

THE REDLAKE

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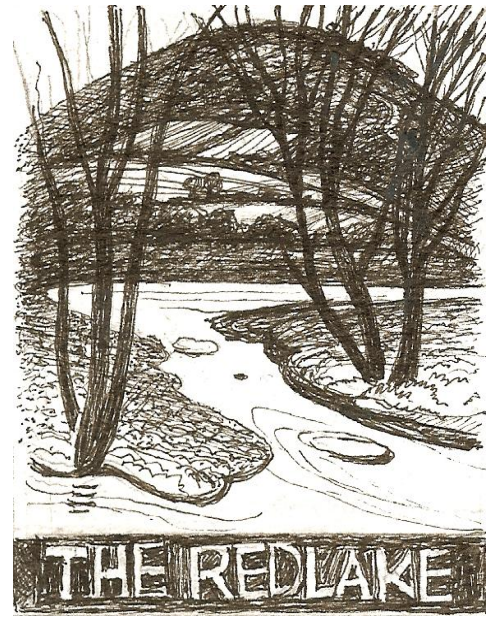
SUMMER 2016

From the Editors

Having received the sad news of Ivor Williams (Dukins) passing away so recently, we thought it best to write a proper article next edition in respect of him. In the meantime we thought it would be nice to have some happier news of an upcoming wedding and local events. We hope most of you can attend some of the upcoming events, as they should be good for the small community to meet up, have a cup of tea and a chat about what is going on in the area. EU or no EU, Chapel Lawn will carry on being a lovely small community, as it has done for centuries; it will just be a case of adapting. We might even see an increase in holiday makers, which hopefully will benefit quite a few local businesses as England is one of the nicest places when the sun shines. (someone should have a word!)

Jeremy Jameson

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More information & photos of some of these articles are available on the website at www.chapel-lawn.co.uk



Redlake Valley Artists exhibition in 2016

Third show for Redlake Valley Artists
The Redlake Valley Artists will hold their third exhibition in Chapel Lawn village hall from Friday 16th to Sunday 18th September 2016. A variety of work will be on show, all from local artists, including paintings, drawings, textiles, photography, printmaking, hand-printed books, jewellery, hand-made cards, dioramas and more! We have 4 new artists joining us this time. Free entry, free parking and delicious home-made teas: do come for a cup of tea and a browse!

Opening times: Friday: 10am to 7pm;
Saturday 10am to 6pm and Sunday
10am to 4pm.

*All Redlake residents are warmly
invited to a special preview of the
exhibition on Thursday 15th
September from 6pm. Free glass of*

wine included. More information:
www.redlakevalleyartists.co.uk or
contact Sarah Jameson (01547
528547/images@sarahjameson.co.uk

Hello, I am Louisa Red Shine. Just in case you haven't met me, I am the tall field maple growing in the hedge near the Redlake river bridge. A Shropshire Council arboricultural officer recommended me to the WI and I was planted back in the winter of 2012. It was a bit of a shock being transplanted from the nursery where I grew up (I had been there about 5 years), but I was watered in well and have been thriving - putting out my leaves that emerge ruddy-green in Spring and later fade to a maple-green. You get a lovely yellowy-colour from me later in the Autumn. Not too showy though! Twelve villagers gathered on 25th May in 2013 to make a fuss about my arrival and Mrs Mona Owen did the honours and cut the lovely red ribbon I'd been dressed in for the occasion. Simon Jameson had made a plaque to explain that I commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. To make sure I would be safe, I was carefully surrounded on three sides by a robust,

protective fence. I have enjoyed watching life go by - tractors, delivery vans, coaches, horses and their riders and cars pass, with the occasional dog paying me some attention! Of course I am out in all kinds of weather, but I am standing up to it well. That was until nearly 3 years to the day after my ribbon wearing ceremony....

I was assaulted by some kind of vehicle one night in early May. Yes really - Did you see it happen? It managed to plough straight through the fence and grazed my trunk! James kindly tidied up the broken fence the next morning. I thought it was just a bad graze until it was discovered that my bark had been stripped right back around my feet! Now as you know, by then I had a full set of leaves, which still blow about in the breeze, but because of the damage that's been done, I'm not promising my foliage will be so fine next year! Perhaps the fence will be back soon and I could do with a tidy up around me too, so I stand out a bit more. I have been shaken up by the experience and don't really know what the future holds. Let's hope I'll mend up soon and carry on putting out my ruddy-green leaves for many years to come.

PROFILE**Michael and Helen Oliver.**

Michael or Rory as he is known to most of his friends, is a local lad, born and bred in Newcastle on Clun. He is steeped in country life and pursuits as was his father who was working at Cow Hall caring for the cattle right up to the day last year when he died at the age of 80.

Rory preferred rabbiting and clay pigeon shooting to attending school and consequently often found himself in trouble for playing truant!

Newcastle school was followed by Bishop's Castle Community College (one of his teachers was still there when their son Jack started there in 2011), but as soon as he could, he left to work for a short time as a game keeper at The Dilbury estate. This was followed by a year at Hereford College on a welding course and eventually led to a job at Clearview Stoves in 1998.

Helen was born in Nottingham and was educated there. When her Mother remarried she inherited four step sisters in addition to her elder sister Jane and was very fond of her step father Alan, who brought her up from an early age. After leaving school she spent a year working for Nottinghamshire Country Park as a countryside ranger. She then studied for and obtained a degree from Manchester University in environmental management, her interest in 'green' issues began here. Helen then went to work as an area manager in the Bollin valley in Cheshire. She was responsible for 100 square miles of countryside with mixed farms. They also kept rare breed animals, which they sometimes entered into local agricultural shows,

(Helen was invariably delegated to enter the bulls!). She became proficient in many country pursuits including hedge laying, horse riding and animal husbandry.

Disappointment followed when a second runway for Manchester airport robbed Helen of a large area of her 'patch' and she decided to make a move. As her elder sister Jane was now married and living in Shropshire, Helen took the plunge and moved to be nearby, but without a job. With her devoted dog Poppy, soon she found work as a care worker in Ludlow. Helen's interest in helping people with learning difficulties had been ignited when working in the countryside with various groups of disadvantaged young people and she loved working with them.

Soon after arriving in Shropshire Helen met Rory in the King's Head in Bishops Castle. She was intrigued by the rumors of his reputation that she heard and this attracted her. Fortunately Rory had calmed down and wasn't as terrible as the rumors would have it. Soon they were living together at Lower Down, they then moved to Clun and married in 1999.

Jack was born in 2000 and Georgina in 2001, Helen continued to work in Ludlow, but was increasingly drawn into life in Clun. As the children grew and started school in Clun she became involved in the parents group and helping at the school. In 2003 Rory set up business on his own fitting wood burning stoves and providing logs; many people in this area will know him for the quality of his work. As his business flourished, Helen had more secretarial work to do so she gave up her care work.

In 2001 Rory had joined the retained fire service and still works for them today. This entails one night a week training and being on call, which means being within 4 mins drive of a fire station.

In 2010 the family moved to Rhos Cottage, Black Hill and expanded into their present home, they all love living there and make the most of the country side, Rory now has a log drying kiln on site and employs two local men in his business, Helen is

kept busy with the paper work, family, five dogs, four horses including Poppit the miniature Shetland pony, two cats and recently sadly lost her hens to the foxes! The whole family is involved in beating for the shoot in winter.

Jack is hoping to start an agricultural engineering course in Newtown next term and recently fulfilled a long ambition to attend the school prom by tractor; he has a very impressive photo of himself in evening clothes with said tractor! Georgina is still at Bishops Castle Community College and will probably have a career with animals as that is when she is at her happiest.

Pat Jameson

The Clun Log Company

Wednesday 14th September
10am to 2pm. For those interested in the processes involved in the making of our kiln dried logs please feel free to attend our 'drop in' event to be held at Rhos Cottage, Pen y Wern, Black hill, Clun. SY7 0JD

For more information or directions please phone Michael or Helen Oliver on 01588 640910 or 07909834223

MACMILLAN FUNDRAISER

Everyone welcome, come and support Macmillan on Saturday 1st October 10.30am – 12.00pm in the Redlake Valley Village Hall, Chapel Lawn. £1 entry for tea, coffee and biscuits. Bring & Buy - cakes, plants, local produce, raffle, books and other stalls.

For more info. contact Karen Limbrick on 01547 530002 or limbrick85@btinternet.com

Renovated stiles

Once again the local Parish Paths Partnership(3P) team based in Clun together with a Shropshire Council officer have been at work on our local public path network.

The three stiles on the way to Pentre have been given some TLC by a band of four enthusiastic workers. They turned up outside the Smithy early on a bright morning in late June and worked busily near the river until lunchtime. As they were clearing away their tools the heavens opened, so they were pleased to leave for lunch.

Seasonal Gardening Notes



Meadowsweet froths from every damp ditch and stream bank; its strange scent – part sweet and flowery, part sour and druggy (it contains salicylic acid, the basis of many anti-inflammatory preparations), hangs in the air around it. It is a determined seeder, so is not, perhaps, a wise choice for a small tidy garden, despite its beauty.

There are golden-leaved, and variegated-leaved forms, of the wild meadowsweet, *Filipendula ulmaria*. Having less green pigment in their leaves, these are not such coarse growers as the native. They stand at 3 feet with the usual cream fluffy flowers.

Similar in habit to the native is *Filipendula purpurea* but with flowers in varying shades of light pink. *Filipendula palmata* has more fingered leaves and rich pink flowers at 5 feet. Much smaller is the clump-forming, 12 inch high, *Filipendula multijuga* with flowers of brilliant pink – verging on magenta. Tallest of all, and with a strongly running root, is *Filipendula rubra* ‘Venusta’ with raspberry-pink flowers on 8 foot stems.

All like good, rich soil – a wet ditch is not necessary - and sun or half-shade.

Hannah Willetts

Hill's Wedding



On 20th August, Edward Hill (para-motoring fame *see Redlake No 20 Autumn 2012*) of Pentre Hodre will be marrying Emma Brisbane from Leintwardine. The ceremony will be held in the early afternoon in Bucknell Church (Emma's Grandmother, Mary Brisbane lives in Bucknell), the Llanfair Singers adding volume to the

hymns and their own contributions to the service. Afterwards, the guests will go up the hill to Emma and Edu's home, squeeze into the marquee on their lawn and enjoy an evening reception with lamb and salads supplied by the farm and members of the family.

Edward was born and brought up in Botswana and moved to England with his family in 1989 when he was ten. The Hills moved to Stanway Manor near Much Wenlock and Edward went to school at Moor Park, just outside Ludlow then went on to Milton Abbey in Dorset. In 2007 the family bought Pentre Hodre Farm on the hill above the our village.

When Pat and Alan Hill, Edward's parents moved to Chapel Lawn, Edward was in Africa as a fully qualified commercial pilot. Drastically, a serious illness due to the side effect of an anti-malarial drug, put paid to his dreams of pursuing this career. Edu moved back home to recuperate. As his health improved, he started taking a serious interest in the running of the farm, which is now stocked with sheep and Murray Grey cattle and where Edu can indulge his inventiveness and love of machinery.

Emma was born in Ledbury, but has family connections with this area, being the granddaughter of John and Mary Brisbane whose family lived at The Lee on the outskirts of Knighton.

They moved near to Ludlow and Emma also went to Moor Park for a little while (never knowing then that Edu existed). Her parents separated and Emma, her brother and mother moved to Burrington. She has many happy memories of playing in the river and on the shingle banks. Emma went to school in Wigmore and then attended the sixth-form at Hereford Cathedral School. She then studied fine art, first at Hereford Art College and then in London at Camberwell College of Arts, where after three years she obtained a Degree in Fine Art Drawing. After another four years spent in Manchester, Emma moved back to be with her Mother for a while and got an office job in Ludlow.

Sometime in August 2014, various family members and mutual friends organised a dinner party (as they do) to introduce a few like minded young people in the area. Emma sat next to Edward and they spent the evening talking to one another and, as Emma said, they 'hit it off'. In no time at all, Emma found she was spending more and more time with Edward on the farm and soon moved into Timbercroft with him.

On Emma's birthday in December 2015, over breakfast (which she had to cook herself), Edu presented her with a large box containing a garlic roaster, which she was delighted with. That wasn't quite the point though, as inside was an even more interesting present in a little presentation box; Edward then got down on both knees and proposed to her. To celebrate their engagement Edu took Emma to Lake Vyrnwy for a lovely romantic afternoon by the lake including lunch and wonderful spa treatments.

Emma has a passion for cooking, which compliments Edu's passion for eating. Edu runs the family farm, which is a full-time 24/7 job and Emma has discovered that the lifestyle suits her well. Therefore we wish them both all the very best for the upcoming nuptials and hope that they have a happy and fulfilling life here in Chapel Lawn.

Becky Sherman

Pond Clearing

The date for this year's Pond Clearing is Sunday 4 September, 10.30 a.m. or thereabouts, at Hodre Pond, Pentre Hodre.

Let's make it a good one this year ... PICNIC 12.30 ish, spectators, children, everyone welcome. The more the merrier, and you will get to see lots of newts.

Liz Campbell

Recent Events

As we head into the Summer Holidays, our entertainment season comes to an end. We have shown two flicks since the last issue of the Redlake; In May, *Spectre* – the latest

James Bond film, which would usually be the last in the season. But then we held a second Food and Flicks in June, showing the latest Dad's Army Film. Di and Beryl made the war-time themed food with mutton stew (lovely, 'modern', very local mutton of course!) and Corned Beef pie. There were donations of puddings; trifle, jelly and bread and butter pudding and it all went down very well. As for the film – well, I am afraid there is nothing that can be done to improve on the original Dad's Army series and it hurt a bit to see our favourite characters messed about with. However, it was fun to see an appearance of Mannering's wife and there were some very good laughs nearly matching the originals.

A Farmer's Breakfast was served in the village hall towards the end of May. This was combined with a sale of plants, books, cakes and onion bahjis. The produce was gone in a trice and before you could blink, the stall holders had packed up their tables. This was unfortunate for those people who couldn't get to the hall earlier for breakfast and were looking forward to browsing among the plants nearer to mid-day – there was nothing left to browse! However, the breakfast was delicious; Christine, Catherine and Patrick slaving away in the kitchen, along with their helpers, young and old and raised a good sum for the Church.

The following weekend was a memorial for Ann Arnold, consisting of an afternoon of tribute from Ann and Graham's friends, singing and poetry as well as a film of Ann's pictures after which the hall was cleared and a finger buffet provided for all the guests from both far and near. It was a lovely homage to a very talented, kind and happy lady.

Becky Sherman

Farming Column

Brexit has been and gone and most people would be surprised that we have actually voted to leave Europe. Amazingly, most farmers have voted to leave. Many seem to think going alone will lead to a reduction of red

tape - dream on... the boys already have the jobs and will fight tooth and nail to keep them. Farmers have done very well under the Common Agricultural Policy. Much of this success can be attributed to the strength of the agricultural sections of France and Germany whose militant tendencies have secured much better deals for farmers. Without their support we may find ourselves batting on a sticky wicket in future.

Apparently I have retired and if reducing my working hours from 85 to 60 per week is retirement, then yes I have. We have sold 95% of the sheep and not having to spend days on end battling against ovine pests and diseases is most enjoyable. One Chapel Lawn wag suggested I can now write 'RTD' after my name, though he did infer this would stand for 'retarded', not 'retired'! I was disappointed to hear that having sorted out all the ewes that were troublesome lambers and sold them to The Neighbour, they had lambed reasonably well for him.

It was another poor spring with little growth of grass, though when it did finally start to grow it has been one of the best grazing seasons ever and plenty of good crops of silage and hay have been made. It was entertaining to watch the contractors across the valley vying without success, to get a round bale to roll from the baler straight into the new shed!

In June we spent two weeks in Croatia. No problems there with refugees or immigrants; they have no welfare state, so no hand outs to attract them. Where we were based on the Istrian Peninsula, tourism and fishing are about the only industries. Farming seemed about 70-80 years behind the UK; families turning hay by hand and lugging loose hay by horse and cart.

It was a shock on our return to hear that Ivor Williams (Dukins) had passed away. He was a true 'character' and a very accomplished, self taught musician. He had become a regular visitor to Chapel Lawn, helping James Middleton on the farm and I seem to recall he met his wife at a Chapel Lawn dance.

Finally, the Farming Empire at Five Turnings continues to expand. They have sole grazing rights on two gardens in Bucknell and have sent a large bunch of cattle on tack (grazing let) to Roseheart Kingdom!

Bob James RTD

Car Boot / Table Top Sale

Saturday 13th August, in the Village Hall. £5 per car (hard standing) £7 per table (provided). 7am set up, 8am buying, Ample parking & Refreshments. For further information or to book your space, call or text 07721 739973.

All proceeds will go to the Macturk Fund dedicated to the improvement of the external area around the entrance to the village hall.

Diary

Car boot sale Saturday 13th August.

Set up 7am, open 8am

Benefice church lunch 21st August at 11.00am lunch in the hall after service.

Pond Clearing, Sunday 4th

September, 10.30am Hodre Pond, Lunch 12.30pm. Everyone welcome.

Ramble and Lunch, Sunday 11th

September. Walks from 10.30 am from the car park. Lunch served from 12.00 noon to 2.00 pm in the hall.

£8.00 adults £4.00 children under 14.

Redlake Valley Artists weekend 16th to 18th September.

Flicks in the sticks Saturday 24th

Sept "Eddie The Eagle", 7.30pm.

Adults £4.50, children £3.50

Gun Club 26th Sept

Macmillan Coffee Morning Saturday 1st October 10.30 am to 12.30 pm in VH

Harvest Festival service and

supper, Thursday 6th October 7pm in

church, and supper in VH afterwards around 8pm. £4 meal + drink

PCC Meeting Tuesday 18th Oct 7.30 pm

Hosting the Shropshire villages

quiz night Friday 4th November

W.I.- Meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month 7pm. Village Hall

ODAS on the last Thursday in every month. 7pm Village Hall

For all **ODAS** info please contact Carolyn Wilde 01547 530085