

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:
CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Clerk can be contacted at all reasonable hours.

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PARISH COUNCILLORS:

Mrs Rosemary Abbiss	718210	Mr Brian Hamilton-Russell	718577
Mrs Hazel Barratt	718230	Mr Tom Casswell	718240
Mr David Young	718684	Mrs Adele Millington	718057
Mr Mark Evans	718136		

SHROPSHIRE COUNCILLORS:

Councillor Madge Shingleton	01299 271186
Councillor Gwilym Butler	01584 890458
Stottesdon School	718617
Chorley Family Playgroup	718769
Stottesdon/Sidbury Church	718297 Rev Colin Resch
Chorley Village Hall	718437 (bookings)
Doctors	712672
District Nurses	711963
Shropshire Council	0345 678 9000 (general enquiries)
Lacon Child School	01299 270312
Bridgnorth Endowed School	762103
Social Car (Jenny Howes)	718675
WI (Stef Bryan)	718018
Power Loss Helpline	08457 331331
Mobile Library	01584 813600
Crimestoppers	0900 555111
Rural Stress Network	024 7641 2916
NHS Direct	0845 4647
Shropshire Rural Housing	01743 874848
Severn Trent Water (Emergencies)	0800 7834444
Duck Inn	718267
Fighting Cocks	718270
Shropshire Registration Service	0845 6789016
Police	0300 333 3000 or 101 non emergency calls
Tree Wardens:	
Wade Muggleton (Stottesdon)	718753
Nathan Home (Chorley)	07966365157 or 718456

Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council



**Autumn 2014
Newsletter**

Dear Parishioners

As you may be aware a very valued member of the Parish Council passed away recently, Sheila Steed was a tireless worker and a much valued member of the Council and she will be greatly missed. Our sympathies are extended to her husband Les and daughters Emma and Sophie.

As a Parish Council, the loss of a member has an adverse effect as we now have three vacancies on the Council. It is hard to function as a truly representative group with such a shortage of members, and it is a worry in that we know that some councillors have expressed a desire to retire, and life changes mean that not all councillors will stand again at the next election.

If we are no longer able to function due to insufficient members, there may be a possibility that Shropshire Council will have to intervene, and we would lose our local voice. All planning applications, road repairs, help for the local school, church and the local lengths man scheme whereby your Parish Council ensures that the pavements are cleared of snow, signs are cleared and clean, etc. would all be dealt with at County level.

Being a Parish Councillor is not an onerous duty, it is both mentally challenging and immensely rewarding. It is an opportunity to take responsibility and influence decisions in the area in which we are all so fortunate to live.

If you have never thought of becoming a Parish Councillor, but feel you want to be part of this precious voice we have, please speak to Freda Morris or anyone who has been or is serving on the Council, who will explain the functions of the Council and what would be expected.

Your Parish needs you - we would all be the poorer without our Parish Council.

Yours sincerely

Hazel Barratt—Chairman

Additional School Parking:

You will be aware of the congestion around the school at the beginning of the day and particularly at the end of the day. This is causing a number of concerns

- Children's safety
 - Concerns from Residents – especially when Parents pull up on grass verges or pavements
- In order to relieve this situation, Sandra at the Fighting Cocks has kindly agreed that Parents may use the Pub car park between 8.40 - 9.00am and between 3.00-3.30pm. Children and Parents could then safely walk to school and this would ease the congestion outside the school gate.

Would Parents ensure that they park IN THE CAR PARK and NOT outside the Pub.

WE STRONGLY URGE PARENTS TO MAKE USE OF THIS OFFER IN ORDER TO RELIEVE THE SITUATION. IF THIS DOESN'T WORK WE MAYBE IN A POSITION WHERE ZIG ZAG YELLOW LINES HAVE TO BE PUT OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL GATE. (LET'S SEE IF WE CAN AVOID SPENDING THE TAX PAYER'S MONEY).

Speeding vehicles:

Concern is still being expressed by parishioners regarding speeding vehicles and those using mobile phones. For those reading this item it is probably becoming monotonous but for those experiencing speeding vehicles on a regular basis it is alarming. If you are able to get the registration of the offending vehicles please do so and pass this onto the Police.

We are sure you are aware that we are into the harvesting season and the large tractors etc fill our roads which is causing further road hazards.

Please SLOW DOWN especially by Stottesdon School and by The Chapel in Chorley - you never know what's around the corner!

A tribute to the late Graham Brown from his son Alex:

Graham Brown moved to Prescott Mill, near Stottesdon, with his family in 1983. After growing up in the Wirral, he went to university in Keele and Liverpool before becoming a computer programmer and later a systems analyst in London where he started his family. His boys, Al and Ed started primary school in Clebury Mortimer where Graham became Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. Graham went on to become a Governor at Bridgnorth Endowed School and was Musical Director of the Bridgnorth Area Youth Orchestra from 2000. He was always heavily involved in music, forging links with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra and playing the cello in a local chamber group, Bridgnorth Sinfonia and Telford Orchestra. Graham undertook teaching qualifications and became a Lecturer in Information Systems at Wolverhampton University before his retirement in 2011. He was well liked by his students and in fact continued to maintain the universities links with the British College of Applied Studies in Sri Lanka until 2013. Graham was well known by many in and around Stottesdon, and would often make it to the Fox and Hounds or Fighting Cocks for a pint or two. Graham was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour earlier this year. He faced his terminal diagnosis philosophically with his characteristic curiosity and shouldered the burden of deteriorating health with great courage, receiving tremendous support from his family and friends. He received outstanding care from Severn Hospice in Shrewsbury and Hagley Place Care Home in Ludlow, where he passed away peacefully in his sleep on 13th July. He is survived by his wife, Wendy, two sons, Al and Ed, daughter-in-law Emma, would-be daughter-in-law Hewi and grandchildren, Maiah and Finbar. In keeping with his well-loved eccentricities, he has donated his body to Keele University Medical School, where he will help to train the next generation of doctors in anatomy. A memorial concert party was held on Saturday 6th September at Bridgnorth Endowed School which was attended by approximately 170 people.

Stottesdon and Sidbury Churches:

The big news in the parishes at the moment is the appointment of the vicar, Revd Colin Resch, as priest in charge of the Parishes of Mountsorrel in Leicestershire. Colin's last service will be on Sunday 26th October at 10:30am in St Mary's Church, Stottesdon. Everyone is invited to come along and bid him farewell. While we await a replacement priest, services will continue as normal with visiting ministers leading the worship. Before that of course comes our Harvest Celebrations. Stottesdon Harvest Festival will take place on Friday 3rd October at 7:30pm in St Mary's Church followed by a 'bring & share' Harvest Supper. On Sunday 5th October, there will be a Harvest Celebration for all the family at 10:30am. Later that day, Sidbury Church will celebrate Harvest with a service of Harvest Festival in Holy Trinity Church at 6:30pm. We do hope that everyone in our community will be able to attend at least one of these celebrations to give thanks to God for a successful harvest.

Unitary Cllr Madge Shineton:

Madge will be holding a surgery on Saturday November 8th at the Market Hall, Clebury Mortimer 9.30am-11.00am. If you have any Shropshire Council issues you would like to discuss with Madge please go along. All welcome, no appointment necessary.

Please note:

Whilst every effort is made to accuracy, Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council cannot in any circumstances accept responsibility for errors or omissions of advice given in this publication. The opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the views of Stottesdon and Sidbury Parish Council.

Larger print format of this newsletter is available from the Clerk

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

A G M and new committee

The AGM was held on 5th August with 10 attendees. Several of the office holders had expressed that they wished to stand down from their positions. It was decided to reconvene as an Extraordinary General Meeting on a date to be agreed once a canvas of potential new volunteers is completed by Adrian Robinson. In the meanwhile the existing Committee continue to serve as before. If you would like to be involved with this important community facility then please call Adrian on 718028 or email adeonfarm@aol.com to chat through how you might help.

Building on the success of the Spanish and Italian events, Clare is proposing a French Food and Wine evening to be held in CVH at 7.30pm on Friday 28th November. Formula as before – a good selection of Wines with Food to match, expert advice on both, plus a Wine Quiz, Wine Raffle and other fundraising activities – profits to the Village Hall and the Alzheimer's Society. Please email Clare (clare@stottystores.co.uk) to register your interest by mid October and details will then be forwarded back to you – first come first served as places are strictly limited.

COMMUNITY APPLE DAY

The ever-popular Apple Day will again be hosted by The Fighting Cocks – and will be from 12noon to 5pm on Sunday 12th October. Bring some empty bottles and your apples and pears to press for Juice or Cider-making – FREE entry and a £5 minimum donation (towards equipment costs) for pressing your fruit.

FARMERS MARKET

The monthly Cleobury Country Farmers Market continues to be a popular local event, in and around St Mary's Church (*the Crooked Spire*) in Cleobury Mortimer. Upcoming dates for your diary are: Saturdays (9.30-12.30) 18th October, 15th November and 20th December.

Stottesdon WI:

This has been a busy season with involvement in village shows, for which the weather was kind. Stottesdon's school end of term summer evening and Farlow's Indian summer afternoon were occasions to meet and chat with friends old and new. Burwarton Show WI competition provided its familiar show rules discrepancies, (this time regarding the vexed question of cake supports) But for that, 'Cat in a Hat' earned high marks, with Jenny Everingham's mischievous knitted feline and Clare Tibbit's glamorous headware!... never mind, there is always next year. Thanks to all involved. Dorset button making, and Willow Sculpture were lively events, and October's Antiques evening should be no exception, on 22nd at Chorley VH. Lunch Club and Public Affairs meetings have been in abeyance over the summer, next dates being 10th October at Colliers Arms and 6th October at West bank, respectively. Call me for details – all welcome - Marian Wootton on 718151.

Dates:

Next Parish Council meetings are: 27th October, 24th November and 15th December. All meetings start at 7.30pm in Chorley Village Hall—any alterations are shown on the agenda s which are displayed on the village notice boards and on the website. Deadline for next newsletter is 12 noon on 4th January 2015. Please keep articles to a maximum of 200 words and preferably email these to the Clerk in word format—any lengthy articles will be reduced. Any offers of help to deliver newsletters would be greatly appreciated—please contact the Clerk.

Lengthsman Scheme:

Willowdene has dedicated Mondays to work on the scheme in the Parish and Dave and others can be seen working on our roads. Please treat these people with respect as they have the authority to carry out the work on behalf of the Parish Council and Shropshire Council.

Parish Council Audit:

The external audit has now been completed with no issues causing concern being raised. Accounts can be inspected by contacting the Clerk.

Bonfires and barking dogs:

Concern has been expressed regarding bonfires/garden fires and also barking dogs. These can cause a nuisance to neighbours and guidelines are available on the Shropshire Council website regarding these problems. Please visit www.shropshire.gov.uk and google: bonfires and barking dogs for further information.

The Pat Straughan Riding for the Disabled Group, Stottesdon:

A new committee has been formed and are looking for volunteers to help with annual events or weekly or monthly lessons. This is a worthy cause and also a very rewarding one. If you would like to get involved please email Helen Manns on: themannsfamily@gmail.com or call 01746 712032 for more information about the charity.

Charity Tractor Run with tractor pulling:

5th October sees the tractors taking to our roads once again to raise funds for the Lingen Davies Cancer Charity and the Air Ambulance. The tractors will be gathering from 8.30am for a 10.00am start. This will last for about 3 hours and back to Honeysuckle near Stottesdon for a pig roast plus chips etc. At mid-day the tractor pulling will start. There will be other attractions for the family so please give all the support you can for this popular charity fund raising event.

Highway problems:

If you are aware of any highway problems please contact the Clerk. We do appreciate the work already carried out by Shropshire Council and are aware that due to financial constraints they still have numerous problems to complete but work is still ongoing in the Parish—please respect the road closures and DO NOT remove signs/equipment.

Brown Clew Young Farmers:

New member evening will be held on Monday 6th October at 7.30pm in Ditton Priors Village Hall. Everyone welcome—you don't have to be a farmer! Contact Joe Williams on 07969393004.

Hedges/overhanging trees:

Many thanks to those of you who have managed to cut back the roadside hedges and overhanging trees and look forward to others being dealt with as soon as possible. Could we also ask all landowners to take down any dead trees along the road edge and remind you that it is your responsibility to check trees annually.

News from Chorley Chapel:

1. Young Peoples Awards for Help in Chorley.

Following the work done to build a tree house and provide a swing and a Camp Fire area in one corner of the Chapel Grounds, the local Youth Development Office contacted me as he was so impressed with the effort from the village youngsters, and said he wanted to give them an award in recognition of their sterling efforts for the community. On their behalf on the 4th of July I received from the Mayor of Bridgnorth, at a full house presentation at Bridgnorth Baptist Church, a number of awards for Harry Dayus, Maisie and Amelia Porter, Alice and Daisy Fierek, Megan Bridges a family friend of the Fierek's, Hosanna and Mayah Varley, Yasmine Hennessy and last but not at all least Kathleen Mitchell. Well done, all of you, and thank you for your community spirit and help.

2. Cleobury Chest helps Chorley Chapel.

As the Chapel is totally self funding, we were so grateful for the help of many local folk in our community who assisted, guided and supported us as we negotiated the route to receiving a £300 grant to help us deal with some boggy patches which detract from the beauty and pleasure of the Chapel Grounds. This money was used to buy all the materials necessary and so far our efforts seems to have made a huge difference to the draining of surface water away from the Chapel grounds. So thank you to all concerned for your help in our submission, particularly local Councillors, the Cleobury Community Chest, and Tom Brettell from SCC. Also thanks to Dee Hetherington who helped us dig the drainage trenches with his digger. Such good neighbours. What an amazing community.

3. Chorley Chapel impacting a wide area.

The Chapel's men's ministry is going into its fifth year, and 60 to 70 men from the local surrounding area, and now all over the country are coming to the "Boot Camp's" weekend. Boot Camp is a sort of 'back to basics' training ground for Christian men. We are seeing these men take on significant roles in their communities and really making a difference regionally and beyond. It's also a great encouragement to see these men so enjoying their time in Chorley at Boot Camp as an introduction to a community that many of them have really taken to heart. They have come back for special events, meals at the Duck Inn with their family, visiting Ray's Farm, Stottesdon Live the Adventure, Star Gazing nights, Quad Biking at Prescott, walking and visiting in the area in addition to supporting the work at the Chapel. All these things helping to prosper the local community. A group of them ventured up to the Trig Point on the top of Knowle hill behind Chorley some weeks ago, and were amazed at the beauty of the area and the distant views. Surely we do live in a green and pleasant land.

GARDENERS' QUESTION TIME and GARDENS OPEN WEEKEND - Tina King

There were too many involved for me to write personally to individuals, but I would like to thank everyone concerned for their support and commitment which led to the success of both events. Many gave their time, others their skills, the use of facilities or money. The general feedback was that the standard of gardens was high and regulars felt that they were better each time they come. The School Garden as usual was a delight and will surely encourage gardeners of the future.

The total raised for the N.G.S. charities was £2281.53 [see bookmark]. Money from Plant Sales was donated to the local First Responders and Newbridge Cat Rescue, as well as the NGS.

POT COMPETITION

The overall winner was 'GOING FOR GOLD' by Mary, Ben and Samantha Griffiths. They were rewarded with a family ticket kindly donated by RAY'S FARM

The ADULT prize was won by Dianne Newsham for 'HORSEBOX'

Our guest judge, Jim Reynolds of the CLEOBURY CLARION, chose SHERGAR by Sally Crawford as the prize for the most quirky entry.

See you all in 2016

Chorley Show update from Dave Rix:

Looking back to Saturday the 2nd August it seems a long while ago now, but it's only five or so weeks as I write this update, **Thank You** to all those people who volunteered and/or contributed to the day whether as a sponsor, guides, marquee erectors, cake and sandwich makers, food and refreshment teams, bar staff, cashiers, car park/entrance attendants or loaned us equipment--**Thank You. We could not have done it without you.** The week end could not have got off to worse start, the weather was terrible, pouring with rain all day Friday, our principle preparation day! many had to change their clothes more than once, but they say "many hands make light work" and they did, so, by 8pm in the evening we were on target and we adjourned to the village hall for a much earned meal and cup of tea, then the young ones went onto the pub!! Saturday morning proved little better, still raining but not so hard, but we were ready by mid day - and would you believe it the clouds broke and the sun shone, great, and we had a lovely afternoon, unfortunately, it was too late for some of the entertainment which had to be cancelled in the morning due to the rain and the dreaded health and safety rules and many families had made alternative arrangements for their entertainment for the day. However, the rain kept away all afternoon enabling the show agenda to be kept to. We received many votes of support on the day with many people asking about next year! So watch this space. The show committee have yet to have the post mortem team meeting but it would appear we made a profit on the day of some **£700-00 plus** which, considering it was a new organising committee and the weather poor was a magnificent achievement. **Thank you once again, one and all.**

The toughest 1 day mountain bike in the world - Tour of the Dragon, Bhutan — 6 September 2014

A big congratulations to local cyclist James Griffiths who became the 1st British rider to attempt and complete the Tour of the Dragon, a one day 268km extreme mountain bike race in Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan. With 50% of participants traditionally failing to finish, altitude is one serious factor and acclimatisation essential.

With only 12 weeks to prepare for this challenge, James was doing some pretty straightforward local and national time trials most between 10 -25 miles, with a couple of 50 and 100 milers thrown in for good measure. All great training but nothing to compare with riding at altitude where the Tour of the Dragon participants gain nearly 4000m and lose 4000m of climbing! Especially for an international participant from sea level, one has to keep in mind that race takes you over four high mountain passes which on average are well above over 3000m (9800ft).

With a lot of determination, James managed to overcome these challenges and out of the 43 starters, only 22 finishers, James placed 15th in a time of just over 15 hrs. Thanks to a lot of amazing local support and donations, James has raised over £2000 for the charity Spinal Research. If you would still like to donate please see James or visit the Just Giving website at <https://www.justgiving.com/James-Griffiths-Tour-of-the-Dragon/>

This extreme challenge came about thanks to an invitation extended to James by Anthony Eddies-Davies, Live the Adventure Company Director, Stottesdon, courtesy of Anthony's friends and contacts in the Himalayan Kingdom. Anthony is a regular visitor to the country, exploring with unlimited access, working with the Bhutanese to develop new sustainable adventure travel itineraries, guiding private groups, and training river guides in Bhutan.