

Calendar Dec/Jan 2025/26

Date	Event	Venue
Tues 2 nd Dec 7:30pm	Film: The Problem with People (15)	Lydbury North VH
Thurs 4 th Dec 7pm	Film: The Roses (15)	SpArC Theatre BC
Sat 6 th Dec 10am	Parish Ramble	Clunbury
Sat 6 th Dec 5:30pm	Christmas Carolling	Hopesay
6:00pm		Broome
6:30pm		Aston on Clun
Tues 9 th Dec 7:30pm	Film: The Ballad of Wallis Island (12A)	Bedstone & Hopton Castle VH
Wed 10 th Dec 10.30-12.30pm	Craft Group	Clunbury VH
Wed 10 th Dec 10am – 2pm	Coffee Morning	Aston on Clun VH
Thurs 11 th Dec 10.30-12pm	Clunbury Café	Clunbury VH
Sat 13 th Dec 10am – 1pm	Craft & Collectables Market	Aston on Clun VH
Tues 16 th Dec 2pm	Film: Four Letters of Love (12A)	SpArC Theatre BC
Sun 21 st Dec 3pm	Bishop's Castle Orchestra & Rock Spring Choir	Aston on Clun VH
Thurs 8 th Jan 10.30-12pm	Clunbury Café	Clunbury VH
Thurs 15 th Jan 7pm	Film: Downton Abbey The Grand Finale	SpArC Theatre BC
Sat 17 th Jan 7:30pm	Film: Downton Abbey The Grand Finale	Aston on Clun VH
Tues 20 th Jan 2pm	Film: Downton Abbey The Grand Finale	SpArC Theatre BC
Thurs 22 nd Jan 10.30-12pm	Clunbury Café	Clunbury VH
Thurs 22 nd Jan 7pm	NT Live: Hamlet	Aston on Clun VH SpArC Theatre BC
Sat 31 st Jan 7pm	Clunton Scrumpers Quiz	Clunton VH



Mobile Post Offices



Mondays	10:15 – 11:30	Leintwardine The Lion Pub Car Park
Mondays	13:00 – 14:00	Lydbury North Community Shop
Mondays	14:05 – 15:05	Aston on Clun VH Car Park
Thursdays	10:15 – 11:30	Leintwardine The Lion Pub Car Park
Thursdays	11:45 – 12:45	Clungunford VH Car Park
Thursdays	13:00 – 13:30	Clunton VH Car Park
Thursdays	13:35 – 14:05	Clunbury VH Car Park

Dec/Jan
2025/26

THE PARISH POST

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

Issue 171



Award



winners !!

Picture from the Shropshire Star

The Aston on Clun village shop has been awarded the **King's Award for Voluntary Service**. The wonderful community shop has been going for 12 years now and this award is fully deserved. We are sure that everyone who uses the shop will join us in congratulating and thanking all the volunteers for their hard work.

Where would we be without them !



**The King's Award
for Voluntary Service**
The MBE for volunteer groups

Climate and Environment Group Report

Shropshire's Local Nature Recovery Strategy

The Strategy won't be published in its final form before the spring, but in Clunbury Parish positive initiatives are already well in hand. The most notable is 'the Walcot Wiggle': between Kempton and the Clun road a 1-kilometre length of the River Kemp is being put back into the channel it would have occupied before the river was straightened, which is thought to have been more than 200 years ago. The work is possible thanks to two landowners working in partnership with Natural England, the Severn Rivers Trust, the Shropshire Hills National Landscape and a range of external funders, including the Elgol Fund for Nature. A press release states: 'This former river course will be reconnected and brought back to life ... providing much needed habitat for a range of species, notably salmonids and aquatic invertebrates'.

Meanwhile, another water-related project deserves special mention: with the encouragement of the landowner, more than 80 'leaky dams' have been installed by Shropshire Wildlife Trust on the Clunton Brook which flows down through the Gunridge on its way to the Clun, and more such dams are planned. Whilst 'slowing the flow' is the primary objective, upstream of these dams areas of wildlife-rich damp ground will be created. Like the Wiggle, this work fits a Local Nature Recovery Strategy priority: 'Re-naturalise rivers and stabilise flows'.

Parish Ramble

A hedgerow ramble will be led by Dave Booker on Saturday 6 December, courtesy of Stuart Seabury, with parking in his yard in the centre of Clunbury (get in touch if you need directions). The ramble starts at 10am and will last an hour or so. Dave will be sharing his knowledge of hedges and their management, whether by billhook or flail. As with the Parish Walks (see below), our Rambles meet a Local Nature Recovery Strategy priority: 'Enable more access to and connection with nature'.

Parish Walk (picture is on the opposite page)

On 25 October I was joined by ten people on what was the last parish walk of 2025. The autumn colours were wonderful, especially in Purslow Wood where, thankfully, the scheduled felling had not begun. Looking across the valley from atop Clunbury Hill it was encouraging to see how quickly the landscape had recovered from the scorching summer. Thank you to all who have joined the walks in 2025. The first walk of 2026 will be on Saturday 7 February, details to follow in the first What's On/Parish Post of the New Year. *Catherine Lishman*

Litter Pick (picture is on the opposite page)

Nine of us assembled at The Hundred House on 8 November and picked litter on the roads towards Clunton, Twitchen and Little Brampton, as well as along the road from Little Brampton towards Kempton.

Group contact: Tom Wall walltom@hotmail.co.uk 01588 660561

Church News

Services for St Mary's, Clunton and St Swithin's, Clunbury

December 2025/January 2026

Date	Time	Service	Church
December			
Sunday 14th	10am	Holy Communion	Clunbury
Friday 19th	7pm	Carol Service	Clunton
Monday 22nd	6.30pm	Carol Service	Clunbury
Thursday 25th	11am	Holy Communion	Clunbury
Sunday 28th	10am	Holy Communion	Clunton
January			
Sunday 11th	10am	Holy Communion	Clunbury
Sunday 25th	10am	Holy Communion	Clunton
Sunday 25th	6.30pm	Evensong	Clunbury



Clunton Scrumpers QUIZ NIGHT & RAFFLE

Saturday 31st January 2026 7pm Clunton Village Hall

Light supper included

Jacket potatoes, Chilli, Cole Slaw,
Apple Crumble and Custard.
Veggie option

Complimentary mulled cider, mulled apple juice
Bring your own bottle

Tickets £12

~ available only in advance ~

Angie 01588 661025 or 07721 687748



8/9ths of the hardy litter pickers



The Parish walkers

Bishop's Castle Orchestra Rock Spring Choir

"A Drop in Pop in" Christmas Concert

Carols and Christmas music for all the family

Free admission: Donations welcome

for the Bishop's Castle Youth Hub

Refreshments available

Aston on Clun Village Hall

Sunday 21st December 3pm

Aston on Clun Craft and Collectables
Last Minute Christmas Market
Saturday 13th December
10am - 1pm
Aston on Clun Village Hall

Clunton

- 1st Mick Bay
- 2nd Tim Wood
- 3rd Lillah Pearson



November

Clunbury

- £20 Katie Bodenham
- £15 Michael Beedles
- £10 Charlie Whymark
- £ 5 Anthea Fell
- £ 5 Duncan Brown

Aston on Clun Village Hall Coffee Morning

10am to 12pm

Fortnightly and our next is

Wed 10th December

£1 for cafetière coffee and biscuits

All morning top-ups and great company



B4385 north of Twitchen

I have been asked by local residents if there is anything that can be done about the large hedgerow which is causing an obstruction to traffic along the B4385 north of Twitchen. If you are driving from Purslow through Twitchen the offending hedge is on the right-hand side just before the top lane left turn for Clunbury. The hedge runs along the highway boundary adjacent to the property known as Glenside and is opposite the property called Sunnyside.

It is almost impossible for vehicles to pass each other and certainly not possible if one of those vehicles is a larger van, lorry or bus. It is a regular occurrence that larger vehicles must stop and reverse back up the road to allow another to pass through. Road users face the risk of losing their wing mirror to the oncoming vehicles. It is an extremely dangerous spot to be caught out if you are on a bike or trying to walk along the road. There is simply nowhere to escape the oncoming traffic.

I proceeded to submit a FixMyStreet application to Shropshire Council Highways along with photographic evidence. Discussion was also held with Sam Walmsley our unitary councillor and he agreed to follow the matter up.

Unfortunately, the response I have received from the Council and Sam Walmsley is far from satisfactory. In Sam's words "Shropshire Council won't be taking any action to get it cut back, the key reason being that widening the road is likely to increase vehicle speeds rather than reduce them". So basically, the Council are using a hedge overgrowing the highway as a speed calming measure, regardless of other implications as outlined above.

There is a row of highway bollards with reflectors buried along the centre of the hedgerow, which were presumably originally installed to demark the edge of the highway, especially during the night. I am told by one of the Parish Councillors that a previous owner of the house adjacent used to mow the grass verge between the bollards, which means it would have provided a safe haven for people walking along the road if they needed to tuck in away from passing traffic.

I feel this situation is ridiculous and that there is far more danger due to the hedge narrowing the road than there might be from speeding traffic. If anyone would like to make further representation regarding this matter please contact the Parish Council direct on email 'clerk@clunburyparishcouncil.gov.uk' or your local Councillor.

Thanks

Nick Morgan - Councillor



View of the road through Twitchen showing the stretch with no 'sanctuary'. You can see the bollards in the bottom right-hand corner.

The ongoing discussion about a change of speed limit through Twitchen is on the Parish Council website.

<https://clunburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Councillors would welcome your input on that matter too.



December is a busy month with all the festivities, while the garden usually fends for itself quite well. The birds will be grateful for food and fresh water while the frosts make foraging difficult.

Broad beans were the only beans in Britain and the Mediterranean region until legumes were introduced from the Americas. While the wild beans origins are unknown, it is believed the cultivated beans originated from the middle East around 8250 BC. With many varieties being hardy they can manage our cold winters for an early summer crop or planted in the spring for late summer.



Growing from seed we can choose hardy varieties such as Aquadulce from November to February sowings, or less hardy varieties can be sown from March. While they can be sown directly you may find that rodents steal the seeds before they sprout so a seed tray can give us more consistent results. Sow one seed per cell 2 inches deep, water and place them away from rodents in a greenhouse or polytunnel. Once they reach 3 inches tall they can be planted into their final position 15-20 cm apart. Tall varieties will require support while dwarf beans will support themselves. Frosts can burn the tops of leaves, however the plants will pull through and put on lots of growth come spring. Flowers smell amazing and are beautiful, they require pollinators so make sure they aren't netted. The pods are ready to harvest once they start pointing towards the ground and need podding not just once but twice. They can be eaten raw, blended and eaten on toast, steamed and added to meals or fried for snacks.

Want more information? For support growing your own, look for Seedling success UK on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube.

Written by Kimberly Cornish (village picture by Leigh Stevens)