



The Newsletter for
Clungunford
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THE GUNNAS GAZETTE

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The Village Hall

Your Village Hall is up and running again, newly refurbished. After a splendid opening day (see pictures on pages 9 and 10) the first month can only be counted a great success. Saturday night dances have resumed seamlessly and been well attended. There have been village “get-together-nights” (see above), interspersed with “ordinary-nights”, and the newly designed and fully-stocked bar has been well used. There has been live mid-week entertainment. There is yoga. What more can you want from a friendly local? Do call in and see for yourself. To all of you who have worked in so many different ways long hours and tirelessly toward this splendid conclusion, on behalf of all in the community *The Gazette* extends grateful thanks and congratulations on the successful outcome.

New Events to look forward to at our newly refurbished Village Hall

So please open your diary and make a note of these fabulous live performances coming to the Village Hall in the spring and Summer. - New performances, great music, ancient stories and some new ones - Arts Alive in Clungunford Village Hall.

Please note:

All these events can be booked via calling 01588 660152 or from the Arts Alive Web site: www.artsalive.co.uk where further details of these great shows can be found.

Ian Sherwood – live music



May 16 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Armed with a saxophone, guitar, looping pedal and a voice that won him a Canadian Folk Music Award for contemporary singer of the year, Sherwood has charmed his way across Canada and the UK with his unique brand of genre-shifting music and stage show. A natural storyteller with a timeless sound, his influences are some of the best folk/pop/country singer-songwriters; from Bruce Springsteen to Tom Petty to Ryan Adams.

Tickets £10 ..Under 16 £5 Family Ticket £25.00

A different Sunday afternoon in June? Come for a drink and... join the audience in the :

The Chef Show



June 2 @ 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

A fusion of play and cookery demonstration, an award winning rural touring show. Two actors play all the roles in the story of a busy night in the local curry house. They are also joined by a chef from your very own local restaurant – offering a spicy cookery demonstration. Includes a chance to share food and conversation with your local chef and the cast. A show that will be deliciously entertaining for all the family!

Tickets £10 ..Under 16 £5 Family Ticket £25.00 (two adults up to three under 18)

And finally

Comedy, humour and poetry.....

Luke Wright

A FREE to you event - a thank-you for your support ! And, yes, you pay for the drinks ...



July 12 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Flamboyant, political and riotously funny, Luke Wright creates inventive poems with loads of heart. Part Essex wide boy, part dandy fop, he writes from the sidelines about small-town tragedies and national farce, then performs his work with snarl and spit. Since 2006 he has written and performed nine spoken word shows and two verse plays, touring them to top literary and arts festivals. Alongside his own shows, Luke is John Cooper-Clark's regular support act, performing at venues such as The London Palladium and The Palace Theatre in Manchester. He's won a 4Talent Award, a Stage Award, a Fringe First Award, a Saboteur Award, and NFBC short film competition at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival.

A Clungunford Community Free Event !! Yep that's right.....FREE

Flicks in the Sticks at Clungunford Parish Hall

Friday 17th May 2019 at 8pm

King Of Thieves (cert 15)

Based on the Hatton Garden robbery, a group of ageing criminals plan a multi-million pound jewelry heist. While Courtenay gives a bumbling performance that is out-and-out comedy, Broadbent tries to give us the chills. Torn between jaunty genre hijinks and a bleaker streak of realism, it is certainly watchable and entertaining. Armed with an A-grade cast it makes a breezily entertaining caper.

Starring: Michael Caine, Tom Courtenay, Jim Broadbent, Michael Gambon, Ray Winstone, and Charlie Cox

Director: James Marsh Drama Documentary

Friday 7th June 2019 at 8pm

The Children Act (cert 12a)

As her marriage to Jack flounders, eminent High Court judge Fiona Maye has a life-changing decision to make at work – should she force a teenage boy, Adam, to have the blood transfusion that will save his life? Her unorthodox visit to his hospital bedside has a profound impact on them both, stirring strong new emotions in the boy and long-buried feelings in her.

Starring: Emma Thompson, Stanley Tucci, and Fion Whitehead

Director: Richard Eyre Drama

Entrance £4.00 Adults £2.00 Children

Licensed Bar, Ice creams, raffle (Donations welcomed), good car parking

Tel: 01588 660159 (Keith) or 01588 660781 (Maureen) (maureenrooney2012@gmail.com) for enquiries and reservations.

We now show all our films with subtitles.

We are in the process of compiling an email list for anyone who would like to receive an email reminder each month of information on our forthcoming films including links to trailers and reviews. If you would like to go on the list, please email: mike@mikeandrewshomeopathy.co.uk with your details.

Village Hall Bar News

MORE VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!!

We already have a good and growing core of volunteers for bar work, but more are always useful.

Should any brave souls wish to join the intrepid volunteers, please contact me on 01588 660847 and we will be delighted to recruit you to the team.

David Wilkinson

In the Garden

A fine sunny day in Clungunford – yes, I did just write that – I've just re-read it to make sure – a fine sunny day in Clungunford! That's two in a row now and this one has been accompanied by a spell of warm weather too. Mind you, it's forecasted to change tomorrow, so it probably won't still be fine when you read this.

I've been cutting back the stems of a number of Cornus bushes I have growing in my garden for their ornamental bark. It will cause them to regenerate from

their bases and produce longer stems for us to enjoy next winter.

There are a number of deciduous shrubs grown mainly for the ornamental value of their stems which, if pruned back hard in the spring, will react by producing long lengths of stem during the course of the summer.

Essentially an adaptation of traditional methods of managing trees and shrubs to give a constant and renewable supply of wood for canework, firewood and fencing materials, when coppiced in that way, shrubs and trees are cut back regularly to near ground level on yearly or three yearly cycles to produce that supply of wood. The end product of pruning dogwoods like this, is the coloured stems produced by the plants to brighten up the winter.

The common Dogwood, *Cornus alba*, has many varieties, which, if managed in this way, produce ornamental stems which are mostly red in some form or other. *Cornus stolonifera* varieties, on the other hand, when managed in this way, produce stems which are mainly green or yellow in colour.

In the garden, look out for a *Cornus* which flourishes if allowed to grow into a tree. *Cornus contraversa* 'Variegata' – the Wedding-cake tree – is a deciduous tree of up to thirty feet tall, with clusters of small white flowers in summer, amidst bright green leaves with broad creamy white margins, which turn yellow in autumn. *Brian Taylor*

Postcard from Africa

Sudan is at a crossroad – momentous events are currently unfolding there that will be talked about for generations to come. An oppressive, kleptocratic military regime has been deposed by a peaceful uprising of hundreds of thousands of ordinary people who decided that they had suffered for long enough.

Sudan has a history of getting rid of unwanted dictators by peaceful means. In 1959, just 3 years after independence, General Aboud was given his marching orders by popular protest. This was followed, in 1985, by President Gafaar Nimeiri being given a very clear message that he would not be welcome back in his own country when he was making a visit to Egypt. Now, the president of almost 30 years, Omer el Bashir has been removed from office as a result of public pressure.

Bashir came to power in a military coup in 1989, overthrowing an elected government that had been voted into office two years earlier. He introduced a hard-line Islamic government which brutally suppressed civil society organisations such as trade unions and professional associations. His objective was to create a “model” Islamic state: school and university curricula were rewritten along Islamic lines, strict penalties were imposed on people who were seen to have broken or offended Islamic principles. Young women wanting to adopt western fashions were flogged for wearing trousers or going with heads uncovered. Even many devout Sudanese Moslems objected to these policies, but there was no way for them to speak out.

Through poor management and bad policies, the Sudanese economy has been deteriorating for some

years and it reached crisis point in the middle of last year, when the banks ran out of money. Even people who had money were not allowed to withdraw more than a minimal amount each week, barely enough to support a family for more than a day or two. Bread, the most important staple food of Sudan, began to be rationed with long queues forming outside bakeries overnight to try to ensure that customers at least got their ration in the morning. And then last December, the government tried to triple the price of bread which proved to be the last straw. People started protesting and the security forces responded with live ammunition and tear gas. Soldiers went into hospitals, looking not only for protesters who had gone for treatment, but also the medical staff who were treating them. Many doctors and nurses were detained.

Instead of being put off, the protests grew in size and spread to other towns across the country, away from Khartoum. It became apparent that some of the police and soldiers were sympathetic to the demands of the people – after all, they had families to feed and bread to buy as well. More and more people turned out onto the streets and fighting broke out between the army and elements of the security services which remained loyal to Bashir. The army prevailed and through a series of events which went on behind closed doors, Bashir and most of his close associates have been removed from power and/or arrested, without further bloodshed.

The public protests are being led by an informal group of citizens calling themselves the Professionals Association. They are not, as yet, constituted as a political party but are demanding that the army allows them to form a civilian government to ensure that there will be no backsliding and a successor to Bashir re-emerges. At the time of writing there is a stand-off: the army wants to govern the country for two years before handing over power; the citizens do not trust them and are demanding an immediate formation of a civilian government. Hopefully a compromise will be reached but in the meantime the hundreds of thousands of protesters who have brought the centre of Khartoum to a standstill will remain in place until they are satisfied that the sacrifices that they have made in recent months have not all been in vain. We wait with bated breath for the final outcome – more updates to follow in subsequent *Gazettes*. *Rob Rees*

The Slow Ladies

Friday 10 May: Bluebell walk in Mortimers Forest. Meet in Clungunford Car park at 9.30am with picnic.

June: Skipton!

Please let me know if you are coming on either of these walks. We are always pleased to welcome new faces and feet to our walking group. *Pauline Mattison* 01588 660596

The Bowling Club

Clungunford Bowling Club is a small but very friendly club it has been in existence for over 25 years. Over the years our age range has varied from young to over eighty. Some of our early members are still playing at eighty plus years. This goes to show it is an ageless sport suitable for all ages and abilities.

We are looking for "New Blood" the older members are hopeful that some younger and older people from the community will come forward to play so they can pass on their knowledge of the game.

The Bowling Club belongs to a Local League and play weekly home and away matches. These games are quite competitive. On a much lighter note we also play Friendly Matches with other local teams on an home and away basis all the matches we play are most enjoyable. Over the years a friendly rivalry has been formed. We also run Club Competitions these matches are great to watch and fun to compete in.

Our playing season is from April to the end of September. Wednesday afternoons we play but it could be anytime. Please come along and you will find a warm welcome from our members.

For more details please call our Club Secretary Jennie Clarke 07951 292496

The National Garden Scheme in Shropshire

Andrew and Trish are opening their splendid garden at Upper Shelderton House on 11 and 12 May as part of the scheme

The 100 Club

Winners for March:

1. (£60) Ann Hunt
2. (£30) David Roberts
3. (£15) Joe Rooney

Winners for April:

1. (£60) Neville Rollason
2. (£30) Maureen Rooney
3. (£15) Sophie Cook for Cyrus

If you would like to join (£5 per month by cheque (minimum 6 months) or even better by standing order), phone Maureen Rooney (01588 660781) or Mike Jones (01588 661145) or Jim Bason (01547 540782).

Parish Church News

As you may know, the Rev Annie Ballard the Vicar for the Parishes of the Middle Marches Benefice, is currently unwell and, as such, uncontactable in her usual capacity. Our thoughts and prayers are with Annie and we wish her a speedy recovery. In the meantime should you wish to contact Annie in her capacity as the Vicar of Clungunford please contact a Church Warden prior to doing so to check if she is able and willing to receive calls. Should you need more information about services, events etc. or about receiving the Deanery magazine, please contact our Church Wardens; Michael Jones on 01588 661145 or Edward Gledhill on 01588 660485.

SERVICES at CLUNGUNFORD in the Middle Marches Benefice for May and June 2019. Please note that the services below will be at St Cuthbert's unless otherwise stated. Details of all the Services in the Benefice can be found in the Deanery Magazine.

Sunday 5 May		No Service at St Cuthbert's
Sunday 12 May	10.00am	Family Service (Led by Melanie Taylor) and Ride and Stride Certificates presentation
Sunday 19 May	10.00am	Morning Prayer (Led by Anne and Eddie Gledhill)
Sunday 26 May	11.00am	Holy Communion (Led by Rev. Annie Ballard)
Sunday 2 June		No Service at St Cuthbert's
Sunday 9 June	10.00am	Whit Sunday Family Service (Led by Mike and Isa Jones)
Sunday 16 June	10.00am	Trinity Sunday Morning Prayer (Led by Christine and Robert Flitney)
Sunday 23 June	11.00am	Holy Communion (Lead by Rev Annie Ballard)
Sunday 30 June		No Service at St Cuthbert's

Forthcoming Events:

Saturday 11th May from 10.00 to 12.00 – Christian Aid Coffee Morning in the Church

Christian Aid week this year is from the 12th to the 18th May. On the 11th May we will be holding a Coffee Morning in the Church in support of this deserving charity. The charity has been in existence for more than 70 years and has a great deal of experience working in partnership to support communities to thrive in parts of the globe where it is most needed. Their focus is to tackle the root causes of poverty. Please come and join us on at the Coffee Morning for 'coffee, tea and cakes and a chat', and to help make a difference.

The Parish Breakfast – date to be advised

Have you ever wondered how many eggs can be fried in a giant paella pan? Have you ever sat in St Cuthbert's Churchyard and done a baked bean tasting i.e. Mexican versus Heinz? Do you like food or more specifically a very decent cooked breakfast? Do you like tea or coffee? Do you like good company? Do you enjoy a good, relaxing start to the day? If the answer to any of the above questions is 'yes' then don't miss the Parish Breakfast. The date soon to be announced!

Saturday 6th July at 7.30 pm in the Church

This is advanced notice of a concert in the Church on the 6th July by a group called **One Accord**. After many years of performing mainly around the North West, they are about to embark on a final farewell. If you would like to hear a sample of their music you can visit the following link:

<http://www.oneaccord.eu/birley%20edge.mp3> or their website <http://www.oneaccord.eu/Index.html>. We are very pleased that they will be performing in Clungunford as part of their tour and hope that you will join us for the evening.

Past Events:

The **Spring Concert** proved to be a wonderful afternoon with a mixture of oboe, organ and voices. Thanks to the St Andrew's sisters and Ruth Watson, Chris Green, Harry Ray and Leila Basletic for a very enjoyable concert. I still struggle to understand how there is not more fighting when two people play an organ. Surely there must be a battle to discover who has which pedal!! Around 30 people attended the concert which raised money for the Church funds.

More than 60 singers attended the **Clungunford Holy Week Workshop** run by **Robert Bunting**. This is becoming a regular event and one that we look forward to. The main piece was the Crucifixus from Bach's Mass in B Minor, and this was followed by two Passion Chorales. The workshop for the singers started at 4.30 with the final presentation at 8.30 which was performed to an audience. The event was enjoyed by both singers and the audience.

Get your Gazette by email and see all this wonderful material in colour. Send your email address to gunnasingazette@aol.com, and we will do the rest..... and you will save a few trees

Material for the next edition

Material for the next *Gazette* should please be with us by **23 June**. Email to gunnasingazette@aol.com or deliver to Clungunford House (black box in porch)

The Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place at 8pm on Wednesday the 8 May at 8pm in the Parish Hall. This is a good opportunity to raise with Parish Councillors any issues you may have. The Parish Council meeting preceding the APM will elect a new chairman for the year, and he (or she) will preside over the APM in the usual way.

The planning consent for the Hopton Heath Poultry Units has finally been issued (26 April), and this sets the clock running for the judicial review challenge agreed in the public meeting held after the 17 September resolution to grant permission. This is the biggest single issue facing the Parish, and doubtless there will be questions at the APM.

As before, specialist planning counsel's opinion will be sought and, assuming it is agreed that objectors have a reasonable chance of success, a letter before action will be issued to Shropshire Council in accordance with the required protocol.

The economics of poultry farms in this area (and generally) have changed considerably since this application was first submitted in 2013. My own view is that the challenge will have reasonable grounds for success on a number of grounds, but it remains to be seen whether a Court shares that view. I would say that there is a good deal better chance of persuading a Court than there is of persuading Shropshire Council. I still have in my mind the ladies and gentlemen who comprised the Shropshire South Planning Committee in

September, and frankly I wince at the lack of intellectual fire power applied to an issue that clearly means a lot to so many. All we can say is that we will do our best, conscious of the fact that there is universal support from our community.

Parish matters before (or after) the meeting may be raised either with me or with our clerk, Max Maxwell (01588 661044:

clungunfordparishcouncil@gmail.com).

Jonathan Roberts, Chairman (01588 660673:

jonathan.roberts@morgoedestates.com)

Litter

The litter pick on the 2 March was, regrettably, very productive. The army of eco-warriors sallied forth: in no particular order of rank they were:

Mike Jones: Isa Jones: Avi Barber: Liz Roberts: Ennis Brown: Simon Lyster: Sue Lambert; Rob Rees: Sara Rees: Janet Thain; Jane Roberts; Mary Bason; John Elliot; Mike Tucker

Well done to you all, and my apologies if I have left anyone out (if I have, let me know and I will gladly publicise your eco credentials in an addendum next edition). A less well done to all those who by their thoughtlessness made the day necessary. The pictures below tell it all.

The quip of the day belonged to a village resident who roared up behind me in a truck and deposited his sweet papers in my bag with the words: “That saves me the bother of chucking it over the hedge”. It was a joke, but it had me in stitches. *Jonathan Roberts*



Village Hall AGM

The AGM of the Village Hall will take place in the Hall on 1 May at 7 pm. All residents and users of the Hall are welcome to attend. The main item of business is to adopt a new constitution to replace that which is wholly out of date. The proposed constitution is available for inspection at www.clungunford.com

Although this is a comparatively low-key event, it is important for the future governance of the charity controlling our main village assets for perhaps hundreds of years.

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH PROUDLY PRESENTS



at **St Cuthbert's Church**

Clungunford, Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 0PS

on **Saturday 6th July 2019**

Concert starts 7.30pm (Doors open 7.00pm)

Tickets £12.00 (including wine and nibbles) available from
Edward Gledhill (01588 660485) or Mike Jones (01588 661145)

This concert will raise much needed funds for church restoration projects

One Accord are a Lancashire based quartet who draw on a range of influences from Traditional Music, through Church Music to Variety Theatre and beyond to deliver songs, tunes and stories from living tradition. Blending richly arranged, varied and warm-sounding instrumentation with full and intuitively performed vocal harmonies, they will take you on an entertaining musical journey that is well-paced, eclectic and refreshing.

A must-see event. You'll feel uplifted, you'll feel sad, you'll laugh,
you'll sing along ... you'll be glad you came to see them!

For further information visit www.oneaccord.eu



Top left: Max Maxwell

Top right: Karl and Sarah Marie Bailey

Bottom:

Guests enjoy their new surroundings





Top left: Glenys Price enjoys her tea Top right: Jim Bason, Chairman of the Trustees
Bottom left: Pauline Mattison learns how to shoot people
Bottom right: Klaus and Karen and friends