

THE GUNNAS GAZETTE

CLUNGUNFORD VILLAGE HALL SUMMER PARTY

Saturday 16th July 2022
Free entry **2pm - 6pm**

Licenced bar

**On the green next to Clungunford
Village Hall**

Live music 'Red Madog'

A unique combination of instruments delivering an upbeat 'folk-fusion' sound.



Food

World class burgers by the 'Beefy Boys' from Hereford. Veggie also available...!



What more can your Village Hall offer you on a lazy Saturday afternoon in mid-summer?

Music from Red Madog, a licensed bar and for everyone resident in the parish, a free beef burger from the Beefy Boys. The Beefy Boys have won prizes for their burgers on the world stage, and we have managed to secure their services for the day, following on from last year's Covid induced cancellation. Yes, everyone resident in the parish will be able to pick up a voucher for a free burger at the Village Hall entrance to the playing field. For guests there will be burgers available for purchase. But... a word of warning. The Beefy Boys are hugely popular and regularly run out wherever they go – so, it is very much a case of getting in there early to avoid disappointment. See you there!

Clungunford Open Gardens

Sunday 3rd July 2022 1.00 pm to 6.00pm



Ten beautiful gardens to visit

Adults £7.50 Including Cream Tea
Children 5 years and older £2.50
Tickets, guide and map
Available on the day at St Cuthbert's Church,
Clungunford from 12.00 midday

The gardens are all located in Clungunford Parish, including Shelderton, Beckjay, Abbcott, Rowton and Little Common

PLEASE NOTE:

- To reach these beautiful gardens, personal transport is essential.
- Wheelchair Access Unavailable.
- Visitors explore the gardens at their own risk.
- No dogs please.

RIDE + STRIDES for Churches

The annual Clungunford Ride and Stride will be taking place on 10th September.

To get some practice in for the cyclists we will be doing 2 runs to local pubs, we meet outside the old tea shop at 18.30 and aim to be back in the village before 22.00. If you want to join us, then please contact Simon Lyster on 01588 660152.

13th July Baron of Beef Bucknell

10th August Sun Lentwardine

A message from Rev Martin Quayle

At the time of writing, it is the Solstice. The days are long, and on this occasion, the sun is out, it is hot and there is a balmy feel to the air. Gardeners may be anxious about plants getting dry, but the sun is welcome for most of us. At this time of year, most of us will experience a lifting of our mood, and as long as our work, or duties don't require too much strenuous activity, the season is relaxing and easy.

It is also a time for festivals, and summer sports. In this country, we have tennis and cricket to the fore, and in the cricket world, the change of coach and team captain has brought a new approach, which for the moment, has led to a change in fortunes. The emphasis has been on 'positivity'. One commentator who welcomed the change, warned that from time to time, there may be problems. He noted that although it has brought success, he suggested that there is also a risk of mis-calculation, and that the team may experience times of dramatic failure. Most of realise this. Positive thinking can be a power for good, and can bring success. However, there can be a failure to acknowledge when we should be more measured and careful in our approach to life.

Some of are born with a positive disposition, whereas others can be more careful in our outlook. Sometimes each approach can be the best way in a situation where things could go either way, depending on how we think and act. In terms of faith, we are taught and urged to approach life in ways that accentuate a common life, or community. We are encouraged to be measured, but encouraging and positive in how we view others. The cult self-interest has no place in this approach. We are urged to look to the interests of others, and to see value and merit in the beliefs and ideals of our neighbours, colleagues and friends. The commandment is to love others as ourselves. However, developing a habit of listening, and reflecting, is not always easy to put into practice. We live and often find ourselves in organisations, institutions and gatherings where leaders, or organisers are seen as necessary to accomplish or to get things done. Seeking the views and inclinations of others in the commercial world can be seen as weakness or even unnecessary.

These balmy sunny days are the ideal time to reflect and listen to each other in conversations. These conversations allow is to get to know each other and to hear opinions which may be different or contradictory to our own ways of thinking and being. Giving time and credence to other ways of thinking is good for us, good for each other, and good for our communities. I wish all of you an enjoyable and restorative summer, and trust that in our conversations at events and everyday life, that we learn a little more about where we live, and the way of life around us.

Martin

Farm Born and Bred

One of the farmworkers used to have their grandchildren staying over the school holidays. Now I had more children to play with: two boys, besides my big brother.

This meant that any adventures needing testing out led to me being the guinea pig. I was the youngest, lightest and only a girl accompanying these 3 boys, so what could go wrong.....!?

Somebody found a huge trap umbrella, plan hatched thus :-

In one of the bays of the Dutch barn was a dray, this being a type of agricultural trailer used for lugging harvested crops home to the stackyard. This dray was loaded with sheaves of corn, waiting to be unloaded next day.

A ladder was place against the full dray, I was "encouraged" up the ladder, followed by one of the boys carrying the umbrella.

Other boys considerably piled up some of the sheaves on the ground close to the dray. The umbrella was opened and given to me. I was then "encouraged" once more, this time to jump. The theory was that I would then float gently down ,Mary Poppins fashion, landing safely on the pile of corn sheaves. In reality, the umbrella turned inside out and I shot downwards like a dart landing on the sheaves, mercifully.

The boys shrugged their shoulders and wandered off in search of another adventure, leaving me to pick myself up, brush off the bits of straw and run to catch up, shouting "wait for me"

M.E.B.

Sister B, still digging into "not so modern medicine"

In medieval times a cure for a sty on the eye was:

"Take equal amounts of cropleek (there is some debate as to whether this was the equivalent of an onion or a leek) and garlic, and pound them well together.

Take equal amounts of wine and bull's gall and mix them with the cropleek. Put the mixture in a brass bowl and let it stand nine nights. Then, about night- time, apply it to the eye with a feather."

Not recommended to try at home!

In the Garden

A hazily sunny day in Clungunford, with the wind whipping its way through the pampas grass growing outside my window in the back garden of the house.

The dahlia tubers I planted outside my window on the other side of the house a while ago now, don't seem to have appeared at all, I can't remember who I bought them from, but will be asking for my money back when I've checked and *do* remember.

Some suppliers are apologetic about garden plant failures and either replace the plant which has failed to flourish or give you your money back without problem.

Others complain that the only way the plant they supplied you with could have failed to flourish was because you haven't looked after it properly whilst it was in you care and not only won't replace the plant or return you the money you paid for it without a struggle,

but become almost abusive because you had failed to nurture and nourish their darling.

The woman I bought a mulberry tree from a few years ago demanded photos of the site where I'd planted her tree before she'd replace it after it had died. And then was very reluctant to send me a replacement tree.

The truth of the matter was probably that the climate here in South Shropshire is much colder and wetter than Chiswick, where I used to pick fruit from a large tree in the grounds of Chiswick House.

The replacement tree she sent me is still alive at the moment, but reluctantly so, I'm afraid.

In the garden, look out for *Buddleia 'Lochin'*, a medium sized shrub of compact habit, with grey pubescent young stems, and flowers scented violet blue, with deep orange eye in dense conical panicles brightening up the world around it. It's flowers are generally covered by butterflies, even if you hadn't realised there were any to be found in the vicinity.

Brian Taylor



This is the ceanothus bought by the Parish Council as a leaving present for Brian when he retired as Parish Clerk and referred to in his last gardening column

Parish Church News

The Revd Martin Quayle, Vicar for the Parishes of the Middle Marches Benefice, can be contacted by email at office.middlemarches@gmail.com. Should you need more information about services, events etc, please contact our Church Wardens, Michael Jones (tel: 01588 661145, email: mpjt51@hotmail.com) or Edward Gledhill (tel: 01588 660485, email: edward@aegledhill.co.uk).

The planned Services for St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford in the Middle Marches Benefice for July and August 2022 are as follows:

Sunday 10 th July	10.00 am	Family Service
Sunday 17 th July	10.00 am	Family Service
Sunday 24 th July	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 14 th August	10.00 am	Family Service
Sunday 21 st August	10.00 am	Family Service
Sunday 28 th August	11.00 am	Holy Communion

ST CUTHBERT'S CAFÉ OVER THE SUMMER

It's a Thursday. It's a sunny morning. Where should you be? At the St Cuthbert's Café of course!

Just to remind you that St Cuthbert's Café is open every second and fourth Thursday of the month from 10 till 12am. The dates for July and August are;

- Thursday 14th July
- Thursday 28th July
- Thursday 11th August
- Thursday 25th August

Rob Rees and Sara Giffen, who run the café, are always grateful to bakers who provide the cakes and for help on the day.

The Café brings together many people from across the Parish and beyond and all are welcome. If you have not yet sampled the delights of the café, come and meet your friends. You will not be disappointed!

CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE – 'OPENING THE ARK'

Just a reminder that God's Acre will be bringing their 'Opening the Ark' event to St Cuthbert's on Saturday 30th July. It will be a full afternoon of activities running from 2 – 5 pm. St Cuthbert's has been supported by God's Acre for many years and we are very pleased that they selected our graveyard as one of their locations for this event.

We are really excited about the day which will be a fun and interesting one, and hopefully will appeal to all who

care for this special and wonderful environment. The agenda for the day will include;

- Rob Rowe will be identifying wildflowers and talking about wildflower folklore
- Poet Jean Atkin will be exploring poems about nature and creating tiny books for people to take home
- Tom Hayek will be doing a moth trapping event the night before 'Opening the Ark', and talking about what he trapped and releasing them back to the wild on the day
- Kaitlyn Elverson who will be running a bug hunt
- Anne Belgrave is an artist and will be doing a 30minute performance about bird song.
-and other children's activities

Tea and cake will be served in the Church throughout the afternoon.

This is definitely an afternoon for your diary!



CLUNGUNFORD OPEN GARDENS – SUNDAY 3RD JULY 2022

It was back in 2015 that Clungunford last held a 'Clungunford Open Gardens' and we are please to inform you that the open gardens are back on Sunday 3rd July. There will be a number of gardens open around the Parish including ones in Shelderton, Rowton, Beckjay and Abcott as well as Clungunford. Gardens will be open from 1.00pm through to 6.00pm and tickets with a programme and map can be obtained on the day from St Cuthbert's Church.

The price of the ticket will be £7.50 for adults and £2.50 for children between the ages of 5 to 16 years old. Included in the price of the ticket will be a cream tea which will be served in the churchyard. Parking is available at the Village Hall car park.

The last time this event was run it was organised by our dear friend Robin Bywater who recently passed away. As a tribute to him, half of the proceeds raised will go to Parkinson's UK and the other half to St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford.

We have several wonderful gardens committed to the event, including Upper Shelderton House and Jim and Mary Bason's garden at Beckjay. These beautiful gardens have been opened on a regular basis and are well worth seeing. Other gardens at Rowton, Abcott and Clungunford will ensure that you will have a wonderful afternoon.

If you would like more details please contact Mike Jones (mpjt51@hotmail.com or 01588661145 or 07531 400391)

RIDE AND STRIDE PRACTICE NIGHTS

Did you know that the Full Moon in July is know as the Buck moon? Male deer, which shed their antlers every year, begin to regrow them in July, hence the Native American name for July's full moon. Some refer to this moon as the thunder moon, due to the summer storms in this month. Other names include the hay moon, after the July hay harvest.

Did you know that the Full Moon in August is known as the Sturgeon Moon? North American fishing tribes called August's full moon the sturgeon moon since the species appeared in number during this month. It's also been called the green corn moon, the grain moon, and the red moon for the reddish hue it often takes on in the summer haze.

Most importantly, did you know on the next two full moon's, on the 13th July and the 10th August, there will be 'Ride and Stride' practice nights cycling from St Cuthbert's to pubs at Bucknell and 'The Sun' at Leintwardine? These much recommended training evenings are the lead-up to the 'Ride and Stride' event which this year will be on the 10th September. For those of you not familiar with 'Ride and Stride', it is a fund raising event for the Historic Churches Trust and St Cuthbert's has been one of the top money raisers for a number of years. Watch this space for more details about the 10th September with Ride and Stride and our Church Open Day.

In the meantime, is it time to get your bike our for a practice?

'VISIO IMPROVISUS' CONCERT – BRACKENBURYBIANCO EXPLORE THE MUSIC OF ST HILDEGAARD VON BINGEN – SUNDAY 7TH AUGUST AT 2.30PM

St Cuthbert's Church is very pleased to be able to host a concert given by Faith Brackenbury and Tony Bianco which explores the music of St Hildegard. Faith and Tony began their musical collaboration in August 2020 with Faith on violin/ viola/ effects/ vocals with Tony Bianco on drums. You can find more details on BrackenburyBianco Duo and their music on their website (www.brackenburybianco.com).

'Visio Improvisus' is the touring project where the Duo explore the music of St.Hildegard von Bingen, fusing it with their contemporary jazz and improvisation backgrounds. Layers of violin/viola lines and drones create a base to ethereal Latin vocal monophonic scores, accompanied by rolling drums and percussion.

Hildegard was a 12thcentury Benedictine abbess and the first German mystic. She wrote profusely as a prophet, author, artist, dramatist, composer, herbalist and political moralist . She experienced what she named 'visio', or visions, from an early age and was offered as an oblate to the Benedictine Monastery at Disibodenberg at 14. She later became abbess of the community.

This tour of churches and venues is promoting BrackenburyBianco's double album of the music, 'Wayward Mystic', and is aiming to encourage

communities to re-engage with live music performance and each other after these years of social isolation and loneliness.

Expect an afternoon of the extraordinary St.Hildegard's beautiful sacred music, combined with BrackenburyBianco's own improvisational skills, to create a truly spiritual ambiance.

Tickets are available on the door priced £10 and £7 to include refreshments.



The Slow Ladies

Very sorry not to have organised a walk in June as I promised. Train times were not suitable for a decent day out, so I gave up on that idea. Ann requested a walk in Mortimers Forest, so I suggest we do June's walk in July!

Friday 8 July. Meet in Clungunford car park at 10 am with coffee and a picnic, ready for a ride to High Vinnalls carpark, from where we will walk to the view point. I am guessing it might be about 4 miles.

Friday 22 July: THE LAWLEY - 5 miles. This is the hill next to Caer Caradoc but not as high or as long and has beautiful views all round at the top. Yes, it is a climb but well worth it and if you are slow when climbing, don't worry, you will have plenty of company. Bring a coffee and a picnic and meet in the car park at 9.30am

August: I did wonder about a visit to Newtown Textile museum. (www.newtowntextilemuseum.co.uk) Have a look at it and see what you think - or maybe September would be a better month.

Let me know , please, what you think about the visit to Newtown and if you are coming on any walk.

New walkers are always welcome. Do not hesitate to contact me - *Pauline Mattison* (01588 660596)

Weather report – a dry Spring after a wet February and a brief heat-wave in mid June 2022

Storm Franklin on 20th February 2022 marked the end of a stormy winter period.

Rainfall in March was below average with wet days on the 4th, from the 11-14th and on 16th but no rain from the 17-29th and a total of 59mm. April was even drier with a total of 27mm. However, 10mm of the monthly

total rainfall fell with a storm on the 6-7th, when a vigorous depression caused the atmospheric pressure to fall to 985mb at Hopton Heath.

There was no significant rain from 15-29 April, indicating a period of drought. The May rainfall total was 48mm which was also below average, although there was mostly light rain on 13 days and no dry spell.

February and March were very mild with only four mornings with frost. Early April had morning frosts on 2nd, 3rd, 8th, 9th and 10th, interrupted by the storm on the 6-7th, when it was mild and wet. It was then mild for the rest of the month with several warm days at Easter. May was very warm with a mean maximum temperature of 19C and a mean minimum of 9C, which was the warmest May in my records at Hopton Heath.

Apart from the first few days, June was mostly dry up to the 17th, with increasing heat reaching a maximum of 29C on the 17th. This was the highest June temperature in my records for Hopton Heath, although 28C had been reached on at least one day in June in each of the last four years. Last year, high temperatures persisted for much of the month. This year, the 18th was cool with rain and although it has since got warm and dry again, it seems unlikely that last year's mean monthly temperature will be exceeded.

Mike Tucker

The Gunnas Gazette by email

We are making genuine progress in reducing the number of printed copies of *The Gazette* delivered.

However, there is still more that can be achieved, so if you can receive your Gazette by email, please sign up to do so by sending an email to gunnasingazette@aol.com.

Just remember, you will be able to read the *The Gazette* in colour by signing up for the digital edition.

The 100 Club

Winners for May:

1. (£60) Madelene Wilkinson
2. (£30) Jane Roberts
3. (£15) Sally Price

Winners for June:

1. (£60) Rob Rees
2. (£30) Philippa Rollason

3. (£15) Sally Price

If you would like to join (£5 per month by standing order), phone Maureen Rooney (01588 660781) or Mike Jones (01588 661145) or Jim Bason (01547 540782).

The Parish Council

At our meeting in May we discussed various matters.

The Environment Agency had sent someone out to discuss with residents flooding issues at Broadward, but the response as to whether it was possible to clear out trees from the river or what licences or permissions would be needed (or whether they would be granted) has left us in no clearer a position than before. A clear case of those who enforce the law not wishing to accept responsibility for advising on what the law actually is!

We reported last time that the Parish Council had received nearly £2,000 from Community Infrastructure Levy Funds collected by Shropshire Council. Our initial thinking is that the funds might most usefully be passed on to the Village Hall Committee to be put toward play equipment on the playing field, but no firm decision has yet been reached, and if residents have other ideas, please put them forward to me or any councillor or our clerk as soon as possible..

Simon Lyster very kindly stepped in at short notice to audit our accounts, as our usual auditor was temporarily incapacitated. You will be pleased to know that the accounts are in order.

The Annual Parish Meeting followed, when the usual report of the year's activities was given. No issues were raised.

Subsequent to the meetings I did have an opportunity to bring to the attention of Severn Trent executives the state of the pumping station hedge at Abcott. This is a positive danger. It was promised that this would be taken up with those who deal with such matters. Over the next year or so there is likely to be more of a Severn Trent presence in the village, as they are desirous of sinking a replacement bore-hole, and hopefully sufficient leverage may be applied to deal with the Abcott nuisance.

Our next meeting is on 13 July 2022 at 7pm. This meeting will be held live in the Hall. Interested members of the public, as ever, are welcome to attend. Parish matters before (or after) the meeting may be raised via clungunfordparishcouncil@gmail.com or directly with me. *Jonathan Roberts*, Chairman (01588 660673: jonathan.roberts@morgoedestates.com).

Bert Bason MBE



Sadly, Bert Bason has passed on, just short of what would have been his 92nd birthday.

Brother to Fred, Jim and Mary, Bert was born in Rocke Cottage and lived all his life in the village.

He always worked on the land, starting out with Gerald Vaughan in Abcott and finishing with the Rockes from 1957 until his retirement. Even after his retirement he was almost daily involved in matters agricultural with Fred. Sound advice was always freely given to those who sought it.

The writer recalls well a lecture he attended in the middle of a Gunnas field, given by those two notable Professors, Bert and Fred Bason. The day's subject was how to replace a spring on a PZ Haybob, a topic that has challenged the best of engineers from, well, if not time immemorial, certainly from the time of the invention of the PZ Haybob, a device for both tedding or rowing up hay. The lecture continued for most of an hour and involved various tools, and the student was presented with different methods of carrying out this task according to which of the two academics was presenting his theory as the true and only way forward. Suffice it to say that there appeared to be little academic agreement between the Professors. Wonderful stuff that would have gone viral on Youtube, if it had been filmed!

There was more to Bert than matters agricultural, however. He took a very keen interest in the running of the hall and its social events from a very early age, and later this developed into his unwavering support for what developed into the Sports and Social Club. Bert was in truth the mainstay of the Club for its whole existence. The hours he worked behind the bar were innumerable, and truly without Bert the Club would not have prospered as it did for many years until evolving social habits inevitably brought about change. Against this back-cloth of bar service it is all the more remarkable to bear in mind that Bert himself did not touch alcohol. It was for this voluntary work that Bert received his MBE.

Bert served for a number of years on the Parish Council, and as a lad he pumped up the organ for services until electricity came to the rescue. It is particularly appropriate, therefore, that part of his funeral collection is going to the Organ Fund.

Bert will be missed, and our thoughts are with his brothers and sister and their extended families.

Paula Williamson

We are sad to report that since the last edition of *The Gazette* Paula Williamson has passed on.

As anyone whoever met her will testify, Paula was a lovely lady. Not only was she a huge support to the late Alan, her husband, but in truth she was probably the only person who could keep up with him!

Many in the village will have benefited from Paula's hospitality skills, as The Coach House hosted countless choir practice sessions, Gazette committee meetings and countless social gatherings.

Where the tables were turned and Alan had to support his beloved Paula, however, was in her career as an artist. Alan became framer in chief to a lady with great artistic talent. Paula had art school training, and she went on to produce many high quality works, her time in Shropshire being particularly productive. She also gave freely of her time and advice in helping others to pursue their artistic hopes and dreams. Happily, Paula is survived by many examples of her work, which are her true legacy.

The Gazette in particular owes much to Paula, for the solus pictures (i.e. the picture that appears above our title in most editions) were all drawn by Paula. We have a large archive of these, and periodically we re-cycle these at appropriate times of the year.

Thanks be to Paula for her contribution to our community over the years, and our condolences are extended to Paula's family.

The Jubilee Celebrations in Gunnas

It started with a dawn walk.....



Which met the Queen.....



Followed by.....



And then degenerated to this.....



....then a commemorative tree planting.....



....and the winning poem read by



...and the National Anthem and led by.....



...and sung by



.....and accolades to the winning bakers





There are lots of upcoming events so here is a taster to whet your appetite. Further event specific information will follow closer to the time or can be found at Clungunford.com or on the Clungunford Village Hall Facebook page.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2022

- **Bar Nights: Every Friday 7pm-10pm**
- **St Cuthberts Café: 2nd and 4th Thursdays**
- **Village Hall and Green Summer Party: 16 July**
- **Clungunford Classic Motor Show: 14 August**
- **A Clungunford Christmas Carol: 25/26/27 November**
- **The Great Annual Wine and Wisdom Quiz: 3 December**

***Remember, the Hall, Bar and Kitchen are available to hire at very reasonable prices for parties, anniversaries, private dining or for any reason you want a spacious, airy venue.
See Clungunford.com for more information.***

CLUNGUNFORD



CLASSIC MOTOR SHOW



2022

10am - 4pm

(SHOW VEHICLES FROM 8AM)



Sunday 14th August

Clungunford

Village Hall and Green

SY7 0PP



BAR, HOT FOOD AND DRINKS

FREE PARKING, RAFFLE

ENTRY: £5 Adults U16 Free



Organisers: Dave Cole, 07984 964 566

Dave Wilkinson, 07834 516 129

Entries welcome -

Email: cgfmotorshow@gmail.com