

The Parish Post



Number 22
Dec 11/Jan 12

for Beambridge Clunbury Clunton Coston Cwm Kempton Little Brampton Obley Purslow The Llan & Twitchen

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our readers

An Unexpected Visitor

Barbara Freeman would never have guessed the identity of the little grey-haired lady standing on her doorstep one Sunday morning recently, but when the visitor introduced herself, she couldn't have been more thrilled.



"I'm Ida Gandy's daughter, Jill, and I grew up in this house!" she announced and was promptly invited in! Along with her companion, Jane, Jill Gandy was making a rare trip back to the Shropshire region of her youth, where she lived until she was 17 years old and about which her mother so famously wrote.

Over the space of a few days, Jill spent some wonderful hours with Barbara, and with Brian and Sandra Morgan up at the Llan, the place she loved to spend time as a child, helping on the farm and with the horses. She met and visited many other people and recalled so many stories, events and characters that it deserves a much longer article in a future issue of The Parish Post.

Perhaps some of the other people she met would like to contribute their stories and I'll try and collate them? Or they could write their own piece? If so contact Lin Brown on 660578 or by email at theparishpost@gmail.com *Lin Brown*

Clunton Coffee Morning

*Come and enjoy our
Christmas Theme Coffee
Morning
to be held at the Crown Inn
on Wednesday 7 December
from 10.30am
Raffle, Bring and Buy – Cakes,
Produce, Christmas Gifts, Plants etc*

Christmas Child – Shoeboxes

This year Operation Christmas Child received 69 filled shoeboxes. Samaritan's Purse send their grateful thanks. The boxes were excellent this year, filled, as they were, with some splendid gifts for the children. Well done everyone. They will be delivered by Christmas to needy children in Belarus.



Pat Harding

**Please send your contributions by
20 January for inclusion in
February's PP**

Cattle Rustling in Kempton!

While researching the history of my house and the area around Little Brampton, I have identified people living here and in Kempton who were involved in cattle rustling - although it was back in 1409 and 1419. There was also a murder at Down in 1256 and it is recorded that the residents of Down, Kempton, Brompton and Clunton failed to give chase and arrest the culprit.

For those of you who are interested in the history of your house, hamlet, farm or a specific area of countryside, there has never been a better time to start researching. So many sources of information are now available locally, most of them accessible through the Bishop's Castle Heritage Resource Centre (BCHRC) in Chapel Yard.

We are lucky in Clunbury parish that Lord Powis used to own large portions of this and surrounding parishes: all the estate records are lodged in Shropshire Archives. They have been very well indexed and it is a pleasure to search these records. As an example of what can be found here, I can follow the history of Little Brampton Barn from the 18th century when it was a simple two up/two down cottage, called Orchard Cottage and set among large orchards, to the mid 1850's when it was converted to agricultural barns and then back to a house in 1998.

For those with an interest, these records contain details of agricultural practice on all the farms in the area.

These are not dry boring records – there is a wonderful exchange of letters between the Powis estate factor and a company in Liverpool which had supplied some very expensive rolled corrugated roofing when Orchard House became barns. The factor wrote to the company stating that Lord Powis was not best pleased that the roof had lifted off completely in a storm, only days after it

had been installed. A company representative visited Little Brampton and then wrote a very sarcastic letter to the factor stating (in so many words) that the company could not be held liable if the factor and workers were not bright enough to realise that the roof had to be firmly fixed to the walls.

The internet provides direct access to information from other County archives, and I will cover this in a future article.

Malcolm Redgrave

Note:- See BCHRC website at www.bchrc.co.uk or phone 630556 or email mail@bchrc.co.uk

Clunton Scrumpters

Great day, lots of people came and lots of apples were brought in, despite Clunton having few apples, owing to a late frost and early spring blossom, Earlier in the week we juiced at Clunbury School.

Anne Shepherdson



Apple pressing at Clunton

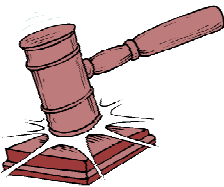
Val's Tall Stories at Hotpot Supper

Yet another successful evening event in Clunton Village Hall on Saturday 19 November, when Val Littlehales entertained us with amusing stories and poems, some featuring local residents! Her props added to the scene and lots of laughter and a splendid supper of hotpot, and lovely puddings, made for a most enjoyable evening. Thanks to all who came, and to all the helpers. *Pat Harding*

More than a Hundred Lots at the Hundred House

The Clunbury Promise Auction proved to be as successful and enjoyable as ever. With over 150 lots, we raised the magnificent total of £3,545 for St Swithin's Church funds. Much of the success was due to our auctioneer, Les Thomas, who squeezed every last penny out of the buyers, and we were, as ever, made most welcome at the Hundred House. So many people gave generously and spent generously – thank you all.

Maddy Matveieff



Parish Post Lacks Support

The Parish Post team were very disappointed that only one person attended the recent AGM. Perhaps the weather discouraged people from turning out, or perhaps it reflects people's general reluctance to attend AGMs, for fear they may be cajoled into taking part in something.



Oops!

We think (hope) that the people of Clunbury Parish appreciate the Parish Post but the small (and dwindling) team of volunteers that produce it will not be able to continue indefinitely without extra help.

- Here's what you could do -
- Volunteer to join the desk top publishing team
 - Volunteer to gather information from your part of the parish
 - Volunteer to help with fundraising
 - Opt to receive your Parish Post by email, saving printing costs and delivery time

Clunbury School Corner

The Pearl of Africa

On Tuesday the 1 November, Clunbury School were lucky enough, to get a visit from the Pearl of Africa choir. They came all the way from Uganda in Africa. They started by singing us two songs with the accompaniment of two drums. After that we were split into two groups and sent into our different workshops. Each workshop did three different things; those were: African dancing, African singing, and African games. We had a discussion group where we asked about their life in Uganda. We asked them about their transport and their school. We all enjoyed the day very much.

Farmers' Market

On Tuesday the 8 of November Clunbury School held their second farmers' market. This year we decided to hold it in



the school grounds, instead of in the Village Hall. There were lots of inviting stalls; here are a few; Cathy Turners goats' milk soap, Harvie's pies and pastries, Class 3 stall and loads more. Class 3 stall was run by years 5 and 6. It was a great experience.

Gardening Club Quiz

SWSGC Seasonal Lunchtime Quiz
Wednesday 14 Dec. 12.30pm at Lydbury
North VH. Contact Pauline 660120

Parish Council Notes

The meeting was held on 17 November in Kempton Village Hall.

Present: eight councillors, 4 members of the public, Harry Collins in the Chair.

A minute's silence was held in memory of Penny Marsh.

Lizzie Potter, our tree warden, reported that 80 old trees in the parish had been surveyed and most were over 250 years old. Landowners should be able to get free larger trees and stock proofing provided they are in a Stewardship or ESA Scheme. For more information contact Brian Barker, Woodlands Officer, AONB. Tel: 674086. Shropshire Councils Community Tree Scheme is running again. Application forms must be in by 2 December.

John Moore reported on the local charities with which he is involved. The charities have sold the land which they held with the exception of a holding of scrubland on Black Hill. The proceeds of the sales have been invested and are managed by the trustees according to the charities' objectives.

The Shropshire Wildlife Trust and the Upper Clun Community Wildlife Group are to be asked if they would be interested in helping to look after the charities land on Black Hill.

It had previously been reported that the locks on the forestry gates had been changed preventing vehicular access to the land owned by the charity. The Clerk reported that the Forestry Commission would supply her with a new key.

Following the death of Penny Marsh there is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. This has to be advertised. Anyone interested should contact the Clerk or a Parish Councillor.

There was a prolonged, but indecisive, discussion about the BOAT at Cwm Lane Cottage (a regular agenda item like the bridleway at Ashbeds). Cllr Morgan had attended a site meeting with a Shropshire Council representative but

there was no clear outcome. The Parish Council's view seems to be that the BOAT should be downgraded to a bridleway to help prevent off-road vehicles using it and / or that it should be rerouted to exit at the nearby car park. The mechanism, cost, timescale and chances of success are unknown. The Clerk was asked to contact Clun Parish Council to ascertain their views, as most of the BOAT is in their Parish.

Clunbury mains drainage – Severn Trent and the Housing association are still in discussion.

Local Joint Committee (LJC) – Cllr Croxton reported that there was still some grant money left in this year's budget and encouraged organizations to apply.

Parish Plan actions – Cllr Hoskins reported that another speed check was to be carried out in Kempton and that it may be possible to get the speed advisory signs changed from 40 to 30mph. Cllr Davies suggested that the Parish Plan review should be held after five years rather than the three years originally proposed. This is to be decided at the next meeting.

Roads – resurfacing had been carried out where Redwood Lane meets the B4385 but the rest of the lane was still in a bad state. Work on Purslow crossroads had been delayed due to problems with a buried pipe.

AED Scheme – four people from Clunton had been trained and the equipment will be mounted on the outside of the Village Hall. Cllr Davies asked if the Parish Council would contribute to the cost of the small amount of electricity used by the equipment. This was agreed. Councillors also thought they should make a contribution to the initial cost of the equipment. The contributions made by other PCs is to be investigated before a decision is made.

The next meeting will be on 26 January in Clunton Village Hall.

Wendy and Friends' New Year's Eve Record Hop

Dance to the best of 50's and 60's music just as we did back then!

Aston on Clun Village Hall

New Year's Eve

from 8.00 p.m. 'til late

Admission £8, strictly by ticket.

All proceeds to Local Charities

Bring your own drinks, and a plate of food to share with everyone

Tickets from Wendy and Ray

01588 660 218

Jack Powell

A great character of Clunton sadly left **A**us last month at the grand age of 92. Jack Powell moved from Radnorshire to the Steppe with his family at an early age and grew up in Clunton. The family moved to the Lower House and he eventually moved to Greenfields where he lived for the rest of his life. Jack built up a very good contracting business but his love and talent was ploughing. He competed successfully in local and national ploughing matches and was known and respected in these "fields" throughout the British Isles. He competed right up to his 90th year and left his tractor and plough all greased up and ready to go.



Jack was frequently seen in The Hundred House and Crown Inn, mixing with young and old alike. He was always ready for a bit of innocent mischief that brought out a beautiful smile and twinkle to his eye. He greatly appreciated the kindness of Andy and Della from The Crown, as they made sure he always had a good Sunday lunch and fish and chips on Wednesdays.

He made a big contribution to the local community throughout his life and was loved and respected by many – shown by the attendance at his funeral at Stokesay – where he was re-united with his friends and family in the churchyard.

Jack will be greatly missed, but remembered for a long time by those who were so privileged to know him.

Julia Brereton

CADS Autumn Production

Clun Amateur Dramatic Society staged 2 one act plays at Clun Memorial Hall in November. The first was the "real" story of George and the Dragon, performed by children from St George's School, and the second was a hilarious black comedy, "As Good As New", performed by the more mature section of CADS. Both halves of the evening were very well received by the audience, with the laughs coming in all the right places.

Working with Clun School has been a new departure for CADS this year, with two members, including Lin Brown from Clunbury, working with a small group of enthusiastic children since September. They produced an impressive result in a remarkably short time.

CADS is always keen to attract new members, so if anyone is interested in the regular play readings, theatre trips, or being involved in future productions (on stage or behind the scenes), please contact Jim or Kris Tipton on 660397 or any other member.

Jim Tipton

Christmas at St Cuthbert's

Saturday 3 December 2-4.30pm
Christmas Market. Sunday 11
December 11.00 am Family Service
"Christingle for Advent" (10.30am
Making Christingles for the service.)

Fall in the line of duty

Malcolm Smith fell and broke his ankle whilst delivering the November Parish Post in Clunton. The first, and we hope last, serious injury amongst The Parish Post team. We wish Malcolm a speedy recovery.

Children's Party Cancelled

Unfortunately, the Children's Christmas Party that was to be held on 18 December at Clunton Village Hall has had to be cancelled. Apologies from Tracy Price and the Village Hall Committee.

Curry & Mental Torment

Thirteen teams braved Phil Wright's fiendish quiz at Clunbury Village Hall. Do you know the Language of the Victorian Fan? My team didn't but still managed to ~~guess~~ work out four of the six questions correctly. The currys, as ever, were tasty and plentiful. The event raised over £400 for School funds. The winners were The Black Hill Mob with team member Helen Wright, wife of the Quizmaster!!

David Hill

From the Archives

If you have old photos or documents you would like to share with other Parish Post readers please get in touch (see the Contacts box for details). We can scan them and return them to you undamaged. We can't promise to publish everything we receive but we will do our best and if we can't fit them in the printed newsletter we could, with your permission, put them on the website. If there is a story associated with the photo or document so much the better.

The Parish Post Team

WI Performance in Clunbury Village Hall. Can you recognise anyone and do you know the year? Please let us know if you do. For a larger, colour version of the photo visit our website theparishpost.org

Photo provided by Barbara Freeman



A Sparkling Night

The huge fire roared and fireworks criss-crossed the sky while Guy Fawkes awaited his fate. Kempton's Bonfire Night was, once again, a very successful event.



Hot dogs, apple pies and drinks were served in the Village Hall. Many thanks to all who came and to the helpers for their hard work.

Gisele Wall

In Memory of Ken Jones

Donations totalling £2,000 were given in memory of Ken Jones. Bishop's Castle Hospital Palliative Care Suite and Hospital Funds and Clunbury Church each received £850.00 and Bishop's Castle Nurses Fund £300.00. Many thanks from Mary to all who contributed.

Events Diary for December 2011 - go to www.theparishpost.org for more details

Fri 2nd	8.00pm	Flicks - Bridesmaids	Clungunford Parish Hall
Fri 2nd	9.00pm	Live music - The Charlie White Project	White Horse, Clun
Sat 3rd	2-4.30pm	Christmas Market	St Cuthbert's Clungunford
Sun 4th	6.30pm	Evensong	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Tue 6th	2.30pm	School End of Term Service	
Tue 6th	7.30pm	Flicks - Black Swan	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 7th	10.30am	Clunton coffee morning. Raffle, Bring and Buy – Cakes, Produce, Christmas Gifts, Plants etc.	Crown Inn, Clunton
Wed 7th	2.30pm	Craven Arms WI meeting	Methodist Hall, Craven Arms
Wed 7th	7.30pm	Bookworms - A talk on Malcolm Saville by Lin Brown. Mulled wine and mince pies. £3, booking essential.	Lydbury North Village Hall phone 680302 to book
Wed 7th		Quiz Night with Quizmaster Chris Clarke	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Sat 10th	7.30pm	Flicks - Bad Santa	Chapel Lawn Village Hall
Sat 10th	7.30pm	Flicks - Burlesque	Clun Memorial Hall
Sun 11th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sun 11th	11.00am	Family Service "Christingle for Advent" (10.30am Making Christingles for the service.)	St Cuthbert's Clungunford
Sun 11th	6.30pm	Evensong	St Mary's, Clunton
Mon 12th	7 - 9.00pm	Free help using computers at Aston on Clun Broadplace	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Mon 12th	7.00pm	Carol Service with Clunbury School	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 12th	7.30pm	SWSHAS - President's Lecture - To Preserve the Memory: the ancient Greek Historians, David Preshous	Community College Main Hall, Bishop's Castle
Tue 13th	7.30pm	Silence and meditation	Forest View, Clunton
Tue 13th		Mobile library:- Clunbury Bridge 10.10am to 10.30am, Clunton 10.40am to 11.00am, Obley 12.45pm to 12.55pm	
Tue 13th	7.30pm	Bedstone WI Christmas Party	Bedstone Village Hall
Wed 14th	10.00am	Drop in coffee morning	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Wed 14th	12.30pm	SWSGC Seasonal Lunchtime Quiz. Contact Pauline 660120	Lydbury North Village Hall.
Wed 14th	8.00pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society - Sweetgrass	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Fri 16th	7.00pm	Carol Service	St Mary's, Clunton
Fri 16th	7.30pm	Flicks - The Great White Silence	Bedstone Village Hall
Fri 16th	9.00pm	Live Music - Ted Crook & The Blues Highway	White Horse, Clun
Sat 17th		Christmas Party with Live Music from Custard Connection	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Sun 18th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Clunton
Wed 21st	9.15pm	Live folk music	Crown Inn, Clunton
Thur 22nd	9.00pm	Live folk music	Sun Inn, Clun
Fri 23rd	9.00pm	Live Music - Dave Rea and Friends	White Horse, Clun
Sat 24th	3.00pm	Carols around the crib	St Cuthbert's, Clungunford
Sat 24th	12.00pm	Midnight Communion	
Sun 25th	10.00am	Holy Communion - Group Service	St Mary's, Hopesay
Mon 26th		Boxing Night Quiz	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Fri 30th	9.00pm	Live Music - Wayne Martin's Blues Deluxe Band	White Horse, Clun
Sat 31st	8.00pm	New Year's Eve Record Hop. Contact Wendy 660218	Aston on Clun Village Hall

Events Diary for January 2012

Tue 3rd	2.30pm	Bible Study Group	phone 660760
Wed 4th	8.00pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society - Benda Bilili	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle

Continued over

Events Diary for January 2012 continued

Sun 8th	11.00am	Mattins	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 9th	7.00 - 9.00pm	Free help with using computers at Aston on Clun Broadplace	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Fri 13th	7.30pm	SWSHAS - Archdeacon Plymley, Son & Servant of Shropshire	SpArC, Bishop's Castle
Fri 13th	9.00pm	Live Music	White Horse, Clun
Sat 14th	7.30pm	Flicks - Letters to Juliet	Clun Memorial Hall
Sun 15th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St Mary's, Clunton
Sun 15th	6.30pm	Evensong	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Tue 17th	7.30pm	Silence and meditation	Forest View, Clunton
Wed 18th	8.00pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society - The Secret in Their Eyes	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Wed 18th	9.15pm	Live folk music	Crown Inn, Clunton
Fri 20th	8.00pm	Flicks - Jane Eyre (2011)	Clungunford Parish Hall
Sat 21st	7.30pm	Flicks—Whisky Galore!	Chapel Lawn Village Hall
Sun 22nd	11.0am	Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sat 28th	7.30pm	Flicks - Jane Eyre (2011)	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sun 29th	10.30am	Benefice Epiphany Carols	St Swithin's, Clunbury

Clun Walking Groups (everyone welcome, just turn up)

Day	Start	Group	Location
Every Wed	10.00am	Ramblers	Clun Memorial Hall Car Park
Every Wed	10.00am	Peramblers	
1st and 3rd Wed in month	10.00am	Amblers	

Advance Notice 9 February

Aston on Clun Village Hall will show a live broadcast of the National Theatre production "Travelling Light" a play by Nicholas Wright starring Anthony Sher.

This is a funny and fascinating tribute to the early days of Hollywood.

Admission by Ticket only
£8.50 from David Jones 660493

Last Posting Dates for Christmas

As recommended by the Royal Mail.

UK 1st class 20 Dec.

2nd class 17 Dec.

parcels 14 Dec.

Airmail USA, Canada and Eastern Europe 9 Dec.

Western Europe

12th Dec.

Elsewhere 5th Dec.



Regular Fortnightly



Coffee Mornings at Aston Village Hall

Every other Wednesday 10.00 - 11.30 am.
Next dates: 30 Nov and 14 Dec

Why not just drop in for a leisurely coffee (or tea) and a chat with friends? Come and meet friends and neighbours; swap news, stories and memories.

Admission £1 (to cover costs), including tea or coffee (with refills!) and biscuits.

Tell all your friends and neighbours

To check dates please ring:

David 660493, Jeff 660493, Viv 660651,
John 660662

CONTACTS

Email: theparishpost@gmail.com

Website: www.theparishpost.org

Phone: Sue Hill 660355

or Lin Brown 660578

or Gisèle Wall 660561

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