



*The Newsletter  
for Clungunford  
Volume 28  
Issue 6  
July 2025*

# THE GUNNAS GAZETTE

ESTD



2022

## **CLUNGUNFORD** **CLASSIC MOTOR SHOW** **& AUTO JUMBLE**

**10am - 4pm**

**Sunday 10th August 2025**



**Clungunford  
Village Hall  
and Green  
SY7 0PP**

**PUBLIC ENTRY**  
**Adults £6**  
**U16 Free**



**TRADE STANDS £10 (outdoor only)**

**EXHIBITORS FREE - Entry Enquiries welcome**

**Supported by John Payne Wood Yard**

**HOT FOOD & DRINKS, FREE PARKING, COMPETITIONS & RAFFLE**

**Organisers: David Cole, 01588 660891 and David Wilkinson, 07834 516129**  
**Email: cgfmotorshow@gmail.com**

*The time is fast approaching for the Clungunford Classic Car Show, taking place on 10 August. Apart from being a very good day out, volunteering is an excellent way to enhance the enjoyment. If you would like to help in any way, please contact either David on the numbers on the front page.*

*This is a much needed fund raiser both for the Village Hall Charity and the nominated charity for the year. Do come and join us. See you there.*

## *Superfast Broadband*

The good news is that surveys are taking place with a view to work starting in September.

However, there is still time to sign up to be part of the initial wave, and so, if you have not signed up already, please do so now at:

<https://www.openreach.com/connect-my-community>

This upgrade for properties served by the Little Brampton exchange really is future-proofing for the village, and both Clungunford and Hopesay Parish Councils urge you to take advantage of the opportunity.

If you have any doubts or questions, please feel free to contact me to discuss. Jonathan Roberts (tel: 01588 660673 or em [jonathan.roberts@morgoedestates.com](mailto:jonathan.roberts@morgoedestates.com))

The more who sign up, the more wide ranging the installation is likely to be

## **Dates for your Diary**

10<sup>th</sup> August – Clungunford Car Show

17<sup>th</sup> October – Arts Alive Heidi Talbot

18<sup>th</sup> December – Arts Alive Gav Cross

*More information on [Clungunford.com](http://Clungunford.com)*

## **Regular events in the Village Hall**

- Public Bar is open every Friday night from 19.00-22.00
- Foody Friday available 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month\*

- Carvery 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month\*
- St Cuthbert's Cafe every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 10.00-12.00
- Post Office Van in the hall car park from 11.45-12.45 every Thursday

\*See [www.clungunford.com](http://www.clungunford.com) for all details, menus and ordering contacts

## PLEASE NOTE NEW THRIFT SHOP OPENING HOURS

### *Farm Born and Bred*

During my pre-school years, Prisoners of War were sent to work at Beckjay.

There were 4 working here in the late 40's: they were German and came from a POW camp at Ludlow.

They arrived by lorry every morning at about 8am and were picked up each evening at 5 o'clock.

They had some meals in the farmhouse, and I remember seeing them sitting at a table which folded down against the wall, in the back kitchen.

They were very hard workers and very pleasant men.

I used to very shyly go into the back kitchen while they were eating. I was very young and small and don't remember ever seeing any part of them except their knees, on a level with my face!

Now and then a hand would descend down to me, holding a toy they had made for me. I remember a lovely wooden duck, painted grey with a yellow beak, which flapped its wings as you pushed it along by the long handle. I loved that toy.

I was heartbroken when a daughter of one of our farm workers hit me over the head with my duck, breaking its neck! My mother stood chatting to this girl's mother, as I was tugging on my mother's skirt to attract her attention, told me to be quiet and stop fussing! 76 years later I remember the incident like it was yesterday!

My brother was given a little wooden lorry. They were very kind.

One of the men said, "I went round a corner to be met by a British soldier who said, 'Hands up!' - that was the end of my war and I was pleased to be out of it!"

One German POW brought his wife over, and stayed as a farmworker, living in Bentley Cottage, while working for Jack Hamer at Bentley House.

Another stayed, living at the Twitchen in the farmhouse. He went on to buy himself a farm near Presteigne.

There are similar incidents of the POW's who chose to remain in the UK *MEB*

Just Sister B with another tale from nursing: -

A diabetic patient kept getting very high sugar readings.

He was asked if he had been following the instructions we had taught him - Test his blood sugar, using the siding scale, measuring the correct insulin dose in the syringe etc. He went through all the steps and it seemed as though he was doing everything correctly.

We asked him to demonstrate these steps so that we could see if there were any mistakes that could be corrected. He did everything correctly till the very last step. He drew up the insulin into the syringe, pulled an orange out of his pocket, injected the insulin into the orange., then ate it. It turns out he was taught how to give himself the injection by demonstrating with an orange. He didn't realise he actually needed to inject himself for the insulin to work!

### *Flicks in the Sticks*

Flicks in the Sticks is taking a well-earned summer rest. We are all grateful to Keith Arbery and his team of helpers for staging so much entertainment throughout the autumn, winter and spring. The proceeds are a significant contributor to Village Hall funds.

### *Parish Church News*

For more information about services, events etc, please contact our Church Warden, Edward Gledhill (tel: 01588 660485, email: [edward@aepledhill.co.uk](mailto:edward@aepledhill.co.uk)). The planned Services for St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford in the Middle Marches Benefice for June and July are as follows:

Sunday 6 July	No service at St Cuthbert's	
Sunday 13 July	10.00 am	Family Service
Sunday 20 July	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 27 July	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 3 August	No service at St Cuthbert's	
Sunday 10 August	10.00 am	Family Service



Sunday 17 August	10.00 am	Morning Prayer
Sunday 24 August	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 31 August	No service at St Cuthbert's	

## Clun Valley Music River Festival



The River Clun Festival was a fortnight of walks, talks, art and music celebrating the River Clun and surrounding area. It was with great pleasure that St Cuthbert's Church hosted two of the four concerts given by Clun Valley Music. Clun Valley Music has been bringing world-class classical music to Clun and surroundings since 2018, and this year the four concerts were all water-themed.

Friday evening saw a much-welcomed return of the pianist, Jong Sun Woo to St Cuthbert's. Sunny was performing Schubert's *Die Schöne Müllerin* with baritone Giacomo Schmidt. Jong Sun Woo and Giacomo Schmidt recently won 1st prize at the Wolf International Art Song Competition 2024 in Stuttgart. It was a wonderful evening from this internationally accomplished duo.



Sunday saw the return of Jong Sun Woo to the piano, this time joined by Luba Tunnickliffe (viola), Alessandro Ruisi (violin), Oliver Cave (violin), Richard Tunnickliffe (cello) and Leon Bosch (double bass). The music included the *Trout Quintet* (Schubert), the *Tempesta Sonata* (Rossini) and *Jeux d'eau* (Ravel). Martha Franks opened the programme. Martha, at 12 years of age, astonished everyone with her violin playing. The musicianship across the evening amazed us all. With almost 140 people in the audience, this was the largest concert that we have hosted in St Cuthbert's.

Thanks go to Luba and Richard Tunnickliffe for bringing such fantastic music to Clungunford. We hope that they will return again next year. Watch this space!

## Jonathan Scott Returns to Clungunford

Jonathan Scott was described as 'the leading British organist' by BBC Radio 3, and enjoys a hugely varied international performing career. As Associate Artist of the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, he gives a series of lunchtime organ recitals which attract huge audiences and with his brother, Tom, his performance videos on the Scott Brother Duo YouTube channels have achieved more than 91 million views making them some of the most watched in the world.



This is Jonathan's second time playing the Binn's organ and he did not fail to both delight and amaze us all with a mixed and enjoyable programme. His explanation and stories on each of the pieces were very entertaining and added to the enjoyment of the pieces. His athletic and dexterous approach, with hands and feet moving in every direction, was a spectacle to behold! His own arrangements of Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance March* and Holst's *Jupiter* from *The Planets*, in particular, would challenge the very best of organists but he took them easily in his stride.

He received a well-deserved standing ovation for what was a truly incredible concert.

During the morning Tom recorded a YouTube video to accompany Jonathan's latest organ tutorial book: watch out for our Binn's organ on YouTube!

### From an audience member

It was a real pleasure to welcome Jonathan back to Clungunford for the second year running to hear him perform on the magnificent Binns Organ in the Church. Jonathan opened his performance with a lively rendition of Mozart's *Overture to The Marriage of Figaro* before continuing to delight us with a repertoire featuring works by Bach, Chopin, Holst, Albinoni, Saint-Saëns, Handel and Elgar. Each piece was magnificent but special mention must be made of the Chopin *Nocturn in C Sharp Minor* - for its beautiful melody, lyrical dream-like quality and emotional depth. The quietness of the piece contrasted wonderfully with the rousing *Jupiter* from *The Planets* and *Pomp and Circumstance March*; which brought a mini 'Last Night of the Proms' to our Church.

Prior to each piece, Jonathan also gave an informative, amusing and educative introduction, which added to the whole performance. For an encore, following a standing ovation, he played a tear-inducing *O Mio Babbino Caro*. As well as the pleasure of listening, I got tremendous enjoyment in watching the speed with which his feet and hands sped across the numerous pedals and stops.

We are so lucky to have artists of this quality come to Clungunford and special thanks must go to Eddie Gledhill and Michael Millar for their part in organising this event. Jonathan Scott is a world-famous Organist who enjoys a hugely varied international performing career playing in major concert halls and cathedrals in both this country and around the world. Let's hope his busy schedule affords us the opportunity to welcome him back again to Clungunford.

NB Jonathan will be performing again on the 25<sup>th</sup> August, Bank Holiday Monday, in Hereford Cathedral at 11.30 am.  
*Ennis Brown*

### Sacred Space

Our last Sacred Space for this season was held on June 13<sup>th</sup>. We listened to beautiful, inspirational music from Armenia and Africa; from John Rutter and Voces 8; a fused Islam-Christian *Ave Maria* and a profoundly moving piece for piano and voice from Thomas Otten. The poem we heard at the end was 'As I Walked Out' by Esther Morgan, from her collection 'Grace' published by Bloodaxe in 2011.

We break for the summer now, starting again on September 12<sup>th</sup>, and then on October 10; November 14<sup>th</sup> and December 12<sup>th</sup>. All very welcome. Contact Anna Dreda 01588 660154 [annadreda@icloud.com](mailto:annadreda@icloud.com)

### Hymns and Pimms

Our third Hymns and Pimms was enjoyed in the church by nearly 40 people. We sang twelve hymns, marvellously accompanied by Eddie Gledhill and Michael Millar on the organ. The hymns included great favourites including 'How Great Thou Art'; 'Finlandia' and 'Be Still for the Presence of my Soul', along with ones we were less familiar with such as 'By cool Siloam's shady rill' and 'Bring Flowers of the Fairest'. Those who had chosen hymns were invited to say a few words explaining the personal significance of the hymn to them, and we heard tender, moving stories of beloved grand-mothers; a call to ministry; choir boy memories; wedding days and anniversaries, as well as funerals; being away from home and needing help to endure catastrophic times. There was a great sense of fellowship and trust which was very beautiful. Pimms was served (both with alcohol and without, and both delicious!) and a lovely time was had by all.

### Church maintenance issues

Work on the Church tower continues as does general maintenance to the Church.

Tenders for the work to the tower have now been received from a number of building contractors and we are expecting to award a contract over the next few days. As well as work to the stonework including pointing and strengthening where needed, the roof of the tower will also see new timbers and tile work to ensure that the tower stands for another 130 years....and hopefully longer!

As part of the permission to carry out the work we needed to commission a bat survey to find out whether the work will cause any disturbance to their habitat. From a previous survey earlier on in the year, we knew that we have bats in the bell tower which feed at dusk. What was unknown was whether they resided there or just came into the tower for feeding. A further survey was carried out in the last few days, this time late in the evening, which revealed that we have five types of bat in the tower, none of which are believed to be roosting there. As the work was only recently completed, we have not yet received the report from the company who undertook the survey. Hopefully, we can provide more detail on our bell tower bats in the next edition of the GG.

The parquet floor in the Church has failed in a few areas with the oak tiles either working loose or crumbling with rot. This left a patch at the back of the Church badly in need of repair as it was causing a safety hazard. The parquet floor was laid at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century using oak tile and it has taken some time to be able to locate tiles suitable for the repair work. We are glad to say that we have now managed to do so and the floor has been repaired.

Unfortunately, in a recent storm, a ridge tile blew off the top of the Church, above the chancel, meaning that there



was a gap, a bit like a missing tooth. As the ridge tile fell down the north side of the Church it broke and dislodged a number of tiles on its way. The only way we could reach such a height to replace it was by hiring a high-lift platform - a cherry picker - which we did in June. We used the opportunity to do some other repair work such as replacing broken tiles and pointing up lime mortar while we had the cherry picker on site. Our last Quinquennial report highlighted a number of things to address at a high level and so the hire of the cherry picker was a great help in addressing these. As well as broken tiles and pointing, we were also able to replace lead flashing, repair stone work and areas around the west window where old mortar had failed. We can report that Rob Rees is not only an excellent treasurer but also a dab hand with a cherry picker. Our concern now is that he may run off to become a builder!



Our hope is to obtain additional funding from grants but the work to date is being funded from our building repair fund. The main contributors to this fund are the 100 Club members. We are very aware that the work on the tower will stretch our funds and would like to thank all those who support us through the 100 Club. The support is essential for the up keep of the Church in the village. If you are not yet a member of the 100 Club, with the chance to win cash prizes every month, but would like to do so, please contact contact Rob Rees or Eddie Gledhill for further details. The 100 Club was the idea of Maureen Rooney and it is a part of her legacy for which we are very grateful.

### Coming up ...

We're looking forward to a wedding in the church on August 9<sup>th</sup>, and visiting bell-ringers on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

### Big Breakfast 6th September, 9 - 11am

All are very welcome to join us for this annual village event in the church (or churchyard!). A lovely opportunity to

enjoy a truly sumptuous breakfast and a great social gathering. There is no charge for this event but we trust that donations will be generous and plentiful - like the food!

### Ride and Stride 2025, 13th September, 11.30am - 4pm

As well as riding and striding activities the church will be open from 10am to set cyclists and walkers off with a 'coffee and carb' boost and from 11.30am - 4pm we will be serving our traditional (and delicious!) refreshments. There will be a range of art and craft stalls and exhibits for your enjoyment so do put a note in your diaries to drop in on us! If you would like a stall, please contact Anna Dreda on [annadreda@icloud.com](mailto:annadreda@icloud.com) or 07772 288077.

Cycle training is well underway despite the first ride being rained off. Our valiant cyclists had an excellent ride to the White Horse pub last month and if you'd like to join this stalwart band of bikers, please meet at St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford at 6.30pm on July 16<sup>th</sup>, destination the Crown in Clunton, and on August 12<sup>th</sup>, destination the Sun in Leintwardine.

Please note that we welcome everyone at the Sun on August 12<sup>th</sup>, whether or not you are cycling! Come and have fish and chips, compare training regimes, and - oh yes - have a beer or two. A truly Clungunford event!

We could do with a couple more cyclists - so please step up!

You can download a sponsorship form here: <https://shropshirehct.org.uk/AboutUs/Documents.aspx>

A Just Giving page will be opened nearer the time: full details in the next *Gazette*

Any questions in the meantime, please call Matthew Trustman on 01588 660129

### Regular events ...

### Churchyard Working Group, July 7<sup>th</sup> and August 4<sup>th</sup>, 10 - 12pm



We meet on the first Monday of each month from 10am - 12 noon. There is always a range of jobs from gentle weeding, the more vigorous strimming and hacking, and everything in between. We will find a job for you if you come! The treat is that there is usually a generous coffee break with real coffee and homemade cookies! The reward is that the churchyard is looking ever more lovely, with paths through the graves and a careful mix of wild and formal. Do join us. Contact Anne Gledhill on 07989 208863 if you'd like to know more.

### **The Quiet Church, every Thursday 4.45pm**

We meet in St Cuthbert's Church every Thursday, gathering from 4.45pm ready for a 5 o'clock start. We enjoy a short piece of music followed by a reading and then half an hour of silent meditation, which ends with a poem or another short reading. All are welcome, whether you are a person of faith or no faith, a seeker, or simply acknowledging the need for quiet reflection. Contact Anna Dreda on 07772 288077 or [annadreda@icloud.com](mailto:annadreda@icloud.com) or just turn up.

### **St Cuthbert's Café, July 10th and July 24th, August 14th and 28th, 10am - 12pm**

Come along to the village hall for home-made cakes, tea and coffee and plenty of friendly chat. A great way to socialise with village friends old and new while supporting the church. Contact Rob on 07497 427376 or 01547 540248. (Second and fourth Thursday of each month)

### **100 Club winners**

#### **May**

First Prize (£60) – Ann Hunt

Second Prize (£30) – Anna Dreda

Third Prize (£15) – Adam Gledhill

#### **June**

First Prize (£60) – May Bywater

Second Prize (£30) – Julia Gell

Third Prize (£15) – Andrew Benton

There is always room for new subscribers to the 100 Club. For as little as £5 per month, you will be allocated a dedicated number which will go into the monthly draw – and there is no limit to the amount of numbers you can hold. For an application form, please contact Janet Thain at [janetthain@aol.com](mailto:janetthain@aol.com) or Rob Rees on 07497 427376 or 01547 540248. Proceeds from the 100 Club (which was started by the late and great Maureen Rooney) go towards the repair and maintenance costs of St Cuthbert's Church.

### **Clungunford Bike and Beer 2025**

In preparation for The Ride and Stride Fund raising Day for The Shropshire Historic Churches Trust - this year to be held on September 13th - we are warming up with practice cycle rides.

These are gentle cycling outings to a local pub - where remembering the dates is more challenging than the rides. All of course welcome. All two wheeled bikes welcome ...

They are held around the full moons to support cycling home afterwards

Come along and join us for any of these dates- just turn up outside the Church at 18.30, unless it's raining very hard, and we then cycle from there .

So for all your calendars

July 16th Crown in Clunton

August 12th The Sun at Leintwardine

August 12th is the "Great Gathering". The last cycle training event at The Sun in Leintwardine -, all invited - no need to cycle - a chance to have fish and chips, compare training regimes, and, oh yes, have a beer or two. NB for the hard core, cyclists meet as usual at the Church at 18.30. Any questions, please call Matthew Trustman 01588 660129

### **The Parish Council**

The draft minutes of the May meeting may be seen on the village website at

<https://clungunford.com/parish-council-papers/>

For better or worse the undersigned was re-elected as chairman, and Mike Tucker was re-elected as vice-chairman.

You can also see draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and the state of the Parish Council accounts, which are in a healthy position, even after expenditure on the website architecture. The APM gave me an opportunity to review the year.

Our next meeting is on 9 July at 7 pm in the Village 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](mailto:clungunfordparishcouncil@gmail.com)

or directly with me. *Jonathan Roberts*, Chairman (01588 660673: [jonathan.roberts@morgoedestates.com](mailto:jonathan.roberts@morgoedestates.com)).

### **Bacon Butty Anyone?**

Most of us enjoy a bacon sandwich. The very smell of cooking bacon is verging on the orgasmic. But what about the poor pig?

Pigs are highly intelligent, sentient animals, but the appalling cruelty involved in their intensively farmed production is shocking. In the UK millions of pigs endure terrible suffering in factory farms simply being reduced to breeding machines. Pregnant sows are constrained in farrowing crates where they cannot even turn around. Their piglets are not able to bond with their mothers naturally and are taken away prematurely. In their frustration they may bite each other's tails, so tail docking may be employed . Without anaesthetic and using red hot blades, the tails are cut off.

Factory farmed pigs live tragically short lives. Millions of pigs are slaughtered annually by being imprisoned in CO2 gas chambers where they gasp for breath, panic and suffer great fear and distress in company with other suffocating animals.

We are given the impression that farmed animal welfare is high in the UK. That may be so in a few cases, but generally I would suggest we are being told porkies. *Mike Mattison*



## **The Clungunford Funds**

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

**Examples of the things we can help with are:**

**Costs of travel to hospital and medical expenses**  
**School, college, vocational and apprenticeship expenses**  
**Driving, swimming and music lessons**  
**Convalescence expenses and personal alarms**  
**TV licenses and household items**  
**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

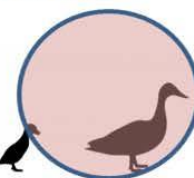
Chair Mrs C M Tinker Trustees Mrs M Bason Ms E Roberts Mr R Bates



The Clungunford Fund Charity Number 501782



Clungunford Educational Foundation Charity Number 505104







*It is not often we have a chance to picture a Royal Palace in The Gazette, but here are Paula and Mike Tucker at a Buckingham Palace Tea-Party to which Paula had been invited*





Poet Thirza Clout - better known in Clungunford as Liz Roberts, with fellow poets Tina Cole, Jean Atkin and Cherry Doyle - at the launch of Thirza's new collection, *Percy and Grace, secrets, lies and love*, held in the Village Hall. Donations and book sales raised £305 to help family of good friend Sara Giffen, who have been forced to become refugees in Uganda, by the ongoing war in Sudan. Thirza/Liz would like to thank everyone who helped make the event a success, including Anna Dreda who acted as MC.

### ***The Slow Ladies***

FRIDAY 18 JULY : walk up to CROFT AMBREY from Croft Castle car park . We can make the walk as far and as long as we want to, depending on the heat. Bring a drink and a picnic. Meet in the village hall car park at 9.30 am or in the Castle car park at 10.15 am.

FRIDAY 29 AUGUST: STAPELEY HILL and MITCHELLS FOLD, a 4 mile walk which was postponed in June because of the heat wave. Bring a drink and a picnic. Meet in the village hall car park at 9.15 am.

New walkers are always welcome. Do not hesitate to contact me - Pauline Mattison (01588 660596) from whom meeting times and venues may be obtained.