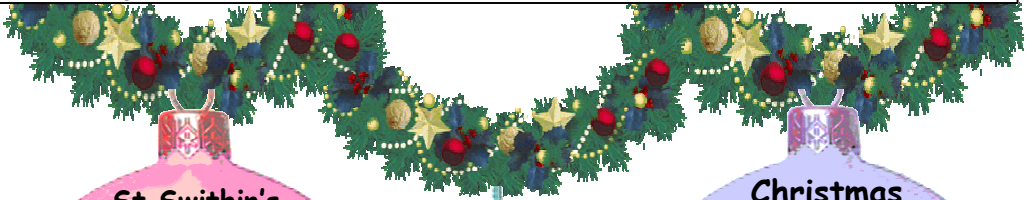




A Merry Christmas to all our readers from The Parish Post team



**St Swithin's
at Christmas**
Sunday 21 December
6pm
 Come and enjoy
 Christmas Carols and the
 Christmas Story told again
 Mulled wine to follow
 All welcome

**Clunbury
Village Hall AGM**
Tue 6 Jan 7.30pm
 Enjoy a glass of
 mulled wine
 and have your say
 (positive or negative)
 about the
 Village Hall

**Christmas
Coffee Morning**
The Crown Inn, Clunton
Wed 3 December
 from 10.30am
 Cakes, festive fayre,
 gifts, raffle
 All welcome



**Christmas Tree
Festival**
Clunbury Village Hall
Exhibition (free)
Sat 20 Dec, 10am-6pm
 Why not enter a tree?
 £2 per tree
 Entries welcomed from groups,
 businesses & families (choose your own theme)
 Festive refreshments available



All Clunbury residents and friends are invited to the Clunbury School

FAMILY BINGO!

Wednesday 3rd December

Clunbury Village Hall



Eyes down 6.00pm

Fantastic Prizes!

Refreshments provided



All proceeds to Clunbury School



Correspondence

The Unexpected Visitor to Pool Farm

From Jack the Deerhound

There I was, reclining on my own sofa, on a warm, pleasant day in late September; the front door was open and my male human was working in the other room, when a slight sound and movement caught my eye. A THING had come into my house and was venturing furtively across the room! It was a creature I was quite unfamiliar with, being neither rabbit, squirrel, fox, rat or cat, yet it was dark, hairy and it smelt!

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm no wimp when it comes to dispatching the odd bunny but I was at some disadvantage, being caught napping, literally, on the sofa. I much prefer it when they run away and you catch them in flight - give them a sporting chance, and all that, but I decided to beat a hasty retreat into the next room and see what the THING was going to do next and more to the point, what was the human going to do?

The human got up and saw it! . . . and then I felt braver with back-up, and thought I'd better not let him confront the THING alone, so I grabbed it and the human starting shouting, 'Leave it!' and then the THING bit me and all hell broke loose as I threw it across the room and tried to grab it again, but it ran out of the house, leaving the most disgusting smell all over the hall rug and the door mat! The human was beside himself, complaining he'd have to wash the rugs, and me, because somehow the THING had made me stink too! I was well cross about that - I don't do washing.



Later he was talking to my female human and telling her all about it which I always think is very peculiar, because she was away at her sister's, but he seems to like talking as though she was here, holding this tube thing against his head and explaining all about the visit of the POLECAT. I just let him and went back to sleep on my sofa



Dear Jack

You can write (pretty well in fact) so we guess you can read. Hence, for your information, we have consulted the Handbook of British Mammals which states "the relative amount of the active constituents of anal gland secretions are species-specific to the Polecat [do you follow?]. Odour, strong and unpleasant, used for scent-marking and defence. Volatile, pungent scent extruded as reflex action if frightened or injured." So, if only for the sake of your humans, leave well alone in future.

Editors

Clunbury Café

at the Village Hall

open 4 and 18 Dec. and 8 and 22 Jan.
(and every alternate Thursday following)

10.00 - 11.30am

All are welcome to join us for Fairtrade
coffee and tea, with cake

£1 including refills

Clunbury Village Hall

Soup and Pudding Lunch

Thursday 29 Jan

12.30 - 2pm

£3.50

Back by popular request



Clunbury Craft Fair

The Craft Fair in Clunbury Village Hall provided a great opportunity for some Christmas shopping, with close to 100 visitors admiring the fabulous handmade goods and enjoying delicious homemade cakes and scones.



It was a chance for local craftspeople to exhibit their work, with 5 from the Clun Valley, but others came from Hampshire, Telford and Wolverhampton.

After expenses, the Fair raised £80 which was donated to the Parish Post. A big thank you to everyone who helped in the kitchen, delivering leaflets, etc.

Lin Brown

Note: the rest of the team would like to thank Lin for doing such a great job in organising this event. The Parish Post continues to be self-financing largely thanks to fund raising efforts undertaken by the team. We also benefit from occasional donations from readers for which we are very grateful.

Owling Success

Recent years have been hard for Barn Owls, so it is good to report success in 2014.

Three owlets fledged from a box in the Kemp Valley in late November, from which another brood of six had already fledged in late August. I have been monitoring this site since 2009 and this is the first time that young have been raised. And what about Kites? Three pairs nested locally this year and raised 3 young.



Vince Downs

Clunton's "Not Quite Burns' Night" Sat 24 January

Come and enjoy Bangers and Mash in Clunton Village Hall from 7pm
Tickets £6 from Committee members
Proceeds for Village Hall funds

Payphones in Clunton and Clunbury Under Threat

BT want to remove the phone boxes in Clunton and Clunbury. Shropshire Council are asking local residents and the Parish Council for their comments by 19 December at the latest. Council policy is to object to removal, however their case will be strengthened if local people also submit objections.

You can submit your views using the appropriate public consultation form available for download from the Parish Council page on theparishpost.org website or you can get a paper copy from Pat Harding in Clunton (660169) or Sue Hill in Clunbury (660355).

Note: so far the Kempton phonebox has not been mentioned.



Remembrance Sunday

The service at the Purslow War Memorial was led by the Revd Robert Payne and was attended by a good crowd. Wreaths were laid from the Royal British Legion, the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, the Fire Brigade and local MP Philip Dunne. Clun Firemen were present and were most helpful in controlling and stopping the traffic during the two minute silence and the short service when the names of the fallen were read by Nick Matveieff.

Christina Whitehead

Parish Council Meeting 13/11/14

Present: 8 councillors, the Clerk, 3 members of the public, Mathew Mead from Shropshire Council.

Apologies: Cllr S Jones

Review of standing orders: the Clerk has not got them ready yet; she will do so before Christmas.

Parish Land on Black Hill: On 12 October, a party of 13 people (6 Parish Councillors and 7 parishioners) met at Fiddler's Elbow to walk to the Parish Land on the Black Hill; this is an area of heathland with heather and bilberry but also much bracken and self-sown trees (mainly conifers); in the early 1900s it was a grouse moor and winberry picking area. The councillors were uncertain of the exact boundary of the Parish Land, and of what should be done with it. Further research required.

Ashbeds: The County Council will be referring the issue to the Planning Inspectorate in due course.

West Midlands Ambulance Service: The Parish Council has been advised that every call is graded according to its urgency: red, amber and green (from most to least urgent), and has been given some average figures for respective response times, but the councillors felt that this was not representative of the response time in a rural area such as ours.

Parish Plan Review: Mathew Mead explained that Shropshire Council policies have 3 layers:

The Core Strategy: development and aspirations for the county

SAMDev: development at the parish level (at present going through the inspectorate stage)

Place Plan: informed by the local Parish Plan, this identifies areas of concern/interest for the parishioners. The last Parish Plan (over 5 years ago) highlighted a number of issues. Some have been dealt with, some are still

pending action. The Parish Plan is at present under review, and the team is developing a questionnaire to seek parishioners' opinions and wishes; this should be distributed around the parish soon. Mathew Mead reminded the councillors that a list of priorities should reach the development team by 5 January, in order to be included in the 2015/16 planning round.

Transport Survey: Cllr Hill has been asked to fill in a questionnaire from the 'Future Development of Shropshire Community Transport Company'. Although it is difficult to quantify the demand (the revised Parish Plan may help to clarify this point) the councillors felt there was a need for more community transport in the area.

South West Shropshire Local Joint Committee (SWSLJC): met in Edgton the previous week. A GP from Shrewsbury gave a talk on the NHS reorganisation in the area. A group of GPs have done a clinical analysis of the needs for the area (Future Fit Programme). They came up with the following suggestions:

A & E: either at Shrewsbury, Telford or in a shared location between the two (a single site would improve the quality of care).

Urgent Care Centres: would deal with lesser emergencies and would be in: Shrewsbury, Telford, and possibly Whitchurch, Bridgnorth, Bishop's Castle, Market Drayton, Ludlow.

Care Centres: (like old Cottage Hospitals) where staff from the main hospital would have clinics.

Electronic Care: supplied locally via a computer (dialysis is sometimes delivered in this way).

Cross-border care: using the nearest hospital rather than the county hospital (eg Newtown).

Cllr Hoskins asked if, given a greater number of ambulances, the problems

would be reduced. Mathew Mead said that 240 more ambulances would be needed in order to make substantial progress and that only 2% of ambulance calls are for life-threatening cases.

The proposals for the Future Fit Programme will be put forward in 2015, but it is unlikely that they will lead to a change in the delivery of care before 2018-2020.

Mobile Phones: EE was formed from a merger of Orange and T Mobile, some masts have been taken down, presumably to reduce costs, resulting in a loss of coverage in rural areas.

The council was reminded that the SWSLJC needs to look for new funding which will be allocated to deserving causes; it has approached businesses and received £100 from each of three Parish Councils. The Chairman suggested the councillors should discuss a donation at a later date.

Clunton Burial Ground: Access to the burial ground over the property known as The Villa is made clear in the document provided by the Land Registry. However the owner contests this. Cllr Davies suggested that Mr Smith should be contacted.

Planning: Old Church House, Clunton: extension at the back - no objection.

Sunnyside, Twitchen: extension at the back - no objection.

Planning application, Clunton: members of the public and the press were excluded from this discussion.

Roads: A few *potholes* reported in Clunton, Kempton and Twitchen.

Coppice View, Clunton, speeding: no further progress. The idea of speed bumps has been rejected by Shropshire Council.

Little Brampton crossroads: no news; will chase.

Purslow: still waiting for the solution in respect of the telegraph pole; moving it would be very expensive. It was suggested that the pole might be secured

with a concrete base and the surrounding soil removed.

Shropshire Hills Cycle Challenge: In reply to the Parish Council's objection to the event obstructing the narrow roads, the organisers highlighted the fact that the event had been going on for 24 years and brought business to the area.

BOAT above the Cwm on the ridgeway: the matter is to be forwarded to Paul Butter (responsible for coordinating maintenance in this area).

Clunton Coppice: the new footbridge on Cllr Croxton's land is now in place.

Finance: Community Current A/C: £1,891.10; Business A/C: £6,890.52 (of which £1,000 for Parish Plan and £3,590.32 Sports & Recreation)

To pay: Clerk's salary Sep/Oct: £304.16; Clerk's expenses: £135.84; npower: £80.89.

External Auditors carried out their Annual Audit. A few points made: all assets should be registered at purchase price (eg street lights and burial ground); Precept and Council Tax Support should go in separate entries.

AOB:

Edward Jones has complained about the large amount of spoil and debris tipped on the lane adjacent to his house, causing the water to back up. Jack Huffer has spoken to the builder responsible who is supposed to remove it.

The AED machine in Kempton has been taped up: it appears that the machine got damaged by water coming from a malfunctioning gutter. The Clerk will contact Chris Kerry.

Next meeting: 8 January, 8pm, Clunbury VH.

Gisèle & Tom Wall

Special Constables

West Mercia Police are currently recruiting Special Constables. If you would like to volunteer a minimum of 4 hours each week (normally weekends or evenings) visit www.westmercia.police.uk/specials/



News from South West Shropshire Gardening Club

Wednesday 17 December
Christmas Party

This year our Christmas celebration is something different! The evening will have a Spanish theme to include sherry tasting, tapas, poems, music and a competition. The speaker is our very own Show Secretary, Sandy Burton, who used to work for Harvey's Bristol Cream. She will introduce us to various styles of sherry to suit many types of food, not just at Christmas but also on a Summer evening, sitting on the patio after a hard day's gardening. In addition, we hope the tables will look particularly festive with entries for our table decoration competition. These can take any form, so please bring along your creations to help set the scene and make the evening a really special occasion.

The party will be at Lydbury North Village Hall, 7.30 on Wednesday 17 December. Tickets cost only £1 for members and £5 for guests. Please buy in advance from any committee member or contact Sandy on 680454 or email her at keith.burton785@btinternet.com, to enable us to cater appropriately.

"Right Plant, Right Place"

Wednesday 28 January 2015

7.30pm at Lydbury North Village Hall

What an excellent way to start the new year – by reminding ourselves of this crucial approach to successful gardening! Our speaker, Frank Hardy, has been a professional landscaper for years and has won gold medals at Chelsea for his show gardens. He has been a member of Gardening News question panels and a contributory writer. He is a regional lecturer for the RHS on topics such as tropical gardens; low maintenance gardens; herbaceous

borders; containers and creating focal points.

It is free to members of South West Shropshire Gardening Club; visitors are also welcome at £3 per person including refreshments. Any enquiries to our Chairman Carol Clarke 660753 or our Secretary Allison Walter 620055 or visit our website

www.shropshiregardening.co.uk

Angela Salmon

Clunbury 100 Club, Nov Results

£20 Malcolm Jones; £15 Penny Grimes;
£10 Evelyn Humphries; £5 Julia Brereton;
£3 Henry Matvieieff

CHARITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday 6 December, 7pm

St Laurence's Church, Ludlow

Ludlow Choral Society

and **Orleton School Choir**

Seasonal Concert

Proceeds from ticket sales

(£8 for adults, free for Under 18s)

to the *Friends of Ludlow Hospital*



New Year's Eve Community Party

Aston Village Hall

Eight 'til late

Great band - "One 2 Many"
and a 60s disco.

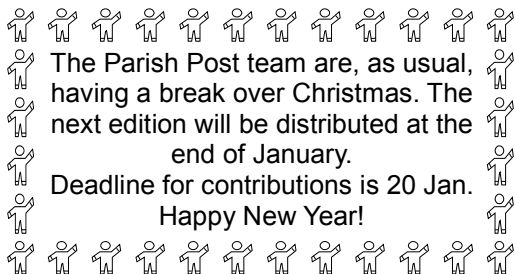
Bring food to share on the big buffet and
your own drinks - Tickets £10

Profits to Air Ambulance

Call Wendy Heighway for tickets or for
more details 660218

Events Diary for DECEMBER 2014 (see next page for January 2015)

Mon 1	9-11 am	Parent&Toddler Group-every Mon in term time. Just turn up	Clunbury Village Hall
Tue 2	7.30pm	Flicks—Jimmy's Hall	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 3	10.30am	Clunton Church Christmas Coffee Morning	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Wed 3	6pm	Friends of Clunbury School—Bingo	Clunbury Village Hall
Wed 3	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society—All's Lost	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Thu 4	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Fri 5	6.30pm	Flicks—How to Train Your Dragon 2	SpArC
Fri 5	7.30pm	Christmas Quingo. Teams of 4. Phone Caz: 680450	Lydbury North Village Hall
Sat 6	7.30pm	Flicks—Calvary	Clun Memorial Hall
Sat 6	7pm	Charity Christmas Concert for Friends of Ludlow Hospital-01584-878141	St Laurence's Church
Sun 7	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St. Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 8	7-9pm	Free help with using computers at AoC Broadplace	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Mon 8	7.30pm	Christmas Fayre Bingo Special in aid of St. George's Church	Sunn Inn, Clun
Tue 9	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am,		Obley 12.45-12.55pm
Tue 9	8pm	NCT Live—John (age 18+)	Aston on Clun VH/SpArC
Wed 10	9.15am	Tim's Travels—Chester - 640506	Depart from Clunton
Wed 10	7.30pm	Bookworms Seasonal Meeting. Bookings: 680302	Lydbury North Village Hall
Fri 12	7pm	Carol Service	St. Mary's, Clunton
Sat 13	8pm	Christmas Party, live band: The Jiveoholics. 07800634071	Lydbury North Village Hall
Sun 14	6.30pm	Joint Evening Prayer	St. Mary's, Clunton
Mon 15	12.30pm	BC & District Carers Group Christmas Lunch 01694-722024	Boar's Head, BC
Tue 16	7pm	Royal Opera House Live—Alice's Adventures in Wonderland	SpArC
Wed 17	7.30pm	SWS Gardening Club Christmas Party	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 17	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society—Rush	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Wed 17	9.15pm	Live Acoustic Folk Music	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Thu 18	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Fri 19		Clunbury School Last Day of Term	
Sat 20	10am-6pm	Christmas Tree Festival—660625	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 20	9pm	Live Music-The Riverman Blues Band	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Sun 21	6pm	Carol Service	St. Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 22	7pm	Christmas Bingo in aid of local charities. Judith 680396	Lydbury North Village Hall
Tue 23	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am,		Obley 12.45-12.55pm
Thu 25	11.15am	Christmas Morning Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sun 28	11am	Benefice United Service—Festival of Angels plus Bring & Share	Lunch St George's, Clun
Sun 28	7.30pm	Flicks—Swallows & Amazons	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 31	8pm	Family Ceilidh—'Mostly John'- 680454	
Wed 31	8 til late	New Year's Eve Community Party—660218	Aston on Clun Village Hall



 The Parish Post team are, as usual, having a break over Christmas. The next edition will be distributed at the end of January.

 Deadline for contributions is 20 Jan.

 Happy New Year!

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The editorial team does not accept responsibility for any opinions expressed by contributors and reserves the right to edit contributions if deemed appropriate.	

Events Diary for JANUARY 2015

Sun 4	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sun 4	7pm	Songs of Praise in four-part harmony. Tel 661171 for info.	Kempton Village Hall
Tue 6		Clunbury School First Day of Spring Term	
Tue 6	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Tue 6	7.30pm	Clunbury Village Hall AGM with mulled wine	Clunbury Village Hall
Wed 7	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society-Like Father, Like Son	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Thu 8	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 8	8pm	Parish Council Meeting	Clunbury Village Hall
Sun 11	6.30pm	Joint Evening Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 12	9-11am	Parent&Toddler Group-every Mon in term time. Just turn up	Clunbury Village Hall
Mon 12	7-9pm	Free help with using computers at AoC Broadplace	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Wed 14	7.30pm	Bookworms—speaker TBC—680302	Lydbury North Village Hall
Thu 15	7pm	Flicks—Magic in the Moonlight (tbc)	SpArC
Wed 17	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society—Gattaca	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Sun 18	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Tue 20	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Wed 21	9.15pm	Live Acoustic Folk Music	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Thu 22	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 22	7pm	NCT Live—Treasure Island	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sat 24	7pm	Clunton's 'Not Quite Burns' Night'	Clunton Village Hall
Sun 25	11.15am	Joint Holy Communion	St Mary's, Clunton
Mon 26	7.30pm	New Year Bingo	Sun Inn, Clun
Wed 28	7.30pm	SWS Gardening Club: Right Plant, Right Place	Lydbury North Village Hall
Thu 29	12.30-2pm	Soup and Pudding Lunch	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 31	7.30pm	Flicks—Belle	Aston on Clun Village Hall

Tim's Travels

- 11 Feb **Orchestra of the Swan**, Birmingham Town Hall, coach and concert
Ticket: £30; depart Clunton 9.45am.
- 18 Feb **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time**, National Theatre production at the Grand, Wolverhampton, coach and theatre ticket: £35 depart Clunton 9.45am.
- 18 Mar **And Then There Were None**, Agatha Christie at her best, Malvern Theatre, coach and theatre ticket £27.50 depart Clunton 9.45am.
Book with Tim Wood at The Old Surgery Gallery in Clun (640506)

There are still a few tickets left for the shopping trip to Chester on Wed. 10th Dec.

Old Surgery Gallery, Clun

Showing through December and January
– Noel Shepherdson, Keith Noble, Jacqueline Fletcher, Gordon Yapp and Royal Academy Summer Exhibition artists, Paul Hipkiss, Peter Shread and David Harban. Gallery open 10.00am – 5.00pm seven days a week until 4 January, thereafter Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Telephone 640506.

Don't Miss the Christmas Post! Last December Posting Dates:-

Inland:

2nd Class - Wednesday 18

1st Class - Friday 20

Airmail:

Australia - Thursday 4 Canada

- Tuesday 9

USA - Friday 12

Europe Saturday 13

