

Vol 43 | No.4

FREE

CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

MAY 2021

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Welcome to the May issue of Spotlight

Dear Reader,

A couple of “pleas” from me this month. Spotlight relies on advertising revenues as well as our team of unpaid volunteers to keep afloat. The pandemic has meant we have lost some of our advertisers over the last year so there will be a shortfall. You can help by mentioning our magazine to any tradespeople or local companies you employ.

The annual costs to advertise are on page 21 this month.

We are still looking for a new treasurer to replace Richard Pearson on the team. After many years with us, sadly Richard has decided to step down in the summer. If you think you can help, please see page 2 for details.



Best wishes, Elaine

The magazine staff

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Deadline for articles is 20th of the month

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

SAVE YOUR SPOTLIGHT

New Treasurer wanted for your local village magazine

After many years, Richard is stepping down from his role as Treasurer for Spotlight, so we are looking for someone to take over.

This mainly involves the paying of invoices, and keeping the accounts and finances in order.

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.
We are looking to fill this role with a face to face handover and
visit to the bank once things are opened up more,
so probably a June timeframe.

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

Come into the Garden

with *Kate Gardner*



There has been a lot in the media recently about the decline of wildlife here in the UK with hedgehogs, bats, sparrows, song thrushes, and stag beetles being particularly at risk, but if we manage our gardens to benefit wildlife, these creatures, and many more will find refuge.

While just about any flower with nectar can be a treat for butterflies (cottage garden plants in particular), it is a slightly different story for caterpillar food plants (known as host plants). In fact, most butterfly species have just a short list of host plants. Growing host plants for caterpillars in the garden is not necessarily guaranteed to attract the relevant butterflies, but butterflies do breed in gardens, so it is worth experimenting with different host plants. Butterflies, moths and their caterpillars are important in the food chain, being prey to many species of birds and bats. You may see garden birds taking caterpillars to feed to their young in the spring and summer. It can take up to 10,000 caterpillars to rear a brood of blue tits so leaving a small patch of wild garden with some nettles, wild flowers and long grass will be hugely beneficial.

Top larval food plants include **Lady's-smock**, (*Cardamine pratensis*), **Bird's foot trefoil**, (*Lotus corniculatus*), **Ivy**, and **Nasturtium**. Plants to feed butterflies from spring to autumn include **primroses, sweet William, native bluebells, bugle, forget-me-not, cuckoo flower, cornflower, French marigold, knapweed, marjoram, scabious, purple loosestrife**, and many **herbs**, including, **marjoram, thyme, lavender and sage**. Planning ahead to the autumn and you can be adding **asters, ice plant, hebes, buddleia**, and **verbena** into your gardens.

Many flowers of the daisy family, such as sunflower, help to attract butterflies and bees, whereas **echinacea, red valerian, heather, knapweed, foxgloves** and **cardoons** are essential food sources for moths. Colour is also an important factor as moths tend to seek out white and lighter coloured flowers as they are easier to see in the dark so think about growing some **Michaelmas daisy** or **Nicotiana glauca**. Climbing plants such as Jasmine or honeysuckle can be grown up a trellis or a tree.

Bats have declined dramatically in the UK in recent years. The most likely species that you will see around your garden at dusk are the two species of pipistrelle. They are usually the first bats to emerge at dusk and you may notice their quick, slightly fluttery flight as they take the same route around your garden four or five times. One reason for the decline of bats is loss of suitable roosting sites. In the summer months they require a warm daytime roost especially if they are breeding. To encourage bats, you can put up a bat box on a sunny, south facing wall. Boxes made of 'woodcrete' or special 'bat bricks' are preferred to wooden ones as they are better insulated.

If you are fortunate, you may find that slow worms use your garden. They are attracted to undisturbed habitats especially compost heaps in gardens, where temperatures are often warm. Slow worms also prefer to inhabit undisturbed areas of garden where perhaps there are piles of stones or rubble, with overgrown vegetation or in log piles.

A garden with both open sunny spaces and damp shady spots is more likely to attract and home a wide array of creatures than a garden where one range of conditions dominates completely. A log habitat is best created in a damp shaded area and will provide a house for wood boring beetles and their larvae, wood lice, ground beetles and centipedes. These will in turn attract animals seeking food including hedgehogs, toads and frogs.

Happy Gardening

St Mary's School News

We welcomed families back after the Easter break and as we write this, the sun is shining! It certainly helps to lift spirits and long may it continue.

We have started working with a new catering company, HCL and initial feedback is very positive. The children really enjoy the meals, and are very excited to press their names on a touch screen in advance of collecting their food.

Our Friends of St Marys (FOSM) parent group have been busy over the Easter break preparing donations of uniforms for resale, which parents in the school are grateful for; as children grow out of their uniform so quickly!

Children in Year 3 and 4 are enjoying cricket lessons this term and Years 1 and 2 were able to enjoy a taster session.

Reception children have been able to have their hearing tests and vision screening completed in school and class and individual photos are scheduled for early May.

Parents who applied for a school place starting in Reception Class in September 2021 will have received confirmation of this.

We thank you all for choosing St Mary's and really look forward to welcoming you and your families into our school. We will be in touch soon with details of our transition process, and if you have any questions at all then please contact Mrs. Topliff, School Business Manager, at generaladmin@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk.

Please also regularly check out our Website - <https://www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk/> and our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/clophillstmarysschool>.



Our Value for may is *Wisdom* (Understanding)

Wisdom: the quality of experience, knowledge and good judgement; the quality of being wise.

In school, we will consider who we think is wise and who we would go to for good advice. We will also think about the importance of listening to others and following good advice. In addition, we will consider the need to be able to ask good questions that will help us to learn and gain wisdom. We will continue to encourage children to ask questions when they do not understand something, reinforcing the importance of this – that it helps us to learn more.

At home, you can also encourage your children to ask questions if they do not understand something and make sure that they listen to your explanations. You could also try backing up requests with reasons to promote understanding, e.g., please can you make sure you tie your shoe laces carefully so that you don't trip over them when you walk.

Acorn Nursery News

We'd like to say a huge thank you to all you amazing parents for donating so many resources - guttering/plastic bottles/tubes and piping - for our Early Years outside areas. The children are loving playing with their new water wall and it's lovely to hear them chatting away excitedly as they work out where to put the water, watch it run down and see where it goes. It has truly provided an opportunity for fascination, learning and discovery, so thank you again for your help!

Our theme this term is 'Down on the Farm' where we are learning about the important role farms play in our country as well as looking at farm animals, buildings and vehicles.



Also in this summer term, we are focusing on preparing our older children for school in September by helping them refine important skills with regards to independence, personal care and resilience.

We are truly proud of our Nursery offering, if you are interested and would like more information, please contact Mrs Hayes, Nursery Manager at nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk or call the main school number on 01525 860206.

Jake (the school dog)



Jake has completed his 1-2-1 training with an external trainer and has started visiting classes; he especially loves having his tummy tickled! He is very excited to finally be able to start working with the children and we are continuing to work with him to ensure he remains calm at this time.

Clophill Preschool News

Hi everyone,

What a busy setting we are, huge thanks to everyone who donated to our Egg Hunt activity round the village over Easter. We have collected a huge box full of toiletries to pass to the Bedford Food Bank. Also, having been nominated Greensand Champions, we have since been declared ultimate winners of the 2020/21 Greensand Champions scheme which recognises young people doing something amazing for the Greensand Country environment.



'Children at Clophill Preschool are champions of the environment in all their playing and learning – they refill water bottles, compost waste and collect rainwater to save resources and look out for wildlife on their local walks when they're not busy growing fruit and vegetables to eat on their allotment.'

Many thanks to the Greensand Trust for this award.

The pandemic has made us examine more than ever our practice and what we can offer. The mental wellbeing of our children and their families has always been at the forefront of our ethos and the pandemic has made this focus all the more important. We held free Stay & Play sessions across the Easter holidays, and it was like a breath of fresh air for us to be able to get the time to chat with the parents in a way that has been so difficult for so long. We have also restarted our weekly Tuesday Stay & Play sessions and added a Thursday 1-2 slot. We have removed the age limit so that new mums can come with their babies and get some well needed company. We found after talking to our parents that while their children had missed out on the fundamentals of making new friendships, so had their parents.



Having our families in, meeting our new parents and chatting to visitors has opened our eyes to how different we are from other settings. We realise we have embedded so much of our practice so comprehensively that we no longer flag up multiple themes of a week for this or a day for that.

A huge part of that is learning outdoors, not for some of the session or just on sunny days but every day, in every season. We don't timetable to go outside, we timetable to go in, to eat and then we are back out. While we call ourselves a woodland preschool, we understand that we follow all the principles of Forest School the essence of which is 'to promote the holistic development of our children, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners through the natural environment'.



We can't finish without mentioning our new cockerel. Our chooks have become more than mere birds clucking round the setting, they have become friends and a way for children to interact and find a common focus. They are our therapy chickens, happy to toddle about in setting alongside everyone, you'll often find a child cuddling one. We have a recent acquisition in the form of a small but beautiful cockerel, yet to be named. The children are delighted with the new addition and he struts about with the attitude of someone 2 feet tall...he's actually about 10 inches tall... but no one is going to tell him.

How lucky we are, we realise, to have a setting like ours that is able to offer so much to so many. We are teachers, carers, friends and listeners, often a sounding board and always a support network, we are a safe haven and most importantly a community.

Imogen, Chris and the team

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



The Greensand Country Festival 2021 is go!

This year's Greensand Country Festival, supported by Mulberry Homes, is back for 2021 after being postponed last year due to the pandemic. With a year off, the Festival is determined to come back with a bang, and it has certainly achieved that. There is a fantastic line up of activities throughout the month of May for all age groups and interests.

How about having a picnic whilst watching vintage planes at a drive-in air display at Shuttleworth? Or experience an outdoor sound bath in the beautiful landscape of the Swiss Garden? This involves meditating to the sounds of Tibetan bowls, it is a very relaxing experience.

If you are interested in any of these activities, then book now via www.greensandcountry.com and visit the Festival page.

All walks, tours and events are listed there with plenty of information to help you decide what you would like to do. The walks include 'Explore Manor Park', 'Rocks across Greensand Country', and 'Walk the Vale'. There are of tours of the many historic gardens in the Greensand Country as well as guided walks with experts so you can learn about the wildlife, history, geology, heritage and rich culture of the area.

Young families can enjoy a picnic in the park, while teenagers can go out with the Wildlife Trust youth rangers. Don't miss Invertebrate day on 29th May, this is a wonderful opportunity for families to find out what creatures live on the Moor – ideal for any young explorer.

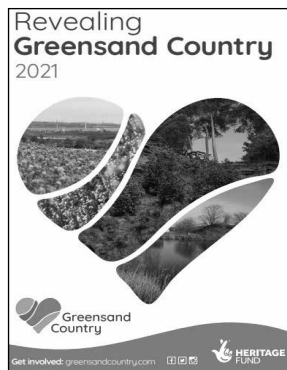
The Revealing Greensand Country booklet has just been launched. It contains maps, ideas and details of many local walks, such as the Buzzard Trails which includes the Leighton-Linslade Children's Trail or the Story in Stone Mosaic Heritage Trail. It can also be found on www.greensandcountry.com on the Festival page where it can be downloaded as a PDF.

Greensand Country has commissioned five individual artists to help celebrate the Greensand Country Festival. There will be a film, three theatre shows, and two Zines created by an illustrator detailing the rich history of some of the parklands. In addition, an artist who makes projects inspired by place, history and communities is producing five new pieces of work which will be exhibited at Shuttleworth during May 2021.

A team of volunteers have received training in Oral History, Archiving and Historical Research and are supporting the artists in their work but are also interviewing local people to build an Oral History Archive.

Working with Marston Vale Community Rail Partnership, Greensand Country will be celebrating the stories, landscape and heritage on the train journey from Bedford to Bletchley. Listen to a 40-minute train radio broadcast as the journey takes in historic parklands, ancient villages, heritage centres and sites of incredible industrialisation.

There is literally something for everyone, so if you'd like to join the Greensand Country Festival please visit: www.greensandcountry.com and follow the link to the Festival page.





**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

Wildlife walks & talks

Saturday 29th May

10.00am-3.00pm, Flitwick Moor and Folly Wood (TL045354)

Invertebrate Day - a joint event with the BNHS

Learn about the fascinating invertebrates to be found at this superb reserve. County Recorders from the Bedfordshire Natural History Society will be searching for their specialist subjects, and experts and enthusiasts will be on hand to help with identification. Ideal for families and individuals to go off to the Moor and 'bug hunt'; equipment will be provided for this.

Morning and afternoon sessions, come to either or bring lunch and stay for both.

In view of the current Covid restrictions please book. All mandated precautions will be followed. Appropriate PPE and hand-sanitiser, a good idea for such events in normal times, but a must for the present.

We very much look forward to seeing you!

Open to all. Events have group size limits. Please reserve.

To book places or for additional information please email
flitvale.info@gmail.com or

ring Ann on 075801 78889 between 6 and 8 pm or at weekends.

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

My Wonderful Grandma

By Cora Shephard



My grandma was born in Limerick and moved from Ireland to Weybridge in the 1930's. She and grandpa bought a house in Portmore Park, not far from St. George's Hill where Eric Sykes and other celebrities lived at that time. Grandma was a wonderful dress designer and she made a lot of garments. Anything you required, she could make after seeing just a picture or a drawing of it. She also did a lot of designs for well-known clients.

When I was young, I used to go to Surrey and visit her design room. I'd sit at the drawing board and design clothes that I would like her to make for me.

One day, I designed a skirt with pockets on the side of the hips. Grandma made the skirt out of a very fine cream material and she did put the pockets on the hips. But she

made them look really good with little pleats in the middle and a flap held down with a button shaped like a riding hat. She also made a blouse with two similar buttons on the collar and a belt like a whip. The whole ensemble was cream and brown.

When I took it home, my friends Di, Hazel and Ann asked if my grandma could make similar outfits for them. Unbeknown to me, grandma got their sizes from my mum. A week before Christmas a large parcel arrived and inside were three packages marked for Di, Hazel and Ann with the words 'Not to be opened until Christmas Day'. Christmas Day came and my friends all came round to thank my grandma (who had come to stay), for their presents.

She was the best – a very smart and lovely lady.

There was a friend of mine, Diane, whose family was very poor. Diane was talking to my grandma, telling her how she had bought a lot of clothes at a church fete. Diane's intention was to give grandma the buttons from the clothes, wash and press the material so 'someone' could make new outfits. It didn't take grandma long to realise that she was the 'someone'!

The unpicking of the material took ages and we all helped. Grandma made Diane a school skirt and blouses, a skirt and top for a school dance, a waistcoat and jacket and many other garments. Diane's mum was in tears when she tried to express her thanks. Grandma was still staying with us when Diane went to fetch her Mynah bird to show her. Grandma looked out of the window and said "I don't know if I am seeing things, but that young lady is pushing a pram with a large cage on it." Diane arrived at the door, it was quickly opened to grandma's words "Goodness, what will the neighbours think?" Diane put the cage on a stool and encouraged grandma to say "Hello" to the Mynah bird. Once started, the bird wouldn't stop talking! It was saying things like "Get your backside off the chair and get me a cuppa." If you could have been a fly on the wall, you'd have laughed for ever! My grandma's face was a picture. "I think that bird should have its mouth washed out" she said. She then suggested that Diane should have a drink - and take the bird home. When Diane and the bird had departed, grandma commented on what a character she was.

My Wonderful Grandma

Continued

The following Sunday, grandma came with us to church. Diane and I were to sing two verses of 'The Lord's My Shepherd' for the congregation. Without my knowledge, Diane dedicated the first verse to my grandma. Grandma went very red, but afterwards said that she had really enjoyed the service.

The following day, I was leaving home to stay with grandma. Diane came to say goodbye. Grandma said to her "Young lady, it is nice of you to take time to come and wave us off, but do try to behave yourself." She did give Diane ten shillings though and told her spend it wisely.

Although grandma despaired of some of Diane's antics, I think that she did enjoy her company. As we were going, Diane whispered that she hoped that it would not be too long before grandma came back to visit. Grandma scolded "Young ladies, you know it's rude to whisper!"

I feel so lucky to have had such a wonderful grandma.



The FLIT VALLEY WALK

Saturday 15th May - meet at Westoning village hall car park at 2.00pm.

Drive to Silsoe & walk back along route of Flit Valley Walk. Distance c.7.5 miles. Booking essential.

Saturday 22nd May – Launch of FVW at Flitwick Manor Park at 10.00am.

Official launch of walk by members of Flitwick Town Council. Plus, a walk around the manor park looking at its trees – led by David Alderman.

Contact Flitwick Town council for more information.

Monday 31st May - meet at Westoning village hall car park at 10.00am.

A leisurely all day walk with visits to Flitwick Mill and the De Grey Mausoleum, and an extended route around Flitwick Moor. Lunch at the Compasses pub – or bring a packed lunch. Distance c.8.5 miles. Booking essential.

Walks led by David Sedgley: Phone 01525 714961 or email dsedgley@talktalk.net to book, and for more information.

The number of people on walks will be limited by Covid restrictions in force at the time.

For more information on Greensand Country Festival events throughout May see the website: www.greensandcountry.com.

Clophill Heritage Trust

April has been busy at The Eco Lodges with our refurbishment of the accommodation lodges nearly complete ready for our reopening on 10th May. Those of you that walk past regularly will have seen our Wardens moving furniture, sanding and painting, jet washing and more!

With Covid restrictions lifting we are now able to welcome volunteers back onto site. If you would like to get out of the house into some fresh air, we have plenty of different activities to take part in, such as:

- Helping with cafés
- Gardening
- Events
- Tower Tours

There is no minimum number of hours a month and anyone is welcome. So, if you would just like to join us for an hour to do some outdoor gardening or if you are completing your Duke of Edinburgh award and looking for a regular volunteer opportunity – we would love to hear from you! Call one of the Wardens, Emily or Louise,

on 07935 911207 or email info@ClophillEcoLodges.co.uk. We will be open as an outdoor and take away café from 11.30 – 2.30 on Sunday 30th & Monday 31st May, serving hot and cold drinks, homemade cakes and ice creams as well as local jams, chutneys, honey and other retail items. Cash and Card accepted and dogs on leads are welcome. We hope to have the tower of old St Mary's church open for tours as well £3 Adult & £2 Child – please call on the day to confirm. Parking spaces are limited, please call if you would like to book a blue badge space.

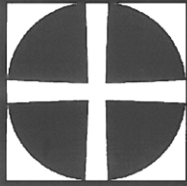
We have a few events planned for the end of May and more will be added for the summer. Keep an eye on our Facebook page or website www.ClophillEcoLodges.co.uk/Events.

We hope to see you soon!

The CHT Team



Clophill Methodist Church



STAY SAFE

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Clophill Methodist Church

**Worship will return
to this building on**

**Sunday 16th May
at 10.30am**

**Sunday 6th June
at 10.30am**

and weekly thereafter.

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...

Sadly, James Lee is not actually a Survivor but discovered in our research.

James William Lee was a Private with the Royal Sussex regt. He was born in Caldecote in 1890, by 1911 he was working in Addington, Surrey as an estate gardener. His father James lived in the Slade and was a widow by the time James enlisted in Arundel in 1915. In October 1915 he wrote to his sister - "None of us will ever forget the road to the battlefield, masses of troops and artillery, ruined country villages, and above all the endless procession of wounded and prisoners. The Scottish Division commenced the advance. They met death splendidly, and appeared to know no fear. We reinforced them and awaited the tremendous counter attacks of the German Guards, who were backed up by a hail of shrapnel, artillery fire, and numerous machine guns. We went straight into the front line, and you must excuse me, when I say, it was like hell. Our regiment suffered dreadfully, and I only escaped by inches. We had nearly 4 days of it, but thank God, we were victorious. One wet night in the trenches, with the shot and shell, the dead and dying comrades, would close the mouths of most of our English agitators for ever."

He wrote to his father around the same time - "Of course, you heard we were in the last big battle, when the advance was made. I can tell you we had a very hot time, especially for fresh troops. I am glad to say I came through all right, though I had many close shaves. The fact is I had extremely good luck. It was right enough sometimes, provided you keep down your napper under the parapet. I do not think I shall be on the unemployed list for some considerable time unless a miracle happens. The Germans take a lot of shifting, I can tell you. The terrible sights and experiences for battalions you heard of were simply composed of brave heroes and appear to have no fear of death. We ourselves are quite fresh to the field, but we went straight into the thick of it., and I am pleased to tell you that our regiment has been highly complimented by general French. We know that much more is expected of us in the near future. We are continually on the shift. I shall soon have seen all France and Belgium too."

James was killed in action on 14th February 1916, within 2 days of returning to France - having recently returned to Clophill to visit his father. His Battalion was at Hooge, Ypres at the time and James is buried at Menin Road South Cemetery and commemorated on the Sandy memorial.

Menin Road South Cemetery



Clophill's Serving Survivors of WW1

Continued

Ernest William Lincoln



Ernest was born in Clophill in 1885. He lived on the High Street until about 1908 when he married Ada Crates in Camberwell. They had 4 children and his son Ernest Albert George Lincoln was killed in WWII and his name is on the Clophill war memorial. Ernest was a Gas Works stoker.

Enlisting in Deptford in 1915 he was posted overseas in 1916. He served at the Somme and in 1916 broke his Tibia & Fibula. He spent nearly 9 months in Hospital in Manchester, needing surgery. He was discharged in 1917 and returned to Clophill. He played the organ in the church and worked as a pump attendant at the Waterworks.

He served with the 137th Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. Heavy Batteries were most

often employed in destroying enemy artillery, as well as putting destructive fire down on strongpoints behind enemy lines. Upon discharge he was described as "sober, steady & well behaved." He died in 1972.

Many thanks to Laura Sharp for the information and photograph supplied relating to her Great Grandfather.

Charles Lomas was born in Haynes in 1886. He was brother to Joseph Lomas, who is commemorated on our memorial and Jack below. In 1911 Charles lived in Back Street with his parents William and Sarah (nee Smith, born in Haynes). His parents had had 13 children, 11 of whom had survived. His 10 siblings still lived at home. He worked as a Farm Labourer. Charles served with the Bedfordshire Yeomanry. Nothing further is known about Charles.

Jack Lomas was born in Haynes in 1888. He lived with his wife, Florence, and daughter, Miriam, in Back Street when he joined the 5th Bedfordshire Regiment in May 1911. Jack signed up for 4 years at the age of 23 years. He was a labourer for Lord Lucas. He was stationed in England until July 1915, when he travelled on the "Braemar Castle" from Devonport to Alexandria. He suffered a gunshot wound to his legs in August 1915 and spent 5 weeks in hospital in Cairo. He returned to duty in Egypt and returned to England in April 1916. Jack was awarded the 1914/15 Star.

Frank Lowe lived on Great Lane and was a Corporal in Army Veterinary Corps. Nothing further is known about Frank.

Parish Registers

ST MARY'S CHURCH REGISTERS FOR MARCH AND APRIL 2021

Burial of Ashes

Mar 03 Edith JOYCE Cooper, 92
Mar 24 Anna Brough, 82

Funeral

Apr 08 Geoffrey Bryan Woods, 84

St Mary's Church News



This year we have celebrated a very strange Easter, but at least we were able to gather for worship. On Maundy Thursday we held a Zoom Compline (Night Prayers) and on Good Friday we held our own version of Stations of the Cross in the church grounds. On Holy Saturday the church was decorated for Easter followed by a deep clean; to be Covid safe for our Easter Sunday Communion Service. We also served refreshments in the churchyard to raise funds for Janina, our sponsored girl in Paraguay. This raised a magnificent £655 for her and Plan International, the umbrella organisation. The Easter flower appeal raised a surplus of £763.50 for Agate House in Ampthill. So a huge "Thank You" to all who supported us in these events. All our services and fund raising efforts were well supported and we are very happy with the way things are going in these difficult circumstances.

Progress is being made with the repairs to the church. We should soon be able to replace the guttering and repair and clean the clock.

It is now certain that our Benefice with Campton and Haynes will be dissolved and we shall be joined with St. Mary's, Maulden. Our Rector will be the Rev. Lynda Klimas, who is already our Rural Dean, and has been taking some of our services. The wheels of the Church of England grind exceedingly slowly, so it will be several months before this is officially complete.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED. We urgently need some more volunteers to mow and strim the churchyard. The more we have, the less often your turn comes round. Please contact Adrienne Gordon on 860875. Your help will be much appreciated.

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
Indoor Carpet Bowls	Tony Meredith 860754
Messy Church	Victoria Higgins 07920 568861
	victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk
Friends of St Mary's (FOSM)	Mary Milne and Jenny Garnham
	fosmclophill@gmail.com
Scouts and Cubs	Anita Errick www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved
Tea and Chat	Marilyn Browning 860695
Village Hall Booking Secretary	07821 643936

Useful numbers

Gas (Emergency)		0800 111999
Electricity (Emergency)		0800 7838838
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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

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Central Bedfordshire Councillors	Michael Blair	01525 404513
	Paul Duckett	07988 184061
Clophill Parish Council	(Clerk) James Stirling clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk	01462 887226

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Luton & Dunstable			0845 1270127

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

POLICE

County Police HQ	Non Emergency	101
Ampthill Station		01234 841212
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CHURCHES

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	Mr Steve Grylls	stevegrylls24@gmail.com	01525 860076
St Francis RC Church, Shefford			01462 813436
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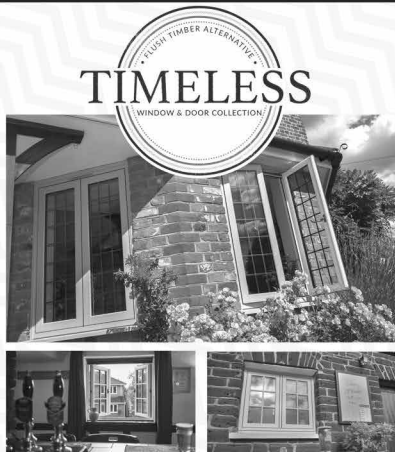
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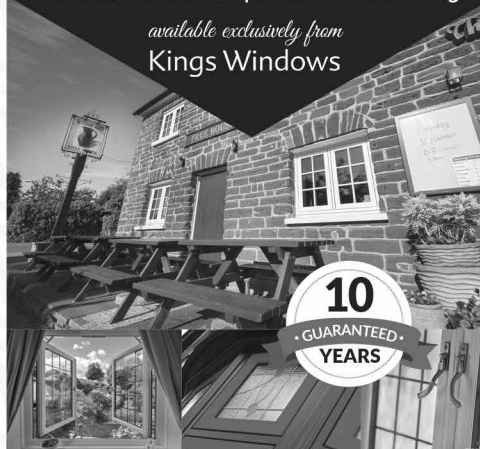


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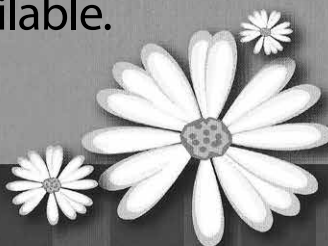
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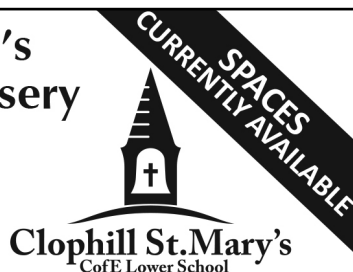
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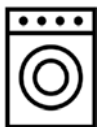
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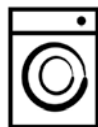
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