simon in the Garden
- 41 - Mrs Grumpy
- 45 - The Manor House
- 51 - Let's Beat the Scammers
- 55 - The Social Calendar
- 58 - The Town Council Report



**OvenGleamers Kidderminster**  
*The Oven Cleaning Service*

**We Don't Just Clean Them  
We GLEAM Them !**

Nigel will come to your home and deep clean your cooking appliances until they Gleam. Our unique process is mess, odour and fume free using only organic products within your home. All work is backed by our **Customer Satisfaction Guarantee.**

Safe, Eco-Friendly Fume-Free & Only organic Products are used

**5 ★ Reviews**  
Nigel from OvenGleamers cleaned my oven and the results were stunning. My oven has never looked so good. I can certainly recommend OvenGleamers. I should also say that Nigel was polite and friendly and cleaned up everything after he'd finished. A brilliant job and well worth the cost.  
Adrian T

OvenGleamers can clean your ...  
Ovens | Ranges | AGAs | Hobs | Extractors | Microwaves | BBQs

**Contact Nigel ~ Your LOCAL OvenGleamer** Find us on ....  

**OvenGleamers**  
The Oven Cleaning Service  
OvenGleamers Kidderminster  
Call 01562 702883



**DRY CLEANING & LAUNDRY SERVICES**  
 20 HIGH ST, CLEOBURY MORTIMER DY14 8DG  
 01299 270571 / 07483 380019  
 HOUSEHOLD & COMMERCIAL WORK WELCOME  
 FULLY ATTENDED MONDAY TO SATURDAY 9AM-5PM

follow us on facebook

**THE PLACE TO AIR YOUR DIRTY LAUNDRY!!**

self service & full service wash/dry/fold/iron large machine for big items  
 dedicated machine for pet items equestrian rug cleaning team sport kit laundry service  
 professional shirt service dry cleaning service duvet/ blanket/sleeping bag washing service  
 Nikwax wash and proof for outdoor clothing  
 local delivery available, we specialise in hotel and B&B laundry and ironing

**CELEBRATING 10 YEARS IN BUSINESS**

**THANK YOU TO OUR LOYAL CUSTOMERS AND THE COMMUNITY FOR THEIR SUPPORT**



## Michael Coombes Roofing & Building Maintenance.

Complete Re-roofing, Roof repairs, Pointing & Chimney repairs.  
 Slabbing & Brick work  
 Wall & Floor Tiling  
 Painting & Decorating

Over 20 Years experience in the Cleobury area.

**Call Michael on 07854 047413**

## B Price Forestry



Supplying kiln dried logs in 3 convenient load sizes: a bag, a pickup load or a transit/trailer load. We also stock nets of kindling.

We are Ready to Burn accredited and offer free delivery within 10 miles.

Logs are between 8-10 inches in length and are kiln dried to 20% or less moisture content.

**\*\* Summer promotion – discount on prices for orders placed between 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 \*\***

For prices, availability or to place an order, please contact us on

**01584 891307 or 07518 810269**

B Price Forestry, The Workshop, Bitterley, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 3HW



**Tele:- 01299-272757** *Hands on Printing* **Email:- clickclick2@hotmail.co.uk**  
**Mobile 07708 587787**

*All digital media printed to 6"x4" 5"x7" 8x6" 10"x8"*  
**CANVAS WRAPS FROM 12"x16" - 30"x 20"**  
**ENLARGEMENTS FROM 12X10" TO 24X36"**  
FROM PHOTO'S, DIGITAL MEDIA & 35mm SLIDES

**PASSPORT PHOTO'S ONLY £5-00**  
**WHILE YOU WAIT**

**MOST VIDEO FORMATS TRANSFERRED TO D.V.D.**  
USB or SD cards

INCLUDING VHS - VHSC - SONY 8 -DIGITAL 8 - Hi8 - MINI DV & BETAMAX  
**REEL TO REEL & CASSETTE**  
**AUDIO TAPES & OLD LPs TO CD**

**PHOTO & VIDEO FILES TRANSFERRED FROM MOBILES TO DVD ETC.**

**STANDARD 8 - SUPER 8 FILMS TRANSFERRED TO D.V.D.**  
USB or SD cards  
**DAMAGED PHOTOGRAPHS RESTORED ETC.**

**BIRTHDAY AND CELEBRATION BANNERS**

*Look Who's 50 Today!*

**VINYL BANNERS - BUSINESS CARDS - SHORT RUN FLYERS - INVITATIONS -ORDERS OF SERVICE**

**B-W OR COLOUR PHOTOCOPIES**  
**SELECTION OF PHOTO FRAMES**  
*Traditional Studio Portraits and Pet Photo's*

**Video Filming Service**  
 43,High St.  
 Cleobury Mortimer.  
 DY14 8DQ

### **COLIN BROOME**

Elaine And Family would like to thank everyone that attended the funeral of Colin Broome. We are overwhelmed with the kind donations of £710.00. It will go to The Russells Hall Renal Unit, for all the help they gave to Colin. Thank you.

*Tracie Broome*

### **THE NEARLY DEAD POETS' SOCIETY**

We met on October 28th in such a muddle that it was fortunate only three members were there. David and Pauline had the theme correct with poems about flags on offer, while the chairman got it wrong and wrote about memory! And he's supposed to know what the subject is.

We laughed, sipped a little wine and read favourites from a variety of authors before agreeing that "television" will be the theme when we meet on January the 25th in the library. The chairman will be allowed in only if he has the subject right.

### **CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB**

It is not really practical for us to meet in December, as our usual day is the 4th Wednesday of the month, which is rather too close to Christmas. So here is some advance information about January.

The well known local photographer, Peter Siviter, will be sharing some more of his excellent pictures. Peter is a local resident, so if the weather is challenging he will not have to come far.

January is also the month when we rejoin - only £10 annually, remember. For that small amount you will get access to 8 indoor meetings with a speaker and 3 trips to local gardens of note. That has to be good value for your money. More details next month.

Until then, take care, enjoy Christmas, and we look forward to welcoming you next year.

*Judith Lawson*

### **LACON CHILDE SCHOOL P.T.A.**

Lacon Childe PTA has one main objective; to raise funds for projects in school that would not otherwise benefit from school funding. The handful of volunteers who are parents and carers have 3 main fundraisers during the year, Race Night, Lacon Summer Fete and of course the Borders Classic Bike Show, which had its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in 2024. These events are organised and co-ordinated by parents, school staff and community members and, along with some other fundraising, have generated in excess of £10,000 over the past year.

At the most recent PTA meeting in November, these funds were allocated across a diverse range of projects that school staff had bid for, including; a new PA and sounds system for the school hall, 3 new cookers for Food

Technology, an overlocker for Textiles, paint for Art to create stage props, books and Mock Trial participation for English, a Futbol linguistic workshop for French, LCD writing pads for History, scientific calculators for Maths, piano tuning for Music, GCSE textbooks for PE, funding to support disadvantaged Pupil Premium students, a celebration event for last year's Year 11 leavers, voucher prizes for House Competitions and Rewards and Recognitions given at the end of each term. If you would like to get more involved in the PTA fundraising and allocation of its funds to school, we would love to hear from you - any parent is invited to our AGM on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024.

*Rachel Datlen*

### **FLICKS IN THE STICKS**

**December 21st.**

**7.00 for 7.30.**

We are showing a Sing-Along version of the Sound of Music - an all-time feel good film. Get in the mood by dressing up: nun's outfit, lederhosen, dirndl, old curtains. Tickets £5. Bar, tea, coffee, mulled wine and mince pies.



## Find Your Smile at Cleobury Dental Practice

Whether you're looking for dental implants to replace missing teeth, invisible braces for a straighter smile, boosting your confidence with teeth whitening or a dedicated dentist for your regular care, you can find it all here in the heart of historic Cleobury Mortimer.

- Modern, state of the art facilities and the latest dental technology
- Free car parking adjacent to the practice and step-free access to our dentists' surgeries
- Enjoy private dental care from just 47p per day with our membership plans
- Highly experienced in helping those with dental phobias

### Services Provided

- Tooth-Coloured (White) Fillings
- Sedation for Anxious Patients
- Teeth Straightening with Braces and Invisalign
- Dental Implants (Replacement of Missing Teeth)
- Emergency Appointments Slots Available (first come first served)
- Hygienist Services
- Private and NHS Care (NHS subject to capacity)

### Opening Hours

Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri **9am-5pm**  
Thu **9am-7pm**  
Saturdays **by appointment only**

**Tel: 01299 271 747**

**[www.cleoburydental.co.uk](http://www.cleoburydental.co.uk)**

BDA Good Practice  
Member

 **invisalign**  
PROVIDER

### CAROLS FOR COCO

A great title for a new charity fund raising event in the Christmas calendar. It's organised by the Cleobury Golf Club Seniors' Captain and presented by the Ludlow Concert Band, who will entertain with a programme of festive music and carols.

It's at the Golf Club, naturally, on Friday, December 13th, starting at 7.30. Tickets are £10 and available from Cleobury Country and the Golf Club. If you'd rather wait and pay on the door, the price will be £11. A nice friendly touch is the glass of wine and a mince pie as part of the deal.

All proceeds go to local charities Cleobury CoCo and Carers Connect. Sounds like a good evening.

### ROVING NATIVITY

It's that remarkable Farlow and Oretton Village Hall in the news again, this time with a community charity event. It's on Monday, December 16th starting at 6.00. The list of attractions is impressive: Nativity celebration, carols for all to join in, mulled wine to sip and warm if it's chilly, hot chocolate for the more temperate amongst us, that old Christmas favourite mince pies, a variety of Christmas goodies, and a raffle {of course}. Plus a surprise visitor, and you'll have to be there to learn who that is. It's all in aid of Crisis at Christmas and donations to that fund will be welcome.

In that same village, the Melville Methodist Church has a list of events to fill your December diary page:

Saturday the 7th, 10.00 to 12.00 noon, a coffee morning.

Wednesday the 11th, 12.30 to 3.00, a Christmas Soup Lunch.

Monday the 16th, Roving Nativity starts at 6.00. See earlier notes above.

Sunday the 22nd, 6.30 Carol Service.

Wednesday the 25th, family worship at 19.30

### CLOWS TOP VICTORY HALL

It has been a great year for the hall. The main shell of the extension has been completed and a fair amount of second fixing has been done. The oil boiler has been exchanged and moved into the extension as well.

We have had some really good events over the year including two jumble sales, quiz night, barn dances, a family Halloween party and our wildlife club has had 10 more amazing evenings in its 3rd year. Plus a very successful Christmas fayre with a record 23 stalls and Mrs Santa Claus paying us a visit. We have also had outside bookings supported by our bar, a new Zumba class has started and our committee stands at a healthy nine members.

So looking forward to next year? Pretty much the same hopefully with a few more children friendly events. It will kick off on Friday Jan 31st with our first wildlife club of the year. Thanks to those who have supported us throughout the year. It is very much appreciated.

*Steve Woodison*  
Chairman

### IAN CASEY IN

### CABARET

6th December – 7.00 for 7.30pm

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

### WOOD WORDS

A relatively quiet time at the Bowling Club especially during this recent spell of wintry weather.

On the administration side plans have been discussed for next season taster sessions, a possibility of some Saturday mornings being considered.

A number of new members joined the club this season, many commenting on how enjoyable they found the game and wished they had "discovered it earlier". Readers can find dates for next season (as soon as finalised) on club website [cleoburybowls.org.uk](http://cleoburybowls.org.uk).

Some good news. A reprieve for Team Mortimer, who will remain in division one of Highley League next season (following their initial relegation to league two), due to a change in number of participants.

Traditional festive greetings to all members and readers, have a safe and happy Christmas. More news in the New year edition.

Yours in bowls

*Smiffy*

07494 016137



RED  HARE

45 HIGH STREET  
CLEOBURY MORTIMER  
WWW.REDHARESALON.CO.UK

01299 270702

YOUR  
HAIR  
IS  
OUR  
BEST  
ADVERT

PPD FREE - PARABEN FREE - SULPHATE FREE - CRUELTY FREE

“Red Hare now offers a private hairdressing room. Perfect for those wanting more privacy, peace and quiet“

## Cleobury Mortimer Primary School Public Consultation Extended to 31st December 2024

for the proposal to fence the Primary School field for the benefit, safety & security of pupils & the local community

**WHEN**

Thurs 5th Dec: 10am -11am

Thurs 12th Dec: 10am - 11am

Thurs 19th Dec: 3pm - 4.30pm

**WHERE**

St Mary's Church

St Mary's Church

The Primary School

**Proposal**



**Feedback**



You can also read the proposal and give your feedback online using the QR codes provided

### THE READING GROUP

On a cold wet November evening ten intrepid book lovers met to exchange views on 'A Boy and His Dog At The End of The World', by C.A. Fletcher. Science fiction is not a genre most of us would choose regularly but this did provoke some interest. The story is set in a depopulated post apocalyptic world where the main character, Griz, has two dogs, Jess and Jip. A rogue trader steals Jess whilst calling on the family. Determined to get her back, Griz sets out immediately with Jip and travels through the ruins of the cities and countryside of England and Scotland. Many adventures follow with various meetings, problems, disasters and twists of the plot. Gruesome at times but with some humour, love and kindness. A couple of the group found it too macabre for a bedtime read. Most appreciated parts of the story, although irritation and disappointment were expressed. The title of the book may relate to a photo Griz found of a boy and a dog on a beach. Although a cracking yarn we decided not a book to generally recommend. Strangely, our next read is another science fiction with 'The Midwich Cuckoos' by John Wyndham. Our last get together of 2024 will be on

December 16<sup>th</sup> when a glass of wine may help the discussion.

Deana Kimber 271754

### CLEANER WANTED

The Parish Hall is looking for a cleaner – two half-days per week (Monday morning and Friday afternoon). Please call Robert Hodge on 01299 270047 if you are interested.

### CLEOBURY W.I.

What a busy month the WI have enjoyed throughout November. It began in style with the first of two Winter Warmer Soup Lunches. A resounding success with thanks to all the community who gave their support. It is the first time that the WI have run out of soup as over 70 people came through the doors. A fantastic start to our fundraising commitment.

Crafting skills came to the fore at the monthly meeting when we welcomed Bill White Nurseries. By the end of the evening, we had created nearly 30 door hangings from the mountain of foliage Bill had brought along. A great time was had by all even though the clearing up was a little harder than normal.

The WI were represented in force at the Remembrance Sunday Parade and proud to lay their wreath to remember the role of women in both world wars.

Midway through November, 16 members enjoyed an exciting trip to the Magna Chocolate Factory at Stafford Park, Telford. What an amazing family run business! We were well looked after and enjoyed a fascinating tour of the chocolate lines preparing Easter eggs for Cadburys, Mars, Nestle and Reese. (Christmas has already been and gone at Magna!) They produce 140 million Easter eggs a year, an amazing statistic.

Finally, this month, ten WI members braved the snow conditions for a return to Burford Garden Centre for Morning coffee and an opportunity to view their Christmas Grotto.

Future WI events:

Murder Mystery evening with Christmas Buffet on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December @ 7.30pm. Members only.

Kitchen Pharmacy with Hannah Charman (Remedies from the Garden) on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January @ 7.30pm. An open meeting.

Please contact Judy on 01299 270983 or email [judysant10@gmail.com](mailto:judysant10@gmail.com) for further information on joining WI. Check out the Cleobury Mortimer WI Facebook page.

Sally Serrell-Cooke



UPHOLSTERY & INTERIORS

Rosemary Jones  
Mob: 07837 609229  
Phone: 01584 861823  
Email: [info@charltoninteriors.com](mailto:info@charltoninteriors.com)  
[www.charltoninteriors.com](http://www.charltoninteriors.com)

**MOBILE FOOT HEALTH CARE**  
A thorough nail and foot care treatment in the comfort of your own home.  
Registered and Insured practitioner.  
**Karen F H Di, RFH**  
**07378 122788**

## Do you have a Will? Never managed to get it written?

Writing your Will and planning for later life can feel like a daunting process...

**It doesn't have to be!**

I guide you through the process of writing your Will and Lasting Powers of Attorney

**Call me now to find out how I can help**

**07966366505**



**I'm Stephanie**

The Will Writing Group



07966366505 | Info@thewillwritinggroup.co.uk | www.thewillwritinggroup.co.uk



Electrical installations from domestic to commercial and industrial no job to big or small.

Over 16 years experience.  
Local family run business.

Contact: Phone 07872498829  
Email [lee.leapelectrical@gmail.com](mailto:lee.leapelectrical@gmail.com)



Friendly, honest tree surgeon serving  
Bewdley and surrounding areas.

**Contact Isaac  
for a free quote!**

Mob: **07845 615 806**  
Tel: **01299 513 448**

All Aspects of Tree Work  
Stump Grinding

Hedge Trimming/Reducing  
Grounds Maintenance

Logs &  
Woodchips

**Qualified**

**Insured**

**Tidy**

Email: [elphicktreetandgarden@gmail.com](mailto:elphicktreetandgarden@gmail.com)

Web: [www.elphicktreet.co.uk](http://www.elphicktreet.co.uk)

## THE RUGBY CLUB VICE PRESIDENT'S LUNCH

Our rugby club is quite a junior in the national scene, but it does have a good history and a reputation for surprising bigger names. If you've lived in this town for a decent while you'll remember when Cleobury RFC, just ten years old, won through in a national junior league to the final at Twickenham. There they met Dorking RFC, a club with a long history and I think it was three South African nationals in their lineup. It didn't turn out to be a David and Goliath result and strength and experience won the day.

Our side was captained by Paul Harding and it was good to see his name up as sponsor of the club's Vice President's annual Lunch and then a match against the Birmingham Old Yardleyans. Club PR man Grainger Jones



says that was the best match he's ever seen. It seems the local reputation for quality is very much alive.

An invite to the Vice President's Lunch was a good chance to see and hear more about the club, but time was limited and the invitation to seat and eat had to be declined. The Sports and Social Club was its usual busy place for an event like this, 55 to dine before the match out on the field.



*Top table at the lunch. From the left are Roy Powell, club founding chairman; Adrian Robinson, president; Tim Wright, club chairman; slightly hidden Mark Holborn; PRO Grainger Jones; Simon Hector.*

Tim Wright called the diners to order, Adrian Robinson said grace and Tim spoke briefly to get the meal under way. What a refreshing man he is, no time wasted and a courteous start to the afternoon.

The club is strong, with three new first team players just signed on and a second team due to join the action in the new year. From the very beginning the club has set high standards in both play and behaviour, a credit to the town. They play on an excellent pitch, they appear in team blazers on social occasions and they train and play hard.

Any man who wants to get into this game will find a welcome. Contact coach Will Giddings on 07766 888746.



**Live Life @ Home**

### Home Support Services

All staff enhanced DBS checked with over 20yrs experience and training within the local authority/social services mainstream and dementia care sector. Fully insured.

Are you in need of support with the following basic day to day tasks?

Assistance during the day or night	Completing Forms
Companionship	Pet Care
Shopping/Household tasks	Attending social events/ appointments

Contact Liz  
Tel: 01299 271623  
Mob: 07826 929222  
liz@lifelifeathome.co.uk

Other support services available on request.

**www.lifelifeathome.co.uk**

Contact Tracey  
Tel: 01299 211660  
Mob: 07957 659909  
tracey@lifelifeathome.co.uk



## Traditionally handcrafted bespoke oak frame buildings



Here at Hopton Oak we  
design, build and install:

- Stables
- Porches
- Garages
- Extensions
- Garden rooms
- Conservatories
- Gazebos and Pergolas



Contact us to discuss your oak frame project or any questions, the team will be happy to help.  
[hoptonoak@outlook.com](mailto:hoptonoak@outlook.com) | 07951041977 | [hoptonoak.co.uk](http://hoptonoak.co.uk)  Hopton Oak



### WINDSOR PRICE REPAIR SHOP Automotive

Email: [mikeytwonames@icloud.com](mailto:mikeytwonames@icloud.com)  
 Tel: 01299 213558  
 Mobile: 07513 821616

Unit 1, Hillocks Farm,  
 Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 0EB.



## IRENA'S FOOT CLINIC

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE AS A QUALIFIED FOOT HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER  
 PROFESSIONAL TREATMENT IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME OR MY SURGERY

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ◦ Nail trimming               | ◦ Callus reduction           |
| ◦ Ingrowing toenail treatment | ◦ Corn removal               |
| ◦ Fungal infection treatment  | ◦ Athletes Foot treatment    |
| ◦ Nail reconstruction         | ◦ Verruca and wart treatment |

**CONTACT IRENA ON 01299 270212 and 07789070629  
 1 FURLONGS ROAD, CLEOBURY MORTIMER DY14 8AR**



### ROCK PATHFINDERS

Free guided walks along our footpaths and bridleways taking two to three hours, off the roads and into the countryside. Our walks are between five and seven miles[ many of the routes are undulating with stiles. We usually walk at a brisk pace. Everyone welcome but sorry no dogs allowed

Thursday, December 5th.  
10.00am start from Holy Austin Rock Houses, Compton Road, Kinver DY7 6DL.

Thursday, December 19th.  
10.00am start from Stourport Farm Shop and Kitchen, Dudley Road, Stourport DY13 0AA.

Please note our new web address : [www.rockpathfinders.uk](http://www.rockpathfinders.uk)  
*Susan Humphries*

### THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

The winter season and Christmas speedily approaches and Cleobury Mortimer takes on another type of beauty. As we walk the footpaths, the leaves tumble, red, orange, brown and yellow and land on the damp ground, revealing views we couldn't previously see through the branches.

Some routes become slippery and muddy with large puddles. We contend with the wet and the ice as we trudge along, however those who

enjoy walking will know how wonderful the paths around us are.

Throughout the year the work parties have repaired paths and stiles, installed gates and maintained many of the routes in the area, clearing nettles, ferns, brambles and other growth and they will continue to monitor them. Footpath guardians have cleared their adopted paths and will continue to keep an eye on them throughout the winter months, ensuring, stiles, gates and paths continue to be walkable. CMFA will log issues regarding footpaths and will continue work where weather and conditions allow. Our thanks for their hard work.

**If any walkers or residents would like to become a Footpath Guardian, the please contact us.**

Many locals walking around Cleobury Mortimer will have noticed the Eagle Lane steps have been renewed and the steps at Lea Farm and Workhouse bank have been repaired. The steps between the Golf Club and A4117 will hopefully be repaired in the New Year.

Our sincere thanks go to those who help us maintain and improve the paths. Our area is so popular with walkers and of course, this helps income into the area.

The work of CMFA is made so much easier with the major help and support from Brian Hickson. Brian is our Public Rights of Way officer from

Shropshire Council. He is always on hand to offer advice, transport supplies to us and to locations where we cannot manage. Brian speedily helped rebuild Eagle Lane steps and refilled them with gravel after the heavy rains. He has arranged and installed kissing gates to replace difficult or broken stiles and attempts to keep us updated regarding Mawley and other areas where we have issues. Our sincerest thanks go to Brian for his support, advice, diligence and input into ensuring we can keep our routes walkable.

The work at Mawley Hall Estate is progressing and hopefully we may see one of our favourite walking routes reopened. Unfortunately, however, the popular walk through Glen Caravan Site has been closed due to the footbridge over the stream, being dangerous. We are hoping a new bridge will soon replace the rotten one so that the route will again become walkable.

If you would like to join us on a walk around the area, please join us on one of our country walks, starting from the church in Cleobury Mortimer, the first Sunday of each month at 10.00 a.m.

CMFA wishes everyone Seasons Greetings and a wonderful year in 2025.

*Joy Wilkinson*



**6 DECEMBER 7.00 FOR 7.30**

*After the success of last year's concert, back by popular demand.*

**Tickets £15  
2-course meal.  
Bar, tea and coffee**

[www.cleoburyparishhall.uk/cabaret](http://www.cleoburyparishhall.uk/cabaret)

**01299 271713**



## Cleobury Mortimer Parish Hall is the largest in the area

Would you like to celebrate an event, party, wedding, or just a get together? We are able to cater for small or large parties, sit down dinner parties for up to 100 people with or without a bar.

Come and have a look at what we can offer. To book, call Robert on 01299 270047

[www.cleoburyparishhall.uk](http://www.cleoburyparishhall.uk)

[cleoburymortimerparishhall](https://www.facebook.com/cleoburymortimerparishhall)



In this classic 1960s musical former nun Maria (Julie Andrews) becomes the governess for a family of seven children who live in the shadow of their domineering and repressed widower father Captain Von Trapp (Christopher Plummer). Along with the required discipline Maria brings love, music and excitement into the children's lives and also eventually begins to have an effect on their father. But just when things are looking up, the rise of Nazism and the threat of the coming war darkens all their futures. **Come along and enjoy yourself singing along to the timeless music of Rodgers and Hammerstein.**

**Saturday 21 December 7.00 for 7.30 Tickets £5 - Bar, tea, coffee, mince pies, mulled wine**



Care At Home

TLC Care at Home are a well-established family run, Home Care Provider who have built up an excellent reputation within our local communities

We have recently been rated as **OUTSTANDING** by CQC and this puts TLC Care at Home in the top 3% of providers in England



### Professional care and support in your own home

Our dedicated Care Team are here to help support you with 24/7 care provision should it be required. At TLC Care At Home, we are dedicated to supporting people with wide range of needs, including Dementia, Acquired Brain Injury, Physical Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, Sensory Impairments and supporting our aging population.

Depending on your individual needs, we can offer varying degrees of support from young adults to very mature people. TLC Care at Home are here to help anyone who requires care and support to enable them to remain living at home for as long as it is safe to do so.

### Comprehensive range of care services

- Domiciliary Care
- Palliative care
- Personal care
- 24 hour care
- Companionship
- Dementia Care
- Overnight Care
- Elderly Care
- Care for young adults
- Supporting younger people
- Domestic services: cleaning, cooking, washing and shopping
- Collections of pensions or prescriptions
- Trips out and about

Please contact us now for more information **01299 272 897**  
Email: [wecare@tlc-careathome.co.uk](mailto:wecare@tlc-careathome.co.uk)  
Website: [www.tlccareathome.com](http://www.tlccareathome.com)



## REVIVING SWALLOWS

Yesterday I saw the Xmas 2024 John Lewis TV advert. I cried my eyes out, because it touched so many nerves for me! It is absolutely beautiful!

We moved into our current house in 2012, as a family of four humans and our 76 rescued animals. We were delighted to see that we had returning Swallows nesting in our stables every year. I loved watching the parents working so hard, building their nests, raising their young and teaching them how to fly. Every year our Swallows raised two clutches of eggs. Even our ponies didn't bat an eyelid at all the activity going on in their stables 24/7!

In 2018, I went down to our stables to let our ponies out, give them their breakfast, then muck them out. As soon as I let our pony Sam out, I saw a dead baby Swallow on the concrete floor below the nest. I knew the parents had hatched five eggs...and I was so sad that they'd lost one of their precious babies. I picked it up and put it on the side in our feed room. I'd decided to take it up to our house to bury it

after I'd finished feeding our ponies and the rest of our outdoor animals.

Once I'd finished my feeding rounds, I picked up that precious, lifeless, little body and sadly walked back up to our house, with him/her in the palm of my hand. Then, as I walked into our kitchen and looked at our AGA, I wondered.....could I possibly help him or her? I quickly decided I had nothing to lose. I picked up a fluffy tea towel, wrapped the baby bird tightly inside it, with its head facing up and put it on top of the Aga. The towel soon felt warm and I started finger chest compressions on that little body, I wasn't going to give up!

I was alone in the kitchen, but my husband Mark was upstairs shaving. I kept working on that little body ..... Then OMG the baby bird took a huge breath and opened its eyes! I screamed my head off - I couldn't believe what had happened! I clutched it inside the towel between my hands, as Mark suddenly appeared. I explained what I'd done. I literally had another 5 minutes to cuddle that baby, before we had to get it back

into the nest, for a chance that its parents would accept it again.

Mark climbed up the ladders inside Sam's stable. Both parents were out flying around collecting food for their babies. I handed Mark the baby bird and he placed it back in the nest, with its four siblings. We sat back and watched the parents return and they fed all five babies. Fantastic!

That summer was so heart-warming, I watched those five baby Swallows grow, learn to fly and then huddle together in the rafters of our stables, when their parents started work on their second nest!

*Kathie Rowbotham*



*And here are the five baby swallows, all anxious to feed and grow. What a lovely Christmas story this is.*

*More from Kathie on Page 59.*

## Lower St Garage

7 Lower St, Cleobury Mortimer. DY14 8AA



- M.O.Ts on cars, motor bikes & small commercial vehicles
- Tyres, Tyre fitting.
- Puncture repair and Tracking.
- Diagnostics, Air conditioning
- Welding.
- Service and Repairs to most vehicles.
- Delivery and Collection Service Available

**Contact The Team at Lower St Garage on: 01299 270208**

## Clarion Clippings. - The Local News

### CONSULTATION EXTENDED

The public consultation about extending the boundary of the play area for the Primary School; has been extended to the end of December. On Page 8 of this issue you'll find a QR code so that you can read the reason for the application and add your own comment on the matter.

### FAR FOREST STORES

I called in recently, to see if they would be interested in having the Clarion for local people to collect. What a lovely store this is, so much more space given over to show off a wide selection of goods. The matter of the Clarion being on offer was down to the manager and I called next day to see him.

Another very pleasant chat, with a man of principles who declined to take a second local

newsletter, because the Rock and District News was well established and he didn't want to spoil that relationship. We parted amicably and I will go back there to shop, simply because it's an attractive place and an honest man runs it.

### THE REGAL DEFIES THE FLOODS

This notice came up on the Regal site the day after disastrous floods hit Tenbury Wells:

'We are relieved to let you know that the Regal is OK. We are so grateful to our volunteers, who have worked hard all weekend, first to get the Regal flood defences up, clear the foyer and also lift seats up in the auditorium, and second to put the Regal back together again. This team of amazing people are now working their way up Teme Street offering help to

local businesses and residents who have sadly fared off worse than us."

Great spirit from a team of great people.

### TIMOTHY WEST

I suppose it was inevitable that the death of Timothy West came soon after watching another episode of his and Prunella Scales' gentle cruise along another canal and produced a magic hour that held me and many friends captive.

Both had a magic presence that shone, though I'd never seen either in a live performance. I watched early in the development of their TV canal series, drawn by their gentle affection and later the way he spoke so gently when she realised her developing inability to do what she once did so well. Lovely people.



# Purrfect Cattery

Comfortable and spacious pens for single or double occupancy  
fully licenced by Shropshire Council

visit our website: [www.purrfectcattery.co.uk](http://www.purrfectcattery.co.uk)

Contact us on: 01299 270565 or mobile: 07968 111415

Or email: [enquiries@purrfectcattery.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@purrfectcattery.co.uk)

## Clarion Clippings. - The Local News

### "FLOURISH AND NOURISH" GROWS

A lovely title for a group of ladies who have worked hard this year, planting edible vegetables in the High Street planters to add colour and practical food production in a masterly use of space. Their ingenuity has really paid off as a Shropshire finalist in the Severn Trent NeighbourGOOD scheme and they are looking for our votes to win a £2,500 prize to help develop their work and get the support of 30 Severn Trent volunteers. If they win, it's down to us all to vote for this local team.

Their immediate aim is to develop a piece of land they have acquired on Clarvers to create a Community Garden. To vote, use this QR code:



Or you can go to <https://www.stwater.co.uk/about-us/>

[neighbourgood-scheme/](#)

How good it is to tell you about the efforts of these ladies and the success it has brought. And what a refreshing change from the dreadful news that is so constant that numerous friends have simply stopped watching TV news.

### BIRMINGHAM PHILHARMONIC CONCERT

The Friends of St. Mary's Church are delighted to be welcoming the Birmingham Philharmonic Orchestra back for a concert in the church on Sunday 8th December at 7.30 p.m. We are also grateful to John and Judy Sant for generously sponsoring the event. The programme includes Brahms 3rd symphony and Bruch's 1st Violin Concerto. Tickets cost £20 each (including an interval drink) and can be reserved by e-mailing our new address: [cmthefriends@gmail.com](mailto:cmthefriends@gmail.com) whereupon you will be sent details of how to pay.

Alternatively, tickets can be obtained in person from the usual locations (Spire Hairdressers, Cleobury library, Cleobury pharmacy or Steve Todd). Whilst members have priority, this is likely to be a sell out so please don't delay.

There will be a raffle on the night so we would encourage you to bring cash – and ideally loose change or, better still, small denomination notes!

If you would like to come but are unable to drive at night, please contact me at [carol.shorrock2@btinternet.com](mailto:carol.shorrock2@btinternet.com) to see whether we can coordinate a lift.

*Carol Shorrock*

### NEW FACE AT HOBSON'S

Kyle Gittins has joined Hobson's as Marketing Manager at a very busy time, with a number of new brews adding to the menu at our great local brewery. You'll see them advertised and when the editor is not quite so overweight he'll carry out an entirely test and report.

### BRITISH LEGION

In October the branch held its Annual Harvest Auction, and a great variety of local produce was on offer, augmented by a broad range of vouchers for local services, restaurants, etc. The turn-out was good, and David Taylor was kept busy for two hours, finding buyers for well over a hundred lots, generating over £1000 for branch funds. We are most grateful to all donors and bidders.



**FOR ALL YOUR ACCOUNTANCY REQUIREMENTS**

[www.fairway-accountants.co.uk](http://www.fairway-accountants.co.uk)

Head Office: 01299 822283 <a href="mailto:team@fairway-net.co.uk">team@fairway-net.co.uk</a>	Simon Hector: 07896 439594 <a href="mailto:sjh@fairway-net.co.uk">sjh@fairway-net.co.uk</a>
---	--

# BOILER INSTALLATIONS

## GAS, LPG & OIL BOILER SPECIALISTS

UPGRADE YOUR OLD BOILER TO AN  
**A-RATED BOILER & SAVE UP TO £580**  
 A YEAR ON YOUR ENERGY BILLS

"Excellent service! They turned up when they said they would, and did what they said they would, going the extra mile when necessary. I highly recommend this company!"

**WORCESTER**  
 Bosch Group  
 Accredited Installer



**SHELTER-ADAMS LTD**

0800 6124 109 | 07990 523 790  
 enquiries@shelter-adams.co.uk



UP TO  
**7**  
 YEARS  
 WARRANTY

UP TO  
**12**  
 YEARS  
 WARRANTY

0% Finance & Interest  
 Bearing options available  
 on boiler installations!  
 11.9% Representative APR

Locally based family run business in the Heart of Worcestershire

### HOPTON BANK SERVICE STATION

- Car servicing & Diagnostics
- MOT testing
- Clutches/brakes/tyres/batteries
- Car sales
- 24 hour petrol station

Contact Number: 01584 890225



CAR SERVICE

Number Nineteen  
**No.19**  
 Dental Laboratory

### Denture Repairs

#### SPEEDY, QUALITY DENTURE REPAIRS

Cracked/broken dentures repaired the same day.

A 1 HOUR service is available for when time is of the essence, just call to make an appointment.

19 Lower Street, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8AL

Email: [nevilleweaver@googlemail.com](mailto:nevilleweaver@googlemail.com) Phone: 07973856733

All work undertaken by a GDC registered technician



**A.B. Plastering**  
 Plus Traditional Lime Plastering

**Adrian Booton**  
 PLASTERER

4 Severne Green, Bayton  
 Nr Kidderminster, DY14 9LL

Tel: 01299 832 838  
 Mobile: 07974 582 524



Rob and Annie look forward to welcoming you to  
**The Fighting Cocks Inn, Stottesdon.**

Why not pop along for a drink and some delicious food. We have regular live music, so please keep an eye on our Facebook page.

Our opening hours are:

**Wednesday – Friday** from 5pm – 11pm  
(food served from 6pm – 8.30pm)

**Saturday** from 12 noon – 11pm  
(food served from 1pm – 7.30pm)

**Sunday** from 12 noon – 10pm  
(lunch from 12 noon – 3pm)

The Fighting Cocks Inn, 1 High Street,  
Stottesdon, Kidderminster DY14 8TZ.

Telephone 01746 718270

**A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU.**

# Firewood

Seasoned logs, barn dried & ready to burn.

Free local delivery -01584 890993 or 07970878224

Various size loads available



Paul Harding Tree Services



## TIME TO CLEAN YOUR OVEN? LET US DO THE JOB YOU HATE

AS SEEN  
ON TV

- Ovens
- Grills
- Extractors
- Filters
- BBQs
- Microwaves
- Hobs
- Ranges
- AGAs

Call or go online today for your free estimate

**OVENCLEAN**  
The original oven cleaning specialists

07913 123543  
ovenclean.com



## INFINITE ELECTRICAL SOLUTIONS

For all your electrical needs:

House rewires

Fuse board upgrades

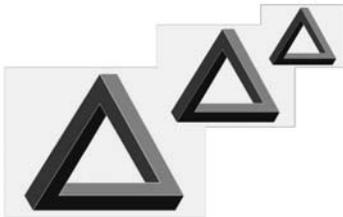
Electric showers

Need an extra socket or light installed?

No job too small

For a FREE quote

Call Lloyd 01584 811184



M: 07752 116629 T: 01584 781358 E: lostcity5@hotmail.co.uk

www.theworcestershirechimneysweep.co.uk





This rather arresting image is part of a display in the Oxford Natural History Museum, a favourite destination of ours when we're with our young grandson. The caption under it reads,

'The UK has lost around half of its biodiversity since the Industrial Revolution to become one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. A main cause is habitat loss, with over two thirds of land used for agriculture, industry, roads and buildings. Hedgehogs may be a casualty. Although the hedgehog population appears stable on mainland Europe, they are declining steeply in the UK for reasons that are not yet clear.'

A sad state of affairs for a much-loved and formerly familiar wild creature, and for the rest of our wildlife. Healthy hedgehogs should be hibernating by now in piles of twigs and leaves: a gap under a shed or shrub would be a favourite place. If you see any up and about at this time of year they will probably need help – perhaps a dish of cat food will make the difference to their survival.

If we love the natural world we'll look after it. Here are some suggestions for getting back in touch with nature this season:

Go on a collecting walk in the forest. Children love to collect things. Take a basket and look for cones, seed heads, twigs, evergreen leaves, berries and feathers to make your own Christmas wreath or table decoration. (Only take fallen material, and only if you have the landowner's permission).

Upload an ID app. There are plenty of free apps to help you identify birdsong, plants, butterflies etc. They add to our enjoyment of a winter walk (though you won't see many butterflies!)

Get to know the night sky. On a clear night get away from light pollution, wrap up warmly and get comfy on a deckchair or recliner and be amazed! There are planets, constellations, galaxies and satellites up there. The internet and apps will help with identifying what you're looking at, and can even tell you when to look out for the Aurora Borealis.

Make someone a wildlife-friendly present. A packet of seeds for some nectar-rich flowers (perhaps seeds from your own garden), a home-made bird feeder or bug hotel (more uses for those cones and twigs!),

Plant a tree. This is the best time of year for planting trees and shrubs. Choose a native or at least something that will provide flowers or berries for wild creatures to feed on.

Develop your artistic side. Photography, drawing and painting are all creative ways to encourage you to look carefully at your subject, so choose something natural.

Join a conservation volunteer group. This way you'll make friends, do some good for the countryside and maybe get fitter too!



## Grainger Jones your local independent financial adviser

Grainger lives in Cleobury Mortimer giving the residents and surrounding areas a dependable financial planning service.

- **Wealth Management**
- **Retirement Planning**
- **Investments & Savings**
- **Family & Business Protection**

An initial consultation is available at no charge

To book an appointment or just have a chat, please contact Grainger below.

tel: 07974 100089

email: [grainger@meridenfp.co.uk](mailto:grainger@meridenfp.co.uk)

website: [www.meridenfp.co.uk](http://www.meridenfp.co.uk)



### BAGGINSWOOD

Bagginswood, Cleobury Mortimer,  
Nr. Kidderminster, Worcs. DY14 8NB  
Telephone: 01746 718732

### Heath Farm Meats, Bagginswood

#### Opening Hours

Wed 8am to 5.30pm, Thurs 8am to 7pm, Fri 8am to 5.30pm, Sat 8am to 12.30pm

#### Straight from Our Farm to Table

We rear & sell all our own beef, pork, lamb & mutton through our shop on farm. We also make our own flavoured sausages, burgers, home cured bacon, gammon etc. No order to large or small.

Hams ● All Poultry ● Honey ● Mawley Milk & Cream ● Ashley's Cakes & Bread ●  
Jams ● Eggs ● Cheeses ● Apple Juice ● Potatoes ● Meat Pies ● Sticks & Logs

Telephone 01746 718732 with your order to arrange a date & time for collection



## TURNERS GATES

bespoke sizes at standard prices



A small family run business specialising in quality wooden gates to suit all entrances.

Visit our website: [www.turnersgates.co.uk](http://www.turnersgates.co.uk)

Drop us an email: [turnersgates@outlook.com](mailto:turnersgates@outlook.com)

Or give us a call on: 01299 270 965





South Shropshire is home to some 4,000 veterans, almost one in ten households, so remembrance brings a time of intensified emotion. During the Second World War, an outstanding group of pilots, navigators, and observers served in the Photographic Reconnaissance Unit (PRU). Known as Churchill's eyes in the sky, they provided invaluable visual insights that paved the way for victory in Europe. Despite having a 48% death rate, the PRU's heroic efforts have gone largely unnoticed – until now. The Spitfire AA810 Project is shining a spotlight on these unsung heroes, including our very own Denis Parry and Lionel Scargill from South Shropshire.

As a veteran, I am proud to support this incredible campaign, which aims to establish a national monument in their memory. I was also honoured to plant a tribute in Parliament's Garden of Remembrance on behalf of my constituents. The installation, organised by the Royal British Legion (RBL), will see the main entrance of Parliament filled with red poppies. Together with other charities, the RBL has transformed the life prospects of veterans for the better.

In the run up to October's budget I raised several issues that were important to South Shropshire. This included the need for rural councils to be given more support, to maintain the freeze on fuel duty, boost defence spending, continue the support for pubs and row back on reported plans to tax farmers. While I welcome that fuel duty was indeed frozen, I have raised my concerns about the impact of changes to inheritance tax on local farms – seven out of ten family farms will be affected. On top of this, the increase to employer National Insurance will hit small businesses such as pubs incredibly hard.

As well as recent advice surgeries in Bishop's Castle, Bridgnorth and Dorrington, I was delighted to meet with officials at Shropshire Council working on improving mobile coverage and flooding

prevention. I have called on the Health Secretary to put community healthcare facilities, such as Ludlow Hospital, front and centre of plans to transform the NHS into a 'national neighbourhood service.' I am encouraging residents to apply for gigabit vouchers which support the installation of broadband in rural areas. In Shropshire, only a third of those eligible have applied.

As part of Road Safety Week, I am raising awareness of the need to tackle speeding, after numerous conversations on speeding concerns with John Campion, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). It was excellent to meet Morville Speed Group alongside representatives of the PCC and Dominic Stanford, who has been championing these issues. Although rural roads carry 44% of road traffic, they sadly account for 59% of road fatalities.

I know that as the weather changes, we are going to see increased flooding in South Shropshire. I used Flood Action Week to update the 'local help' area of my website to include advice and support for individuals and businesses. It is important that people set up flooding alerts and know how they can get help should they be affected by flooding. Do contact my office if I can be of any help.

Finally, I have been picking up the issue of protecting the countryside from over-development. Ministers announced a new housing methodology that slashes housing targets for London while doubling it in areas like Shropshire. Given cities like London have infrastructure to support development, I urge the government to pursue densification in the inner cities while enabling small-scale developments which enjoy local support in areas like ours. This would help people stay where they want to live and work while protecting our precious countryside.

In addition to this, we need the Minister to designate water companies as statutory consultees before planning permission is granted, to prevent development in areas with unsuitable water supply and drainage. This was raised with me as a factor that will help prevent flooding and sewage overflows into our rivers.

*Stuart Anderson*

**Mr Anderson's surgery dates.** Please note that for security purposes, surgeries are by appointment only. Please contact Stuart's office to signal your interest to book an appointment.

6th December - Craven Arms

13th December - Cross Houses

20th December - Ludlow

To see the latest surgery dates information please visit <https://www.stuartanderson.org.uk/local->

# Mark Pearce

Landscape, Design and Rustic Garden Furniture

- Fencing
- Patios
- Drives
- Decking
- Garden Sheds
- Summer Houses
- Fence Panels
- Log Stores



And Much More

Top Quality Fully Treated Timber Products

Mobile: 07875425028

Tel: 01746718404

## Robert Bradley Logs

07794 798616



*Seasoned Firewood, Hardwood,  
Softwood or Mixed loads of logs.  
Free Local Delivery*

## Hedge Cutting & Fencing

Cleobury Mortimer, Bewdley, Rock  
& surrounding areas



Call C.B. Contracting on 07398 996129 for pricing and availability



**CAROLE CLAYTON**

INDEPENDENT FUNERAL CELEBRANT

07971 543790

celebrant@preciousmemoriescelebrant.net

Find us on Facebook  
@preciousmemoriescelebrant

UK Enterprise Awards  
Funeral Celebrant of the  
year 2023 (Worcester)

Shropshire, Herefordshire &  
Worcestershire.



**Cleobury Mortimer Benefice  
Church services throughout the Benefice in December 2024**

**St Mary's Cleobury Mortimer**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: 10.00am Family Eucharist.  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December: 8.30am Said Eucharist.  
10.00am Parish Eucharist.  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December: 10.00am Parish Eucharist.  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December: 10.00am Parish Eucharist.  
6.00pm Community Carols by Candlelight  
Christmas Eve: 5.00pm Christingle.  
11.30pm Midnight Mass.  
Christmas Day: 10.00am Christmas Day Eucharist.  
Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December: 10.00am Parish Eucharist.

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

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: 9.30am Parish Eucharist  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December: 7.00pm Carol Service  
Christmas Day: 9.30am Christmas Day Eucharist

**St John's, Doddington**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: 11.00am Parish Eucharist  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December: 3.00pm Carol Service with Brass Band  
Christmas Day: 11.00am Christmas Day Eucharist

**All Saints', Neen Sollars**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: 11.00am Village Worship  
Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December: 11.00am Village Worship  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December: 11.00am Village Worship  
Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December: 6.00pm Carol Service  
Christmas Day: 10.00am Village Worship

**St George's, Milson**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: 6.00pm Evensong  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December: 6.00pm Carol Service  
Christmas Day: 10.00am Christmas Day Eucharist

**St Mary's, Neen Savage**

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December: 6.00pm Evensong (BCP)  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December: 6.00pm Carol Service  
Christmas Eve: 4.00pm Crib Service  
Christmas Day: 9.00am Christmas Day Eucharist (BCP)

**St John the Baptist, Kinlet**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December: 11.15am Parish Eucharist (BCP)  
Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December: 6.00pm Carol Service  
Christmas Day: 11.15am Christmas Day Eucharist (BCP)

**Benefice Dates for January**

These were not available when we went to print.

Please consult our website: [www.cleoburybenefice.co.uk](http://www.cleoburybenefice.co.uk)



**FLOWERS by FIONA**  
07875-077941

**SPECIAL OCCASIONS**  
**WEDDINGS & FUNERALS**  
FBK ~ Instagram ~ WhatsApp

Soft furnishing and  
Interior Design Services

*Masquerade*  
Fabrics Limited

01299 271 680  
36 High Street Cleobury Mortimer near Kidderminster  
Worcestershire DY14 8DQ

Retailers for Sanderson, Harlequin, Monkwell  
Crowson and many more...  
Comprehensive design, measuring and fitting service.

# TDC CARPENTRY SERVICES

Fully insured qualified professional  
Excellent workmanship and quality customer care  
From hanging doors, fitting kitchens to bespoke projects

**Tim Clare - 07890 519980**

**AMY'S FOOT HEALTH**  
FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER  
AMY FRANCE DipFHP, MCFH

Services include:

- Routine Nail Trimming
- Callus Reduction
- Corn Treatment
- Fungal Infection Treatment
- Cracked and Dry Heal Treatment
- Thick Nail Reduction
- Ingrown Nail Treatment
- Cream and Massage
- Medical Pedicure
- Pedicure
- Lower Leg and Foot Massage

MOBILE: 07925 236221 ASK FOR AMY OR LEAVE A MESSAGE

## HANDY MATT

**FOR ALL THOSE JOBS YOU NEED DOING OR NEVER GET DONE AROUND THE HOME AND GARDEN! CALL ME TODAY AND GET THEM DONE.**

**RESTORATION, ROOFING, GUTTERING, BRICKWORK, REPOINTING, CARPENTRY, INSULATION, DECORATING, TILING, FLOORING, DAMP PROOFING, STOVE FITTING, GROUNDWORKS, LANDSCAPING, PATIOS, FENCING, GARDEN MAINTENANCE.**

**TEL: 07731 459631**

**HEATH FARM MEATS**  
BAGGINSWOOD

Bagginswood, Cleobury Mortimer,  
Nr. Kidderminster, Worcs. DY14 8NB  
Telephone: 01746 718732

**Heath Farm Meats, Bagginswood**

Opening Hours  
Wed 8am to 5.30pm, Thurs 8am to 7pm, Fri 8am to 5.30pm, Sat 8am to 12.30pm

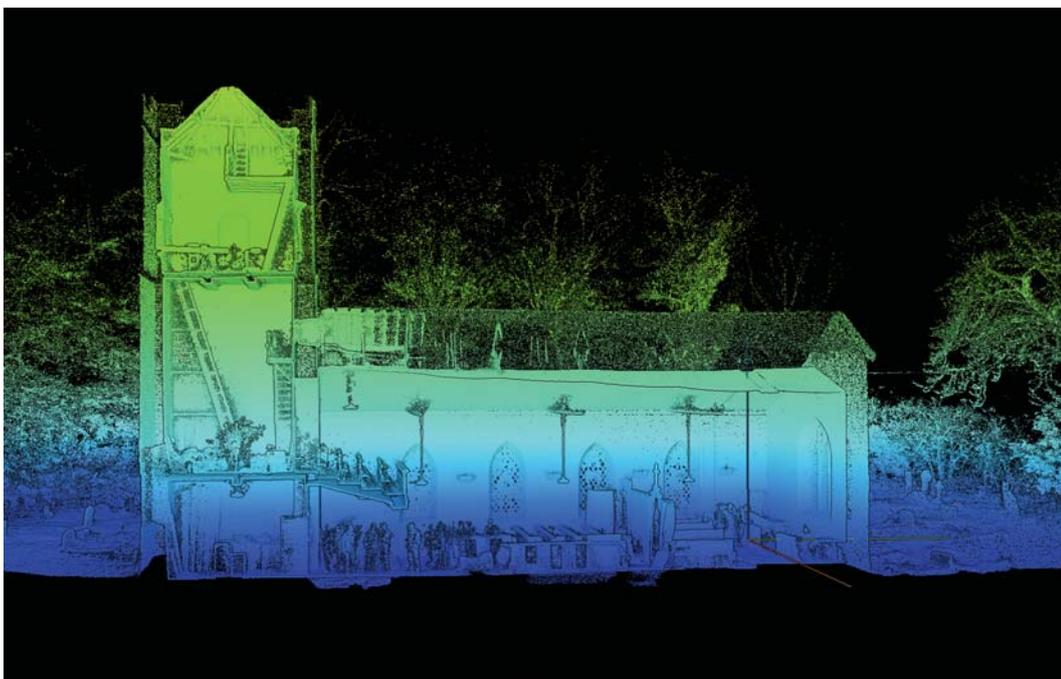
**Straight from Our Farm to Table**

We rear & sell all our own beef, pork, lamb & mutton through our shop on farm. We also make our own flavoured sausages, burgers, home cured bacon, gammon etc. No order to large or small.

Hams ● All Poultry ● Honey ● Mawley Milk & Cream ● Ashley's Cakes & Bread ● Jams ● Eggs ● Cheeses ● Apple Juice ● Potatoes ● Meat Pies ● Sticks & Logs

Telephone 01746 718732 with your order to arrange a date & time for collection

## A MOMENT IN TIME CAPTURED



We are so lucky to be surrounded by talented people. In response to last month's *Beacon on the Hill* project article, Ian from Angel Bank got in touch offering to laser scan St John's church! He's recently started his own Reality Capture business - ijenko - laser scanning or capturing photos to create 3D digital models. After less than an hour he had scanned the whole building and churchyard. The results are amazing.

These will allow us to share the site online and provide virtual access to the tower and other inaccessible areas. Even our architect is delighted as the detail in the record shows exactly where pipes, cables and supports are before they are hidden behind plaster and floorboards.

Ian has also been scanning the landscape and abandoned structures on the Clee hills. This is especially useful given that another volunteer Adrian is working to digitise maps made in the 1980s. These were made by the late Glynn Barrett, a resident of Hopton Wafers and champion of Clee hill heritage. Glynn's maps record the archaeological remains and finds on the hill. We will be posting all of this on our website shortly.

On 7th December we will be having our ever-popular Christmas Fair at Doddington Village

Hall. There will be stalls, a raffle, wreaths and festive food and drink from 2:30 PM. And on 15 December at 3pm Cleobury Mortimer Concert Brass join us for our Carol Service, this year in Doddington Village Hall. A chance to sing your favourite Christmas Carols with a thoroughly uplifting accompaniment!

January brings the return of our popular Burns Lunch - Saturday 25th January. Keep an eye on our website and social media for more information and ticket sales.

The new St John's website is live and features work by schools, colleges and volunteers all celebrating the heritage of the area. [stjohnsdoddington.org](http://stjohnsdoddington.org) will grow and develop as more people share their stories and collections. Take a look and let us know what you think or if you have anything to contribute.

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

# You're All Invited.

## HOBSONS CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Date: Thursday 19th December

Time: 4pm – 9pm



Postman's Plum Porter is brewed with Shropshire Prune Damsons, this porter delivers on provenance and intense flavour.



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

☎ 01299 270837 ✉ beer@hobsons-brewery.co.uk 📺 @Hobsonsbeers 📷 @hobsonsbrewery

## WHAT'S ON?



Beers in the Tap Room



Cleobury Concert Brass Band



Beefy Boys- The Burger Experts

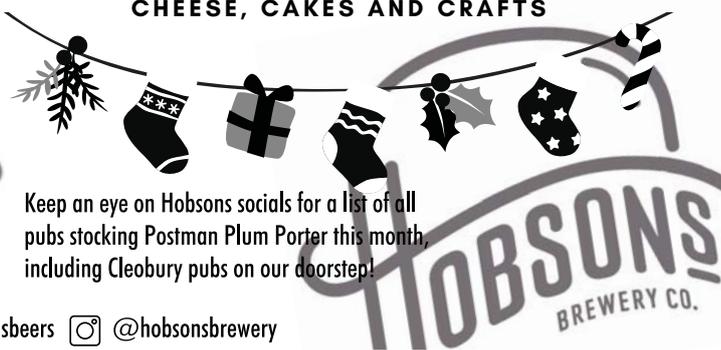


Devine Donuts



Lalitas Indian Food

PLUS STANDS SELLING PIES,  
CHEESE, CAKES AND CRAFTS



CLEETON ST MARY AND SILVINGTON VILLAGE HALL  
AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE HIRE

PARTIES-CHRISTENINGS-FUNERAL CELEBRATIONS-  
COMMUNITY EVENTS

CAR PARKING-KITCHEN-OUTDOOR AREA

CALL US: 07908 791262

EMAIL: cleetonvillagehall@gmail.com

Facebook: cleetonvillagehall

### THE SAUSAGE DOG SOCIAL WALK

Just to fill in a few details about the walk, Melissa tells us Christmas themed costumes are encouraged and that sensible footwear is recommended. Like walking boots or even wellies. It all starts at 11.00, but there will be a crowd of people and small dogs. If you dare to go there in big Father Christmas cloaks, please do tread carefully with all those friendly little doggies about. And if the Social Club is open, do enjoy the day.

### THE BREAKFAST CLUB

In November we heard Paul Kemp explain what 'Family Mediation' is, and why he had got involved with it.

Family Mediation is a conversation, usually between separating couples. Essential features are that it is voluntary, safe and conducted by an experienced mediator, who is responsible for the process, but not for the choices made by the participants. Mediation starts with individual meetings for the participants to ascertain whether mediation is appropriate. If so, joint meetings may take place, with the hope of enabling couples to make their own choices whilst reducing the emotional and financial costs of separation.

Paul paid tribute to Leo Abse, MP, who strove in the 1960s to reform the divorce laws, John Cornwall who gathered a group of like-minded solicitors to press for change, and Lisa Parkinson, who started the first mediation service in the UK, and went on to train solicitors

as mediators. All three wanted to see less conflict and more agreement in the Divorce Courts of the day.

As a solicitor, Paul felt the same, and ended up able to throw himself into it full-time.

His hopes for change? Sufficient Legal Aid remuneration to make the profession accessible to younger practitioners, and Government finance for the preliminary meetings (what good sense, it would surely reduce emotional and financial damage).

The Club's next meeting will be at the Golf Club on 3 December, when Jenny Kitching will talk about relaxation. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Angela Drennan on CM 270636.

*Mark Baldwin*

### ABOUT OUR LIBRARY

The town library is something of a secret and only in quite recent years has its presence on Love Lane been signposted.

It's a very valuable source of information, with computer units available free by appointment and many reference works on the shelves, with a separate section for local authors' works. There are seats that are comfortable for at least two hours of reading, tables for working on and a really good toilet.

The fact that it shares space with Cleobury Country means friendly staff in the form of Clare or Sandra are there to help or advise. Open 9.00 to 5.00 Monday to Friday and 10.00 to 12.00 noon Saturday. And all for free.

In recent years it has had a supportive Friends group, but

that has faded and does not operate at present. The library will survive without them, but with cutbacks in service looking inevitable, it does need the backing of a representative body to fight its cause if there is a threat of closure. That is not definite at the moment, but such a move would need Friends to support this valuable service.

The Clarion has had an enquiry from Shrewsbury about the friends and asked to be kept informed of any development. There has been a question about the Friends being reformed from the library staff. So this is not a time to ignore what is just a possibility, we would be wise to form the Friends again and be ready to support the library if needed.

Would you care to put your name forward as a member? The only commitment at this stage would be to attend any meeting, and they won't happen without good cause or perhaps to hear a speaker on any subject joining us to entertain and maybe advise. There is no talk of charging for membership.

If you are interested, please let me know and I will advise what progress is made and any events planned. You can call me any day at 01299 270642, drop a line to 4 Childe Road, Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8PA or email [uncle.jim@icloud.com](mailto:uncle.jim@icloud.com)

### SILLY BITS

**"I'm 62 and people call me middle aged. How many 124 year olds do you know?"**

**Alan King, USA**

**"I thought that growing old would take longer."**

**Anon.**

**"I'm not distant, I'm just competent at minding my own business." Anon.**

**SHROP SWEEP**  
CHIMNEY SWEEPING

- Rotary & Manual Chimney Sweeping
- HD Camera Inspections
- Smoke Testing
- Trained by National Assoc of Chimney Sweeps
- Professional, Clean & Efficient
- Great Customer Service
- Certificates Provided
- Competitive Rates
- Availability to fit all schedules

Contact Mark on: 07538 533865  
Email: shropsweep@gmail.com






**WESTONS**  
WILLS AND PROBATE

Come and see us at our riverside offices located in the heart of Bewdley at 18 Severn side South.

With over 30 years' experience, Mandy and her team offer a personal and professional service specialising in will drafting, lasting powers of attorney, deputyship applications and probate.

Previous clients feedback has included the following comments:  
"I've used Mandy at Westons Wills and Probate numerous times over recent years covering all aspects of her expertise. Her guidance on the way forward and solutions to issues that she has suggested has been excellent. She is extremely communicative and responsive, and handles difficult situations with compassion and empathy. I have happily and confidently recommended her services to everyone I know that would benefit from her services."

"Mandy Weston of Westons Wills and Probate is a very professional and knowledgeable person. She has now become my 'go to' legal adviser and has taken on many legal tasks for me and my family. Wills, Probate, Inheritance Tax and Powers of Attorney. I trust her judgement and experience to act in mine and my family's best interest. I would highly recommend her legal services to anyone."



**Tel: 01299 405873**

*"Great expertise and a friendly professional manner"*

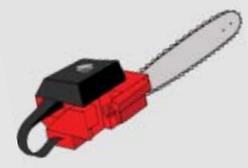


Contact Mandy Weston Phone 01299 405873 Mobile 07931 411733  
Email enquiries@westonswillsandprobate.co.uk Website www.westonswillsandprobate.co.uk  
Address 18 Severnside South, Bewdley, Worcestershire DY12 2DX



**N.R. Evans Landscaping**

- Grass cutting
- Strimming
- hedge cutting
- garden and site clearance
- Fencing, including:
- Panel fencing
- Post and rail fencing
- Picket fencing
- Stock fencing



domestic and commercial customers welcome

**Call for a chat on 07535 902847**

Email: nrevansgardenmaintenance@gmail.com Facebook: N.R.Evans Garden Maintenance



We are a family run company, with over 35 years of industry experience.

2024 is our 20<sup>th</sup> year in business.

We'd like to thank all our customers and the community for their support over the years.

**T: 07971 096267 / 08450 564173**

**W: [www.awe-services.co.uk](http://www.awe-services.co.uk)**

Two Staks, Eagle Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, Worcs. DY14 8RA

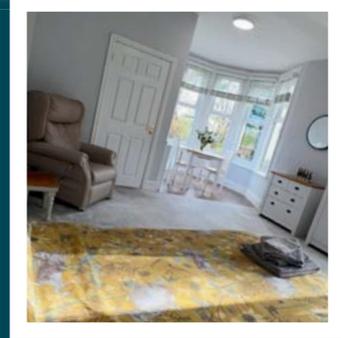


**CONTACT US FOR ADVICE AND A FREE QUOTATION**

**ON ALL SOLAR PV AND EV CHARGER ENQUIRIES**

**ALL INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND DOMESTIC WORK UNDERTAKEN**

**[info@awe-services.co.uk](mailto:info@awe-services.co.uk)**



# living with us at Doddington Lodge

*Care and Warmth at its Heart*

We would like to welcome you and your family to Doddington Lodge, our newly renovated, privately owned residential and dementia care home in the historic, tranquil hamlet of Doddington, Nr Cleobury Mortimer. Located on the beautiful Worcestershire & Shropshire boarder, providing picturesque views from every aspect of our home.

With a modern bistro dining room and bar with a delicious daily menu created by our accomplished chef. Individually designed spacious double rooms, allowing couples to stay together or beautiful single rooms all with en-suites and stunning countryside views. Even a hairdressing salon for a little pampering to provide a place of well-being.

Doddington Lodge is a place where friendships are made and special moments are shared. We organise many fun activities that everyone can get involved with, whether that's a sing along, arts and crafts, collecting fresh veg from the allotment or just simply helping each other with a crossword in our daily newspaper. Each day is different, we certainly have many happy moments...

Our home is a loving community and family, where you can consider Doddington Lodge a home away from home. We will provide you with all the key information, guiding you through every step of the process, whether you are staying with us for a short or long stay.

Come along!  
Coffee morning  
on Friday 13th  
December 2024



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

Every 2nd Friday of the month, come together with residents, family & friends over tea or coffee. Enjoy freshly baked cakes as well as the Doddington Lodge monthly raffle.

For only £2.50 per person – including your beverage and slice of cake – join us for our get-together on Friday, December 13th, 2024, from 10 am until midday.

We look forward to seeing you!

www.doddingtonlodge.com | E: enquiries@doddingtonlodge.com | T: 01584 707084  
Doddington Lodge, Residential Care Home, Doddington, Nr Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 0HJ.



Remember to follow us



# Doddington Lodge Christmas Event

Join us for a Festive Evening at Doddington Lodge!  
Friday, 20th December  
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
Doddington Lodge  
(Please use the conservatory door)

Please visit our Facebook page for more information.

*Lots of happy moments*



*Buddy Holly Tribute*



*Dancing to Buddy Holly*



*Magic at Halloween*



*Amazing Glam Sparrow Performance*



*Gerald clearing the snow*



*Spooky Tales by Annie*

www.doddingtonlodge.com | E: enquiries@doddingtonlodge.com | T: 01584 707084  
Doddington Lodge, Residential Care Home, Doddington, Nr Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 0HJ.



*Remember to follow us*

## CARTER'S ANTIQUES



We are looking to purchase all manner of antiques, jewellery, coins, medals and curiosities.

For a free valuations kindly telephone

**John Carter: 07779 311792**

Or email: [johnbarney743@gmail.com](mailto:johnbarney743@gmail.com)

## Alan Smith Aerials

### Digital TV Installations.

**Freeview** aerials fitted and distributed around the house.

**Freesat** box, dish, and cable supplied and fitted. One off payment, **No contract or subscription required.**

Extra points, Repairs, New fits, Set ups, Multi room.

All work is carried out by a **Local**, fully qualified and insured installer.

**01299 270007 or 07970 675728**



**Natalie Taylor** Dip CFHP MPS Pract.

**Specialist Foot Health Practitioner**

Specialising in:-

- In-growing toenails
- Fungal infections
- Nail trimming
- Verrucae
- Calluses
- Corns

All from the comfort of your own home.

If you would like to make an appointment, please call on **07779 113982 or 01584 890112**



## COUNTRY SKILLS

CPCS/NPTC Approved—fully insured

- Outside Renovation
- Tree Surgery, Hard Landscaping
- Slabbing and Fencing
- Decking, Roofing
- Contract Mowing

Call for a free quotation

R. Price & Sons

Mobile: 07967 140720 Email: [roger@country-skills.co.uk](mailto:roger@country-skills.co.uk)



**Claire Bradley**  
*Floral Designs*

Florist for all occasions, specialising in wedding and funeral flowers

Winner of the Matrimony Award 2020 Best Wedding Florist  
Nominated for 2021 Matrimony Awards

Christmas workshops available



Email: [clairebradley1@icloud.com](mailto:clairebradley1@icloud.com)  
01299 270415 or 07980 580770



## SINGING LESSONS

Professional singer and experienced teacher recently moved to this area

Vacancies available

All styles, ages, standards welcome

Contact Angela Kazimierczuk on

**07870 506655**



### Domestic oil-fired boiler breakdown & maintenance services.

27 years' field-service experience with leading UK boiler manufacturer Worcester Bosch.

**Donovan Taylor**

**Tel: 01299 828670 or 07807 837040**

[donovan.taylor@sky.com](mailto:donovan.taylor@sky.com)

[www.greenstar-boiler-repairs.com](http://www.greenstar-boiler-repairs.com)

Caring about your environment and providing an honest, professional & reliable service you can trust



## GW

### Tree Stump Removal

Commercial and residential.

Fully insured, qualified and professional.

Your property left neat and tidy.

Happy to give quotes with no obligation.

Ring Sam: **07787095668 or 01299832549**

Email: [sam@gwstumpremoval.co.uk](mailto:sam@gwstumpremoval.co.uk)

## The Relentless Rake

The evidence of autumn's arrival has piled up—quite literally. The trees have done their best impression of a confetti cannon, scattering leaves with wild abandon, and as a result, my garden is completely carpeted.

At first, I was determined to keep up. I spent an entire weekend chasing leaves like some demented contestant on a game show. Every few minutes, another one would flutter down, taunting me. I'd lunge, rake in hand, only to have five more take its place. It brought to mind an old Mr. Men story from my youth. I'm not sure which character it was - is there a Mr. Cheesed Off? - but he'd dash out each time a leaf fell, unwilling to wait until the trees had entirely stripped themselves. In my case, it's more Mr. Sweary, muttering under my breath. If only there had been a Mr. Hippy to stroll over, place a hand on my shoulder, and say, "Chill, man. Let them all fall before you start."

The wisdom of the Mr. Men has a way of sticking with you, even years later.

While I battle the leaf deluge, Maggie, our now teenage puppy, has embraced the season with the enthusiasm only an idiot dog can manage. She dives into leaf piles with the enthusiasm of a Hollywood stuntman, disappearing beneath them only to reemerge, snout covered in debris, looking as pleased as can be. The leaves, I'll concede, are still attractive - crisp and colourful, but the inevitable awaits: hours of raking and mind-numbing chore that results in an aching back and little more than a damp-smelling pile to show for it.

I'm not alone. Smoke plumes dot the landscape like signal fires from some

forgotten age. Bonfire season is well underway. My attempts at a bonfire continue to be nothing short of tragic. After years of experimenting, my success rate remains a discouraging 50%. On a good day, I can coax a small blaze, but it's always touch and go, with the fire more inclined to sulk than spark. I'll watch my neighbours pile on their leaves, light a match, and achieve perfect columns of smoke within minutes. Meanwhile, my fire chokes, sputters, and finally gives up in a puff of despair.

As the days grow shorter and the mornings colder, I've taken the seasonal hint and cleared out the greenhouse. The tomatoes put up a decent show this year, and I've taken to pretending I have some green thumb expertise when talking to friends. "*Oh yes, they were quite robust this season,*" I'll say, conveniently glossing over the six wilted plants that didn't survive the summer. The chillies, on the other hand, were a source of quiet embarrassment. I'd had grand visions of baskets brimming with fiery red peppers, but they were... modest. Let's leave it at that. One or two found their way into a stew before I decided the rest would serve as "ornamental" failures.

There's still work to be done before the garden can finally hunker down, cloaked in winter's inevitable frost. The pots need rearranging, Maggie needs more leaf piles to dive into, and I've been eyeing the lawn mower, wondering if one last cut is worth the effort. And then, at last, we'll hibernate together, ready to wake again when spring nudges us back to life. Of course, by that point, I'll have forgotten how tedious raking is, how fickle bonfires can be, and I'll start the cycle again, a hopeful Mr. Grumpy chasing after that first falling leaf, with Maggie already halfway through another pile.

*Simon*

Family Run Business of 30 Years

# Visit Our Kidderminster Showroom!



## Call Us For A Free No Obligation Quote.

If you would be interested in a free no-obligation quote, please contact our sales team.

**Appointments available upon request.**

### FOR EXPERT ADVICE

Visit our Showroom - Worcester Road, Kidderminster DY10 1JR | Open 8am-5pm Weekdays | 9am-4pm Saturdays  
Products Unique, Service Complete



[www.tswindowsanddoors.co.uk](http://www.tswindowsanddoors.co.uk) | 01562 822855



## CM BESPOKE CARE LTD.



**CM AURICULAR HEALTHCARE SERVICES FREE FOR ALL CLIENTS!**

- Ear Health Checks
- Wax Removal
- Hearing Screenings
- + Much More

# WE CARE

Providing The Following Range of Services:

- Care In Your Own Home
- Nursing Led Care
- Palliative Care
- Personal Care
- Adult Social Care
- Mental Health Specialism
- Learning Disability Care
- Young Adult Care
- Social Calls
- TDDI
- + Many More

## PROVIDING CARE & SUPPORT

**Ground Floor Office Suite,  
Upper Baveney Park,  
Clebury Mortimer,  
Kidderminster,  
DY14 8LF**



**Tel: 01746 718816**

**Email: [cmbespokecare@outlook.com](mailto:cmbespokecare@outlook.com)**

**f /CMBespokecare**

**ig /cmbespokecare**

**REVIVE BATHROOMS**  
COMPLETE BATHROOM INSTALLATION SERVICE

**07971 361901 or 01299 832484**

**Complete Bathroom Installations  
Bathroom Refurbishment or Repairs  
Wet Rooms  
Professional Wall and Floor Tiling**



For a quality and guaranteed service, call Stuart for a free quote  
Highly Recommended / References available - see my reviews on [www.freeindex.co.uk](http://www.freeindex.co.uk)

**FOR THE BATHROOM YOU DESERVE!**

**Elite Sweeps** & HETAS Stove Installer  
Professional Chimney Sweep

- ✓ Prompt, reliable & friendly service.
- ✓ Cowls and Chimney Pots fitted.
- ✓ Fully qualified and fully insured.
- ✓ Guild certificates issued after every sweep.
- ✓ HETAS Approved Installer.

**Call Eddie Tel. 01299 382222 / 07895 612915**

[www.elitesweeps.co.uk](http://www.elitesweeps.co.uk)





## Hollywaste Holiday Lets

Our 2 bedroom (ensuite) cottage, sleeps up to 6 adults, situated in Hollywaste, Cleobury Mortimer. Fully equipped kitchen, open plan living room with log burner, dining area and downstairs WC. Includes Freesat and fast WiFi. There are enclosed & open decking areas outside, to take advantage of the beautiful countryside views, and a grassed area for outdoor games.

Open all year round and welcomes adults, children, 1 large dog or up to 2 small dogs

Discount of 10% available for locals simply quote "keepitlocal" at the checkout

Events we can accommodate:  
Staycations, Pamper weekends, Shooting weekends, Wedding venue, Minimoon stays, Stargazing weekends, Cookery weekends & events, Camping and caravan pitches are also available!

If you're interested in hiring our space or land for any event and time frame.

Tel: 07962 151322 Email: [hollywasteholidaylets@gmail.com](mailto:hollywasteholidaylets@gmail.com) FB: <https://www.facebook.com/HollywasteHolidayCottage>

Website: <https://hollywasteholidaylets.squarespace.com> for more information



**Glenys Turpin Reflexology**



Reflexology is a non-invasive form of complementary medicine. It involves a method of treatment in which pressure is applied to the feet or hands to treat a wide range of ailments and is effective in promoting deep relaxation and well-being.

Reflexology does not claim to cure, diagnose or prescribe. It may be used alongside orthodox medicine and may be helpful with stress related symptoms and other conditions.

For more help and information contact Glenys...

5 New Road, Cleobury Mortimer. [glenturp@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:glenturp@hotmail.co.uk) 07763 332759

Diploma of The Bayly School of Reflexology, Member of The British Reflexology Association

## MOBILE FOOT HEALTH CARE

Providing a thorough nail and foot care treatment in the comfort of your own home.

Registered and insured practitioner.

**STACEY WILLIAMS FHP Dip RFHP**

**07794 022 618**



## CURRENTLY FOR SALE

Listed with Blacks Brokers Ref: 8805

We have a great range of stock! Competitive prices AND We are open 6 days  
Pop inside before you pop online!

**18 High Street, Cleobury Mortimer**  
**Tel: 01299 489590**

**Like our Facebook page CLEOBURRS**

## BODEN & SON Milk est. 2013

Not only do we deliver fresh Mawley Milk from the farm to your doorstep,  
we also deliver: cream , eggs, butter, fruit juice & now.....



Ashley's fresh bread

**Telephone: 01584 891550**

**EMAIL [boden6400@gmail.com](mailto:boden6400@gmail.com)**



## Hobbs Building Services

EST 25Years.

A Total Plastering, Maintenance and Building Service for your home,  
business and outbuildings.

Insurance work undertaken

Emergency call out service for general plumbing, roofing, boarding up damaged doors and  
windows. For a free quote please call;

Ian on; 07967190742

Email: [hobbsbuildingservice@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hobbsbuildingservice@yahoo.co.uk) Or Call/Text Kelly on; 07790085307

## Rachel Siddall

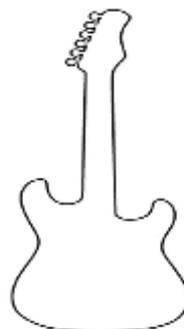
DipCFHP, MPSPract

Footcare in the privacy of your own  
home:

Nail trimming  
Ingrowing toenails  
Corn removal  
Thickening nails  
Callus reduction  
Verruca treatment  
Diabetic foot care



**07478 007913**



## Guitar Lessons

Teaching for 28 years privately and  
in schools. Exams available.  
DBS certificate.  
All ages, styles and abilities.

Contact Mark for more information  
[MARK.CHECKLEY@sky.com](mailto:MARK.CHECKLEY@sky.com)  
01746 718636 - 07708 386433

# Cleobury Opticians

NHS & private eye tests ♦ FREE children's glasses

FREE NHS glasses ♦ Home visits



Opening Times-	
Tuesday	9am-1pm 2pm-5pm
Wednesday	9am-1pm 2pm-5pm
Thursday	9am-1pm 2pm-5pm
Friday	10am-2pm
Saturday	9am-1pm

[www.cleoburyopticians.co.uk](http://www.cleoburyopticians.co.uk)

16 Church Street, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster  
DY14 8BX

Tel: **01299 270012**

Email: [cleoburyopticians@outlook.com](mailto:cleoburyopticians@outlook.com)



All Aspects of carpentry work undertaken

Level 3 City & Guilds in Carpentry & Joinery, 20 years of experience

Tel: **07854 032750**

Email: [duncpearce1@gmail.com](mailto:duncpearce1@gmail.com)

## Stewart Mumford Architectural Services Bespoke Architecture

Great value personal service backed up with extensive local knowledge, established links with other construction professionals to ensure comprehensive packages specifically tailored to individual needs.

Initial consultation free of charge.

Specialist in Works to Listed Buildings, Affordable Houses, Open Market Houses, House Extension and Alteration, Barn Conversion and Commercial Projects.



T: 01299 271068

M: 07977 921039

E: [office@stewartmumford.co.uk](mailto:office@stewartmumford.co.uk)



## A M Plumbing & Heating

- \*General plumbing
- \*Oftec approved
- \*Bathrooms
- \*Oil boilers
- \*Hot water cylinders
- \*Servicing
- \*Central heating
- \*Power flushing

**Call Today: 07565 181554**



## TOTAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Fireplaces built for multi-fuel burning stoves, Plastering, Building & General Maintenance

**Rob Taylor**

Mobile: 07944 074540

Landline: 01299 832734

Email@ rptbuilding@hotmail.co.uk

# Quality firewood for sale

We source our wood from a reputable and sustainable source.

Can deliver up to 20 mile radius from Bayton (DY14 9NA).

We can do multiple and large loads.

Please call to enquire on pricing.

**John Edwards 07531025018**



H.C.P.C Number CH22527

## Cleobury Chiropody Janet Manley

Qualified Chiropodist  
MSSCh. MBChA  
BSYA (reflex) REIKI Master

Tele:- 01299-272841

Mob:- 07805-268439

Email: janetpmanley@yahoo.co.uk

2, Tenbury Road,  
Cleobury Mortimer,  
Kidderminster,  
Worcs.  
DY14 8RB

## A Round Of Appaws

Professional Dog Groomer  
C&G Levels 2 & 3 Diploma

Fully Insured

Call or text Jules on  
07368359144

aroundofappaws1@gmail.com



## A. Farr Painting & Decorating

Give your home a beautiful new look....

Contact:

andyfarr12345@gmail.com 07815 855340

## Lisa Steward Ironing services

Hopton Wafers



Please call: 07581065436 for more information

Following on from last month's item on planning applications for the nursing home opposite the old Mullers site and the old Medical Centre, these were both discussed at the November Town Council meeting and both were rejected, largely because of insufficient information. Since that meeting, the old Medical Centre application has been withdrawn. Not sure why – perhaps it was just to test the response. If so, it worked....

More on the arrival of our Post Office (or not). Stuart Anderson, our new MP, held a surgery at the Market Hall earlier in the month and was approached by a number of residents over the matter of the missing Post Office so we shall see if there are any developments on this in due course. Another rumour circulating around the town suggests that the previous operators of the business are asking around £70,000 for 'Goodwill' from any prospective purchaser. This for an operation that was a shambles even when open and that has been shut for well over a year so good luck with that... Even more depressing news in that the Post Office are trying to ditch 114 'Crown' or directly owned branches and sell them to franchises to be run independently. Given the current reputation of that organisation, I suspect they won't get killed in the rush.

On a practical note, the DL (yes, she is still about) has a relative in the Armed Forces and wanted to send them a parcel for Christmas using the BFPO (British Forces Post Office) system. This provides free postage for small parcels sent to troops on operations. She followed all the instructions as to size, weight, Customs declarations etc which then told her to present the item at her Post Office. So, off to Clows Top where, after some confusion, she was told they couldn't accept it and to go to a main branch. OK, Ludlow was the next port of call the following day, Saturday, only to find a much diminished operation which was...shut. Apparently it is now operated by agency workers who don't work weekends! So, on Monday, off to Kiddy where, at last, the item was efficiently processed and accepted at only

the third attempt. So, eventually a happy ending (although she still hasn't heard that it has arrived... No wonder postal volumes are dropping.

This is before cost is mentioned. If you are still sending Christmas cards and use first class stamps, one paper has worked out that, if you have more than about 50 cards, it is cheaper to take a day trip to Lisbon on a flight costing about £60 and utilise the much cheaper Portuguese postal system. All this and a day in a lovely city as well.

On a totally different subject, an amusing anecdote from a memorial service for a Fleet Street journalist who stood at an impressive 6 foot 8 inches tall. It appeared that he was once asked by a woman whether 'everything' was in proportion to his impressive height. He replied 'Madam, if 'everything' was in proportion, I would be 9 foot 6 tall'. I find this a typical male response. Was he confident or merely delusional? Possibly the latter as Madonna summed things up by saying 'Why did God create men? Because vibrators can't mow the lawn'.

There is a growing tendency for manufacturers to use unexpected types of packaging for their products such as gin in an 'engine oil' can. Others seem to be vying for the most pointless pairings such as tampons in an ice cream container, condoms in a crisp packet and coffee paste in a toothpaste tube. I can see some confusion looming if used in the dark...

As another Christmas looms, can I wish my reader a very happy one and a prosperous New Year, although the latter probably won't apply if you are a farmer. Still, as the current cold snap seems to be coming to an end, at least you all won't have to burn any more of the furniture to keep warm...

*Ariadne J. Grumpy*



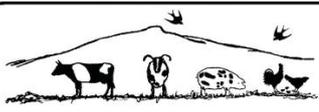
**Selectrical**

Fully qualified electrician and bathroom fitter with over 30 years experience

- Electrical Installations & Repairs
- Bathroom & Kitchen Installations

Call Steve on: 07791 492 951  
[enquiries@selectrical.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@selectrical.co.uk)





**Little Detton**

Home Grown Meats

Cleobury Mortimer  
 DY14 8LW  
 07825030607  
[www.littledetton.co.uk](http://www.littledetton.co.uk)

**Free delivery for orders over £30 within 10 miles**

Rare Breed Beef, Lamb, & Pork, Sausages, Bacon & Gammon, Free Range Chicken

**See us at the Farmers Market**

**HIS & HERS**  
*Dog Grooming Parlour*

All breeds and  
 Cross breeds professionally  
 Trimmed and Groomed



**J. A. Guest**  
**Tel: 07790 796 027**

Washing Machine  
 Repairs and Sales  
**JULIAN BREAKWELL**  
 Telephone 07791 633 746

Repairs to all makes, including Bosch, Hoover, Zanussi and Hotpoint

**NO CALL OUT CHARGE**

**Ever After**

- Breakfast club
- After school club
- Holiday club
- "Forest schools" outings
- 15hrs education funding
- 24U funding
- Age ranges: 3 months to 11 years



**Day Nursery**  
 Cleobury Mortimer

Please contact us on 01299 272 777  
 Or Call in to see us anytime.

Friendly, Caring Environment for the Community

**David Ward**  
**firewood**



**Do you need a dependable consistent quality supply of seasoned or kiln dried hardwood and softwood firewood?**

**Cut and split to suit and delivered in breathable 1.2-cubic metre bags, so no need to restack.**

**Small delivery vehicle, fitted with crane, can deliver to most locations and situations.**

**CALL DAVID TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS:**  
**Mobile: 07866 441154**

**Piano tutor**

*Francis Engleheart*

*All ages — I specialise in teaching adults without previous experience*

*I come to you*

**07710 288526 • [fengleheart@hotmail.com](mailto:fengleheart@hotmail.com)**

**S. L. CARTER**

**PROFESSIONAL PAINTER AND DECORATOR**

---

**PLASTERING, TILING, COVING AND GLAZING**

**CLEOBURY MORTIMER**

**TEL: 01299 272868**  
**MOBILE: 07815 483 029**

# You're All Invited.

## HOBSONS CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Date: Thursday 19th December  
Time: 4pm – 9pm



Postman's Plum Porter is brewed with Shropshire Prune Damsons, this porter delivers on provenance and intense flavour.



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

☎ 01299 270837 ✉ beer@hobsons-brewery.co.uk 📺 @Hobsonsbeers 📷 @hobsonsbrewery

## WHAT'S ON?



Beers in the Tap Room



Cleobury Concert Brass Band



Beefy Boys- The Burger Experts

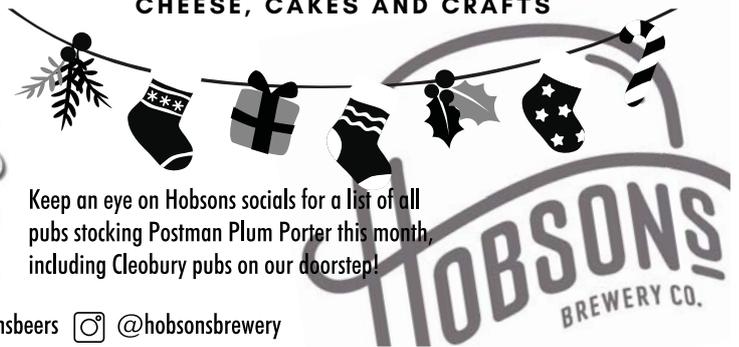


Devine Donuts



Lalitas Indian Food

PLUS STANDS SELLING PIES, CHEESE, CAKES AND CRAFTS



W. BROWN

PLUMBING & HEATING

Registered Heating Business



## OIL BOILER ENGINEER

- Boiler servicing & repairs
- Worcester Bosch installer
- General plumbing work

07974121297 billejbrown75@gmail.com @wbrownplumbingheating

## Booton Brothers



## Construction

Rich: 07445298747

Mike: 07853225401

bootonbrothers@outlook.com

All building work undertaken

---

# Cleobury Mortimer Golf Club

At Cleobury Mortimer Golf Club we believe that a really enjoyable golf day takes more than just a great golf course. We make sure that your whole experience, from the friendly welcome in the golf shop to your drinks and meal in our relaxed clubhouse, is all part of a day you'll remember.



## Everyone Welcome

Membership available.

Just some of the many benefits of joining Cleobury Mortimer Golf Club

- Access to full length 27- hole golf course
- Opportunity to achieve and maintain a handicap
- Family, Friendly Environment
- Playing opportunities at all times of the week
- A range of competitive opportunities
- Open dawn to dusk 363 days a year.

*We look forward to meeting you at Shropshire's friendliest golf club.*



- 📞 01299 271 112 (ext 1)
- ✉ [pro@cleoburygolfclub.com](mailto:pro@cleoburygolfclub.com)
- 🌐 [www.cleoburygolfclub.com](http://www.cleoburygolfclub.com)

## Clarion Clippings. - The Local News

We are aware of the strong feeling in the town about the state of the Manor House, which was once a fine, proud building, but has fallen into shameful disrepair. This extract from the newsletter addressing the feeling is a reminder that a lot of our community are angry. JR.

### FROM THE "SAVE THE MANOR HOUSE" NEWSLETTER

What have been recent developments?

We have continued to explore interest from other possible parties that might have the deep pockets necessary to do something with the house, but in the last few weeks, we have written again to Cleobury Council expressing our dismay that much effort goes into presenting the High Street with regard to the Lime Trees on one side, when a complete eyesore exists on the other side. This is not the presentation of Cleobury that we want our visitors or residents to see. We have asked the council to write to the owner once again and seek information about the plans if any to tidy up the frontage of the house.

In addition, we had the opportunity to meet with Stuart Anderson or local South Shropshire MP and we were encouraged by what we heard about the actions that Mr Anderson has taken himself in recent weeks. Our MP met with the owner of the House in London recently and had a positive discussion with him about the plans for the future. We have to be a little wary at this stage as it has been 14 years since the Nursing Home was closed down overnight by Shropshire Council amid serious concerns of the level of care being provided. So to expect after 14 years that

a magic wand will be waved and everything will be ok, is perhaps a little optimistic.

However the owner has stated that the property is classed as his private residence and that 2 options exist for him at this stage.

The first option is to move back into the property as a private family home, while his second option is to potentially reopen as a nursing home. In his discussion with Mr Anderson, the owner alluded to the fact that this might be within the next 6 - 12 months. While this is indeed good news it must be noted that the previous uncorroborated evidence suggests that significant work will be needed after 14 years of neglect, to return even a portion of the house to a habitable condition.

This will surely be not without a considerable amount of investment. While previously used as a Nursing Home 14 years ago the property would not have been subject to the stringent requirements of the Care and Quality Commission (CQC). It would certainly be required to meet today's standards.

The current registration of Title Deeds shows the property owned by Marchaven Homes of which the sole Directors are Mr Zahid Iqbal and Saleema Iqbal. If a significant change in ownership has very recently occurred the assumption is that the ownership is as stated.

It is also notable that both Marchaven Homes and the shell company (Marbleweb) that owns Marchaven Homes have been reporting diligently every year their status with Companies House, an indication that while physically the house is neglected, the company assets are not.

---

## CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE

---

£20.00 PER FOOT, CUT TO YOUR  
REQUIREMENTS.

---

CALL 01584 890 768



**CONSERVATORY**  
INSULATION SOLUTIONS

Worcestershire based

**Special offer:**  
Save 25%  
+ 0% VAT

*Is your conservatory too hot in the summer ?*

*Is your conservatory too cold in the winter ?*

- Warmer in the winter
- Cooler in the summer
- Normally fitted in just 1 day
- FREE in home quote
- Year round use of your conservatory
- VAT FREE GOVERNMENT APPROVED INSULATION

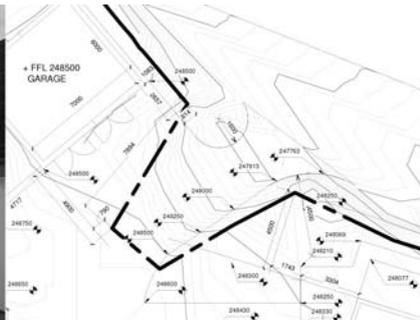


**EXTRA 10% discount for**

NHS / Current & Retired | Blue Light Card Holders | Saga Members

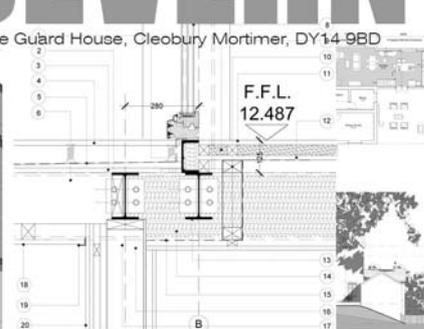
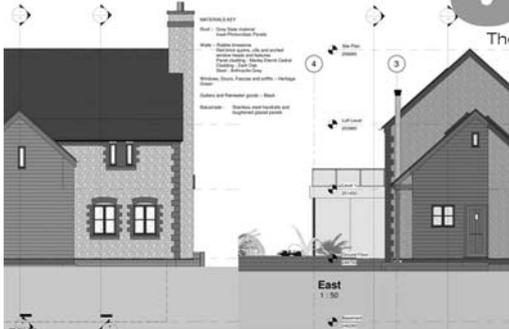
**Freephone: 0345 5480078**

[www.conservatoryinsulationsolutions.com](http://www.conservatoryinsulationsolutions.com)



**SEVERN**  
architects

The Guard House, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 9BD



We are a friendly Shropshire based architectural practice with plenty of experience in all kinds of residential projects large and small. Using the latest 3D software package and technology we can turn your virtual dream home into a reality.

Contact us now on 07825 759484 or email [julie@severnarchitects.co.uk](mailto:julie@severnarchitects.co.uk) for your consultation

- Our Architectural Design Services include
- Design & Feasibility Studies
  - General project Advice
  - 3D Modelling
  - 2D CAD Drawing
  - Planning Advice and Submissions
  - Building Regulation Applications
  - Tender & Construction Drawings
  - Contract & Project Management

**RIBA**

Chartered Practice

## A MEMORABLE DAY ON THE HILL

There was a rather special date about November 25th. It was exactly 80 years since a US Air Force B17 'Flying Fortress' took off from Stansted on a flight to Ireland. A crew of three and just three passengers, in pretty rough weather with visibility not good.

It seems the pilot did not know the area he was flying over, and realised he was off course and lost. When he recognised a hill ahead, he tried to climb to safety but a wingtip caught the ground and the mighty Flying Fortress, one of the biggest bombers at the time, cartwheeled across the hillside in flames and all aboard were lost. Today you can climb steps cut into the hillside and look down at what is now a huge quarrying site.



*Only 300 steep metres to go. Not easy on a cold November day.*

The place is signposted, the stairs up the hill have a handrail for ancients like me

to pull themselves up and the story of the tragedy is there on a board for all to read.

Our Royal British Legion branch were invited to a service there, with a party of family members of the plane's crew flying over from America to visit the scene and pay their respects. We naturally took our club banner, in the capable hands of Dave Clarke and alongside him was the flagman from the Parachute Regimental Association's Shropshire branch.

When we three, Mike Hermolle, Steve Todd and me arrived, a lady kindly directed us to a parking spot. We were early and as we stood talking to an American couple the cars began to arrive up the steep track. From there it was 300 or so metres of hillside steps, where we stood around chatting until the Rev Justin Parker, in proper military combat uniform, arrived and made himself known to the Americans, about a dozen of them. You had to be impressed that so many relatives of that old crash had been contacted and had travelled so far to visit a cold November hillside in Shropshire.

On the way up I got chatting to a man who'd driven up from Hatfield in Hertfordshire, a keen plane lover who knew something of the crash and mentioned that the pilot had missed safety by half a metre.

Annette Burgoyne learned about the crash from her

father. She shared the story with friends Rick Summers and Rob Bradley. "We felt they should not be forgotten and there should be a memorial to them. But we never dreamed when we started the incredible response we would get, especially from America." (We acknowledge our use of the story in the Ludlow and Tenbury Wells Advertiser. JR)

Rev Justin Parker conducted a brief service with obvious respect, followed by the Last Post played on a bugle by Annette Burgoyne's son James. There were about 40 people there, a reminder of those men and women lost 80 years ago.

Those lost in the crash:  
1st Lt George C Johnson  
S/Sgt Francis O Hull  
Cpl. John E. Bean  
Lt Col Hartford H Vereen  
Major Kenneth T Omley  
Captain Priscilla Gotto  
All USAAF personnel, except Captain Gotto

Memorial Organisers: Rick Summers, Annette Burgoyne and Rob Bradley.



*Some of our American visitors with regimental banners and flagmen.*

# DO YOU ENJOY DRIVING?



Join the team and experience the satisfaction of knowing you have helped make a difference to someone's life.

Volunteer with our friendly community transport service.

Drive your own vehicle, for which there is a mileage reimbursement.

Times to suit you!

Discuss joining our team by telephoning **01584 233131**

or email [admin@temewheels.org.uk](mailto:admin@temewheels.org.uk)

Website: [temewheels.org.uk](http://temewheels.org.uk)

**We are open from 9.00am - 1.00pm Monday to Friday**

**We look forward to hearing from you!**



Registered Charity No. 1193641

## KIDDERMINSTER SELF STORAGE AND REMOVALS

### STORAGE

Free insurance . Flexible Terms  
Fixed Price Guarantee . No hidden costs

### REMOVALS

Professional Removal Service  
Est. over 25 years

### PACKAGING MATERIALS

Boxes, Bubblewrap, Tape Etc. for sale  
Free local deliveries on orders over £20

**01562 744088**

[www.kidderminsterselfstorage.co.uk](http://www.kidderminsterselfstorage.co.uk)

Unit 11 Finepoint Way, Stourport Road, Kidderminster DY11 7FB  
[info@kidderminsterselfstorage.co.uk](mailto:info@kidderminsterselfstorage.co.uk)





# EVERYTHING INTERIOR UPHOLSTERY

## REUPHOLSTERY SERVICES:

- AUTOMOTIVE
- CARAVANS
- CAMPER VANS
- TRADITIONAL & MODERN
- COMMERCIAL & BESPOKE
- DOMESTIC
- CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING  
*(in partnership with WE GLEAM)*

OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE



## CONTACT US TODAY

Unit 19 Old Station Business Park, Cleobury Mortimer, DY14 8SY

07961 712683 / 07961 792103

[www.everythinginterior.co.uk](http://www.everythinginterior.co.uk)

email: [everythinginterior@outlook.com](mailto:everythinginterior@outlook.com)

Bespoke framing and mounting for:

- Artwork
- Photographs
- Canvases



## The Framing Studio Cleobury Mortimer

Paul Serrell-Cooke  
07791 378240

*Bringing artwork and images to life*



**LUDLOW  
SALVAGE**  
~ Est 2017 ~  
Reclaimed Building Materials  
and Architectural Antiques

Station yard, Station road,  
Woofferton, Ludlow SY8 4AW

**T** 07805 312168

**@** ludlowsalvage@gmail.com

**f** /ludlowsalvage

**IG** /ludlowsalvage

**WWW.LUDLOWSALVAGE.CO.UK**

**LUDLOW  
FIREWOOD**  
~ Est 2019 ~  
Suppliers of Premium Grade Ready  
to Burn Firewood, Beautifully Crated  
and Delivered to Your Door



**T** 07949 318014

**@** ludlowfirewood@gmail.com

**IG** /ludlowfirewood

**f** /ludlowfirewood

Station yard, Station road, Woofferton, Ludlow SY8 4AW

**WWW.LUDLOWFIREWOOD.COM**

Available in Barrow bags and  
nets for all your access  
requirements.

Last month after the announcement of winter fuel payments being cut back, we considered the possibility that an opportunity existed for scammers to target the vulnerable. It is no surprise that scams have already started to emerge.

This is good evidence of the value of publicity to protect us from these crimes. The determination of these criminal gangs to succeed must be matched by our determination to continually review our awareness by signing up to trusted sources for updates and news. While not everyone accesses Social media, through this page in your local Cleobury Clarion we focus on the key items of the day to offer some level of awareness for our community.

Sometimes information could be at least 1 month out of date, but the old saying, "better late than never" comes to mind.

Some months ago this publication carried a series of articles about the emergence of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** which is literally growing in our world at a pace. There are many good benefits deriving from technology developments, but the scammers also see benefits for them and the opportunities to line their pockets.

### **What is an AI scam?**

An AI scam uses technology to falsely manipulate any data to mimic voice, text or images. Fraudsters typically use AI tools, including chatbots and image, video and audio-generation software to create these scams. These AI tools 'generate' text, images and other content online. Most of this software is free and accessible to anyone with a computer and internet connection. Large companies use it for genuine business, however, its increased accessibility has led to a surge in scams that use AI. This makes scams more convincing and harder to spot, which means it's important to become familiar with these new methods to stay one step ahead of the scammers.

### **Let's look at some brief examples of some AI scams.**

Deep Fake scams use faked video where the person in it has been digitally altered to appear as a different person. Fraudsters use this technique to make it appear as if someone, usually a popular celebrity or trusted person, is saying something they're not. They can make it seem like a celebrity is promoting their phoney investment scheme with words from their own mouth. They can also

be used to steal people's identities or to pass verification checks and access victims' accounts as well as to create images of completely non-existent people.

### **Voice cloning scams**

Voice cloning is when a person's voice is recorded and then used to create audio content of that person speaking. Fraudsters can use a voice recording of someone to make them say anything that they want them to. This has been achieved often by scammers making a call to a victim and recording key words that the victim might use. **AI** takes over and it is possible to create a whole scripted, but false recording that sounds just like the victim. In examples that have been identified, scammers have used this method to create a more menacing version of the '**Hi mum and dad**' scam. Victims receive calls out of the blue from a loved one supposedly in distress who needs them to urgently transfer money for some made-up emergency.

Advice has been given in previous articles to immediately hang up and use a different phone to check that the person or relative is really in trouble or not.

### **Spotting these scams.**

With generative AI tools such as ChatGPT, fraudsters are able to create much more convincing messages, free from the poor spelling and grammar we've always relied on to spot scams.

But the message is always this: if you get an unsolicited call, text or email, hang up, delete it or block the sender. Genuine messages from Banks and Government agencies always come with something that verifies you individually, scammers rarely waste time trying twice, they just move on because there is always someone who falls for their tricks. A genuine caller will keep trying to contact you or leave a contact number that you can check to verify the authenticity of it.

If you use social media, only follow the sites that can be easily identified as genuine or sign up to approved information sources like Which Magazine or Neighbourhood Alert.

**Stay Safe and have a trouble free Christmas.  
We will be back in Feb 2025**

*Nigel Reid*

## CLEOBURY SEAFOOD & FREEZER CENTRE

6, Newhouse Farm, Tenbury Road, Cleobury Mortimer DY14 8RD

For enquiries or to place an order, phone Ann 07711875553

### Top most popular products

*Fish Cod, Haddock, Kippers, Sea bass, Red Snapper, Tuna, Swordfish, Salmon & more*

*Seafood Calamari, Whitebait, Scallops, Raw King Prawns, Fish pie mix*

*Bennet Ice Cream*

*Curries and Mr Daves Curries*

*Dairy Cream Cakes Éclair Finger Donut, Scones, Apple Turnovers*

*Frozen Fruit*

*Blueberries, Blackberries, Blackcurrants, Summer Fruits, Raspberries & more*

*Hot Puddings Treacle, Sticky Toffee, Chocolate, Jam*

*Suet Puddings, Steak and Kidney and Steak and Ale*



**Gluten Free, Vegan, Dairy Free, Vegetarian**

I have a new Website under construction, and will be ready very soon

Opening Times Closed Monday, Tuesday to Friday 9.30 to 4.30 Saturday 9.30 to 12.30

# ONE STOP ROOFING

## The Flat Roof Specialists



- Rubber, Fibreglass & Felt
- Re-pointing & Chimney Repairs
- Fascias & Guttering



**Take advantage of our offer:** Replace your flat roof Making EPDM (rubber) your choice for a long lasting, weatherproof & high slip resistant membrane, with a lifespan of 50 years, **get it for the same price as felt**, which only carries a 10 year guarantee!

Replace your flat roof with EPDM (rubber) & add a skylight or lantern, giving extra light to your room starting **from as little as £400!!**

Freephone 0800 0855277 \* 07538 471274

[www.onestop-roofing.co.uk](http://www.onestop-roofing.co.uk)

[onestoproofinguk@gmail.com](mailto:onestoproofinguk@gmail.com)

Family business est. 35 years.  
All repair work undertaken

Proud members of  
**Checkatrade.com**  
Where reputation matters



## Our Services



**SOLAR PV**



**EV CHARGERS**



**AIR SOURCE  
HEAT PUMPS**



**GROUND SOURCE  
HEAT PUMPS**



**BATTERIES**



**VENTILATION**



**UNDERFLOOR  
HEATING**



**RADIATORS**

## About us

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

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

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

### What can EnergyZone Offer?

- With over 130 years combined experience, we are keen to help with all your energy enquiries and deliver impartial advice.
- Totally free desktop quotes for Solar PV and Heat Pump systems completely unique to your property to show you exactly how much you could save.
- Self-consumption gadgets to help you utilise all of your generated energy. Whether its a Smart Electric Car Charger, Immersion Diverters or Battery Storage Units, we can help you become more independent from the grid.
- Ensure your heating is as efficient as possible, through underfloor heating installation, radiator upgrades and smart hot water cylinders.
- Advice on all Government Grants and Incentives.
- Local support with annual servicing through our in-house EZCare package.

**Get in touch today to start renewing your energy!**

For your peace of mind, EnergyZone has the following accreditations:



01299 270011



[sales@energyzone.co.uk](mailto:sales@energyzone.co.uk)



# COPPICE GATE

Over 50's 12 Month Holiday Park

'Spend your Golden Years in the Serenity of the Wyre Forest'

- Luxury Lodges & Chalets
- Spacious Plots
- Quaint Fishing Pool
- Nestled in Peaceful Woodland



01299 401 277

bankfarm.cp@gmail.com

www.coppicegate.co.uk



# BANK FARM EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

Established Equestrian Centre in the heart of the Severn Valley & at the door to the Wyre Forest



- Forest Hacks
- Jumping & Flatwork Clinics
- Cross Country Lessons
- Heavy Horse Hacks
- Trail Hunt Hire
- Horse Sales

07852 156428

bfrt@hotmail.co.uk

www.bankfarmequestrian.co.uk

# The Cleobury Clarion Social Calendar for December 24/January 25

---

Tue. 3rd	7.30 The Breakfast Club meet at the Golf Club.	PAGE 29
	2.30. Carera' Support Group meet at St Mary's Place Community Centre	
Thu. 5th	10.00am Primary School plan consolation, St Mary's Church.	PAGE 8
	10.00 Rock Pathfinders step out from Holy Austin Rock Houses, Kinver	PAGE 13
Wed. 4th	GENERAL WASTE BINS EMPTIED	
	6.00. Late Night at the Food Bank, Market Hall.	
	7.00. Whist Drive, Doddington Village Hall	
Fri. 6th	7.00 Ian Casey in cabaret at the Parish Hall.	PAGE 7
Sat. 7th	10.00 to 12 noon. Coffee Morning at M4lville Church, Farlow.	PAGE 7
	2.30 St. John's Christmas Fair at Doddington Village Hall.	PAGE 27
Sun. 8th	7.30 Birmingham Philharmonic at the Parish Church. A glorious evening.	PAGE 17
Wed. 11th.	GARDEN WASTE AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED	
	10.00. Walking for Health' final walk of the year. From the Market Hall.	
	10.00 CoCo Coffee Morning at the Market Hall.	
	12.30 Christmas Soup Lunch, Melville Church, Farlow	PAGE 7
	7.00 Royal British Legion meet at the Sports and Social Club	
Thu. 12th	10.00am Primary School plan consultation St. Mary's church.	PAGE 8
Fri. 13th.	10.00am Doddington Lodge Coffee Morning. Visitors most welcome.	PAGE 32
	7.30 Carols for CoCo is a fund raising event at the Golf Club'	PAGE 7
	8.00. Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	
Sun. 15th.	3.00 CM Concert Brass provide the music at St John's carol service.	PAGE 27
Mon. 16th	6.00 Roving Nativity at Farlow and Oreton village hall.	PAGE 7
	7.30 The Reading Group meet at the town library.	PAGE 9
Wed. 18th.	GENERAL WASTE BINS EMPTIED	
	7.30. Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.	
Thu. 19th	10.00 Rock Pathfinders step out from Stourport Farm Shop.	PAGE 13
	3.00 Primary School plan consultation.	PAGE 8
	4.00 Hobson's Christmas Faye, in the brewery tap room	
Fri. 20th.	8.00. Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall.	
Sat. 21st	7.00. Flicks in the Sticks, Parish Hall.	PAGE 5
	9.00. Cleobury Country Farmers' Market in the Parish Church.	
Sun. 22nd	11.00 Sausage Dog Social Walk starts from Sports and Social Club.	PAGE 1
	6.30 Carol Service at Melville Church, Carlow	PAGE 7
Tue. 24th.	GARDEN WASTE AND RECYCLING BINS EMPTIED	
Wed. 25th	CHRISTMAS DAY. MAY IT BRING PEACE AND LOVE TO OUR TROUBLED WORLD.	
	10.30 Family Worship at Melville Church	

## AND LOOKING FORWARD TO JANUARY 2025

Thu 2nd.	GENERAL WASTE BINS EMPTIED	
Sat. 25th.	Burns Lunch at Doddington Village Hall. See St John's website.	
	7.30 Nearly Dead Poets Society meet in the library	PAGE 5
Fri. Jan.31st.	7.00 Wildlife Club meet at Clows Top Victory Hall.	PAGE 7

## REGULAR EVENTS OF INTEREST

Monday:	8.00 Bingo Nights at the Market Hall, Church Street.
Tuesday:	8.00 Friendship Club meets at the Parish Hall.
Thursday morning:	Saint Mary;s church coffee and chat session.
	7.30. Tina Hobin's Birth Dance and good health club, Market Hall.

**DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY 25 CLARION :**

**JANUARY 22nd**

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

Tel: 01299 270642 Mobile: 07410 977 212 E:[editor@cleoburyclarion.co.uk](mailto:editor@cleoburyclarion.co.uk)

Web: [www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk](http://www.cleoburyclarion.co.uk)

Printed by Badger Print. Tel: 01952 730511

Collect your Clarion in Cleobury from: Londis, Cleobury Cafe, Severn  
Hospice Shop, Mid Counties Co-op, Purslows, The Library.

And out in the county:

The Blount Arms, Heath Farm Meats, Clee Hill Stores, Clows Top Store, The  
Colliers Cafe, Sun & Slipper, Mamble; Hopton Bank Service Station; Ludlow  
Library; Fighting Cocks, Stottesdon; Duck Inn, Chorley; Live & Let Live,  
Neen Sollars; Eagle & Serpent, Kinlet; Parker Motors, Kinlet.

Also from the parish churches in: Cleobury Mortimer, Bayton, Doddington,  
Hopton Wafers, Neen Savage, Neen Sollars and Stottesdon.

**Paul Harding**



**Tree Services**

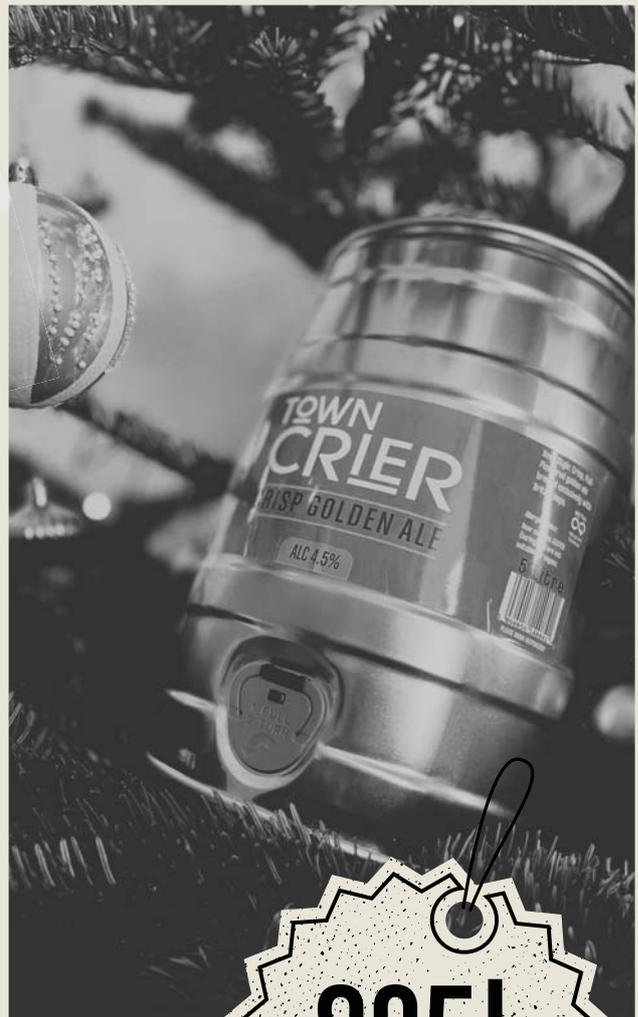
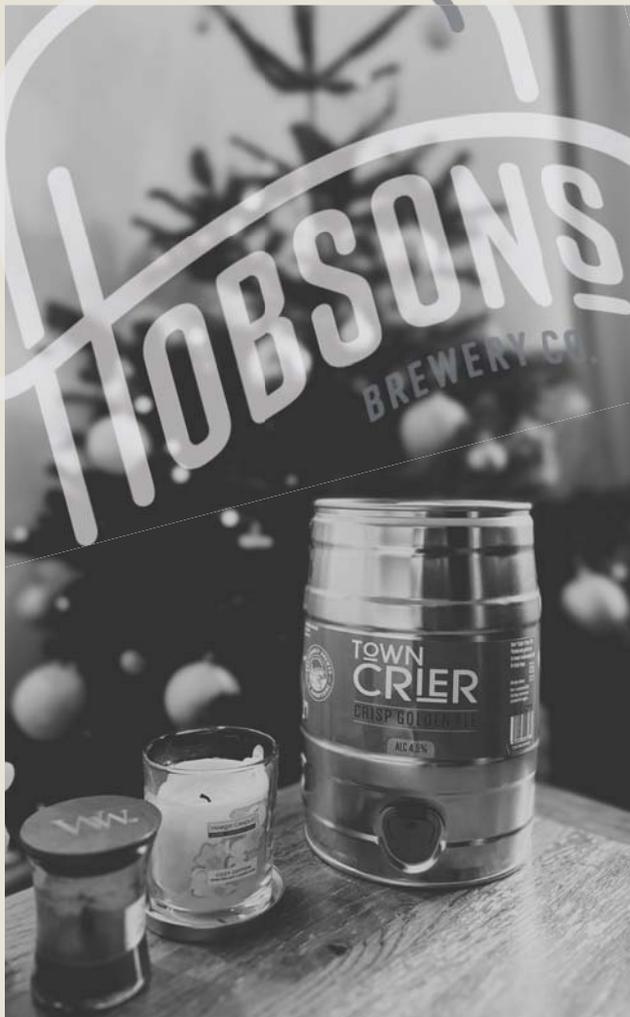
- Tree surgery and felling
  - Woodland thinning & maintenance
  - Hedge trimming & grass cutting
  - Supplier of hardwood logs, kindling and garden bark
  - NPTC certified fully insured. Domestic and commercial work undertaken.
- Tel 01584 890 993 Mob 07970 878 224**

**BILL'S QUALITY METALWORK**

**5 GREENFIELD ROAD, CRAVEN ARMS, SY7 9QU**

Manufacturing Made to Measure Gates and Railings  
~Balconies and Staircases, Handrails, Carports, Structural  
Steelwork and Mobile Welding Service.

Phone Bill on 07973 248 016 or 01588 673 914



**£25!**

## Town Crier 5L Huber Keg

Give the gift of Hobsons Town Crier. A crisp, golden ale in a 5L mini keg. Perfect for festive celebrations, it's a taste of Hobsons tradition to share this Christmas season.

NO DISPENSE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED,  
INSTRUCTIONS TO DISPENSE ON TOP OF KEG!

ONCE OPENED THE BEER IS BEST CONSUMED  
WITHIN 3-5 DAYS. APPROX 8.8 PINTS.

Available to buy from the taproom or online  
at [Hobsons-brewery.co.uk](http://Hobsons-brewery.co.uk)



---

### How to contact the Town Council

Telephone: 01299 271154 or 07483 112290

Email: [council@cleobury.org.uk](mailto:council@cleobury.org.uk)

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

### Councillor Surgery

Cllr Abbatiello and Cllr James attended the monthly Councillor Surgery held in the Market Hall, alongside the Farmers Market, on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November. Items raised included the consultation currently being undertaken by Cleobury Mortimer Primary School regarding the proposed erection of a fence on the Playing Field and updates on current planning submissions. If you have an issue you want to raise, you can contact the office on the details above or drop into the next monthly Councillor Surgery on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

### Maintenance Assistant Vacancy

We are currently recruiting for a Part-Time Maintenance Assistant. A full job description is available on the Town Council website [www.cleobury.org.uk](http://www.cleobury.org.uk) or from the Town Council office. Closing date for applications is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 4pm.

### Remembrance Sunday

There was a fantastic turn out for the Remembrance Sunday parade and service on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2024. We would like to thank all the groups, clubs and the local schools, as well as the general community for their attendance.

### Christmas Window Display

Leaflets for the annual Christmas Window Display competition have now been distributed to all businesses along the High Street. Voting will take place week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 with a chance to win the Clarion Cup.

### Trees within the Cleobury Mortimer Conservation Area

If you live in the Cleobury Mortimer Conservation Area and wish to remove or prune established trees you are required to give the local planning authority (Shropshire Council) six weeks' notice before carrying out work - this is called a section 211 notice. There is no fee for submitting a notice. You do not need to give notice if you want to work on trees less than 7.5 centimetres in diameter, measured 1.5 metres above the ground (or 10 centimetres if thinning to help the growth of other trees). Please contact Shropshire Council Planning Department for further information and advice.

### Dates for your Diary

Next Council Meeting – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 at 6.30pm, at the Cleobury Country Centre.

Councillor Surgery – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2024, from 10am – 12noon, at the Market Hall.

January Council Meeting – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 6.30pm, at Cleobury Country Centre.

January Councillor Surgery – Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025, from 10am – 12noon, at the Market Hall.

**Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone at  
Cleobury Mortimer Town Council.**

## AT LAST - I PLAYED MARY

By Kathie Rowbotham

When I was at primary school, I longed to be selected to play Mary in the Nativity Play. However, I was always disappointed to be issued with the big white sheet and tinsel headdress, to play 'Angel Gabriel'. "Peace be with you!" I shouted, as I ran out onto the stage, with my tissues paper wings flapping behind me. "The Lord has sent me with a special message for you. Soon you will be the mother of a baby boy and you will call him Jesus." My parents always assured me that it was 'the taking part' that counts, not getting the lead role – I disagreed!

In 1997, I became pregnant. Within a few weeks, I picked up a new hobby from our Labrador, Ashley – eating for England. I waited for my morning sickness to kick in, but sadly it never did. I craved sniffing tarmac and creosote and I longed to eat sand, cat litter, hardcore and wet stones.

At my 20 week scan, the radiographer confirmed that we were having a little boy and he was due on Christmas Day. Like every expectant Mom, I read other people's birth stories in magazines, but I knew everyone was different.

On Monday 23 December 1997, I was taken to hospital to be induced. However, by 6pm that night, nothing had happened. I was given two painkillers and wait for it – two sleeping pills. I was a little worried by the image of contracting Narcolepsy in the

middle of the birth. What if the baby came out while I was asleep, would I notice?

The next day, no baby and no Angel Gabriel to bring me news of his estimated time of arrival? Then on Wednesday, which was Xmas Eve, at last the contractions started and within an hour they were unbearable.

I was given my epidural and I was wired up to loads of machinery. Meanwhile, my husband Mark was given his own pot of tea and selection of biscuits and he settled down to watch TV! I couldn't move anything but my eyeballs, which were firmly fixed on the chocolate digestive in the middle of his plate!

I kept drifting off to sleep dreaming of gravel, cat litter, my beloved tarmac and of Angel Gabriel bringing me trays of bacon sandwiches. My midwife Paul woke me at 9pm to tell me it was time to start pushing. More people kept entering the room, sadly no wise men, donkeys nor Angel Gabriel, just people in various uniforms.

Our Joshua Joseph was born at 11.19pm on Xmas Eve. Angel Gabriel must have been looking after him – he was just perfect!

At last, I *had* played Mary in my own version of the Xmas Nativity Play. Friends and family visited, bearing gifts – no wise men, donkeys, Frankincense, Gold or Myrr! But we did have our little rescued Shetland Pony Sam to join us in our lounge and our little Nativity Scene was complete!

*Kathie*



# eme CLEOBURY

## FACILITIES INCLUDE:

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

## OPENING TIMES

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

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

## CLASS TIMETABLE

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

Pre-Booking required for Exercise classes  
Book online or at the Centre



**TEME CLEOBURY**  
LOVE LANE  
CLEOBURY MORTIMER  
DY14 8PE  
☎ 01299 271317



[www.teme-leisure.co.uk](http://www.teme-leisure.co.uk)