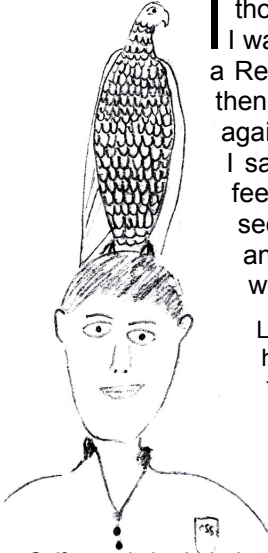


## Close Encounters of the Bird Kind

I thought you may be interested in what happened to me!! I wait for the school bus near to the phone box in Clunbury and twice a Red Kite has landed opposite me in the road. It lands, looks at me then flies off. On 8 February, whilst waiting for the bus, I was leaning against the wall playing on my ipod when out of the corner of my eye I saw the red kite flying towards me. It swooped down towards my feet then up and landed on my head!!! It stood there for a few seconds then I touched its leg and it flew away. I was rather alarmed and shaken. I am hoping it doesn't do it again. Perhaps it thought I was a rabbit!!!!

*Joseph Manley, age 11*

Leo Smith a Trustee of the Welsh Kite Trust has commented as follows: 'I have studied Kites and been involved in their conservation in Wales and the Shropshire Hills since 2003 but I have never heard of an incident of this nature. The Kites around here are all descended from wild Welsh birds, which suffered relentless persecution until relatively recently, and in general they remain very wary. Perhaps this was an injured bird that had been re-habilitated and had lost its fear of humans. If the Kite comes close again Joseph, see if you can get a photo on your ipod, I would love to see it.'



*Self portrait, by Joseph*

### **Advance Notice Parish Council Elections Thursday 2 May**

If you wish to stand, nomination papers are available from 11 March and must be returned by

**5 April, 12 noon**

For details

Phone: 0345 678 9015

Email: [elections@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:elections@shropshire.gov.uk)  
or write to

The Returning Officer  
Shropshire Council  
Legal and Democratic Services  
Shirehall, SY2 6ND

### **Come and Enjoy A Pub Night Clunbury Village Hall Saturday 23 March 6.30-11.00**



Licensed Bar

Pub Games

Tea and Coffee



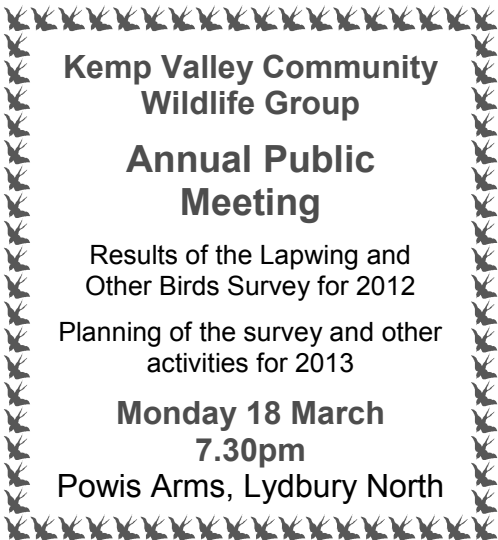
**Please send your contributions by the 20th of each month**

## Aston on Clun Community Shop – an update

The site has now been cleared – many thanks to John and Mark Grimes. The portacabin is now under construction at 4M Portable Buildings in Wem. Very good progress has been made and we are confident that the shop building can be delivered to the site at the end of February (subject of course to the weather!). A trench now needs to be dug so that electricity and water can be connected from the Village Hall.

The Management Committee are close to finalising the interior layout of the shop and orders for shelving etc will be placed once the shop is on site. They have also started to talk to potential suppliers of foodstuffs and household goods.

The Shop has continued to receive donations and share subscriptions to take us towards our £9,000 target. We continue to be interested in hearing from more people who are prepared to help – behind the scenes as well as serving at the counter. David Jones (660493) and Lin Holder (660229) would be interested to hear from others who would be prepared to give some of their time on a regular or occasional basis.



**Kemp Valley Community  
Wildlife Group**

**Annual Public  
Meeting**

Results of the Lapwing and  
Other Birds Survey for 2012

Planning of the survey and other  
activities for 2013

**Monday 18 March  
7.30pm**


**Powis Arms, Lydbury North**

## Tools for Self Reliance South Shropshire

Annual General Meeting  
7.30pm

Wednesday 6 March  
Clun Methodist Church  
*Guest Speakers*


Jenny Howard and Phil Marsh  
from Shropshire Health for  
Africa Project  
**All Welcome**



## Good Friday 29 March Workshop

Clunton Village Hall  
12.30 to 2.30pm

to bake Hot Cross Buns and other  
activities



All ages are welcome  
Meet at 3pm at Clunbury Crossroads for  
the Good Friday walk up the  
hill, returning to Clunbury Village Hall for  
tea and buns

Clungunford Players present

## "Gunnas Strikes Black Gold"

Comedy, music and intrigue unfolds  
at

Clungunford Village Hall  
8 & 9 March  
7.30 pm

Adults £5 Children £2.50  
including refreshments

To reserve tickets, please phone  
Lin Brown 660578

or  
Eileen Chapman 660438

## Red Kite Traffic Fatality

Sadly a Red Kite was found dead on the B4385 near Old Kempton Stores in January, close to another road casualty, a Pheasant; we assume that the Kite was attempting to scavenge the latter's remains. It was ringed, enabling Tony Cross of the Welsh Kite Trust to inform us that it was reared at Devil's Bridge, Ceredigion in 2004 and was thought to be a male. It may have bred near Llangollen in 2006, but in 2008, and 2010 it was one of a pair at a breeding site in the Clun area where 1, 1, and 2 chicks respectively were raised. It is not known whether it was there in 2011 or 2012. This is the second Red Kite to be killed in the past 3 years on this stretch of road.

Kites bred near Ludlow in 1876, but this was the last known breeding attempt in Shropshire, indeed in England, until recent years, and it was not until 2006, 130 years later, that Kites bred successfully again in the county. In 2012, 23 nests were found in

the county and, since 2006, 125 young have fledged from nests in the county. We are keen to conserve this most beautiful of our native birds of prey and knowing where they are nesting is an important first step. Should you see pairs of birds around at this time of year please let one of us know.

*Vince Downs (07884 312594)  
and Leo Smith (01694 720296)*

## Otter news

**W**e have belated news of a sighting on the River Kemp before Christmas



followed by the finding of a freshly dead male. It was taken for analysis by an experienced member of the Environment Agency's staff. Noting that it was very underweight and had suffered various injuries he surmised that it had been involved in a territorial fight, sustaining damage that made hunting difficult, leading to its death from starvation. Good nonetheless to know that Otters are about – has anyone else seen one?

*Reported to us  
by Dave Simpson*



## West Midlands Rural Hub Network - Green Futures 2013 Seminar

Tuesday 5 March, 7pm - 9pm

Craven Arms Community Centre, Craven Arms, SY7 9PS

- Cross compliance issues, including 2013 update and inspection issues.
- CAP Reform – latest news.
- Campaign for the Farmed Environment – where we are now and what more can farmers do.
- Waste Exemptions - help with registering your waste activities before the October 2013 deadline.
- ELS and HLS update from Natural England.
- Rural Hub Network – will provide information on funding that is relevant and available in your area.

This event is likely to be heavily subscribed so to book a place, please phone: 01432 870024 or email: [herefordshirehub@hct.ac.uk](mailto:herefordshirehub@hct.ac.uk)

## New Weekend Shuttle Bus Launched in May

Every weekend and Bank Holiday  
Monday, 4 May – 29 September

Castle Connect is the new Shuttle Bus linking Ludlow, Knighton, Clun and Bishop's Castle. Stops include Bromfield, Leintwardine, Brampton Bryan and Bucknell.



As with the other Shropshire Hills Shuttle buses, Castle Connect will operate every weekend and Bank Holiday Monday from 4 May to 29 September. New for 2013, Young Person (16 – 25) Day Rover ticket only £3. They also accept valid concessionary bus passes, and single tickets start from £1.30 and Adult Day Rover £7. Local Bus Company M & J Travel will be running the service and the funding has come from Shropshire Council's Sustainable Transport Fund. Further details, including the timetable, are available at

[www.shropshirehillsshuttles.co.uk](http://www.shropshirehillsshuttles.co.uk)

### Local films

#### Bedstone Village Hall

Sunday 3 March  
4pm

Borderlines Film Festival  
'African Cats' - Disney Nature

Friday 15 March  
7.30 pm

Borderlines Film Festival  
'Monsieur Lazhar'

Friday 22 March  
7.30 pm  
Flicks

'Anna Karenina'  
with Kiera Knightley

Contact: 01547 530282



## Church Electoral Roll

Letter from Revd Paul Wignall

The Church of England, through its parish system, seeks to care for the needs of every man, woman and child in our nation. As residents of the parish, we hope that you can feel that St Swithin's has a special place in your lives, whether you attend the church or not.

Some people choose to show their sense of belonging to the parish by placing their names on the church electoral roll, which allows you to attend and vote at our Annual Meeting and to raise any points of concern or interest about the parish or its church at that meeting. Being on the electoral roll also makes you eligible for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC), the body responsible for working with me on matters of general concern to the parish and its church.

Anyone who is baptized and lives in the parish may join the electoral roll. You may also be on the Clunbury roll if you live in another parish but regularly worship here.

Every six years we have to make a completely new church electoral roll. Everyone who wants to be on the new roll has to complete a form, even if you were on the previous one. You will find the form in the church, complete with instructions about how to fill it in and to whom it needs to be returned. We hope you will either make or continue your connection with your local church by having your name included on its electoral roll. To do this, please complete the form and return it by 25 March 2013.

With my best wishes

Paul Wignall

### 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 March 2013 - go to [www.theparishpost.org](http://www.theparishpost.org) for more details**

|                  |  |   |                        |
|------------------|--|---|------------------------|
| Fri 1            | 8.00pm   | Flicks - A Cat in Paris                                       | Clungunford PH         |
| Fri 1            | 7.30pm   | Flicks - Anna Karenina  | Clun Memorial Hall     |
| Sat 2            | 7.30pm   | Ceilidh in aid of village hall funds                          | Kempton VH             |
| Sun 3            | 6.30pm   | Evening Prayer (BCP)  | Clunbury               |
| Sun 3            | 4.00pm   | Borderlines Film Festival: African Cats – Disney Nature       | Bedstone VH            |
| Mon 4            | 9.00-11.00am   | Parent and Toddler group - just turn up                       | Clunbury VH            |
| Tue 5            | Mobile library:- Clunbury Bridge 10.10am to 10.30am; Clunton 10.40am to 11.00am;<br>Obley 12.45pm to 12.55pm |   |                        |
| Tue 5            | 7-9pm  | WM Rural Hub Network – Green Futures Seminar                  | Craven Arms Com Centre |
| Wed 6            | 10.00-11.30am  | Regular coffee morning  | Aston on Clun VH       |
| Wed 6            | 2.30-3.30pm  | Gentle Keep Fit. Details from Eirlys Ellams on 660625         | Clunbury VH            |
| Wed 6            | 8.00pm   | BCFS - Dream of Light   | Three Tuns, BC         |
| Wed 6            | 7.30pm   | Tools for Self Reliance: AGM & Talk                           | Clun Methodist Church  |
| Wed 6            | 9.00pm   | Quiz night  | Kangaroo Inn, AoC      |
| Fri 8            | 9.00pm   | Live Music: Dan Walsh   | White Horse, Clun      |
| Fri 8 &<br>Sat 9 | 7.30pm   | Clungunford Players: Gunnas Strikes Black Gold                | Clungunford VH         |
| Sun 10           | 11.15am  | Mothering Sunday - Morning Worship                            | Clunbury               |
| Mon 11           | 9.00-11.00am   | Parent and Toddler group - just turn up                       | Clunbury VH            |
| Mon 11           | 7.00-9.00pm  | Free help with using computers at Aston on Clun<br>Broadplace | Kangaroo Inn, AoC      |
| Mon 11           |  | Nomination Papers available for Parish Council Elections      | From Shirehall         |
| Wed 13           | 2.30-3.30pm  | Gentle Keep Fit. Details from Eirlys Ellams on 660625         | Clunbury VH            |
| Thur 14          | 10.00-11.30am  | Clunbury Café   | Clunbury VH            |
| Fri 15           | 8.00pm   | Flicks - Rust and Bone  | Clungunford PH         |
| Fri 15           | 9.00pm   | Live Music: Borderline Blues Band                             | White Horse, Clun      |
| Fri 15           | 7.30pm   | Borderlines Film Festival: Monsieur Lazhar                    | Bedstone VH            |
| Sun 17           | 11.15am<br>6.30pm  | Holy Communion<br>Evening Prayer (BCP)                        | Clunton<br>Clunbury    |
| Mon 18           | 9-11am   | Parent and Toddler group - just turn up                       | Clunbury VH            |
| Mon 18           | 7.30pm   | Kemp Valley Community Wildlife Group: AGM                     | Powis Arms             |
| Tue 19           | Mobile library:- Clunbury Bridge 10.10am to 10.30am; Clunton 10.40am to 11.00am;<br>Obley 12.45pm to 12.55pm |   |                        |
| Wed 20           | 10.00-11.30am  | Regular coffee morning  | Aston on Clun VH       |
| Wed 20           | 2.30-3.30pm  | Gentle Keep Fit. Details from Eirlys Ellams on 660625         | Clunbury VH            |
| Wed 20           | 8.00pm   | BCFS - The Angel's Share                                      | Three Tuns, BC         |
| Wed 20           | 9.15pm   | Live acoustic folk music                                      | Crown Inn, Clunton     |
| Thur 21          | 7.00pm   | NT Live - People  | Aston on Clun VH       |
| Fri 22           | 7.30pm   | Scary Little Girls - The Full Bronte Literary Cabaret         | Clungunford PH         |
| Fri 22           | 9.00pm   | Live Music: Plastic Pantomime                                 | White Horse, Clun      |
| Fri 22           | 7.30pm   | Flicks: Anna Karenina   | Bedstone VH            |
| Sat 23           | 7.00-11.00pm   | Pub night   | Clunbury VH            |

|         |               |   |                                  |
|---------|---------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Sat 23  | 7.30pm        | Flicks - Great Expectations (2012)  | Aston on Clun VH                 |
| Sat 23  | 7.30pm        | Flicks - Skyfall  | Clun Memorial Hall               |
| Sun 24  | 11.15am       | Holy Communion (BCP)  | Clunbury                         |
| Mon 25  | 9-11am        | Parent and Toddler group - just turn up   | Clunbury VH                      |
| Wed 27  | 2.30-3.30pm   | Gentle Keep Fit. Details from Eirlys Ellams on 660625   | Clunbury VH                      |
| Wed 27  | 7.30pm        | South West Shropshire Gardening Club - Alun & Jill Whitehead - 'Irises': some history, some people, some plants | Lydbury North VH                 |
| Thur 28 |               | Clunbury School - end of Spring Term  |                                  |
| Thur 28 | 10.00-11.30am | Clunbury Café   | Clunbury VH                      |
| Fri 29  | 12.30-2.30pm  | Good Friday Workshop  | Clunton VH                       |
| Fri 29  | 3.00pm        | Good Friday Walk, followed by tea and Hot Cross Buns  | Clunbury Hill & Clunbury VH      |
| Fri 29  | 9.00pm        | Live Music: The Velvet Dukes  | White Horse, Clun                |
| Sun 31  | 11.15am       | Easter Day - Holy Communion (CW)  | Clunbury<br>(Joint with Clunton) |

**Events Diary for early April 2013 - go to [www.theparishpost.org](http://www.theparishpost.org) for more details**

|       |             |   |                   |
|-------|-------------|---|-------------------|
| Wed 3 | 2.30-3.30pm | Gentle Keep Fit. Details from Eirlys Ellams on 660625         | Clunbury VH       |
| Wed 3 | 8.00pm      | BCFS - Goodbye First Love                                     | Three Tuns, BC    |
| Wed 3 | 9.00pm      | Quiz night  | Kangaroo Inn, AoC |
| Fri 5 | 12 noon     | Nomination Papers for Parish Council elections to be returned | To Shirehall      |
| Fri 5 | 8.00pm      | Flicks - Skyfall  | Clungunford PH    |
| Fri 5 | 9.00pm      | Live Music: Electric Blues Reaction                           | White Horse, Clun |

**National Theatre Live  
Advance Notice**



**Aston Village Hall  
16 May**



**“This House”**

James Graham's superb new drama held everyone enthralled throughout...

Funny, touching and cliff-hangingly suspenseful.' *Daily Telegraph*

Doors open at 6.30pm

Performance starts at 7.00pm

Tickets £10 from 660493

Seats are limited

Book early as we usually sell out

**Clun Walking Groups  
(everyone welcome, just turn up)**

| Day                      | Start   | Group      | Location                    |
|--------------------------|---------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Every Wed                | 10.00am | Ramblers   | Clun Memorial Hall Car Park |
| Every Wed                | 10.00am | Peramblers |                             |
| 1st and 3rd Wed in month | 10.00am | Amblers    |                             |

**Advance Notice  
Talk and photos  
of the Clun Valley  
by David Evans  
Clunbury Village Hall  
19 April**