



THE GUNNAS GAZETTE

*The Newsletter for
Clungunford
Volume 26 • Issue 6
July 2023*



Clungunford Celebrated!



On the Sunday after The Coronation 70-80 villagers, maybe more, passed through during a sunny afternoon and enjoyed a picnic and local-lamb burgers and games.

Long Live King Charles III and Queen Camilla



...and the night before there
was a party at the Village Hall

...where there was music and
dancing and many beverages



...and what better way to
celebrate the new reign than by a
walk to welcome the dawn



CLUNGUNFORD

CLASSIC MOTOR SHOW

2023

10am - 4pm

Sunday 13th August

*Clungunford Village Hall
and Green*

Shropshire SY7 0PP

**BAR, HOT FOOD AND DRINKS,
RAFFLE AND FREE PARKING**

PUBLIC ENTRY: £5 Adults U16 Free

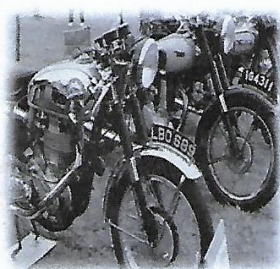


EXHIBITOR ENTRIES WELCOME

Email: cgfmotorshow@gmail.com

Organisers:

Dave Cole, 01588 660891 and Dave Wilkinson, 07834 516129



Dates for your Diary

13th August – Classic Car Show- Village Green
20th August – Hymns and Pimms – St Cuthberts Church
3rd September – Big Breakfast – St Cuthberts Church
9th September – Ride and Stride

More information on Clungunford.com

Regular events in the village hall:

- Public Bar is open every Friday night from 19.00-22.00
- Foody Friday available 1st Friday of every month*
- Carvery Sunday available 2nd Sunday of every month*
- Takeaway Wednesday 3rd Wednesday of every month*
- St Cuthbert's Café every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 10.00 – 12.00.
- Bike Night on the first Monday of the month 18.00-20.00
- Table Tennis Club every Tuesday 14.00.
- Thrift Shop open every Thursday In the Bowls Green Pavilion
- Post Office Van in the hall car park from 11.45-12.45 every Thursday
- Sacred Space in St Cuthbert's Church every second Friday from 6pm til 7pm

*See www.clungunford.com for all details, menus and ordering contacts

Farm Born and Bred

I seemed to spend most of my childhood out of doors, there was always something to keep me entertained.

Back in the day, as it is commonly described these days, we didn't have rubbish bin or bag collections.

Any food scraps were fed to the pigs or poultry. Both pigs & poultry for fattening, were given a mash of meal which was boiled up outside on an old solid fuel stove. I loved the smell of that being cooked up, sometimes old potatoes were also added, even more of a tasty smell.

Other rubbish such as old empty bottles & occasionally tins, were just literally thrown behind the wainhouse (wagon house) I used to compete with my brother to see who could successfully throw these bottles from the yard over the roof of the wainhouse, to land with a crash on the other side, out of sight. Over the years the pile built up and was forgotten and ignored.

More recently when we realised there could be some value in these old bottles, we have rescued the unbroken ones. There were bottles of all sizes and colours. A lot were old animal drenching bottles or those that were used for various medicines, some for animals & some for the household. I have sold some to antique shops in Ludlow, not very lucrative but interesting!

Tin cans were buried behind the building; most had rusted down and virtually disappeared.

Old light bulbs were even more fun, as my brother had been given an airgun for one of his birthdays. Given by our Uncle who delivered the stern message, " Never, ever, just for fun, point a gun at anyone" We both became quite adept at shooting these lightbulbs.

We lined them up along the tops of some wood piled up against the wall of the granary. So satisfying to see the bulb explode! However, because there was a brick wall at the back of the targets, we sometimes used to get the airgun pellets that would ricochet off the wall and whizz past our heads. We never were hit, fortunately!

We also used to try to hit the light bulbs using our home-made bows and arrows, not nearly so successful.

Any pocket money we were given had to be earned. My mother devised a list of chores to be performed, alongside each entry was the payment to be awarded for each task successfully completed.

Among the entries on this list was the shooting of pests & rodents. There were a great number of sparrows hopping around the yard whenever the hens were fed their corn. the ground would be literally covered with sparrows. Pigeons were another nuisance as they would eat the growing crops, or the vegetables in the garden. Rats of course featured on the list.

Sparrows only generated 1 penny each, a pigeon on the other hand earned us 6 pence, as did a rat.

Cleaning out the hen houses was a good earner at 1 shilling a time, a horrid job, when I would emerge covered in fleas or itchy little mites. Collecting hens eggs on the other hand didn't bring any reward, that was just a job we were told to do and not complain! That often resulted in being pecked by the hen that sat on her nest as I pushed my hand under her feathery body to retrieve the eggs she did not want to give up. Fleas were sometimes a risk here as well.

So many of the hens which were completely free ranging, chose to lay their eggs anywhere except in the fowl house and its nest boxes. They would lay eggs in the manger in the stables, on the tops of the haystacks, in the hayracks, sometimes on the ground hidden among nettles or any other rubbish.

If a hen was heard announcing that she had laid an egg, I would be sent to track the sound down to hopefully locate the site of the nest. Now and then the hens managed to escape detection & weeks later would appear with a family of little chicks in tow.

Indoor chores on the list were less attractive to me, even if some generated a better income, more of that another time!

M.E.B.

P.S. Sister B still uncovering little snippets of entertaining asides :-

Several American nurses were training at a hospital in Liverpool, England.

These nurses had very little money for meals, so they ate what they considered awful food provided in the nurses canteen, and sometimes kind visitors would give them extras of the treats that they had brought for patients.

One night a woman brought a pie to the nurses room and said to one of the nurses, "Would you eat this up, love?" So, she and another American student nurse devoured every delicious crumb!

Soon the woman returned, however, and asked, "Is me 'usband's pie 'ot yet, dearie?"

In the Garden

A sunny morning and around me sweetly scented summer flowers are reaching up towards an azure sky. No, I haven't decamped to the Mediterranean. This *is* Clungunford. I've pinched myself twice to make sure.

Across the patio a couple of tits are examining the underside of rose leaves in a search for aphids. They can be very efficient in pest control of that kind. If only they didn't also strip such flowers as those of the red hot pokers equally comprehensively. Doing far more damage than any insect pest would do.

When I was young I was offered the following advice on how to recognise what was, or wasn't, a pest in the garden. "If it moves slowly enough step on it: if it doesn't, leave it – it will probably kill something else."

These days I'm inclined to leave most things to be dealt with by something else. Even slugs and snails have a purpose in life other than their most apparent one of eating our favourite plants. I much prefer to encourage thrushes and frogs into the garden to help keep their numbers down, rather than sprinkle pellets everywhere.

July and August are the months when we begin to see the greatest returns for our efforts in the vegetable garden. If the weather should turn dry it is important to water often enough to keep the ground moist. Tomatoes and carrots in particular are prone to splitting if subjected to alternate flooding and drying out of the soil around them. Watering of anything is most effective if begun before the plants begin to suffer.

In the flower garden, look out for the large, lilac-blue trumpets of *Hibiscus syriacus* 'Blue Bird' adding an exotic look to late summer borders.

Brian Taylor

From Rev Martin Quayle

It is astonishing how quickly time moves on. It is now over a month from when the coronation took place. Most of us watched it on the television, and for the most part, the commentary and punditry added to the occasion and the enjoyment of the spectacle. One contribution particularly impressed me and has stayed with me. It was from David Olusoga.

David Olusoga is a historian and broadcaster. I think he is of mixed race, being of Nigerian and British origin. Even on the television, he has a remarkable presence. He is a big man and is attractive and well-presented. His voice is soft and gentle, and his words are chosen carefully, so that his speech is deft and precise. He doesn't waste words.

His observations on the spectacle were for the most part, sensible and thoughtful. One particular observation of his has stayed with me. He pointed out that the ceremonies have for the most part disappeared from our communal life. We don't attend and participate in as many of these events as we used to. This is particularly so in comparison to other developed countries. He went on to say that we are said to be becoming a nation of those who no longer believe. He said he disagreed with that. To his mind, he said that the predominating approach to Faith and civic life is that we are no longer interested. We are just inclined to not show or take any interest.

I regret to say that from my perspective as a Parish Priest, I have to agree with him. I entered the priesthood with a determination to see the best in those I serve, and to do what I could to bring comfort to the bereaved, and understanding to those puzzled and hurt by life events. Increasingly, I have to deal with attitudes of belligerence and incomprehension about life, faith and the quality of compassion.

David Olusoga has shone a light on an aspect of our national life which demands attention. The media for a long time has been hypercritical about many aspects of our national life. The predominance of cynicism and hypercritical complaint has whittled down and destroyed many of those good things in communities and our society. Things will only get better if as individuals and families we contribute to our communities. Participate, believe and be positive. Take a risk, and you never know, you may even start to enjoy yourselves.

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@aepledhill.co.uk). The planned Services for St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford in the Middle Marches Benefice for May and June are as follows:

Sunday 9 July	10.00 am	Family Service
Sunday 16 July	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 23 July	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 30 July	10.30 am	Benefice Holy Communion at Stowe
Sunday 13 August	10.00 am	Family Service
Sunday 20 August	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 27 August	11.00 am	Holy Communion

The Abbess Way

Ten modern-day pilgrims set out on this year's long walk from Morville, via Much Wenlock and on to Shrewsbury, visiting abbeys and churches along the way. You can check out photographic evidence of their success (or otherwise!) by visiting the St Cuthbert's Church Facebook page;

<https://www.facebook.com/clungunfordchurch>

St Cuthbert's Café, Clungunford Village Hall – two years old and going strong!

The café is open on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, from 10am - 12 noon so do come along to celebrate these last two years of bringing people together so gently and beautifully. Everyone is very welcome and it really is a high point in the village calendar.

Although the café was started in 2021 as a way of helping people meet up again after Covid, it has also been a source of great generosity: over £1,700 has been contributed to the running costs of St Cuthbert's Church and over £2,500 has been raised for special appeals, including Ukraine; Christian Aid, LAMB (Bangladeshi medical charity) and the earthquake in Turkey. Many thanks to all for their generosity and especially to Rob Rees, Sarah Akasha, Isabel Jimenez, Janet Collier and other volunteers who keep us well supplied with coffee and cake!

Hymns and Pimms

We are delighted to add a new event into the social calendar of St Cuthbert's Church, and are pleased to invite you to Hymns and Pimms on Sunday August 20th at 4pm. We will hope to have in the region of half a dozen hymns so please let Eddie know which hymn you

would like to sing (as soon as possible but by August 6th at the latest, so he can practise them!) and on the day you can tell us a bit about why it matters to you! There is no charge, but donations towards church funds, please. All very welcome! Enquiries to Anna Dreda annadreda@icloud.com or Eddie Gledhill edward@aepledhill.co.uk 07775 598414

God's Acre

The church yard is looking quite wild at the moment but it is being cared for! We know that we are very lucky to have a wide diversity of plants, insects and even dormice in the churchyard. The team at God's Acre will next be on site on 18th July and we are grateful to them for their work and knowledge.

The Big Breakfast

The Big Breakfast will be held on Sunday September 3rd at 9.30am ~ always a very special gathering with a truly excellent breakfast, do keep the date! Weather permitting we'll be in the beautiful church grounds, but inside if wet!

Sacred Space

The last Sacred Space before the summer break was held on Friday June 9th on the theme of 'Hedges and Haystacks' and included a reading of the poem 'Hedge School' by the Irish poet, Pat Boran. Sacred Space, which entered its second year this year, is a lovely meditative hour of music and silence.

Sacred Space takes place in St Cuthbert's Church on the second Friday of the month from March to June and from September to December. It starts again on September 8th, at 5.45 for 6pm and is led by Anna Dreda and Clare Johnson. For more information, you can contact Anna on 01588 660154, or 07772 288077 or by email on annadreda@icloud.com Everyone is very welcome.

St Cuthbert's Facebook page

We now have an active Facebook page and we would be so very grateful if you 'liked' or 'befriended us'. There are several 'St Cuthberts' on social media, so please be sure to choose the right one – <https://www.facebook.com/clungunfordchurch>. We look forward to you joining the conversation!

PCC

Isabel Jimenez has now retired from the PCC after many years of faithful service. Isabel was warmly thanked for her many contributions to the life of the parish and assures us that she will still be an active participant in parish events. Anna Dreda and Tim Hughes were welcomed to the committee and thanked for volunteering.

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) May Bywater
2. (£30) Simon Lyster
3. (£15) Maureen Rooney

Winners for June:

1. (£60) Elizabeth Hughes
2. (£30) Ann Hunt
3. (£15) Mike Jones

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 Slow Ladies

Friday 28 July: The Lawley - a not too difficult climb up this hill just outside Church Stretton - about 5 miles.

Bring a picnic and a drink. Meet in the car park in Clungunford at 9.30am. Please let me know if you are coming..

August walk-- I will let you know about this later via email. New walkers are always welcome. Do not hesitate to contact me - Pauline Mattison (01588 660596)

The Parish Council

At our last meeting on 10 May and the Annual Parish Meeting that followed it there was little on the agenda and little to report, the APM being significant only for the fact that for the first time in my recollection no members of the public were present!

Little progress has been made toward replacing the clerk or co-opting another councillor to the vacancy we have. If you are interested in becoming a parish councillor, do contact me or any member of the council.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 12 July in the Village Hall, stating at 7pm. 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).

Spring to Summer Solstice – mostly warm and dry

As was forecast, the end of April was rather wet with 35mm rain from the 21st to 30th. The total rainfall was 92mm for April and 240mm for both March and April. Early spring was, therefore, wet, something that seems to have been forgotten with the later dry weather.

May began with mostly light rain but from the 12th was dry. The dry weather continued until 10 June, almost a month with no rain and this drought would have been more serious if it had not been for the heavy rain in March. We then got some rain from thunderstorms and a total of 30mm up to 21 June. Some areas of the south of England missed this rain and there hose pipe bans were enforced.

Temperatures were fairly average in April and May but in June the mean maximum temperature up to the 21st has been 25C with six days from the 12th to 17th with maxima of 28C. This is the highest mean maximum in my records (from 2007) for June, although July 2021 and 2022 and August 2022 had the same mean maximum temperatures. The weather is now slightly cooler and we have had rain each day from 18-21 June. If slightly cooler weather continues, June may not be so exceptional. We wait to see what will happen in July and August which are usually the warmest months of the summer.



*Jim and Mary Bason kindly opened their garden on 25 June in aid of the Church Organ Fund.
Above is a view of their flower beds and wild flower areas – but a small taster of what was one display.*

Hymns and Pimms in St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford

Sunday August 20th at 4pm

Choose your favourite hymn and tell
us a bit about why it matters to you!

No charge, but donations towards church funds.

All very welcome!

Enquiries to Anna Dreda annadreda@icloud.com

Your chosen hymn to Eddie Gledhill
edward@aegledhill.co.uk or 07775 598414
by August 6th (latest)

Clungunford Village Hall Bike Meet

Clungunford is on the B4367 and is a terrific ride whichever way you come at it!
(SY7 0PP if you wish to satnav.it)

Our village Hall has ample parking and drinks (bar) or tea and coffee are available along with
bacon rolls.

Come and join us from 6.00pm onwards

Contacts:

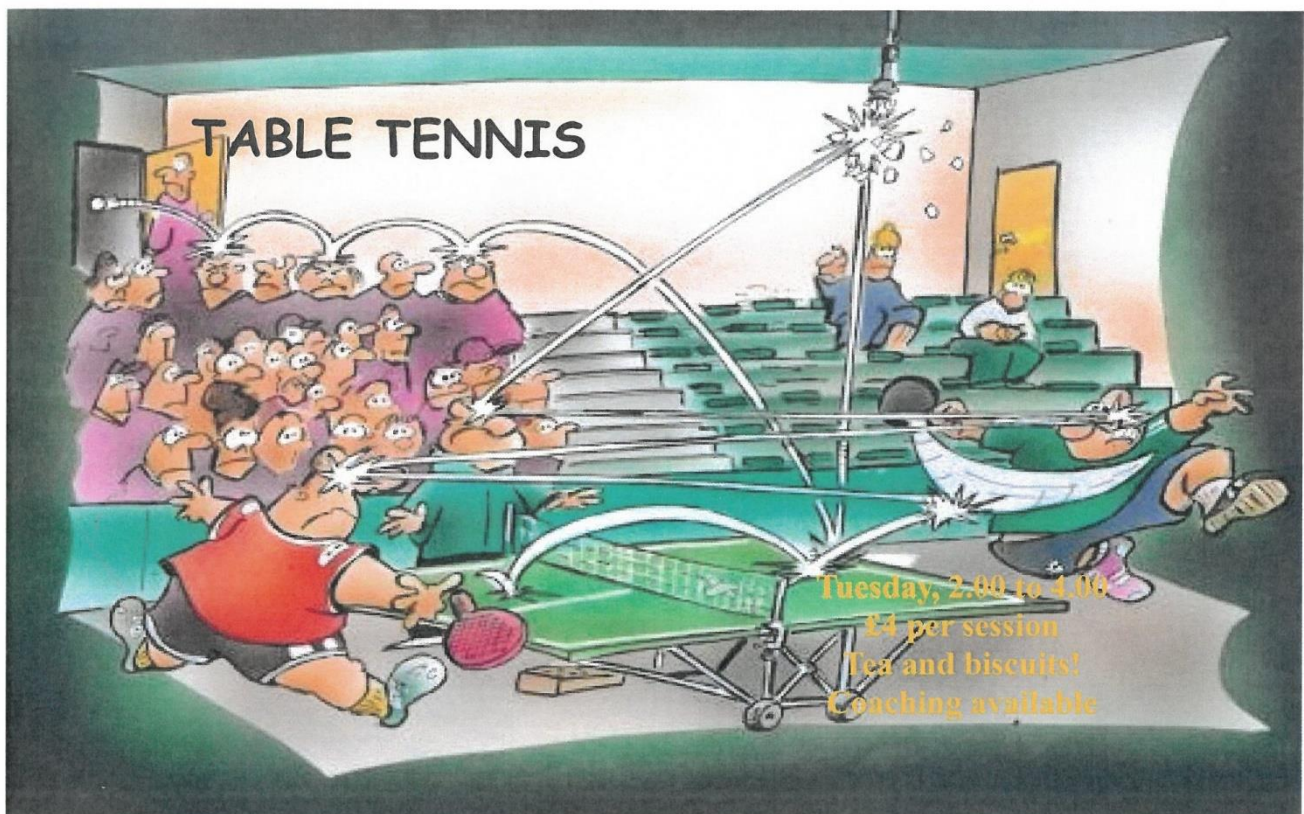
David Wilkinson - 07834 516129

David Cole - 07984 964566



6.00pm, 1st Monday of the month

Also in the Village Hall.....



The Clungunford Funds

Did you know Clungunford has two funds available to give grants to all parishioners at times of need?

Some of the things we can help with are:

Costs of travel to hospital and medical expenses

School and college expenses

Driving, swimming and music lessons

Convalescence expenses and personal alarms

TV licenses

All requests will be considered

Grants are not means tested and are available to anyone living in the parish regardless of incomes and circumstances. Contributions can only be given if no help is available from public funding.

All enquiries and applications are received and treated in strict confidentiality.

Clungunford Charities

Clerk Mrs A Gledhill Abcott Manor Abcott Clungunford SY7 0PX 01588 660485
anne@aegledhill.co.uk

Chair Mrs C M Tinker Trustees Mrs M Bason Ms E Roberts Mrs M Taylor



Clungunford Educational Foundation Trading as
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