

## Correspondence

Dear Editors

I am always amazed that such a quiet tucked away village as Kempton can continue to provide for its residents a social programme, organised with all the precision and attention to detail of a high military manoeuvre, but without the attendant tension and drama.

Again I was pleased to attend an evening organised by the Village Hall, and true to the previous experiences I have had on such occasions as Burns suppers, a quintessentially English Country dance evening unfolded. I say English country dance as the music, ably provided by Ron and Dot and their vinyl and cassette collection, was nothing if not eclectic in origin, from Irish and Scottish dance music to songs from the War years, which fitted the bill. Ron and Dot had come away from their lambing in order to provide the music and were returning at the end of the evening. Ron was heard to say: "we're nearly through, only about 45 to go!"

The atmosphere was friendly and relaxing, though the attendees who were

experienced dancers completed at least half a set more than those who were having some difficulty. I heard one of the latter say that she much preferred to be in her group, as unscrambling their mistakes was so much more fun, and that was borne out by the hilarity emanating from that group.

A splendid sandwich and cake supper appeared at "half-time" as if by magic and members competently organised themselves into the serving, clearing and making tea.

Much interest was aroused when the former Police Sergeant won the raffle and as the remaining prize was a large chocolate rabbit, decided to return it to the draw. The draw was repeated and he won again, with a different ticket. When he won at a third attempt it was commented that the rabbit was determined to go home with him, so he acquiesced.

It is heart-warming that the village has such a dedicated band of people to make the village hall a social centre, especially on the wintery cold nights when I have attended. Keep it up Kempton!!

*From a Ludlow Correspondent*

## Advance Notice

### South West Shropshire Garden & Produce Show Sat 31 August

This year's show is being held at Clun Memorial Hall and is open for anyone to take part. We would welcome entries from children, gardeners, home bakers, etc. There is a wide range of classes that you could enter which include flowers & foliage, vegetables, and cookery.

If you are a gardener, now is the time to start planning what you would like to grow in your vegetable plot that maybe you could enter for the show, such as a pair of cucumbers, 5 runner beans or 3 onions. Maybe you would like to grow some flowers – there are categories including sweet peas, gladioli and mixed annuals.



How about making some marmalade, jam or some fruit scones? There is plenty of time to have a few trial goes at these. For those of you who are creative, have a think about what you could do for a floral display depicting "Shropshire" or perhaps make a pressed flower collage.

Children – we have a special section for you which includes a decorated flower pot and a poem about the countryside. So, whilst the weather is still cold and you are wondering what to do, why not make a cup of tea and sit down and think what you would like to grow or make for the show? You never know you might be a winner.

*Call Sandy Burton: 680454 for details*



## Parish Council Elections

Thursday 2 May

### Timetable for candidates

As mentioned in the last Parish Post, the nomination papers for would-be candidates must be returned by 5 April 2013 (12 noon). Not much time left if you wish to stand, but you can still do so. Apply for a nomination pack on:

**0345 678 9015**

or via e-mail to

**elections@shropshire.gov.uk.**

Complete your papers; make sure they are supported by a proposer and a seconder; return them in person to Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, on one of the following dates:

- Tuesday 2 April: 9am to 5pm inc
- Wednesday 3 April and Thursday 4 April: 9am to 7pm inc
- Friday 5 April: 9am to 12 noon inc

### Timetable for electors

The last date to register to vote in the forthcoming elections is Wednesday 17 April. Anyone wishing to apply for a postal vote or change their existing postal or postal proxy vote, must do so in writing by 5pm on 17 April.

### Clunbury Village Hall 19 April at 7.30pm An illustrated talk "In and around Clunbury in the early 20th century"

*including Hopton Castle, Hopton Heath, Purslow, Little Brampton, Hopesay, Broome, Aston on Clun, Beambridge, Kempton, Clunton, Cluntonford, Twichen and Clunbury*

**A T D (David) Evans**

author of 'Border Wanderings'

**everyone welcome**

**entry £2**

refreshments will be available

### Clunton Village Hall

**Saturday 13 April**

**from 10am to 12.30pm**

### Coffee morning and Sale

Entry £1

to include coffee or tea and biscuits  
Tombola, cakes, plants and bric a brac  
*Proceeds towards upkeep of Village Hall*

### Desperately Seeking...

A Litter Picker Organiser, to organise litter picking, mainly on main roads (where it is most needed). There are volunteers waiting to be organised and equipment available from the Council.

Who will be kind enough to co-ordinate this task?

Anybody willing, please contact John Hoskins on 660192.



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

## Attention All Kemptonians

The defibrillator will soon be operational and has been installed on the wall of the Village Hall. Eighteen people have received training and are ready to help. The telephone system is being put in place. Gary Higginbottom, Jeremy Owen, Janet Kregel, Colin Pentecost and Claire Hern have agreed to act as the main contact points. If someone in your household has a cardiac arrest, ring 999 and one of them will be contacted and will get help to you while waiting for the ambulance.

## Into the Parish on Tiptoe

The names Colin Pentecost and Claire Hern (see above) may be new to you, so we are taking the opportunity to introduce them.

It may have taken them a year of hard labour, but they have now moved into Kempton.



When Claire's ballet teacher, Rosina Wenham, moved to Wall-under-Heywood from Woking, many years ago, to start a ballet school, Claire made many trips to Shropshire to help her and started to develop her love for the county. She became a professional dancer and opened the 'Rosina School of Ballet' as a tribute to her teacher, but continued to visit the county. She brought Colin to Shropshire; he, too, loved it. When they had to choose a place to settle together, they considered starting a fishing business in France (Colin is a keen fisherman), but Shropshire won the day.

They knew, as they stepped into No 24 in Kempton, that it was the house for them, in spite of the house requiring extensive refurbishment, and in spite of the Japanese Knotweed which was growing on their doorstep. The Knotweed has now been professionally treated, but it will be 5 years before they can cultivate fully this particular area (if you have Knotweed problems and wish to share your experience, ring them on 660844).

Colin is an electrician and is starting his own business in the area. Claire, who had a ballet school, may have a little rest before deciding on her future activities. Whatever they decide to do, we welcome them to the parish, and wish them success. *Gisèle Wall*

## Nature News

The Kemp Valley Community Wildlife Group held its AGM on 18 March. The Lapwing Survey yielded very disappointing results in 2012, but the group remains undaunted and surveys will be carried out this year as usual to monitor a number of bird species: Lapwing of course, but also Barn Owl, Red Kite, Dipper and other uncommon species. Should you have repeated sightings of Barn Owls or Red Kites, please inform Vince Downs on 660369 or 07884 312594.



The events organised by the group last year were well attended.

This year three walks are planned:

- 12 May: Bird walk, Bury Ditches
- 15 May: Wildflower walk, Long Nursery Wood, Lydbury North
- 23 June: Dragonflies at Walcot Lake

All 3 will be led by an expert in the field. Information from Chris Penny: 680590 or [www.kempvalley.wordpress.com](http://www.kempvalley.wordpress.com)

## Celebration Supper St Cuthbert's, Clungunford

Last year there was a celebration to mark the approval for the "Drainage Scheme"; now, a supper to celebrate the completion of the building stage of the project

**Saturday 27 April 2013**

**6.30 for 7.30pm**

**at the re-opened St Cuthbert's**

As last time, admission will be by pre-booked ticket (£10)

Contact Sandra Schofield 660158 for tickets and more information

## Mothering Sunday

Daffodils were the order of the day at the Mothering Sunday service at St Swithin's, Clunbury, on 10 March. Rev Paul Wignall had several young helpers to assist him hand out the beautiful posies made by Mary Jones, to everyone present, mothers or not! In his message, Paul reminded us that many who had never actually borne children had 'mothered' others with their love and care, and led us in thanking God for our mothers and those who had been as mothers to us, and in praying for the families of the parish.

The informal but meaningful service, which included a fairy story illustrating what amazing creatures mothers are, was enjoyed by all present, young and not-so-young! Our vicar had not only written much of the service himself, he also played the keyboard, showing that he has many creative talents.

These talents find an outlet elsewhere too. After the service, Paul and Carlynn drove to Warwickshire to attend a performance of a musical play written by Paul. Entitled "Anya - 3 Russian Tales", it was performed by musicians and actors of the Royal Shakespeare Company, along with a local school choir. It played to a packed audience and was a resounding success. Congratulations Paul! *Penny Valentine*



## Clunbury School Corner

Wow, are we actually in March? We have had a very exciting start to the year and have already done a lot. With Easter on its way the school is buzzing with excitement.

Last week we had World Book Day and everybody came in phenomenal costumes and had worked very hard to prepare their costumes.

We have had very exciting news that we had raised £492.65 for the NSPCC! Thank You to any..... parents, relatives or anybody else that sponsored the children as it goes to a very good cause.

One of our most recent events was Red Nose Day. We had the choice to come as the opposite sex or mad hair (if they'd prefer!) The costumes were ALL fantastic. There were a group of boys in particular who came as girls and acted like them all day.

We wish you a Happy Easter and great half term!

*By Martha and Charlotte Y6*



## A Successful Evening

The Clungunford Players would like to thank all those who supported our recent production, 'Gunnas Strikes Black Gold' - there were over 80 in the audience for both nights - and donations from the proceeds will be made to the Air Ambulance, Parish Church renovations, Parish Hall & Macmillan Nurses. *Lin Brown*

## Bull's Eye

Braving heavy snow, 35 intrepid revellers donned their wellies to enjoy a pub evening in Clunbury VH on Sat 23 March. It was a convivial, relaxed occasion: lots of chat with a favourite drink in hand. Darts, cards, dominoes provided fun for all. Thanks to all who helped make it another successful event.

*Duncan Brown & Eirlys Ellams*

## Advance Notice

Clunbury Village Hall

**Murder Mystery Party**

**Saturday 18 May, 7pm**

**Clunbury Village Hall**

£2.50

Bring and Share Supper

Places limited to 40

Book early to avoid disappointment

For more information & bookings

ring Lin Brown on 660578

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

Date	Time	Event	Location
Tue 2	2.30pm	Bible Study Group	9, Redwood Drive, AoC
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	8.00pm	Flicks - Skyfall	Clungunford PH
Fri 5	9.00pm	Live Music: Electric Blues Reaction	White Horse, Clun
Sun 7	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	Clunbury
Mon 8	7.00-9.00pm	Free help with using computers at AoC Broadplace	Kangaroo Inn, AoC
Wed 10	2.30 -3.30pm	Gentle Keep Fit. Details from Eirlys Ellams on 660625	Clunbury VH
Thur 11	10.00-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury VH
Sat 13	10am-12.30pm	Coffee morning and Sale	Clunton VH
Sun 14	11am	Holy Communion; Deanery United Service	Bishop's Castle
Sun 14	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	Clunton
Mon 15	2-4pm	BC & District Carers Group meeting. Talk: Health Care Contact Jenny/Dice: 01694 722024	Coverage Care, BC
Tue 16	2.30pm	Bible Study Group	The Old Chapel, Twitchen
Tue 16		Clunbury School - start of Summer Term	
Wed 17	2.30-3.30pm	Gentle Keep Fit. Details from Eirlys Ellams on 660625	Clunbury VH
Wed 17	8.00pm	BCFS - Amour	Three Tuns, BC
Wed 17	9.15pm	Live acoustic folk music	Crown Inn, Clunton
Wed 17	12-2.00pm	BC & District Carers Group: Carers lunch. Contact Jenny/Dice: 01694 722024	The Boar's Head, BC
Fri 19	7.30pm	Illustrated talk by David Evans: 'Clunbury and the Surrounding Area'. Everyone welcome. Entry £2.	Clunbury VH
Fri 19	9.00pm	Live Music: Si Nicholls	White Horse, Clun
Sat 20	9.30am-4.00pm	Shuttlebus Roadshow	Ludlow to Bishop's Castle
Sun 21	11.15am	Holy Communion	Clunton
Sun 21	6.30pm	Evening Prayer	Clunbury
Mon 22	9-11am	Parent and Toddler group - just turn up	Clunbury VH
Wed 24	2.30-3.30pm	Gentle Keep Fit. Details from Eirlys Ellams on 660625	Clunbury VH
Thur 25	10.00-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury VH
Fri 26	9.00pm	Live Music: Slowburner	White Horse, Clun
Sat 27	7.30pm	Flicks: Quartet	Aston on Clun VH
Sat 27	7.30pm	Pop-Up Opera: don Pasquale	Clun Memorial Hall
Sat 27	6.30 for 7.30pm	Celebration Supper	St Cuthbert's, Clungunford
Sun 28	11.15am	Holy Communion	Clunbury
Mon 29	9am-11am	Parent and Toddler group - just turn up	Clunbury VH
Tues 30	2.30pm	Bible Study Group	9, Redwood Drive, AoC
Wed 1	8.00pm	BCFS - Beginners	Three Tuns, BC
Wed 1	9.00pm	Quiz night	Kangaroo Inn, AoC
Thur 2		Parish Council Elections	
Fri 3	9.00pm	Live Music: The Rhythm Thieves	White Horse, Clun

**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.

## Parish Council Meeting, 21/3/13

7 councillors present + Clerk + Cty Clr Nigel Hartin + 3 members of the public

**Matters arising:** The County Council is to be asked to look at the problem of flooding reaching a garage at Clunton.

**AED:** 2 people in Bucknell have been approved by British Heart Foundation as qualified to deliver 'Heart Start' training. This is offered to anyone aged 10 and over. Anyone interested?

**Parish Elections:** Nomination papers must be returned by 5 April, 12 noon. It is best to return the papers in person (to ensure they get there).

**Local Joint Committee:** Grant applications can still be made. Contact John Croxton (or look up [shropshirelincs.com](http://shropshirelincs.com) for details). The next deadline for funding applications is Friday 13 May.

Issues of government policy regarding social housing were discussed. This concerns people losing part of their housing benefit if they have 'spare bedroom/s'.

No crime reports for the Parish but some in the local area; alarm padlocks, alarms for oil tanks, sheds, etc are available.

**Litter picker:** A lorry has shed plastic sheets, which are now breaking up, on the road to Craven Arms. Could the County Council be approached to clean this up, as it is too big to fit in black plastic bags? Littering in the area is getting worse, any volunteers for the role of litter picker organiser?

**Planning:** the Council was raising no objection to applications in respect of 18 Kempton, Old Kempton Stores and Jasmine Cottage, Clunbury. No decisions to be reported.

**Roads:** The Police Liaison Officer will be coming on 11 April to look at the enforcement of the speed limit in Clunton, at plans regarding the Purslow crossroads and at the Little Brampton crossroads. Potholes were reported in Kempton and Clunton.

The problems (road deterioration and safety risks) created by lorries were discussed. Any diversion of traffic from one area causes problems in another, eg reducing traffic over Clun Bridge increases it at Twitchen. This is a huge problem as the area needs to be serviced and some lorry traffic is unavoidable. GPS use can compound the problem. Could operators be persuaded to change their driving habits?

**Correspondence:** Letter from West Mercia's Police and Crime Commissioner, Bill Longmore: in an effort to save about £20 million by 2015, some police stations will close, including those at Bishop's Castle and Craven Arms. Ludlow would operate on a reduced timetable. Councillors expressed their concerns.

**Finance:** Bank accounts: Community: £521.64; Business: £3,710.76; Sports & Leisure: approx £3,600. Outgoings were agreed as follows: Clerk: £261; PAYE: £39; Clerk's expenses: £47.10; Crucial Crew: £70; Clunton VH: £10.25.

**Next meeting & AGM:** As the date of the AGM has to be within 14 days of the new committee being formed, the date announced previously is unsuitable. New date: 16 May, 8pm in Kempton VH.

*Gisèle & Tom Wall*

## Bible Study in Twitchen

By popular request, the regular Bible Study for the Clun Valley churches, presently held monthly at 9 Redwood Drive in Aston-on-Clun, will in future be meeting once a fortnight on a Tuesday afternoon at 2:30pm. The alternate meetings will take place in Twitchen at The Old Chapel, home of Rod and Penny Valentine, beginning 16 April. The subjects will also alternate, with John's Gospel being discussed at Aston, and in Twitchen, a study of Jesus in his historical context. Anyone is welcome to either or both meetings. See diary for all dates, and for further information, contact Robert Payne 661008, Vivien Slack 660760, or Rod and Penny Valentine 660756.