

The Parish Post

Number 100
Feb 2019



Welcome to the
Hundredth Edition
of the Parish Post

February 2010 - February 2019



The Parish Post was set up in 2009 in response to local people's wishes for better communication, which had been identified in the Clunbury Parish Plan of 2009. A group of volunteers got together, happily with a range of different skills - including writing, editing, desk-top publishing, local knowledge and contacts (and strong walking shoes!) - and produced a highly professional, black and white, first edition. It did have an email address though, so people had the option of reading it on line (please take this option if you can as it saves money) and, from day one, it had its very own website.

One thing was very evident in the first edition – the Parish Post would only succeed with its readers' help. A clear request went out for 'content' – what's going on in your village, what's made you laugh, what events are coming up, do you have a story to tell? And if you look at this 100th edition, you'll see that the recipe still holds good – only now we fill up 6 or 8 pages, rather than the original four!

So what do readers think about the Post? Well, we're glad to say that nearly 98% of people who responded to questions in the 2015 Parish Plan Review both enjoyed reading it, and thought it was useful. Comments included:

"Keeps people in touch with what's going on in the Parish. It's got a bit of everything".

"Keeps me in the loop with local activities in the area. Love to hear about the interesting people who live in our community, a bonus to the Parish".

It's also interesting to see the wider impact that the magazine can have – as one resident said:

"It was instrumental in our decision to move here because I discovered the Parish Post on line when I was researching the area. It showed me what an active community exists here, a great source of information, well presented."

There's still no charge for the Parish Post. With help from a wide range of sources, it continues to be a 'free' publication, though of course it couldn't exist without the hours of work that a small group of volunteers contribute month after month, some of them from the original group that set up the Post. The front page of the first edition included a 'volunteers needed' box, and this continues to be the case today. Whether it's collecting information, telling us about the wildlife in your garden, interviewing some of the interesting people who live in our communities, or helping to deliver the paper, please do get in touch. And if you'd like to learn how to put the magazine together, and learn some new skills, we would be happy to put on some workshops. Just contact us at: theparishpost@gmail.com and let us know what you would like.

As the first edition said 'We can't do this on our own. We need your help!'

It's as true today as it was then, so please keep getting in touch.

Gill Haynes

Please send your contributions by the 20th of each month

Co-optation of a Councillor for Clunbury Parish Council

Anybody 18 or over, and who, for the past 12 months has lived within the parish (or within 4.8km of it) wishing to stand for co-optation onto the council is welcome to apply.

Written applications should be made to the Clerk to the Council by **no later than 14 February 2019**.

For an informal discussion, contact the Clerk or any Parish Councillor:

Clerk: Nancy Adams, New Cwm Farm, Felindre, Knighton, Powys, LD7 1YT 01686 671126
clerk.clunbury@gmail.com

John Croxton, Clunton, 660208

Ian Davies, Clunton, 660649

Pat Harding, Clunton, 660169

Malcolm Jones, Clunton, 660294

Karl Bailey, Twitchen, 660122

David Hill, Clunbury, 660355

Lucy Evans, Kempton, 660485

Sandra Morgan, The Llan, 660601

Many Thanks

Clunbury Village Hall Annual General Meeting was held at the beginning of January. The Chairman on behalf of the Village Hall Committee would like to thank those in and around Clunbury Village for their support of our events and particularly to all those 'cake makers', 'pudding makers', 'quiche makers' and 'soup stirrers' for their help; without their help our events wouldn't be the same.

We would also like to thank Eirlys for organising the fortnightly Café which is a bedrock to the village hall finances and a regular social event. Next Café 31 Jan, 14 Feb and so on, black bin day.

Alister Thompson

CLUNTON VILLAGE HALL WINTER WARMER



**SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY
7.00 pm**

Soup, bread and puddings
Licensed bar and raffle

Tickets from Committee members
£ 8.00

includes a glass of mulled wine
£4 - under 16 and free for primary
school age and under

Clunbury Village Hall



**Invites you to join us for
Soup & Pudding**

**Thursday 21 February
From 12.30**

**£5.50 per person
Come & enjoy, all welcome.**

Contact: Alister 661180 or
Barbara 660629

Road Closures

Clunton Bridge Jct B4368 Stanley Cottage, Clunton, from 26 February to 1 March 2019.

Purpose: New connection by Severn Trent Water.

You can view the closure and diversion route on:

<https://roadworks.org?tm=112137126>

Redwood Lane, Twitchen from 4 to 6 March 2019

Purpose: installing new BT poles and associated cabling.

Should you have any queries regarding these closures, please call Customer Services on 03456 789006, or contact the Street Works Team on

streetworks@shropshire.gov.uk.

A Request for Information

I met a gentleman in Clunbury village yesterday, he was looking for friends of his from a long time ago. Their names were Keith and Kathleen Goslin. He thought they had bought some stables locally.

If anyone can help, you can contact me by email below.

info@brooksidecottage.co.uk

Stuart Seabury

We Have a New Reader



Born just in time for the 100th edition of the Parish Post, welcome to Freddie Martin, the 4th son of Nikki and Stephen Williams.

Thank you Mary Jones for letting us know and congratulations to all!

Thank You

Clun Community Larder: thank you to everyone for the wonderful gifts of food received at St Swithin's before Christmas.

Christmas in Clunbury offered some magical music and entertainment.

Thank you to the many helpers at all the services and a happy new year to everyone.

Christina Whitehead

Lydbury North Village Shop – Vacancy for Treasurer

If you have a few hours available, I would like to be involved as a volunteer in a community project, and have a basic financial or business background, you might be interested to know that Lydbury North Village Shop is looking for a new Treasurer when the existing person steps down at the end of a three-year term. There is currently no book-keeping involved as that is outsourced, but the role includes liaising with the book-keeper, keeping records of income and expenditure and ensuring that payments to suppliers are made in a timely fashion. As Treasurer you would be part of the Shop's Management Committee responsible for providing quarterly finance reports to the Committee, preparing quarterly VAT Returns and overseeing all the finances of the organization.

You do not need financial qualifications, but an understanding of financial procedures would of course be an advantage. We provide full training in the Shop's systems, but much of the job can be done from home and does not require regular attendance at the Shop. If you would be interested in learning more about the job, would like to join the team, or you know of someone else who'd like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact the current Treasurer, John Murphy at john@lydbury.plus.com or Fiona Hoskins on 01588 660192.



Hedgehog Found Trapped in Recycling Box



In mid-November, in Hopton Castle, Tania was checking her recycling box before putting it out for collection the following day. To her amazement she found a tiny hedgehog trapped in an empty 400g cat food tin. She immediately called her partner, Jack, who managed, with great difficulty, to slowly and carefully cut the little hog free. They then contacted the British Hedgehog Preservation Society to find out what to do next.

Tinny, as she has been named, was only 290g herself, hypothermic and desperate for food, being far too small to hibernate successfully. She was also found to have lungworm and fluke, both of which needed medical treatment. She is now recuperating with a local hedgehog rehabilitator after her very lucky escape. However, we can only imagine how many hoglets and other creatures may have perished this way.

People are urged to not only wash out their used food tins, but also to crush them, thereby ensuring that this near tragic episode may not happen again.

Clunbury 100 Club

Lynne Thompson: £20; Tim Record: £15; Barbara Richards: £10; Toby Matveieff: £5; Clementine Morris: £5.

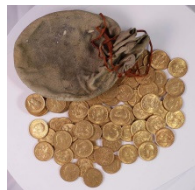
The Story of the Treasure in the Piano

The Trustees of the SpArC Charity are hosting a fund-raising evening commencing at 7.30pm at Bishop's Castle Community College on Tuesday 26 February 2019. Peter Revell from the British Museum will present the real story behind the hidden hoard of gold coins discovered in the piano at the Community College. At the same time, the winning entry from a competition for the best alternative story submitted by students from the Community College, Bishop's Castle, will also be revealed. The mystery was reported in the media internationally and featured on the Steve Punt BBC Radio 4 programme called "Punt PI". Entry is free but donations will be welcome to help sustain the future of the Sport, Arts and Theatre facilities at the SpArc Centre. The Centre serves communities with a population of around 3000 in its catchment area and also enables some 950 schoolchildren to use its swimming pool. There will be a bar serving wine and soft drinks and a raffle. We look forward to seeing you there.

Graham Hemmings (on behalf of the Trustees)

For more information on SpArc's achievements visits their website:

www.savethesparc.com



Clunton 100 Club

December draw: 1st: Pam Bay; 2nd Ron Wellings; 3rd: Helen Minns.
January Draw: 1st: Clare Simmonds; 2nd: Dorothy Buckle; 3rd: Alex Harding.

Trinity Hospital, Clun

The Trustees of Trinity Hospital, Clun, would like to hear from people in housing need over 55 years of age and living within the area comprising the former Lordships of Clun and Bishop's Castle and the Parishes of Knighton and Churchstoke, who are interested in living at Trinity Hospital.

A one-bedroom ground floor property which is situated in the quadrangle is becoming available in March. The property has central heating and an alarm system.

Preference will be given to those in housing need who have lived in the area for at least 5 years.

For further details please contact the Clerk to the Trustees,

Janet Woodroffe

Petan, Wistanstow, Craven Arms

SY7 8DG

01588 672303

Weighbridge Appeal

This year, the Bishop's Castle Railway Society Weighbridge Project has been chosen to benefit from the Co-op Local Community Fund.

The weighbridge building is a single storey brick structure, of particular architectural interest as a now rare example of a 19th century railway building. Many small structures like this have been lost. As the only surviving structure from the Bishop's Castle Railway, the building has significant local and regional historic value. It is of great significance to the local community, many of whom had ancestors who worked on the railway.

To help raise vital funds, we'll be relying on Co-op shoppers. Every time they buy Co-op own-brand products they get a 5% reward for themselves, and a further 1% goes to local causes like ours. Co-op members can decide which local group they would like to back by going online www.coop.co.uk/membership. More information on <http://bcrailway.co.uk>

SWSGC

Pruning Shrubs and their Aftercare



A Talk by Duncan Coombs

Wednesday 27 February, 7.30 pm

Lydbury North Village Hall

This month's talk is by Duncan Coombs, a passionate plantsman and plant hunter. Duncan has been a lecturer at Pershore College for over 18 years and is an RHS Advisor. He writes for various publications and can often be heard on local radio answering questions on all matters horticultural. He is a gifted speaker, so we can expect an entertaining and informative evening.

Duncan will be giving a very timely talk on the pruning of shrubs. If you have ever looked at an overgrown and tangled mass of branches and were at a loss to know where to start, then this is the talk for you.

He will also be dealing with their aftercare. What regime is required after a light trim or a brutal hack to the ground? When to cut? When to leave alone? When and how much to feed? Bring all your questions along.

The talk is free to members of SWSGC; visitors are welcome at £5 per person including refreshments. Queries to Sandy Burton 01588 680454 or on our website:

www.gardeningshropshire.co.uk

Sara Metcalf

CONTACTS

Email: theparishpost@gmail.com

Website: www.theparishpost.org

Phone: Sheila Downes 660626

or Gisèle Wall 660561

If you (or family or friends living outside the parish) would like to receive The Parish

Post by email please contact us at

theparishpost@gmail.com

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

Parish Council Meeting 24/1/19

Apologies: Cllrs Hill and Hartin

Present: 7 councillors, the Clerk and 5 members of the public.

Minutes of the last meeting approved and signed.

Matters arising:

- Footbridge behind Chapel House: waiting for good weather to complete the painting.
- Broadband connection in Kempton: still not done; the Clerk to write to BT.

Planning:

Land to the south-east of Purslow Hall Farm, Purslow, Clunbury. Application for use of land for siting of five camping 'pods', erection of amenity building, formation of car park, alterations to existing vehicular access (retrospective) and installation of sewage treatment plant. Granted.

Future Fit: A 'decision making' meeting on the future of hospital services is to take place, in public, on 29 January at 6.30pm at Harper Adams University. There is no public transport available at this time. The meeting will be accessible live on www.nhsfuturefit.org. The proposal is that the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital becomes an Emergency Care site (A&E) and the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford becomes a Planned Care site.

A report published in 2017 on Rural Health Deprivation shows that Shropshire received £39 per resident, Telford and Wrekin £74 and Kensington and Chelsea £139. Urban areas may experience more deprivation, but, unlike rural areas, they are able to create economies of scale and access. Shropshire Council receives the lowest per capita Public Health Grant within the West Midlands region and one of the lowest in the country.

In order to economise, some illness prevention programmes may be reduced or will cease, for example:

No access to:

- Weight management services
- Smoking cessation services (including pregnant women)

- Health check screening programmes (or reduced availability)

No investment in:

- Mental health promotion programmes
- Falls prevention
- Health promotion in schools
- Early identification of diabetes or atrial fibrillation

Other cuts may affect voluntary hospital transport, as funding is to be scrapped, or affect hospitals such as Oswestry which is seen as performing too many operations.

It is important, particularly in the light of Shropshire's older population, that the public knows what effects all these cuts would have.

SWSLJC: No meeting. The Committee may cease to exist altogether at the end of March.

Roads:

- *Potholes* to be reported (a particularly bad one in Cwm where the road is being eroded).
- *Traffic and speeding* at Twitchen: Barbara Richards expressed her great concern at the speed and amount of traffic (particularly lorries) going past the houses. There is no pavement and the residents (young and old) have to walk on the road, at their peril. She asked the Council to demand an enforced speed limit of 40 up to the Old Chapel, 30 through the village and 40 going out of the village (top of the bank) towards Hopton Heath.
- *Road closures:* see details on page 3 of the Parish Post.
- *Street lights:* The light outside the Malthouse in Clunton is not working. The Clerk had received a quote of £736.74 to do a full repair. The light outside the Old Chapel had been repaired with a reconditioned lantern for £100. The Councillors suggested that enquiries should be made to see if a similar solution could be found. Cllr Davies emphasised the need to ensure that it was safe.

Finances: Bank balances: £6,158.21.
Expenditure: £658.40.
Precept for next financial year: It was decided to fix it at £4,000.

Parish Council management:

- General Data Protection Regulation: the Clerk had now received all the forms from the Councillors and will check them for accuracy.
- Vacancy on the Parish Council: when forms have been received from would-be applicants, the Council will decide who to co-opt as a new Councillor. See article on co-option of a councillor on page 2.

Next meeting: Thursday 21 March, 8pm,
in Clunbury Village Hall. *Gisèle Wall*

More on Pine Martens

Three years have flown by since we confirmed Pine Martens were living in the woods of south Shropshire [most notably in our parish]. Our research project goes from strength to strength and it has been a delight to monitor these elusive mammals. We have now identified 11 individuals. Trying to determine where their territories lie and which trails they use is a real test of our tracking skills.

In August, after much perseverance, we found a regular trail for the first time, with a male Pine Marten appearing on a weekly basis on camera. Finding a trail should, in theory, lead us to the scat [poo] needed to test their DNA. If we could find this we could determine where these animals originated. Instead, the camera traps record the martens using only urine as a scent mark on their trails. Not a single scat has been seen anywhere within 500m of a proven marten trail (or anywhere else). This is curious behaviour, as martens in Scotland regularly use scat as trail and territorial markers. So, where do Shropshire Pine Marten leave their scat?

Stuart Edmunds, extract from the Winter 2018 edition of Shropshire Wildlife Trust magazine

To learn more why not attend Stuart's talk as advertised on the right?

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The film of the daring Hatton Garden robbery!

FRIDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

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**THE
UPPER ONNY
WILDLIFE GROUP**



Annual Public Meeting

Celebrating the Wildlife of the Upper Onny Valleys

7.30pm Monday 18th February 2019

including:

Reports from the Bird and Plant Groups

&

**Return of the
Shropshire
Pine Marten**

a talk by
Stuart Edmunds



Lydham Village Hall **SY9 5HG**

Admission Free Tea & Cakes All welcome

For further information see www.shropscwgs.org.uk

Events Diary for FEBRUARY 2019

Fri 1	7.30pm	BC Railway Society–638998	Methodist Hall, BC
Sat 2	2-4pm	SWSGC Gardening Jumble Sale	Lydbury North Village Hall
Sun 3	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St. Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 4	9-11.30am	Parent&Toddler Group-every Mon in term time. Just turn up.	Clunbury Village Hall
Mon 4	7.30pm	Table Tennis every Mon not the last one of the month £1	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Tue 5	9.15-10.45am	Yoga Sessions every Tuesday–Beginners Welcome	Clunbury Village Hall
Tues 5	7.30pm	Flicks–A Matter of Life and Death–680302	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 6		Quiz–proceeds to Midlands Air Ambulance	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Wed 6	8pm	Bishop's Castle Film Society–Zama	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Fri 8	7.30pm	Flicks-King of Thieves–01547 530282	Bedstone Village Hall
Sun 10	11.15am	CW Holy Communion	St. Swithin's, Clunbury
Tue 12	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Wed 13	7.30pm	Flicks–A Star is Born–640109	Memorial Hall, Clun
Thu 14	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 14	7.30pm	Juliet & Romeo a Guide to Long Life & Happy Marriage	SpArC 630321/638038
Sat 16	10am-1pm	Craft & Collectables Market-660492	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sat 16	7pm	Winter Warmer	Clunton Village Hall
Sat 16	7.30pm	Flicks–The Rider-660545	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Mon 18–Fri 22	Clunbury School Half Term		
Wed 20-Sun 24	Bishop's Castle Arts Festival		
Wed 20	8pm	BC Film Society–Argerich (aka Bloody Daughter)	Three Tuns, Bishop's Castle
Thu 21	12.30pm	Soup & Pudding	St Mary's, Clunton
Fri 22	5pm	David Gibb:Climb That Tree–630321/638038	SpArC
Sun 24	11.15am	CW Holy Communion	
Tue 26	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Tue 26	2pm	Flicks–Christopher Robin 630321/638038	SpArC
Tue 26	7.30pm	The Treasure in the Piano	BC Community College
Wed 27	7.30pm	SWS Gardening Club-Pruning Shrubs & their Aftercare	Lydbury North Village Hall
Thu 28	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Beginning of March 2019			
Fri 1	7pm	World Day of Prayer	Clun Methodist Church
Fri 1	7.30pm	Borderlines Film Festival: The Wife	Bedstone Village Hall
Fri 8	7.30pm	Borderlines Film Festival: The Seagull	Bedstone Village Hall

Parish Post Chairman's Report 2018

As always, I must thank everyone involved in the production and distribution of the Parish Post. We are approaching our 100th edition and that says a lot about your loyalty and stickability but, as I inevitably find myself saying every year, we still need new volunteers who can take our places when, sooner or later, some of us say we want to call it a day. On which note, many thanks to Nick, who is stepping down as Treasurer, for his help over the years. I am sure Nick is going to tell us that our finances are healthy and that is due in part to the very generous grant from the Aston Community Shop which helped sustain us in the past year. More thought may have to be given in the future to fund raising as income from printing for Purslow Show is declining. Thanks to everyone who helped with the Parish Post games at the Show and special thanks to Alister and Lynne for the loan of their marquee and Alister's help in putting it up, taking it down and ferrying tables to and fro from Clunbury Village Hall.

Sue Hill