

Queen's Birthday Beacon

Over a thousand beacons were registered in the UK to celebrate the Queen's ninetieth birthday. Key ones were lit on the highest points of the UK by members of the Combined Cadet Force – and we echoed this by having Lance Corporal Elliot Haxby of our local CCF fire our beacon at Cwmbydd Farm.

Apologies for the lack of wide publicity for the beacon – we realised it coincided with lambing and knew that we would not have the oomph to do much apart from build it and light it. We offered it to various local groups to take over as a potential fundraiser – but they were not able to, so we left it as being little more than us and the beacon...

But then we got a call from Radio Shropshire asking if they could join us for the lighting ceremony – so Pat Harding very kindly popped a few notices up in the pub and so on... and over thirty hardy souls gathered at the top of Quarry Field to mark the occasion, including Genevieve Tudor from Radio Shropshire. It was a lovely ad hoc event – a family from Leintwardine, who had been eating in The Crown, joined us after Della mentioned it. We all appreciated Jenny Huffer's quiche, and Catherine Lishman's biscuits, there was mulled wine and cheese straws and, when the nippiness really started to strike, a bottle of sloe gin magically appeared!



The view was amazing – we could clearly see two other beacons, and had much entertainment trying to work out if the faint glows we could see still further away were

beacons, or security lights, or someone who had left their headlights on!

Jonathan and Carol Griffiths

Vintage Time at Royal Tea

On a lovely sunny afternoon, Kempton Village Hall was the venue for a Royal Vintage Tea to mark the 90th Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen.

Over 50 people enjoyed a sumptuous tea of ham, cucumber, cheese, salmon, and egg & cress sandwiches together with many delightful cakes – all served on vintage china. In addition there was a running show of photos and films of the Royal Family, a quiz based on the life of Her Majesty and a raffle. The winner of the quiz was Lucy Lewis.



Everybody enjoyed a lovely, relaxing afternoon. Thanks to all the village hall committee for their hard work, especially Claire Hern for initiating the event, Colin Pentecost for making the cake stands, and Ed Cooper for the film show and quiz.

Sheila Downes

Crown at Clunton

On the weekend of Saturday 14 & Sunday 15 May, Andy, Della & family are having a well deserved break. The bar will be open both days from 5pm but no food will be served.

The Key to a Good Meal

When we go on holiday we hide away small items, such as the keys for our second car, a Land Rover, which might be of interest to an intruder. The only problem until recently, probably age related, was remembering where we had put them. Unfortunately, during our last trip away we did have an intruder of the Genus Mus. This rodent must have felt peckish and found the soft pads (the bits you press) on the key fobs just to its taste. The surrounding plastic was clearly a bit too tough (I wonder if its mother didn't make it eat its crusts) so we ended up with both keys with holes in them. To our dismay we found that the Land Rover dealer charges around £200 for each replacement key. Our keys still worked if you poked a little finger into the hole to press the switch, but this didn't seem like a long term solution. Looking on-line we discovered that Land Rover keys frequently get damaged, mostly during agricultural activities, and that there is a thriving aftermarket in replacement shells. So £8 and a lot of fiddling to transfer the insides and the metal key later we have two functioning and more or less original-looking keys.



David Hill

Clunbury Village Hall

presents

A Film and Supper Night The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

Cert 12A



Saturday 21 May 7.00pm

Indian Food

with English alternative



Cost: £7.50 (12-16: £5)

Bring your own drinks

To book call Eirlys Ellams 660625

or email

ellams999@btinternet.com

Two Authors

(John Osborne & Bruce Chatwin)

One Guided Walk

A 3 mile literary pilgrimage

led by Keith Pybus

Saturday 7 May 10am - 12.30pm

The walk starts at Clunton Coppice car park (Grid Ref 341805), and goes first to Cwm Hall, where Chatwin started writing "On the Black Hill", then through Soudley Wood to The Hurst, Osborne's house and garden. The walk is linear and all drivers will be given a lift back to their cars at the end.

Booking is essential as numbers are limited

Contact Chrissie Verduyn 07976

733164

or email

osborneandafterclun@gmail.com

Purslow Show Fundraiser

Saturday 4 June

Clunbury Village Hall

Doors open 6pm Eyes Down 6.30pm

Bingo

Light refreshments

Raffle

Licensed bar

Bring and Share Lunch

Clunbury Village

celebrates

The Queen's 90th birthday

Sunday 12 June



12.30 onwards

In The Vicarage Orchard

or Clunbury Village Hall (if wet)

All Welcome

Promoters – Clunbury Village Hall in conjunction with Clunbury PCC and village members

Contact Eirllys Ellams 01588 660625

ellams999@btinternet.com

St Cuthbert's Church Clungunford

Coffee morning

with a Raffle & Stalls of good things

Friday 20 May 10am onwards

Donations of items, cakes, money, and help will be welcomed!

In support of

Christian Aid Week (15 – 21 May)

Ring 660158 for further details

Clunbury 100 Club April Draw

Jean Jones £20; Ruth Seabury £15;

Heather Jones £10; Marianne Hints

£5; Michael Beedles £3

News from South West Shropshire Gardening Club

Wednesday 25 May

Lydbury North Village Hall

**“Hedgerow Medicines and Kitchen
Pharmacy”**

Rowan McOnegal



Rowan originally trained as a painter and became a freelance photographer, with a special interest in the natural world. Later, her experience of modern medicine versus traditional therapy, combined with her fascination with botany and the positive ways in which people can react with their environment, led her to qualify as a medical herbalist in 1990. Rowan grows and harvests herbs in her two acre garden in Herefordshire, where she also runs courses to teach people to do the same for themselves. She is an expert in identifying and foraging for wild herbs; growing, harvesting, drying and storing herbs; making cosmetics and medical preparations such as teas, tinctures, inhalations, ointments, infused oils, rubs and syrups.

Whatever your level of interest in herbs, this talk is likely to be fascinating, informative and interesting.

The talk is free to members of South West Shropshire Gardening Club; visitors: £5 per person including refreshments. Any further queries to our Chairman, Carol Clarke 660753 or our Secretary, Allison Walter 620055 or look at our website

www.gardeningshropshire.co.uk

'Cast Ne'er a Clout Ere May is Out'

This injunction: 'don't cast off any clothes until after the month of May', appears pessimistic, even in as cold a spring as this one. But if the advice is taken to apply to the blossoms of the hawthorn (commonly referred to as May), which are out in the first half of the month, it makes more sense, and soon now our hedgerows will be decked with creamy-white blooms.

Another seasonal bloom that sometimes carries the name of the month is the May flower, better known as lady's smock. Look for it now on river-sides



and other damp places where its delicate four-petalled, pinky-white flowers overtop the grass. A further name for this plant is cuckoo flower, marking its appearance at a time when cuckoos are in song. But few are heard these days,



so we might instead call it the butterfly flower in recognition of the association between the plant and that startlingly coloured butterfly the orange-tip.

It is an obvious name for the male butterfly, whose white upper wings carry colourful tips, but not so for the female which lacks this colouration but shares with the male intricate green marbling on the underside of the hind wings.



And the association between butterfly and plant? It is one of the plants on which the female lays her eggs and the resulting caterpillars feed. *Tom Wall*



Update on Broadband Provision

*Shropshire & Marches Campaign
for Better Broadband in Rural Areas*

At a meeting in the Hundred House, on 26 April, members of the community were told by a manager from the County Council that Phase 1 (installing fibre optic cabinets at some locations) will be completed by the end of 2016. Phase 2 (to be completed by the end of 2017) will see more cabinets installed. Clunton and Kempton are included in this phase of development, but not other areas of the parish.

BT is the only provider at the moment. However for phase 3, it is intended to open the field to other providers who might consider other forms of broadband provision. The public consultation for phase 3 will start towards the end of the summer and the Parish Council will be advised of the procedure.

Gisèle Wall

Compulsory Microchipping for all Dogs

With effect from 6 April 2016, it is a legal requirement for all dogs aged 8 weeks and over to be microchipped and the chip must contain up-to-date contact information.



**WHY TAKE THE RISK?
GET YOUR PET MICROCHIPPED**

If your dog does not have a microchip or if your current details are not recorded on an approved database, you could face a fine of up to £500 on conviction.

For further information please visit www.dogstrust.org.uk

SpArC Update - 20% Raised in 4 Weeks

Shropshire Council leader, Malcolm Pate and Chief Executive, Clive Wright, visited SpArC on Thursday 14 April to explain the Council's position on spending cuts. They faced a packed audience in a two hour question and answer session. Questions ranged from the size of the Chief Executive's bonus (£25,000) this year through to how the Council can help to ensure the centre continues to operate and they painted a gloomy picture. At no point did either man describe any plans for future income generation by the Council for the County of Shropshire. They gave no assurances about the future of SpArC and, when repeatedly questioned about financial support going forward, they could only reply, "*budgets are budgets*". It means that Shropshire Council's financial support for SpArC will drop to zero at the end of March 2017. At this point it will close unless voluntary contribution targets to save it can be achieved.

Already the campaign to save the SpArC is gathering pace and funding. This week comes news that Tough Furniture Ltd has donated £1,000. The company is a family-owned business which started in Clun 25 years ago and now has a factory in Craven Arms, employing 30 people. Their speciality is designing and manufacturing furniture for the niche market of care for people with learning and behavioural difficulties. David Vesty, Managing Director, says "Several of our team use SpArC's facilities so we are pleased to contribute. It is an important centre and is crucial to a largely rural and remote area. It is vital for the community's exercise, health and general well-being".

Campaign supporter, Jean Shirley says, "This is fantastic news. Tough Furniture's donation has broken the first £10,000 mark which we have achieved in just four weeks. It is 20% of our initial £50,000 budget which we need to save the SpArC's swimming pool from closure."

For more information go to www.savethesparc.org
To make a donation go to www.podiumpartners.org

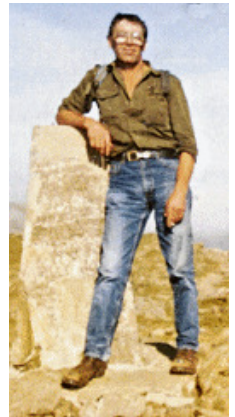
Farewell to Ed Angell

On 5 April, Clunbury Church was overflowing with Ed's family and friends attending his funeral. Born in Kempton, Ed was a true countryman; he started out as a farm worker and became a skilled tree surgeon and forester. He was a kind man who was always there to help anyone in need. He was a familiar face in the Hundred House and Crown where he enjoyed a well-earned pint after a hard day's work.

Just before Christmas Ed was diagnosed with cancer and only given a few days to live. He put up a great battle and even made his 59th birthday, but, sadly passed away on 19 March.

Ed was laid to rest in Clunbury Churchyard with his parents and many of the family who have lived in the area for generations.

He will be sadly missed by his family, his partner Jo and all those who were privileged to know him.



Julia Brereton

Events Diary for May 2016

Sun 1	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sun 1	2-6pm	NGS Open Garden for cancer and caring charities	Millichope Park
Sun 1	7pm	Songs of Praise in four-part harmony. Tel 661171 for info.	Kempton Village Hall
Mon 2		Clunbury School Closed—Bank Holiday	
Mon 2		Green Man Day	Clun
Tue 3	7.30pm	Flicks—Suffragette-680302	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 4		Quiz—proceeds to Midlands Air Ambulance	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
7th-15th		BC Walking Festival	
Sat 7	10am-12.30pm	Osborne & After-Guided Walk	Clunton Coppice
Sat 7	11am-2pm	Spring Sale and soup lunch.	Bedstone Village Hall
Sat 7	7.30pm	Flicks-Spectre-660545	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sun 8	6.30pm	Joint Evening Prayer	St Mary's, Clunton
Mon 9	9-11.30am	Parent&Toddler Group-every Mon in term time. Just turn up	Clunbury Village Hall
Tue 10	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Thu 12	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 12	2-5pm	NGS Open Garden for cancer and caring charities	Avocet, Plealey
Thu 12	7pm	NT Live—A View from the Bridge-Encore	SpArC
Sun 15	2-6pm	NGS Open Garden	Guilden Down Cottage, Clun
Sun 15	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 16	7pm	Flicks—Room	SpArC
Wed 18		Tim's Travels—'Travels with my Aunt'—640506	Malvern
Thu 19	7.30pm	Annual Parish Mtg AGM followed by Parish Council Mtg	Clunton Village Hall
Fri 20	10am	Coffee Morning in support of Christian Aid-660158	St Cuthbert's, Clungunford
Fri 20	8pm	Flicks-45 Years 660727/660781	Clungunford Parish Hall
Sat 21	7pm	Film-Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel + Supper-660625	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 21	7.30pm	Flicks—Brooklyn	Clun Memorial Hall
Sat 21	10am-1pm	Craft & Collectables Market	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sun 22	11.15am	Joint CW Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sun 22	11am-5pm	NGS Open Garden for cancer and caring charities	Mynd Hardy Plants, Diddlebury
Mon 23	7.30pm	Live Acoustic Folk Music	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Tue 24	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Wed 25	7.30pm	SWSGC—Hedgerow Medicines & Kitchen Pharmacy	Lydbury North Village Hall
Thu 26	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
29/30	2-5pm	NGS Open Garden-for cancer and caring charities	Upper Shelderton House
29/30	1.30-5.30pm	NGS Open Garden for cancer and caring charities	Walcot Hall, Lydbury North
Sun 29	1.15pm	Arbor Day	Aston on Clun
30-3/6		Clunbury School Half Term	
JUNE			
Sat 4	6pm for 6.30	Purslow Show Fundraiser—Bingo	Clunbury Village Hall

Contacts

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