

Calendar February 2026

Date	Event	Venue
Tues 3 rd 7.30pm	Film: What We Did on Our Holiday (12A)	Lydbury North VH
Wed 4 th 10.00-11.30pm	Coffee Morning	Aston on Clun VH
Wed 4 th 10.30 – 12.30pm	Craft Group	Clunbury VH
Thurs 5 th 10.30-12pm	Clunbury Café	Clunbury VH
Sat 7 th 9:30am start	Parish Walk	Llan Barn, Llan Farm
Sat 7 th 7:30pm	Open Sky Theatre: The Home (12+) (contains swearing)	Lydbury North VH
Thurs 12 th 11:20am-12:00	WOW wellbeing group	Clunton VH
Fri 13 th 7:30pm	Film: Bridget Jones, Mad About the Boy (15)	Clun Memorial Hall
Sat 14 th 5pm	Film: Brief Encounter (PG)	Leintwardine Community Centre
Tues 17 th 2pm	The Secret Garden (PG)	SpArC BC
Tues 17 th 7:30pm	AGM	Clunbury VH
Wed 18 th 10.00-11.30pm	Coffee Morning	Aston on Clun VH
Wed 18 th 10.30 – 12.30pm	Craft Group	Clunbury VH
Wed 18 th 7:30pm	Shropshire Mussels Talk	Clun Methodist Church
Thurs 19 th 7pm	Film: Welcome to the Orchard of England	SpArC BC
Sat 21 st 7:30pm	Film: The Roses (15)	Aston on Clun VH
Thurs 26 th 7pm	NLive: The Audience	Aston on Clun VH
Fri 27 th 8pm	Film: Downton Abbey, The Grand Finale (PG)	Clungunford VH
Sat 28 th 7pm	Theatre: The Ballad of Mulan (10+) (contains swearing)	SpArC BC
Tues 3 rd March 7:30pm	Film: Small Things Like These (12A)	Lydbury North 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



Feb 2026

THE PARISH POST

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

Issue 172

LUDLOW ROTARY SEEKS YOUNG LEADERS OF TOMORROW



Ludlow Rotary Club wants to hear from young people aged 16 or 17 who would like to be considered for this year's Rotary Youth Leadership Award scheme – RYLA for short.



Each year the club aims to sponsor one or two youngsters who might benefit from what is regarded as one of the most successful youth schemes run by Rotary. It offers a fun yet intensive training programme for young people, both boys and girls, aimed at nurturing and encouraging leadership and communication skills and giving participants a head start as they prepare their CVs in support of their future educational and career choices.

The five-day residential course takes place at Boreatton Park, Baschurch in north Shropshire under the supervision of trained and qualified instructors. Working in teams and in line with the

Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, outdoor activities are a crucial part of the experience.

Ludlow Rotary Club meets all fees and transports the candidates to and from the venue.

Potential applicants or their parents are invited to contact Ludlow Rotary's Kim Olyett at youthservices@ludlowrotaryclub.org.uk, preferably by the end of February, for more information and an application form. The only stipulation is that applicants must be over 16 and under 18 when the scheme takes place from 2 to 7 August 2026



Climate and Environment Group Report

Scything course

Subject to a successful grant application to the Shropshire Hills National Landscape Conservation Fund, we are intending to run a short scything course in early June. The grant application will be for the purchase of scythes and training in their use. This is so that we can continue the scything of Bracken on Whinberry Hill, doing so in a safer, more effective and less physically demanding way. We repeatedly cut two or more acres last year in mid-May, June, July and August, and need to go back to the same ground and keep cutting it through 2026 so as to safeguard the Whinberry and Heather plants which are coming on well. We hope that our persistence will be rewarded and the Bracken will die back.

We need to assess the likely demand for this course in preparation for the grant application, so if you may like to take part, please contact me to express your interest. No firm commitment is required at this stage. The course will be free and last about three hours. It is likely to be held in Kempton and will involve the scything of grass. This is the key skill to master. If you can scythe grass, Bracken will prove easy. Scythes will be provided, and the trainer will be Simon Cooter from Brockton, Lydbury North. He is an experienced scyther and trainer and will instruct us in the safe and effective use and sharpening of a scythe.

Parish Ramble

On 6 December a group of 10, led by Dave Booker, looked at hedgerows and hedgerow management beside fields in Clunbury, courtesy of Stuart Seabury. It was an interesting and instructive ramble during which we learned much about the best way to manage hedges whether with a tractor mounted cutter or a bill-hook and saw.

Parish Walk

The next walk, on Saturday 7 February, will take us from the Llan to Sowdley Wood then on to the Black Hill, returning via Cwm. Between 6.5 and 7 miles. One stile. Meet at The Llan Barn, Llan Farm SY7 0HN (Grid ref. SO 352 793) for a 9.30 start. We will stop at the parish land, so please bring a drink. For details/directions contact me on 07930 117 006 *Catherine Lishman*

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

Annual General Meeting

Clunton Village Hall

Management Committee

Tuesday 17th February 2026

7:30pm in the Village Hall

Please come and support the committee and your village hall

Agenda

- Apologies for absence
- Minutes of the last AGM
- Committee report
- Treasurer's report
- Election of Officers
- Election of Committee
- AOB
- Date of next AGM

Aston on Clun Village Hall Coffee Morning

10am to 12pm

Fortnightly and our next is

Wed 4th February

£1 for cafetière coffee and biscuits

All morning top-ups and great company



Church News

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

February 2026

Date	Time	Service	Church
Sunday 8th	10am	Holy Communion	Clunbury
Sunday 22nd	10am	Holy Communion	Clunton

BCAF
Bishop's Castle
Arts Festival

18th to 22nd
February
2026



The Monkey Puzzle Returns Again

Hi all you Monkey Puzzle lovers ! And hi to Monkey Puzzle haters.

This month's puzzle is for all football fans out there.

The Carabao Cup is nearing the end.

It's a straight knockout competition with no replays, involving all the teams in the top 4 tiers of English football.

The Premier League has 20 teams and the other leagues have 24 each.

The bottom 3 leagues contest the 1st round, then in round 2, the Premier league teams not in the Champions League or the Europa League join in. Finally those 8 sides playing in the Champions league and Europa league join in in round 3. The semi finals are home and away 2 leg affairs. The puzzle is; once the champions have been crowned, how many matches in total have been played? As of printing, I've got 3 ways of working it out. 2 are a bit longwinded but the 3rd way is of course the beautifully short way. What is the answer and can you find the beautiful way? Have fun and we'll see you next time.



Mussel-bound: from the Clun to the Lakes and back

Towards the end of last year, we headed north, all 23 of us, bound for Kendal and Windermere to learn from the efforts being made to save the extraordinary Freshwater Pearl Mussel (FWPM). Our goal: to come back with new knowledge and renewed enthusiasm to keep striving for the safeguard of the imperilled FWPMs of the Clun.



Who were we? Citizen scientists and professionals representing the River Clun Monitoring Group, Natural England, the Environment Agency, the NFU, Severn Trent Water, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, the Angling Trust and the National Landscape.

First stop was the River Kent just north of Kendal where we were met by our hosts representing Natural England, the South Cumbria Rivers Trust, the Environment Agency and the Freshwater Biological Association (FBA). Much of the Kent, like part of the Clun, is a Special Area of Conservation. Both rivers are home to FWPMs and in both cases their numbers are perilously low. But, unlike the Clun, the Kent is the beneficiary of a LIFE project which seeks to conserve the FWPMs along with Salmon, Trout, Crayfish and all the life of clean running water.

The afternoon was spent looking at riverside plantings, the fencing of river banks and wet riverside ground, the removal of a weir to aid the passage of fish, the creation of fish habitat and the making of leaky dams to slow the flow. This was with local farmer, David Kelly, who explained that changes in his farming practice had led to better farming, more grass and more nature. Some of this area, Kentmere, is part of a DEFRA Landscape Recovery Project, the top tier of nature recovery schemes designed to restore nature at scale while providing a reliable 20-year income stream for participants. Why, we wondered, isn't the Clun benefitting from a similar project?

In the evening, we assembled for a fascinating presentation by Mike Kelly, formerly of the Shropshire Hills National Landscape, entitled 'FWPMs: A cultural and historical journey'. And next day we headed for the FBA's Species Recovery Centre at Windermere, where Mussels, not least from the Clun, are reproducing successfully. If you would like to hear more about this (and it is a remarkable story), Mike and I are giving a talk to the local branch of the Shropshire Wildlife Trust at 7.30pm in the Clun Methodist Church on Wednesday 18 February (talk and a cup of tea £5; £4 for members). All are welcome, please come and hear about the thousands of Mussels waiting to come home to Shropshire.

Tom Wall

What to expect:

Meet the Community Wellbeing Outreach Team and partners! A chance to chat about: health and wellbeing concerns, cost of living issues (energy and food costs), vaccinations, mental health, stopping smoking support, screening information, think campaign, lifestyle advice, social groups and support services

Everyone welcome - bring a friend!

WOW

Winter Outreach Wellbeing

CLUNTON RESIDENTS!
WE WILL BE DROPPING BY THE
VILLAGE HALL SY7 8JG
ON: 12th February 2026!
TIME: 11.20 AM - 12.00 NOON



Maybe even get a mini health check!

Clunton

December

- 1st Kate Davies
- 2nd Arron Peers
- 3rd Tracy Price

January

- 1st Benjamin Pearson
- 2nd Alastair Edie
- 3rd Brenda Jones



Clunbury

December

- £20 Steve Read
- £15 Jane Rose
- £10 Nicola Williams
- £ 5 Lesley Holland
- £ 5 Judith Payling

January

- £20 Julie Saunders
- £15 Amy Watkins
- £10 Toby Matveieff
- £ 5 Steve Cornes
- £ 5 Ruth Seabury

The Holly and the Ivy: A Community Textile Project

Clunbury Craft Group were keen to create something that would bring festive cheer to St Swithin's Church during the Christmas season. The idea was to produce a decorative wall hanging inspired by the traditional carol, "The Holly and The Ivy", using a variety of textiles to capture the spirit of the occasion.



In addition, the project provided an exciting opportunity to engage with the wider community, particularly Clunbury C of E Primary School. A few members of the craft group worked with all the children at the school, helping them to sew beautiful pictures onto canvas. These individual artworks were then carefully incorporated into the overall design, framing the central motif.

The finished wall hanging stands as a testament to the collaborative effort within the community and what can be achieved when we all work together. It will be displayed in St Swithin's Church every Christmas, symbolising both festive celebration and the bonds within the local community.

Clunbury Craft Group and Clunbury C of E Primary School 2025

Picture: Debbie Steven-Jones, Lynne Thompson and Lauren Eagan

Following the Annual General Meeting on 12th January 2026 the Village Hall Committee gives notice that Clunbury Café is to be open once a month on the **first Thursday of the month** from 10.30-12.00. The first café under this new arrangement will be on 5th February.



The Village Hall Committee wish to thank all who have volunteered their time and efforts into making the café such a success over the years. Thanks too to all of the café's customers past and present. These arrangements will ensure the café's

continuation for 2026 and they very much look forward to seeing and welcoming you in February.



Weed, Food or Medicine

Dandelions are one of the most widely recognised plants, growing world wide. Often the bane of gardeners and homeowners' lives popping up all over their perfect lawns. There is however many reasons to avoid spraying pesticides or digging them all up, you may even find yourself eating them! They are an amazing source of early food for bees, butterflies, moths, hoverflies, beetles ants and more, which for me is reason enough never to spray them. They are packed with vitamins A, C, K, E, plus B vitamins, calcium, magnesium, iron, potassium, polyphenols and beta-carotene.



How to use them



Dandelions are 100% edible, offering syrups which are a great honey alternative in the spring, making a refreshing cordial, adding the petals to baking, or the leaves to salads throughout the year and roasting the roots for a wonderful coffee alternative (best harvested in autumn) which is naturally caffeine free. Historically they were used as clocks and barometers, opening at 5am and closing at 8pm as well as closing until rain had past hence the common name Shepherd's clock. Every child no doubt remembers using the seed heads to make a wish.

In the garden

their wide spreading roots help to loosen and aerate packed soil, the roots draw up nutrients from deep in the ground feeding other plants around them when they naturally die. Plus they add a beautiful pop of colour. Before using them make sure you have identified them correctly, ensure to harvest them from an area which hasn't been sprayed, leave plenty for wildlife and ask permission from the landowner before digging.



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)