

CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

APRIL 2022



**LOVE YOUR
LOCAL NEWS**



A word from the Editor...

Welcome to the April issue of Spotlight

Dear Reader,

There is an old American English proverb, **“When the going gets tough, the tough get going”** which has never been truer than for two remarkable local ladies, Clophill resident **Katarzyna (Kasha) Southin**, and **Emily Roberts** from Barton. If you read nothing else in Spotlight this month, do turn to pages 2 and 3 to read the article by Helen Gent on the



Central Beds Ukraine Appeal. It has been my pleasure to meet them both and to see for myself their amazing energy, enthusiasm, drive and commitment to making a real difference to the desperate situation the people of the Ukraine find themselves in.

Thank you to you both, you are an inspiration to us all.

**Best wishes,
Elaine**



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Deadline for articles is 20th of the month

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www.clophillspotlight.co.uk

Central Beds Ukraine Appeal

By Helen Gent

The Central Beds Ukraine Appeal was co-founded by Clophill resident Katarzyna – aka Kasha – Southin, who’s originally from Poland, and Emily Roberts from Barton. They started operating out of Kasha’s house with a small team of local volunteers helping to sort and pack donated clothes, which they then drove to a collection centre in London ready to be transported to refugees in Poland.

With more and more donations flooding in and Kasha’s house filled to bursting, the group moved their hub to St Mary’s Church in Clophill and St Nicholas Church in Barton, where they continued to collect donations including food, toiletries, baby products, torches, wheelchairs and First Aid kits.



As word grew about the Central Beds Ukraine Appeal, individuals and businesses from all over Bedfordshire and beyond started offering much-needed supplies – all packed and labelled by a team of now more than 70 local volunteers.

The community effort was boosted by around 20 volunteer drivers who’ve been transporting the donations direct to refugees in Poland and Moldova. All the drivers have given up their time for

the long journeys, which have been financed via fund-raising to cover the cost of petrol and road tolls. Drivers are also making weekly trips to London with donations, which are loaded onto HGVs going to Ukraine. To date more than 300 tonnes of supplies from the Central Beds Ukraine Appeal have been sent, including a huge consignment of medical supplies bound for a badly damaged hospital near Kyiv.



'We've been left speechless by the response we've had,' says Kasha. 'When this all started, we never dreamt we would be able to do so much. So many people – too many to mention – have donated their time, their money and supplies. We've met incredible, kind and inspirational people with huge open hearts who've stayed with us on this journey, who've made us stronger and pushed us to do more and better. Whether it was a kind word or physical help we'll never forget their generosity.'

The amazing community effort has been picked up by the media, with Kasha and Emily appearing on Anglia News, BBC Look East and Channel 5 News as well as in local newspapers and on the radio. 'It's all been pretty crazy,' says Emily. 'We've had to do things we've never done before, like speaking to the press and figuring out the logistics of running this whole operation. It's been one of the most challenging and rewarding things we've ever done in our lives.'



After weeks of co-ordinating donations, the Central Beds Ukraine Appeal are now focusing their efforts on collecting items for refugee orphans. This month Kasha and Emily are flying to Poland to meet some of the children at a special Easter picnic organised by the One Heart Orphanage Association.

'We're so excited. The appeal has been sending over lovely things like brand-new clothes, toys, games and bikes and we've got lots of sweets and Easter eggs to hand out when we're there. After what the children have been through, we want to bring a little fun and happiness to their lives.'

While they're in Poland Kasha and Emily will also be helping at local refugee centres, offering whatever support is needed. Once they're back, the Central Beds Ukraine Appeal will continue their fund-raising efforts to help orphaned children in Poland. They'll also be organising community events here where local people who've registered to host a Ukrainian family can get support and information.

'You haven't heard the last of us,' say Kasha and Emily. 'We're going to do everything we can to help the families who'll be coming to stay with us in our local villages and to show them the amazing community we have here.'

* Find the Central Beds Ukraine Appeal on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/384457343404854>

Come into the Garden

With Kate Gardner



While April is a busy month in the garden, it's important to take a few moments to sit in the sun, listen to the birds and admire the colours as there is a real vibrancy about early spring. While it seems strange to be thinking ahead, now is the best time to make a note of any gaps in your spring planting so that you are ready to order your bulbs in the autumn for next year's spring show.

At this time of year, the lawn is actively growing and if you are looking to have a strong healthy lawn, now is the best time to give it some tlc. My lawn has more moss than grass so I'm going to be busy over the next few weeks with a rake removing it. If you are looking to reinvigorate your lawn than these are three key jobs that you should doing, **scarifying** (removing the thatch), **spiking** (improving drainage and air to the roots), and **top-dressing** (improving soil quality and adding a little feed).

Before you begin with these, its best to spend a little time on some lawn preparation. The first job is to mow the lawn, so you can get closer to the soil beneath, and then if you have any moss in your lawn you will need to use a Lawn Sand to kill it off. If you skip this step you will end spreading living moss spores around the lawn when you scarify, making the problem 10 times worse. Scatter the Lawn Sand lightly and evenly over the lawn surface and then leave it for a couple of weeks to work. You can get Lawn Sand from any of our local garden centres.

After two weeks, the moss will have been killed and you are ready for **scarifying**. You can now rake the dead moss up by hand, using a spring tined rake pulled firmly across the lawn surface (this is a great form of exercise, but be warned, it is hard work!) If you have a larger lawn or don't fancy the workout then you can use an electric scarifier or aerator, with either sprung tines or blades (check out the local hire companies). The dead moss and thatch can then go into your compost or green recycling. The next job is to get some air into the soil by **spiking**. This is easily done using a garden fork and spearing into the lawn every 6in (15cm), going at least 4in (10cm) deep and give the fork a little wiggle to widen the holes slightly as you pull it out. This needs to be done across the lawn – a long, hard and boring job, but well worth the effort.



Scarifying



Spiking



Top Dressing

The final job is **top-dressing** over the grass with a 50:50 mix of sharp sand and John Innes No 3 potting compost.

For a 12ft x 12ft (3.6m x 3.6m) lawn you will need about one-and-a-half bags of each. Mix them well together and spread the mix as evenly as you can over the surface of the soil. Now brush the dressing into the holes you pricked with the fork. This is traditionally done with a besom broom but any stiff bristled broom will work. If you can, try and work from a plank laid on the lawn so that you avoid squishing the holes shut. The end result looks pretty awful at this stage, but the lawn will love you for your efforts in the long run. Within a week you should be seeing strong green growth pushing through, and as spring advances into summer the turf will look better and better.

Happy Gardening

St. Mary's Church News

The church has been a hive of activity for the past few weeks. Our Rector, Lynda visited Katarzyna Southin when she heard that she was collecting goods for Ukraine and she immediately offered the use of the church as a collecting and sorting point. No-one realised what an amazing enterprise this would turn out to be. Goods have poured in from the village and beyond and at least 150 tonnes of clothes, food medicines etc. have so far been taken to Poland and Moldova to be distributed to the refugees. Despite the disruption to our normal quiet life, we at St. Mary's are delighted to have played our small part in this wonderful effort.

Meanwhile all the normal activities of the church have continued, including a resumption of our Lent Lunches, which are raising money for the charity Shelter Box, which sends aid to disaster areas and is working with the refugees from Ukraine. Two have been held to date and have been well attended and greatly enjoyed by all.

Easter will soon be upon us and the following services and events are planned for **Holy Week and the Easter** weekend. On **Maundy Thursday** we shall be resuming our **Agape Supper in the church at 7.30pm**, when we remember the events of Passover and the Last Supper. If you wish to come, please sign the list in the church. On **Good Friday** we shall be joining with **Maulden for a service at 2.00pm**, marking the last hour of the Crucifixion. On **Saturday** we are holding our postponed **coffee and cake morning for Janina**, our girl in Paraguay, and the weekend culminates on **Easter Sunday with a Sung Parish Communion at 11.00am**.

Easter Sunday at the Old Church

Clophill Christians Together are holding their annual Sunrise Service at the Old Church at 7.30 am on Easter Sunday. This short but beautiful and meaningful service has been held for at least 25 years in all possible weathers, including a snowstorm! **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

A breakfast of bacon butties and hot drink is available afterwards in the Eco-Lodges, but please tell either Emily at the Lodges or Adrienne Gordon (on 860875) if you would like to partake. There will be a small charge to cover expenses.

Clophill Methodist Church News

Spring is upon us and Clophill Methodist Church have been enjoying the sunshine, tidying the grounds and welcoming people into the church. We are most grateful to those who keep the gardens at the front and to the rear tidy, and the planters at the front of the church well stocked and looking lovely all year around.

We have had a busy couple of months with our popular weekly Tea and Chat, welcoming new visitors including local rambling groups who enjoy a rest on their way. Our Coffee and Croissants held the second Saturday of the month are a great way to start the weekend, and we are very much looking forward to our upcoming Easter Services in church and future events.

At the beginning of March, the church was open for Prayers for Peace, where people of all faiths came to pray for the people of Ukraine and lit a candle. A collection box was in place for donations for the Methodist Church Ukraine Emergency Appeal. www.allwecan.org.uk/donate/ukraine/.

Our services are held each Sunday at 10:30am followed by refreshments. We will be holding special services for Easter on Good Friday and Easter Sunday, at 10:30am with our Easter Cross in place outside church early on Sunday Morning to celebrate he is risen.

Nicola Wood (on behalf of Clophill Methodist Church)

Clophill Methodist Church Easter Services



Good Friday 15th April

10:30am

Easter Sunday 17th April

10:30 am

All Welcome

Nature Notes

What to see in the hedgerows and verges.

April and May must be two of our favourite months, it is fully spring, with much to come. In April, look out for wild plum blossom in hedges and the beautiful wild cherry trees in the woods. During May we all recognise the hawthorn (may) blossom. As the flowers fade, they turn slightly pink and give off a heavy scent.



This is peak time for dandelions in our garden and especially en masse along some of the A505 verges. The primroses are blooming. Their delicate flowers are to be found in the churchyard. Near Wilstead you may see Cowslips, taller than primroses with hanging flowers.

In the verges there are usually "Jack-by-the-hedge" a medium sized plant with small white flowers. This is the food plant for which the caterpillars of the orange tipped butterfly, which you may see in early spring.

So many of our wild flowers are insignificant and are easily taken for granted. But they are important in the food chain, and they are OURS, a part of our heritage. I have seen Vipers Bugloss, a bright blue flower near Shefford Road and also the Star of Bethlehem, a fairly tall plant with pretty 6 petalled flowers. Sometimes it is hard to know what is wild and what is a garden escapee. A few are interesting, but many would endanger our wild flowers.

As May progresses, we can all recognise the foaming Cow Parsley, the Buttercup and the pretty common Daisy. There are 3 varieties of buttercups- do look them up.

In the Woods. By April all the trees are coming into leaf. Early ones are the Horse Chestnut in the churchyard with their sticky buds. Look out for the Poplars on the Bypass near Flitwick. For a short time, they are a beautiful pale copper shade. Also, along the bypass nearer Clophill there are several willow trees with fluffy yellow flowers. Once they used them to decorate the Church on Palm Sunday just before Easter. The oak and ash come out almost together. The oak has such tender green leaves when they first appear.

Of course, we cannot miss the bluebells in our local woods. Our gardens sometimes contain bluebells, they are probably the Spanish variety, which are very prolific, less dainty, and a danger to our native species.

Birds to notice. They are all now singing, the dawn chorus is just a shadow of what it once was, but still lovely. The blackbirds is easily recognisable with its deeper contralto voice. The great tit sounds like a chime of bells. You may hear a cuckoo from mid-April onwards. The swifts should arrive in early May, flying quickly overhead. They have nested for many years in the high street but they have now almost vanished. The swallows and house martins should also arrive in April: the swallows with deeply forked tails. The house martins with a white rump: once so common, you will be lucky to see them nest in Clophill, but keep looking!

St Mary's School News

from Mrs. Bingley, our Headteacher:

March saw us experiencing the worst of the Covid.19 pandemic to date for our school. Cases remained high amongst children throughout the school, with new cases being reported daily. We also had a number of staff off unwell with the virus. With lower staff numbers, lots of us had to do a lot more than just our 'day' jobs. However, we did our best to keep on top of everything with each day bringing new challenges. We were all working flat out and some days it was just not be possible for us to do everything. However, I know we were not unique as a place of work in this experience and we were also thinking of and sending our best wishes to anyone else experiencing these challenges (or worse) in their businesses and lines of work; as well as those who continue to struggle as a result of the virus.

Covid.19 aside, the children had a busy March. We began the month by celebrating World Book Day. Our theme was "The Day the Crayons Came to St. Mary's" and all the classes dressed up as a crayon colour and created a page for our very own crayons book! The fruits of our labours can be viewed on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/clophillstmarysschool/>.

The children really enjoyed the day (as did the staff). World Book Day also saw us launching our brand-new reading challenge: Get Caught Reading! Every week parents are invited to send in pictures of their children reading in extreme places. We've had some great photos so far, from reading up trees, in the middle of a lake, by the Easter eggs in a supermarket to being upside down and under beds! Each week a participant is drawn out of a 'hat' and then goes into a prize draw to win a £10 book voucher at the end of each term!

Rowan practised for their Easter performance of "The Three Trees" which we filmed (due to the restrictions we were under as a result of large Covid.19 numbers) and sent out to Rowan parents; and then showed virtually to the school at the end of term.

All of the children took part in Science Week activities. These were designed by Miss Clements around this year's theme of 'Growth'. At the end of the week we virtually shared each classes Science activities and it was brilliant to see what they all got up to! Pictures were also posted on our school website under our Science curriculum tab.

Oak enjoyed a Sports Transfer Festival to Robert Bloomfield. This was part of their transition experience to get ready for going to Middle School! Mrs. Arnold said the children did really well in all of the activities and were a credit to St. Mary's :-).

On Thursday 17th we held our Ukraine Appeal Day, we were so moved by the amount of donations we received from our families. We know they will make a difference to the lives of the people who will be receiving them. We launched our Tree of Hope which can be found outside of Acorn class. This is for parents/carers and children to write messages of hope to the people of Ukraine or just spend some time reading the messages that are already hanging there.

Then on Friday 18th we celebrated Red Nose Day. The children looked fantastic in their red clothes and we raised a lot of money for this important charity.

Finally, on Wednesday 23rd March we recognised the National Day of Reflection. You may remember that this was initially set up for people to think about and reflect on the effects of Covid.19 on our country; to pay tribute to those affected by the virus and those who helped combat it too. This year we thought about ways we can reflect on things generally – how we can have thinking time to ourselves and where we go to enjoy this. Some classes also enjoyed decorating daffodils and rainbows, the symbols of the day and of hope for the future. Maybe you've seen some of them on display as you've walked past the school? We are certainly looking with hope towards the future and all the exciting activities we're going to enjoy during the rest of our academic year.

Jake the School Dog:

Jake managed to get involved with our “Get Caught Reading” challenge which began on World Book Day in March! He not only photo-bombed a picture of one of our older classes extreme reading but he even managed to get into this picture attached below! This also shows the amazing multi-tasking skills of one of our St. Mary's children – reading whilst feeding Jake the School Dog!

Continued on page 11 .



Reflections – Clophill in March 1977 - Voices from the past

Continuing our series looking back at previous issues of Spotlight and Clophill Village life.....

By Julie Benson

It's always lovely to start with something **happy** isn't it – and this month's 'Outlook' did just that. The Editor thanked people for their generous support, it being “the occasion of the **magazine's 10th anniversary**”.

The **cover photo** of this rather splendid car (thought to be a be a Clement Talbot) “was taken during peace processions at the end of WWI and was supplied by Mrs Peck. The car belonged to Mr. Mannings and was driven by a Mr. Bert Izzard, who was employed by the former. Other passengers in the car were Mrs. Stevens, Mr. Adamson, Miss Upton and Mr. Whitamore”.

Page 2 tells us that amongst other things, the **Parish Councillors** discussed the stopping of the building of new houses in Back Street as “At the moment the houses do not conform to planning law”. Also “The latest stage (of the Clophill bypass – A507) was completed a month ahead of schedule with considerable savings in cost.

Continued on next page. >

The section W of the A6 will be started 1978-79. Its route depends to some extent on that chosen for the Amphill-Maulden by-pass". Regarding the bus shelter by the Flying Horse. "The scouts are repairing this and would welcome financial support". It's **Silver Jubilee time** - and the PC proposed to donate mugs to all children who are under the age of 16 on 1st September (cost £250), and to plant trees and erect a fence near the Village Hall (cost £120). So, that's lovely isn't it. Not quite so lovely, but oh, so timely – the PC suggested "to levy an additional penny rate which would increase the household rate by 1.3%". Read the current Parish Council notes. Nothing changes!

There follows reports from the many groups active in the village then – the Flower Club (still going strongly – hooray), Friends of the Cheshire Home (ditto), P.T.A. (that's still going too), W.I. (sadly now no longer) and the great news that Rachel Dyson became "the first member of Clophill Guide Company to gain the Queen's Guide Award". Many congratulations Rachel. The Brownies are still going strong as is the darts team and I believe that there is a football team too, but we don't hear of their successes – or defeats – now do we? The netball club is defunct, but "On Thursday 3rd February, Clophill Reds played Biggleswade Reds in a return match. Once again it was a very unpleasant game which resulted in a win for Biggleswade by 34 goals to 9". Who'd have thought that there might have been dirty tricks on the netball pitch – wouldn't happen nowadays!

I see that at the **PTA AGM**, it was noted that the 1976 fundraising events, including – Jumble Sale, Barbecue, Firework Display, Book Evening and film show were successful with the main item of expenditure being a cover for the swimming pool. Also, "During the coming year it is expected that the old school will be demolished (such a shame) and the P.T.A will help in laying out the site". Mr Tinkler, the then Headmaster of Robert Bloomfield Middle School gave a talk about the school "to which children aged between 10 -13 will go". In 1977, St. Mary's was a Primary school and Carolyn Cranswick and I were there when it changed to be a 'Lower'.

It is lovely to note that "John and Beryl Burger of the **Post Office and General Stores** have recently introduced a wide range of seeds, tools and other gardening supplies". That brilliant shop, sited in the middle of the village was the 'centre of the village' where all local information was traded!

There was to be a 'Local Talent Concert' with the proceeds in aid of 'Outlook' funds and a Jumble Sale by the Darby and Joan Club. The recipe was for Sweet and Sour Pork and the First Aid article covered "Wounds and Bleeding (part 2)". Sid Sidney gave his opinions on **new record releases**. One album mentioned is 'The Shadows 20 Golden Greats' which includes 'Apache', while "Queen's new single 'Tie Your Mother Down' is about to be released". Takes you back doesn't it! '**Screen Scene**' advertised films showing locally – 'The Pink Panther' and 'The Exorcist' being two. Thus, another Outlook, **busy with village information** concluded with Auntie Sue telling the youngsters (**Junior Outlook's** short story was about Trevor the Tractor) that Trevor had "rescued Sammy's hat". What a lovely way to end eh?

St Mary's School News *continued...*

Acorn Nursery news:

from Mrs. Hayes our Nursery Manager and Early Years Leader:

Spring is finally here, and with the weather turning warmer we've been having lots of fun playing with water outside - we've been practicing pouring into different sized containers, catching fish, investigating floating and sinking and exploring bubbles. We've also enjoyed playing with our fantastic water wall.

The children are developing and honing their fine motor skills constantly with our continuous provision activities available such as threading pasta onto pipe cleaners, using tweezers to transfer pom poms; painting with different tools such as toothbrushes and sponges, chalking on our pavement; building with blocks, putting train track together, sorting different sized shells, cutting with scissors and making people with popoids. All of our resources lay the foundation for children to strengthen their little hands and fingers preparing them for when the time comes to write.

We've been talking about superheroes and exploring the stories of Supertato, Superworm and Superkid. The children were also involved in our Ukraine Awareness Day - they helped me decorate the Nursery fence for Ukraine Awareness Day, painted sunflowers and made a canvas out of their handprints to give to the church. We measured ourselves for British Science Week and joined in with the whole school activities for Comic Relief Day.

Our Value for April is Koinonia (Unity)

In school, we will approach the value of Unity through situations familiar to the children, for example, being a member of a football team or working together to raise money for charity. Our message will be that actions and initiatives involving a number of committed people are more likely to result in a successful outcome than things which are approached individually. We will emphasise the fact that our school is a unit and it is important for everyone – children, staff, parents and Governors, to work together in Unity and harmony to ensure its success!

At home, you could have a competition to see who can identify the most football teams with 'united' in their name and discuss why this name is chosen so often. You could also take on a simple project as a family and work together until it is completed, for example, preparing a meal where each person has a part to play and you can then all enjoy the fruits of your labours! The garden is another place where working together can be beneficial to all! Whatever you decide to do, enjoy the togetherness and the results!

Clophill Parish Council

The final meeting of the season at the Methodist Church as with the lighter evenings meetings will now move to the village hall. Discussions were still lively even with a smaller audience than the last few meetings.



Items discussed included:

- the issues with parking and traffic caused by the new developments in the village
- the possibility of an ambient foodbank at the village hall. The village hall are also currently revisiting the possibility of extending the building, with plans currently with an architect to enable costings.
- it was noted that the A6 Roundabout consultation was well attended by the village, with lots of suggestions and comments added to the presentation boards that were around the Church. Councillor Duckett was there for most of the day, plus representatives from CBC who actively engaged with the Parishioners.

The Queens Jubilee will soon be upon us and a number of events were discussed. The possibility of a Beacon at the old church, although this was not approved due to the cost. Other events in the village include the Church Tea Party and now a children's party at the village hall which has recently gained funding via an Arts Council Grant.

A new volunteer recognition scheme was approved, and details will be published shortly on the Parish Web Site.

The Readshill Quarry development has been withdrawn by the Developers. There were nearly 300 objections from parishioners.

Planning

Applications requiring comment prior to the meeting:

CB/TCA/22/00109

Location: 15 The Slade

Proposal: Works to trees in a conservation area. Fell and remove dead silver birch.

NO COMMENT

Applications Considered at meeting:

CB/22/00764/Full

Location: Land North of Shefford Road

Proposal: Construction of detached double garage, detached outbuilding and garden wall with gates.

NO COMMENT

CB/22/00666/Full

Location: 89 High Street

Proposal: Rear Extension and add dormer window to Master Bedroom.

RESUBMIT PREVIOUS RESPONSE

CB/TRE/22/00156

Location: 3 Hawthorne Close

Proposal: Various works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order.

NO COMMENT

CB/22/00635

Location: The Green Man, The Green

Proposal: Lawful Development Certificate Existing: erection of a new dwelling and conversion of existing listed building into two residential apartments.

Confirmation that application CB/18/0433/FULL, dated 28/11/2018 has been implemented.

NO COMMENT

CB/22/00842/FULL

Location: Land within the former Fullers Earth Quarry

Proposal: Proposed visitor centre.

SUPPORT

CB/22/01121/LB

Location: 5 High Street

Proposal: Listed Building: Raising height of chimney stack.

SUPPORT

The next Parish Council meeting is
Tuesday 3rd May, 7:45pm in Clophill Village Hall.

Coffee and Croissants

Clophill Methodist Church

10am to 12 noon

Saturday 9th April

Including food collection for

Bedford Food Bank.

All Welcome



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...

The Roberts family of Clophill sent 5 young men to war. Cecil, named on our memorial did not come home.

(Visit <https://clophillhistory.mooncarrot.org.uk/ww1CecilRoberts.php> for more information regarding Cecil.) Cecil was cousin to Frederick – detailed below. Arthur and Sydney were brothers but also cousins of Horace.

Arthur Roberts was born in Clophill in November 1895 and lived on the High Street with his parents Susan and David and his siblings. In 1911 he was living in St. Albans and worked as a Messenger at a Printers. However, he joined the Royal Navy later that year and first trained on "Impregnable" He served in the Royal Navy Flying Corps as a Wireless Operator on HMS Gloucester during the Great War (among many other ships). He continued to serve with the Royal Navy until he was invalided out in 1944! He was brother to Sydney below.

HMS Gloucester was a Town-class light cruiser built for the Royal Navy early 20th century. The ship was initially assigned to the Home Fleet upon. *Gloucester* was detailed several times during the war to search for German commerce raiders, but her only success was the capture of one supply ship in early 1915. She played a minor role in the Battle of Jutland in mid-1916 and then spent most of the rest of the war in the Adriatic Sea.



Frederick Roberts



Frederick was the youngest surviving son of Leonard and Ann who lived at Beadlow Lodge. He was born about 1874. He married Mary Broome in 1897 and lived in Fulham in 1901, working as a labourer.

Frederick moved to Canada in 1908 and went to France with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1915. He was demobbed in 1919 and returned to Canada. Frederick died in 1954 in St Thomas, Elgin, Ontario, Canada.

Sadly, Frederick's son, Arthur (born in London), died in France during WW1.

It is the first example of father and son serving that we have discovered.

Horace Roberts was born in Clophill in 1890. In 1911 he lived on the High Street with his parents Charles and Louisa, he was a Farm Labourer. He attested in 1915 and served as a Private in the 1st Bedfordshires. He was injured in the ankle in 1917 and badly wounded in the wrist in 1918 and returned from Cambrai to hospital in Nottingham. Horace had a couple of disciplinary issues – in 1917 he overstayed his pass by nearly 3 days and in 1918 was caught drinking in prohibited hours. He was demobbed in 1919. Horace died locally in 1938.

Sidney Roberts was born in Clophill in 1892, he was the son of David and Susan and brother to Arthur above. He joined the Navy in 1909, stating that his trade at that time was a carpenter and starting his service on HMS Ganges a Signals School.

By 1911 he was serving on HMS Duncan with the Mediterranean fleet. He married Florrie Symons in 1915 and was a Chief Seaman. Sydney became shore based on HMS President until he was transferred to the RAF in 1918.



Maulden Walking Football Club

Join Maulden Walking Football Club today – limited number of new spaces available!

- established July 2021 – and going from strength to strength
- make new friends and have fun at our training sessions and social events
- play in local friendlies and regional matches – we are going to Margate in July!
- team shirt for regular members.



Plus help us give back to the community and raise money for charity - join our Easy Funding page as Maulden Walking Football Club.

Join our facebook group and @ClubMaulden on twitter.

Training is every Sunday 6-7pm at Flitwick Leisure Centre. Extra training sessions are coming soon. All ages and abilities welcome.

Join our friendly team today!

Email OBMauldenWalkingFootball@outlook.com today to find out more.

WARDEN ABBEY

The community vineyard



Did you know Bedfordshire's medieval vineyard is now an exciting community project?

This beautiful field near Old Warden was first planted by monks at Warden Abbey. Centuries later, the "Lyttel Vineyard" was re-planted and now produces award-winning wines.

Today, it's an army of volunteers who tend the vines all year round as well as run tours and events, school visits, social & therapeutic horticulture, wildlife and heritage projects.

OPEN FOR TOURS MAY TO SEPTEMBER

See website for tour dates, events, vouchers, gifts and stockists

07981 113714 info@wardenvineyard.org.uk



wardenvineyard.org.uk



Local . Ethical . Award-winning



SAVE the DATE

You are invited to the COME AND CELEBRATE WITH US



Clophill Platinum Jubilee Celebration

and Afternoon Tea

in the garden of Clophill House

– by kind invitation of Abbie and Giles Warner

Saturday 4th June 2 – 6pm

This will be a special afternoon for the community in beautiful surroundings, where friends can meet and share in the celebration of HM The Queen's Jubilee.

Celebration Afternoon Tea boxes will be available to pre order, with proceeds for St Marg's Church.

Pimms and Prosecco

Tea and cakes Entertainment

Raffle

We hope that everyone will wear something red, white or blue to join in the fun.

More details in April and May

Clophill Preschool News

We realise we often start this article talking about the weather because we are out in the elements every day but this time, we do have to mention the wonderful sunshine we have had, how lovely to feel the sun on our faces again!

It has been amazing to see how much our preschool community has grown in recent years and it has been wonderful to meet so many different families from so many different places and all that they bring us. It was great to have parents join us to read stories on World Book Day last month and we have Sandi from Autism Beds coming in to host an event which will be great for our SEND parents and those with an interest in Autism.



Rosemary and Rev. Lynda from St Mary's church and Silas from the Methodist came to visit us, it was the first time Lynda had been up and it was lovely to be able to show her around the setting introducing her to staff and children. Rosemary and Silas are always wonderful with the children and great at a story, so it was really good to have both of these lovely visitors come up. We have also

welcomed Glen, one of our grandparents, to teach the children Taekwondo. They were all totally captivated and stood around Glen copying his moves as he put them through their paces.

The children have been busy tidying the Friday woods and Community Allotment, clearing pathways and debris from the windy weather; practising their pencil control as they trace over shapes, lines and letters, playing noughts and crosses on the ground using sticks and stones; moving around the outdoor space with instruments in a long procession testing out the sounds and rhythms they can make and playing duck, duck, goose with their friends.



We have a daily question on our outdoor board, the children mark down a tally to show their answer, a great way to get brains engaged and to find out ideas and opinions. Parents have their own Have Your Say version, which we recently offered a twist on, asking parents to tell us about their child's recent achievements that perhaps they have forgotten to tell us or to give a heads up to a staff member. We have had some wonderful comments, not only is it great to share in children's successes, but we were also able to share positive feedback from parents to the staff, a great way to empower them and thank them for all their hard work.

We were very touched by our parents' comments, we hope you don't mind if we share some with you.....



'I must say the welcome she gets every morning from all the staff is so kind and makes me as a parent feel like she is important.'

'When we have conversations about any concerns, they're very relaxed and when my 'mum guilt' starts to kick in Sarah really helps to normalise the situation and make me feel at ease.'

'We are always greeted by smiling faces in the morning and at the end of the day.'

Staff always have time for you regardless of how busy they are. It's like one big family.'

Lastly, we would like to thank our parents for their very generous donations to our Ukraine collection to add to what the business is also donating, we very much appreciate your kind support.

Clophill Heritage Trust

Last chance to enter our photography competition:

At Clophill Heritage Trust we think old St Mary's church is stunning. There has been a church on this site since the days of William the Conqueror. Over the centuries it has been changed, added to and renovated. What is there now is **a breath-taking example of nearly 1,000 years of history**. It is now a Grade II Scheduled Ancient Monument, and we would like you to show us your favourite image of it.



This photography competition is open to anyone, we have Under 18s** and Over 18s categories. Send us the photo you have taken that you feel shows the church off best - with a short description of why you have chosen the image. Images should be sent to **Info@ClophillEcoLodges.co.uk** and please include a contact name, phone number, and if you are entering the Under or the Over 18s category.

Closing date is the 5th May 2022 and the winner will be announced as part of the Greensand Country Festival events. The winner of each category will have their photo displayed in The Hive Studio at the Eco Lodges, plus win 4 tickets to the event of your choosing (valid until May 2023).

*Cover photo by @Claredavisphotography.

**Under 18's please get your parent / guardian's permission to enter. Under 18's may use their parent / guardian's contact details if they wish.



**Westoning Players
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28th to 30th April, 2022

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SUPPER (included) please choose meat or vegetarian when booking

Email: thewestoningplayers@gmail.com

Website: www.westoning-players.co.uk

Clophill and District Flower Club

Our March demonstrator was Lesley Sturdy from Luton. Lesley is not only a long-standing Club member but also a NAFAS Area Demonstrator, teacher, trainer of flower arranging judges and a national and international flower arranging judge. Lesley and her husband had a three month world trip when they retired and all the above interests and travels were illustrated in her demonstration entitled "Around the World".

Her first demonstration was a seascape to illustrate her trips to the South Seas and the Caribbean, where she was called upon to judge the flowering arranging World Show at very short notice. She also talked about the wonderful gardens, plants and flowers she had seen in both these areas.

Next, we were off to New Zealand for a white arrangement of roses and carnations which looked like a glacier sliding down a large piece of driftwood. A long horizontal arrangement was added above – New Zealand being known as "the land of the long white cloud".

Palm leaves and orchids brought us to Singapore. Then we were off to India which she first visited to train flower arranging judges before the World Show held there in 2020. This was a vibrant arrangement of orange mini gerbera, red roses and purple lisianthus. She remarked on the wonderful hospitality and generosity she had received during several visits to India.

She then talked about her many family holidays in France while arranging a spiral of yellow roses with manipulated aspidistra leaves and gypsophila.

Her final arrangement reflected her love of period flower arranging and design. She used a vase that had belonged to the great flower arranger, Constance Spry, as part of a design from the end of the Victorian era.

During the demonstration Lesley told us that it was her last demonstration to our Club as she is shortly retiring from demonstrating. She has been a major part of the flower arranging world for many years and will be missed by all. We wish her a long and happy retirement and look forward to seeing her as a member of the audience at our Club.

Our last demonstration was on 7th April by Barbara Collins and the next will be on 5th May when we have National Demonstrator Tony Brown "For the love of flowers".

St Mary's Church, Clophill

16th April

Easter Coffee Morning / takeaway.

14th May

Village Fete in the Church grounds.

4th June

Diamond Jubilee Afternoon Tea.

In the garden of Clophill House by kind permission of Mr. And Mrs. G. Warner.

25th/26th June

Open Gardens.

17th/18th Sept

Art and Craft Festival.

Other details to be published later ...

Please join Clophill Methodist Church
in Supporting the Bedford Food Bank this Easter



**Donate items via the boxes at the front of the
Methodist Church**

Saturday 9th April between 10am and 1pm

The Church is also open for Coffee & Croissants so please
drop in and join us!



URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS THAT WE ARE SHORT
OF AT THE MOMENT:

- CUP-A-SOUP
- FRUIT JUICE (LONGLIFE)
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- COFFEE (100G)
- HOTDOGS (JUMBO)
- TEABAGS (40/80)
- TINNED MEAT IN SAUCE (E.G. CHILLI,
CURRY)
- JARS OF CURRY SAUCE
- SPONGE PUDDINGS (LONGLIFE)
- WASHING UP LIQUID
- SHAMPOO
- ANTI-BAC SPRAY

St Mary's Church, Clophill

Church Fete

& Village Event

Saturday 14th May

12 – 4pm in the Church grounds

FUN for ALL

Lots of stalls

Sideshows

Barbeque

For further information –

call Gill 01525 861058 or Carolyn 01462 815433

St Mary's Church Clophill

Easter



Coffee and Cake



Morning

Saturday 16th April

10 am. – 12. 00pm ~ in the Church

A special event in aid of Janina,
our adopted child in Paraguay
to help to give her a better life



Parish Registers for April

1821

Baptisms

- 07 David Clark, s of David and Elizabeth.
22 John Wilmor, (sic) s of George and Hannah.
Sarah Maddams, d of James and Hannah.

Marriages

- 21 Abraham Summerfield (?) to Ann Linford (?).
23 Henry Hall to Mary Evans.

Burials

- 06 Richard Page (?).

1822

Baptisms

- 15 James Tiring(?), s of William and Dorothy.
27 James Gudgion (sic), s of John and Mary.
28 daughter of Henry and Mary Hall.
William Stevens ? Stimson, s of Joseph and Sarah.

Marriages

- 27 William Lincoln to Jane Hide.

Burials

- 26 William C?

1871

Baptisms

- 30 Rosa Eleanor Quenby, d of James and Harriet, f a baker.
Ellen Doggett, d of William and Hannah.
Mary Anne Tingey, d of John and Lucy.

Marriages

- 16 William Bass, 24, to Ann Willison, 22.
17 William Williams, 40, to Mary Ann Izzard, 37.
Henry Mossman, 20 to Ann Maria

Hare, 17.

James Bottoms, 30 to Elizabeth Billington, 26.

Burials

- 07 Martha Masters, 81.

1872

Baptisms

- 07 Thomas Doggett, s of Valentine and Elizabeth.
Frederick Anfield (?) s of John and Sarah.
Alice Emma Stephens, d of Samuel and Ann.
Harry Inskip, s of Charles and Eliza, f a groom.

1921

Baptisms

- 03 Edith Caroline Wilson, f a photographer.
Alice Lilian Prince.

Burials

- 26 Emma Hester? Hesker, 64.

1922

Baptisms

- 02 Edna Mary Willmore.

1971

Baptisms

- 11 Christian James and Liza Mead.

Burials

- 16 Pauline Eleanor Hildreth, 80.
26 Ashes of Violet Smith, 62.

1972

Baptisms

- 23 Gareth John Davies.

Burials

- 07 Ernest William Lincoln, 86.
-

St. Mary's Church Registers for March 2022

Burial of Ashes

- 09 Clifford Robson of Gravenhurst, 75.



**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

Wildlife walks & talks

April and May

Monday 25 April, start at 7.30pm – On-line Zoom talk Banking on Butterflies* with Dr Gwen Hitchcock

Gwen, BCN's Senior Monitoring and Research Officer, will introduce us to an exciting new scientific project at Totternhoe Quarry and Pegsdon reserves monitoring butterfly populations, building an understanding of how different aspects and degrees of shelter affect these populations. This new knowledge will help in mitigating the effects of climate change on our butterfly populations.

Links to the Zoom meetings will be provided to all registered attendees closer to the events.

Saturday 14 May, start at 10.30am – Totternhoe Nature Reserve (LU6 1QF)

Banking on Butterflies - Field Trip**

Follow-up to our April Zoom talk, join Dr Gwen Hitchcock (Senior Monitoring and Research Officer) for a guided trip to see earthworks created for the 'Banking on Butterflies' project at Totternhoe Quarry reserve. Shaped like a giant 'E' the north and south facing sides will offer butterflies opportunities to warm and cool themselves, something climate change may be making more difficult. (Also see - www.wildlifebcn.org/banking-butterflies-project)

**£3.00 per adult

Open to all.

To reserve a place or for further information please email Ann at

flitvale.info@gmail.com or ring or text on 07580 178889.

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



Clophill Open Gardens Weekend

25th and 26th June 12
noon – 5pm each day

We are planning to hold an Open Gardens Weekend in Clophill and would like to have a wide variety of gardens for people to enjoy. If you are willing to open YOUR garden or would like more details please contact Jenny on 07917648987

Proceeds in aid of St Mary's Church, Clophill

Introducing the Anne Robson Helpline

If you, or someone close to, you is dying, you can talk to us.



At the Anne Robson Trust we aim to be there to listen to anyone who faces dying or the imminent death of someone they care about. We know that facing the end of life can leave you feeling isolated and alone.

Being able to access support is so important. Gaining knowledge of what may happen towards the end of life and being prepared helps both the person dying and their loved ones to feel a sense of control.

Calls are free and confidential.

Call us on 0808 801 0688 - we have time to talk.

Please visit www.annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service to find out more.

What's on in and around Clophill

APRIL

Saturday 9th

Coffee and Croissants, Methodist Church, 10am – 12noon. See poster in this issue.

Saturday 16th

Easter Coffee morning/ takeaway, St Mary's Church, 10am – 12noon. See poster in this issue.

MAY

Saturday 14th

Church Fete and Village event, St Mary's Church, 12noon – 4pm,
See poster in this issue.

JUNE

Saturday 4th

Clophill Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, Clophill House, 2pm – 6pm.
See poster in this issue.

Plus...

Tuesdays... in term time

- Clophill Preschool, Stay and Play sessions on Tuesdays 9:30-10:30am and Thursdays 1-2pm, at the Village Hall. See 'Village Groups' for contact details.

Wednesdays...

- Tea and Chat, Methodist Church, 10am – 12noon.

Thursdays...

- Thursday Leisure Club – TLC – St Mary's Church, 2pm.

Fridays...

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

CHURCH SERVICES

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

1st Sunday 8am, Holy Communion.
 11am, Family Praise

2nd and 4th Sundays. 11am, Parish Communion.

3rd Sunday 11am, Morning Praise

Regular services at Clophill Methodist Church...

Weekly Worship at the Church, Sundays at 10:30am.

If you have any diary dates that you'd like included on this page, please email clophillspotlight1@hotmail.co.uk

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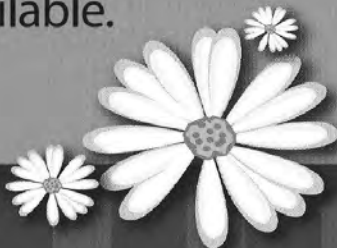
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Highways Department (Central Bedfordshire Council)		0300 3008049
Benefits Agency (Bedford office)		01234 361500
Registrar's Office (Births/deaths/marriages)		0300 3008089
Rail (Enquiries)		0845 7484950
Buses 01234 262151	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511	(Flittabus) 01582 406561
Luton Airport		01582 405100
Swimming	(Flitwick) 01525 717744	(Robinson Pool) 01234 212479

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Central Beds Offices (Chicksands)		0300 300 8000
Mid-Bed; MP	Nadine Dorries	01462 811992
Central Bedfordshire Councillors	Michael Blair	01525 404513
	Paul Duckett	07988 184061
Clophill Parish Council	(Clerk) Heather Myott clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk	07888 685 886

HOSPITALS

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

DOCTOR'S CLINICS

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

POLICE

County Police HQ		Non Emergency	101
Amphill Station			01234 841212
			101

CHURCHES

St Mary's Parish Church

Revd Cannon Lynda Klimas rev.l.klimas@btinternet.com	01525 403139
(Church Warden) Mrs Rosemary Ilett mandrilett@gmail.com	01525 860274
Mr Steve Grylls stevegrylls24@gmail.com	01525 860076

St Francis RC Church, Shefford

Clophill Methodist Church Revd Silas Wood, email: swood11@me.com, 01525 571392

Mr John Errick 01525 860695

Baptist Churches

(Maulden) Ian Crawford 01525 634325

(Shefford) Hazel Arnold 01462 812564

SCHOOLS -

St Mary's C of E Lower School & Nursery (Headteacher Mrs K Bingley) 01525 860206

Harlington Upper School, Harlington 01525 755100

Preschool clophillpreschool@gmail.com (Chris) 07936 006381 or (Imogen) 07765 887868

Redborne Upper School, Amphill 01525 404462

Village groups

Beverley Court		860920
Brownies	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
	Charlotte Messer	07538 150058
Clophill Toddler Group	Val Martin	860900
Clophill United Charities	Brian Adams	862297
Conservation Group	Gillian Hill	860539
Flower Club	Sue Pearson	861110
Friends of the Cheshire Home		07903 167493
Funzone After School Club	Tony Meredith	860754
Indoor Carpet Bowls	Victoria Higgins	07920 568861
Messy Church	victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk	
	Mary Milne and Jenny Garnham	
Friends of St Mary's (FOSM)	fosmcllophill@gmail.com	
	www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved	
Scouts and Cubs	Anita Errick	860695
Tea and Chat	Marilyn Browning	07821 643936
Village Hall Booking Secretary		

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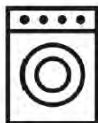


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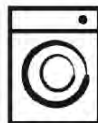
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