

Vol 42 | No.2

FREE

CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

MARCH 2020

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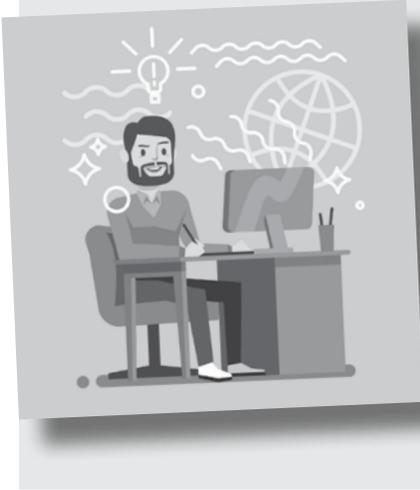
Email: benson.stuart@googlemail.com



A word from the Editor...

Hello Everyone!

Spring is here at last!! and we have a packed issue this month, with many events going on in and around the village.



On a sad note Chris (our lovely Design Manager) is stepping down soon, see page 2 for details. We urgently need someone to replace him.

If you can help or know someone who can, please get in contact with me ASAP.

We only have a month or two at most to find his replacement.

Best wishes, Elaine



The magazine staff

EDITOR	Elaine Jones editorial@clophillspotlight.co.uk	07918 975823
ADVERTISING MANAGER	Emma Frost ads@clophillspotlight.co.uk	
DESIGN MANAGER	Chris Abrahams cmabrahams@yahoo.co.uk	
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER	Pete Liddle	860113
TREASURER	Richard Pearson	861110

Deadline for articles is 20th of the month

You can also read Spotlight online
www.clophillspotlight.co.uk

SAVE YOUR SPOTLIGHT

New Design Manager wanted for your local village magazine

After 7 years, Chris is stepping down, so we are looking for someone to take over as our Design Manager.

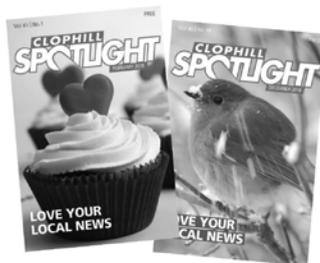
The role requires about 8 hours of your time each month. Knowledge of either the Adobe Creative Suite or Microsoft Publisher is needed, or the desire to learn one of them!!

Can you help?

For more information please contact Elaine on
07918 975823 or **editorial@clophillspotlight.co.uk**



**Going...
going...
gone?**



Spotlight relies on volunteers to keep going. Sadly, if this key role can't be filled ***the May issue of Spotlight will be the last one*** and there will be no more village magazine.

**If you don't want to lose your village magazine
– please think about whether you can help.**

Clophill Preschool News

Hello all. Time is flying by and Clophill is already beginning to bloom with signs of Spring everywhere. The children have been investigating the new growth of the bulbs they planted earlier in the year, while chatting about what we else we might grow in the garden and allotment. The children are quick to use our Investigation shed; helping themselves to pots and magnifiers as well as the information cards, as they explore creatures and other things in the garden. Spotty and Dotty are doing well and have got used to the obligatory little bit of chasing round the garden, they have learnt to fly up onto the willow tunnel as a safe haven!

We currently have two volunteers working for us who are able to engage with the children and give them all their time as they play, read stories and support them. We have also had Carol's daughter Ngaire in to do her work experience from Redbourne School. We love that we get so many different people in, sharing their different experiences with the children.



Chris is nearly halfway through her Forest School training and has been using tools with the children, from hammers to bow saws making kazoos from wood and elastic bands. The creative play has been both indoors and out, as the children are really getting



to grips with cookery. They can choose from a selection of things to make and Lisa is on hand to help them measure and mix. They even made bread to sell to parents, with the money going to CHUMS for Children's Mental Health Week. We work a lot with the children to encourage thought and consideration for themselves and others. We feel that good manners and showing awareness and empathy are vital tools for all. We have been exploring how to tell what other people are feeling and how to manage our own feelings, and understand that it is ok to feel different emotions with an aim to empower and enable.

Our Friday crew went on a visit to Taymer Nursing Home and invited Katie from Silsoe Dance to join. The children had a snack with the residents, they chatted to them and gave them their Valentines cards in which staff had scribed what the children said they loved...from Toy Story to their mums. Katie then did a great session of music and movement which everyone could join in. They all had a great time and we are hoping to go back for another visit soon!



Next on our list of events is our wonderful Mother's Day Morning when we feed tea and cake to the mum and grandmas, while the very lovely Clophill Flower Club come and make gorgeous flower gifts with the children for them. Following that is our Easter Hunt and Craft Morning on Saturday 4th April, check out the advert in this Spotlight. A fun filled morning for all the family and a great way to start the Easter Holidays!

Bedfordshire's **BIGGEST** afternoon tea

LIVE JAZZ BAND · RAFFLE · BAR
FREE GLASS OF PROSECCO

Sunday 29
March 2020
2-5pm

In an elegant marquee at

The Cross Keys
13 High Street
Pulloxhill
Bedfordshire
MK45 5HB

Tickets at:

www.keech.org.uk/afternoontea

or call: 01582 707940



St Mary's Church. Clophill

Church Fete and Village Event

to commemorate 75 year Anniversary of VE Day

Saturday 9th May
12 noon – 4pm

We are holding another Fete and Village Event on 9th May in the grounds of St Mary's Church. This year the date coincides with the national celebrations of 75 year Anniversary of VE Day. We plan to theme the event to 1945 and hope that the Village will participate to make it a big Clophill Event. We would like people to dress in vintage clothes and contribute in any way. Our aim is to organise a Fete for the enjoyment of all ages and to involve as many organisations and individuals as possible. We want to keep the stalls, sideshows and activities to traditions of the day. If you have any ideas please let us know

All the stalls, sideshows and attractions will be limited to Village organisations and individuals – not commercial stallholders. Please contact us if you would like to be involved. There will be entertainment, activities, a wartime tea party, fancy dress competition and games to give the children a great afternoon. There will be popular 1940's songs and a display of wartime photographs and memorabilia.

We hope you will be supporting this special event and we look forward to seeing you

Gill Jones

01525 861058

Carolyn Cranswick

01462 816544

St Mary's Church News



Our annual Coffee and Cake morning was held on February 1st to raise money for Janina, a child in Paraguay, whose education we are supporting. This year you helped raise an **amazing £455 for this great cause**. Huge thanks to all who provided the cakes, those who did all the work and to everyone who came and gave so generously. The appeal for the work on the church building and the south wall has passed the quarter way mark, but there is still a long way to go. All contributions gratefully received.

The search for a new Rector continues. An advertisement has been placed in the Church Times and we are waiting for applications to flood in!

Lent Lunches will be held on the 5 Wednesdays in Lent starting on March 4th. The chosen charity is Keech Cottage Hospice, see notices for venues. Date for your diaries, an **Arts and Crafts Exhibition** in the church **April 18th & 19th**.

To Spotlight...

Fly Tipping in St Mary's Church Garden

There has been more than one occasion when garden waste has been dumped in St Mary's Church garden that is maintained by **volunteers** who are not best pleased by the extra work this **FLY TIPPING** creates. St Mary's church garden is private property maintained to a standard that creates a tranquil place for visitors to our Memorial Garden and a garden used for our community social functions.

Notices reminding visitors that the garden is **Private Property** and **Fly Tipping** is illegal will be posted in our garden, and anyone contravening this request will incur the wrath of those **volunteers** not something I recommend. Clophill is well served by Central Bedfordshire Council for waste collection services, we have an excellent Tidy Tip close by in Ampthill and from the week beginning Monday 2nd March regular garden waste collection will resume in our area – please use these services, **not** our church garden.

Rosemary Ilett, Churchwarden

Stewartby Operatic and Dramatic Society



A Musical **Evening**



In Aid of

St Mary's Clophill, and Clophill Methodist Churches.

Friday 24th April 2020

At Clophill Methodist Church

7:30pm

Interval Refreshments

Tickets in advance £7:00

Tel: 01525 861058/860695

Clophill Village Hall

Easter

Fun Quiz and Hunt

and children's crafts

Explore preschools grounds answering the questions to receive a festive chocolate treat, includes free fun quiz for parents. Come inside and let your children try their hand a wide selection of crafts (all included).

We'll also have refreshments and a tombola. £5 per child

SATURDAY

APRIL 4th

10.30am -

12.30pm

Clophill Preschool 


Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

Clophill & District Flower Club



We had a packed house for our first demonstration in 2020 – most probably due to the demonstrator for the evening being Doug Howard – a great demonstrator and valued member of our club!



Before he began his demonstration entitled **“Flowers My Way”** our chairman, Carolyn Cranswick, had the pleasant task of presenting a cheque for £1,000 to Sarah Russell the CEO of **Tibbs Dementia Foundation** (www.tibbsdementia.co.uk), which was our chosen charity for 2019. Funds are raised via our monthly charity table, our plant stall at Clophill Church Fete and from donations given by grateful recipients of arrangements we have done for their wedding or celebratory occasion. The atmosphere was already set for a lovely evening and Doug’s demonstration certainly added to our happy mood.



Using a great variety of lovely foliage (mostly from his garden) and superb flowers, he produced six main arrangements, all centred around the coming of Spring. Whilst he arranged he told us about the different stages of his long career, in particular his initial test to become a NAFAS demonstrator. Using the same special vase with pin holder in the top, he managed this time to produce a delightful but simple design with daffodils and pretty foliage – not so on his test!



Needless to say Doug went on to pass and become an excellent demonstrator pleasing club members with his designs wherever he goes, and also for members of the public visiting grand venues such as Westminster Abbey!

On April 2nd Barbara Collins will be demonstrating “Brighter days are coming”. Doors open 6.45 pm. Make a date in your diary for a great evening.

Joan Palmer – Programme Secretary



CLOPHILL METHODIST CHURCH **COFFEE & CROISSANT MORNINGS**



ALL PROCEEDS IN AID OF CLOPHILL METHODIST CHURCH

10AM TO 12 NOON

£1:50

SATURDAY 4th April

SATURDAY 2nd May

SATURDAY 30th May

ALL WELCOME



Arts & Crafts

An Exhibition by local artists
and craftsmen

18th and 19th April 2020

11:00am to 4pm each day
in St Mary's Church

The Fundraising Team of St Mary's is proposing to hold an exhibition of creative work by local residents to showcase all the talents within our community. We would like to have a wide range of crafts and space will be available for all shapes and sizes. There will be the opportunity to sell items or just to have them on show for others to enjoy. If you are willing to exhibit your work please contact

Carolyn 01462 815433 or Gill 01525 861058

St Mary the Virgin, Clophill

Please come to our
Lent Lunches



11th March	St Mary's Church
18th March	10 The Causeway
25th April	Clophill Methodist Church
1st April	St Mary's Church

12 noon-2pm

Donations will be given to Keech Hospice

Everyone very welcome

Raffle Bring & Buy

For information phone Liz Henman 01525 860108 or Gill Jones 01525 861058
Please call if you require transport

St Mary's School News



We have had a busy first half of the Spring Term. In addition to the visiting dance teacher and gymnastics festival we have already told you about, some of our Year 4 children took part in a **Bikeability course** held at the school. Bikeability is a cycle training programme which teaches children practical skills and gives them an understanding and expertise to safely ride their bikes. Some of our other Year 4 children represented the school at a sports transition event, held at Robert Bloomfield Academy. They had a great time and, as always, were a credit to the school.

We attended church for our Candlemas service, and held an Ash Wednesday service in school. Our Year 1 and 4 children have led a class worship, and we also held a **'Shine Bright, Wear Bright'** day where we raised money for **CHUMS**.



We had **Safer Internet Day** in February, reminding the children, in an age appropriate way how to ensure they remain safe when accessing the internet. We have launched Bookshare, our first new initiative to support with reading at home. Bookshare is designed to support the important element of children having the opportunity to listen to different texts. We have therefore set up a scheme where you can borrow a book from us to read to your child at home if you wish.

The second half term will be equally busy and we are looking forward to our annual Lent Appeal Day, details of which will follow in next month's Spotlight. We are also launching our new website, so please keep a look out for that.

Our value for March is *Love*

We will explore the real meaning of love and how you should show love for others by caring, respect and kindness. The children will be encouraged to demonstrate love around through kind words and deeds and plenty of smiles. Mothering Sunday is in March and we will be considering our mothers; their love for us and ours for them. Our message will be that from a feeling of love comes happiness.

Acorn Nursery News

The nursery children have enjoyed their topic this term, 'People who Help Us', and have been visited by a paediatric Nurse, the Police and Fire Service. The children thoroughly enjoyed their visits, and were able to see the emergency vehicles, equipment and uniforms. It really aided their understanding of the important work these people do.

Nursery took part in the national Birdwatch and spent time the back school field listening and looking for birds. It was exciting to see that we have many different types of birds around us including the kite that regularly circles our school.

We welcome children from 2 years 7 months to 4 years into our nursery, and offer 15 and 30-hour funding, with no minimum or maximum number of sessions a child can attend. If you would like to visit the nursery, or find out more information then please contact Mrs. Hayes, Nursery manager at nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk or by calling the main School number, 01525 860206.



An Afternoon "In Concert"

with the



Vauxhall Male Voice Choir



++ PLUS ++
Special Guest Artiste
James Banville (Piano)



Parkside Hall

**Woburn Street,
Amphill MK45 2HX**

Saturday 28 March 2020

2:30pm (doors open 2:00pm)

Refreshments available during interval

Tickets
£10.00
Children (Under 12)
FREE

*Tickets available from Ken Jones 01525-753110 or
Brian Matthews 01525-841077 or on the door*

Choir Website: www.vmvc.org

Come into the Garden

with *Kate Gardner*



With the arrival of spring, there is plenty to do in the garden in March. The days are getting longer and warmer, hopefully the risk of frost will have passed by the end of the month, and there are plenty of jobs to do in the garden and greenhouse. Seed sowing starts to get underway and the improving weather means it's a great time to plant roses and lift and divide perennial plants.



Cornflower

March is the time for sowing your hardy annual seeds. Hardy annuals can be sown directly where you want them to flower; just prepare the ground well first, by clearing it of weeds and raking to a fine tilth. Don't be tempted to enrich the soil with any compost or horse manure. Try Ammi majus, borage, clarkia, cornflowers and poppy 'Ladybird'. If you didn't start your sweet peas in the autumn, now is a good time to get these going too. Sweet peas can be sown under cover from October to March. They like a long root run, so sow into deep pots or modules. If you got

ahead of the game and your sweet peas are already sprouting, then now is the best time to pinch out the tips to encourage side shoots which in turn will produce lots of new shoots.

You can sow some half-hardy annuals too, but wait until the middle of the month when the light levels are better and the nights are less cold. Some to try include cleome, antirrhinum, zinnia and cosmos.

The end of the month is the time for mass pricking out of annual seedlings. Transplant everything that has formed its true leaves (recognisably like that of the parent plant) into their own individual pot. Take care to get right below each baby plant and lift out the whole of its root with a dibber or stiff label. Handle everything by its leaves, not stem, which bruises very easily.

If you have snowdrops and aconites in your garden now is the perfect time to lift and divide them. We call this moving 'in the green' and this is the best way to move these early flowering bulbs. Just remember to replant them to the same depth that they were originally planted and give them a water in.

If like me you love the hot colours of dahlia flowers, then now is the perfect time to start your tubers in pots under cover. If you only have one or two, plant them individually into a three-litre pot, so they can grow on happily until the frosts are finished and they can be planted in the garden. If you have lots, lay them out in a shallow tray, packed in tight, and cover the tubers with moist compost. They'll start to sprout in a few weeks and you can then take cuttings.

Later in the month, start a regime of deadheading spring bulbs (e.g. narcissi, muscari and tulips) as the flowers finish. Leave the foliage to die back naturally and don't be tempted to cut or bend the leaves, as this will prevent the plant from returning the nutrients into the bulb to feed it for next spring. No food at the end of the season will often mean no flowers next spring.

Other jobs in the garden over the next few weeks include splitting polyanthus after flowering, pruning shrub roses (removing all dead and crossing wood on your rose bushes and cutting the rest back by at least a half, aiming to cut just above an outward-facing bud), and pruning your forsythia as soon as they have finished flowering, (cutting back to strong, young shoots).

Here's hoping for great weather over the coming month. ***Happy Gardening***



Volunteer Drivers Urgently Needed

Agate House

Agate House is looking for Volunteer Drivers for local short trips to support our Service User's to attend church groups, clubs and hospital appointments.

If you would like to find out more, contact us:

Call: 01525 403247

Email: agate@leonardcheshire.org

leonardcheshire.org



Leonard Cheshire




Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire

Wildlife walks & talks

Ampthill's Secret Nature Reserve

An insight into the funding and management of a little-known wildlife site in Ampthill. A talk by Nigel Pollard.

Monday 16th March, 7.45 pm, Maulden Church Hall

Many will know Nigel from his long-time involvement with the Flit Vale Wildlife Watch Groups. This talk is not about the Wildlife Watch Groups, but about a thriving and hidden area of nature in Ampthill that many may not be aware of. Join Nigel as he guides us through Ampthill's Secret Nature Reserve. **Open to all. £3 per adult**

For bookings or additional information please email flitvale.info@gmail.com or ring Ann on 075801 78889 between 6pm and 8pm or at weekends.

Clophill's Serving Survivors of WW1

by Sue Pearson

In celebration of Clophill's brave men who fought in and survived the First World war...

Frederick William Case was a Lance Corporal in Motor Transport, Army Service Corps. He was born in 1895 and in 1911 he lived on the High Street with his parents William and Ruth (née Bottoms,) elder brother, Harry (see below,) and niece. His occupation was Labourer, Market Gardener. He married Edith Deacon in December 1918 and died in Bedford in 1978.

Harry Case was born in Clophill in 1885. Harry became a dairy farm worker and later a bricklayer's labourer. He gained a criminal record in 1911 when caught riding his bike in Bedford without having any lights on.

He is thought to be the Harry Case who married Florence Wells in 1915 in Belper, Derbyshire. He joined the Notts & Derby regiment in 1917. He served in France and received gunshot wounds to his chest and on another occasion to his back and legs. He further marked his record by going AWOL for 3 days early in 1918, later that year he became a prisoner of war for 5 months. He was discharged in 1919. By 1939 it is believed that he and Florence were living near Alfreton and he was a coal hewer.

Thomas James Clark was born in Lewisham in 1889. He was a tailor who had married Isobel Phillimore in 1913. His connection to Clophill is uncertain, but his address was given as the High Street in 1918 & 1919's Absent Voters List. He was a Private in the Machine Gun Corps, serving in Belgium & France. Thomas underwent a critical operation in Guys Hospital in 1916, had influenza in 1917 and in 1918 was shot in the jaw. He died as a victim of WW1 in 1944 in Deptford.

Edward James Cole was living in Silsoe Road, Clophill when he enlisted at Bedford in 1915. He was born in 1881. He worked as a Fruit gardener (later a shoeing smith). His wife was Edith Nellie Cole and they married in 1908. He enlisted in Woolwich in 1916 and during his early service passed a test to qualify as a shoe smith. When he was demobbed in 1919 he lived in Water End.

William Cole was a Corporal in the 5th Lancers. He was born around 1895 in Hall End. In the 1911 Census he was living at 3 Forester's Cottages, Back Street with his parents and 6 siblings. William was a Farm Labourer. "Amphill News" reported in February 1916 that William had been home on leave and had been promoted to Corporal. In December it reported that "Corpl. Farrier William Cole, of the Lancers, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cole, was home from Dublin last week on final leave."

Jack Coleman (aka John) was a Private in 10 Queen's Royal Regiment West Surreys. He was born in Clophill in 1881 and in 1891 lived in the Slade with his parents, Albert (a Farm labourer) and Mary, and 6 siblings. By 1901 Jack was also a farm labourer. By 1911 their parents had had 14 children in total, 12 surviving.

William Collis – Born in Kettering in 1872, he married Elizabeth Richardson in 1909 in Clophill. In 1911 they lived in Back Street, with their daughter, Mabel and Elizabeth's 3 other children. He was a farm labourer but had signed up in 1891, serving with the Northants Regiment until transferring to the Bedfordshire Regt. in 1913. He served in India, Singapore and South Africa. In 1914 he reenlisted (aged 42) with the Bedfords and was later transferred to the Royal Defence Corps. He died in 1941 then living at 18 Bedford Road, Clophill.

Ernest William Cooper lived in Mount Pleasant, Clophill and served with the Agricultural Labour Corps. Nothing further is certain relating to Ernest, however in 1909 an Ernest Cooper was fined for keeping his son, Albert, from school whilst his wife was at work; and Amphill News reported in 1918 that Ernest Cooper was awaiting orders sending him to India.



AMPTHILL
— & DISTRICT —
CHORAL SOCIETY

BRING & SING
Karl Jenkins
The Armed Man

‘A Mass for Peace’

Conductor: Karen Beer Organist: Justin Waters

Saturday 14th March 2020
Amphill Methodist Church

£10 for participants - Registration from 2.30pm—Rehearsal 3.00pm

Performance 7.30pm

Tickets £10 on the door

To register your participation contact Penny Stimson
i.p.stimson@gmail.com

www.amphillchoral.wordpress.com

Clophill Heritage Trust Update



We have kicked off our 2020 events with a fantastic **“Introduction to Herbal Remedies”** workshop. New for this year these workshops are led by a local expert and include a basic introduction to herbal remedies, a foraging walk, lunch and a workshop: where at least three remedies will be made and everyone takes a jar of each home plus recipe cards. Spaces are limited to ten per workshop so if you would like to join us on one of these, or our Spring Foraging workshops, book soon to avoid disappointment!

Our **FREE Animal Encounter event** is taking place as usual in the Easter Holidays on 19th April. Run in partnership with Teaching Talons children can come and meet a variety of animals, insects and reptiles and even have their picture taken with an owl! Our café is open all afternoon as well, no need to book but please note that parking is very limited on site. Please contact us if you would like to request a blue badge space.

All event tickets are available online, so book now at www.clophillecolodges.co.uk/events or call us on 07935 911207. Remember that The Eco Lodges and the ruins of old St Mary’s church can be hired out for private events and photo shoots. We already have weddings, birthday parties and a naming ceremony booked in for next year, so think of us if you are looking for a beautiful, unique venue for your event. If you would like to know more about us and what we do, or volunteer to be a helper please contact either Emily or Louise on 07935 911207 or email info@ClophillEcoLodges.co.uk. **The CHT Team**

NEXT EVENTS: APRIL

12th Easter Sunrise Service
19th Animal Encounter
25th Earth Day Open Day

MAY

2nd Spring Foraging Workshop
15th Prosecco & Pamper Evening
17th Spring Foraging Workshop
25th Countryside Crafts Cafe
23rd Spring Foraging Family Workshop
28th Teddy Bear Hunt

For info call 07935 911207 or email info@clophillecolodges.co.uk
www.Facebook.com/ClophillEcoLodges

AGM and From Box to Book Monday 6th April 2020



To transcribe a large box of Medieval parchments from Latin would daunt most people, our speaker persisted and twenty years later wrote a book about her village of Willington. **Speaker: Dorothy Jamieson**

Visitors are very welcome!

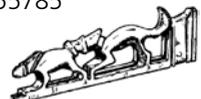
Lecture Theatre, Flitwick Library MK45 1QJ

7.30 for 7.45pm. £2 for members and £3 for visitors, payable on the door.

Further details: clive.makin@ntlworld.com Tel: 01582 655785

www.adalhs.org.uk

Amptihll & District Archaeological & Local History Society



Join the Great British Spring Clean

Be part of the pick

We need Spotlight readers!
This year Friends of St Mary's School are coordinating the Clophill Parish Spring Clean - if we get enough volunteers. If you are able to volunteer to clean a section please get in touch with us on fosmclophill@gmail.com Please include your address so we can take this into consideration when allocating sections and so that we can drop off litter pickers. It would be great to continue the annual tradition of doing a deep clean of our streets. Thanks for your help.
Kees Ramsey and Nell Lee
(FOSM volunteers)

**20 MARCH -
13 APRIL 2020**

Register your support keepbritaintidy.org

#GBSpringClean

Keep Britain Tidy is a registered Charity No. 307137

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What's on in and around Clophill

MARCH

-  **Saturdays 11th, 18th and 25th**
Lent Lunches 12noon to 2pm. *See poster in this issue for venues*
-  **Saturday 14th**
"Rockin the Joint" Village Hall, 8pm. *See poster in February issue*
-  **Saturday 20th to 13th April**
Clophill Spring Clean *See poster in this issue*

APRIL

-  **Saturday 4th**
Easter Hunt and Craft Morning Village Hall, 10:30am to 12:30pm.
See poster in this issue
-  **Saturday 4th**
Coffee and Croissant Morning Clophill Methodist Church, 10am to 12noon.
See poster in this issue
-  **Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th**
Arts and Crafts Exhibition St Mary's Church, 11am to 4pm each day.
See poster in this issue
-  **Friday 24th**
A Musical Evening Methodist Church, 7:30pm. *See poster in this issue*
-  **Saturday 25th**
A night of SKA with "Hope and Glory" Village Hall, 8pm.
See poster in February issue

MAY

-  **Saturday 9th**
VE day 75 – Church Fete & Village Event St Mary's Church, 12noon to 4pm.
See poster in this issue

On throughout the month...

Tuesdays...in term time

- **Clophill Preschool - Stay and Play**
9.30am-10.30am Village Hall, See 'Village Groups' for contact details

Wednesdays...

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

Thursdays...

- **Thursday Leisure Club** 2pm, St Mary's 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: Mar 28, May 16, Jul 11, Sep 12, Nov 14, Dec 12. 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

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.

In the absence of the Chairman, Councillor Mantini was elected as Chairman for the meeting.

Members of the public attending raised matters which concerned them:

- Discussions ensued regarding the **letter of complaint** mentioned on the agenda concerning the Lakes Development, and also access concerns along Old Church Path.
- One item raised by a local farmer, was a concern about the damage caused by transfer of materials along Old Kiln Lane to Holly Bush. The Council explained that the lorries along Old Kiln Lane, although not originally expected to take that route, had to because of an unpermitted development in The Slade. The improvements, as previously discussed, are for improved access and the installation of fencing at Holly Bush.
- A concern on the finish of the access was raised. Clerk advised it will be completed with a crushed limestone surface.

Returning to the agenda, **planning matters** were discussed; the minutes of the last meeting were agreed and the **Clerk gave a swift résumé** of his various tasks and actions. Then discussions followed:

- The **update on Holly Bush** – much of which had already been said – namely, it was nearing completion, the fencing is complete, the access path is to have a top dressing and the gating has to be finished.
- The **Teen shelter**, sadly, still saw on-going ‘antisocial behaviour’, which might have involved smoking illegal substances. Litter was also apparent on Saturday Match mornings and it was embarrassing to have to clear up in case the opposing teams arrived and saw it. The Police have been pro-active and this was much welcomed.
- The **swing seat** on the Rec has been broken and will be replaced.
- A decision on procuring a **picnic bench** was deferred until other projects come closer to fruition.
- Regarding damage to the **Lock-up**, caused by a bus and now repaired, the Council secured monies from the insurance company. They would not pay for repairs to the bus shelter as they had no proof who did it.
- The agreement with the **Flying Horse** over the plot of land is on-going.
- The **internal auditor was appointed** and will review the Councils accounts and processes in April. The External Auditor will send papers for completion towards the end of March.
- It was pleasing to learn of the involvement of both local Young Farmers and the Playgroup in preparing the **allotments** to the rear of the Village Hall, to be ready for rental.
- The Clerk raised a concern over the Public Liability insurance concerning the Old Churchyard and is planning to meet with a representative of the Diocese to clarify.
- Following this, it seems that CBC is unwilling to support the request to provide an ETO for **Old Church Path** and the item has now been closed.
- The **Arboricultural** update was brief, stating that the work carried out so far was good.
- Payment for the works on Holly Bush would deplete the coffers for a few weeks, but a large part of this would be replaced by a grant.
- The **letter of complaint** from the PC to Central Beds regarding clarity over their

Clophill Parish Council

Continued

handing of planning process in regard to the Lakes application and the proposed partnership, vitally necessary for the stability of the running of the area in the future. This does not impact the application or the legal agreement (S106).

Don't forget these meetings (usually on the last Tuesday evening of each month, dates on the website and noticeboards) are open to all Parishioners. The Councillors, who are volunteers, and the Clerk, work hard often in the background on our behalf: they deserve our support.

The Council has vacancies. If you are interested in joining and helping shape the community you live in, contact the Clerk James Stirling via the website.

Planning

CB/20/00170/FULL

Location: 32 Back Street

Proposal: Rear conservatory with aluminium bi folding doors.

NO COMMENT

CB/20/00587/FULL

Location: 14 Great Lane

Proposal: Proposed two storey and first floor extension and new garage with annexe over.

OBJECT

CB/20/00620/FULL

Location: The Gables, 15C Jacques Lane

Proposal: Single storey rear extension & associated internal alterations.

NO COMMENT

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at the Village Hall at 7.45pm on Tuesday 24 March

Parish Council – Anti-social behaviour

The Parish Council have been made aware of incidents of anti-social behaviour in and around the youth shelter at the recreation ground. The Council has engaged with Central Bedfordshire Council's Anti-social behaviour Team, in partnership with Bedfordshire Police to look at how best to deal with the situation in the most sympathetic way possible.

The partnership are keen to work with parents and other residents in the community to identify the young people involved, to assist them, and develop a positive range of actions. This might include diversionary activities and engagement in expending their energies in more constructive ways. The partnership is keen to avoid any formal enforcement action but will take that route should it prove necessary.

We are asking that if anyone is aware of the identity of these young people or are witness to any incidents, they report to the local Police on 101 or to the Council on 0300 300 8302. This would form part of the engagement process.

James Stirling, Clerk to the Clophill Parish Council

Parish Registers for January & February

Firstly apologies for the registers not appearing last month as I was unable to get to the Records Office before the copy date. As always it was a very interesting exercise. Searching the records covering 200 years illustrates the changing social history, especially the occupations of the fathers of the children baptised. In 1820 virtually all were described as labourers, presumably working on the land. 50 years later you get more skilled craftsman, bricklayers, carpenters etc. Into the 20th century you see more servicemen and railway workers, and finally more professional occupations by 1970.

One, however stood out. In 1920 Frederick Durston (Jack) was described as a Professional Footballer. This led me to Google where I found him as a goalkeeper for Brentford, but he was better known as a cricketer for Middlesex. He was a fast bowler and played one match for England, taking 6 wickets against an Australian XI in 1921. He was a true Clophill boy, born in the Rising Sun in 1893. On a sadder note, in 1870 there were 31 burials, not too many for the size of the village then, but between May and August there were 19 infants and young children recorded. No cause of death was mentioned, but it was probably an outbreak of measles, whooping cough or scarlet fever, a salutary reminder of how lucky we are to live now when vaccination has virtually eliminated these killer diseases of children.

1820

Baptisms

Jan 03 Walter, son of John and Sophia Burrows, Millwright
 Jan 17 Elizabeth, d of Robert and Mary Cunnington, Butcher
 Jan 23 Sarah, d of Wm & Nester (?) Ferrin (?)
 Feb 20 Joseph, s of Joseph & Ann Dudley
 Feb 27 George, s of Isaac and Mary Garner

Marriages

Feb 10 William Coxall of Gravenhurst to Frances Barwick

Burials *(Unfortunately Rev. Nethersole's writing is often indecipherable!)*

Jan 08 Burridge, no Christian name, widow
 Jan 14 Martha _beth, d of Wm and Dinah
 Jan 23 Eliza _worth, d of Ann, father unknown
 Feb 14 Mary Summerfield, wife of Abraham
 Feb 18 Joseph Horn

1870

Baptisms

Jan 30 Clara, d of James & Sarah Osborne
 Eliza, d of John & Diana Whittemore
 Mary, d of William & Hannah Doggett
 Mary, d of Amos & Anna Brown, butcher from Maulden
 Louisa Mary, d of William and Elizabeth Francis
 Feb 27 Lucy, d of Hen. & Susan Ann Wheeler
 Susan, d of Geo. & Mary Underwood
 Harry, s of Wm and Eliz Lincoln

Marriages

Jan 27 John Roberts, 20, Blacksmith to Ann Roberts, 22

Burials

Jan 04 Sarah Denton, 82
 Feb 06 Mary Ann Manton, 28
 Feb 27 James Rust, 77
 Andrew Parrish, child of James

1920

Baptisms

Jan 25 John Edward, s of John and Gertrude Garner, Maulden farmer
 Marian, d of Sidney and Kate Odell, market gardener
 Frances Ethel, d of Frank and Ethel H?, market gardener
 Kathleen Joan, d of Frederick & Lily Durston, prof footballer
 Emma Salome, d of ? Lammas
 Feb 01 Edward Charles, s of Arthur and Annabel Dimmock, blacksmith
 Feb 22 Kathleen, d of Ernest and Charlotte Bushby, horsekeeper

Marriages

Jan 06 George William Evans, 27, Clerk in Holy Orders to Dorothy Royston Elliott, 30
 Feb 11 Herbert Stanley Izzard, 25 to Bertha Sharman, 27

Burials

Feb 18 Mary Talman (?), 88

1970

Baptisms

Jan 25 Martin Keith Smith

Burials

Jan 09 Henry George Bushby, 63
 Jan 16 Annie Tuffnell, 81

REGISTERS FOR FEBRUARY 2020

Burial of Ashes

Feb 05 Philip James Cox, 71
 Feb 12 Edith Eileen Woodward, 85

Burial at the Old Church

Feb 11 Christine Lorenza Ann Bates, 78
 Following a Requiem Mass at St. Francis R.C. Church, Sheffield.

Useful numbers

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Electricity (Emergency)		0800 7838838
Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance		999
Water/Sewage (Anglian Water)		0845 7145145
Telephone	(Customer Services) 150 (Faults)	151
Highways Department (Central Bedfordshire Council)		0300 3008049
Benefits Agency (Bedford office)		01234 361500
Registrar's Office (Births/deaths/marriages)		0300 3008089
Rail (Enquiries)		0845 7484950
Buses 01234 262151	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511 (Flittabus)	01582 406561
Luton Airport		01582 405100
Swimming	(Flitwick) 01525 717744 (Robinson Pool)	01234 212479

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Central Beds Offices (Chicksands)		0300 300 8000
Mid-Beds MP	Nadine Dorries	01462 811992
Central Bedfordshire Councillors	Michael Blair	01525 404513
	Paul Duckett	07988 184061
Clophill Parish Council	(Clerk) James Stirling clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk	01462 887226

HOSPITALS

Bedford (North & South)	01234 355122	Admissions	01234 261150
		Appointments	01234 359012
Luton & Dunstable			0845 1270127

DOCTOR'S CLINICS

Ampt Hill	(Houghton Close) 01525 300898	(Oliver Street)	01525 631395
		(Greensands)	01525 631390
Shefford	Enquiries 01462 818620	Appointments	01462 810034
Barton 01582 528700		Flitwick	01525 715300

POLICE

County Police HQ		Non Emergency	101
Ampt Hill Station			01234 841212
			101

CHURCHES

St Mary's Parish Church		RECTORS POST VACANT	
	(Church Warden) Rosemary Ilett	mandrilett@onetel.com	01525 860274
St Francis RC Church, Shefford		Ian Gordon	01525 860875
Clophill Methodist Church		Jim Davies	01525 860829
Baptist Churches (Ampt Hill) Doreen Gibbs	01525 862424	(Maulden) Ian Crawford	01525 634325
		(Shefford) Hazel Arnold	01462 812564

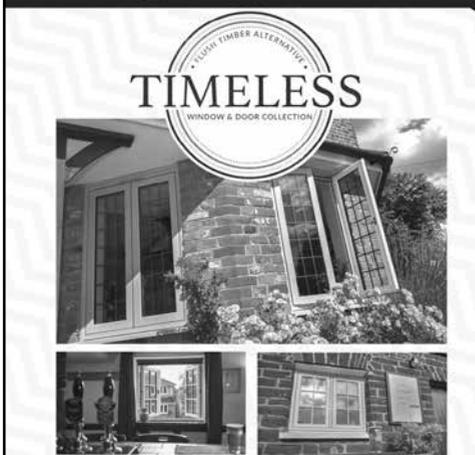
SCHOOLS

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

Village groups

Beverley Court	860920
Brownies	https://enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk
Clophill Community Care	Duty Contact 07791 773705
Clophill Heritage Trust	Ali Bradbury 07894 710001
Clophill Preschool	Imogen 07765 887868
	Chris 07936 006381
Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School & Nursery	Emma Topliff 860206
Clophill Toddler Group	Hannah Compton 07535 705711
Clophill United Charities	Richard Pearson 861110
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
	victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk
St Mary's PTA	Julia Skelton 07774 993973
Scouts and Cubs	www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved
Tea and Chat	Anita Errick 860695
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Marilyn Browning 07821 643936

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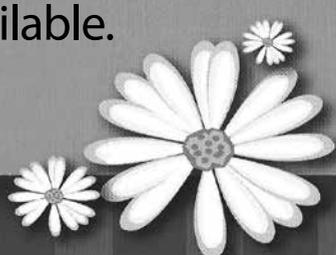
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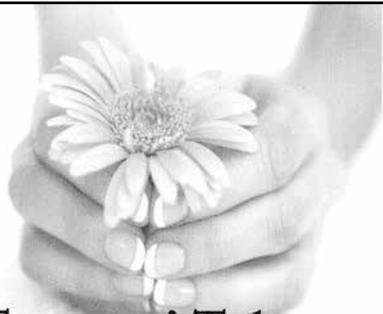
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