

The Cleobury Clarion

NEW IN THE CHURCH



Fresh from restoration by a team from the Men's Shed is this bier, a traditional vehicle used to transport the deceased to their funeral and possibly within the church building. It is thought to date from the 19th century.

It has stood unused in a shed in the graveyard for many years, a relic with no record, probably the work of a local blacksmith or carpenter with its wooden frame and iron wheels. The

accompanying script offers very few clues, but to survive something like 100 years does suggest a good quality piece of work.

There are four stout wooden handles for the bearers to move the bier and there are two trellises on which a coffin can rest. The suggestion is that the upper layer was added to make manhandling the coffin easier.

It sits silently next to the wall, a piece of history made smart as if to honour those whose remains travelled by this method. Biers are rare, the nearest other example in Kinlet. How well that specimen has survived is not clear, but a visit to their parish might show how well that one was made.

SAD FAREWELLS

As February faded away with a chill wind, the community mourned the loss of two very different but well respected ladies.

Val Simpson was a Sussex lady who moved to Cleobury in her mature years, with a firm way of getting things done and a great capacity of caring for others. When she suffered a severe stroke that restricted her to a

wheelchair she addressed the matter by founding the Stroke Club and carrying on making life better for those who suffered in the way that she did, with firm determination. She contracted pneumonia that claimed her for a better life in Heaven and our sympathy goes to Graham, who cared for her to the end.

Janet Manley was known to hundreds through her work as a chiropodist and a great personality. She gave years to caring for Chris as his health gradually deteriorated and she led the local carers group until he departed this earth. Jan was lonely and lost until she met another man called Chris and her life took a huge lift for the better; I remember telling her that she looked ten years younger with the love they shared and there seemed to be no problems in their idyll.

Then came the news that Janet had collapsed and died. How could it be that such a warm and loving relationship had been snatched away? The crowd that followed her hearse to the Parish Church and filled the place to capacity said it all.

February 2025: a sad month.



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Adrian T

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THE NEARLY DEAD POETS SOCIETY

We met on January 27th, just four of us, and observed a proper silence in memory of Janet Manley, a good friend who was with us for too short a time. A new face was welcomed; Alex Daborn was looking around as a new resident on Clee Hill, assessing the social activities.

Our chosen subject matter was "Television" and David responded with two works. Pauline offered random thoughts on the matter and the chairman just four short verses that showed little enthusiasm for the medium before we moved on.

Alex made no claim to being a poet, but a volume of John Betjeman's works aroused her. She read two of the great man's works in a manner that left us silent in admiration. It is really moving to hear leading works read with a fire of enthusiasm. We look forward to hearing her read again; that may well be on Monday the 31st in the library, when we offer words on the subject of 'Moonlight'. Should I tell my lady love that it becomes her?

Jim Reynolds

THE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Due to ill health after 15 years plus Valerie Breakwell (treasurer) and Janet Rolston (secretary) are resigning from the committee of the club.

We have enjoyed the time spent at the club but feel it is right to let some new friends take over. We will still attend as members as the time spent there is a pleasure, meeting up with other members. We wish the new committee all the best as this club is an asset to the senior citizens of this town.

Valerie Breakwell

CLOWS TOP GARDENING CLUB

The Spring Show! At last, winter must be behind us. What better way to appreciate that than to come along on the 26th March and be cheered by the sight of all the colourful spring flowers which have been entered in the Show.

Our speaker will be Louise Mawditt, who will be asking - "How well do you know Gardening?"

The Flower of the Month competition will still be running, and feel free to bring along any magazines to swap.

I will send a reminder of the schedule for entries nearer the time. Entries should be presented from 6.30 onwards

Judith Lawson

FARLOW AND ORETON VILLAGE HALL

Details of our forthcoming Spring Village Market on Saturday 22nd March 10.00 to 2.30pm All local producers, artists and crafters, teas and cakes served, funds for the Village Hall upkeep.

We will also be having another Arts Alive event on Friday 2nd May, I will send more details and a poster nearer the time.

This will be Farlow and Oreton Village Hall's 100th year so we are planning a celebration in the summer, watch this space!

Lucy Shier

PARISH HALL QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 21st March: Quiz Night to be held in the Parish Hall. Tickets £5 per person. Organise your own team then come and join in the fun. The bar will be open and nibbles will be provided for each team.

Tickets from: Spires Hairdressers, the Library, the Pharmacy and Mazella Witts-Hewinson. Pens/pencils and paper will be provided on each table.

All proceeds go to projects in the church building and general structure. It is over 900 years old after all!

Peter Sniadowski

FRIENDS OF SAINT MARY'S A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends will be held in the church on Monday March 31st, opening at 7.00. Do come along and join us; your input will be much appreciated.

NEW NOTES SINGERS

We are beginning an exciting programme of both new and well known songs for summer and we always welcome new members to our happy group.

We meet regularly on Thursday afternoons from 2.00 to 3.30 in the Recreation Room in Clee Hill Village, followed by tea and biscuits if you have the time for a chat.

No auditions or ability to read music are necessary, just enthusiasm to take part in a group for lots of enjoyment.

For any other details contact Barbara Hall 07801 924035 or mail bhall1604@gmail.com

Jane Barnes

CLEOBURY GARDENERS

The club meet at Cleobury Country Centre on Love Lane on Monday the 10th at 7.00, to hear Sue Blackman talk about Hostas.

Non members welcome, for a modest charge.

THE MELVILLE CHAPEL

March dates for this busy venue in Oreton, looking very smart after its recent decoration work:

1st March:

Coffee Morning 10.00-12.00

12th March:

Soup Lunch 12.30-2.00

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This is an Ecumenical event, at 7.00p.m on March 7th, at The Community Hub.

Prepared by women from The Cook Islands.

Ruth Downes



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OUR FOOD BANK

It was in October 2019 that Debbie Brown, Chair of what was then the Parish Council, started the town's Food Bank in the Market Hall. She and Town Clerk Matt Sheehan had seen the need when they heard how people were travelling to neighbouring towns to get free food for their families.

"Our first customer was a lady whose husband had lost his job and they were getting by on the £40 she earned from cleaning work. When she saw what we had to offer she just sat down and cried with relief," recalls Debbie. Very few of us realise what a need there is out there in lovely, friendly Shropshire, but today our own Food Bank serves up to 50 people, adults and children, every week.

It remained open through the recent pandemic, when extra help came in the form of pallets delivered by Defra and local food shops and restaurants were really generous. When the Pandemic was over, the need of help remained and the Bank's work continues. It opens every Friday and will continue that habit when they move down the road to their new base at the Fire Station.

Not everything comes free and the Bank became a charity last year, which made access to grant funding easier. The operation has grown to cover the surrounding area and has 15 volunteers who give their time freely. But costs do rise, like the reasonable rent they've been paying for the High Street based Market Hall. That has triggered the move to the Fire Station, where they'll get more space for a peppercorn rent. It will not be as accessible as the Market Hall for the elderly and they're working on ideas to provide transport out to the station and back.

The Bank has been such a success that people who use it for the first time and realise what an asset it is, then often join as volunteers. The feedback from their customers is 100 percent good. Support from local groups who have seen their work and want to help still grows.

There's an impressive list of clubs and other bodies who support the Bank in a variety of ways. Like the Cleobury Mortimer Running Club, the Community Hub, Nineveh Ridge, both Cleobury Mortimer schools, plus the Kinlet Primary and CoCo, the Cleobury Compassionate Community that Katja Jones runs and the Hopton Wafers community. The list grows as the awareness of how much good the Bank is doing spreads.

There are four organisations that that give food and donations every week: Mawley Milk and the Robinson family; Saint Mary's Church; Platters and Plates and the Doddington Heights community, who make a collection every week that John and Pete bring down to the open evening

One lovely touch is that a family coming in will get a £5.00 voucher to spend at Londis, Ashley's Bakery or the Freezer Centre. The work of the Bank itself raises the money to pay for that.

There are food donation points around the town at the Co-op, the Library, the Severn Hospice shop, the Market Hall and Saint Mary's Church. You can see people look in at the Market Hall and just leave a modest gift of food.

If you feel you'd like to help all this good work - and having that in your CV would certainly give weight when applying for your own employment - there's a set of guidance rules written by someone with a lot of knowledge

and no waffle. Common sense clearly rules.

Debbie asked if we'd show photos of some of the volunteers who give time and more to help keep the Bank stocked with the everyday vitals that are needed:



David Robinson, milkman.



Peter Fletcher and John Thompson, down from Doddington.



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Kathie Rowbotham's Animal Magic Page

Kathie's tale of 'Three Little Promises'.

In September 1992, Mark and I saved a nine month old Shetland pony from 'the meat man'. We saw his fighting strength and named him Samson! He was just a baby and so wild. With patience, we eventually taught him to trust us and we made him three little promises: 1. We would never part with him. 2. One day he'd live in our garden. 3. We'd find him a girlfriend.

In 2012, we bought our home in Shropshire, including stables, especially for him. He loved humans, but hated horses, so finding a girlfriend was going to be a huge challenge. She had to be cheeky, smaller and younger than him. I found the perfect yearling Piebald Mini Shetland filly. We put them in their stables next to each other, then divided the paddock outside. Sam neighed to her and she answered back! She looked like a baby cow, so we decided to call her 'Little Miss Daisy'.



The following morning, they charged out into their respective sides of the paddock, but within minutes, they'd trashed my fencing and they started grooming each other! From that day on, they were inseparable! Daisy was wild, but I tied them up together and Sam happily demonstrated to her,

everything that we'd taught him as a baby. They were madly in love, so she copied everything he did. It wasn't long before all 3 of us could walk up the commonland together.

In January 2020, I knew Sam wasn't right. Our vet diagnosed either, a brain tumor (which was treatable) or liver failure. He took a blood test, but the results would take five days. I decided to camp out in Sam's stable with him 24/7.

On 27/1/2020 Sam collapsed in his stable, but I needed those test results. Mark, our sons and Daisy took turns to be with him. That night, I covered Sam with tons of blankets, then lay my head on his neck, I could feel his heart beating through my back and prayed, it would naturally stop beating. We fell asleep together, that was so precious to me!

The following morning, the vet phoned with the news that I dreaded. My beloved Samson passed away in my arms on 28/01/2020. Horses are so sensitive, so we let Daisy in, to be alone with him, she needed to know what had happened. She licked him all over. She was obviously as heartbroken as we were. From that day on, she too, hated other horses. However, she loves her humans, dogs and cats.

We're proud that we kept our 'Three Little Promises' to our Sam! He certainly repaid us big time, by leaving behind his greatest legacy, his protégé, our Little Miss Daisy. He taught her how to be the most amazing, affectionate, confident and cheeky little friend that anyone could ask for, who can often be found in our kitchen, with her head on the table watching TV! She's been my Fundraising wing lady for several years and she was my only bridesmaid at our Wonderful Wedding, at St John's Church, in Doddington, on 28 September 2023. Daisy's a reminder of our 27yrs with our Samson. She'll be 14yrs old this year, we've made her 'One Little Promise' - she'll remain with us forever!

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WOOD WORDS

Roll up, roll up, roll up..... Not quite yet, but it won't be long! Hopefully, the bowling green will reopen during the last week of March to start the 2025 season.... It all depends on the weather.

Greenkeeper Phil Pack "and his mate" Andy Pain have worked hard during the closed season to get the surface and surrounds in good shape, the club coming second in the Best Kept Green Award for 2024. It was only a downpour on the judgement day that took the club from a first place tie! – well done both. Joe Burnside has been busy replacing much of the decking around the green. And Pete Williams coordinated re-staining of seats, benches and sheds.

Plans are in hand for the publication of new league fixtures, dates for taster sessions and other major events including Captain's Day and President's Day – all to be announced on the updated club website – cleoburybowls.org.uk

Good news for members, subscriptions for next season remain unchanged (see website)

Alas, sad news in the recent passing of long-standing stalwart club member Norman Brookes. Norman served many, many years as club treasurer and was ever present in the successful Cleobury A teams .

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Festival Schedule:

Wednesday, 12th March: Experience the magic of The Fureys, one of Ireland's most revered folk bands. Retiring in May 2026, this is your last time to catch them in the beautiful Regal, Tenbury Wells. <https://bit.ly/3upW189>

Thursday, 13th March:

Join us for an evening with BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award Winner Maddie Morris. Folk songs have always told stories, but how Maddie makes her mark is by turning this storytelling into action. Described by Jim Moray as "leading the next generation of socially conscious songwriters", she uses her work to highlight inequality, challenge viewpoints and provide an inclusive space for shared experiences. This is a night not to be missed. <https://bit.ly/4f3O8Y1>

Friday, 14th March:

Enjoy a double bill featuring the dynamic duos The 4 of Us and Smith & Brewer, who will bring their blend of melodies and harmonies to the Regal stage. <https://bit.ly/4eX55mh>

Saturday, 15th March (Afternoon):

Spend an afternoon with Grey Wolf, sharing their love of traditional music from America and the British Isles and showcasing the best of local talent from the Marches region. This is a 'pay what you can' event, Great music at a price you choose: Tickets £12.50/£7.50 /£5 /£0 (no questions asked) <https://bit.ly/4euZHqn>

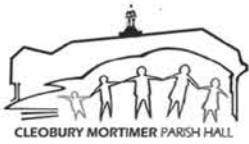
Saturday, 15th March (Evening):

Closing the festival, folk-rock favourites Police Dog Hogan will deliver their high-energy performance that fans have grown to love. <https://bit.ly/3MZ6HQP>

The Regal Folk Festival aims to celebrate the rich musical traditions of folk and its modern interpretations, creating a vibrant atmosphere for music lovers of all ages. Tickets are now available for purchase through the provided links.



This impressive American Peterbilt truck lives in Purslow's Yard, a proud possession of Mark, who converted it from the six wheeled form in which it arrived on these shores to a modest four wheeler. It's a mighty vehicle, with a 12 litre engine that helped it tow two trailers in its everyday job of delivering parts in the California and West Coast area. Mark sold his dragster to finance this slower but still impressive monster. A Big Boy's Toy with a vengeance.



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1 FEBRUARY



8 FEBRUARY



22 FEBRUARY



1 MARCH



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Letter from Westminster

Stuart Anderson MP

As I write to you, I am recovering from further surgery to have another toe amputated following complications after my original operation to have my foot reconstructed. While it is frustrating to be out of action for longer, it shows that recovery can take time and isn't always straightforward. Although the gunshot wound I sustained in the Army was thirty years ago, it is complex with a mix of bone fragment and shrapnel lodged in my foot – making it increasingly difficult to walk. I am grateful to my family and fellow residents in South Shropshire for their support. I continue to write to Ministers, ask questions and deal with constituency issues as I recover, so please get in touch if I can be of any help to you.

In between these procedures my advice surgeries returned to Bridgnorth. While there, I met Christians Against Poverty. They are just one example of the incredible social impact being made by local faith communities. Last week, I also met with education leaders from across South Shropshire. This included the Community College in Bishop's Castle and AmazingCPD in Broseley, which offers training for local teachers to develop new skills. I want to support education in South Shropshire so that every child gets the education and support they deserve.

I recently responded to the Local Government Finance Settlement. While the headline figure shows an increase of £1.2 million increase in assessment funding for Shropshire Council, compensation for the hike in employer's National Insurance Contributions at £2.5 million more than wipes this increase out. The rural services delivery grant has also not been continued despite repeated calls I had made, resulting in a deficit of around £10 million. Most of the increase also relies on a full 5% increase in council tax, contradicting the government's pledge not to raise taxes on working people.

I am concerned that Lloyds Bank plans to close its branches in Ludlow and Bridgnorth in May in another major blow for our high streets. This change affects local charities, churches, and communities who rely on their services. At both branches, two thirds of customers are aged 55 or above. Lloyds' alternative for Ludlow customers is

almost 23 miles away in Hereford, while Bridgnorth residents have been signposted 11 miles away to the Tettenhall branch in Wolverhampton. As one of the largest inland counties in England, Shropshire deserves better access to in person banking service than this. I have implored the Bank's CEO to reconsider this decision and called on the Chancellor to safeguard access to cash in rural areas.

Constituents have also contacted me with concerns about scams and other fraudulent activities they should not have to put up with including scam texts, phone calls, and fake advertising. These crimes can happen to anyone at any time. Everyone must be equipped with the skills and knowledge to report scams. My Scam Awareness and Support Hub on my website aims to safeguard fellow residents from these pernicious activities. I have also called on Ministers to launch a strategy to improve awareness and increase the confidence to report any incidents so they can be quickly investigated and acted on.

Our public services are some of the most important elements in our communities that we depend on. From transport links that enable us to see loved ones and travel to work to the emergency services that are there for us we need it most, I want to deliver the funding and support to enhance public services across South Shropshire. The Chancellor must seize the opportunity presented by the Spring Statement on 26th March to positively reset relations with rural communities, delivering investment that will support our residents and opportunities and unlock the skills and opportunities to unleash economic growth. A failure to do this would be catastrophic. I am calling on residents across South Shropshire to let me know what the Chancellor should prioritise. This survey is available on my website.

Due to Stuart's recent foot operation his advice surgeries have been placed on hold while he recovers. We hope the surgeries will resume later in the month. As ever, please contact the constituency office by email at stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk

*Stuart Anderson MP
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
01584 872187 stuart.anderson.mp@parliament.uk*



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Let's Beat the Scammers

Scamming is a huge crime in our world and this month we look behind the scenes

The fraud we now call 'Scamming' is being largely controlled by what the Police call "OCG" or Organised Criminal Gangs. These gangs have a sophisticated hierarchy with someone at the top, a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and a board like structure of specialists in Admin, Technology, Human Resources and Finance. Admin does the sales and marketing i.e. Finding potential victims who might be vulnerable to a fraud. Head of Technology is the brain behind the use of ever more sophisticated computing to lure us into a false sense of security. Human Resources recruits the worker bees at the bottom of the chain that make the phone calls, send out the emails and use carefully constructed scripts to lure victims deep into the fraud. These people at the bottom of the food chain are very dispensable and often under pressure to achieve certain targets at the risk of possible physical harm if non-compliant. Authorities have established many of these people may be in this country illegally. Finance is the function that ensures any money from victims usually ends up in offshore accounts in countries where the environment ensures complete silence and anonymity.

These businesses can be operated and controlled from anywhere in the world. What are the authorities doing about it? Across the world, law enforcement works behind the scenes to gather intelligence, collate & organise the data to build a picture of the bigger organisation. Success is measured in getting all the bits of the jig saw together and identifying the bigger picture. Then serious criminals are eventually taken off the streets. When we report an incident of scamming, no matter how small it might seem to us, it is fed into the intelligence.

gathering process as a piece of the jig saw,

which may not fit into the right place immediately. But over time, getting the last few pieces in place, makes it all worthwhile.

But let us not forget you, the individual whose life could be turned right upside down by a fraud.

You have been violated, you are embarrassed, ashamed possibly even to admit to you closest family or friends and worst of all getting any money.

back is a challenge that could in the worst case leave you almost penniless seeing all your life savings gone.

There are two recent scams that have emerged in the last month you should be aware of.

DIGITAL PHONE LINE UPGRADE

Criminals are posing as BT staff and phoning residents to ask them for their personal and payment details in order to upgrade their phone lines to the digital service. If you refuse to cooperate then they threaten to cut off your landline.

They are also using emails with similar messages. As with other frauds, the criminal will also add pressure by claiming the deadline is imminent, even though the deadline set up by BT is January 2027.

GWR "UK ANNUAL PASS"

This potential fraud has been circulating for a while now, mainly on Facebook.

The tempting offer is a "£3 Great Western Railway UK Annual Pass" which could give you unlimited travel around the country. The web site may look like an official GWR website, it has been confirmed that no such offer is available and should be ignored.

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Stepping Out

Who's Walking, When and Where

ROCK PATHFINDERS

Thursday 6th:
Starting at 10.00am
Clent Hills,
Nimmings Wood,

National Trust Car Park, off Hagley Wood Lane. B62 0NL

Thursday 20th: Starting at 10.00am. Rock Village Hall, Porchbrook Road, Rock DY14 9SD

THE FOOTPATH ASSOCIATION

It was a small turnout for our February, monthly Sunday Walk, possibly because of the cold, wet weather.

It was our Mawley Hall Tour Walk, incorporating the sights of the beautiful snowdrops, hence the name – 'The Snowdrop Walk.' Our walk leader varied the route slightly to avoid the mud and it was good to see the beautiful white flowers amongst the trees and on the edges of the paths as we walked through Mawley grounds. The weir at Mawley has been restored to its majesty and we are again able to stand on the footbridge to watch the water rush beneath us. A lovely walk!

Our next Sunday Walk will be on March 2nd and as usual, we will meet the first Sunday of every month. We normally meet at 10.00 am outside St Mary's church. Please join us if you can.

This wonderful wet weather is causing many problems, one of them being the erosion along the river path from Newbridge to Papermills Cottages. If you walk this way, please take care. CMFA has put up warning notices and has redirected the path as far as the available land will allow.

Our work parties/clearances will commence in March, weather permitting. If you encounter any issues along the footpaths, please let us know.

Joy Wilkinson

CLEOBURY WALKING FOR HEALTH PROGRAMME 2025

January 08 & 22	July 9 & 23
February 12 & 26	August 13 & 27
March 12 & 26	September 10 & 24
April 13 & 27	October 08 & 22
May 14* & 28	November 12 & 26
June 11 & 25	December 10 only

All walks meet for 10am start from Market Hall, Church Street except walks shown below. Refreshments in Market Hall provided by CoCo. (£3:00 Cake + Drink & 1 refill).

* **Awayday Walks.** Meet in good time for 10am start at **Sports Centre Car Park. Love Lane.** Transport available. Venue may be substituted if weather is inclement. Refreshments provided by local cafés at commercial rate.

Blackstone Car Park. Bewdley. (May 14). Free Parking. Refreshments at Museum mid walk. .

Wyre Forest Visitor Centre (June 11). Parking charge.(£4). Refreshments at Café or bring own.

Arley River Bridge. (July 09). Parking may be charged. Refreshments at Arboretum.

Kinlet Village Hall. (Aug 13). Parking (Donation). Refreshments at The Kabin

Cleobury Golf Club. (Sept 10). Free Parking. Refreshments in Club House.

Turn up in good time with suitable clothing and sturdy footwear. Please remember that you are responsible for your own safety when walking.

Further information from Alan Kimber 01299 271754 or ajkimber@hotmail.com



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A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU.



March in the Wyre Forest

Linda Iles

This month I'll be doing quite a bit of counting. In early March we'll still be counting clumps of frogspawn in the many pools of the forest. It's a survey that's been going on for over 40 years and the results cast light on the status of the common frog in our area over that time, as each female produces a single clump of spawn. Although we look for spawning to start in early spring, the timing is affected by temperature and a cold snap will cause activity to stop and start again. Shallow water warms up more quickly than deep water, which explains the rather desperate appearance of clumps in shallow ruts and ditches. What if the weather is too dry?



The frogs will be forced to spawn in whatever water is available (as amphibians they must lay their eggs and the tadpoles must develop in water) but that shallow rut may dry out before

the early stages of the frog's lifecycle are complete. The flora and fauna in a water body must also contribute to its attractiveness as a breeding place, but not in a way that is easy to understand. I assume frogs must be able to 'taste' these differences in the water.

Without human interference a pond will evolve from a fairly sterile hollow through stages of colonisation by plants and animals, eventually silting up and drying out as larger shrubs and trees establish themselves. One small pond that I have visited annually since 2023 has only just been colonised by water plants, and I have no idea how frog tadpoles (up to 65 clumps of them) have managed to survive in it before now. Or maybe they didn't! I've heard it said that frogs always return to breed in the place where they were spawned, but I've also read that they can migrate one or two kilometres from a pond and we know that new ponds carefully created within that radius can become new breeding areas. Making a wildlife pond is always a valuable addition to your garden, and there are many books and articles available to help you. If you are interested in joining in with the frogspawn survey there's still time: email info@wyreclt.org.uk or ring 01299 488083.

I'll also be counting something larger this month, as 8th and 15th are the dates of the annual deer census. The results in recent years show a steady increase in numbers, with more and more Muntjac and Roe Deer joining our more common Fallow Deer. Dawn on those two Saturdays will see me walking quietly through Seckley Wood, binoculars at the ready and clipboard in hand. In spite of trials with drones in 2023 and 2024 the human version of the census will be needed for many years to come.

Linda Iles

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE READING GROUP

A clash of Cleobury clubs meant we were a snug group on 17th February, exchanging views on 'The Passenger' by Ulrich Alexander Boschwitz. After listening to reviews submitted by the absentees, we chatted about the story. An unusual book, following Otto, a Jewish business man who after fleeing his apartment attempts to leave Germany in 1938. He ends up on a seemingly endless train journey that revealed how German society was changing. Very atmospheric, it conveyed the fear, panic and confusion of the time. Although some felt he could have been more positive it made one wonder how you would cope in a similar situation. It showed how dictatorships rule through fear. Not a book enjoyed but one we will remember especially as we were reading it during the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. This month we will read 'Little Egypt' by Lesley Glaister. Set in Egypt and northern England and covering many years it features a set of twins, seems to be a theme at present. We meet again on March 17th.

Deana Kimber, 01299 271754

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT

You may recognise this as a Beatles song, but I found it heading a report from RoSPA, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, about the effect of night work.

It's far too long for these busy pages, but some extracts should make those working nights aware of the threat to their health. In 2017 19 percent of the national work force worked nights; in 2022 that figure had risen to 27 percent.

"Previous research demonstrates strong links between night work and cardiovascular, gastro-intestinal and metabolic diseases such as diabetes," University of Greenwich senior lecturer and

co-author Dr Ruth Ballardie reported. "There are less strong links around some forms of cancer, but the link with cancer is dose dependent, so the more night work you do the higher the risk."

But despite strong evidence of the negative effects of working at night, the Anglia Ruskin and Greenwich Universities study found little evidence that employers are putting measures in place to protect workers from the risks.

With the formation of a local Cancer Support Group, this sort of information should be passed on.

JR

DEANA KIMBER

It must have been a shock to the Reading Group members at their February meeting when Deana Kimber announced that she felt it time she stepped down from the chair and let fresh blood lead the way next year. She gave good notice, in a manner typical of her considered thinking, and will hand over at the end of 2025.

I have been a member of the group for many years and can state quite honestly that Deana has been by far the best chair we have had. Gentle in manner, always reminding members of the next meeting date, a quiet listener to the variety of opinions we expressed and able to cover all views when she summarised in her report for the Clarion. And that arrived next morning, without fail, expressing what had been said in a polite and grammatical way.

The group has not always been led in the quiet but effective way Deana has done the job. I'm not going to mention any other names, because all the chairs I've known have been ladies. I'll plead a fading memory rather than give a name and possibly offend. Like the chairman (chairlady?) who would listen but seldom offer an opinion of that month's book. It was years later that I learned this lady did

not like novels, refused to read one even to assess if the opinions were based upon basic knowledge of the work. At first I assumed she was listening and never seeking to argue, when in fact she was taking little or no notice.

It was in that distant period, when the library was based in what had been the Police station and the cell was used as a storage facility. Today it's a private residence, surely much more comfortable after Stuart Mumford had worked his magic with the place.

Another elderly lady had never grasped the concept of reading the book and then offering an opinion of the work. She would faithfully spend up to ten minutes retelling the tale we had all read, not always with notable accuracy, then sitting down. At first I wondered what was going on, being a newcomer to the town and not sure if this was a local Shropshire habit and not the totally irrelevant meandering of an ancient. After some months it was explained that this lady had been doing her act for years. She eventually moved on to somewhere in Cheshire to treat them to her very individual way of reading. It was at that time that I dropped out of the Group and spent more time writing as I built up whatever I dare to call a reputation.

Some years later the Kimbers moved into Cleobury and joined the young Footpath Association and the Cleobury Players, both of them very active and Deana emerging as the new chair of the Reading Group. She had a ready smile and a gentle way of speaking that attracted people to the monthly meetings in the library, which was moved up to the new Cleobury Country Centre. The group grew at such a rate that there was talk of a second one being formed to cater for the demand. Deana smiled and just got on with doing her job well, in the Kimber fashion.



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Cleobury Mortimer Benefice
Church services throughout the Benefice in March 2025

St Mary's Cleobury Mortimer
Sunday 2nd March: 10.00am Family Eucharist
Sunday 9th March: 8.30am Said Eucharist
10.00am Parish Eucharist
Sunday 16th March: 10.00am Parish Eucharist
Sunday 23rd March: 10.00am Parish Eucharist
Sunday 30th March: 10.00am Benefice Service celebrating Mothering Sunday

Every Wednesday: 10.00am Eucharist
Every Thursday: 10.00am – 11.30am: Drop in at St Mary's. Drop in for a free cup of tea or coffee.

St Michael and All Angels', Hopton Wafers
Sunday 2nd March: 9.30am Eucharist
Sunday 16th March: 9.30am Eucharist

St John the Baptist, Doddington
Sunday 2nd March: 11.00am Eucharist
Sunday 16th March: 3.00pm Evening Prayer

All Saints', Neen Sollars
Sunday 2nd March: 11.00am Village Worship
Sunday 9th March: 11.00am Village Worship
Sunday 16th March: 11.00am Village Worship
Sunday 23rd March: 11.00am Village Eucharist

St George's, Milson
Sunday 2nd March: 6.00pm Evensong
Sunday 16th March: 11.00am Parish Eucharist

St Mary's, Neen Savage
Sunday 2nd March: 6.00pm - Evening Prayer (BCP)
Sunday 16th March: 9.00am – Parish Eucharist (BCP)

St John the Baptist, Kinlet
Sunday 9th March: 11.15am – Parish Eucharist (BCP)
Sunday 23rd March: 6.00pm- Evening Prayer (BCP)

Leadership Team:
Rector: Reverend Prebendary Ashley Buck: 07477 165602
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Clarion Clippings the Local News

A NEW FUTURE FORGED

The 175 year old building of St John's in Doddington is being brought firmly into the 21st century. The builders are bringing about the careful restoration of the fabric while new facilities like a toilet, servery and heritage displays are created. We held our first hard hat visit this month for people to get a sneak preview of progress. The work is due to complete by the beginning of April and we look forward to welcoming people back.

known. Using traditional techniques, Darren has been able to fire weld different grades of iron as the original smith would have done over 1000 years ago.

Some of this amazing history has inspired our songwriter in residence Sid Peacock. He has now written a series of musical works which will be performed at St Laurence's in Ludlow on May 9th. It will be an evening to remember as local musicians, choirs and school children come together to celebrate the unique heritage of the Clee hills. Get this date in your calendars now.

this, the Beacon on the Hill team would love to hear from you. Get in touch with Jim or Celia stjohnsdoddington@gmail.com

HAVE YOU BEEN

AFFECTED BY CANCER?
Join us for cake and conversation.

Wednesday March 26th

2.00 to 3.00pm

**Cleobury Community Hub,
Lower Street,
Cleobury DY14 8BN**

Ruth Downes

downesr22@outlook.com



As part of the development of the new displays, local blacksmith Darren Broome has created a replica of the ancient spearhead found in the 1920s on Titterstone Clee. At the time a photograph was taken but its whereabouts are not now

Further details will come in future issues or check the website www.stjohnsdoddington.org for updates.

The Clee hills have such a rich community heritage, if you want to get involved in celebrating

**FLICKS IN THE
STICKS - 15 March
7.00 for 7.30
SUNSHINE ON LEITH**

Based on the sensational stage hit of the same name, featuring music by pop-folk band The Proclaimers, this film follows the stories of Davy and Ally, who have to re-learn how to live life in Edinburgh after coming home from serving in Afghanistan. Both struggle to learn to live a life outside the army and to deal with the everyday struggles of family, jobs and relationship

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Clarion Clippings - The Local News

THE BREAKFAST CLUB

On February 11th, 22 members of the St Mary's Breakfast Club met to hear a talk on Churches and Nature by Rosemary Winnall, MBE. Rosemary has been an ecologist and teacher throughout her whole working life, and is still actively involved post-retirement.

Today she concentrated on what can be learnt from the study of churches and churchyards.

Frequently churchyards are now managed in such a way as to create diverse habitats in which many forms of wildlife can flourish. Gone are the expectations of close-mown grass; modern churchyards often boast meadow areas, with cutting kept to a minimum, with plants not just allowed to grow, but also to flower and set seed. A 'wild life' section can provide a welcome refuge for hedgehogs, and of course yew trees have long been associated with churchyards. The oldest yew tree in Wales thrives at Llangernyw, and is thought to be about 4,000

years old.

Examining the church's structure can reveal something of local geology, and church interiors, with their rich and varied decoration, can display many references to animals and insects. Carvings and stained glass windows are well worth studying in detail for such images.

Rosemary's illustrations – many, varied, and well-presented - provided compelling evidence for the enthusiasm and extent of her research. She has already studied several hundred churches and, more impressively, has compiled records for every one of these.

The Club's next meeting will be on 11th March (speaker TBA). Anyone wishing to attend should contact Angela Drennan (270636).

Mark Baldwin

A LESSON LEARNED

We never stop learning through life, even though some regard the process as only exercised in school. Looking back to the

distant 1960s, I remember a firm awakening to the fact that I didn't know it all.

I had just joined Goodacre Carpets of Kendal as a rep, one of the younger men recruited to replace those recently retired. I was at Harrogate for the well established Carpet Fair and was talking to Jos Walker, an old hand who could look back to the beginning of this northern event. He was proudly showing off two new designs in the excellent quality 'Royal Cumberland' range and called out to a customer to show him what was new.

"Can't stop, I've got an appointment, I'll catch you later," explained the customer and hurried on his way. Later in the day, Jos spotted the man walking out and called to him. The man turned, lifted two fingers in a rude response and walked out.

"What did you do?" I asked of this veteran. "Sent him two rolls and he kept them and paid for them!" A lesson learned. JR

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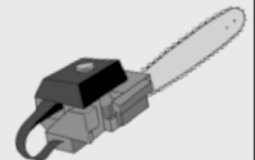
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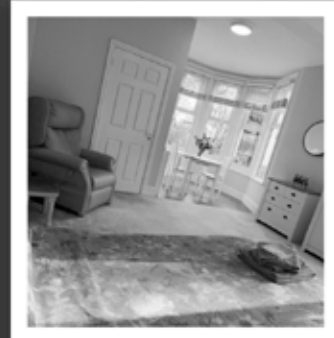
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A TIME FULL OF SMILES - FROM PAMPER DAYS TO LITTLE VISITORS



This month has been packed with plenty of activities to keep us all entertained and active.

Our incredible Activity Coordinators have worked hard to make sure each day is filled with fun and enjoyment. From bingo and quizzes to exciting new cognitive games, there's been plenty to keep everyone entertained.

Our monthly coffee morning was extra special this February, as we celebrated Valentine's Day with love in the air and treats to share. Thank you to everyone who joined us – your presence made it such a memorable event. Don't forget, our next coffee morning is on Friday, March 14, 2025 - we hope to see you there!

The pamper days have been a real treat, with our lovely ladies enjoying hair and nail sessions that left them feeling relaxed and fabulous.

We've also been keeping active with our weekly sessions with George's Balls, bringing plenty of energy and fun for all to enjoy. And, of course, we loved the visit from the little ones at Abberley Pre-School - their laughter and stories brightened up our home, and we can't wait to see them again!

What a wonderful month we've had! Here's to even more special moments and cherished memories in the weeks ahead.



Lots of happy moments



A visit from Keene and her beautiful baby boy Levi



Special visitors on our coffee morning



George's Balls Weekly Sessions



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With the post Christmas market now in full swing, the property market has seen increased levels of activity throughout January, with 2025 off to a strong start! We are seeing many buyers still hoping to complete before the end of March the benefit from the stamp duty relief, however with solicitors becoming busier with increased sales numbers, timescales then on average tend to slow and this date could be in jeopardy for many parties. As always it is essential to fully research the firms you are considering engaging with and carefully reading other customers reviews to ensure that your moving journey is as smooth as possible.

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Simon Morton In The Garden

Dragging Me Outdoors, One Paw at a Time

There are many benefits to owning a dog. Unconditional love. Companionship. An innate ability to have a “funny-five-minutes” at the worst possible time. But one of the less-talked-about perks is the way they forcibly drag you out of the house when you’d rather be cocooned inside with a cup of tea, a good book, and the heating on full blast.

Maggie, my now 18-month-old Labrador, is a prime example. She still acts like an idiotic puppy, charging through life with the grace of a wrecking ball, but I can’t help but love her. And she is, without a doubt, the reason I find myself outdoors at ungodly hours, even when every fibre of my being is screaming for me to stay in bed.

And you know what? It turns out that’s no bad thing.

The Beauty of a Frosty Morning

If it weren’t for Maggie’s relentless enthusiasm for early-morning rampages, I’d probably miss half the frosts that turn the garden into a scene from *Frozen*. There’s something magical about stepping outside to see the lawn transformed into a glittering white carpet, the greenhouse delicately dusted with ice, and the few remaining leaves on the trees suspended mid-crisp.

These moments of quiet(ish) contemplation are also an excellent opportunity to assess which plants are giving up the ghost and which are quietly soldiering on. The frosted lavender and the blackened remains of a once-proud dahlia act as reminders that gardening is never static. And as I crunch across the grass, swearing creatively about my lack of gloves, I make a mental note about moving tender plants before the next hard frost finishes it off entirely.

Bulbs at Work

Spring may still feel like some distant promised land, but a brisk walk with a dog

who believes every leaf is a mortal enemy has a way of drawing attention to the small changes happening underfoot. The snowdrops, for instance, are already in proud bloom, while the daffodil and tulip bulbs—planted with such optimism months ago—are starting to poke through the soil. Without Maggie stopping every ten paces to sniff a clump of earth with great reverence, I might not have noticed them at all.

A To-Do List for the Patient Gardener

Winter gardening is a waiting game. There’s not a huge amount you can do, especially if you value the feeling in your fingers. But being outside, whether voluntarily or due to a nagging mutt, means you start spotting jobs that will need tackling sooner rather than later. The greenhouse needs a good clean. The compost heap could do with a turning. The potting shed door still squeaks like it belongs in a horror film. In fact, all the doors need a splash of oil.

Maggie, of course, is of no practical help with any of these tasks. If anything, she creates more work - she’s drawn to the soggiest parts of the lawn and takes great pleasure in turning them into a mud bath. Oh, and then rolling around in it.

So, while I might grumble when she nudges me out of the house at dawn, I have to admit: Maggie is, unintentionally, the latest in a proud line of canine gardening assistants, from the majestic Katy to the kind lumbering Toby. Like her predecessors, she keeps me outside, forces me to look at what’s happening in the garden, and reminds me - constantly - that there’s always something to be done.

Even if that something is figuring out how to factor a mud bath into my gardening scheme..

Simon Morton



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Mrs Grumpy

Dear Lloyds Bank. Thank you for your timely advice that you will be shutting every branch within a 20 mile radius (at least) of Cleobury during this year. I must say that this is a disappointment but I am reassured by the good news that I will still be able to access your services at my local Post Office or Banking Hub. There is, however, a small problem in that I seem to have mislaid both of these. This being the case, I would be grateful if you could point me to where these are. P.S. It's no good looking at the Post office website as it still shows Cleobury Post Office as existing (it doesn't). I would be grateful for your thoughts.

Talking of Royal Mail, which I wasn't, I see that they are refusing to deliver to a village in Devon due to potholes in the approach road and have deemed it too dangerous for their staff. This has puzzled the inhabitants who say they have no problems using that route to access their homes. The situation was made worse by the fact that residents weren't told of the decision for over a month. Perhaps they were advised by letter...The photo of the lane shows there are 'irregularities' but it doesn't look any worse than the Catherton Road and the result of this decision means that residents now have to collect their mail from the sorting office, a 14 mile round trip. I hope that no-one from local RM management gets ideas from this approach as they are planning to reduce the days on which second class mail is delivered anyway and virtually no deliveries in Shropshire would be safe. Whatever happened to 'The mail must get through?'

Still, good news for criminals threatened with extradition to the UK. Courts in Germany and the Netherlands have started rejecting extradition requests as prison conditions in the UK are deemed so poor. The backlog of repair work is so large that some prisons are even getting inmates to do the work. I can see that working well and can just imagine the conversation: 'OK inmate 34442, are you sure you have fixed that hole in the wall from the last breakout?'. Still, there might be one positive result if all those appealing at great

length against deportation see this, they may do a swift U turn and start demanding immediate removal.

I hope those of you with electric cars and air source heating are getting on well with them. You can be assured that your government has detailed plans to ensure a reliable supply of electricity given there will be a substantial increase in demand. This includes the building of new nuclear power stations although I am not sure how well that is going. One application to install a new plant on Anglesey was refused because of 'the effect it might have on the Welsh language'. Me neither, but the Japanese contractor pulled out as a result. On the other side of the country EDF, the French company badly bitten by the shambles that is Hinkley Point, has clearly learned from that experience of shouldering all the upfront costs and are demanding £8 billion in advance even to consider proceeding with the planned Sizewell C plant in Suffolk. This is a lot of money, especially as the French government are budgeting less than £1 billion to assist EDF in providing the next six plants in France.... Ed Milliband, I think they saw you coming.

Are you English Heritage members?. Have you ever thought about leaving?. The DL, beset by reducing mobility has decided to terminate her membership which is easier said than done. Their website provides a telephone number which doesn't get answered so she followed their guidance and asked their Chatbot. Which told her to ring the same telephone number for a chat to see if they could persuade her not to leave after all. She did and...no-one answered. She then spent a fun 30 minutes asking the Chatbot various questions which all led back to the same number which ... no-one answered. She is determined to carry on but says it reminds her of the Eagles hit, Hotel California- 'you can enter but you can never leave'. If she does eventually get through, I don't fancy their chances of persuading her to stay...

Ariadne J Grumpy

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Clee Hill Community Wildlife Group Curlew and Lapwing survey

Curlews usually start returning in late February, and continue to arrive throughout March. Have you heard your first of the year yet?

If so, please tell us.

Our survey aims to find out how many breeding pairs there are, and where. We need to know that before we can try and help them. If you can recognise Lapwing and Curlew (and preferably their calls), you can make an important contribution. If possible, we would also like you to record Kestrel and Cuckoo, but that's an optional extra.

The area is centred on the open hill land of Titterstone Clee and Clee Hill and Catherton Commons, extending approximately as far as Knowlegate and Knowbury to the south, Bitterley to the west, Cleedownton and Bromdon to the north, and Doddington to the east. The bird survey has been carried out every year since 2012, and we are doing it again this year.

If you regret the disappearance of Curlew and Lapwing from the local countryside, and want to do something to help stop it, we would like your help, please. New helpers will be very welcome.

In 2024, we had the worst result since we started in 2012 – the population has halved, to six pairs. Are there more? Where are they?

The survey is easy to do, and only involves three 3-hour visits between the beginning of April and mid-June. Simple instructions and a map to record your observations are provided, and there will be an outdoor practical training session if you want to come.

Whether you join in or not, please let us know if you see Curlew, Lapwing or Kestrel anywhere in the area.

You can read about the Shropshire Ornithological Society (SOS) Save our Curlews campaign on the SOS website www.shropshirebirds.com/save-our-curlews/.

We still need to monitor the local Curlew population, and check all the pairs we do find, to see if they produce young, and if any fledge, so if you can do so, please help.

A Bird Group meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 17 March, at the Recreation Rooms, 22A, Clee Hill High Street, to present the results of our work in previous years, and plans for 2025. All welcome!!!

For more information, please see the Clee Hill pages on the Community Wildlife Groups website <https://www.shropscwgs.org.uk/clee-hill-wildlife-group/>

You can find more information about how to report a Curlew, Lapwing or Kestrel, and arrangements for the public meeting on 17 March, on our

website www.shropscwgs.org.uk or contact Chris Bargman 01299 270514, email: chcwg@shropscwgs.org.uk



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- FRI 2 MAY > SENOR TIGRE – MEXICAN
- FRI 6 JUN > FIRE COOKING & PIZZA GIRLS
- FRI 4 JUL > TBC
- FRI 1 AUG > BEEFY BOYS
- FRI 5 SEP > NANNY BROWNS - JAMAICAN
- FRI 3 OCT > GERMAN THEMED
- FRI 14 NOV > PIE ONEER PIES

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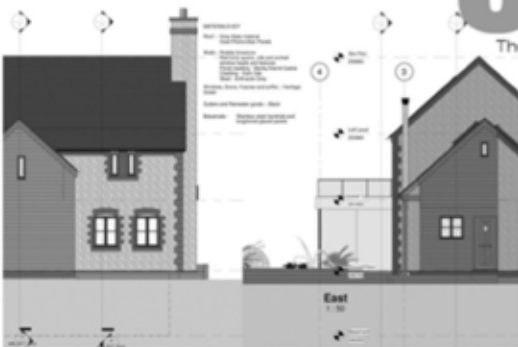
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THE MARCH SOCIAL CALENDAR

- Sun 2nd 10.00 CMFA Country Walk starts from the Market Hall, Church Street
- Tue 4th 2.00 Carer Support Group meets at St Mary's Place, Community Centre, Love Lane
- Wed 5th 6.00 Late Night at the Food Bank in the Market Hall, Church Street PAGE 51
7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall
- Thu 6th WASTE BINS EMPTIED
10.00 CMFA Daffodil Walk, start from Market Hall
- Tue 11th 7.30am The Brteakfast Club meet at the Golf Club. Speaker to be confirmed.. PAGE 29
- Wed 12th 10.00 Walking for Health step out from the Market Hall, Church Street
10.00 CoCo Coffee Morning, Market Hall, Church Street
7.00 British Legion meet at the Sports and Social Club, Love Lane
- Thu 13th WASTE BINS EMPTIED
- Fri 14th 7.00 Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall
- Mon 17th 7.30 The Reading Group meet in the Library to review 'Little Egypt' by Leslie Glaister PAGE 23
7.30 Cvlee Hill Wildlife Group meet at Recreation Room, 22 High Street, Clee Hill. PAGE 47
- Wed 19th 7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall
- Thu 20th WASTE BINS EMPTIED
- Fri 21st 7.30 Quiz Night at Cleobury's Parish Hall. PAGE 5
- Sat 22nd 10.00 Spring Village Market, Farlow and Oretton Village Hall PAGE 5
- Wed 26th 10.00 Walking for Health step out again from the Market Hall, Church Street.
10.00 CoCo Coffee Morning, Market Hall, Church Street.
7.00 Spring Show at Clows Top Victory Hall with speaker PAGE 5
- Thu 27th WASTE BINS EMPTIED
- Fri 28th 8.00 Bingo Night at Doddington Village Hall
- Mon 31st 7.00 Friends of Saint Mary's AGM, in the church. PAGE 5
7.30 The Nearly Dead Poets Society gather at the Library to speak and listen.

AND LOOKING FORWARD TO APRIL:

Wed 2nd 7.30 Whist Drive at Doddington Village Hall.

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: St Mary's Church coffee and chat session

7.30: Tina Hobin's Birth Dance ad good health club, Market Hall.

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CLEOBURY CO CO	Katja Jones	07966 080111	Tues & Thurs at Medical Centre
CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE		01299 272300	Love Lane, 9 - 5 Mon to Fri.
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CLEOBURY MORTIMER SCOUTS	Lowri Hughes		cleoburybeavers@gmail.com
CLEOBURY CARERS	Michelle	01743 341995	carerssupport@shropshire.gov.uk
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MEDICAL CENTRE		01299 270209	Out of surgery hours, call 111
NEWLIFE CHURCH	Pastor E Stirrup	01562 630595	Sunday services at 10.30
RSPCA		0300 1234 999	
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Samaritans		116 123	
SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL		0345 678 9000	
ST ELIZABETH'S R.C CHURCH		01299 270318	Sunday Mass at 9.00am
St MARY'S YOUTH PROJECT	Mark Greaves	07828 116810	mark.stmarys@live.co.uk
THE MEN'S SHED	Pete Blackburn	07776 243 584	petblack@me.com
THE PHARMACY		01299 270219	Half day Sat. Delivers prescriptions
TOWN COUNCIL (Clerk)	Dorothy McBride	01299 271154	
VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME	Mandy Smith	01299 666119	
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Councillor Surgery

Cllr Abbatiello, Cllr James and the Clerk attended the monthly Councillor Surgery held in the Market Hall, alongside the Farmers Market, on Saturday 15th February. Items raised included highway maintenance and future housing development. 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 15th March 2025.

Annual Town Meeting

This year's Annual Town Meeting will be held at the Market Hall on Wednesday 12th March 2025 from 6.30pm – 8pm. Representatives from community groups and organisations will be present at this public meeting including youth services, Flourish and Nourish, Cleobury Mortimer WI, local Police, Compassionate Communities and representatives from the Town Council. This is an opportunity to find out more about what is going on in our local community. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be provided.

Parish and County Elections

On 1st May it will be Election Day for parish and town councillor roles as well as unitary councillors in Shropshire. We would encourage those who are eligible to vote to make sure they are on the Electoral Register so that they have the opportunity to vote.

Please also consider standing as a councillor for Cleobury Mortimer. Cleobury Mortimer councillors represent the whole parish of Cleobury Mortimer – the town and the rural areas as far and wide as from Ditton Mill to Lem Hill. If you are interested in volunteering at a local government level to help deliver services and improve the quality of life of residents and visitors please do consider this opportunity. Nomination papers will soon be available if you wish to put yourself forward for election. You can find more information on the elections through Shropshire Council or www.gov.uk or for more specific information about the work of Cleobury Mortimer Town Council, please contact us directly.

Fly Tipping and Littering

Fly Tipping is the illegal disposal of household, industrial, commercial, or other controlled waste and is a crime that carries penalties. You can report fly tipping to Shropshire Council or via Fix My Street. This will ensure that each incident is logged, acknowledged, and issued with a reference number. Shropshire Council works with West Mercia Police and government bodies such as the Environment Agency to tackle fly tipping. Residents can dispose of most waste through their fortnightly household waste collection service. If you have an excess amount this can be taken to a Household Recycling Centre or arrange for an authorised person to collect the waste to ensure that it is disposed of correctly.

Locally, small amounts of litter makes our community look untidy and we encourage everyone to use the bins around town. We would like to thank the volunteers who regularly litter pick, showing care for our community and the environment. It is appreciated - thank you!

Dates for your Diary

Next Council Meeting – Monday 3rd March 2025 at 7pm, at the Cleobury Country Centre.

Councillor Surgery – Saturday 15th March 2025, from 10am – 12noon, at the Market Hall.

Election Day – Thursday 1st May 2025.

VE Day 80th Anniversary – Thursday 8th May 2025.



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WED	5.15 - 6pm 6 - 6.45pm	PILATES CIRCUITS
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