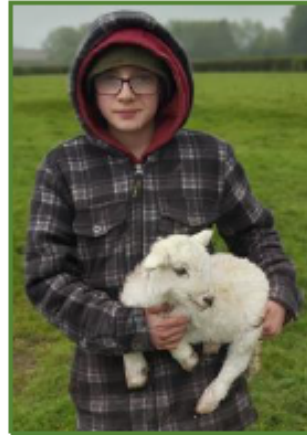


## Name that lamb.....



Lambing this year has been challenging for many reasons, mainly due to the weather, so to brighten things up, Maisy decided to mark some of the ewes and lambs with names, not the usual numbers! She started with a few villagers, then momentum took hold and she received requests from as far afield as Jersey.

It really is a joy to see; there's Gisèle with her 2 Toms, Helen and Ben, Bex and Rob, Liz with Zoe and Steve, plus many more! Maisy jokingly said she should start charging for the privilege, to which people suggested donating to a charity, we all agreed the Air Ambulance would be a worthy cause, and here we are £420 was generously given, AMAZING!!

Thanks everyone for your support, what a novel way to get through a rather damp Lambing, here's to Lambing 2025. Big thanks to Maisy for the idea and all her hard work. It was suggested that we may need more sheep for more names next time!?

I'd just like to take this opportunity to thank our neighbourhood sheep watchers who inform us of any problems.....and with sheep there are many, we are so grateful to each and every one of you. Thank you all.

Martin, Lucy, Maisy and Charlie.



## The deteriorating condition of the River Clun and its tributaries

An article with this title was published in the April issue of the 'Parish Post'. It was sent to the Environment Agency who have responded as follows:

The Environment Agency regularly monitors water quality and river health across England and assesses the chemical and ecological status of rivers every three years using methods set out in the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

In the WFD, chemical status refers to specific ubiquitous, persistent chemicals that are found in waterbodies throughout Europe. International measures are now in place to prevent or restrict their use, but the chemicals are very slow to break down and will be in the environment for some time. Since 2019, the chemical status of every English waterbody has been classed as 'Failing'. However, no monitoring of these chemicals was undertaken in the Clun catchment.

The most recent ecological assessment in the Clun was in 2022. The Clun catchment is divided into eight waterbodies. One waterbody is at 'Good' ecological status and seven waterbodies are at 'Moderate' status.

Regular water quality monitoring has shown that phosphate levels in many rivers across England, including in the Clun and its tributaries, are too high. High levels of phosphate are having a negative impact on aquatic plant communities, and this is why many waterbodies in the Clun catchment are not at 'Good' status. Water quality is especially important in the Clun

because part of the catchment is a Special Area of Conservation and home to endangered freshwater pearl mussels, a species that cannot tolerate elevated levels of phosphate, nitrogen, or sediment. We all have a part to play.



Photo by A. R. Yeo



Clunbury Parish Ramblers on Castle Bridge looking across to Downton Castle

Phosphate in our rivers and streams comes from agricultural and urban runoff, and from septic tanks, sewer overflows and sewage treatment works. To attain 'Good' ecological status for waterbodies in the Clun, we need to reduce the amount of phosphate entering the water. Water companies can invest in new and better systems that limit phosphate entering rivers in sewage effluent and sewer overflows.

Farmers can test soils and avoid over-application of manures and artificial fertilisers, sustainably manage farmland and livestock, and take special care to protect riverbanks and

bankside vegetation. Residents throughout the catchment can help by being mindful of what they put down the drain and ensuring that septic tanks are properly maintained.

The Environment Agency works in partnership with Defra, Natural England, water companies, industry, farmers, environmental non-governmental organisations, and the wider community to reduce environmental impacts. The main way that we influence land and water management is through a mix of voluntary incentive and advice-based schemes, including Catchment Sensitive Farming, and through regulations, such as the Farming Rules for Water.

Much has been done in the catchment to improve land management, reduce phosphates entering streams, and restore river habitats, however, we all need to do more. We hope that everyone will want to work together to improve river health.

We take water pollution issues very seriously. If anyone notices pollution in a watercourse, they can report it to us by calling **0800 80 70 60**.

## June in the garden

With the arrival of the summer solstice on the 20<sup>th</sup> we officially hit our longest daylight hours.

We can spend days in the garden enjoying the flowers and listening to the birds while the sun shines or with umbrellas up!

Hopefully we have most of our plants planted out in their final positions. With only our succession plantings to worry about till harvest season takes over.

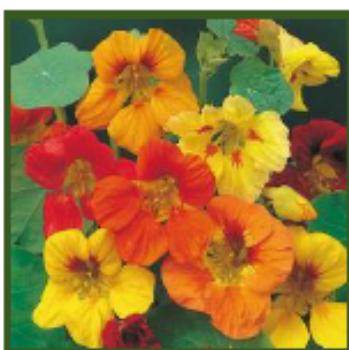


### **Seeds we can still sow include:**

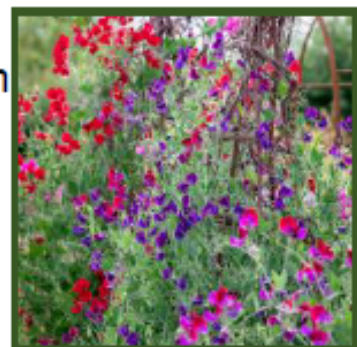
- Summer and winter squash and sweetcorn (early June last chance), runner and French beans.
- Brassicas such as autumn/winter cabbage, kale, kaleettes, swede, purple sprouting broccoli, autumn calabrese and autumn cauliflower.
- Spring onions, lettuce, beetroot, carrots, chicory, endive and herbs.

To ensure a harvest throughout winter and early spring it's a good time to plan what varieties of brassicas and salads can be sown in the next month or two. A netted bed, polytunnel or greenhouse makes this much easier.

There is still time to sow flowers such as sunflowers,



nasturtiums and sweet peas directly where you'd like them to flower. Removing flowers as they fade will usually give them a second flush.



If you'd like to learn more about growing your own food you can join us at Seedling success UK, found on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. We have grow-alongs throughout the year and gardening tips

Kimberly Cornish



## The 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day

Will be commemorated across the UK  
by the lighting of Beacons  
on Thursday June 6<sup>th</sup> at 9.30pm.  
One local Beacon will be at  
Cwm Bydd Farm, Clunton.  
All are welcome.

The beacon field is the first you come to after going  
through Clunton Coppice after turning up beside the  
Crown Inn, Clunton.

There is ample parking in the next field, and you are  
welcome to drop off people in the beacon field.  
This is a working field - so sensible footwear etc!

The gate will open at 7.30pm for anyone wanting to  
picnic, the beacon will be fired at 9.30pm.  
Chairs, a tent, and tea and coffee will be available,  
you are welcome to bring your own stronger  
drinks and food!

Any offers of help with tent erection or bonfire  
building, or for more information, email:  
[carolgriffithscwmbydd@gmail.com](mailto:carolgriffithscwmbydd@gmail.com)  
[patmharding@aol.com](mailto:patmharding@aol.com)  
[suzanne.foster@ymail.com](mailto:suzanne.foster@ymail.com)

GARDEN COFFEE MORNING  
ORCHARD HOUSE, BEDSTONE  
SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE

10.30am – 1pm, £3

Delicious cakes and drinks  
In aid of St Mary's Church

**PLEASE PARK AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Margie & Christopher Savery, 01547 530282

Bedstone and Hopton Castle Village Hall

## ***SUMMER BARBECUE***

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June  
from 7.00pm

Tickets: Adults £8 Child £4 includes food

Licensed cash bar / Raffle

Tel: 01547 530282



## **Craft & Collectables Midsummer Market**

Aston on Clun Village Hall  
Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2024

10am – 1pm

*Free entry Parking*

*A variety of antiques,  
craft, plants & local food*



# Climate and Environment Group Report

## A walk and two rambles

The next Parish Walk will be on Saturday June 8, leaving Clunbury Village Hall at 10.00am. We will walk to Coston, via Purslow Wood and Twitchen, for a relatively gentle ascent, but steep descent, of Clunbury Hill. It is a walk of 6.5 miles.

We will have a refreshment stop (please bring a drink/snack) and should be back by 1.30pm. Please contact Catherine Lishman for more details 07930 117 006 or [catherinelishman@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinelishman@hotmail.com)

No Parish Rambles this month, but mention should be made of the rambles to Burrow Hill Fort on 20 April led for us by Andy Wigley of Shropshire Council and the ramble through Downton Gorge on 5 May. If you have ideas for future rambles – short walks exploring particular features of our parish or of an area nearby – do pass them on.

## Hedges and more

The Countryside Charity (CPRE) has helped plant miles of hedgerows in the South Shropshire countryside since 2021 and intends continuing with this work over the winter of 2024/25. The hedgerow plants are supplied free of charge and are planted by volunteers. If you are interested, let us know and we will put you in touch with the relevant persons. And if you can see other opportunities for nature recovery on your land (tree planting, ponds, flower meadows, flood mitigation and so forth) but can't face filling in all the forms needed for grant aid, let us know, we would be happy to help.

## Water monitoring

If you would like to learn more about the river and its current condition do come and observe or participate in our monthly monitoring sessions on behalf of the River Clun Monitoring Group:

River Kemp at Kempton Ford: Friday 7 June, 2pm

River Clun at Clunbury: Sunday 9 June, 11.30am (meet at footbridge in centre of the village)

River Clun at Clunton: Tuesday 11 June, 10.30am at Clunton Bridge

Group contact: Tom Wall [walltom@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:walltom@hotmail.co.uk) 01588 660561

## Clunton

- 1<sup>st</sup> Lyn Skilton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Billie Whitehead
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Valerie Redgrave



# May

## Clunbury

- Heather Jones £20
- Rosemary Jones £15
- Freddie Matveieff £10
- Mark Grimes £5
- Laura Richards £5

# Church News



Services for St Mary's, Clunton  
and St Swithin's, Clunbury



## June 2024

Date	Time	Service	Church
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10am	Morning Prayer	Clunbury
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Holy Communion	Clunbury
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10am	Holy Communion	Clunton
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Benefice United Holy Communion	Clun

## Clunton Scrumpers

### BARREL OPENING

Come and taste traditional village  
cider made by local people to an  
ages old Clunton recipe

Saturday 15th June 2024, 4 pm

Harry's Yard, Clunton

Cider + Pork Supper

+ Veggie Option included

Wine byo

entrance £7.50 incl



## Calendar June 2024

Date	Event	Venue
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> 7 pm	Film: Mean Girls (12A)	SpArC Theatre BC
Thurs 6 <sup>th</sup> evening	D Day Anniversary	Cwm Bydd Farm Clunton
Sat 8 <sup>th</sup> 10:30 – 1pm	Garden Coffee Morning	Orchard House, Bedstone
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> 10am– 12pm	Craft Group	Clunbury VH
Thurs 13 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am – 12pm	Clunbury Café	Clunbury VH
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> 10am – 1pm	Aston Craft & Collectables Midsummer Market	Aston on Clun VH
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> 4pm	Clunton Scrumpers Barrel Opening	Harry's Yard Clunton
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> 7:30pm	Film: On the Basis of Sex (12A)	Aston on Clun VH
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> 2pm	Film: Vindication Swim (PG)	SpArC Theatre BC
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> 10am– 12pm	Craft Group	Clunbury VH
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> 10.30am – 12pm	Clunbury Café	Clunbury VH
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> 7pm	Summer Barbecue	Bedstone and Hopton Castle VH

Follow The Parish Post on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/theparishpost](http://www.facebook.com/theparishpost)

Please submit articles and photos by 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to :

**[articles@theparishpost.org](mailto:articles@theparishpost.org)**

For general enquiries email : **[info@theparishpost.org](mailto:info@theparishpost.org)**

To ensure we can include as many articles as possible, we have revised the maximum word limit to **200 words**. The editorial team does not accept responsibility for any opinions expressed by contributors and reserves the right to edit contributions if deemed appropriate.