

THE REDLAKE

NUMBER 55

SUMMER 2021

From the Editors

For the past 7 years I have had the pleasure of editing *The Redlake*, but now I feel it is time for someone new to carry on with the editing of it, and maybe finding another direction for it? I am happy to edit the next edition which comes out at the end of October, and then hand over to the new editor, or editors. Please contact me if you feel this might be you. I am happy to work along side someone to begin with, so it isn't quite so daunting. But I think it is important it continues as it is a good point of reference for the local community to find out what is coming up for local events etc. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Have a lovely rest of the summer, let's hope for sunshine & showers in equal measure.

Jeremy Jameson

The Redlake is published by The Redlake Valley Hall Committee and neither the committee nor the editors can accept responsibility for any opinions expressed by contributors in these pages. The editorial team reserves the right to edit contributions as it believes appropriate. The Redlake is funded by grants and donations and it is our policy not to accept paid advertising due to restraints on space.

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



Chapel Lawn in summer. Picture by Ken Bowen

A VERY BIG THANK YOU

In medieval Japan, the Hikyaku, also called the “flying legs”, were couriers for the Shogun government. They averaged 80 miles a day, and ran in all conditions, wearing little more than a loincloth and sandals.

Barry Palmer is our own ‘Hikyaku’ who for 17 years has delivered the Parish Magazine monthly, and The Redlake newsletter quarterly, as well as for Christian aid.

He has done this every month, come rain, snow, and floods without fail.

I estimate he has racked up 2000 miles, and calculate this to be 10,440 parish mags and 3,440 Redlakes.

It was not just about delivering the parish mag as apparently people in the outlying parts of the valley looked forward to Barry's cheerful chats and news of village happenings.

An impromptu ‘Palmer Gin Fund’ was set up, and grateful residents chipped in.

Chapel Lawn residents gathered and presented an unsuspecting Barry with a bottle of ‘Wrekin Alpine Gin’ and some posh tonic water to accompany it.

Thank you Barry, your shoes will be hard to fill.



(Pictured without loincloth & sandals)



A tremendous achievement, thank you for your tireless efforts

Patrick Cosgrove

HAPPY BIRTHDAY BERYL!



Beryl invited lots of her village friends to join her on her big day and all turned up to help her enjoy her 70th Birthday celebration.

There was only one shower during an otherwise warm dry day when we had to retreat to the garage. Comments made were, ‘the best kept garage in Chapel Lawn’.

Beryl would like to express her thanks to everyone for their kindness during her illness and for all the beautiful flowers and gifts delivered to the house.



Shropshire Hills

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

**NEW LANDSCAPE INVESTMENT
TO DELIVER LOCAL BENEFITS
FOR CLIMATE, NATURE,
PEOPLE AND PLACE**

A 3-year Defra funded programme for farmers and land managers in Protected Landscapes (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks) in England has been launched.

Here in the Shropshire Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), over £700,000 is available to distribute this financial year to projects linked to farming that can demonstrate benefits to climate, nature, people and place.

The Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership is supporting farmers and land managers to apply for grants to carry out projects that support nature recovery, mitigate the impacts of climate change, provide opportunities for people to discover, enjoy and understand the landscape and cultural heritage, or support nature-friendly, sustainable farm businesses.

The programme is open to farmers, land managers and landowners (including from the private, public and charity sector) with land within the Shropshire Hills AONB.

Farmers and land managers are encouraged to look at project opportunities on their holdings and to get in touch with the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership to discuss them.

Farming in Protected Landscapes Adviser, Alison Jones, is able to offer advice, help with the development of projects and guide individuals through the application process. Please email Alison with an outline of your project ideas alison.m.jones@shropshire.gov.uk.

We are holding two webinars in August which will include a short presentation on the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme followed by a Questions & Answers session.

Tuesday 10th August, evening webinar for farmers/land managers (time tbc)

Tuesday 24th August, webinar for land agents/advisors (time tbc)

Please contact us to book onto the webinars by emailing shropshirehillsaonb@shropshire.gov.uk or telephone 01743 254740.

Further information is available on our website at

<https://www.shropshirehillsaonb.co.uk/help-to-look-after/farming-in-protected-landscapes>

OUR NEW COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, MARK DUFFEE

I have been co-opted onto the Clun Town Council with Chapel Lawn and will be representing all who live in the Redlake Valley. I have recently returned to this area to retire after living away for my working life. I came to live in Clun in 1959 and went to Clun CoE Primary School and Bishops Castle High School. I lived at Rockhill for several years and then in Bucknell until I finally moved away with my job. Whilst living in Bucknell I travelled to school with many from Chapel Lawn and the Redlake Valley.

My wife Janet Tudor was born in Clun, her parents being Eric and Greta Tudor who ran the bakers and store in Clun square. We married at Clun and whilst both working away regularly came home to visit the family.

Having lived most of our working life in East Anglia, we are so pleased to return to the hills and the rural environment in which we grew up.

We arrived in Pentre in Nov 2020 and were made very welcome by all in Pentre and Chapel Lawn. When I was made aware of vacancies on Clun Town Council, especially for Chapel Lawn I felt it would be helpful to give something back to help maintain and improve the quality of life for all in the Redlake Valley and the Parish of Clun.

Please contact me if you have anything that you would like me to bring to the notice of the council.

My contact details are:

Mark Duffee, Brook House
Pentre, Bucknell, SY7 0BU
Tel: 01547 520293
Email: duffeem@gmail.com

CHAPEL LAWN VILLAGE HALL

The COVID-19 pandemic and lockdowns have meant that the village hall has been closed and events organised

for the community in the village hall have had to be cancelled. However, looking positively to the future as lockdown ends, live events, films and other activities have been planned. Measures have been put in place to ensure the village hall is a COVID-19 safe venue. Everyone is expected to adhere to these measures. During the lockdowns, the opportunity has been taken to improve the village hall even further. Windows have been replaced, the village noticeboard renovated, carpark cleaned and the whole hall completely re-decorated and deep-cleaned.

Unfortunately, the pellet boiler has had a problem, so in the next few months it will be repaired. Also, the electric heaters have ceased to work so these will be repaired or replaced too.

The Village Hall Committee welcomes ideas for future activities and events and anyone resident in the area wishing to join the committee would be welcomed, so do get in touch (see below) and come along to the AGM on Thursday 16th September at 8pm. There will be a free glass of alcoholic/non-alcoholic drink.

The hall will also be open for hire in the future. No charge will be made for hall events that are advertised and open to all members of the local community.

Thank you to those who have supported the village hall over the years. We look forward to seeing you all at the events planned for the rest of the year.

*Di Cosgrove, Chair,
Village Hall Committee 01547530347*

CAN YOU HELP?

Now that Barry has hung up his boots, we are looking for people to help with delivering the Redlake.

The Redlake Valley covers quite a large area, and if you can help by delivering say 10 copies to your neighbours, this would help tremendously.

Mark & Karen Limbrick, & Jane Kent, deliver the majority of the copies, but there are areas that are too much of a stretch for them to cover. It would be a shame if some people didn't get a copy and didn't know what was happening in the Redlake valley.

If you can help, please contact Karen Limbrick, limbrick85@btinternet.com
Thank you.

Jeremy Jameson



'REDLAKE VALLEY THEN AND NOW' – MINI FESTIVAL FROM THURS 7 TO SUN 10 OCTOBER

With generous financial support from Clun Town Council, St Mary's Church, Chapel Lawn and the Redlake Valley Community Benefit Society are jointly planning an event to run from 7th to 10th October to celebrate life in and around Chapel Lawn. The programme will consist of a mixture of exhibits, displays, demonstrations, sale of work by the Redlake Artists, and talks in the village hall and church, culminating in an afternoon of music and song on the Sunday afternoon. More than just a fundraising event (subject to Covid, of course, for which there are contingency plans), this will be an opportunity for people to reconnect after a difficult 18 months, to have some fun, to show off where we live, and for new arrivals to meet their neighbours. We hope that visitors from further afield will want to come along. Planning will be finalised during the summer, after which posters be widely distributed and notices placed on Facebook, but so far this is what is planned:

In the Village Hall and the car park: Exhibition of old photos of life in the Redlake Valley (do you have any you could contribute?)

Displays of 50 years of Chapel Lawn WI, old maps, old farm receipts, past industry and 'mystery objects'

Sale of work by the Redlake Artists

Demonstrations of wooden spoon making, green-wood chair making, stained glass work, clog-making, bee-keeping and basket weaving,

Extracts from the parish magazines 1889 onwards

Apple-pressing

In the Church

Treasure-hunt for children

Display of wedding dresses and memorabilia from past weddings at St Mary's. Do you have any wedding invitations, order of service, photographs or reports of the wedding from the local papers? Photos of the cake, or mementoes representing "something old something new, something borrowed, something blue". Are there any stories you have to tell about the day? How did the bride get to the church? Who made the cake, the bouquet, where did the flowers come from?

We need help with floral arrangements and arranging the exhibits, if you have not already been in touch to offer help or items for display, please contact Christine Oakley (01547 530585) or Janet Tudor (01547 520293)

Flower festival continued from the previous week's Harvest Festival

An Afternoon of Music and Song, featuring local singers and musicians on Sunday 10th. Would you be able to help with providing/serving light refreshments for this event? Please contact Christine Oakley, Janet Tudor (as above).

Talks (also in the church)

Recollections of Chapel Lawn School (if sufficient former pupils can be found)

Farming then, now and in the future (Nick Read, Agricultural Chaplain)

Field-Names of the Redlake Valley (University of Nottingham)

Wildlife of the valley and natural flood control measures- Environment Agency Biodiversity in Brineddin Wood (Dr Anthony Morgan).

Also

Foraging walk with hedge-laying demonstration by Rob Rowe and Michael Bright (On Friday 8th)

'Mechanical Morning' (on Sunday 10th in the car park) – bring your old car, tractor, bicycle, motor-bike or any other interesting piece of machinery. Have a cup of coffee and chat with like-minded people. This will include a display of horse brasses.

Finally

Watch this space for posters with how to book, but if you can help in any way, e.g., with publicity, serving teas, car

park marshalling etc, do please get in touch.

Bob James (Chairman) 01547 530395
claudia@bryncambric.plus.com

Patrick Cosgrove (Secretary) 01547 530347 pccosgrove@icloud.com

Christine Oakley, 01546 530585
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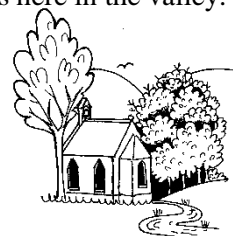
RECYCLE RESCUE

For those of us who wish to minimize our impact on the environment by ensuring that whatever plastic packaging passing through our homes is a) kept to a minimum and b) properly recycled, is that not only is the recycling of plastic film difficult, but even when possible, is extremely complicated, until now. Mid-Counties Coop to the rescue! In the near future, the Coop at Knighton will have a place where all types of unsorted plastic film can be deposited: 'normal' plastic bags, crinkly plastic, the clear film that covers micro-wave meals, pet-food pouches, crisp packets etc, etc. Even Mars Bar wrappers and the little silver seals from milk cartons. This isn't a first, because Tesco piloted this in eight stores two years ago and is gradually extending the process across the country; but that's no good if you don't shop at Tesco, and anyway their nearest store that does it at present is in Hereford. So, get ready for 'P-Day'. Find a large plastic bag and start stuffing it full of all the plastic film that you usually chuck in the bin. Not only will you immediately feel virtuous, but you'll marvel at the amount that accumulates, which may help you avoid it in the first place whenever possible.

Patrick Cosgrove

WELCOME TO CHAPEL LAWN

We would like to welcome Alison Evans & Tony Dunning, Charlotte and Louis, who moved into Holly Lodge in July. We wish you many years of happiness here in the valley.



WILDLIFE IN THE GARDEN

As gardeners we are becoming increasingly aware of the need to garden more sustainably. With the overwhelming threat of climate change there comes an ever-increasing appreciation of the impact that our gardens, and the way we garden, can impact on the natural world, whether using peat-free compost, growing plants that are attractive to pollinators or supporting and encouraging wildlife. When we moved to English Cottage we were delighted to discover a reasonably-sized pond towards the bottom of the garden. Like most of the garden it was not in the best of health. An overhanging conifer tree, an evergreen shrub and a monstrous laurel covered large parts of the surface area. The pond had been cut into the slope and unfortunately one end had collapsed, lowering the level of the water. The plants formed a dense, impenetrable mat of roots to the extent that there was little water remaining.

Two winters ago, we decided it was time to tackle the pond. We set about cutting back the overhanging shrubs, emptying the pond of vegetation and then rebuilding the collapsed side making it sturdy enough to support the weight of water. The time then came to refill the pond and with hosepipes connected to water butts the process began. However, to our dismay we discovered that the liner was split. Disaster. What followed was the laborious task of replacing the liner. This task was completed and then the rains came. The pond was refilled with no effort at all and during early spring we restocked with aquatic plants.

The pond very quickly came to life. During the spring and summer it gave great joy to sit under tree and observe the newts, tadpoles, pond skaters, water boatmen, nymphs and the beautiful dragonflies which had all very quickly moved in. We also discovered another creature that we had never seen before - great diving beetles, which are true to their name as the rise to the surface for air and dive back down again to the lower depths.

That year there were very few tadpoles. We counted less than one hundred. Perhaps there had been more and their population had suffered by providing meals for the other residents. However,

this year there has been substantially more, and we now gaze down at a black, wriggling mass of life.

Nevertheless, for those of us who like to grow plants not all creatures are welcome and some of them get the label of *pests*. One such unwelcomed visitor to the garden is the dreaded slug and wherever we have lived before they have caused us problems. However, we have found that the resident wildlife in the garden such as slow worms, frogs, newts, hedgehogs and visiting pheasants mean that slugs just haven't been a problem here. We can happily grow hostas without fear that they will be devoured by those slimy gastropods. Being environmentally friendly and encouraging wildlife can benefit us in so many ways.

Steve Packer

CHAPEL LAWN BBQ 14 AUG



Booking essential, by 9th Aug, please.
christine@techsyst.co.uk 01547530258

TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC

Friday 27th August at 2 o'clock, meet outside the church. St Mary's welcome children, parents, carers & Nan's for a picnic & a paddle.

Please bring a teddy bear/toy & a plate of finger food to share. We will provide drinks.

Contact Chris or Karen (see below)

RAMBLE & LUNCH

SUNDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

We are counting on your support to bring everyone together again, we would be grateful for offers of salads, puds etc. & help on the day.

A delicious home prepared buffet lunch will be served from 12-2pm & will be

available for all visitors whether you wish to meet with friends or join one of the walks.

Walks start at 10-30am

Tickets £8 Children over 5 £4

Contact Chris Oakley 01547530585

Karen Limbrick 01547530002

A MEXICAN FOOD NIGHT

'EL HUEVO ULTIMO'

Mexican Food at the Redlake Valley Village Hall.

Thursday 30th September, 7pm

Burritos, Nachos & Oaxacan Mole

Suggested donations £6-7/dish

Please contact Faith Limbrick for

booking. faith@faithlimbrick.co.uk

ARTS ALIVE

'TWISTED TALES 2'

SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER 8PM

Adults £12 Booking essential. Contact Marion on 07964 710983

'Owdyado Theatre return with three more surprising stories of the macabre and mysterious... 'Deep in space the crew of the Fortuna are searching for extra-terrestrial life but the ship is malfunctioning, a strange infection is spreading through the crew and time is running out'... Inspired by cult series *The Twilight Zone* and *Inside No.9*. This a series of dark comedies. Get ready for an anarchic night of hilariously dark theatre! Suitable 14+

DIARY

Every Wed Art Class in the village hall 10-12am

Tues 10 Aug 7pm WI

Sat 14 Aug 1pm Village BBQ

Friday 27 August Teddy Bear's Picnic 2pm, Church



Sun 12 Sept Ramble and Lunch, walks 10.30am, lunch from 12-2pm

Tues 14 Sept 7pm WI

Thurs 16 Sept 8pm Village Hall AGM

Sat 25 Sept Quiz Night TBC

Thurs 30 Sept 7pm Mexican Food

Fri 1 Oct Harvest Supper

Thurs 7- Sun 11 Oct Redlake Valley Then and Now

Tues 12 Oct 7pm WI

Sat 16 Oct Twisted Tales – An Arts Alive Live Comedy Show