

# CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

JULY 2018



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## A word from the Editor...

# Hello...

Barbeques. Ice creams. Paddling pools. No school. Lazing in the garden. Dipping your toes in the sand. Swimming in the sea. Oh yes – summer is finally here!!

Whatever you're doing over the summer months, enjoy it. And while you're at it, enjoy this issue of Spotlight because we're also taking a break. But we couldn't go without bringing you another jam-packed issue full of news, features and events from in and around Clophill. Don't forget to keep it close at hand – you never know when you might need one of our advertisers!



That's it – we're out of here until September.

***Have a fun summer. X***

*PS: The next copy deadline for articles and advertising is August 20th.*



## The magazine staff

EDITOR/ADVERTISING MANAGER	Helen Gent editorial@clophillspotlight.co.uk ads@clophillspotlight.co.uk	864836
DESIGN MANAGER	Chris Abrahams cmabrahams@yahoo.co.uk	
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER	Pete Liddle	860113
TREASURER	Richard Pearson	861110
COPY DEADLINE	<b>20th of the month</b>	

You can also read Spotlight online  
[www.clophillspotlight.co.uk](http://www.clophillspotlight.co.uk)

# WARDEN ABBEY



*The community vineyard*

## OPEN DAY & WINE SALE

- **Guided Vineyard Tours\***
- **Free self-guided Tours**
- **Wine Sales (cash/cheques only)**  
**Wine classes - Derek Smedley,**  
**Master of Wine\***
- **History Display & Talks\***
- **Local Artisan Food & Craft Stalls**
- **Petting Farm**
- **Children's activities**
- **Morris Dancing**
- **BBQ & refreshments**  
**\*additional charge for**  
**talks and guided tours**

**SUNDAY**  
**9th**  
**SEPTEMBER**

**11 am**  
**until 4 pm**

**£3 entry Adults**  
**Free for children**  
**Free Parking**



We are between Old Warden and  
Cardington. See website for map,  
times of tours & tastings.  
[www.wardenvineyard.org.uk](http://www.wardenvineyard.org.uk)

**"A Bedfordshire Rural  
Communities Charity  
project"**

# News from Clophill Heritage Trust



## Planting project

Thanks to some funding from Tesco our planting project is nearly complete. We've labelled medicinal, edible and herbal plants and put them into special areas of the site. Huge thanks to Liam and Dave, pictured, who've done much of this work while learning about the different plants and the conditions they like.

## Volunteers needed

**Site maintenance:** If you enjoy doing a little outdoors work we'd love you to join our fantastic volunteers. We're putting together some weekly work groups and would welcome your thoughts on which days would be best.

**Book keeper:** Do you have book-keeping knowledge? We'd love some help with our accounts!

- If you'd like to volunteer please contact one of our wardens on **07935 911207** or email [info@clophillecolodges.co.uk](mailto:info@clophillecolodges.co.uk)

## Eco Lodges discount

Just a reminder that Clophill residents who book accommodation at The Eco Lodges get a 20% discount off advertised prices. We're ideally located if you have family staying or you're having a gathering and need places for people to stay (and dare we mention Christmas?!).

## Events & Activities

The English Gardner Theatre Company's version of The Secret Garden, specially written for children, was a huge success. They'll be back in October with Hamlet. Meanwhile our next event is a guided walk discovering edible plants on 29th July. The gentle walk starts and ends at the Eco Lodges, from 12-2pm, price £3. To view all our events and to book, go to [www.clophillecolodges.org.uk/events](http://www.clophillecolodges.org.uk/events)

**For info and to book events go to <http://clophillecolodges.org.uk/events>  
or for a Tower Tour <http://clophillecolodges.org.uk/book-a-tower-tour>**

## Your letters...

*Dear friends and neighbours*

Following my recent fall at home and subsequent stay in hospital I'd like to pass on my very sincere thanks to all those friends and neighbours who visited me and who sent messages and good wishes. I'd like to particularly thank those friends through Clophill & District Flower Club and my WI friends who've been a constant source of comfort and support. I'm now at home continuing with my recovery. Thank you all. **Mrs Ann Armitage**

*Dear spotlight*

Cora and Jackie would like to thank everyone who donated to and bought from our Bric-a-Brac stall at the Clophill Fete in May. Cora also sold some bits and bobs from a table at her gate, and thank you to Jenny and John Wright for allowing us to have a raffle at their recent garden party. All in all **we raised £583 for Keech Hospice** in Luton. Thank you again. **Jackie Tomkinson**



# POPPY WALK FOR HONOUR

Walk in Honour of someone who has served or is serving in the Armed Forces  
**Bedford Priory Country Park**

## SUNDAY 12TH AUGUST 2018

Register online at  
[bedspoppywalkforhonour.co.uk](http://bedspoppywalkforhonour.co.uk)  
or upon arrival on the day

**2KM Walk**  
Wheelchair and pushchair friendly

**10KM Walk**  
For those that really want to stretch  
their legs

### REGISTRATION

Adult (12+) - £8  
Child - £5  
Family - £20  
(2x Adult + 2x  
Child OR 1x Adult  
+ 3x Child)

free tshirt and medal for  
every registered walker

As well as the walk there will be live music and activities with refreshments available at Cloverdale Retreat - the Parks Cafe. A wonderful day out for the whole family to enjoy while raising funds to help wounded, injured and sick members of our Armed Forces and their families

**Registration – 11:00**  
**Act of Remembrance – 11:30**  
**Walk Starts 12:00**  
**Ends 16:00**

Bedford priory Country Park, Barkers Ln, Bedford, MK41 9SH UK  
Registered Charity No:219279



# Come into the Garden

with *Kate Gardner*



As we move into summer and hope for long, hot days it can be challenging to keep the garden looking in tip-top condition. Visitors to my garden often comment on how colourful and lush it looks, while theirs are starting to look dry and crispy. This got me thinking about some of the challenges we face in Clophill, with our low rainfall and sandy, free-draining soils – so this month I'm going to concentrate on plants that will cope well with dry shady spaces.

Most gardens have some dry shade; at the foot of walls, where foundations draw water from the soil, or under eaves, where little rain falls. Trees and hedges also create dry shade, as their roots take up a lot of water. As a rule, shade-lovers with large leaves, such as hostas, are best avoided when planting in dry shade, as such lush foliage requires a continually moist soil.

If impact is what you're looking for, then **one of the most dramatic shrubs for shade is *Fatsia japonica*** (aka False Caster Oil plant). This exotic-leaved evergreen is completely hardy outdoors and will eventually make a magnificent plant. The variegated variety, aptly named 'spiders web' has white edging to the leaves along with white splashes on its dark green leaves.



**Plant a foliage backbone of ivies and hardy ferns**, adding spring-flowering periwinkles and epimediums for their leaves and flowers. These will give you a green tapestry into which you can plant snowdrops and shorter narcissi for spring. The most handsome ferns for dry conditions are conveniently called dryopteris and these upright ferns will, in time, make bold statements. Other excellent ferns for dry shade include the harts tongue fern, Polypodiums and shield ferns. Adding in some *Coleus* plants with **their two-tone leaves in shades of red, white, purple and green** can look absolutely amazing especially when planted in drifts.

If you're looking for easy flowers to add to these areas then two most useful seeds are those of aquilegia and honesty (*Lunaria annua*), which can be sprinkled directly onto the soil, lightly raked in and left to germinate. Do this over the summer and next year you should be rewarded with a swathe of colour. Where possible, go for white or light coloured flowers as darker colours don't show up so well in shade.

Finally, try some **early-flowering, hardy geraniums**, principally forms of *Geranium phaeum* and *G. macrorrhizum*. Again, go for paler forms that light up shade like; *G. phaeum* 'Alba' and the soft apple-blossom pink *G. macrorrhizum* 'Ingwersen's Variety'. I'd also try to introduce Bowles' Golden Grass (*Mileum effusum* 'Aureum'). It has perennial golden leaves and also self seeds well and should pop up to lighten the darkness.

When buying plants always opt for smaller, younger plants grown in a loam-based compost. They will be easier to establish and often grow away quicker than if you invest in a larger, more mature plant. And remember that all new plants will need regular watering during dry periods to enable them to grow lots of new roots to withstand the dry conditions.

# Clophill Preschool News



## ***Hello everyone***

Our summer term has been getting busier and busier. We've been collecting litter for Terry from the Parish Council – our little Litter Pickers went all around the village hall site and filled a bin bag over a week.

You may remember we did our Peppa Pig Scavenger Hunt for Save the Children – and **we raised £180**.

We've been harvesting more of our food, with freshly boiled potatoes and strawberries picked for snacks. The allotment

looks amazing with a huge array of produce from cucumbers to sugar snap peas. The children have worked hard weeding and watering to keep everything growing beautifully – it makes teaching them about what food is best for our teeth and bodies very easy!

The children really enjoy gardening so Lynne decided that we should enter the **RHS Wisley Budding Gardeners Competition**. With some plant donations from our parents and grandparents, Lynne and the children created a fabulous metre square nature garden with a frog house, butterfly feeders made from upcycled pan lids, a bird bath and an insect hotel. The competition ran for the half term week **and we received Gold!** Judges' comments were: *'Lovely decorative planting, really lovely considering preschool age.'*



We had some dad's, grandads and uncles up in Dad's Week and beyond, helping us to put up the new fence covering and planting tyres with herbs. Dad Paul Summer came up with fossils embedded in clay for the children to crack open with stones and investigate what they found. We definitely have some **mini palaeontologists** in our midst!

As we look towards the end of this very successful year we're transitioning our children to six different schools. We'll be sad to see them go but hope that our thorough and supportive transition process ensures their transition is as smooth and positive as possible. The process includes a weekly School

Readiness Group, photo books and uniform for children to share with their friends, Forest School sessions with Nell from Salix Education and ensuring all schools visit our setting. Before our children go we have Sports Day, our Leavers Picnic and the end of term trip.

Lastly, we have our **Friday Fun Open Day on Friday 31st August** at the Village Hall between 10am and noon. Come and stay and play, explore our fantastic outdoor space, for children aged up to 5 years. Older siblings may accompany the adult, and refreshments are available, £2 per child.

- Contact Imogen on **07765 887868** or Chris on **07936 006381** or email [clophillpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:clophillpreschool@gmail.com). Our website is [www.clophillpreschool.co.uk](http://www.clophillpreschool.co.uk)



# Clophill & District Flower Club



Our June demonstrator was Lorraine Saunders and her theme, **'Magical Moments'**, highlighted special moments throughout her life.

She began with a pink Wedding Day display, using two varieties of pink roses and tiny buds of pinks set in a bed of ruscus atop a circle of pink tulle. Next came Two Princes for her sons – the arrangement depicted their love of sailing with bright orange Espana roses, carnations and Eryngium (sea holly) plus white midelina sticks for the sails. Formum Leaves pointed the way to the Half Marathon with bright yellow gerbera, aspidistra leaves and Spotted Laurel.



A large wicker basket was used to arrange a summer garden complete with trellis for the Chelsea Flower Show exhibit. Lorraine added big bright colours, mauve stocks, blue Agapanthus and orange carnations, with a selection of greenery completing the design.

The last arrangement was the National Flower Show. A beautiful piece of wood took centre stage and was surrounded by a fantastic show of Cockulas Laural, Leather Leaf Fern and Eucalyptus Leaves together with lime green Anastasia Chrysanthemum, florets of pale pink Lisianthus and cream Avalanche Roses.

Lorraine's stories of her wedding, the boys' antics in boats, the hours it took her to complete the half marathon and her achievements in the flower shows kept the audience amused throughout the evening.

*Christine Baker, committee member*



## Tennis at Ampthill Park

Ampthill Great Park Tennis Club is hosting tennis coaching programmes for all ages and abilities.

*Courses on offer include:*

**Tennis for Kids** – aimed at encouraging 4-11 year olds to play tennis, with each child given their own racket, a T-shirt and balls to practise with.

**Tennis Xpress** – for adults who've never played before.

**Rusty Rackets** – for adults who've played, but not for some time.

**Cardio Tennis** – a fast, drill-based session to music with no tennis experience required

Individual lessons and follow-on courses for all levels are also available. Plus there are plans to run a coach-led 'Club Session' where players can just turn up and join in with others. Prices start at just £4 per hour. The courses are run by Just Brooke Tennis with LTA qualified, DBS checked and First Aid trained coaches. No membership fee is required.

Come along to the 'The Great British Tennis Weekend' at the club on Sunday 29th July, 10am-noon. There's trial coaching for adults and kids, cardio tennis, family fun and play – **all for FREE!**

- For more information on The Great British Tennis Weekend and coaching courses, go to <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/ampthillgreatparktennisclub> or email Justin at [just.brooketennis@gmail.com](mailto:just.brooketennis@gmail.com)





# St Mary's School News

Time is flying as we work our way towards the end of term and the long summer break. We've recently welcomed into school parents of our new children starting in Reception Class in September.

We hope they enjoyed the opportunity to take another look around the school and that the information given was helpful.

Our children have started a **chess club and reading club**. They've created some fantastic posters for the clubs and gone around each class to share what will be included and how to get involved. We're very proud of our children for being so proactive and creating opportunities for their friends. Helen, from Happy Tiddlers Swim School, came in and spent time in each class talking about **how to be safe in water**. This was very relevant with the summer holiday's approaching. FOSM **hosted two discos**, one for our nursery and reception children and one for Year 1 to Year 4. The children had a fantastic time and a big thank you to the members of FOSM who gave up their time to organise both events.

By the time you receive Spotlight, Year 4 will have returned from their PGL trip to Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire, where they'll have experienced a whole host of exciting activities **including raft building and high ropes**. We've also held our Annual Sports Day – as always, there was a fantastic atmosphere and it was hugely enjoyed by the children. And our football team had their annual football tournament up at the Rec. It was a very successful event so a big thank you to everyone who helped.



During the last couple of days of term we'll be holding some special events for our Year 4 children leaving us to go to Middle School. We have the Leavers Service in the Church followed by a Caythorpe celebration event – a chance for parents to see what the children did at Caythorpe Court via a special presentation and **'humorous' certificate of achievement ceremony**. Then year 4 will be leading an assembly to show a presentation of their memories whilst at St Mary's. And finally there's the Oakstars Event hosted by Year 4 parents for the year group on the last day of term.

I think the children will need their summer break and we look forward to seeing everyone back into school on Wednesday 5th September.

## Our value for July is *Courage*

At school we'll ask the question: *'What are you really afraid of?'* and then go on to consider how to overcome fears by being with and confiding in other people, friends and family. Nothing is ever as frightening when you're not alone. We'll look at examples of people in history who've shown courage and reflect on times when we've been brave, examining how that made us feel. We'll be stressing that bravery doesn't just relate to physical feats but also to daily words and actions – such as being honest and owning up to something even when you know you'll be in trouble or standing up for what you know is right even when friends are against you.

# Acorn Nursery News

We've had lots of water play recently, introducing the children to pipettes and syringes and watching the sun dry up the water when it's been squirted on the path. We've also been making and flying paper airplanes and/or butterfly kites, seeing if the wind takes them further when it's blowing.

We now have at least six frogs and we'll be releasing them back into a pond. It's been lovely seeing how interested some of the children were in the development of the tadpoles and their excitement when they finally saw a frog!



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## Clophill United Lions – a winning team



Clophill United Lions under 11s who play in the Chiltern League have won a trophy competition, beating 19 other teams.

As part of the competition the Lions played five matches over three months, battling through snow, rain and sub-zero temperatures with both the quarter- and semi-final matches going to extra time and penalty shoot outs. They made it to the final, and on May 12th the victorious team proudly lifted the trophy.

Throughout the competition the team held their nerve and showed great determination and team spirit. ***Tony Belisario, coach***

• Clophill United FC are a village-based organisation and provide access to football to over 60 children across a number of age groups. Home matches are played at the village recreation ground and new players are always welcome. [www.clophillunitedfc.org.uk](http://www.clophillunitedfc.org.uk)

## Christine's quick 'n' easy recipe

# Courgette Salad with Chicken, Pine Nuts & Pesto



### INGREDIENTS Serves 6

- 1 courgette per person
- 100g of cooked chicken per person
- 200g pine nuts
- homemade or small jar of pesto

1. Slice the washed courgettes lengthways using a potato peeler, discard the first slice which is just skin.
2. Use leftover chicken or store-bought rotisserie chicken. Shred into small pieces.
3. Put the courgette slices and chicken into a bowl large enough to mix together.
4. Season to taste and mix well.
5. Add in the pine nuts and pesto and mix well again.



*I love this recipe – it's quick, easy and refreshing...perfect for a summer's evening.*

**Christine runs Italian cookery classes at Casa Fellini in Clophill  
[www.casafellini.co.uk](http://www.casafellini.co.uk)**

## Ska mad in Clophill

Attendees at the recent Hope & Glory gig at the Village Hall went literally Ska Mad in a wonderful summer night of live music and (some very dodgy) dancing. Nearly 100 people turned out to support the event in aid of the Village Hall.



Many thanks to the band, Sarah and her team who manned the bar and donated all the profits to the Village Hall, the Village Hall Committee for organising the event, but mostly to all the attendees who got into the spirit of things and made this such a great night.

We're hoping to put on other live events like this later in the year so watch this space.

*David Fothergill*

# Clophill Village Hall

Annual Report May 2018



## **Summary of 2017-2018**

The year ending May 2018 has been another good year for the Village Hall.

The Committee can report an excellent year in terms of its financial performance. We've continued with our policy of controlling costs tightly and maintaining high occupancy levels at the hall to drive revenue. This has resulted in the Village Hall pretty much breaking even, whilst still maintaining very competitive rates for users and continued investment in the maintenance of the hall. As a result of this strong financial performance we've been able to reinvest in the hall to maintain and upgrade our offering to users.

- We've purchased a new cooker, which was much needed.
- We've recently purchased an industrial floor-cleaning machine to improve the cleanliness and presentation of the floor.
- The hall has received a much needed 'deep clean' – and going forward we intend to make this a routine process two or three times a year.

We will continue to invest wisely to maintain and continually improve our standards.

Just before Christmas 2017 we conducted our customary fundraiser – the Santa Sleigh – which was really well received by the families in the village. In May 2018 we also welcomed back the Ska band Hope & Glory, who went down a storm, playing to almost 100 attendees. Special thanks to our bar provider, Sarah, who donated her payment for the night to Village Hall funds. The event raised nearly £600, which has gone a long way to paying for our newly purchased floor cleaner.

As indicated above we've managed to run the hall again on a break-even basis for the year, but we're constantly trying to manage our expenditure to ensure user charges remain reasonable whilst offering users a good experience. The consequence of this is that, except for a cleaner, we have no paid staff, unlike several village halls in the area who employ a paid manager. Whilst this would be a great asset to the hall, the costs would have to be reflected in higher hiring charges.

We currently don't want to go down this path, but it means our users must take some collective responsibility in maintaining the cleanliness and security of the hall. Sadly this isn't always the case and we've had examples of unacceptable levels of cleanliness, doors being left open when users leave and the cooker left on. This isn't our village hall, but belongs to the community, so we appeal to all users to respect their facility and adopt sensible behaviour for the benefit of all of the community.

The burden of these issues falls most often on the shoulders of our small committee so a very special thank you to all members of the Village Hall Management Committee for their hard work and personal time devoted to the upkeep and running of the hall. With just eight members, we would very much welcome some new members to spread the load and maybe bring some new ideas. If you're interested just call me on **07831 255807**.

## **Key Issues for 2018-2019**

- continue to manage our costs and revenues.
- maintain the quality of the fabric of the hall at least cost but presenting the highest possible standards for users.
- expanding the Village Hall Management Committee membership.

*Steve Langhorn, Chair, Clophill Village Hall Management Committee*

# The Autumn Ball

Saturday 20th October  
The Cross Keys, Pulloxhill, MK455HB  
7pm - Carriages at Midnight

Raising money for - Road Victims Trust, Keech Hospice &  
Dine with me on the Street. & 2 local schools

Live Band & Entertainment, Drinks Reception, Raffle & a Three Course Dinner

Tickets £45 per person. To book please contact Meg  
07771313041 / theautumnball@outlook.com



## Wildlife walks & talks



Bedfordshire  
Cambridgeshire  
Northamptonshire



### Family Bug Hunt

**Wednesday 8th August, 10am-3pm, Cooper's Hill, Ampthill**  
**Sessions at 10am-11.30am, 11.30am-1pm, 1.30pm-3pm**

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

Please reserve places on one of the three sessions.  
£2 per child. Children must be accompanied by a guardian or parent.

**To reserve your place email.**

flitvale.info@gmail.com or ring Ann on 07890 347327 between 6pm and 8pm  
or at weekends. [www.flitvale.org.uk](http://www.flitvale.org.uk)

# Remembering Clophill's Fallen

*Continuing our series of the centenary of Clophill's brave men who lost their lives in the First World war...*

In July the family and friends of Sydney William Young learned that he'd been killed in action on 19th July 1918, aged 27. In August there came the news that Ernest George Diggins, also 27, had suffered the same fate on the 23rd. For the Diggins family this must have been a particularly bitter blow as they'd already lost their son, Henry, in November 1916. Their third son, Owen, also served but survived the war.

**Sydney Young** was born in Clophill in 1891. At the time of his death his parents, George, a butcher, and Elizabeth, lived at Ketton Cottage, now 41 High Street. In 1911 they lived in The Strand. Sydney didn't live with them at this time.

Sydney served as a Lance Corporal in the 2nd Regiment in the South African Infantry. The Union of South Africa entered the war in August 1914 in support of Great Britain. The 2nd regiment was formed from the Natal area.

Amphill News reported in August 1918:-

*'Universal sympathy prevailed on Monday for Mr. & Mrs. G Young and family, in the loss of their son, Sydney. He had seen much active service. He joined the South African Forces early, and was in German East Africa for 18 months. He had several attacks of malaria, and was discharged. On his recovery he volunteered again for service in France. He came to England for training, and then went to France. He was killed on July 19th. A letter from the officer of his Company states that in an advance the whole of his section was killed.'*



Sydney is Commemorated In Meteren Cemetery, Nord, France  
– the scene of his last battle.

**Ernest George Diggins** was born in Clophill in 1891. In 1911 Ernest worked as a farm labourer and lived in Hall End, Maulden, with his parents Mary and Charles and six of his siblings. Charles, who'd been a police constable in London, was at this time 'a police pensioner', aged 55. Previously the family had lived on the High Street, Clophill.

Ernest volunteered in November 1915, and served with the 1st Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment. The following July he was sent to the Western Front and was involved in battles at Arras, Ypres, Cambrai and Noyelles. He was killed in action on 23rd August 1918.

In April 1918, in response to the German Spring Offensives, the 1st battalion were rushed back to the Western Front and fought in the Battle of Hazebrouck. Once the Allied army went on the final push that would become known as the '100 Days Offensive' they were engaged in several actions including in the Battle of Albert in August. Ernest was killed in Achiet-Le-Petit.

Ernest is commemorated in Adanac Military Cemetery, Miraumont Somme, France.



# Parish Registers for June and July

**1818**

## Marriages

July 28 John Robins to Mary Harbrow  
William Harbrow to Elizabeth Izzard

## Burials

June 10 William Barrett (?)  
July 23 Charles Gudgin

**1868**

## Baptisms

June 7 Leonard Simpson  
Arthur Simpson  
Henry Simpson  
July 5 William Appleby,  
father, blacksmith  
John Wittamore, father,  
gardener (James and Ellen)  
Edwin Grummitt  
Rose Wittamore (Charles  
and Louise)

## Marriages

July 3 Leonard Hall to Sarah Askham

## Burials

June 3 George Cunnington,  
4 years 10 months  
Zilpah Shorey(?), 7  
June 30 John Millard, 22

**1918**

## Baptisms (at Silsoe)

June 9 Doris Odell  
Maud Lammas  
Fredrick Horace Bunney  
Ruby Stella West  
Lily Maud Pigium  
July 28 John Humphrey Stewart

**1968**

## Baptisms (at Silsoe)

July 21 Jane Louise Butterworth

## Marriages (at Silsoe)

June 1 Bernard Louis Trevers to  
Rosemary Janie Richards

## Burials

July 5 Ada Billington, 91

## ST MARY'S CHURCH REGISTER FOR MAY '18

### Marriages

May 5 George Stanley to  
Kizzy Shania Hughes

### Burials

May 14 Alan Jakins, 76  
May 16 Victor Beard, 71

### Deposition of Ashes

May 29 Colin Frank Woodward, 86

### Memorial Service

May 29 John Michael Rowbotham, 85

## CLOPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

# COFFEE & CROISSANT MORNINGS



ALL PROCEEDS IN AID OF CLOPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

10am-noon

£1.50

Saturday 21st July

Saturday 1st September

Saturday 6th October

**ALL WELCOME**





# What's on in and around Clophill

AUG

12

**Sunday 12th**

**Poppy Walk for Honour** 11am, Priory Country Park, Bedford  
*See this issue for full details*

SEPTEMBER

1

**Saturday 1st**

**Shefford Craft and Produce Show** 2pm, Methodist Church Schoolrooms  
*See below for more information*

9

**Sunday 9th**

**Vineyard Open Day** 11am-4pm, Warden Abbey  
*See this issue for full details*

OCT

20

**Sunday 20th**

**The Autumn Ball** 7pm, The Cross Keys, Pulloxhill  
*See this issue for ticket details*

## On throughout the month...

### Wednesdays...

- **Tea and Chat** 10.30 to noon, Methodist Church

### Fridays...

- **Clophill Toddler Group** 10am-11.30am, Village Hall, See 'Village Groups' for contact details

### One Saturday a month...

- **Messy Church** 4pm-6pm, Clophill Methodist Church. Dates: 14 Jul; 15 Sep; 20 Oct; 17 Nov; 15 Dec. See 'Village Groups' for contact details.

## CHURCH SERVICES

### Regular services at St Mary's Church, Clophill

1st Sunday	8am, Holy Communion; 10.45am, Family Praise
2nd & 4th Sundays	10.45am, Parish Communion
3rd Sunday	10.45am, Morning Prayer/Praise
5th Sunday	10am, Benefice Services

### Regular services at Clophill Methodist Church

1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays	10.30am Morning Service
3rd Sunday	10.30am All Age Worship Service

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)

## Shefford Craft & Produce Show

2pm, Saturday 1 September  
Methodist Church Schoolrooms

Come and have a look at craft exhibits and produce – there'll be photography, flowers and floral art, children's and adults' handicrafts, cookery and garden produce.

Refreshments available

For more information email [sheffordcps@gmail.com](mailto:sheffordcps@gmail.com)



*These notes are a resume only. Official minutes are available on the internet and notice boards. All official correspondence should be sent to the parish clerk and not individual councillors.*

## **Anglian Water Update**

We're nearly at the end of Anglian Water's (AW) water main works in the village. In order to complete the work, this month will see planned road closures, which will restrict vehicles leaving the village via the A6 but not vehicles entering the village. Our website 'noticeboard' section has full details – all dates are for guidance only – with the planned closures as follows:-

**Weekend 1:** 7-8 July

**Weekend 2:** 14-15 July

**Weekend 3:** 21-22 July (if this doesn't take place then we will skip to weekend 4)

**Weekend 4:** 28-29 July

A temporary bus stop for the northbound bus will be in place on the A6 just north of Maulden Road. Notices will be on display at the existing bus stops to pre-warn passengers.

## **Lakes Site**

With regard to the Lakes site on the east side of the village, there has been very little development in the last month. Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) and Gallagher Estates (GE) are still in discussions about terms for Section 106 (a legal agreement between an applicant seeking planning permission and the local planning authority, which is used to mitigate the impact of new homes on the local community and infrastructure). We continue to be engaged in the process, and will keep the village informed of any future developments.

## **Parish Council Vacancy**

If you'd like to contribute to activities related to our village, why not join our Parish Council. The role, which is unpaid, involves attending monthly meetings and spending an hour or so a week reviewing and responding to information. Training will be given. For more info and a brief application form contact James Stirling at [clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk) or write to him at 31 Plum Tree Road, Lower Stondon SG16 6NE. You can also view information at [www.clophill-pc.gov.uk](http://www.clophill-pc.gov.uk)

## **Michael Robotham**

Clophill Parish Council was saddened to learn of the recent death of Michael Robotham OBE who lived at Brickwall Farm House. Michael took a great interest in many of the conservation projects identified in the 2008 Clophill Parish Plan to improve and enhance the village. In particular he provided funding for the restoration of the Lock Up and Pound. He also funded the brick Bus Shelter and provided the attractive sign and flower planter on The Green. These have all contributed to the charm of the village entrance. He'll be sadly missed and our sympathies go out to his family.

- Full minutes from meetings can be found at [clophill-pc.gov.uk](http://clophill-pc.gov.uk)

# Clophill Parish Council

Continued

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## Planning

### CCB/18/01949/OUT

Location: 12 Back Street

Proposal: Two detached single-storey dwellings and associated works. The Council has a number of concerns including: no access or turning tracks shown for refuse collection or emergency services; the title plans seem to make claim to land that the owner has no rights to develop; the site has a steep slope to access to properties which isn't suitable for wheelchair access. **OBJECT**

### CB/18/02180/FULL

Location: 118B High Street

Proposal: Change of use of land to form part of approved residential development site and diversion of existing footpath. The Council has several considerations for objection including: moves onto land not owned by the applicant; historic footpath; impact on increased traffic close to live stock. **OBJECT**

### CB/18/02013/FULL

Location: Shepherds Cottage, Kiln Lane

Proposal: Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of new dwelling. The Council has requested that the development is kept within the exiting garden space. **SUPPORT**

### CB/18/01619/FULL

Location: Location: 56 Cainhoe Road

Proposal: Single-storey front extension. **SUPPORT**

### CB/18/01997

Location: Location: Sealawn Boarding Cattery, 126 High Street

Proposal: Application for Approval of Reserved Matters – Approval of reserved matters relating to appearance, landscaping, scale and layout has recently been granted under application ref: CB/17/06011/RM for 4 dwellings. This further application seeks approval for a revised dwelling on Plot 1. The reserved matters for which approval is sought are: Appearance Landscaping Scale Layout. The developer has constantly failed to meet the requirements of the Outline planning permission. The Internal Drainage Board (IDB) have asked on a number of occasions for details on the proposed means of surface water discharge as it's proposed to direct it to a watercourse under the Board's control. Discharge rates will need to be restricted to Greenfield run-off rates. Furthermore, in accordance with the Board's byelaws, no development should take place within 7.0m from bank top without the Board's prior consent; this includes any planting, fencing or other landscaping. **OBJECT**

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at the VILLAGE HALL  
at 7.45pm on Tuesday 31 July

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<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
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<b>Luton Airport</b>		01582 405100
<b>Swimming</b>	(Flitwick) 01525 717744 (Robinson Pool)	01234 212479

## 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
<b>Clophill Parish Council</b>	Paul Downing	01525 860350
	(Clerk) James Stirling	01462 887226

## HOSPITALS

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

## DOCTOR'S CLINICS

<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
			101

## CHURCHES

<b>St Mary's Parish Church</b>		Revd Dean Henley	01234 381235
<b>St Francis RC Church, Shefford</b>		Ian Gordon	01525 860875
<b>Clophill Methodist Church</b>		Jim Davies	01525 860829
<b>Baptist Churches</b> (Ampthill) Doreen Gibbs 01525 862424	(Maulden)	Ian Crawford	01525 634325
	(Shefford)	Hazel Arnold	01462 812564

## 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 St Mary's C of E Lower School & Nursery	Sharon Kempson	860206
Clophill Toddler Group	Hannah Compton	07535 705711
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		<a href="http://www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved">www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved</a>
Tea and Chat	Anita Errick	860695
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Marilyn Browning	07821 643936



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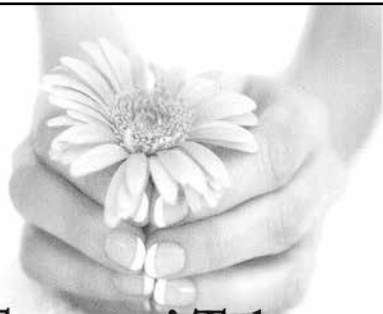
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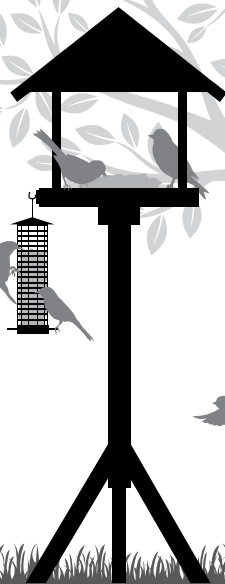
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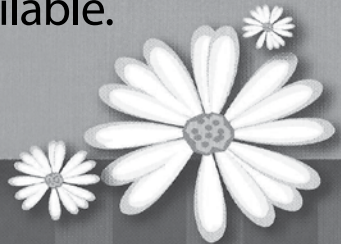
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