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FREE

# CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

JULY 2016



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## A word from the Editor...

### *Hello there...*

I hope everyone is enjoying the British summer!! The slugs in my garden certainly seem to be having fun. Fingers crossed the sun will be making a late, but very welcome, entrance soon.

In this month's Spotlight you'll find all your favourite regulars to read plus some really useful articles. We've got tax advice, First Aid tips and how to spot if an elderly neighbour has dementia and needs help. Plus of course we have our round-up of things to see and do in our diary page.



The Spotlight team will be taking a well-earned break in August, so we look forward to seeing you back here again in September. Until then – ***have a very happy summer.***

**PS: The next copy deadline is 20th August  
for the September issue**



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COPY DEADLINE

**20th of the month**

Don't forget you can now read Spotlight online at  
**[www.clophillspotlight.co.uk](http://www.clophillspotlight.co.uk)**



# Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July

**Clophill Village Hall 12noon-4pm**

**Stalls selling local produce**

## The best of Bedfordshire



**Entrance & parking FREE**

**Refreshments**

**Proceeds in aid  
of St Mary's Church**

**For more information contact Christine Fellini 01525 861912**

# News from Clophill Heritage Trust



June was a very busy month for the Eco Lodges. On the 18th we had our first **Midsummer Festival**, which featured an amazing sell out performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream by The English Gardner Theatre Company. The day also featured music from Bite the Bullet – a fantastic band that kept the crowds entertained with many favourite songs – and stalls featuring jewellery-making, willow weaving, plants, local honey, face painting and cakes. And keeping everyone going was a BBQ and Ampthill

Brewhouse's Old Church Ale. We'd like to thank all of our volunteers who made the event not only possible but a success – and a big thank you to everyone who came along to enjoy the fun!



On the 23rd a group of **HNC Construction Students from Bedford College** celebrated completing their course by visiting the Church and Eco Lodges. This was a very fitting visit as the students had been undertaking a module that included developing and renovating

a rural site taking sustainability into account. Following a talk on the construction of the site the students (and tutors) enjoyed a tower tour and walk around the church.

We have many **exciting events happening over the next few months** including Art and Wine days – spaces are limited so please call 07935 911207 to book. For more information, go to <http://clophillecolodges.org.uk/2016-events-calendar>

Want to become a volunteer? Contact: Kayleigh Waight (**07889 980872**), Ali Bradbury (**07894 710001**), John Wright (**07860 839845**) or Barry Breed (**01525 860834**).

Visit us at [www.ClophillEcoLodges.org.uk](http://www.ClophillEcoLodges.org.uk)  
or make a booking at [info@ClophilHeritage.org](mailto:info@ClophilHeritage.org) We're also now on Facebook



# **Wine, Women & Song**

**Caritas Harmony are delighted to be  
singing again at The Hitchin Festival on  
Saturday 23 July 2016 at 7.30pm.**

**Compered by Martha Ross.**

**St Mary's Church, Churchyard, Hitchin SG5 1HP**

**Tickets £8 (under 12s free)**

**Tickets are available from Hitchin Festival Box Office  
27 Churchyard, Hitchin. Tel: 01462 453335  
or from**

**Jackie Howe : 01582 599520**

**Or go online at:**

**'GET TICKETS' [www.caritasharmony.co.uk](http://www.caritasharmony.co.uk).**

**In Aid of Macmillan Cancer Support**





# Dementia Tell-tale signs and actions

CLOPHILL COMMUNITY CARE

*The following observations are based on the experience of one of our volunteers. No-one in Clophill Community Care is an expert in this area, but we hope you may find this useful.*

If you have an elderly neighbour, who lives alone and perhaps doesn't often see their family, you might be able to spot some tell-tale signs of the onset of dementia. **These could include:**

- Withdrawal from normal contact or friends no longer visiting
- Erratic behaviour, especially driving
- Neglect of home and garden
- Self-neglect, eg weight loss and/or unkempt appearance
- Frequent loss of items such as a purse or house keys
- Unwillingness to accept that there may be a problem.



**If you suspect that something may be amiss here are some actions you can take:**

- Try to get the person to go to see their doctor, offer to take them if necessary;
- If this fails contact Social Services and the person's doctor, if known, and insist on their coming to assess the situation. **DO NOT** take "no" for an answer. The words "vulnerable" and "safety issues" are good triggers;
- Be a good neighbour by keeping a weather eye open for opportunities to help;
- If a carer becomes necessary and the person has sufficient funds, look around for the best provider. The local authority is constrained by available funding.
- Age UK is a very good resource and has some very useful free information booklets and professional advice;
- At this point the person may be entitled to an attendance allowance & may need help in applying for it;
- At some point, if the person has not already set up Lasting Power of Attorney, it will be necessary for a Deputy to be appointed by the Court of Protection to look after their financial affairs. This is a lengthy and cumbersome process, but if a relative or neighbour doesn't take it on the Local Authority will appoint a solicitor, which will seriously deplete their funds;
- If you become the Deputy and it becomes necessary to look for a Care Home, look around for the best the person can afford and make sure you know their rights. You may be told many conflicting things by individuals in Social Services and the Local Authority about issues such as the 12 Week Disregard, top-up fees and the Attendance Allowance. Central Beds has a booklet which gives the information you need.



## Thank you from Christian Aid

On behalf of Christian Aid, I'd like to say thank you so much for your generosity in **raising £1,102.82** from the recent house-to-house collection. It's another wonderful amount, but so characteristic of you Clophill folk. I also want to thank the brilliant 'team' who delivered the envelopes then went back to collect them – giving residents an opportunity to put cash or a cheque in them, and so making that second journey worthwhile. **Thank you all very much indeed.**

As I wrote in the March edition of Spotlight, I've now relinquished my role as coordinator for the collection – but I'd love to hear from anybody who'd like to take it over. If nobody comes forward, perhaps next year there might have to be just one fund-raising event – it won't raise anywhere near as much as the house to house collection but will still help a few in the poorest and most vulnerable communities who share our world. If you do feel that you could be the new co-ordinator, please get in touch on **860497**. You'll get great support from the charity and from me. **Thank you. Julie Benson**

**Christine's quick 'n' easy recipe**

# *Pesto Dinner Rolls*



**INGREDIENTS** Makes 12 small dinner rolls

## **For the rolls**

- 250g strong white flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp sugar
- 3.5g dried yeast
- 7g extra virgin olive oil
- 150ml warm water

## **For the pesto**

- 5 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 clove of garlic (cut into pieces)
- 1 tbsp freshly grated parmesan cheese
- 1 tbsp pine nuts
- small bunch of fresh basil
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

1. Put the flour, sugar, salt and dried yeast into a clean dry bowl.
2. Add in the olive oil and the warm water and mix well.
3. Once the dough starts to come together turn out onto a floured work surface.
4. Knead the dough until it becomes smooth and elastic.
5. Place in a clean oiled bowl and cover with a clean cloth or clingfilm.
6. Set aside in a warm place until the dough has at least doubled in size – approx 1 hour.
7. Pre-heat the oven to 190°.
8. Whilst the dough is rising prepare the pesto by putting the oil, parmesan, garlic, pine nuts, basil leaves and seasoning into a blender.
9. Blend until you have a smooth sauce.
10. Turn the risen dough out onto a floured surface and punch back to its original size – knead until smooth.
11. Divide the risen dough into 12 pieces.
12. Roll out each of these pieces out until you have a long strip.
13. Brush each strip with the pesto and roll up.
14. Place in pre-greased ramekin dishes or mini flower pots.
15. Bake in the oven until well risen and golden brown – about 30 minutes.
16. Cool on a rack before serving.





# Getting to grips with your tax

Has your financial position changed in the past year? Have you retired, sold an asset or started a new venture? Are you aware that you may need to let HMRC know that you need to complete a tax return?

***Do any of the following apply to you since 6 April 2015...***

- started to rent out a property
- sold a property that isn't your main home
- started a new business, even part-time around another job
- earn more than £50,000 and myself or my partner receive child benefit
- in receipt of dividend income and am a higher rate tax payer
- became a company director

If any of these are relevant for the year ended 5 April 2016, they fall into the 2015/16 tax year, and you have until 5 October 2016 to notify HMRC that you need to complete a tax return. This 2015/16 tax return should be with HMRC by 31 October 2016 if you choose to file a paper tax return or it can be electronically filed by 31 January 2017.

If you owe tax for 2015/16, then this should be paid by 31 January 2017. If your tax liability under self-assessment is more than £1,000 you may have to make payments on account of tax for 2016/17.

## **Are you a higher rate tax payer or do you pay into a personal pension scheme out of your taxed income?**

If so, are you claiming back the tax relief on your contributions? Some taxpayers assume they'll receive higher rate tax relief automatically. However, this isn't the case, and the onus is on the tax-payer to claim the tax relief and what HMRC owes you.



A higher rate tax payer contributing £2,000 per year into a personal pension scheme can claim tax relief on this contribution at 20%, which is £400. If you don't claim it, you'll lose it. At present you can go back and claim tax relief for the past four tax years (up to and including the tax year ended 5 April 2013).

And did you know that higher rate tax payers can also receive tax relief on donations to charity under Gift Aid? Again the relief due is 20% of what you've given to charity over the tax year.

All tax payers can claim tax relief for subscriptions paid to professional bodies if your employer doesn't reimburse you for this expense. Search for a form P87 on the HMRC website. <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs>

**Need help with your tax. For a FREE initial consultation contact me on 01525 552250 or [julia@savageaccountants.co.uk](mailto:julia@savageaccountants.co.uk)**



# St Mary's School News



## Looking back at June...

Amazingly, in between showers, last month we managed to celebrate the Queen's birthday with an Afternoon Tea Party for the children. The day began with the children learning about the royal family and creating lots of queen and royal-themed artwork. In the afternoon we had a special worship in our spiritual garden where the children heard stories

from people who've met the Queen and we celebrated her long reign over our country. It was then time for our tea party. The children ate cheese and crackers, fruit kebabs that they made themselves and homemade, beautifully decorated cupcakes, which were donated by the parents and displayed very patriotically on Union Jack cake stands.

Also during June, our current Reception Class children, together with the Nursery children who are due to join Reception in September, visited Woburn Safari Park. A lovely day was had by all and it was a great trip to end their term with.



As always FOSM were busy and not only arranged two discos – one for Nursery and Reception children in school and another at the Village Hall for the older children – but also co-ordinated a 'Father's Day' gift project, which involved the children making their own surprise gifts in school for their Dad or specially chosen person at a very low cost. It took a great deal of organisation by FOSM – so well done and thank you!

The whole of Year 4 visited Bloomfield on 22nd June as they were invited to watch their performance of 'Beauty and the Beast' – it was a good opportunity to acquaint themselves with their new school.

Meanwhile, the biggest event for Year 4 was their Caythorpe PGL trip at the end of the month – a three-day event when the children had the opportunity to participate in activities such as Zip Wire, Aero ball, Trapeze, Raft Building and High Ropes. It's the event the children look forward to as their ultimate St Mary's experience and they had a simply fantastic time.

## July in school

By the time readers receive this edition of Spotlight our final month this year in school will be well under way. We had our ever-popular Sports Day on the 5th, which is always a good opportunity for any new children joining us in September to attend and get a flavour of our school. Two days later, the Year 4 children were able to meet some of their new classmates when they attended the annual Picnic at Gravenhurst Lower School. It was a good chance to start the process of getting used to lots of the new children who they'll be sharing their middle school years with as from September.

Our new intake for Reception class came into school on the 8th. And on the same day our current Year 4 children spent the day at Robert Bloomfield Middle School or other middle school of choice whilst the rest of the school spent the morning in the classroom they'll be in once they come back from the summer holidays in September. A very busy day!

Finally on the 21st and 22nd we have our 'Goodbye Year 4' rituals. On the Thursday there'll be a church service at 9.15am, led by Rev Henley, at which the children will be presented with their 'leavers' bibles. Parents are welcome to attend. This will be followed at 10.15am at the school with the Caythorpe Court Celebration event for Year 4 parents and their children. Then on Friday in school the children will have the opportunity to share their favourite memories of their time at St Mary's with their parents, other children in the school and the staff.

### **Free school meals – important information for September**

As you're probably aware Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are all entitled to a free hot lunch. However if your family fulfils the criteria to receive other benefits you may be eligible for free or reduced cost school clubs and trips. To find out, you can contact Central Bedfordshire on 0300 300 8306 – it's a very easy process, just have your National Insurance number handy plus details of any benefits you receive.

### **Website address**

Don't forget to check out our shiny new website which is packed with is packed with useful information for parents and potential parents. [www.clophillstmaryschool.co.uk](http://www.clophillstmaryschool.co.uk)

## **Our value for July is *Faith***

As members of a Church of England school, faith is central to our lives. We think about our own Christian faith and the faith of people from other major religions and why faith is important. We choose to look at faith at this particular time as all the children are moving on to new challenges. We're encouraging them to think about how faith will help them to use the knowledge and wisdom they've developed through learning about values at St Mary's, in order to give them the strength they need at this time.

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## **Acorn Nursery News**

What a fantastic start to our new theme of '**Splish, Splash, Splosh**', looking at animals under the sea and now talking about the seaside. Many children are recalling past experiences about holidays and chatting about where they're going this year. The older children have enjoyed a day at Woburn Safari Park – they all behaved really well and enthusiastically told their parents and peers which animals they saw and which they liked the most. We also had a picnic in the park, and many children attended a disco arranged by Friends of St Mary's. Great fun was had by all – so thank you to them and our parent helpers who came along.



As well as all the fun this term, it's also a sad time as **we say goodbye** to several children who are moving up to Reception – Jodie, Anna, Archie, Nathan, Thea, Bethany, Cooper W, Cooper G, Luke, Danny, Joshua, Charlie, Freya, Eva, Phoebe and Matteo. We hope they've enjoyed their time with us wish them well, whether they're staying at St Mary's or moving on to another school.

*St Mary's Church, Clophill*

# *90 Glorious Years*

*Celebrating the life of HM the Queen*

## *A Celebration in Flowers*

*by*

*Clophill and District Flower Club*

*Celebrating 40 years of friendship and flowers*

*Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September 10am-5pm*

*Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September noon-5pm*

*Lunches and teas served*

*Entry £3 accompanied children free*



We're hoping that all the exhibits will be sponsored. It's an opportunity to support your parish church, whether as an individual or a business. Proceeds in aid of St Mary's Church and Childhood Leukaemia, the charity that the Club is supporting in 2016

*Further details phone Gillian 01525 860539 or Carolyn 01462 815433*

# Clophill Preschool News

**Hi everyone!** Well, what a busy year it's been for Clophill Preschool. We're near the end of term with over 40 children on roll and more booked to visit us in September. We say a big hello to Claire and Kirsty, our new 1:1 support workers doing a great job for our children with additional needs. We also say a big thank you and sort of goodbye to Jenny, who's been with us for over a year.

Jenny is moving back to her original role as a children's nanny but has kindly agreed to stay on as bank staff for us, which will give great continuity to our children.

And more changes – you know how we like to develop our setting! Our **new mud pit** is now in place. Many thanks to James's grandad for constructing it for us, and to Chris's boys for digging it in place. We've fitted it with a deep plastic bottom so that all soil that we've added, though full of worms and little creatures, is free from



anything dangerous or harmful, and the lockable lid ensures the local cats can't use it! The children have loved it. Wellies are donned and in they go – digging, exploring, mixing, searching and chatting.

We have more than six schools that our children feed into for their Reception year and we've been forging great relationships with them all. The class teachers have been coming to visit their prospective children in setting and we've been sharing information to help **ease their transition** at this exciting, but sometimes scary, time. We organised for Sophie Adams from Central Beds to talk with parents about getting their children ready for the move to school. We've been to the schools and asked for examples of uniform which has given the children the chance to see what they'll be wearing as well as try them on – often resulting in lovely roleplay.



The children have also met our **Worry Monster** to whom we write notes about any concerns or worries we have, or just questions they want answered. These notes get posted in his mouth and overnight he writes little notes back answering their questions and hopefully putting worries to rest.

For July's Messy Play session at Toddlers we had a bit of a twist by setting up as Preschool to give all the children and their families a chance to see what Preschool offers the children of our village and beyond.

Meanwhile our term has been great fun as we've built dens, hatched chicks from eggs in the incubator and held mini discos in our new gazebo. Nell also very kindly came up to make willow crowns with the children which they loved – thanks Nell. And still to look forward to we have our Sports Day on Wednesday 13th July, our Leaver's Party on Wednesday 20th and our end of term trip on Thursday 21st.

If you didn't get a chance to see us at Toddlers then just pop up to the Village Hall Monday to Thursday or give us a call. We hope you have a great summer and see you all back in the new school year.

**Many thanks, Imogen Chris and the team.**

• If you'd like to know more about what we offer get in touch with Imogen on 07765 887868 or Chris on 07936 006381 or visit <http://www.clophillpreschool.co.uk>

# Summer first aid tips

Children like to play in the sun, but are you prepared for medical emergencies? Paediatric First Aid trainer Danielle Bridge from ABC Life Support gives some tips...



**Insect stings:** If your child is stung by a bee or wasp, don't grab a pair of tweezers to get it out – you'll end up squeezing the bulb sting, which will release more poison into the skin. Instead use a credit card or your finger nail, if it's nice and long, to scrape away the sting. Afterwards, leave a cold compress on the skin for about 10 minutes. You'll also need to monitor your child to ensure there's no allergic reaction. If you do notice swelling or a patchy rash, or if they're vomiting or having breathing problems, call an ambulance straight away.

**Heat exhaustion:** Signs of heat exhaustion to look out for include dizziness, headache, confusion, nausea, loss of appetite, sweating and pale, clammy skin. If your child has any of these, get them to a cool place and give them lots of water and then a weak salt solution of 1 tsp salt per litre of water. If they still seem unwell after half an hour, seek medical help.

**Heat stroke:** This is more serious than heat exhaustion so call the Emergency Services immediately if your child has a severe headache, is restless and confused and has flushed, hot, dry skin. While you're waiting for the ambulance, use a cold flannel to sponge them down while fanning them. If you have a sheet, wet it with cold water and wrap your child in it. Repeat this until their temperature goes back to normal (37 degrees) then wrap them in a dry sheet.

**Burns:** If your child has got too close to the BBQ and suffered a burn, you need to put the injured part under cold running water immediately. Most people only do this for a couple of minutes but you need to keep going for 10 minutes – it will stop the burning process and eliminate pain.

• **ABC Life Support** [www.abclifesupport.co.uk](http://www.abclifesupport.co.uk)  
For more information call **0800 0467 410**  
or email [info@abclifesupport.co.uk](mailto:info@abclifesupport.co.uk)

ABC / life support

## A Health Evening

*at St Nicholas Church Hall, Church Road, Barton*

**Wednesday 14 September, 7.30pm-9.30pm**

*All are cordially invited to meet our doctors and visiting health and Social Services professionals to hear about and discuss GP services, health, welfare and caring issues.*

**BARGOOSE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP**  
(Dr Simon P Hughes and Partners)





# Clophill & District Flower Club



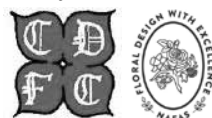
In June our demonstration was entertaining, inspirational and a little unusual! Demonstrator Kate Thomas, a florist from Funky Flowers in Wokingham, gave us an insight into the work of a florist as well as a **floral art designer**. Her designs were all very different in style – from traditional to contemporary, and influenced by some of the European designers she's worked with.

Kate used lots of exotic and unusual blooms, including anthiriums, huge lilies and peonies. She created six designs on a theme of 'Hidden Gems'. Her first arrangement depicted the gems in the garden, in a large bark-covered container with lots of country garden-type flowers. For her next design with carnations and roses, she used a hand-tied bouquet as the framework. Another floral arrangement was created on a chandelier structure with wire, beads and other decorations, to which Kate added lisianthus and small roses. We were also treated to a large traditional pedestal full of summer flowers.

We had a large audience who were fascinated by Kate's work. Our club now has 86 members from a wide area and it's good to be able to show them some interesting demonstrators. Two of our members had been busy: Jean Tipping represented the club at the Herts Show with a large exhibit depicting Capability Brown's gardens; and our chairman Carolyn Cranswick had the honour of arranging flowers at the High Altar in Westminster Abbey for a royal service in May.

It's a special year for Clophill & District Flower Club as we celebrate our 40th anniversary. Next month, for members only, we have a dinner and demonstration 'Ruby Thursday'. Then in September we're staging a Flower Festival at St Mary's Church. This will celebrate not only our anniversary but also '90 Glorious Years' of Her Majesty the Queen, and will showcase our club's talented arrangers.

*Carolyn Cranswick, Chairman of Clophill & District Flower Club*



**WARDEN ABBEY**  
*The community vineyard*

## Open Day and Wine Sale

**Sunday 11th September, 11am-4pm**

*To celebrate 30 years of Warden Abbey Vineyard, this is a rare opportunity to visit both the vineyard and the historic Warden Abbey building which is being thrown open by the Landmark Trust. Find out the story of the Medieval vineyard and abbey, why and how the monks made wine and how we care for the vines all year round.*

**Tours • Wine tasting • Local food • Stalls • BBQ • Refreshments**

Entrance – adults £2, children free

For more information and directions go to **[www.wardenvineyard.org.uk](http://www.wardenvineyard.org.uk)** or phone **07981 113714**. Please note, may not be suitable for those with limited mobility.

# What's on in and around Clophill

JULY



**Sunday 17th**

**Food and Wine Fair** Clophill Village Hall, noon-4pm. Free entrance.



**Saturday 23rd**

**Caritas Harmony Concert** St Mary's Church, Hitchin. 7.30pm.

*See this issue for full details and booking info.*

SEPTEMBER



**Sunday 11th**

**Free entry to Ailesbury Mausoleum & Crypt** 3-5pm. Refreshments available in St Mary's Church, Church Road, Maulden.



**Sunday 11th**

**Gardening & Craft Show** 2pm, Silsoe Village Hall. *See this issue for full details.*



**Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th**

**A Celebration in Flowers** A floral tribute to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. *See this issue for full details.*

## On throughout the month...

### Wednesdays...

- **'Tea and Chat'** 10.30am-noon, Clophill Methodist Church Schoolroom
- **Zumba Toning** 8pm-9pm, Clophill Village Hall

### Fridays...

- **Clophill Toddler Group** Clophill Village Hall, 10am-noon. See 'Village Groups' for contact details

### One Saturday a month...

- **Messy Church** 4pm-6pm, Clophill Methodist Church, 17 September; 15 October; 19 November; 17 December. All-age craft activities, worship and a meal for all the family. No fixed charge, donations welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. See 'Village Groups' for contact details. *Please note: the July 16th session has been cancelled due to the closure of the church during roof repairs.*

If you have any diary dates that you would like included on this page, please email [clophillspotlight1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:clophillspotlight1@hotmail.co.uk)



Bedfordshire  
Cambridgeshire  
Northamptonshire

## Wildlife walks & talks



### Family Bug Hunt

**Wednesday 10th August, Cooper's Hill, Ampthill**

**Sessions at 10am-11.30 am; 11.30am-1pm; 1.30pm-3pm**

Come and see what 'bugs' there are to discover at Cooper's Hill reserve – one of the last remaining open heathlands in Bedfordshire, famed for its Green Tiger beetles.

£1 per child. Children must be accompanied by a guardian or parent.

Please reserve places on one of the three sessions by contacting [flitvale.info@gmail.com](mailto:flitvale.info@gmail.com) or ring **Ann** on **07890 347327** between 6pm and 8pm or at weekends

**Flit Vale Local Group** [www.flitvale.org.uk](http://www.flitvale.org.uk)

# Clophill Parish Council

## Notes from the Parish Council meeting held on 28th June

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### Clophill in the summer

Clophill is a fantastic place to live all year round, but in the summer it's particularly delightful. Just recently we've been able to enjoy a number of local events including the Eco Lodge's Midsummer Party, Clophill Open Gardens – raising money for St Mary's Church – and Clophill St Mary's Football Club Tournament which saw over 200 local youngsters playing the beautiful game on our rec.

This month there's been a meeting for the new, invigorated Clophill Neighbourhood Watch already, and on Sunday 17th July there's a Food Fair at the Village Hall from 12-4pm, raising money for St Mary's Church. **These summertime events help to create such a positive community atmosphere** in the village, which in turn helps us as a council to understand who we're representing and how best to do so. If you're involved in setting up events or activities in the village, please do contact us and we'll be delighted to support and promote where required.

### Public consultation on Library Service

Our colleagues at Central Bedfordshire council have asked us to make villagers aware that there's a public consultation taking place about the local library service. The Library Service is required to meet an efficiencies target, identified in the council's Medium Term Financial Plan, of £85,000 from 1 April 2017. Overall, the Library Service will be reducing opening hours by 30 hours a week.

As part of the proposed changes the Library Service is also trying to find ways of opening libraries to communities outside normal opening hours so as to make the best use of the buildings. This includes evenings and weekends. Buildings could be used for activities such as health advice sessions, local meetings or adult education. This is part of the council's objectives in the Five Year Plan to foster self-sustaining communities and support people to help themselves and others.

To take part in the consultation, or for more information, click online at [goo.gl/EkaAnR](http://goo.gl/EkaAnR)

### Local bus service

The Parish Council has responded to the Central Bedfordshire Council consultation (which is open until 12th July) to changes on bus services in the area (see [goo.gl/b42sVI](http://goo.gl/b42sVI)).

We were advised that this also included a ban of concessionary passes before 9.30am. Flittabus, a bus service that passes through the village, have told us that such a ban would have a devastating effect on their business as eight of their 11 routes start before 9.30am and the major source of operating income is from concessionary fares. We know Flittabus is valued highly by our residents, and so we've asked CBC if they can ensure that this restriction isn't imposed on this valuable community service.

### Play space at the Rec

Since being elected last May Cllr Lousie Hodge has been working hard to develop the play space on the Recreation ground. We've now placed an order for new play equipment which will be installed in July in time for the school holidays. The new equipment comprises of a large multi-activity climbing frame, replacement swings for juniors, swing set and a basket

# Clophill Parish Council

Continued

swing. The Rec ground will have areas fenced off during installation, which will last around two weeks, but the ramps, MUGA and current frame will remain available.

Further consultation is taking place with suppliers to specify extra equipment to compliment the new climbing frame; along with a budget that will be used as a fund-raising target. Louise is also looking at outdoor gym equipment to improve our open spaces for adults. If you have any comments on play equipment or outdoor gym equipment please email [louisehodgeclophillpc@gmail.com](mailto:louisehodgeclophillpc@gmail.com)

## Grass verges

We've had correspondence from many people in the village about the overgrown grass verges on the main roads surrounding the village. CPC Councilor and CBC Ward Councilor Paul Downing has been investigating this problem for us: 'Last week I spoke with CBC Councilor Budge Wells who leads on this issue. He reminded me that CBC had signed a contract with a Shefford-based firm in April 2016 for them to cut 50mph roads (so the A507) several times per year. Quite simply they haven't, and are using the 'rain' as an excuse. Cllr Wells knows that all CBC Councillors are disappointed with performance against the contract and your three Ward Councillors met with CBC Highways staff recently. We've been assured that action will be taken. I will find out what the schedule is for local cutting and let Clophill villagers know.'

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the village hall at 7.45pm on Tuesday 26th July with a surgery at 7.30pm

Silsoe & Waterslade Gardeners Club

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**Silsoe Village Hall**

**Sunday 11th September 2016**

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Fruits and Flowers

Fancy Cakes

Village Photographs

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<b>Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance</b>		999
<b>Water/Sewage</b> (Anglian Water)		0845 7145145
<b>Telephone</b>	(Customer Services) 150 (Faults)	151
<b>Highways Department</b> (Central Bedfordshire Council)		0300 3008049
<b>Benefits Agency</b> (Bedford office)		01234 361500
<b>Registrar's Office</b> (Births/deaths/marriages)		0300 3008089
<b>Rail</b> (Enquiries)		0845 7484950
<b>Buses</b> 01234 262151	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511	(Flittabus) 01582 406561
<b>Luton Airport</b>		01582 405100
<b>Swimming</b>	(Flitwick) 01525 717744	(Robinson Pool) 01234 212479

## LIBRARIES

	<b>Bedford</b>	01234 350931	<b>Ampthill</b>	01525 402278
	<b>Barton</b>	01582 881101	<b>Flitwick</b>	01525 715268

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT

<b>Central Beds Offices</b> (Chicksands)		0300 300 8000
<b>Mid-Beds MP</b>		Nadine Dorries 01462 811992
<b>Central Bedfordshire Councillors</b>		Michael Blair 01525 404513
	Paul Duckett 07988 184061	Paul Downing 0300 300 8541
<b>Clophill Parish Council</b>		Peter Clarke 01525 861179
	(Clerk) Mrs Lyn Lyman	01908 584159

## HOSPITALS

<b>Bedford</b> (North & South)	01234 355122	Admissions	01234 261150
		Appointments	01234 359012
<b>Luton &amp; Dunstable</b>			0845 1270127

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<b>Ampthill</b>	(Houghton Close) 01525 300898	(Oliver Street)	01525 631395
		(Greensands)	01525 631390
<b>Shefford</b>	Enquiries 01462 818620	Appointments	01462 810034
<b>Barton</b> 01582 528700		<b>Flitwick</b>	01525 715300

## POLICE

<b>County Police HQ</b>	Non Emergency	101
<b>Ampthill Station</b>		01234 841212
<b>Clophill Local Policing Team</b>		101
		01234 842613

## CHURCHES

<b>St Mary's Parish Church</b>	Liz Henman	01525 860108
<b>St Francis of Assisi Shefford</b>		01462 813436
<b>Clophill Methodist Church</b>	(Mr Jim Davies)	01525 860829

## SCHOOLS

<b>Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School &amp; Nursery</b> (Headteacher Mrs K Bingley)		01525 860206
<b>Harlington Upper School</b> , Harlington		01525 755100
<b>Preschool</b> clophillpreschool@gmail.com	(Chris) 07936 006381 or (Imogen)	07765 887868
<b>Redborne Upper School</b> , Ampthill		01525 404462
<b>Robert Bloomfield Middle School</b> , Shefford		01462 628800

# Village groups

Beverley Court	860920
Brownies	<a href="https://enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk">https://enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk</a>
Clophill Community Care	Duty Contact 07791 773705
Clophill Heritage Trust	Ali Bradbury 07894 710001
Clophill Parish Action	Ali Bradbury 07894 710001
Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School & Nursery	Sharon Kempson 860206
Clophill Toddler Group	Caroline Daniels 07734 495348
Clophill United Charities	Gillian Hill 860539
Conservation Group	Brian Adams 862297
Flower Club	Gillian Hill 860539
Friends of the Cheshire Home	Sue Pearson 861110
Funzone After School Club	07903 167493
Greensands Community Choir	Luke Howard 07975 520085
Indoor Carpet Bowls	Tony Meredith 860754
Messy Church	Victoria Higgins 07920 568861
	<a href="mailto:victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk">victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk</a>
St Mary's PTA	Julia Skelton 07774 993973
Scouts and Cubs	Ralph Rayner 403956
Tea and Chat	Anita Errick 860695
Tuesday Club	Betty Hampson 860750
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Marilyn Browning 07821 643936

## Parish Registers for July and August

**1816**

### Baptisms

August 18	Hannah/Harriet Stimson
August 25	Bartholomew (?) Bottoms

### Marriages

August 5	James Burroughs to Rhoda Bottoms
----------	----------------------------------

**1866**

### Marriages

July 1	James Manton, 33, to Eveline Lyas, 26
--------	---------------------------------------

### Burials

July 6	Laura Fennemore, infant
July 7	Thomas Bone, 64
July 30	Rhoda Gaylor, 4
August 6	Wallace (?), infant
August 23	Charlotte Peat, 46

**1916**

### Baptisms

July 9	Cyril Diggins (parents Charles & Daisy)
--------	---

### Marriages

July 11	Frederick John Durston Lance Corp, 23, to Lily Hill, 28
August 7	Harry Crisp, 54, widower, to Jane Rebecca Farr, 42 widow

**1966**

### Baptisms

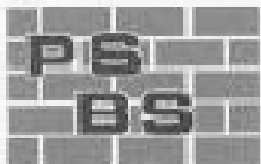
July 3	Lesley Ann Chisholm, Dunstable
July 10	Martin Stanley Reginald Collis
	Richard David Sheppard
July 24	Jane Elizabeth Tomlin
	Jeremy Paul Vickers

**No marriages or burials recorded**

### ST MARY'S CHURCH REGISTERS – Marriages

May 27	Amanda Jane Durrant to David Anderson
May 28	William (Will) James to Sophie Sheridan





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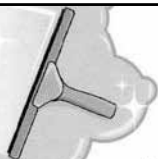
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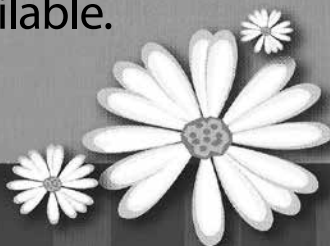
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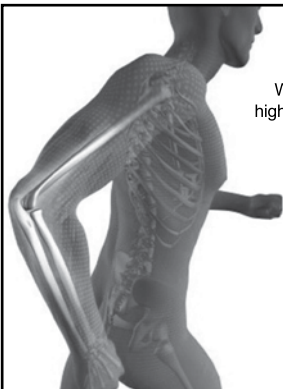
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