

The Parish Post

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

Grantastic!

What an intrepid, determined and courageous lady we have living within our parish! A lady, who on her 89th birthday, jumped out of a plane at 13,000ft to raise money for charity.

Jean Seckington, from Twitchen, explained how it all came about. "A very good friend of mine from Leintwardine, had given me a lot of help with my field, and was telling me about her daughter, living out in Mozambique, where local communities have to drink from dirty ponds. Her daughter is involved with the Mahaque Well Project which provides clean drinking water to the villages and each well costs £2,900. I decided I would like to do something to raise some money for them but it was a question of what."

Jean had read about an RAF widow, in her 70s, who had done a tandem parachute jump and she wrote to her, enclosing a donation and asking her how she had gone about it; but time went by and eventually her letter was returned unopened. However, by then, Jean had decided this was what she wanted to do.

She was turned down by two aerodromes due to her age, but Jean was discussing it with Baz Capsey, a fellow volunteer at the Lydbury North village shop, and discovered Baz's son, Paul, is a professional skydiver and photographer, and photographs the Red Devils - the British Parachute Regiment's freefall display team at Netheravon, near Salisbury.

Paul needed some convincing by his father that Jean really was fit and well



enough and she had to undergo a medical. The doctor had never met Jean before and remarked that her blood pressure was a little high. "Yes," said Jean, "because I'm worried you might not pass me!"

Fortunately, she did pass, and so, with only 2 months left to plan it, Jean decided it would be wonderful to do the jump near to her birthday. Saturday, 28 June was the allotted day and friends, Terry Cousins and Baz from the Lydbury North shop, drove her down to Wiltshire. Jean says she is indebted to them both for all the help and support they gave her.

Please send your contributions by the 20th of each month

All day Saturday, along with her family, they waited for the weather, but the cloud cover was too low.

However, early Sunday morning, on Jean's 89th birthday, conditions were perfect and the attempt was on.

"I was strapped to Corp Mike French and the 12 of us sat on the floor of the plane, hitching ourselves forward to the door, when it was our turn. We edged out and then somersaulted to fall clear of the plane, at 13,000ft, above the clouds, and were in freefall for 6,500ft. It only took about 45 seconds as we were travelling at over 100 mph. I thought it would be terrifying to fall but it wasn't at all - just this amazing feeling of freedom; like flying!"

Corp French was wearing an altimeter on his wrist and deployed the chute. "I was expecting a bit of a jerk but it wasn't too bad - nothing to frighten you. I expect my family watching below, were relieved though!"

It took another 8-10 mins for the remainder of the descent, the whole thing captured in some amazing photos taken by Paul Capsey. "The ground came up very fast in the last 10 seconds, but I pulled my legs up as instructed, so Corp French touched down first. I was so worried I'd be sick, but I only felt a little queasy when we were swirling in the freefall.

"What was so lovely was that my family, including my 22 year old granddaughters, were there to see me and they were so excited. They gave me a card with Grantastic on it!"

Jean has been overwhelmed by people's generosity and has so far raised £2,754.54. Donations can still be sent to Sunnyside, Twitchen, Craven Arms, SY7 0HN or left at the Lydbury North shop.

I asked Jean if she had done other intrepid things in her life? "No, not really, unless you count delivering babies in the black-out in London.

You know the TV series - 'Call the Midwife'? Well, that was us - it was exactly like that. We used to ask the husbands to stand outside the house with a torch, so we could find where we were going!"

The final word though must go to Jean's GP. She saw the write up in the 'Shropshire Journal' and sent Jean a cheque for £100 and a card which read, "I'm rather glad I didn't know beforehand what you were doing!"

Lin Brown



2014



**PURSLOW SPORTS, SHOW
& GYMKHANA**

67th Show
To be held at **Purslow Farm**
on August Bank Holiday Monday
25 August, from 1.30pm



Handicraft & Produce Show Tent
Novelty Dog Show
Agility Dog Show
Car boots
and all usual attractions



Free Car Parking
Admission £5
Children under 14 FREE
Handicraft & Produce Schedules
available from shops, cafés & pubs
throughout the area
online at www.theparishpost.org
or from Eirlys Ellams on 660625

Social Evening in the Marquee
Saturday 23 August

Light refreshments, bar, raffle
Pay at the door
Details from J Huffer 660539

Remembering World War 1

The exhibition at Clunbury remembering World War 1 centred on the lives of the men who are named on our war memorials at Purslow and Clunbury. They had been researched in great detail by Valerie Redgrave who deserves our heartfelt thanks for revealing to us so much about the family background and circumstances of the men who did not return, showing us where they lived, where they were killed and where commemorated. It is particularly poignant to note the families who lost more than one son in the fighting.

An enthusiastic crowd came to the opening on Sunday 13 July, several with mementoes of their families including medals and letters, even a tiny bible that was posted to the front, and more than 60 people attended the service of readings and hymns which followed.

An enormous thank you to the very many people who contributed in so many ways to the exhibition, including children from Clunbury school who made doves of peace to decorate the screen, and to the Rev Robert Payne for taking the service. Donations from the exhibition will be donated to Help for Heroes.

The exhibition continues until 4 August at Clunbury and thereafter at Clunton.

Great War Exhibition

The Exhibition to commemorate the men from Clunbury Parish who died in the First World War will be in Clunton church from Monday 4 August.

As 4 August is the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the war, there will be a vigil in St Mary's, Clunton from 7.00 to 7.30pm. You may like to come and light a candle of remembrance.

All are welcome. The church will be open daily for you to look at all the photographs, medals and other wonderful exhibits and read about the many local men who sacrificed their lives.

Pat Harding

News from South West Shropshire Gardening Club



Our outing to Westonbury Mill Water Gardens in June was perfect, in my humble opinion! We were met by the owner Richard Pim who was exactly as I had imagined him, wearing wellies and looking as if he spent every minute contentedly working in the magical garden he has created. His sense of humour and open-minded approach became apparent as he explained that he knew nothing about gardening initially, and simply ordered one of every plant in the catalogue to see what would survive! His quirky creations, including a giant cuckoo clock and a sparkling grotto

made of wine bottles, are great fun but there is also exquisite planting providing stunning colour



and textures. It is not every day you have the opportunity to walk through a grove of Gunnera and feel like a character from "The Borrowers"! Our meal at The Boot in Orleton was delicious and the evening was concluded by relaxing in the warm sunshine to finish our drinks. Gardening is not all hard work!

GARDEN AND PRODUCE SHOW (see details on penultimate page)

There are three easy ways to enter:

1. Complete the entry form in the middle of the schedule and send to Sandy with a cheque, before 28 August (address is on the back of the form).
2. Email entries to Sandy: keith.burton785@btinternet.com.
3. Bring a cheque or cash to the show. Enter on the day, before 10am (costs 50p each instead of 30p)

For further details please contact our Show Organiser, Sandy Burton 680454 or email keith.burton785@btinternet.com.

Angie Salmon

Clunbury School Roundup – Summer Term

Kempton Pupils Past & Present!

Clunbury School has been around a long time, but it isn't often that current pupils have the chance to meet a fellow student from a bygone era. Mrs Lilian Clee is 103 years old and now lives in Hendra House, Ludlow. Gemma Fletcher, a Clunbury parent and Teaching Assistant, met her there and arranged the visit.

Lilian Evans, as she was then, came to Clunbury School together with her sister when her family moved into the area to live in Kempton. The children looked for her name in the handwritten school logs and discovered she started in 1920 – nearly a century ago, and soon after WW1. Lilian was able to share some of her memories and was delighted to show her school photo to the children and receive a lovely bouquet. It's hard to say who enjoyed the visit most!



Lilian is pictured here with the current Kempton contingent – Charlie, Tengri, Acina, and Jessica, whose mother Julie, a school governor, is on the left, and Acting Head Michelle Evans.

A Word from Miss Evans

What a year! I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of my first year as Acting Head and relished the opportunity to play my part in the education of all the children. This term has been particularly busy, kicking off with KSII SATs in May. We were very proud of how our year 6s performed during SATs week. They came in with a fantastic attitude and all tried their best. We had great results this year which reflects how hard they all worked.

It has not all been hard work this term though. We have had trips including KSII Summer Camp, Crucial Crew about keeping safe in the modern world, Class Act Violin Concert, children's author Cathy Cassidy at Oakengates Theatre, The Lion King at Liverpool's Empire Theatre, The Sea Life Centre for KSI and Reception, Shropshire Sings and several sporting fixtures. We have also had in school events including the Penny Marsh Memorial Day, Unity Community Picnic, the Summer Fair, Arts workshops and a WW1 theatre Production. Our children have contributed to the WW1 exhibition in St Swithin's church and the Purslow show. It is important to us to offer pupils a wide range of activities in addition to their classroom experience and we are grateful to the Friends of Clunbury School for financing many of these extras.

Goodbye my Friends

This was the title of the KS2 Performance and great fun was had by all, both in the preparation and the presentation of this comic masterpiece! Its various scenes centred round the memories of those leaving primary school and was particularly apt for the 9 Year 6s moving on to their various new schools in the autumn. They have had a great last term, and we wish them all the very best for the future.

Penny Valentine

The Agony and the (very occasional) Ecstasy

Spare a thought on Saturday 9 August for the stalwart band of Shrewsbury Town Football Club supporters. They travel to Wimbledon for the opening match of the 2014/15 campaign in the knowledge that last year their team won just nine of their 46 League One games, finished joint bottom of the league and were relegated. Sheila Downes of Kempton sat through every game, home and away – well, except when rising to her feet to berate her team, wave her blue and amber scarf and give expert advice to the ref.

What sparked Sheila's devotion? (How else to describe a passion so rarely requited?) Her son Tim bears the responsibility. On a family holiday in Yorkshire, in August 1992, he persuaded Sheila to take him to see Shrewsbury play away at York. Although, of course, they lost, Sheila resolved to attend the return fixture in February. Then she found she'd caught the bug (badly) and couldn't wait that long. She started to attend all of the Town's home games and, by the 1993/94 season, she was attending away games too. Husband Nick joins her for home fixtures, as does Tim whenever he can.

But amongst the disappointments there have been some very special moments, not least beating Aldershot on penalties in the play-offs in 2004 to return to the prestigious Football League from the lowly Conference, to which the club had sunk the previous season. Yet this had been the season in which, in an FA Cup game at the old Gay Meadow, the Shrews had famously beaten Premiership team Everton. Chelsea beat Shrewsbury in the next round but the match was lit up by the skills of



Gianfranco Zola. Other stars Sheila has seen at the Meadow (old and new) include Wayne Rooney, Didier Drogba, Teddy Sheringham, Ole Gunnar Solskjær and the current England goalie, Joe Hart, formerly a Town player.

Looking for some agony leavened by very occasional ecstasy? Then join the coach which travels to home games from Ludlow, calling at Craven Arms (details from Sheila on 660626). Fancy an away game? Sheila can advise on that too, though fresh in her memory is a trip to Carlisle this spring when the coach got caught in a traffic jam; they were still there at the final whistle!

Tom Wall

The Parish Post is always keen to hear from its readers. Are you too a suffering Shrew?

Come and Join us for A Summer Lunch



Clunbury Village Hall

Thursday 21 August

12.30pm

£4

For more information contact

Eirlys Ellams 660625

Broadband News

To check if fibre has arrived at one of the green roadside cabinets near you, look out for the vinyl 'fibre broadband is here' stickers that will be appearing on fibre-enabled cabinets, signifying that the work is done, and fibre is ready and waiting to be ordered from your chosen ISP.

Look in the Parish Council Report for more details.

Parish Council Meeting of 17/7

7 councillors present, the clerk and 5 members of the public. Apologies: Sandra Morgan, David Hill and Nigel Hartin.

Rural Broadband: Ben Walker, from 'Connecting Shropshire', explained the aims of the programme developed by Shropshire Council, in tandem with BT Openreach to provide fibre broadband to local homes and businesses, where other providers fail to deliver. This is a particularly tall order in rural areas such as this, as the funds are limited. In most cases the most cost-effective solution, which they have started to implement, is to install fibre optic cables from the local exchange to the four existing telephone 'cabinets' in the Little Brampton area; from there on, the existing copper network is used to relay signals to private homes. All but the Purslow cabinet are operational; here negotiations are in hand with the land owner and, subject to this, the cabinet will go live. In order to benefit from the new provision, households will need to order an upgrade from their service provider (and may incur an additional charge). Cllr Hoskins of Kempton queried the broadband speed delivered to some households. Ben Walker explained that, unfortunately, any home further than a mile from the cabinet is unlikely to benefit fully. Should you want him to investigate your particular problem, he will do so, but solutions are likely to be costly and would have to be borne by the relevant households. For more information, go to www.connectingshropshire.co.uk, or email ben.walker@shropshire.gov.uk

Parish Council Meeting

Review of Parish Plan: Further good feedback from the open session at Kempton. The questionnaire is being prepared and should be ready by early autumn.

Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations: the clerk will send a draft of the proposed standing orders and of the financial regulations document to all councillors.

Outing to the Black Hill: the councillors have been thinking of going to the parish land at the Black Hill, to establish the lie of the land. A date around mid-August, early evening, was suggested but not confirmed. The clerk will circulate maps.

Clunton pub business rates: The clerk has been in touch with Shropshire Council regarding waste collection at the pub. She was informed that the Council collect from private premises, but not from commercial premises, as there would be too much refuse. Cllr Croxton had spoken to the owner of the Hundred House regarding this issue, and thought that theirs was collected, but could not recall; he will talk to the owner again.

Ashbeds right of way: Any objections have to be lodged by 8 August. If there are objections, there will be another enquiry.

Clunton Burial Ground: The Land Registry documentation shows access to the Burial Ground; however, it was suggested that some more effort be made to get sight of the deeds, to try and determine the original right of way. The clerk will look into this.

Local Joint Committee: still exists, but a change of name is proposed: South West Shropshire Joint Committee. It has no county funding and the members are trying to set up a local fund, by sending a letter to organisations (such as the Parish Councils), businesses, etc, asking for donations, with a view to redistributing this money to worthwhile causes.

Planning: An extension to Mrs Jones's property in Clunton was examined by Cllr Davies; no objection.

Roads: *Twitche*n - Junction at Three Ashes: a site visit, with Glyn Shaw of

Shropshire Council will be arranged to see how best to deal with the lack of visibility; an extra speed limit repeater sign would be welcome.

Clunbury Hill: Surface dressing will take place 5 August.

Little Brampton crossroads: work will begin 29 September.

Clunton: Shropshire Council conducted a speed survey at 'Coppice View' where access is dangerous. Traffic speeds were below those at which the police will consider enforcement action. The survey was conducted at the time of the Clun road closure, when the traffic was considerably reduced, however Glyn Shaw thinks that the results would probably not be very different at any other time. An interactive speed sign could be put up, but this would have to wait until funding was available. It was decided that a site visit should be arranged with Glyn Shaw.

Cllr S Jones reported a problem caused by the *South Shropshire Cycling Challenge* in which there were hundreds of participants who used the small lanes. She felt this was unsafe and disruptive to local traffic. It was suggested that the PC should make contact with the Police and the organisers regarding future such events.

Finance: Community A/c: £2,780.13; Business Saver: £6,889.60; Expenditure to be settled: Clerk's salary: £304.16; Clerk's expenses: £165.70; Hire of Clunton Hall: £7.25; Hire of Clunbury Hall: £10.00.

AOB: A member of the public reported a tree with overhanging branch too close to an electricity box. The electricity board has been in touch with Cllr Croxton, who will check that this particular tree is part of their lopping programme.

Next meeting: 18 September, 8pm, Kempton Village Hall. *Gisèle & Tom Wall*

2014 SOUTH WEST SHROPSHIRE

GARDEN & PRODUCE SHOW



Saturday
30th
August
2014

Lydbury North
Village Hall

2.00 to 4.30pm
Exhibits staged from 9.30am



Organised by South West Shropshire Gardening Club: Open to Members & Non-Members
Huge range of exhibits plus refreshments and plant stall

www.shropshiregardening.co.uk

Or call Sandy Burton: 01588 680454

New Challenge Walk to Raise Funds for Bishop's Castle Town Hall

A new challenge walk on Saturday 16 August 2014 is being organised to help raise funds to support Bishop's Castle Town Hall, which has recently been refurbished with Heritage Lottery funding. The 24, 13 or 11 mile route options take you through the stunning landscape of the Shropshire Hills and Welsh Border Countryside. Entrance fee - 24 miles: £15 adults, £5 for 14-16 year olds; 13 or 11 miles: £12 adults, £5 for 11-16 year olds. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult and it is not suitable for children under 11. A light lunch and refreshments are included in the price. The Town Hall will, amongst other things, house a manned information centre which will be a real boost to the town and surrounding area. For more information visit their website www.bcchallengewalk.co.uk

Steven Levers

Events Diary for August 2014

Fri 1	7.30pm	Clun Carnival Canter followed by Live Music at 9pm	The White Horse Inn, Clun
Sat 2	6pm onwards	Barbecue	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 2	All day	Clun Carnival & Show	Clun
Sun 3	11am	Clun Carnival Praise	Clun Showground
Sun 3	7pm	Songs of Praise in four-part harmony. Tel 661171 for info	Kempton Village Hall
Sun 3	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St. Swithin's, Clunbury
4th-8th	2-5pm	Holiday Club for all of school age	St. Cuthbert's, Clungunford
Mon 4	7-7.30pm	WW1 100th Anniversary Vigil	St. Mary's, Clunton
Tues 5	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Sun 10	6.30pm	Joint Evening Prayer	St. Mary's, Clunton
Mon 11	7-9pm	Free help with using computers at AoC Broadplace	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Thur 14	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 16		Bishop's Castle New Challenge Walk (see overleaf)	Bishop's Castle
Sun 17	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St. Swithin's, Clunbury
Tues 19	Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm		
Wed 20	9.15pm	Live Acoustic Folk Music	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Thu 21	12.30pm	A Summer Lunch	Clunbury Village Hall
Fri 22	2-5pm	Clunbury Craft Group	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 23	7.30pm	Film: 12 Years a Slave - Bookings: 640254	Clun Memorial Hall
Sat 23		Purslow Show - Social Evening	Purslow, in the marquee
Sun 24	11.15am	Joint CW Holy Communion	St. Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 25	afternoon	Purslow Show	Show field, Purslow
Wed 27	10am	Workshop: Playing with Words (with Sally Tonge) Age: 6+	BC's Library, 638215
Thur 28	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 30	2-4.30pm	SWS Gardening Club Garden & Produce Show	Lydbury North Village Hall
Sat 30	9pm	"Soul City 7"	Hundred House Inn

Events Diary for early September 2014

Wed 3	7pm	Royal Shakespeare Company 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'	SpArC
Thur 4	7pm	NT Live 'Medea'	Aston on Clun Village Hall & SpArC
Sun 7	From 3pm	Clunton Barbecue	Clunton Village Hall
Sun 7		M & J Travel Mystery Tour	

Clunbury 100 Club Winners

JUNE: £20 Jane Rose, £15 Sandra Morgan, £10 Mary Price, £5 Marianne Hints, £3 Valerie Redgrave. **JULY:** £20 Ann Wadsworth, £15 Catherine Lishman, £10 Annie Sutton, £5 Tim Record, £3 Julia Brereton

Holiday Club Reminder

For all of school age
Mon 4 - Fri 8 August, 2-5pm
St. Cuthbert's Clungunford

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