

# THE REDLAKE

NUMBER 44

AUTUMN 2018

## From the Editors

Thank you for those who sent in a photo for the cover for the Autumn edition. They were all good, but there can be only one picture and I hope you will agree it sums up Autumn beautifully. It is the very fine old Oak at the head of the valley by Honeyhole farm entrance.

I know it has been a difficult year for farmers, but one to remember for the amazing summer heat. The Autumn is turning out to have some stunning days as well. But hang on to your hats, as it will most likely be a hard winter like last winter. Proper seasons though which is a good thing, even if they are extreme.

*Jeremy Jameson*

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More information and photos of some of these articles are available on the website at <http://www.chapel-lawn.co.uk>

## WW1 Commemoration and Town Walk.

To commemorate all those who died in WW1 from the Clun area and to acknowledge the suffering of those who returned, their families and those left behind, there will be a moving exhibition in St George's Church, Clun from Saturday 10 November until Saturday 17th, open from 10am-4pm. This includes men from the Chapel Lawn area who are named on the Clun Memorial.

There will be contributions from local people, school children and the artistic community. In addition, there will be a town trail around the centre of Clun showing where families whose sons did not return lived in close proximity to others, highlighting how this small community must have suffered.

It is hoped that part of this exhibition will be displayed in Chapel Lawn later in the year.

Further information from Joan Kerry 01588 640401

## Chapel Lawn Broadband

After two years of battling and cajoling, Chapel Lawn has finally gained Superfast Broadband. Twenty houses in

Chapel Lawn can now get "fibre to the premise" with speeds of up to 330Mbps, although it's cheaper to opt for a lower speed such as 50Mbps. Sixteen houses around the Lye and up to Pentre Hodre can now get "fibre to the cabinet" with speeds up to 80Mbps, although this speed drops off the further you are away from the new cabinet.

The project was carried out by BT Openreach subsidised by grants totalling £60,000 from Shropshire Council and central government. This now puts us in the top 3% for broadband speed across the UK. All this was achieved without the need for any financial contribution from residents. However, it could not have happened without the kind permission of Mrs M Grimes, Mr T Morris, Mr J Middleton, Mr & Mrs Ogden and Mrs Wilding for allowing cabling to be dug across their land. Many thanks to them!

I would encourage everyone to take the opportunity to upgrade their service. Depending on your service provider and contract it may actually be cheaper than your current service and BT repay a proportion of the subsidy back to Shropshire Council for each property which upgrades. Much of the higher Redlake Valley was upgraded to Superfast wireless broadband last year

by Secure Web Services (SWS). Early feedback from users has been very positive reporting consistent, reliable speeds and good customer support. Chris New, SWS, has told me they are expecting to extend coverage to the Pentre shortly.

If you have any questions, please ring me on 530258.

*Jim Rogers*

## Chapel Lawn Christmas Event



**Flicks in the Sticks & Christmas Partying** Saturday, 15 December, Meal 7:00pm, Film 8:00pm, in the Village Hall We will be showing the film Finding Your Feet (12) Comedy, Drama, preceded by a bring and share supper starting at 7.00pm. The bar will be open all evening and following the film we will have the opportunity for music, dancing and partying. If you would like to join in with the meal please bring along some buffet food to share. Everyone most welcome!

Adult £4.50 Child £3.50

Contact: Christine 01547 530258

**PROFILE:****Jacqueline & Tim Molony**

Tim was born in 1963 in Ludlow, a Shropshire lad ... to many a surprise when they ask! Jacqueline was born in Helensburgh, Scotland in 1965, 30 miles North West of Glasgow from many generations of Scots.

Jacqueline moved to Shropshire in April 2003, bringing with her a business in complimentary therapy for people, horses and dogs, established in 1996 offering treatments and courses in Shiatsu, Reiki, Aromatherapy and homeopathic remedies.

Jacqueline and Tim's path met in Knighton when Tim took the position of Commercial Bank Manager from the Powys Commercial Centre, he was relieving Jacqueline's bank manager on maternity. It was at the first meeting Tim discovered what Jacqueline did for a living and brought his elderly dog suffering from mobility problems for some Shiatsu treatments giving him several more years to his life and a great friendship between Jacqueline and Tim.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2008 Tim and Jacqueline got married, Tim choose the date so that he would not forget 9/9! He also organised the whole wedding.

In 2009 after 26 years of service to the HSBC Bank, formerly known as the Midland Bank Ltd. Tim got early retirement from ill health after an operation that went wrong in early 2009 and naturally Jacqueline has assisted him to his health today.

Before banking Tim held different positions from six months under the Governments Youth Opportunities Programme at the local Tax office to working for a local builder then eventually settled in a position in banking starting as a clark then working

through the positions to reach Commercial Manager.

Tim has two younger brothers James who lives in Ludlow and works behind the desk at Ludford Parts and John a trained accountant living in London as a Landlord renting out properties.

Jacqueline's mother was a nurse and the daughter of a Doctor, her father is a confectionery business owner, a business that had been passed down several generations in the family to include the traditional recipe of "Tablet" otherwise known as "Fudge" in England! And can still found in "corner shops" and "tourist outlets" around Loch Lomand today.

Both Jacqueline's parents were extremely 'horsey'. Brought up with five brothers and one sister, the family had 35 horses, 4 stallions, mares and youngstock, her mother was a BHS AI and her father qualified as a farrier, their family life was always around horses.

Jacqueline and her sister in particular were known for their success in competing horses in Equitation, Show Jumping and X-Country where most weekends from an early age, they would be traveling the North West of Scotland to compete in their Bedford TK Lorry! Not a surprise Jacqueline owned one herself for just over 20 years only selling it just last year where the new owners stripped it back and took it back to its original condition as it would have been built in 1973.

Tim's dad met his mum in the local council offices in Ludlow where she was a secretary and he was a Legal Advisor to the South Shropshire District Council at the time, he was also the Town Clark one of the youngest back then.

Jacqueline qualified at "Cambridge College of Agriculture & Horticulture" for 2 years gaining her BHS AI (British Horse Society Approved Instructor), Equine Science Degree, NCMH (National Certificate & Management of Horses), ANCEBM (Advanced National Certificate in Equine Business Management), BDS 1&2 (British Driving Society) passing everything with credit. In the first year at collage she won "the most improved student of the year award" but she puts it all down to "a life time with horses!".

Jacqueline was a freelance "Riding and Carriage Driving Instructor" with 3 girls working with her for many years training and schooling horses under saddle and harness, Jacqueline and her team were well known for working with 'problem horses', which has served her well today in helping owners further.

Jacqueline's career change happened accidentally after the vets could do no more for her mare with a lameness problem, a good friend lent her the very first book ever written about Shiatsu for Horses. Jacqueline read the book, had a go and made an amazing improvement, much to her surprise she was hooked, the rest is history. Today she is one of the UK's top therapist's in complimentary therapy with Roseheart Kingdom being the base and the only school in the world where you can learn Shiatsu for People, Horses and Dogs under the one roof.

To Jacqueline and Tim, Roseheart Kingdom is not just a business base, it is their home which they love dearly and still chuckle when people say "oh Stead's place" and they reply no "it's our place, our peace of heaven up there!"

*Jacqueline & Tim*

**HAPPY 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY MARY**

Mary was born Mary Jones in Much Wenlock an at 18 months old moved with her parents to Bedstone. Her father was a wheelwright, carpenter and coffin maker. Mary went to school in Bedstone.

She married Charlie Grimes in 1948 and like most people at the time moved into the family home at Lower Lye Farm, sharing with her in-laws which wasn't easy with no electric and water outside in an old outhouse.

Mary and Charlie kept pigs, chickens, geese and ducks and a flock of Kerry Hill sheep. Charlie liked his sheep and

like my family they took their sheep to market on foot, until lorries came around. Mary tells me that Ivor Harris from the Vron would bring his sheep down to load them by the bridge.

Mary told me a lovely story of another neighbour who kept his cade lambs in a chicken house, Charlie wanted to swop his lambs for a laugh, saying the neighbour would never notice! But Mary stopped him!

Their daughter Sheila was born in 1949 and now lives in Shrewsbury, John was born in 1951, he lived in Scotland for 30 years but now lives in Kent, Caroline was born in 1960 and lives in Churchstoke, while Sue (Marsh) was born in 1962 and lives in Chapel Lawn, Mary has 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Mary has lived in the Chapel Lawn Valley for over 50 years, was a member of the W.I., helped at jumble sales and school events, enjoyed whist drives and was around when the hall was built.

Another story she told me was of a neighbour who was pouring milk on her husband's corn flakes, saw a mouse swimming around in the milk jug but didn't tell him!

The family moved into the Lye bungalow in 1963, the same time as the great train robbery. The bungalow has just been knocked down and being rebuilt as a house.

Sadly Charlie died in 1977. Mary remained in the bungalow until 2002 and then moved to Bucknell. She still has her 60 acres of grass keep in the valley, which until recently was a bustling meeting place for farmers on the field at selling time in the spring. Local farmers used to say that if it was a cold spring and no grass, it would always grow just before Mary's letting day!

'Happy Birthday Mary'.

*Christine Oakley*

## Chapel Lawn Farmers get Organised

Some older readers may remember Cyril Ashwood, once organist at St George's, Clun. Cyril on his retirement bought a very fine, Italian-made digital organ, a Viscount. On Cyril's untimely death in 1995 the organ passed to

Andrew Buckley of Clunton (whose father was once vicar of Clun). Three years ago, Andrew did a swap of this organ with a slightly smaller version owned by Lawrence Firth, formerly organist in Leintwardine when also resident in Clun in the 1990s; he now lives in Newtown. Unfortunately, in their enthusiasm these gentlemen omitted to measure the dimensions of the doors of their respective houses. Dismantling Andrew's porch enabled the organ to leave Clunton, but Lawrence's front door defied all attempts to get it in, and so it lodged in his garage. Lawrence cast around for a church to donate the organ to and Andrew recalled that Chapel Lawn's old harmonium, which he fondly remembers playing in the early 1980s, had reached the end of its useful life, thanks to mouse infestation. So it was that the organ was offered to St Mary's, Chapel Lawn.



*Chapel lawn Organ Transplant Team*

Di Cosgrove arranged for a few people to try the organ out; they reported back that it was amazing and far better than the smaller one that had been hurriedly installed for Di and Patrick's wedding ten years ago. The Parochial Church Council met and agreed that they should accept Lawrence's generous offer and the Viscount organ was accepted. But there was one very significant problem. It is not just heavy. It is *extremely* heavy! Problem solved in the shape of four strong farmers and a stock trailer. On 27<sup>th</sup> September, a party consisting of James Middleton, Stephen Wilding, Tony Oakley, Robert Price, Patrick and Di went to collect the Viscount.

Lawrence was delighted to meet everyone and played his other organ to them before the hard work began. With a lot of heaving and pushing, it just fitted in the trailer. Getting it out and into the church was equally tricky, but

they managed it with the aid of logs as rollers. The same evening, Andrew came to show Patrick how to set it up. As well as its own speakers, it has two whopping external speakers each with its own power supply. Andrew played the national anthem while Patrick fiddled with wires and cables and walked up and down the church to get an idea of how much volume is required and where. Wayne Davies nervously agreed to play it at the Harvest Festival (though not at full volume!); he did a good job and it sounded great. One of the church's regular organists, Lindsay Bayles, played it the following Sunday and declared the sound first class. Arrangements are already in hand for a concert on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May next year to commemorate its installation.

Technically, the organ is a three manual and pedal organ, sampled digitally from organs in Italy. Supported by two external speakers its volume would be capable of filling a cathedral! State of the art in the early 1990s, it has been lightly used and should enhance the worship at St Mary's for many years to come.

*Andrew Buckley and Patrick Cosgrove*

## SEASONAL GARDENING NOTES



The summer has been unusually long, hot and dry and, while some gardens have suffered badly, others have revelled. The former condition often points to a mixture of starved soil and inappropriate planting, rather than simply lack of water. Mulching the soil will beef up the nutrients and help to conserve moisture. You may also need to rethink some of your planting, by noticing the different 'climates' within your garden, and by learning what conditions the plants themselves need, rather than simply popping them in wherever you happen to have a space, or wherever you want a bit of colour. Garden centre labels are not always helpful in this respect, being too keen on pretty pictures and dinky symbols, rather than useful information.

Shrubs have grown enormously and flowered profusely this summer, showing that it is extra warmth, rather than extra moisture, that our gardens need in this cold valley. If we are fortunate, and the coming winter is

kind, all this strong, sun-ripened wood should be splendidly productive next year. But if it is cruel, much of the new growth will suffer badly. So go easy on any winter pruning.

*Hannah Willetts*

### Condolences to Tony Fry's family

Tony Fry, formally of Caractacus and Redlake Cottage which he built and lived in, passed away on the 16<sup>th</sup> August in Gillingham, Dorset. He was 75. He moved from Chapel Lawn in 2007. We send his son Christopher, and daughter Becky our condolences.

### Recent Events

There has been quite a collection of events during the three months since the last issue of The Redlake. Following the success of the 'Pub night' in July, another was held in August. The weather had broken by then, so no sitting outside enjoying the warm sunshine, but it was a good evening nevertheless.

Over the summer Chapel Lawn has been connected to the Superfast Highway – not a new motorway, but the fibre broadband network. It took a long time, but some prodding and poking from various members of our community finally got the work done and thanks to them and some very kind landowners who allowed the cable across their land, the Green Box is now live.

At the beginning of September, our church organised Ramble and Lunch took place. About 110 people turned up, some to enjoy the local walks and then re-fuel on the lunch, some just come to enjoy the food and have a good gossip with people they haven't seen for a long time. It raised a good sum for the church which is needing to collect all they can for a new heating system. Of course, they need the new heating system because their new church organ (mentioned elsewhere) will be encouraging people to stay longer!!! The Ramble and Lunch has always proved very popular and according to some, has been going for somewhere between 30 and 50 years.

Another popular fund-raising event in September was the Macmillan coffee morning hosted by Patrick and Di at Well House. Plenty of coffee was drunk and again, gossip was gossiped. There were stalls of crafts, cakes, plants, books and bric-a-brac, all of which helped the cause. The church held a Harvest Festival Service and Supper on 4<sup>th</sup> October and as one farmer pointed out, at least this year

harvest had finished. It was a very successful and jolly evening with the usual good food on offer. Two church events coming up, which we hope everyone will join, are the Men's Savoury cooking competition and an on-the-night bake-off and then a Carol Service nearer to Christmas. These are good family events and it is hoped that plenty of children will come and join the fun too. More details are elsewhere in the newsletter.

A few weeks ago, a couple of members of the Air Gun team and Jim painted the front of the Village Hall which is now sporting it's new sign with a logo designed by Jemima Jameson. Now that is done the whole entrance to the hall is so much more welcoming and we can be very proud of being able to provide such a popular building for the use of Chapel Lawn residents.

The two films that have been shown this season, have both attracted good sized audiences with some new faces amongst them. *The Shape of Water* (a sci-fi) was not quite as popular as the *Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel pie Society* (a mouthful, let alone a fingerful to write), which attracted our largest audience yet - that is - without food to help.

*Becky Sherman*

### Farming Column

I had just left school and well remember the hot dry summer of 1976 when harvest was finished on 13 August and feeding straw to cattle due to lack of grass started on 16<sup>th</sup> August. This year I started feeding on the 16<sup>th</sup> July and have not stopped. Autumn sown crops have yielded just about average and the lupins coping with the heat only just below normal, but the spring sown barley was down 35%. Hay and silage crops were reasonable and the late autumn grass has seen several people take late or second cuts of grass to bolster winter stocks as hay is very expensive. But plentiful supplies of straw baled in arable areas. The heat also hit meat sales with prices back for both beef and lamb compared to last year.

I gave a copy of the farmers weekly to a person in the village to read an article, and they commented back to me that having read it all they were surprised at the price of machinery, especially tractors with the larger even second hand ones being the price of a small town house! I do not think many people realise the cost of running a farm to produce food. With the uncertainty of Brexit and the proposed removal of farm payments, the

profitability of upland grazing farms looks uncertain, with the local machinery dealer already concerned about the impact on his business.

Several farms have, like myself diversified into something else, but simple things like wood processing, yurts, log cabins or just upgrading farm buildings to meet farm assurance standards or environment agency requirements can meet with both planning and local opposition.

Perhaps with hotter summers and Canada's new rules on cannabis, I may be able to develop an export market for a few acres of the stuff grown in Bryncalled dingle disguised as pheasant cover; the trial plot grown in the local area some years ago did quite well I am told!

*James Middleton*

### DIARY

**Nov 13<sup>th</sup> Tuesday** – WI 7.00 pm

**Nov 8<sup>th</sup> Thursday** - ODAS 7.00 pm

**Nov 17<sup>th</sup> Saturday** - Flicks 'Edie' 7.30 pm Bar & ice cream.

**Nov 20<sup>th</sup> Tuesday** - VH Committee Meeting 7.30 pm

**Nov 29<sup>th</sup> Thursday** - ODAS observing evening 7.00 pm.

**Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday** - Christmas Bake Off. Church fund raiser open to all. Start 7.00 pm £5 entrance for refreshments. Bar and raffle. Fun evening for all the family.

**Dec 7<sup>th</sup> Friday** - South Shropshire Quiz night.

**Dec 11<sup>th</sup> Tuesday** - W.I.

**Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Saturday** - Village Christmas get together with bring a share supper 7.00 pm, followed by flicks. 'Finding your feet' 8.00 pm

**Dec 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday** - Carol Service In the Church at 11.00 am.

**Dec 25<sup>th</sup> Tuesday** - Christmas Day Service in the Church at 9.30 am

For more information about films, please contact Christine Rogers. 01547 530258 christine@techsyst.co.uk