

**Have Your Say: Healthwatch Shropshire urges people to speak out over the future of our health services**

Healthwatch Shropshire is the independent health and social care champion for people in Shropshire. It gathers the views of local people and feeds back to those who provide and commission NHS services.

The NHS Future Fit programme focuses on the hospital services provided by Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust (SaTH) and Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust (SCHT), with the aim of improving acute and community hospital services in Shropshire.

For the past three years, work has been carried out on a Clinical Services Review. The NHS organisations that have overall responsibility for this review are Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group (SCCG) and Telford and Wrekin Clinical Commissioning Group (T&W CCG). They are responsible for deciding which health services will be provided in the county and they also pay for them.

There are proposals for a new clinical model and a 'preferred option' but both CCGs stress that **this is not a final decision**. They are going to share these proposals with the public and ask them what they think. It is hoped that a public consultation will begin later this year.

Jane Randall-Smith, Chief Officer of Healthwatch Shropshire, said:

"It's crucial that the public do get involved and make their views known. The long term future of services and where these services will be located could potentially affect everyone at some point in their lives. This is not just about A&E but about improving the quality and sustainability of all services over the next 20 years."

To find out more about NHS Future Fit and the proposed clinical model go to [www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk/FutureFit](http://www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk/FutureFit)  
To contact Healthwatch Shropshire: Phone 01743237884, email [enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@healthwatchshropshire.co.uk) or go online [www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk](http://www.healthwatchshropshire.co.uk).

**News from South West Shropshire Gardening Club**



**"Showing and Troubleshooting"  
A talk by Steve Reynolds  
Wednesday 24 May, 7.30pm  
Lydbury North Village Hall**

Winning a red card for chrysanthemums aged 10 in Lancashire sparked a lifelong passion for horticulture in one of our club's plant "gurus". His talk will focus on exhibiting flowers, fruit and veg from the judge's viewpoint whilst linking show preparations to plant troubleshooting.



Steve is one of Shropshire's experts on plant problems - garden pests, diseases and disorders. Now retired, after 40 years as a research plant scientist / senior university



academic, he is currently completing a massive computer database on plant health care to underpin his horticultural activities and for access by gardening celebrities/writers, garden centres and award winning nurseries. Steve travels widely, lecturing and running **What's Up Doc? Plant Clinics** at flower shows around the UK. He has featured in a number of shows and gardening programmes. He now works as a volunteer park gardener for the National Trust whilst trying to solve some of their major plant/shrub/tree problems.

Free to members; visitors: £5 per person. Queries: Sandy Burton 01588 680454 or Carol Clarke: 660753 or online: [www.gardeningshropshire.co.uk](http://www.gardeningshropshire.co.uk)

Angie Salmon

**The Parish Post**

Number 81  
May 2017

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

**Clunbury Village Open Gardens**

**Sunday 11 June, 12 noon—5.30pm**  
Clunbury Village is planning to open at least 10 village gardens of all shapes and sizes  
Tickets and Cream Teas will be available from Clunbury Village Hall

Profits shared between local charities  
For more information Contact  
Barbara Freeman 01588 660629 or  
Alister Thompson 01588 661180



**Spring Event**



**Clunton Village Hall  
Saturday 13 May, 7pm**

Gelan and Grace return to entertain us with their singing

*Light refreshments, bar and raffle*  
Tickets from Committee members  
*See posters on Notice Boards for details*

**County Council Elections  
4 May  
Don't Forget to vote**



**Big Cake Bake Sale**  
20 May 2017  
Clunbury Village Hall  
10.00am —12 Noon  
15—19 May is Deaf Awareness Week  
Proceeds from cake sale will be donated to  
The National Deaf Children's Society  
Please come along and support

**Arbor Day**  
in Aston on Clun  
**Sunday 28 May**  
Start at 1pm, at the tree  
Activities, stalls, refreshments  
at the Village Hall later  
Children's parade with flags and banners designed by the children

**Parish Council**  
There will not be an election as there were only nine candidates for nine vacancies.  
Come and meet your councillors at the Annual Parish Meeting, on Thursday 18 May, 7.30pm, in Kempton Village Hall.

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

## Nick Matveieff

There was a full church to say goodbye to Nick at a beautifully arranged service of thanks giving on Friday 21 April. Though we heard much about his earlier life in London before he and Maddy settled here, it is the Nick we knew in Clunbury that we will hold in our hearts.

He and Maddy settled comfortably in the village and Alice and Henry went to the school, while Nick was able to enjoy the fishing and shooting that he loved, though his job at Kronospan took him abroad much of the time.



He was church warden in Clunbury for thirty five years, a role he fulfilled with humour and an easy ability, and the house and garden were frequently used for fundraising events. A special occasion, only a few weeks ago, was the christening of his granddaughter; he was able to come back to the church in his wheel chair and was very much part of a happy family gathering.

Despite the long hours involved, he still managed to live life to the full, and his wide ranging interests from field sports to Scottish reeling made him many friends. He will be greatly missed and our thoughts are with Maddy and her family at this difficult time.

*Christina Witehead*

## 100 Club

Ned Morris: £20; Madeleine Watkins: £15; Julia Brereton: £10; Alice Whymark: £5  
David Mansfield £3.

An Evening  
With  
**TONY  
SKEGGS**



**FRIDAY  
26 MAY  
7.30pm  
Bedstone  
Village Hall**

Light Buffet &  
Licensed Bar

Tickets  
£10  
from  
Caracatus, Clun  
or  
07815 870618  
or  
07814 772337

Benefiting  
Hopton Castle  
defibrillator fund &  
St Edward's Church

## A Huge Thank You!

Friends of Clunbury School would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent fundraising events. Our Pamper Evening on 24 March at Aston on Clun village hall raised an amazing £683.10, and the Easter bingo at Clunbury village hall raised £504. This money will be spent directly on the children by helping to fund the cost of trips and the purchasing of extra equipment.



The Friends of Clunbury School would like to extend their sincere thanks to everyone who supported these events in any way, and a big thank you too to the Friends for their time in organising and running them.



The whole community is invited to join the Friends of Clunbury School; you don't have to be a parent at school. We usually meet once per half term on a Wednesday morning, but please look out for the next meeting on the school notice board. You will be warmly welcomed and any help that you are able to provide will be very much appreciated.

**THANK YOU!**

## Fairy Story or Hoar(y) Tale?

The Clunbury Fairy Stone is something we had heard about, but until we were asked twice in one week by passers-by about its location, we had never tried to find it. With vague directions we set off up Clunbury Hill on a lovely spring morning following a green track bordered by primroses and violets. After quite a climb, (with a few stops along the way to admire the views or more truthfully to get our breath back), we found the stone in a grassy field.

It's not much to look at – indeed you would not give it a second glance if it was not for the fact that



it is the only stone in sight amid fields of green pasture. It was obviously unusual enough to be marked on old maps and to become the focus of local tales in days gone by. It was thought to be a standing stone and as such a place of supernatural power associated with fairy lights.

One story has it that a man returning home one evening across Clunbury Hill saw lights bobbing up and down around the stone. He did not want to go out of his way so walked through them and found when he got home that his trousers had scorch marks where they had been touched by the lights!

In truth the stone is a glacial erratic of Rhayader Grit deposited here during the Ice Age and is more likely to be a 'hoar' stone than a 'standing stone'. Hoar stones are fairly common locally – they mark the boundaries between parishes and our Fairy Stone is close to the boundary between Clunbury and Clungunford Parishes.

*Sue and David Hill*

## Snakes Rear Their Handsome Heads in Kempton

Fritillary, Snake's Head, Chequered Lily, Folfalarum and Sulky Ladies are just some of the many names given to a plant recently flowering in wanton profusion in a garden in Kempton. Bulbs were first planted here nearly 20 years ago; seed was scattered too, and now the plants,



hundreds in number, are multiplying, and yielding seeds which are being scattered in other south Shropshire gardens in Clun, on Clee Hill and near Shelve too. Fritillaries were

once widespread across the country, to be found in the wild in 27 counties; now a tally of just 27 or so meadows has been estimated. A plant of damp, river-valley hay meadows, few of their many favoured sites escaped drainage, ploughing re-seeding and fertilising. They grow in the wild not that far away: the Lugg Meadows, Herefordshire, and at Motte Meadows, Staffordshire, but the only records of Fritillaries in Shropshire come from naturalised populations. J F M Dovaston, a well-known horticulturalist, introduced them to fields at West Felton, near Oswestry (they were there in 1841 but no longer persist) and they were recorded from Lydham churchyard in 2006 (are they still there?). Flowering used to peak in the first few days of May, when celebratory events were held for this most distinctive and handsome plant, but nowadays the majority bloom a couple of weeks earlier. Readily obtainable from garden centres, more and more are to be found in gardens, but in few of them can they be as numerous as they are at Bridge House, Kempton.

*Tom Wall*

Events Diary for May 2017			
6 Apr-16 May		Aston on Clun Art Group Exhibition	Discovery Centre, Craven Arms
Mon 1		Clunbury School Closed—Bank Holiday	
Mon 1		Green Man Day	Clun
Tue 2	7.30pm	Flicks—A United Kingdom—680302	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 3		Quiz—proceeds to Midlands Air Ambulance	Kangaroo Inn, Aston on Clun
Wed 3		Tim's Travels—A Judgement in Stone—640506	Malvern
Thu 4		Local Elections	Clunbury Village Hall
Fri 5	7.30pm	BC Railway Society—Sri Lanka and India—Vic Smith	Methodist Hall, BC
Sun 7	11.15am	Morning Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Sun 7	6pm	Songs of Praise in four-part harmony. Tel 661171 for info	Kempton Village Hall
Mon 8	9-11.30am	Parent & Toddler Group—every Mon in term time. Just turn up	Clunbury Village Hall
Tue 9		Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm	
Wed 10	10am-4pm	Annual See and Hear Exhibition	Shrewsbury Sports Village
Thu 11	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 11	7pm	NT Live—Obsession—660493/660893	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Thu 11	7pm	NT Live—Obsession—630321/638803	SpArC
Sat 13	7pm	Spring Event	Clunton VH
Sun 14	11.15am	United BCP Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 15	2pm	Flicks—Mamma Mia—630321/638803	SpArC
Thu 18	7.30pm	Annual Parish Mtg AGM followed by Parish Council Mtg	Kempton Village Hall
Thu 18	7pm	NT Live—Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?—660493/660893	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Thu 18	7pm	NT Live—Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?—630321/638803	SpArC
Fri 19	7.30pm	Live Show—Everything Fitz—630321/638803	SpArC
Sat 20	10-noon	Big Cake Bake for The National Deaf Children's Society	Clunbury Village Hall
Sat 20	10am-1pm	Craft & Collectables Market	Aston on Clun Village Hall
Sat 20	7.30pm	Flicks—Allied—640254	Clun Memorial Hall
Sun 21	6.30pm	United Evening Prayer	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Mon 22	7.30pm	Live Acoustic Folk Music	The Crown Inn, Clunton
Tue 23		Mobile Library: Clunbury Bridge 10.10-10.30am, Clunton 10.40-11.00am, Obley 12.45-12.55pm	
Wed 24	7.30pm	SWSGC—Showing & Troubleshooting	Lydbury North Village Hall
Wed 24	7pm	RSC—Antony & Cleopatra—630321/638803	SpArC
Thu 25	10-11.30am	Clunbury Café	Clunbury Village Hall
Thu 25	7pm	Ascension Day—BCP Holy Communion	St Swithin's, Clunbury
Thu 25	7.30pm	Tales from Wensleydale to the West End-680302	Lydbury North Village Hall
Fri 26	2pm	Flicks—Sing—630321/638803	SpArC
Sun 28	11.15am	United CW Holy Communion	St Mary's, Clunton
Sun 28	1pm-5pm	Arbor Day	Aston on Clun
29-2/6		Clunbury School Half Term	
Events for beginning of June 2017			
Fri 2	8pm	A Street Cat Named Bob 01588 660727 or 01588 660781	Clungunford Village Hall

Advance Notice  
**Crack Open the Cider Barrel**  
 with the Clunton Scrumpters  
**Saturday 24 June, 6pm**  
**At Fold Farm**  
 Light refreshments  
 Further details next month

**Bookworms**  
**Thursday 25 May, 8pm**  
 Lydbury North Village Hall  
**Touring Tales: From Wensleydale to the West End**

The story of how a rural touring show became an international hit. An evening of anecdotes with Nobby Dimon, Artistic Director of North Country Theatre describing the pleasures and perils of 20 years of performing in the Village Halls of the Yorkshire Dales and the Shropshire Hills and how its production of **The 39 Steps** transferred to the West End and Broadway. North Country Theatres's many fans who have enjoyed their Ripping Yarns and theatrical romps at Bishop's Castle and Edgton over 20 years won't want to miss this wonderful evening promoted in support of North Country Theatre.  
*Doors and bar open at 7.30 pm Tickets £5.00 from 01588 680302*

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### Leisure Facilities – Have Your Say

The inclusion of SpArC in the revised Shropshire Council leisure strategy has been hailed as good news by Jean Shirley of the SpArC Charity Trustees, but it comes with a cautionary warning. At this stage, it is not yet policy; nor does it say how much core funding SpArC will receive or for how long.

She urges as many people as possible to respond to the Shropshire Council leisure strategy consultation which can be found on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/lwt459r>. Go to the website, click 'How to get involved' and then go to the survey.

**You have until 8 May to express your views.**

Funds continue to be raised by the local community, with some of the money earmarked for lifesaving qualifications and other training, so that additional classes can be held. Anyone interested in becoming a qualified life guard should contact Juliet Morgan at the Community College on 660634 or email [morgan.j@communitycollegebc.org.uk](mailto:morgan.j@communitycollegebc.org.uk)

The Charity is also seeking volunteers with experience of writing grant applications. Anyone with this skill interested in helping SpArC should contact [Jean.Shirley@btinternet.com](mailto:Jean.Shirley@btinternet.com)

### CONTACTS

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