

# The Parish Post

Number 60  
June 2015

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

## Clunbury School Children's Church Challenge

For one whole week the children at Clunbury had the privilege and challenge of running St Swithin's Church.

The initial idea was proposed at the PCC meeting in January 2015; the church wardens agreed. Three children from the upper juniors then attended the next PCC meeting at the beginning of April, to ask permission and clarify the different jobs the church wardens would like them to be responsible for throughout the week. Flowers, cleaning, preparing the readings for a Holy Communion service were all part of the ideas and arrangements the children had to make. Preparations and arrangements were made for the children to take position from Wednesday 22 April to Tuesday 28 April.

The children rose to the challenge!



Every day they shared the responsibility to bring flowers from their gardens (and their very generous grandparents' flowerbeds) to school. The Easter displays were checked and kept

tidy; new flowers were arranged. Dusters, cleaning equipment and willing cheery children daily cleaned the pews, pipes, brass plaques and anything else they saw that they felt could receive a mini-spring clean!

The Holy Communion Service on a sunny Sunday 26 at St Swithin's was superb, over a sixth of the school attended playing their part by putting up the hymn numbers, giving out the Orders of Service and hymn books, giving readings, a beautiful version of Psalm 23, taking up the bread and wine, helping with the collection... It was fantastic!



On the final day, 28 April, all of the flowers were re-watered for the last time and taken to a special place: the grave of our much loved secretary, Mrs Penny Marsh. It was her birthday, on 5 May; the children just wanted to close this very special week with her still being part of our community.

William Morgan commented; "It was a great responsibility and a fantastic experience for all of us. Thank you to the PCC for letting us do it."

*Clunbury CE Aided Primary School's children*



## Clunbury Playgroup Table Top Sale

Clunbury Village Hall  
Saturday 6 June, 10am- 2pm  
refreshments available  
Call Sophy 07837 585664

**Please send your contributions by the 20th of each month**

## Wartime Spirit and Songs

More than 70 people, ranging in age from a babe in arms to nonagenarians, from around the parish and beyond, gathered in Clunbury Village Hall to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day. The hall was decorated with flags and bunting, and the community singing of popular wartime songs, led by Pat Harding at the keyboard and the Clunbury Singers, evoked the spirit of May 1945. Thankfully the tea did not reflect the meagre rations of that time but there was a nod to the era with spam and corned beef in the sandwiches and jelly for afters! Huge thanks must go to everyone who contributed food and their time to making such a magnificent spread.

Christina Whitehead organised a raffle with prizes reflecting the wartime theme – a spade (to dig for victory), a week's ration of bacon, a bunch of bananas, sugar mice, a tin of 'wartime' chocolates and some pots of jam.

Donations and the proceeds of the raffle raised the amazing sum of £470 which has been split between The Royal British Legion and the Help for Heroes charities.

*Sue Hill*



## VE Day Beacon

Some twenty hardy souls came to the lighting of the VE Day Beacon on 8 May. Lance Corporal Elliot Haxby of the Bishop's Castle CCF did the honours and lit our Beacon. The formal Tribute for the occasion was thought provoking. Across the valley above Kempton, and out towards Brown Clee, other Beacons sparkled in the rain – we were not alone.

Thank you to all who braved the atrocious weather and brought delicious food and drink to warm our hearts!

*Carol and Jonathan Griffiths*



## Clunbury Village Hall Games Night



Saturday 13th June  
from 7pm

Free entrance – Fun  
for all ages

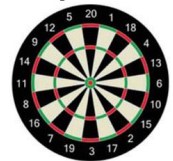


Table Tennis, Darts,  
Dominoes, Cards,  
Table Games

Tea and coffee  
available or bring  
your own drinks



### Clunbury 100 Club

Eileen Breach £20, Sarah Watkins £15,  
John Beazley £10, James Whitehead  
£5, Ann Wadsworth £3.

## **Annual Parish Assembly and Parish Council Meeting 14 May**

**E**ight councillors present + six members of the public. Apologies received from Cllr Sylvia Jones & Nigel Hartin (Shropshire Councillor).

### **Annual Assembly:**

Cllr Croxton welcomed everyone. He read the minutes of the Assembly held in 2014 and all councillors agreed that he sign them as a true record.

**Chairman's Report:** Cllr Croxton thanked all his colleagues for their work over the past year, not only at meetings but in giving their time and input to other issues, eg planning, mobile phone signal, Broadband. The Parish Council would have to see how the General Election result would affect local funding through Shropshire Council. He thanked all the volunteers involved with the Parish Plan for their hard work.

**Shropshire Councillor:** The clerk read a written report. It is included below this report.

**Accounts to the Year Ended 31/03/15:** Copies circulated to councillors. The Clerk confirmed that the war memorial has to be valued at the amount it cost when it was first erected; no allowance for appreciation or depreciation is allowed on fixed assets. All agreed that the chairman and clerk sign the official form and send it to the auditors. It was agreed that an offer from an auditor in Bishop's Castle to do the internal audit, free of charge, be accepted.

### **Parish Council Meeting:**

There were no declarations of interest but councillors were reminded that should anything on the agenda affect them, they must state this before the discussion.

**Election of Officers:** Chairman: Cllr Croxton; agreed unanimously. Vice Chairman: Cllr Davies; agreed unanimously. Agreed cheque signatories remain the same: Cllrs Croxton, Hill and

Morgan.

**Financial Regulations:** The Clerk distributed copies and councillors were asked to read, digest, and bring comments to the next meeting.

**Standing Orders:** The Clerk stated these had sunk without trace and couldn't be found.

**Parish Land:** No fresh news from Cllr Bailey. He hoped to report at the next meeting.

**AED Kempton:** Cllr Hoskins reported it was still out of order but the local co-ordinator was in touch with Cliff Medicott, Co-ordinator in Shrewsbury, who is looking into the matter.

**Shrewsbury Archives:** Clerk confirmed that they are open on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and every other Saturday. Documents can also be requested by email (not telephone) in advance and will be made ready. Further details from the Clerk.

**Oil & Gas Scheme:** See advert in this edition of the Parish Post.

**Bridleway at Ashbeds:** Mr Sweetman gave a short update on the situation. There is to be a Public Enquiry in Clunbury VH, 10am, Tuesday 22 September. Scheduled to last 1 or 2 days. Both sides have until the end of May to make their submissions and the Parish Council were asked for their support. A closed meeting was held after the general meeting to discuss this.

**Clunton Burial Ground:** Cllrs Davies & Harding had visited the site. The present owner is aware of the legal access and assured them that the prospective owner had been told. It is not on the title deeds but the owner's solicitor had investigated and there is a legal access up the lane and through the property although it is not a 'right of way'. Cllr Davies felt there will be little choice but to open up the access; however, this could involve considerable expense as a new gate would be needed, and the lane needs a lot of work to be

done. It was agreed that the council arrange a site meeting to see what can and should be done. The question of a headstone for an unmarked grave will be brought up with Parochial Church Council by Cllr Harding.

**Parish Plan Review:** Cllr Hill reported that the questionnaire responses were now nearly all entered on the Rural Community Council database. Numbers returned had been pleasing. The offers for volunteering will be followed up shortly.

**Planning:** *20/21 Kempton:* Turn into a single dwelling. No objections.

*Church House, Clunton:* Amended from 2 storey to 1 storey extension. No objections. Cllr Hoskins reported concerns from a Kempton parishioner regarding a possible planning breach. Clerk to contact Shropshire Council for clarification.

**South West Shropshire Committee:** No volunteers had been forthcoming to assist Cllrs Harding & Jones with the NHS consultation.

**Roads:** *Street lamp outside The Crown, Clunton* had been repaired.

*Purslow Cross Roads:* Cllr Croxton had contacted SC about moving the pole but no response received yet. He will contact them again and also bring up the question of the new white lines at Little Brampton cross roads. If nothing is heard by the next meeting he will contact Glyn Shaw at SC.

*Clunton Coppice:* Cllr Jones had reported that the Wildlife Trust agreed in principle to putting gravel on the passing places. There is also a problem at the beginning of the lane.

*Clunton:* a member of the public reported grave concerns regarding the speed of traffic through Clunton. SC had measured the speeds and, even with diversions in operation, due to the closure of Clun bridge, some speeds were excessive. Agreed the question of flashing signs will be mentioned to Glyn Shaw, together with problems still experienced in Twitchen not resolved in the last financial year. The

question of whether residents can put up their own signs, and concerns regarding speeding on the Kempton road were also raised.

#### **Finance:**

*Accounts:* Current a/c: £3048.15; Business Savings (including Sport & Leisure) a/c: £6892.17. Cllr Croxton confirmed that the precept had been raised partly due to the loss of £119 Council Tax Support Grant.

*SpArC:* funding is safe for the next two years. Councillors agreed not to provide funding at present.

*Insurance:* it was agreed to accept a 3 year proposal from AON (£353.08) with possible discount if all 3 years paid at once.

*Clerk's computer:* agreed that 2 or 3 cllrs would discuss this with the clerk.

**Any Other Business:** A resident has quoted £60 to provide two clear doors to the notice board in Twitchen. Agreed this offer be accepted and also new 'backing' be provided for the board.

Cllr Harding is off to a Royal Garden Party and everyone hoped she would thoroughly enjoy herself.

Cllr Morgan will represent the council at the funeral of Mrs Mary (Vin) Jones (former councillor).

Cllr Croxton commended to councillors a 'Fair Trade' leaflet outlining work done in the Clun Valley.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday 16 July, 8pm, at Clunbury VH.

*Lin Brown & Sheila Downes*

## **Shropshire Council Report**

This year has in many ways been one of the least busy I can remember in terms of what's going on at the Council. There has however been continued focus on reducing costs and changing the way we deliver services as we move towards becoming a fully commissioning council.

Satellite offices such as those in Wem, Bridgnorth and Ludlow have been sold off, we continue to reduce staff across the board and amalgamate services. The Council's delivery company, IP&E, has

been in place now for some three years but as yet there has been no actual profit ploughed back into the Council's coffers, as the company has so far only had support services moved across, although that will change this year with the transfer to IP&E of the planning service. I remain supportive of the premise that delivering services this way could be more cost-effective for Shropshire Council tax payers but the slow pace of transfer seems so far to have led to little in the way of improvement and there is only limited information being disseminated by the leader that we can scrutinise - we bizarrely have had to resort to paying personally for information from Companies House as to IP&E's financial health etc.

We have a new deputy leader of Council, Cllr Steve Charmley, taking over from Cllr Anne Hartley, but there were no other changes announced at today's AGM in Shrewsbury.

Looking forward, the Council is expecting to have to find a further £40m worth of savings in the next financial year and we are told this will be achieved by moving more and more services to IP&E and stopping doing others such as the youth service which has now effectively been transferred over to Local Joint Committees to deliver. Our own LJC has been given £3,000 to deliver or support some kind of youth provision across the Bishop's Castle, Clun, and Chirbury & Worthen Divisions. The grant funding to LJCs has been removed but it is able to provide a small grant scheme with some business and PC funding support.

The SamDev development plan has got through its last stages and is expected to be fully adopted by the end of June, now that the Council can demonstrate a five year land supply which has largely stopped speculative applications for housing outside of the sites identified in the plan. The planning committee structure is likely to change later this year to only one central

planning committee, rather than the three area ones at present, so that officers will deal with 99% of applications rather than them going to committee. This is something I don't approve of since I feel that more locally-based planning is needed, not the opposite, which is where this plan seems to be taking us. This year will also see a return to the Council's drive to amalgamate/federate schools across the County with the new government's plans for what amounts to a 10% cut in school funding being a key driver.

*Cllr Nigel Hartin, Clun Division*

## **Can You Help?**

**T**he Lydbury North Village Shop Association is looking for a new Treasurer/Book-keeper. Do you have the right skills and can spare a few hours each week?

Lydbury North Community Shop is run entirely by volunteers. The Treasurer role entails keeping the Shop's accounts in order, paying bills and reporting on the finances to the Shop's Committee. Previous book-keeping experience would be very useful, although there is a good deal of flexibility in how the job can be structured and/or divided, to fit in with an individual's preferences and abilities. There is also scope to bring your own ideas to the role, and it could be an opportunity for anyone wanting to learn a new skill, as full training can be given. Most of the work can be done from home, and at times to suit oneself, so it is not necessary to visit the shop on a regular basis, or at specific times.

The present Treasurer will be moving from the area in the coming months and finding an early replacement for her will allow ample time for training and a handing over period. If you think you might be interested, please telephone Fiona Hoskins on 660192 in the first instance for an informal chat.

## Parish Plan Review

The Parish Plan Team would like to thank everyone who completed the Volunteer section of the Questionnaire. Your details will be passed to the relevant organisations, where appropriate, and you will be contacted in due course.

*Parish Plan Review Team*

## News from South West Shropshire Gardening Club

There is no meeting in June at Lydbury North because we are visiting Windy Ridge garden in Little Wenlock, and having a meal at The Huntsman. Details of the garden are in the NGS pamphlet for Shropshire.



Fast approaching: our annual Garden & Produce Show is on Saturday 5 September, so now is a good time to start thinking about your potential entries. There are nearly a hundred classes to choose from, so whether you are interested in growing flowers, fruit or vegetables, taking photographs, making things such as scarecrows, handicrafts or home baking, there is something for everyone. Anyone is welcome to enter at a cost of only thirty pence per class. Further details and entry forms in our Show Schedule can be obtained from Sandy Burton 680454 or [sandy\\_burton@btinternet.com](mailto:sandy_burton@btinternet.com) or online [www.gardeningshropshire.co.uk](http://www.gardeningshropshire.co.uk).

*Angie Salmon*

## Public Use of Defibrillator (AED)

Following an inquiry from a local resident about whether anyone could use a publicly accessible defibrillator, I thought a brief explanation might be helpful.

If you dial 999 and report a cardiac arrest (ie there is no heartbeat or breathing), ambulance control will tell you the location of the nearest AED. They will ask you or anyone else present, if you are prepared to use it, and if you are, they will tell you the code number on the AED box to enable you to access it.

Of course, it is much better if people are trained on its use, but it is still possible to use one as they are fairly self-explanatory and control will stay on the line to talk you through it.

It must just be remembered that in the case of cardiac arrest, time is of the essence and good and *effective* CPR (chest compressions and rescue breaths) are essential and must be started immediately after making the 999 call. It would be better to do that and have someone else go for the AED, although the ambulance and possibly First Responders will already be on their way.

If you want to learn more about giving CPR, I am always happy to come and talk to you and show you how to do it (on our mannequins!) We are also keen to run a free 2 hour session called Heartstart, for any groups in South Shropshire, which will train you to deal with heart attacks, cardiac arrest, recovery position, choking, serious bleeding, etc. For courses, please contact Eddie Jones on 640856. *Lin Brown*

## Clunton Scrumpters

We will be cracking open the cider barrel on Saturday 20 June. All welcome to come and sample this year's cider. Light refreshments available. Held at Fold Farm, Clunton from 6pm.

## Moorlands Rescue Dog Kennels

### Coffee Morning

Saturday 27 June

10.30 to 12.30

Clunton Village Hall

Coffee and Cakes

Bring & Buy, Raffle



## Shropshire Hills AONB - New Funding for Clun Catchment

Alison Jones is leading a new four year River Clun Recovery Project which continues the work with landowners in the Clun catchment to improve freshwater, riparian and small woodland habitats.

The project is able to fund practical work such as the coppicing and pollarding of riverbank trees to improve their health, the provision of alternative drinking points for livestock and fencing alongside the rivers to allow natural regeneration. This helps to reduce sediment and nutrient runoff into the rivers, while tree planting and woodland creation, also funded under the project, helps to reconnect fragmented river habitats in the catchment.

The project is also focused on creating recovery sites for freshwater pearl mussels and with landowner support suitable sites will be improved, repaired or created to provide an in-catchment



refuge for this critically endangered animal.

For more information on the project and grants available please contact Alison on 674096 or email: [alison.m.jones@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:alison.m.jones@shropshire.gov.uk)

## And Are Its Eggs Golden?

Sit on the commemorative bench by the T Bridge at Kempton, look across the Kemp, and there, amongst trunks of alder and stems of nettle, squats a pure white goose. It arrived (swam, blew in, flew in, waddled there) some time in April. On the first perhaps?



*Spot the goose*

Furtive examination by a reporter from the Post revealed no sign of golden eggs, showed indeed that this was replica not reality. Is this, then, a joke at the expense of Kempton's birders? Or a hoax they themselves have set up? Or a kind gift to the village from person or persons unknown?

Answers please to the 'Parish Post' via quill pen or on 'Gabbler' (we don't do 'Twitter').

*Our poultry correspondent*

### Oil & Gas Scheme

Anyone interested in co-ordinating such a scheme for the Parish? Please contact your Parish Councillor or the Parish Post.

### CONTACTS

**Email:** [theparishpost@gmail.com](mailto:theparishpost@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.theparishpost.org](http://www.theparishpost.org)

**Phone:** Sue Hill 660355  
or Lin Brown 660578  
or Gisèle Wall 660561

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 June 2015

Mon 1	9-11am	Parent & Toddler Group—every Mon in term time. Just turn up	Clunbury Village Hall
Wed 3		Quiz—proceeds to Midlands Air Ambulance	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Sat 6	9.30am-2pm	Severn Hospice Bookshop Fair in the Square	Craven Arms
Sat 6	10am-2pm	Clunbury Playgroup Table Top Sale	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 6	7.30pm	Flicks—What we did on our Holiday	Clun Memorial Hall
Sun 7	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 8	7-9pm	Monday Night Club—free help with using computers	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Tue 9	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am,		Obley 12.45-12.55pm
Thu 11	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 11	7pm	Flicks—Wild	SpArC
Sat 13	10am-2pm	Craft & Collectables Market	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sat 13	From 7pm	Clunbury Games Night	Clunbury Village Hall
Sun 14	6.30pm	Joint Evening Prayer	St Mary's, Clunton
Sat 20	6pm	Clunton Scrumperns - Cider Barrel Opening	Fold Farm, Clunton
Sat 20		Clun Open Gardens	
Sun 21		Clun Open Gardens	
Sun 21	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Tue 23	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am,		Obley 12.45-12.55pm
Wed 24	9.15pm	Live Acoustic Folk Music	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Thu 25		Tim's Travels—'Mrs Warren's Profession'—640506	Cheltenham
Thu 25	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 25	7pm	Flicks—Selma	SpArC
Sat 27	10.30-12.30	Coffee Morning for Moorlands Rescue Dog Kennels	Clunton Village Hall
Sun 28	11.15am	Joint Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
<b>Events Diary for early July 2015</b>			
Sun 5	2-5pm	Clunbury School Summer Fête	Clunbury School
Sun 5	7pm	Songs of Praise in four-part harmony. Tel 661171 for info	Kempton Village Hall

### Children with Cancer UK

reg charity 298405

#### For Sale

**Plants, Jams, etc  
from 50p**

**at Obley, during the summer months**

For details, contact Pam Trewin  
The Barn, Obley, Bucknell SY7 0BZ

### Fair at the Square

The Severn Hospice will hold its second "Fair at the Square" outside the bookshop in Craven Arms on Saturday 6 June, 9.30am-2.00pm.

Come along, bag a bargain, and help our cause.

### Advance Notice

Clunbury School Summer Fête  
Sunday 5 July, 2-5pm  
At the School

### Craft & Collectables Market

Aston on Clun Village Hall  
Saturday 13 June, 10am-2pm  
*Demonstration - Felting with Flair  
by Pearl Taylor, textile artist from  
Duckshed Textiles*