



FREE



Fidelity Design & Print - UNIT 7 KENNETH WAY, WILSTEAD IND EST, MK45 3PD



Tel: (01525) 860292 Tel: (01525) 404919

208 Clophill Road, Maulden, Bedfordshire MK45 2AF 89 Oliver Street, Ampthill, Bedfordshire MK45 2SA

CAR AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ALSO CLASSIC & AMERICAN CARS SERVICING – REPAIRS – BREAKDOWN SPRAYING – M.O.T.



Stuart Benson Building Projects

Design, Build and Maintenance including Interior Refurbishments, Kitchen / Bathroom fitting, Tiling, Flooring, Skirting boards, Doors Garage conversions. Exterior Decking, Patios, Driveways Garden Offices/ Sheds Tel: 07946 579862 or 01525 839878

Email: benson.stuart@ gmail.com

A word from the Editor...

Welcome to the February issue of Spotlight $Dear \ Reader,$

We're back!!

Spotlight returns after our winter break.





During this rather gloomy time, here are a few pictures to remind us that Spring is on the way; it's just around the corner and brighter days will soon be with us.

Best wishes, Elaine

The magazine staff

EDITOR

ADVERTISING MANAGER

DESIGN MANAGER

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

TREASURER

Elaine Jones editorial@clophillspotlight.co.uk Emma Frost ads@clophillspotlight.co.uk 07918 975823

Grant Robinson

Paul Downing Pdowning865@btinternet.com (Phyllis Edwards, Paul Leckie, Karen Proctor)

Richard Pearson

861110

Deadline for articles is 20th of the month

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



If you need any help during this lockdown, please get in touch with Clophill Community Care on:

07791 773705

...by voice call or text (SMS). Or, if you would prefer, email:

clophillcommunitycare@gmail.com

Transport to medical appointments including to vaccination centres Prescriptions

Shopping or Clickand-Collect

CLOPHILL COMMUNITY CARE

Clophill COVID-19 Support



Come into the Garden

with Kate Gardner

February is a great time to be planting trees and as BBC Countryfile launches Plant Britain; an ambitious two-year challenge aimed at galvanising everyone in the nation to get planting, I thought I would look at trees that you can grow in your gardens. No matter how large or tiny a space you may

have everyone can plant a tree to help combat climate change and at the same time, boost our wellbeing and wildlife.

When choosing trees for small gardens it is worth considering just how much space you have and which seasons of interest best suit your planting scheme.

Height and spread: This is probably the most important factor. Even small ornamental trees may, over time, reach a height of 6-8m (20-26ft) or more. If this is too much, consider a weeping form, as these rarely increase much in height. If spread is a problem, such as in a very restricted area, consider a columnar tree, as these do not spread much.

Season of interest: think about flowering time, foliage, fruit and bark. If you only have room for one tree ideally look for one with more than one season of interest such as fruit or autumn colour following on from flowers.

Deciduous or evergreen: Both types of trees have their advantages, the obvious one for evergreens being that they keep their leaves throughout the year. But many deciduous trees provide lovely autumn foliage colours not available with evergreen trees.

To avoid planting a tree too large for the site, it may help to draw a scale plan of your garden and plot the size of your tree at maturity. If planting in the corner of your garden, be aware that most of the canopy will shade neighbouring gardens.

Good trees to consider include Acer griseum or the paperbark maple which is a smallish tree with flaky bark that revels cinnamon coloured bark and great autumn colour. Amelanchier which has white flowers in spring before the bronze tinted leaves emerge in the spring. This one also has great autumn colour. Sorbus which have white flowers in late spring before the vellow, orange, pink or white berries follow (depending on the variety). The autumn colour is spectacular and the berries provide a valuable food source for the birds. Cercis canadensis has heart shaped leaves with bright pink flowers which open on the bare stems before the leaves open in the spring. This has the most amazing red autumn colour. Hamamelis (witch hazel) have citrus vellow to red flowers in late winter with the most amazing fragrance and an important winter source of food for insects.

Growing trees in containers is ideal for small gardens or where space is limited, such as on a patio or terrace. Japanese maple, Olive, Bay tree and apple or pear grown as a fan, espalier or cordon are great choices.

Start by choosing containers that are large enough to house the rootball of your tree. Ensure that the container has plenty of drainage holes. Do not put a small tree in a very large container. Most trees will thrive in a loam-based compost, such as John Innes No 3, which is fairly heavy, providing good stability. Before planting, add some pieces of broken terracotta pot to the base to stop compost washing out of the holes and raise up on pot feet to prevent waterlogging under containers. Trees in containers will dry out far more guickly than those growing in the ground and will need regular watering. Keep the compost moist, but not wet. Happy Gardening



St Mary's School News

What a start to the term we have had! None of us wanted to be in a National Lockdown, but it is a situation we sadly find ourselves in. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone who has suffered with Covid-19 or lost someone through Covid-19. Our eternal thanks go to all NHS workers who are doing the most amazing job in such challenging circumstances.



We are very proud that with less than 12 hours' notice we were able to open our doors to children of critical workers and vulnerable children. We were also able to offer remote learning to all children remaining at home from the first day of term. Our offering has evolved over the weeks and we cannot thank enough our amazing parents and carers for their ongoing support. We miss all our children who are currently learning remotely and cannot wait to see them all when we can.

We have had some good news this half term as we have taken delivery of our new ICT equipment, following the upgrade of our IT infrastructure. It has made such a difference to all in school. We also launched our brand-new website last term, which has a wealth of information and can be found at: https://www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk/.

We continue to post regularly on our school Facebook page as well, and this can be found at: https://www.facebook.com/clophillstmarysschool.

We are delighted to be supporting CHUMS with their Shine Bright, Wear Bright campaign this month.



Acorn Nursery News

Our Nursery is an integral part of the school, where we start Values Education from an early age and teach the Early Years Foundation curriculum through continuous provision resources, adult led activities and child-initiated learning. It offers a great opportunity for transition into school life.

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.

Our new topic this term is 'Once Upon a Time'. We've enjoyed listening to (and exploring through activities), the stories of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' and 'Zog' so far

Jake (the school dog)



Jake had a wonderful Christmas and was very spoilt! Jake has really grown over the Christmas break- and it was lovely to see him back at school. We are currently working with him- walking to heel, off his lead- with mixed results but he is a quick learner! He loves chasing balls and paper and has endless energy. We are hoping he will soon be able to accompany our staff when they undertake 'time to talk' sessions with some of our children.

Our Value for Febuary is Endurance (Perseverance)

The Value for the month of February is Endurance (Perseverance). In school we will be reflecting on the importance of not giving up even when we find things difficult. We will also be thinking about the fact that Endurance and Perseverance are only possible where there is hope. We will also consider the types of things that last forever and that withstand difficulties.

At home, you could think about times when you have found something hard but didn't give up. How did you feel once you had succeeded? What steps did you take to help you succeed? Could you give advice to someone who was finding something hard?

Clephill Prescheel News



Hello everyone,

Mud, mud, mud and more mud! We have been spending a lot of time outdoors in the wet and rain and mud. This is why everyone comes to preschool fully togged up in base layers, waterproofs, wellies, hats and gloves...staff included. To be able to get stuck into the mud kitchen, build with the logs and tyres in the large construction or sit in the gravel pit to play, you need the right gear!

When we reopened in June, we made a conscious decision to take preschool outdoors all sessions. While we have always embraced nature and the outdoor environment for all that it offers, it was only previously on Fridays that we pushed to stay all sessions outdoors.

What we are discovering now, as we realise the longevity of the global situation is that we need to ensure the changes we make are sustainable; that what we do is what we will continue to be. The real test of this is the weather, while our 3- and 4-year-olds are more



than able to cope in the rain and cold, our two-year-olds can struggle at times. We now offer hot drinks during session and parents have been great at sending in hot food flasks for lunch which has really helped keep tummies warm. However, as a setting that is renowned for its excellent care and understanding of children with additional needs, we also must consider how those children use our space on a cold and rainy day; wheelchairs and rollators can be tricky to manoeuvre in the mud. While we believe every child should experience the feeling of rain on their face and

catching snowflakes on their tongues, we must be mindful that those most vulnerable

children are kept warm during our coldest days. What we have come to realise in these past few months is that the ability to be flexible and to challenge difficulties and turn them into positives is the best way forward. We can use our indoor space when the weather gets too awful but that doesn't stop us going outside. What remains at the heart of our ethos is that nature is the greatest of healers and the greatest of teachers, but this goes hand in hand with experienced staff building on their relationships with the children to further their learning through play no matter where they are.



Clephill Prescheel continued

Our older children have been story telling and starting to write simple words as they attempt to story write, staff are on hand to assist with scribing and modelling the writing as the children dip into their imaginations. There has been lots of hide and seek and physical play, with children playing in groups, collaborating, running, counting and building relationships. Our book corner has also been very busy with children very keen on the non-fiction books and those about people who help us. The children have done their own helping out by looking after the chickens; clearing out their coop and giving them a cuddle. Chris has had the fire going and the children sat round to keep warm and cooked marshmallows.

We have more and more children applying for places with us and are delighted that our approach to teaching and learning is what so many people want for their children. This past year has been our busiest yet and while this term started off a little wobbly thanks to Boris, we are



going from strength to strength. We are harnessing change and benefitting from it.

Imogen, Chris and the team

www.clophillpreschool.co.uk clophillpreschool@gmail.com



Oven Baked Pasta with Chicken & Bacon (Serves 6)

INGREDIENTS

- 400g dried pasta shapes e.g., Penne or Rigatoni
- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 3 large chicken breasts (cut into bite sized pieces)
- 1 large onion (peeled and chopped)
- 1 red bell pepper (de-seeded and chopped)
- 1 yellow bell pepper (de-seeded and chopped)
- Pinch of salt and pepper
- Pinch of chili flakes (optional)
- 100g mature cheddar cheese, grated
- 100g mozzarella cheese, grated (or chunks of soft mozzarella)
- Small bunch of chopped parsley, chopped, for decoration

- 2 cloves of garlic (crushed or chopped)
- 1 tbsp tomato puree
- Half tsp each of dried oregano, and thyme
- 800g tinned chopped tomatoes or passata
- 120ml sour cream or crème fraiche
- 6 rashers streaky bacon



- 1. Preheat oven to 170 Fan.
- **2.** Prepare pasta by boiling in a large pan of salted water. Cook for 1-2 mins LESS than time recommended. When cooked, drain and put to one side.
- **3.** On a moderate heat, add oil to large frying pan. Cook chicken until just sealed (about 5 mins). Add onions and cook 3-4 mins until soft/translucent.
- **4.** Add chopped bacon (cook until slightly crispy) then add peppers, salt and pepper, garlic, tomato puree, oregano and thyme. Stir and cook for 3 mins.
- **5.** Stir in tinned tomatoes and cream, and slowly bring to gentle bubbling heat. Add pasta and bacon pieces. Stir together. Transfer to large baking dish.
- **6.** Top with cheddar and mozzarella. Place in oven for 20-25 mins until top is golden brown. Remove from oven, garnish with parsley.



Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Northamptonshire

The Flitvale WLT Local Group Zoom Series of Lectures

'Future Wildlife'

A talk by Brian Eversham, CEO of the Wildlife Trust, BCN

24 February (7.30pm) - delivered via Zoom to your home!

What might our wildlife be like in 50 years' time, if the Trust succeeds in its aims (or not)? A thought-provoking discussion of future habitats and the species which may live in them, especially in response to the warming climate.

Don't miss out on these fascinating talks! - Please contact Ann on **flitvale.info@gmail.com** if you wish to participate in these talks. She will then send instructions on how to log on nearer the time.

Also please let Ann know if you wish to receive monthly copies of our newsletter by email.

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire Registered charity number: 1000412 www.wildlifebcn.org Flit Vale Local Group www.flitvale.org.uk

Explore the Greensand Country from your home

As a resident of Clophill you are in the fortunate position of also being a resident of Greensand Country.

Some of you will be aware of this beautiful and much loved landscape of the Greensand Country which is defined by the Greensand Ridge, a band of higher ground stretching from Leighton Buzzard to Gamlingay, which rises out of the surrounding vales to create a unique local environment.

Others of you may be completely unaware of just what is on their doorstep. The Greensand Country area contains all of Bedfordshire's remaining heathland, more than half of its woodland and 29 historic parklands. It is a landscape rich in wildlife and cultural heritage, with its own special qualities and sense of place. A 'green oasis' of peace and quiet, rolling countryside, breath-taking views and lots more.

In January 2017, a National Lottery Heritage Funded Programme was established to deliver up to 90 projects, helping to raise awareness of the heritage value of the landscape and to reverse the gradual decline in the



distinct landscape character. Led by a partnership of 24 organisations working together and co-hosted by The Greensand Trust and Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity, the vision was for Greensand Country to be a living and working landscape that is cherished by present and future generations. The programme has achieved a number of major milestones, from creating new walking, cycling and horse riding routes, to rebuilding sandstone structures, training apprentices in heritage and landscape skills and the creation of the ever-popular Greensand Country Festival, which will return in May 2021.

The festival, like many others last year, was curtailed

due to the Covid-19 pandemic, however the Greensand Country Festival 2021 is determined to come back with a bang. The month long event will be a celebration of the area, which encourages those living within the landscape to get out and explore the outstanding countryside on their doorstep. Watch out for a comprehensive festival guide being delivered to your door. This guide not only covers the festival but the entire Greensand Country experience, giving you lots of ideas of where and what to explore for the whole of 2021.

Due to the Covid-19 lockdown people have been spending more time outside and this has been a great opportunity to explore the local landscape. Greensand Country has numerous trails available to cycle, run or walk which will take you into the heart of the countryside. But there is so much more.

There are numerous hidden gems to find and explore. Use the <u>Greensand Country interactive map</u> to plan your day out. There are places to shop, eat and drink. Why not support local businesses, by enjoying great experiences and discovering unique products in Greensand Country. Stop off at a pub or tearoom after a day of walking to enjoy locally sourced, and home cooked food. Or shop for antiques and unique handmade crafts in one of Greensand Country's picturesque villages.

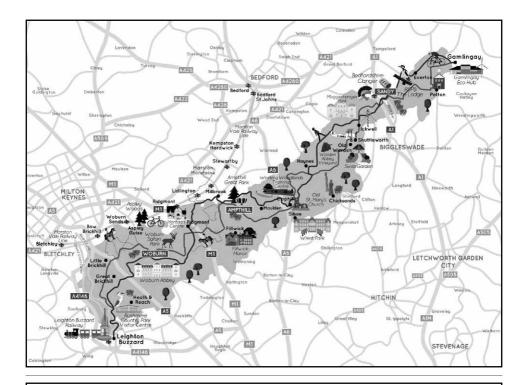
For a fun day out with the kids you could visit Leighton Buzzard Narrow Gauge Railway. This is one of the last survivors of 2-foot (610mm) gauge light railways built in Britain for industrial use.

There is also beautiful Moggerhanger House and gardens. This grade 1 listed Georgian House is located in 33 acres of stunning park and woodlands.

Or if you prefer to connect with nature you could try otter spotting on the River Flit. If you're lucky you might see an otter hunting in the river, or signs that an otter is nearby. Look out for bubbles under the water or slipways made by the belly of a sliding otter.

Greensand Country is a place where people feel able to slow down, unwind and connect with nature. Somewhere to escape urban life, breathe easy and feel uplifted. Come and discover it for yourself!

To find out more go to www.greensandcountry.com.



Are you fed-up with doing the same old walks?

Walking in Bedfordshire www.walkinginengland.co.uk/beds is the website for you!

With hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, contact details for all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own, or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John says: 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Bedfordshire (part of the Walking in England suite of websites- one for each county in England) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So, home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris www.walkinginengland.co.uk john@walkinginengland.co.uk

Clophill Parish Council



Further information on matters mentioned here are posted on the Parish Council website: www.clophill-pc.gov.uk .

With the 'Happy New Year' greetings now well past, your Parish - and Ward - Councillors gave up another of their evenings to the benefit of the village, although they hadn't been idle over the last couple of months by the sounds of it.

They were joined by a good number of interested members of the public.

Before the main agenda items were discussed **Steve Rodell** as Chair commented on the state of the trees in Pinehill, noting that there were some dangling and fallen branches and the consequent need for action to tidy them up. Thanks were extended to **Andy Gardner** for helping there but more work is required. The Christmas tree on the Green was much appreciated and it could be even larger next year. Particular thanks to **Craig Nester** for initiating volunteers and helping make it a success.

The newly erected **Lakes signage** was discussed with some concern they could be misleading as the Lakes are not yet open to the public. Many people had already gone down **Jacques Lane**, only to discover that there was no entrance to the site. It seems that the sign - and there is another in the village – was erected early and the Greensand Trust will attend the next meeting to provide the village with an update on wider progress of the parkland that is now very close to delivery (see notes later).

Our Ward Councillors gave CBC updates:

- COVID-19 and budgeting dominated the last month.
- 16 x COVID Marshalls have been recruited who are giving advice on what businesses and the public are allowed to do and not to do.
- Discretionary business grants can be given to companies forced to close, including those which have no premises, noting that monies are still available. Potential claimants should contact Cllrs Blair, Smith or Duckett to apply.
- Other issues included the continuing, wrongful use of the Causeway by heavy lorries.
- The current Speed Limit Consultation along a stretch of the A507 was discussed. It was felt that 40mph would be preferable. The Council will suggest a raft of measures to CBC depending on the results of it's investigation into safety.
- Praise was given for the retiring Bedfordshire Chief Fire Officer.
- The local surgeries will be using the Rufus Centre for vaccinations and it is hoped that these will start on 18th January.
- The 'Trees Fund' grant can still be applied for until 28th February and it is for the planting of hedgerows and trees.

Clophill Parish Council

Other business was discussed, including:

- Approval of a **Woodland School** linked to **St Marys** to use Parish owned woodland adjacent to Townshott allotments.
- Residents from Jacques Lane have written to CBC to express concerns over the behaviour of the developer of the recently built houses. Namely mud left on the road, removal of a suitable lamppost and the later replacement by tall, very bright and inappropriate lighting; and repair to the road and passing place damaged by HGV deliveries. CBC have been informed and the Enforcement Officers are taking note. The Ward Councillors will also follow this up.
- **Lakes development.** The land transfer is imminent and members of the GST will be available to attend the next Parish Council meeting to give an update.
- **Neighbourhood Plan** the draft of the plan is with the consultant.
- Road naming at the Lakes development five suggestions have been submitted (the developer will choose three) including Parker Eaton, Robotham, (subject to consultation), **Quarry**.... **Clay**.... and **Goose**.... (suffix to be determined).

Clir Mantini then presented the precept and budget for the year, where he thanked the Clerk for all his help. He stated that there were savings made over the past year as there were fewer admin charges and grants made, thus it was now in a comfortable position; having decent reserves to be able to fund capital projects upfront, rather than having to dig into reserves. After discussion it was decided to leave the precept unaltered for this year, to be reviewed in 2022.

Clir Breed then updated the Council on progress regarding transferring land at the bottom of Cainhoe Rd to the Parish; this is to be progressed with confirmation of likely costs. After a very brief financial report, the meeting closed at 22.15; when members of the public thanked the PC members for their time and work on our behalf.

Planning

CB/20/04732/FULL

Location: 1 Shefford Road. Proposal: Construction of dwelling and associated parking.

OBJECT

CB/20/04567/VOC

Location: 3 new houses in Jacques Lane.

Proposal: Variation of Condition 8 of planning permission CB/16/04854/FULL (Erection of three dwellings). Amended condition to reflect the revised drawing PL 001 revision A which shows the current parking and vehicle turning area.

OBJECT

CB/20/03077/FULL

Location: Land South of Top Farm, Shefford Road.

Proposal: Change of use of land to mixed use. Permission is sought for consent for one residential static caravan and one touring caravan, parking for two vehicles, water treatment plant and associated additional hardstanding and infrastructure. (with alterations to the consented stable & barn). **OBJECT**

CB/20/04427/FULL

Location: Warren Stables, Warren Lane.

Proposal: Extension to existing equine exercise arena including change of use.

SUPPORT

CB/20/03847/MW

Location: Cainhoe Quarry.

Proposal: Erection of covered waste facility building (extension to planning permission 18/01243/MW) and retrospective approval for the installation and use of recycling plant. **OBJECT**

CB/20/04354/FULL

Location:116 & 118 High Street.Proposal:3 New build dwellings, following the demolition of 2 existing dwellings.

OBJECT

CB/TRE/20/00689

Location: 3 Hawthorne Close.

Proposal: Works to Trees Protected by Tree Preservation Order MB/94/00003/G1: Reduce three Oak Trees by 30-40%. **OBJECT**

Clophill's Serving Survivors of WW1

By Sue Pearson

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

Albert Leonard Izzard

Born in Hall End in 1895 and known as Len, Albert lived most of his life at 126 High Street, Clophill, where his father-Charles ran a market garden. On the 1911 Census Len was living with his parents, Charles & Emily in what was then known as Church Lane. Charles was the Sunday School Superintendent at Clophill Methodist Chapel.

Len volunteered in February 1915, with four friends after an evening at the Rising Sun (much to the distress of his mother- especially as Len was an only child!) joining the 3rd Bedfordshire Regiment. He served initially in a horse-mounted regiment and later as a sharp shooter. He was sent to France in December 1916. Len was wounded and later gassed. He was hospitalised in the UK, later returning to fight and took part in a number of important engagements including Cambrai.



He was demobilised in January 1919 and awarded the General Service and Victory Medals. He married Elsie Gobey in 1916 and they had one daughter, Florence Ethel, known as Ethel. Ethel became the music teacher at St Mary's school, working there for 30 years. Her married name was Mason. Len passed away in September 1968, aged 72 and is buried at the Old Church.

Many thanks to Tony O'Connor for supplying Len's photograph and life story.

John Patsy Izzard was born in Clophill in 1882. In 1891 and 1901 he was living in the home of his maternal grandparents, William and Mary Whittamore next to the New Inn on the High Street. William was an agricultural labourer, but it is later noted he was an army pensioner. By 1901 John is a gardener, he worked for the Rev. Meyer. It is probable that John was the son of Emily Izzard, daughter of Mary before she married William. Emily later married James Samuel Everitt and their first children were twins. The family also lived in Clophill.

John married Ellen Shotbolt in 1903 and they moved to Watton At Stone, Hertfordshire so that he could continue working for Rev. Meyer. The couple had had two children before he went off to join the Northants Regiment in December 1915. He was 5' 7". He went to France in November 1916 and suffered a gunshot wound to his back. He was notified as missing in the Spring of 1918 and it was some 3 months later that his wife was notified that he was a Prisoner of War. He was repatriated on Christmas Eve, discharged because of his injuries. The family remained in Watton until John died in 1966 in Shrodells Hospital, Watford.

Parish Registers

We have had to suspend the Parish Registers for the foreseeable future, as the County Records Office is closed until further notice.



"Thank you to all the households that decorated their houses for the Festive Season.

In these strange times I am sure that it brought a smile to many people. It certainly did for me.

Thanks"

Kathrynn - resident of Tanqueray Avenue

Village groups

Beverley Court Brownies Clophill Community Care Clophill Heritage Trust Clophill Preschool

Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School & Nursery
Clophill Toddler Group
Clophill United Charities
Conservation Group
Flower Club
Friends of the Cheshire Home
Funzone After School Club
Indoor Carpet Bowls
Messy Church

Friends of St Mary's (FOSM)

Scouts and Cubs Tea and Chat Village Hall Booking Secretary



	860920
https://enquiryym.girlguiding.org	.uk
Duty Contact	07791 773705
Ali Bradbury	07894 710001
Imogen	07765 887868
Chris	07936 006381
Emma Topliff	860206
Hannah Compton	07535 705711
Richard Pearson	861110
Brian Adams	862297
Gillian Hill	860539
Sue Pearson	861110
	07903 167493
Tony Meredith	860754
Victoria Higgins	07920 568861
victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk	
Mary Milne and Jenny Garnha	m
fosmclophill@gmail.com	
Anita Errick www.scouts.org	.uk/get-involved
Marilyn Browning	860695
	07821 643936



Useful numbers

Gas (Emergency) Electricity (Emergency) Emergency Fire/Police/Ambul Water/Sewage (Anglian Water) Telephone Highways Department (Centra Benefits Agency (Bedford office Registrar's Office (Births/deaths Rail (Enquiries)) (Customer Services) 150 al Bedfordshire Council) e)	(Faults)	0800 111999 0800 7838838 999 0845 7145145 151 0300 3008049 01234 361500 0300 3008089 0845 7484950
Buses 01234 262151 Luton Airport	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511	(Flittabus)	01582 406561 01582 405100
Swimming	(Flitwick) 01525 717744	(Robinson Pool)	01234 212479
LOCAL GOVERNMENT Central Beds Offices (Chicksan Mid-Beds MP Central Bedfordshire Councille	ors	Nadine Dorries Michael Blair Paul Duckett	0300 300 8000 01462 811992 01525 404513 07988 184061
Clophill Parish Council	(Clerk) James Stirling clerk@	clophill-pc.gov.uk	01462 887226
HOSPITALS Bedford (North & South)	01234 355122	Admissions Appointments	01234 261150 01234 359012
Luton & Dunstable			0845 1270127
DOCTOR'S CLINICS Ampthill (H Shefford Barton 01582 528700	Houghton Close) 01525 300898 Enquiries 01462 818620	(Oliver Street) (Greensands) Appointments Flitwick	01525 631395 01525 631390 01462 810034 01525 715300
POLICE County Police HQ Ampthill Station		Non Emergency	101 01234 841212 101
CHURCHES St Mary's Parish Church (Chu St Francis RC Church, Shefford Clophill Methodist Church Baptist Churches	Jin (M	RECTOR andrilett@onetel.cor n Davies aulden) Ian Crawfor nefford) Hazel Arnol	01462 813436 01525 860829 d 01525 634325
SCHOOLS Clophill St Mary's C of E Lowe Harlington Upper School, Harl Preschool clophillpreschool Redborne Upper School, Amp Robert Bloomfield Middle Sch	ol@gmail.com (Chris) 07936 thill	ner Mrs K Bingley) 006381 or (Imogen	01525 860206 01525 755100 07765 887868 01525 404462 01462 628800

Painter and Decorator Call Chris: 07950714579

f do you want your home brightening up?

all interior & exterior work

no job too small!

free no obligation quote

25 years experience & fully insured

facebook: @christopherthepainter email: chris.minihane@btinternet.com

JK Garden and Landscape Services Ltd





full landscaping service patios fencing decking new lawns driveways all garden maintenance

Contact us on **0791 2028254** or at **jkgardening@hotmail.co.uk**

You can also find us on Facebook



Do you want to make a fundamental difference to your life and don't know where to start?

My name is Lynn and I am a Life Coach.

I have extensive experience helping with every aspect of life, e.g. support with family issues, or your own financial, emotional, or physical wellbeing.

My most recent project has been supporting young teenagers in their place of education.

Be the change in your life and contact me for a free, no obligation chat.

07557948644 01525860384 Jynnclements87@gmail.com Tammys' Talons

Nail Technician Gel. Manicure and Pedicure

CALGEL IZ was "On your

Tammy Kirby Clophill, Bedfordshire, MK45 4AW

Tel: 07968379309 tammystalons@gmail.com Do You have a local business that you would like to advertise in our local Spotlight

Contact Advertising Manager

Emma Frost

ads@clophillspotlight.co.uk

E.T. Accountancy Services

Experienced Chartered Accountant and Chartered Tax adviser based in Clophill providing a full range of accountancy and taxation services to businesses and private individuals.

To arrange a free initial consultation please telephone me on 01525 590465 or email emma@et-accountancy.co.uk

Chartered Accountant and Chartered Tax Adviser

Emma Thoulass FCA CTA www.et-accountancy.co.uk 01525 590465



Professional friendly accountancy services

Fully qualified, Free initial consultation, competitive fees Sole traders, Ltd companies, bookkeeping, payroll, CIS, VAT & Tax.

> sally@sjtax.co.uk 01234 831997 07899 808592

USING PARABEN & SULPHATE FREE, 100% YEGAN, CRUELTY FREE PRODUCTS



A Cut Above Hairdressing

by Rachel In the comfort of your own home cutting & styling specialist

call or text : O7896OO9382 facebook: acutaboverachel

Salon experienced Fully insured Fully qualified to Level 3 Standard.



Sínce You're My Friend

Valentine's Day can be a special day When someone really cares about you This Valentine's Day is more than ok Since you're my friend and Tm yours too

Daisy Cooper

Spring cleans, one off cleans and moving home cleans all available.

Daisycooper22@hotmail.co.uk Please call 07913 332914

Keeping your home as fresh as a Daisy

Hypnotherapy...the Mindful Way

For help with: anxiety, stress, IBS, migraine mindful eating, insomnia & many other conditions. For more information or an initial consultation please contact Ann. Tel: 07791171980

Email: enquiries@pathwaysofmindfulness.co.uk www.pathwaysofmindfulness.com













Want to do more for the environment?

You order, we deliver

Do you want to buy food free from single-use plastics? We provide all your store cupboard essentials, packaged in recyclable and compostable materials.

Sourced within a 25 mile radius by ethical and like-minded people and delivered direct to your door.

Areas covered: Ampthill, Maulden, Flitwick, Clophill, Silsoe, Woburn, Woburn Sands, Aspley Guise and surrounding villages.

Visit our website: <u>www.rephils.co.uk</u> Or ring Phil: 07562 272572 to place an order.

Free delivery for all orders over £10.00.

CURRENSP.

Clophill St. Mary's

NEW NURSERY BUILDING OPEN NOW

CES AVAILABLE

Welcome to Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School and Nursery

A small, friendly, Voluntary Aided Church of England Lower School, graded 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, with close links to the local community.

St. Mary's is a Values based school taking children aged from 2 years 7 months to 9 years and providing them with a framework for living, tightly woven into the positive Christian ethos of the school.

Breakfast and after school care for all ages.

Acorn Nursery

for preschool children aged 2 years 7 months to 4 years with breakfast and after school care available.

Providing 30 hours free childcare entitlement.

To arrange a visit, please call us 01525 860206 or email: generaladmin@/nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk For more information visit: www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk <u>SelectTrave</u>lHolidays

The Home of Cruise Select



Book your next holiday with your local trusted independent travel agency WHY BOOK WITH US:

- Book with confidence fully protected holidays
- Speak to someone face to face
- We do all the work to save you time and money
- You will get expert advice and first-hand knowledge
- Excellent customer service
- Multi award-winning

Sometimes, nothing beats speaking to a human, especially a friendly professional!

So whether you want a beach break, a honeymoon, golfing holiday, safari trip, cruise, escorted tour, short break or tailor make something that's bespoke to your needs, just ask us!

OUR PHONE LINES ARE ALWAYS OPEN

Freephone 0800 028 0529 01234 326778

www.selecttravelholidays.co.uk sales@selecttravelholidays.co.uk



ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS AND BUILDING DESIGN SERVICES

Professional Architectural design services provided for all types of private residential building projects including extensions, loft/ garage conversions, garages and outbuildings through to new build dwellings with all necessary council approvals obtained.





AIMS

Tim Kemp BAFCA Top Barn Rectory Road Steppingly MK45 5AT

TEL/FAX : 01525 717141 MOBILE : 07900 823 012 www.aims.co.uk e-mail: timk@aims.co.uk

- Professional service providing for all your accounting and tax needs
- Practical advice based on 20 years experience in running businesses
- ◆ *Personal* approach with fixed fees relevant to the work *you* need
- Friendly, local accountant supporting the community for over 20 years

Please call for a free, no-obligation initial meeting

ACCOUNTANTS FOR business

Hills-Howson Financial Services

Financial adviser appointments available in your home or our office

The Old Post Office 53 High Street Clophill Beds MK45 4BE

Tel: 01525 861803 www.hills-howson.co.uk hills.howson@btconnect.com Including:-

Investments

Pensions

Protection

Annuities

Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction service of individual items through to complete property and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or email **info@peacockauction.co.uk**

SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED

Antique & Modern Furniture • Clocks • Books • Ceramics & Glassware • Pictures & Prints • Bicycles Jewellery & Watches • Collectables • Garage Tools & Equipment • Household Electrical Items • Office Furniture & Equipment • Retail Products & Stock • Vehicles • Horticultural & Commercial Equipment Building Materials • Garden Furniture & Effects

www.peacockauction.co.uk





Eastcotts Park, Wallis Way, Bedford, MK42 0PE

THE COMPUTER MAN 🛩

Got a problem with your computer and don't know what to do? Suffering with a virus or spam?

Don't hesitate! Ring your local computer expert Remote repairs or home visits (Day, evening & weekend)

Lap top/desk top loan (Free pick up & drop off in local area)

 $\label{eq:comprehensive health check from £35} (Special Offer £35 - normally £40) \\ Refurbished fl at screen available from £15 \cdot Refurbished base units available from £99 \\$



Contact Stephen Amos 07976 718567 the.computerman@ntlworld.com



29

rincontuition - Spanish & Maths

Expand your knowledge. Boost your confidence

Phone 01525 860743 - Mob 07952 667814

Exam techniques and preparation. Revision and practice papers: SATs, 11+ and GCSEs

Spanish for business or pleasure, all levels. GCSE & A-levels Skills development: conversation, reading and writing Maths: Boost your confidence and abilities KS1, KS2, KS3, SATs, 11+ and GCSE practice papers. References available. Reasonable rates Enquiries: 01525 860743 - 07952 667814 rincontuition@yahoo.com







LIZZIE BROWN PET CARE & HORSE GROOM SERVICES

DOG WALKING PET POP-IN & FEEDING PET/HOUSE SITTING EQUINE GROOM*



(*BTEC Cert Equine Management)

Lizzie Brown 01525 862459 / 07500 989 700

Reliable friendly local service Short notice available (no contract commitments) Insured Quality references available CRB checked* *(Disclosure & Barring Service)



Wet Cut £19 Cut & Blow Dry £30 Colours start from £27 Special OAP rates

Opening Hours:

Monday	9.30-2.00
Tuesday	9.30-5.00
Wednesday	9.30-5.00
Thursday	9.30-8.00
Friday	9.30-8.00
Saturday	9.30-4.00

Zoe, Donna, Gemma and Amanda look forwar to welcoming you.

Ring now to book an appointment. Appointments also available with our Barber.

Burgoine Business Centre, 117 Clophill Road, Maulden MK45 2AE

01525 861491 . Loads of free parking



Hedging & Pruning Shrubs & Fruit Trees Tree Surgery & Removal Fully certificated and insured

Call the Garden Doctor and bring Good Health to your Garden

www.gardendoctor.org.uk



The Happy Plaise

On the Green beside the Post Office every Friday, 3.30-7.30pm We are your local mobile fish and chip van, we have been parked on the green every Friday for the past 6 years. We serve only the highest quality produce, cooked fresh to order and served to you by our friendly staff.

Why don't you pop down and come and Try Our Fry!

To avoid waiting in the cold, give us a call to

place your order on: 07833 786108

A big thank you to all our customers who have loyally supported us over the past couple of years.

Chapman & Kirby Heating

Gas, Plumbing & Heating Installations Gas Safe Registered



Boiler Servicing & Maintenance

Call us now

Tel: 01525 861255 Mob: 07831 132308

Email: info@chapmanandkirbyheating.co.uk

1C, Old Silsoe Road, Clophill, Beds., MK45 4AR



We take care of the details, so you can say goodbye the way you want to.

NEVILLE. Because there is a difference.

AMPTHILL

The Old Church, Flitwick Road MK45 2NT t: 01525 406132 e: ampthill@nevillefuneralservice.com

SHEFFORD

24 Clifton Road SG17 5AE t: 01462 813258 e: shefford@nevillefuneralservice.com

www.nevillefuneralservice.com









HELP YOUR LAWN TO THRIVE, NOT JUST SURVIVE

Over the last 30 years our love for lawns has grown and grown (just like our grass!). We combine our passion and enthusiasm with innovative technology as we continue to revolutionise UK Lawn Care. Our groundbreaking 12-month Lawn Treatment **Programmes**, keep your grass looking its best all year round, ensuring your lawn receives the love and attention it deserves.

Let's create the laws we both love

Start your Lawn Care journey today: Call us on 01234 709345/01480 597432 email: bedford@greenthumb.co.uk visit: greenthumb.co.uk/bedford



Baths, Toilets & Showers Sinks and Taps Guttering Leaks and Burst Pipes Drainage Handyman jobs also



beta plumbing

Silsoe based No call out fee – free estimates Fully insured and guaranteed No job too small 07720 723653 01525 864859 info@betaplumbing.co.uk www.betaplumbing.co.uk



A member of the White Goods Trade Association Fully Insured Est. 1981



Interior & Exterior Work Undertaken

No job too small

Professional service

Free estimates 07851 176296 mjswain1@hotmail.com



Did you know there are free on-line training courses available at Future learn. *www.futurelearn.com* The training is free - you can stop go and pick up at a time convenient to the learner, modules are bite-size and there is a lot of choice.





STUART DREW ELECTRICAL SERVICES

PART P CERTIFIED MEMBER OF THE ECA QUALIFIED TO 18TH EDITION

Consumer unit upgrades (fuse box). EV charging points. Additional lights and sockets. Garden power. Electric showers fitted. Fault finding and electrical safety certification. For a professional, courteous service with free estimates & all work guaranteed

29 Lincoln Way Harlington Beds LU5 6NG Fully qualified & insured Over 30 years experience Telephone 01525 875965 07941 812662



Compu-Doc

Call the Doc for -

Hardware & software

Diagnosis & treatment

01525-402227

PC / laptop crisis ?

john.stafford@compu-doc.co.uk





- Working whirlpool & spa baths, power & steam shower systems on display
- Over 40 settings on display
- Complete installation service if required
- Personal friendly service from a family run business

- Accessories
- Mirrors
- Bathroom furniture
- Heated towel rails
- Saunas
- Bathroom cabinets

SHEFFORD 01462 627002

www.bathroomvogue.com Unit 4A, Shefford Industrial Park, St Francis Way, Shefford SG17 5DZ

Hire Clophill Village Hall



Wedding Receptions Birthdays & Special Occasions Dances and Discos Club & Community Meetings & Activities

Phone: 07821 643 936

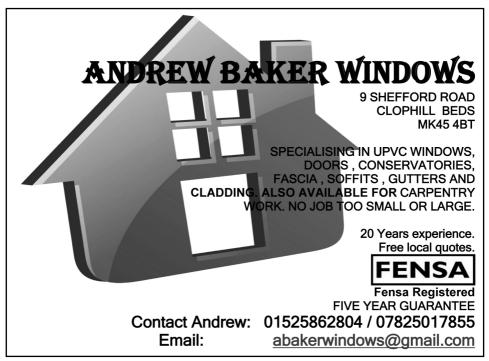
Mail: Clophill.villagehall@gmail.com Web: www.clophillvillagehall.co.uk

ROGER STOREY

YOUR LOCAL PAINTER AND DECORATOR

Friendly and Reliable Service Many Years Experience

Please phone: 01525 861253 or 07800 777615



Advertisers index

Architectural Services S&S Coates Surveying & Design	26
Auctioneers & Valuers W&H Peacock	29
Bathroom Services Bathroom Vogue	38
Builders & Carpenters Stuart Benson Building Projects	IFC
Car Services/Repairs A&F Motors Ltd Mint Alloys TC Coomber Car Services	IFC 35 BC
Chimney Sweep Poppins Chimney Sweep	IBC
Cleaning Services Daisy Cooper Ovenclean	21 23
Computer Services Compu-Doc The Computer Man	36 29
Electrical Services Stuart Drew Electrical Services	36
Financial Services AIMS Accountants ET Accountancy Services Hills-Howson Financial Services MB Accounting Services SJ Tax & Accounting Services	28 19 28 22 19

6	Food and Refreshments Re-Phil's Zero Waste Shop The Happy Plaice	25 32
9	Funeral Services AL&G Abbott, Funeral Directors Neville Funeral Service	27 33
	Garden Services Adam in your Garden Garden Doctor Green Thumb Lawn Treatment JK Garden and Landscape Services Root 'n Branch	22 31 34 18 36
Ĉ	Health & Beauty A Cut Above Hairdressing	19
1 3 6	Ampthill & Flitwick Physiotherapy Hairs & Graces Kevin Reynolds Mindfulness Movement & Meditation Nicola Rayner Fitness Pathways of Mindfulness Tammys' Talons Pumpernickel Health	32 31 24 40 24 21 18 38
9 6 8 9	Home Improvements Christopher The Painter Partridge Flooring Roger Storey - Painter & Decorator David James Kitchens Paintaway	18 20 39 37 35
8 2 9	Nursery Schools Clophill PreSchool Clophill St Mary's C of E	BC
	Acorn Lower School and Nursery	25

Pet & Animal Services

Conifer Kennels & Cattery Lizzie Brown Pet Care The Bluecat Luxury Cattery	36 30 23
Plumbing & Drainage Services Beta Plumbing Chapman & Kirby Heating Warm Property Services	34 32 23
Print Services Fidelity Design & Print	IFC
Public Houses The Stone Jug	22
Repair Services Tim Downing Repair Services	34
Security Services Maximum Security Systems	37
Travel Services Select Travel Holidays	26
Tuition and Coaching Services Rincon Tuition (Spanish & Maths) TalkEasy Coaching	30 18
Village Hall Clophill Village Hall	39
Windows/Replacement Andrew Baker Windows AW Windows Kings Windows Misty Double Glazing	39 IBC 20 23

IFC = Inside Front Cover IBC = Inside Back Cover BC = Back Cover



Mindfulness Movement & Meditation

Based on gentle yoga and incorporating the principles of mindfulness, this class teaches how to use the breath to stretch, move and relax. Held via Zoom so you can participate from the comfort of your own home: Sunday at 10.00-11.00 am or Tuesday evenings 7-8pm £6/hour session

For more information or to book a place please contact Ann: 07791171980 ann.okeeffe@btinternet.com

Love reading Spotlight?

Don't forget to mention us when you use a business that advertises in this magazine!



See reviews from satisfied customers at awwindows.co.uk

Cl@phill Presch@@l

Your local Outstanding Preschool, based at Clophill Village Hall welcoming children from 2 years of age.

We'll help your child to become an inventive and creative learner. With access to a fantastic outdoor area, our focus is on natural and exploratory 'play with a purpose'.



Call us today to find out more: 07765 887868 or 07936 006381

-F 💽

www.clophillpreschool.co.uk

C Coomber



MOT'S CLASS 4/5L/7 **CAR SERVICING & REPAIR TYRES & EXHAUSTS AIR CONDITIONING DIAGNOSTIC CODE READING**

01525 406330

AMPTHILL

Collection & Deliverv SERVICE AVAILABLE

Please ask

UNIT F, AMPTHILL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, STATION ROAD, AMPTHILL, MK45 2QY



Locally printed by ficking | Tel: 01234 907907 / 01525 300001. www.fidelityprint.co.uk

WA mbs