

THE REDLAKE

NUMBER 42

SPRING 2018

From the Editors

Seems like a long Winter. We have had our fair share of snow and ice, so when we had two lovely hot summer- like days recently, I thought here we go, and ordered some sandals. How presumptuous was I! Now back to normal winter/spring default weather again and sandals in the wardrobe waiting for the next sunny days (hopefully). One thing that did make me smile; when we were deep in snow I was amazed to see a council snow plow in Chapel Lawn... The only thing was, he was travelling along at a fair rate, with the snow plow up in the air! Oh well better luck next time.

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>



CHAPEL LAWN MAKES THE WASHINGTON POST!

An American couple set out to cycle from land's end to John o'Groats last year, and wrote an article that was printed in the Washington Post! This was spotted, amazingly, by a friend in America. The headline photo was of the green lane above Pentre Hodre Farm, looking down towards the Chapel Lawn Valley.



If you would like to read the article the link is:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/travel/going-to-great-lengths-cycling-britain-from-lands-end-to-john-ogroats/2018/01/18/68652ffc-f7e8-11e7-beb6-c8d48830c54d_story.html

Jane Kent

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAVID & RUBY HUGHES



Dozens of cards including one from the Queen and lots of beautiful spring flowers decorated the home of David and Ruby Hughes to celebrate their 70th Wedding Anniversary.

Family and many friends joined them for this special day with a glass of bubbly and a delicious beautifully decorated Anniversary cake made by Christine Oakley.

David and Ruby lived at Wax Hall for many decades and were great supporters of the school, the hall, and St. Mary's Church and all events in

Chapel Lawn. Ruby was also organist at the chapel and for over 30 years an enthusiastic member of Chapel Lawn W.I. winning many first prizes with her skilful needlecraft. They were both keen gardeners, growing and producing the best for all the local shows, winning masses of prizes at Clun, Knighton, Kington and others.

It was a memorable day for David and Ruby; both were well enough to enjoy all the fun, and the best wishes from so many.

Jean N. Price

BIG BREAKFAST

Saturday 12th May 9.00–11.00am
Chapel Lawn Village Hall
Come and have a full English Breakfast in aid of the church, with stalls for plants, Cakes, and Bric a Brac.



The editorial team comprises: Becky Sherman, Pat Jameson, Christine Oakley, Jeremy Jameson, How to contact us: by mail The Redlake Editors, Squire Farm, Chapel Lawn, SY7 0BW by telephone 01547 530530 or by e-mail theredlake@squirefarm.co.uk Printing by Jim & Christine Rogers.

PROFILE:**Dominic and Syan Lavery
Honeyhole Farm**

Dom and Syan moved into Honeyhole farm two years ago. They came from a village near Oxford where they had lived for a number of years in a pretty thatched cottage. Like many of us they were looking for a quieter pace of life away from the rat race of the south east and a life closer to nature.

Syan was born in Ilford and her father's job meant she moved four times before, at about the age of 7, they settled in Oxfordshire. She trained as a nursery nurse in Oxford, then worked for a year as a nanny, followed by running a crèche for 18 months. After meeting Dom, Syan moved to Newbury and went to work in a day nursery, first as deputy then as Supervisor. Once Dom's studies were complete, they returned to Oxford as there was the fantastic opportunity to help set up a Day Nursery for Balliol College as Officer in Charge, which was a great success. She ran this for 11 years, during which time Dom and Syan married and had their two children. At the time of their move to Shropshire, she was working in the Foundation Unit of a local school three days a week and doubted that she would find anything so convenient here. However, within a short time she had secured a position in Clunbury School as nursery nurse in charge, also for three days a week, and was delighted. Clunbury's Foundation Class has increased numbers from 12 to 23 children over the last two years, important for maintaining our village schools and communities. Syan has recently trained to become their Forest

School Leader, although being involved in Forest School for many years it was wonderful to have the opportunity to finally complete the course. Dom is a Concept Artist. He was born in Kent and went to school there, ultimately attending Tonbridge College, Blackheath Art School and then Gemini school of Art, Newbury. On completing these courses which took 7 years, he had various jobs whilst knowing that he wanted to get into movies. He repeatedly visited Pinewood studios to show his portfolio, trying to get known. Eventually in 1995 he succeeded in getting his first break on the film 'The Fifth Element' and has never really looked back. Disney and James Bond films are amongst the many projects he has been, and is, involved in, together with video games, book covers and his own art work. After moving here Dom is happily achieving one of his goals of predominantly being able to work from home and only occasionally having to visit the film studios.

The couple have been married for 23 years and began their married life in Drayton before moving to their cottage in Chalgrove, both Oxfordshire villages. They have two children Ellie age 18 and Jojo 15, who attend school and college in Ludlow and are doing very well. Dom and Syan were thrilled that they both settled happily in to their new lives and have been very impressed with the quality of teaching locally. Ellie has secured a place at Aberystwyth University for the autumn and the whole family are very excited, as the course (scenography and theatre studies) is so appropriate for Ellie's talents which are definitely in the artistic sphere. Ellie is also an accomplished horse rider and soon found herself a weekend job at the Darky Dale Riding Centre where she works as a groom, riding there across country on a horse which they keep in one of the many fields at Honeyhole. Jojo is interested in acting at the moment and has had some success in school productions, however he is concentrating on his GCSE's this term! Star, their beautiful Leonberger dog is

another very important member of the family.

Sadly, Syan's mother died last year but she was able to spend a lovely holiday with them soon after they moved in. She particularly loved their new home as it was close to where she had been evacuated. Dom's Mother, who is a frequent visitor, also embraced their relocation. Now in her eighties, she drives herself up from Kent to enjoy exploring the local attractions with the family.

Dom is of Polish descent and although he regrets that he doesn't speak Polish, both he and Syan have wonderful memories of his Polish grandmother. Gran fought for the Polish resistance in the Second World War. She saw action on a number of dangerous missions but was eventually captured and her son, Dom's father, was taken away. She was later released during an amnesty and with the help of the Red Cross she was reunited with her son. As a trained nurse she joined the British 8th Army and travelled across Europe, India, Persia and Africa, ending up in Rhodesia. Gran then accompanied a group of Polish refugees to England travelling by a ship of the Union Castle Line. On the voyage she fell in love with the Chief Purser, Jimmy Lavery. They eventually married and settled first in London, followed by retiring to Lyme Regis to run a seaside B&B.

Pat Jameson

**RVCBS – COMMUNITY
WOODLAND UPDATE**

Since the Woodland Fair last October we have been working in the wood every month. Our main task has been making the deer enclosure more secure by fixing chicken wire around the base. We had found that rabbits and perhaps muntjac have been chewing through the polypropylene netting fence we set up last year. We are waiting for the coppiced hazel to come back into leaf hoping we are preventing the local deer from munching their way through it for a second year!

Karen Limbrick

HENRY RICHARDS**1 JAN 1931 – 5 MARCH 2018**

'I was very sad to learn that Henry Richards (Pump House, Purlogue) passed away on the 5th March. He died peacefully at the Stone house in Bishops Castle aged 87 years. He was one of the first 'native dwellers' to make Sarah and me welcome to the valley when we moved here in 2000. He would often drop by for a chat and I will remember fondly the stories he told while he was laying a hedge in our garden.

The funeral took place at a packed St John's Church in Newcastle on 20th March where his two brothers are buried, followed by a 'get together' in the Community Centre afterwards. And I can happily report that he has one of the finest views in the whole of Shropshire.'

Simon Jameson

If you'd like to know more about Henry's life in the Redlake Valley please see his Profile in the Winter 2011 Edition.

THE CHAPEL LAWN FLOWER DELIVERY SERVICE

On a lovely summer's morning last July, I visited a walled garden near Ludlow where a young couple and their delightful little boy Henry, grow glorious, seasonal English flowers in the grounds of a stately home. As was the case when the garden was first established in the heyday of country house living, the garden today is not there just for decoration. Barney and Victoria Martin have built up a successful business providing beautiful flowers for weddings and other events and have since begun a local delivery service of posies and bouquets. I came back from my visit hoping that I could persuade my neighbours in Chapel Lawn to join me in getting freshly picked flowers with a journey from flower bed to our homes of less than 12 miles. I was very pleased that enough people wanted to join and flowers arrived weekly from July to

mid-October last year. I very much hope the service can continue this year but that depends on getting enough customers to make deliveries worthwhile. The more people interested, the more options become available. Deliveries can be made along the route from Bromfield to New Invention. The new season has already started but you can join in at any time. Carolyn Wilde, liaised with Barney and Victoria on our behalf and can give you more information on how it all works. Please telephone Carolyn on 01547 530085 or email her on cmwilde@btinternet.com.

More information on the Flower Garden and all that they offer can be found on their website www.flowergardenatstokesaycourt.co.uk. Do go online and look at their beautiful photographs.

Graham Arnold

SEASONAL GARDENING NOTES



Everyone loves tulips, but not all gardens will grow them well. The bulbs need to be baked thoroughly by hot summer sun to keep on flowering year after year – they originate in the hot, dry mountainous regions of Central Asia. They also seem to like quite hefty soil. A tricky requirement mixture, as most heavy soils here are very wet in winter and concrete in summer – neither of which condition suits bulbs. Some gardeners try to get around this by planting in pots, which can work well the first year (if you are careful with the watering), but rarely afterwards. There is also a school of thought that claims the bulbs must be lifted, dried and replanted each year – but this idea was always to suit the gardener, who wanted the space for summer bedding, not the bulbs, which rather resent being messed with so often. Best practice is to plant tulip bulbs deeply – at least 6 inches of soil above the bulb – in a good rich soil in full sun, and then to leave them to it without further disturbance. Even then some varieties will do better, for longer, than others. I have found the following tulips to be particularly long-lived and

trouble-free: 'Carnaval de Nice', a double-flower in cherry and white stripes with a variegated stripe to the leaf too; 'Elizabeth Arden', which is a lipstick-pink single; and, my favourite, *Tulipa sprengeri*, a wild species rather than a hybrid, with pointed petals – brick-red inside and cinnamon outside. Equally long-lived is the English native *Tulipa sylvestris*, which should have pale yellow, nodding flowers, although it rarely flowers in a garden setting, and never in mine, although the leaves have reappeared each year for thirty years and more.

Hannah Willetts

QUIZ TEAM NEWS

With the final held at Rushbury Village Hall a couple of Friday evenings ago the Village Hall Quiz League drew to a close for the 2017/18 season. The Chapel Lawn team finished in the top half of its division, well set for a promotion push next year! Whilst our scores have been generally good, the phrase "mid table obscurity" comes to mind. Highlights of the year included taking home the wine for coming first at one quiz evening and finishing the last but one team at another. It all depends on the questions! Many thanks to all those who have been part of the team this year and I hope you have enjoyed it. The evenings are enjoyable but we don't take it too seriously. If you would like to be part of the squad for next season you don't have to have any particular skills or qualifications, just an ability to look bemused when you don't know the answer.

Please contact Mark Limbrick, (limbrick85@btinternet.com 01547 530002) transport and red wine normally provided!

RECENT EVENTS SPRING 18

We started this spring's entertainment with an Arts Alive live show; 'Outside the Box', a live show about death. Liz Rothschild is a kind, gentle person who owns a burial ground and tours the country talking about death, funerals and burials. The performance was funny in parts and poignant and tear-

jerking in others. Liz also offered advice and help to bereaved members of the audience. Who, for instance, knows that one does not need a coffin to be buried in – a sheet will suffice – and up to three people can be buried in your garden provided you tell prospective house buyers they are there!

The films; *'Blade Runner'* and *'Breathe'* have been reasonably well attended and with our new Blu-ray player, the quality is excellent. The last film was a corker! *'Paddington 2'* is hilarious and shows my heart-throb, Hugh Grant in his best light! Prior to showing the film, we served 60 Peruvian meals as a tribute to the 'bear who likes marmalade sandwiches' origins. Well done to everyone who has made this season so successful and thank you.

On another subject; Chapel Lawn Air Gun Club are runners up in the Clun Valley League and our team of four won the 'Rose Bowl' trophy.

Becky Sherman

FARMING COLUMN

The editor asked me to write the Farming Column this quarter, so here goes. As a part time farmer with agricultural training, I suppose I am sort of qualified. I know that it has been an exceptionally wet spring and some late snows caught out a lot of shepherds who were lambing. The weather has also affected the arable farmers who have been unable to do any land work for months; this is not such a problem for winter crops, but will definitely affect spring sown crops. We were going to give our ewes a year off from having lambs and try to cut down on the numbers of huge, bolshie mutton wethers we had accumulated. Neither plan succeeded. Firstly, we must have forgotten to mention cancelling lambing to the ram or the ewes! Porter, our black welsh cross ram ('cross' being the pertinent word here) climbed or squoze under or around two fences to find the ewes and succeeded in being out with them for four days in November! Oh well, I thought, a couple of ewes may be pregnant after all... he managed ten in four days! They lambed; two each in 10 days. As

for the bolshie wethers; what with events and the weather, it took us until the end of March to get rid of them! We had run out of fodder beet, hay, haylage and the grass still wasn't growing, so it was starve or sell. A nice young man from over the hill came and tackled them for us and we got 20 beasts in a borrowed trailer to take to market.

Back to Porter... he meanwhile has been kept in a stable on his own all winter – it is the only way to ensure he doesn't escape – however, he has got big and fat and very cross (again). My elbow found out how cross when he came for me and I tried to stop him – twisted elbow! He is now back in his solitary confinement awaiting some companions to accompany him to the far end of the farm and a 'safe' field; later this week, when it stops raining and the sun comes out!!!

Becky Sherman

Porter goes a-wooin



ARTS ALIVE

Saturday, June 2nd, 7:30pm
Chapel Lawn Village Hall
Louise Jordan "No Petticoats Here". Bar & doors open 7pm
Award winning singer, songwriter and musician Louise Jordan tells the stories, through songs, of remarkable women of the Great War who challenged expectations; of inspirational women, working in a time of conflict and leaving a legacy.

Arts Alive cont:

"A gutsy and meticulously researched project - touching and powerful."

Tickets: Adult £10 Child £5

Reservation required please contact Christine 01547 530258

Louise Jordan No Petticoats Here



Saturday 2 June 7:30pm
Chapel Lawn Village Hall

DIARY

Tuesday 8th May: W.I. Meeting
second Tuesday of the month

Saturday 12th May: 'Big Breakfast' fund raiser for the church, 9-11am, includes stalls for cakes, plants & bric a brac

Wednesday 30th May: Village Hall AGM 7pm

Thursday 31st May: ODAS AGM 7.30pm

Saturday 2nd June: Arts Alive
"No Petticoats Here"
Starts 7.30pm. Doors 7pm
Bookings now being taken

Tuesday 12th June: PCC meeting 7.30pm

Wednesday 13th June: Town Council meeting 7.30pm

Saturday 7th July: Pub Evening 7:30pm in the Village Hall. Everyone most welcome!