Vol 39 | No.1

FREE



A word from the Editor...

Let's share the love!

Welcome back, everyone. It's great timing for our first issue of the year as we're right at the start of **Random Acts of Kindness Week**, which runs from 12th to 18th February. It couldn't be simpler to get involved – you just do something kind for

someone who might not be expecting it.



MANAGER

I've already made a start. When I spotted a car with its lights left on in Tesco car park, I informed Customer Services and they put out a tannoy message. When I returned to my car, the lights had been switched off. I can't tell you what a good feeling that random act of kindness gave me.

Of course most of us don't confine our kindness to just one week in the year but I'm certainly going to make even more of an effort for the next seven days.

I'd love to know what kind acts you've done – and what kind things have happened to you. Drop me a line at **editorial@clophillspotlight.co.uk** and I'll publish a selection in the next issue of Spotlight.

See you all in March. x

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COPY DEADLINE **20th of the month**

Don't forget you can now read Spotlight online at www.clophillspotlight.co.uk

Silsoe's Annual Pancake Races Sunday 26th February



Get ready, set, go...

* Fun pancake races for all the family – kids from under-5s-14, men only, women only, pensioners, team race (4 people) and fancy dress!

* Sweet and savoury pancakes and hot drinks on sale at the village hall, 9am-1pm

* Prize-giving at the village hall at 12.30pm

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN FRYING PAN + PANCAKE

Registration opens at 9.30am by the entrance to the Millennium Green.

Race entry fee: £2 per adult; £8 per team (4 adults); £1 per a child

The High Street will close for races from 10.30am

For further information contact Maggie Herod on 01525 860491

News from Clophill Heritage Trust

The year ahead

The Trust would like to extend our belated best wishes to everyone for 2017, including all those who've volunteered in some way or other during the past 12 months.

We now enter our second financial year since opening on 31st October 2015 and are in fully operational mode. Whilst we've surpassed original expectations we continue to develop our management of the facilities and activities for the benefit of the local community and those from further afield. Our wardens Kayleigh and Emily, who do a great job, have some assistance from four regular volunteers who each do a day's work or more in various roles such as IT/data collection, carpentry etc but as our administrative needs grow further volunteers are always welcome.

If you're interested contact *Kayleigh Waight* (07889 980872), *Ali Bradbury* (07894 710001), *Emily Hakansson* (07825 051667) or call the lodge phone (07935 211907).

Christmas Wreath Making and Craft Market

Last December, in the runup to Christmas we held a wreath-making session led by Paula de Santis Smith. The results were excellent – helped by the mulled wine! – and wreaths could be seen proudly displayed on doors around the village. Also that month we had our first Christmas Craft Market at the Eco Lodges. We were delighted with the turnout and had stalls selling everything from Christmas



Dates for your diary...

- Sunday Cafe
- Mother's Day Cream Teas



trees to jewellery and gingerbread. All stalls were local businesses and we'd like to thank everyone who attended and made the day a success. We're planning a bigger and better event this year so book your stall early!

We'd also like to thank all our local actors and actresses who participated in the nativity in the Old Church. It was enjoyed by all – and thanks to the livestock for behaving!

Sunday 26 February, 2-4pm Sunday 26 March, 2-5pm £9 per person. Tables must be booked in advance

Find us at www.ClophillEcoLodges.org.uk/events and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/clophillecolodges For bookings, get in touch at info@ClophillHeritage.org



Messy Church @ Clophill Methodist Church

Dates for 2017....Monthly on Saturday 4pm-6pm

18th February 18th March

15th April (Easter Saturday)

13th May

17th June

15th July

NO MESSY CHURCH IN AUGUST

23rd September

14th October

18th November

16th December

All-age craft activities, worship and a meal for all the family (No fixed charge, donations welcome to cover costs, children must be accompanied by an adult). For further information please contact

Remembering Clophill's Fallen

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

32nd Battalion Cap Badge

The New Year of 1917 brought the news that Thomas Izzard had been killed in action, aged 37. He was the 11th Clophill man to die.



Thomas is commemorated in Lijssenthoek Cemetery, Poperinge, Belgium, & is also mentioned on a gravestone in the second extension of Clophill's graveyard.

Thomas was born in 1880 and was one of eight children. In 1911, Thomas and his brother, Arthur, lived at 34 Jacques Lane with their parents Charles, a gardener who died five years later, and Elizabeth, who had been a straw plaiter. The family had also lived in Back Street and Great Lane. Thomas worked as a labourer. He enlisted in Bedford with the Bedfordshire Regiment and then joined the 32nd Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment.) After initial

training they joined 124th Brigade, 41st Division. In 1916 the Battalion was in action at The Battle of Flers-Courcelette and The Battle of the Transloy Ridges on the Somme.

Ampthill News reported in January 1917: 'Much sympathy goes out to the mother, brothers and sisters of Pte. Thomas Izzard, whose death occurred "somewhere in France" last week. Pte. Izzard received most of his training at Halton Park. News came from the chaplain of the Hospital that he was suffering from nephritis and was seriously ill. Later pneumonia set in.' Official records show cause of death as 'killed in action'.

The winter of 1916-1917 was the harshest winter of the war when temperatures dropped to -22°C.

Your letters...

Dear Clophill Friends

John Burger - 12/12/41 - 28/11/2016

I'd like to thank everyone who came to St Mary's Church on December 20th to celebrate John's life and also to thank everyone who kindly donated to Memory Giving (Neville) for The Primrose Unit at Bedford Hospital. This was a very personal charity close to our hearts. I was so overwhelmed by seeing so many of you coming to pay your last respects to John. I'm sure a lot of you will have memories of John when he was running the Post Office.

Life won't ever be the same without John, but I will stay strong and positive and carry on for my children Gavin and Abbi and grandchildren Jake, Sienna, Maisie and Lottie. They've been so supportive, as have dear friends and relatives.

Our hearts will always be in Clophill, and I am so comforted to know that John is back in Clophill for his final resting place.

Thanking you once again, dear friends. Kind thoughts to all of you.

Beryl Burger



Clophill & District Flower Club

Our Ruby year celebrations ended with our December open evening and a demonstration by club member and one of our favourite demonstrators,

Doug Howard. His theme was 'Sparkling Memories' – and how they sparkled!

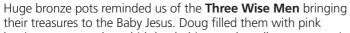
Doug's first design was **Holly Rings**, a delightful display of holly, ivy, phormium leaves (cream delight), red carnations, hypericum berries and green button chrysanthemums with



silver baubles silhouetted on a black frame. Next up was **The Nativity Play** – two shallow silver bark containers were used for pussy willow stems, cream calla lilies, silver and gold leaves and cream roses, with two exquisite angels finishing the display.

Advent Calendar was depicted with gold candles, copper baubles, green carnations and green anthuriums along with beautiful greenery including phoenix palm, blue spruce, leather leaf fern, euomymus and fatsia leaves. The celebration for **Music & Carols** had Doug using a black treble clef as his centrepiece. The fabulous Bird of

Paradise and dried oranges, phormium leaves twisted and curled into different shapes plus a variety of foliage completed this design.



katrina roses, purple orchid dendrobium and small green carnations together with leather leaf fern, variegated holy, eucalyptus and aspidistra leaves.



The last design, **Christmas**, gave us three glorious arrangements on high gold stands using cream carnations, deep crimson gerbera, red roses and gold pincushion protia (safari sunrise). Sprayed gold leaves, trailing variegated ivy, dressingham ruby bergenia leaves and blue spruce were added, with silver, gold and red parcels completing the arrangements.

During Doug's demonstration members of the committee told of the club's achievements – village events, weddings, tea parties, flower festivals, arranging flowers in Westminster Abbey and many other adventures and memories during the club's 40 years. It was a very memorable evening and in all 13 arrangements were taken home by delighted members and guests.

Christine Baker, Committee Member

2016 was a very happy year for our club as we celebrated our 40th anniversary – the highlight of which was our Ruby Anniversary dinner in July.

Two of our ladies – now known affectionately as 'Trips R Us' – organised outings to Coton Manor and Castle Ashby in the Summer and to Angelsey Abbey for the Christmas garden light show and supper in December. Our club is part of the Home Counties Area which covers Bedfordshire, parts of Hertfordshire and Essex and in October **an Area Show and Competition** was held at Hatfield House. Several of our club members entered various classes and had very satisfactory results – our club entry, produced by two of our ladies, was runner-up to Best in Show.

Our charity for the year was **Childhood Cancer and Leukaemia** and we're pleased to be able to send them £750 raised during the year by our club charity table and our plant stall in May and super Flower Festival, both held in conjunction with St. Mary's church.

2017 already looks to be a busy year. We have four weddings booked, together with 20 table arrangements to design and create for the **MacMillan Nurses' Ball** in May on a theme of 'Gin and Tonic'. That will set the brain cells working overtime, but it's all good fun and for a worthwhile cause, too. In fact everything we do at our club is enjoyable, either to watch or participate – do come and join us. **Joan Palmer, Club Secretary**

• The next demonstration is **'Oriental Moments' on 2nd March**. Our new website has details of our yearly programme, photos of the monthly demonstrations plus information and illustrations. **www.clophillflowerclub.com**





Forthcoming illustrated talks

Monday 6th March John Murray – an industrialist at Wrest Park

Wrest Park had been owned by the de Grey's for 700 years, but following several tragedies in 1916 it was bought by the northern industrialist John Murray. This talk covers his life 1917-1939. *Speaker: Marian McDowell*

Monday 3rd April

AGM followed by Talks from Society Members

with updates of work carried out during the year.

Visitors are very welcome.

Flitwick Library Lecture Theatre, Coniston Road MK45 1QJ. 7.30pm for 7.45 pm £2 for members and £3 for visitors, payable on the door

For further details contact Clive Makin on 01582 655785 or clive.makin@ntlworld.com, www.adalhs.org.uk

Ampthill & District Archaeological & Local History Society



Clephill Prescheel News

Our Autumn term ended on a high with our Christmas Show – we had around 130 family members come to watch it and many thought it was the best one yet! The children danced, sang and counted their way through the 12 days of Christmas much to the grown-ups' delight. There was much excitement at the end when the big man himself turned up – the children's faces were an absolute picture. We find it's really worth us and our staff giving up our Saturday to have our Christmas show as it gives so many parents the chance to come and see their children join in the fun. Once again, one of our grandparents, Steve, filmed the show, which is available on DVD for parents to watch.

This term is already turning out to be a busy one. Katy is back doing **Mini Moves** which the children are now nearly all joining in with. It's lovely to watch even the most reticent stand on the side lines and begin to move to the music. We did **Happy Bags** to school and our parents were hugely supportive – we made £88.40 which we're putting towards another month of Mini Moves. We'll be having another Happy Bags collection in June and would welcome clothes, toys, handbags and shoes.

We now have our two new staff, Louise and Hannah, who've settled in really well. We continue to have new children starting, with many coming just after their second birthday,

and we welcome those children who've joined us.



In January, we set up a **vet's roleplay** and had a veritable menagerie of animals in, from guinea pigs to turkeys. Also last month, we drew on giant boxes, poured and sprinkled coloured rice and oats and mixed dry paint to explore new colours. At **Chinese New Year** we had Chinese food and Chris brought in her cockerel as it's the Year of the Fire Rooster. At our coffee

morning, Lynne did a taster session of some of the healthy foods she's making with the children in cookery, all designed to be easy to make for packed lunches. We also had Sophie Adams in from Central Bedfordshire Council to talk about the transition to school and getting children prepared for it. We've been out in the frosty weather using magnifying glasses and doing our Physical Activity Time when we put music on outside and play fun games to get everyone moving.



Once again we're preparing for our Easter Egg Hunt and Indoor Fayre, which will be on Saturday 8th April. We already have quite a few businesses signed up for the fayre. If you'd like a table, drop us an email or give us a call. Table rate is £7.50, payable on the day.

Other events we're looking forward to this term are the Easter Craft Coffee morning and our Mother's Day Morning.

• Contact Imogen on *07765 887868* or Chris on *07936 006381* or email. Our website is *www.clophillpreschool.co.uk*



Winter

Warmer

Lunch

£6 -2 course meal

15th February 2017

12 noon – 2pm in the Church Everyone very welcome

Please reserve a place - phone Carolyn 01462 815433

or Gillian 01525 860539

St Mary's Church News



December was a very busy month at St. Mary's starting as usual with the Christingle Service. But this one was rather different! On the same day, the Eco Lodges were holding an event that included a Nativity Play with live animals in the Old Church, followed by a procession to the church. Our service was just about to start when the cry went up 'They've arrived!' and into the church came **the shortest, widest Shetland pony**, followed by the tallest, blackest donkey imaginable. This delighted everyone, though some looked anxiously at the heating grating! The animals left and the service continued, attended by over 100 people. The children made their Christingles and processed them around the darkened church, and an amazing £295 was collected for the Children's Society.

Also in December we had an excellent concert by Clophill's own **Greensand Community Choir** with the Henlow/Chicksands Military wives Choir as well as a Christmas lunch, which was prepared and presented by Carolyn Cranswick and her team and enjoyed by over 60 guests. On December 20th, the church was full again for the funeral of John Burger, whom many will remember as our Postmaster for almost 30 years.

Finally came the Christmas weekend, with a well-attended **Crib Service** for young children and their families plus the traditional Service of Lessons and Carols. The amount of £334 was collected for Medecins Sans Frontieres.

Over the month around **£600 was raised for good causes**. And by the time you read this we'll have held our Coffee and Cake morning for Janina, the girl we sponsor in Paraguay. *Adrienne Gordon*

Make new friends at Clophill Brownies...



Brownies is for girls aged 7 to 10 years old and is a great way to make new friends, try different activities and develop new skills and interests. Clophill Brownies meet at the Village Hall every Wednesday from 6.15pm to 7.30pm during term time.

Last term the girls completed their Button Challenge badge – decorating a bag and a bookmark with buttons, making edible bumble bees with chocolate buttons and

learning to sew on a real button. They also participated in the Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church, enjoyed a trip to the pantomime and had a Christmas Pyjama Party where they watched the film 'Elf' and ate a lot of popcorn!

We have three uniformed leaders each week – Brown Owl, Tawny Owl and Snowy Owl – as well as some young leaders from local schools. Our group currently has 15 Brownies and we have space for more. If you have a daughter who'd like to join, contact *Nicky James (Brown Owl)* at *nicola_james100@hotmail.com*

Christine's quick 'n' easy recipe Stuffed Peppers with Rice, Pine Nuts and Dill



INGREDIENTS Serves 2

- 2 orange, red or yellow peppers
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 125g cooked basmati rice
- 2 tbsp pine nuts

• 1 tsp smoked paprika

- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 2 tbsp freshly grated parmesan cheese
- 2 tbsp chopped fresh dill
- Extra virgin olive oil
- salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1. Pre-heat the oven to 180°.
- **2.** Heat 2 tbsp of olive oil in a frying pan over a medium heat.
- **3**. Gently fry the finely chopped onion until tender and golden brown.
- **4**. Add in the pine nuts and brown slightly.
- **5.** Stir in the spices and cook for a further minute.
- **6.** Add the cooked rice and the chopped dill. Mix well and season to taste.
- 7. Add in the grated parmesan and mix well.
- **8.** Cut the peppers in half lengthways and discard the seeds and white pith.
- **9.** Place the peppers, cut side up, in a shallow baking tray.
- 10. Divide the mixture between them.
- 11. Cover with foil and roast for 40 minutes.
- 12. Remove the foil and cook for a further 5 minutes.

The stuffed peppers can be served as a starter or with grilled fish or meat.



Clophill Methodist Church

COFFEE & CROISSANT MORNINGS

All proceeds in aid of Clophill Methodist Church 10am to 12noon, £1.50



Saturday 4th March Saturday 1st April



Rotary Club of Barton - People Helping People



Arch C Klumph may not be a familiar name but the world owes much to him. He became a member of Rotary soon after the organisation started in 1905 and in 1917 he set up a charity within Rotary into which funds could be channelled for use in humanitarian aid and doing good in the world. The first donation was \$26.50 and today, 100 years later, the Rotary Foundation (RF) has a fund of over \$1 billion.

In the past, RF has funded a wide range of projects including Group Study Exchange, the 3-H programme (health, hunger and humanity), the PolioPlus campaign to End Polio Now and Peace Centres for the study of conflict resolution. Many of these projects continue today. RF also uses the

income it generates every year to fund the Global Grant Programme which provides Global and District Grants to enable Rotarians and their clubs to really make a difference to people locally and internationally. In the case of Barton le Clay we recently secured grants worth over £3,000 to help with our projects in a village in Africa.

In this centenary year Rotary Clubs across the world will be celebrating the creation of RF. One such event locally will be a joint meeting of the four Luton Clubs and Barton le Clay. We'll be gathering for a lunch together on Rotary Day, 23rd February, followed by a visit to the new bandstand in Wardown Park, Luton, which has been promoted and part-funded by Rotary.

Rotary members are among some of the most innovative people you could meet when it comes to helping people and doing good. From mere seeds of ideas presented to other members, huge events and projects come about, as evidenced by the work and foresight of Arch C Klumph.

• The Club meets at Beadlow Manor Golf Club, Nr Shefford, on Tuesday evenings at 7.15pm for 7.45pm. To arrange a visit or for more information contact David Swain on 01525 861107 or visit www.bartonleclayrotary.org



News from Clophill Methodist Church

A Happy New Year to you all and we wish you a peaceful 2017.

Our highlight of last year, was reaching our fundraising target to **'Raise the Roof'** on the church, with completion of the building work of our new roof in the Autumn. We again thank you all for your amazing support with this.

This year we have lots to look forward to, with all our regular events, including our popular **Beetle Drive** in February and our **Spring concert** with the Flitwick Singers in April.

Nicola Wood



St Mary's School News

The children returned to school in January and have energetically thrown themselves into the Spring term.

We began the New Year with a visit from Arena Theatre and every class from Acorn to Oak watched their presentation of 'The Wizard of Oz'. The production was followed by a question and answer session where our children, as always, asked thoughtful questions about the characters and their actions.

Also in January, two groups of pupils visited other settings to represent St. Mary's at sport and came second on both occasions – a great success when you consider they were competing with some much larger schools. Oak children visited Robert Bloomfield to take part in an Athletics tournament and Birch and Hazel children visited Samuel Whitbread for a multi-skills tournament.



We've also had a visit from other Diocesan schools to observe our excellent teaching of R.E. They joined us in Commendations and to speak to Mrs. Arnold about how she co-ordinates R.E. across the school. Oak class had the opportunity to host a worship assembly during January which their parents were invited to; each class will have the opportunity to do this during the course of the year.

During February we'll be attending a Candlemas Service at the Church and all our parents are welcome to join us. Rowan and Oak class are excited about their visit

to Bradwell Abbey which complements their term topic about the Romans.





Sainsbury's Vouchers

We're once again collecting Sainsbury's vouchers

– if anybody in the village would like to donate their
vouchers we have a collection box in the school porch.

Our values for the first half of the term are $Thankfulness \ {\it Commilter}$

We'll be thinking about what it means to be thankful and how we can show this to others, understanding that with thankfulness also comes responsibility. Linked closely to this is Humility – the ability to be both thankful and proud without boasting or flaunting it to others. We'll be exploring how we can celebrate our own successes in a way that doesn't make others feel inferior.

Acorn Nursery News

A **big hello** to our new children, Finn, Bradley, James, Harley and Yasmin who we hope will enjoy their time with us.



All the children seem to have had a fantastic start to the New Year and have enjoyed our 'Going on a Bear Hunt' theme. The children can recite the story really well and made a textured wall display telling the story. We've also looked at other stories that involve bears, talking about their habitats and different types of bears. After listening to 'Goldilocks', we set up the theatre to re-enact the story using puppets – the children found it funny to change their voices for the different characters. We've also made our winter-themed board – the children made a polar bear and penguins and we talked about different animals that live in cold climates. And of course all the children enjoyed playing in the little bit of snow we had! We'll

be ending this theme with a Teddy Bears Picnic Day with Chestnut, where there will be activities and sandwich-making in the morning and the picnic in the Hall in the afternoon.

Our theme after half term will turn to 'Turrets and Tiaras' so we'll continue to recall stories, make crowns and look at materials that make the best turrets and castles. Our planning is very free so that within our themes we can incorporate the children's ever changing interests. This leads to fun and spontaneous activities where children learn without realising. And so as Chase has a tower we'll talk about the difference between a turret and Chase's tower.

Clophill's retired milkman in TV fame

I'm sure that, like me, a lot of our older residents sit down with a cup of tea to watch 'Countdown' and pit their wits against the contestants. A few weeks ago one of the contestants was introduced as **Ken Hobbs** who, we were told, was 'a retired milkman from Clifton in Bedfordshire'. I could scarcely believe it, but there was our former milkman, rather smaller than I remember and of course a lot older, but unmistakably the same voice.

Many of you will recall in the 'good old days' when our milk was delivered daily, Ken was our Unigate milkman for many years. Indeed, he was so much a part of the village that when he retired about 20 years ago we held a collection for him and, with the connivance of his family, organised a surprise party at the Village Hall.

Although Ken was beaten by the reigning champion on 'Countdown', he gave a good



account of himself, especially in the numbers games (all those years of calculating our bills!) and came across as a very nice man. It was good to see him clearly still in good shape.

Adrienne Gordon

St Mary the Virgin, Clophill Lent Lunches

Raffle



Bring & Buy

8th March 15th March 22nd March 29 March 5 April 10 The Causeway Clophill Methodist Church Beverley Court 1 Kiln Lane St Mary's Church

12 noon-2pm

Donations will be given to **Five Talents** a small charity who support the rural poor in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania

Everyone very welcome

For information phone Gill Jones 01525 861058 Please call if you require transport



The Zonita cinema runs one Saturday a month from September to May at Parkside Hall in Ampthill. It's a not-for-profit community cinema, run by volunteers. Soft drinks, beer and wine, sweets and popcorn are available at the bar and during the interval ice-creams are on sale from the usherette.

Matinee performances:

doors open 1:15pm, show starts 2pm

Evening performances:

doors open 6:15pm, show starts 7pm

 For further information, go to www.zonita.org.uk

Forthcoming films are:

Saturday 4th March

Matinee: Alice Through The Looking Glass

(2016 Depp/Rickman)

Evening: Far From The Madding Crowd (2015)

Saturday 1st April

Matinee: Zootropolis

Evening: The Second Best Exotic

Marigold Hotel

Saturday 6th May

Matinee: Finding Dory Evening: Hail, Caesar!

Tickets: Adult £5, Children £3

Tickets may be purchased in advance from Waitrose in Ampthill, or on the door

Clophill Parish Council



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.

Readshill Quarry and The Lakes

In early January, Paul Downing, the new Chair CBC Ward Councillor, called an Extraordinary General Meeting in order that the Parish Council could address several urgent planning matters that needed resolving before the PC's meeting at the end of that month.

The full Parish Council was watched over by a large number of villagers who were expressing interest mainly in the two significant planning applications facing Clophill at this time – the applications for building in the Readshill Quarry and the Gallagher Estates' enabling/hybrid application for The Lakes and 50 dwellings off Shefford Road.

As regards The Lakes, Gallaghers have been told by Central Bedfordshire that they need to produce a strategic and meaningful long-term plan re the transfer and maintenance of the land they wish to pass to public ownership before CBC will consider the housing application. As a result, the Parish Council invited Greensand Trust (GST) to the EGM to hear how they might be able to work with Gallaghers. The two parties have since met to explore options.

This, as ever, is a complicated position and the ball is with Gallaghers who need to produce the plan. The Parish Council is well aware of the opinions of villagers and will do what it can to facilitate progress. However, it is in no position financially to take over the land from Gallaghers, and anyone doing so will need very firm assurances re future funding. The Parish Council has lodged an objection to this application.

In relation to Readshill, the developers' agent spoke at the meeting. The original plans submitted in 2015 and considered in 2016 were refused by CBC and are subject to an appeal due to be heard in March. The new plan differs only a little from the original and again there was insufficient 'change' for the Parish Council to alter its 2016 view – see Planning section.

Parish Council Retirements

December saw the retirement of two of our valued and long-serving parish councillors, Roland Browne and Peter Clarke, who served for 18 and 12 years respectively. During their period of office, they've represented the village on many significant issues that affect our community and have contributed towards Clophill's reputation as one of the most desirable villages in Bedfordshire.

Roland served as Chairman from 2005 to 2009 and oversaw the implementation of the Clophill Parish Plan, which was established following a village consultation that attracted a 69% response rate. As a result, we've seen the renovation of the Old Bridge at The Green and regeneration of the surrounding area including the bus shelter and Lock Up and Pound. Roland was also involved in the transfer of Parish land on the High Street at Church Path for the provision of a number of affordable houses.

Clophill Parish Council

Continued

Peter joined the Council in 2005 and had been Chairman since 2009. As Chairman he was actively involved in representing the village in the long-running battle to gain public access to the Lakes area whilst ensuring that Clophill doesn't become overwhelmed by housing development. He also actively encouraged a wider participation in Parish matters and can stand down in the knowledge that the Parish Council is represented by councillors drawn from a broad spectrum of the community.

Both will be greatly missed by the remaining members of the Council, but they can stand down in the knowledge that everyone in Clophill extends their grateful thanks for their many years of service to the community.

Ralph Brough, Vice Chairman, Clophill Parish Council

Parish Council vacancies

The Parish Council currently has two vacancies. If you feel you can commit time and energy to the council, please apply to the parish clerk, James Stirling, on *01462 887226* or *clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk*

Clophill clean-up

The 'Great British Spring Clean' is taking place from 3-5 March this year, and we need your help to clean Clophill. We're looking for participants and organisers, so if you'd like to get involved please contact *terry.lee@clophill-pc.gov.uk*

Parish Council website

The Parish Council has a new website where you can find details of PC meetings. Find us at www.clophill-pc.gov.uk

Planning

CB\16\05471\FULL

Location 4 The Green

Proposal To extend the village shop. The council's reservation is that there isn't enough

parking outside the shop – current parking is used as a free long-stay facility by some vehicle owners and the bus has difficulty accessing its location to pick up passengers. The Post Office service would benefit from a dedicated space during certain hours. We ask that Highways and relevant officers review if works or conditions can be applied to ensure that these issues are minimised.

CB\16\05679\FULL

Location Dunclyn House, Shefford Road

Proposal To convert a garage/workshop to a residential annexe. Support so long as the

extension/conversion is only sold or used as part of the main property and isn't sold/leased/rented as a separate entity from the main house. **SUPPORT**

Clophill Parish Council

Continued

CB/16/05438/OUT

Location Land at former Readshill Quarry, Back Street

Proposal Residential development of up to 51 dwellings. We object on the grounds

previously supplied and that the application has little changed from the previous application. We'll review the detail of our objection prior to the expiry date and ask for an extension to respond.

OBJECT

The Parish Council is consulted for its local knowledge but doesn't determine a Planning Application. To see the final CBC decisions, go to www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/ planning/view-comment/applications.aspx

Neighbourhood Plan Update Meeting

Clophill Village Hall Tuesday 14 March, 7.30pm

The Clophill Neighbourhood Plan Team invites villagers to attend a meeting relating to the progress made so far in creating the 'Neighbourhood Plan'.

This is the plan for the village, created by the village which will help steer the direction of Clophill's development for the next 25 years.

Much work has been done, but there are still things that we need the village to get involved with so do please come along to find out how you can help.

To get in touch about the Neighbourhood Plan, email clophillneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com

The next Parish Council meeting will take place at the Methodist Church at 7.45pm on Tuesday 28th February 2017



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FRIDAYS 10am – 11.30am at the Village Hall See 'Village Groups' for contact details



Parish Registers for January & February

The annual trip to the Records Office in Bedford is always exciting as there are usually surprises in store. Having struggled with the degraded microfiches for several years, I decided to use the original registers for 1867 – what a difference! All the entries were clearly legible – although there was still a problem deciphering the Rector's writing occasionally. Baptisms for 1917 provided a shock as there were names that many of us remember, while strangely there were no marriages in 1967, the year before the church was closed for major repairs to the roof. *Adrienne Gordon*

Baptisms				
January 5	Edward Parker			
January 12	John Miller			
January 15	Graham John Eddy			
Marriages				
January 30	William Burns to Elizabeth?			
Burials				
February 3	? Whitmore (sic) widow			
1867				
Baptisms				
February 10	Grace Mary Green			
	(father was a turner)			
Marriages				
February 9	Caleb Roberts, 19, to			
	Sarah Everitt, 19			
Burials				
January 18	Susan Izzard, infant			
	Susan Izzard, infant George White, infant George Gudgin, 42			

James Hall, 70

1817

1917	
Marriages February 18 Burials	Alfred Webb to Eleanor Webb
January 5 February 2 February 4 February 22	Francis Peat, 75 Emma Bushby, 80 Abram Whittamore, 54 Mary Brashier, 78
1967	
Burials February 8	William King, 69
ST MARY'S R AND JAN 201	EGISTERS FOR DEC 2016
Funeral December 20 January 5	John Burger, 74 Joyce Mary Harrison Epton, 96



February 23

Wildlife walks & talks



Butterflies

Monday 20th February, 7.45pm, Maulden Church Hall

Wilf Powell, chairman of the BNHS, brings a lifetime of involvement in natural history to bear on a talk of these elegant flying insects. £2 per adult

Open to all. There is no need to reserve a place for talks – just turn up!

For additional information please email flitvale.info@gmail.com or ring Ann on 07890 347327 after 6pm or at weekends

What's on in and around Clophill

18 **EBRUARY**

Saturday 18th

Stone Jug 35th Anniversary Party Live music, food and dancing – from 8pm.



Saturday 25th

Beetle Drive 6.30pm, Clophill Methodist Church. See Poster in this issue.



Sunday 26th

Pancake Races Fun races for all the family, Silsoe. See Poster in this issue.



Saturday 1st

Live and Let Dine A murder mystery evening by the Barton Players theatre group. For details go to www.bartonleclayrotary.org.uk



Saturday 8th

The Great Clophill Easter Egg Hunt and Fayre See Poster in this issue for details.

On throughout the month...

Fridays...

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

One Saturday a month...

• Messy Church 4pm-6pm, Clophill Methodist Church. Dates: 18 Feb; 18 March; 15 April; 13 May; 17 June; 15 July; 23 Sep; 14 Oct; 18 Nov; 16 Dec. All-age craft activities, worship and a meal for all the family. No fixed charge, donations welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. See 'Village Groups' for contact details.

CHURCH SERVICES

Regular services at St Mary's Church, Clophill

8am, Holy Communion; 1st Sunday

10.45am, Family Praise

2nd & 4th Sundays 10.45am, Parish Communion 10.45am, Morning Prayer/Praise 3rd Sunday 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

Telephone 01525 860526

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Village groups

Beverley Court 860920 **Brownies** https://enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk Clophill Community Care **Duty Contact** 07791 773705 Clophill Heritage Trust 07894 710001 Ali Bradbury Clophill Parish Action Ali Bradbury 07894 710001 Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School & Nursery Sharon Kempson 860206 Clophill Toddler Group Caroline Daniels 07734 495348 Clophill United Charities Gillian Hill 860539 Conservation Group **Brian Adams** 862297 Flower Club Gillian Hill 860539 Friends of the Cheshire Home Sue Pearson 861110 07903 167493 Funzone After School Club 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 www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved

Scouts and Cubs Tea and Chat Tuesday Club Village Hall Booking Secretary

Anita Errick Betty Hampson Marilyn Browning 07821 643936



Clophill Methodist Church



860695

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BEETLE DRIVE

Saturday 25th February 6:30pm

Adults £5 Children £2.50 Refreshments



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Buses 01234 262151 Luton Airport	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511		(Flittabus)	01582 406561 01582 405100
Swimming	(Flitwick	() 01525 717744	(Robinson Pool)	01234 212479
LIBRARIES	Bedford Barton	01234 350931 01582 881101	Ampthill Flitwick	01525 402278 01525 715268
LOCAL GOVERNMENT Central Beds Offices (Chicksands) Mid-Beds MP Central Bedfordshire Councillors Clophill Parish Council	s	t 07988 184061 (Clerk)	Nadine Dorries Michael Blair Paul Downing Peter Clarke James Stirling	0300 300 8000 01462 811992 01525 404513 0300 300 8541 01525 861179 01462 887226
HOSPITALS Bedford (North & South) Luton & Dunstable		01234 355122	Admissions Appointments	01234 261150 01234 359012 0845 1270127
DOCTOR'S CLINICS Ampthill (Hot Shefford Barton 01582 528700	3	e) 01525 300898 s 01462 818620	(Oliver Street) (Greensands) Appointments Flitwick	01525 631395 01525 631390 01462 810034 01525 715300
POLICE County Police HQ Ampthill Station Clophill Local Policing Team			Non Emergency	101 01234 841212 101 01234 842613
CHURCHES St Mary's Parish Church St Francis RC Church, Shefford Clophill Methodist Church Baptist Churches (Ampthill) Dor	een Gibbs 01		Liz Henman Ian Gordon Jim Davies aulden) Ian Crawford efford) Hazel Arnold	
SCHOOLS Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower S Harlington Upper School, Harling Preschool clophillpreschool Redborne Upper School, Ampthi Robert Bloomfield Middle School	gton @gmail.com ill	•	er Mrs K Bingley) 006381 or (Imogen)	01525 860206 01525 755100) 07765 887868 01525 404462 01462 628800



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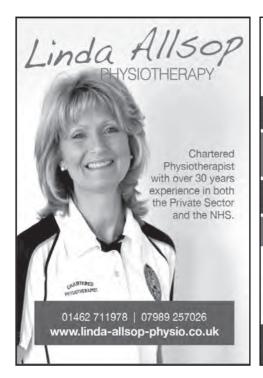
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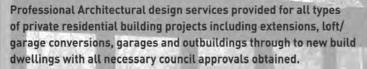
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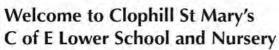
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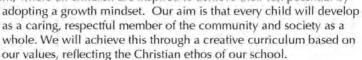


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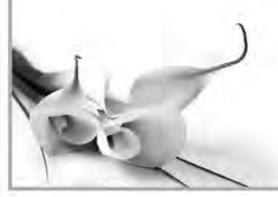
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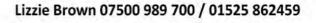
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