

Vol 45 | No.10

FREE



# CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

DECEMBER 2022



**LOVE YOUR  
LOCAL NEWS**



## A word from the Editor...

Welcome to the December issue of Spotlight

*Dear Reader,*

Here we are in December already and another year starts to draw to a close. As always at this time I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the running of Spotlight over the past year. **Thank you** to Colin our designer, Jon our treasurer, Angela and Nigel our Ad managers, Laura our photographer and last but not least our Distribution managers Toni, Phyllis and Paul and all the posties who pop your copy of Spotlight through the letterbox. Without you all we couldn't produce the magazine.

My **thanks also** go to all our lovely contributors who make time to write the articles, and Simon and Louise at Fidelity Design and Print.

Lastly you may notice that we have another 7 new advertisers this month. If you can, do support our advertisers as without them too we wouldn't have the magazine. **We thank them all.**

**From all the team at Spotlight, we wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a Happy and Healthy 2023.**

See you all again in February!!

**Best wishes,  
Elaine**



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**Deadline for articles is 20th of the month**

You can also read Spotlight online

**[www.clophillspotlight.co.uk](http://www.clophillspotlight.co.uk)**

# Come into the Garden

*With Kate Gardner*



There used to be a school of thought that resulted in us 'putting the garden to bed' during the winter months. What was often left was a garden devoid of colour or shape where every plant had been severely pruned and the borders were left bare. While you may not want to go outside and walk on the grass or soil in case you damage the soil structure when it's very wet, containers planted up with a selection of foliage and flowers can brighten all areas, giving colour and interest over the cold season. Although these plants are not as flamboyant as those used in summer containers, you can still make a statement with careful plant selections.

Preparation is the key so here are some practical steps to follow to make sure that you get the most from your planters. Plants grow very little in winter so make sure you start with good-sized plants and use sufficient numbers of plants for the size of container to make an impact from the start.

Position your container where it will get as much light as possible during the winter months to ensure plant foliage remains green and healthy. Raise your containers off the ground on pot feet or bricks to aid drainage and help prevent the freezing conditions that cause pots to crack. Make sure to choose frost-proof terracotta or containers made of plastic, fibreglass or wood. Bubble wrap containers in severe weather to reduce damage to plant roots.

It is not necessary to feed container plants during the winter but you will need to check the compost regularly and water carefully as compost can dry out quickly in mild weather. Part of the fun of creating pots and containers is that you can put plant combinations together that you may not find work in the summer. One of my favourites is to pair the glossy, evergreen foliage of black **Ophiopogon planiscapus 'Nigrescens'** with the pale greens of the cornus. Add some snowdrops into the mix and some variegated trailing ivy to soften to edges of the pot.

Wooden or plastic troughs can be planted up with a range of perennials and small shrubs providing flowers, scent, seed heads, berries and more. **Skimmia japonica 'Rubella'**, **Gaultheria procumbens**, **Bergenia cordifolia**, **Erica carnea 'Springwood White'**, **Viburnum tinus**, **Euonymus fortunei** and **eryngium** will give instant impact and can be transplanted into your borders come the spring.

For a real splash of colour why not try carmine **Cyclamen** alongside the more muted **Carex Evergold** and **skimmia japonica**. A miniature ivy allowed to tumble over helps to soften any hard edges. Once the cyclamen is over it can be replaced with some mini daffodils or tulips. If you would prefer something muted then why not try winter-flowering hellebores, such as **Helleborus niger** and combine it with a variegated holly such as **ilex aquifolium Silver Queen** to complement the white flowers.

If you have a sheltered spot near to a door, then I would seriously recommend planting up a couple of outstanding winter scented plants. Hammamelis is a striking plant that bears yellow and orange flowers along its bare branches. They have thin, spidery petals and a rich scent. It needs acidic soil but does grow happily in containers. Chimonanthus praecox is a woody shrub with striking yellow flowers along its branches. The blooms are cup-shaped and hang down, releasing their intoxicating fragrance. It is fully hardy but likes a sheltered spot.

Miniature Iris are so delicate and ideal for containers. But it's their gentle scent that makes them so great for winter gardens. Try Iris reticulata or Iris unguicularis for elegant purple and blue flowers.

**Happy Gardening**

Coffee and Croissants  
Clophill Methodist Church  
10am to 12 noon



Saturday 14th January 2023  
Saturday 11th February  
All Welcome

Quintessential  
brass quintet

GREENSAND  
COMMUNITY CHOIR

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Festive  
Favourites

Audience  
carols

Monday 12th December, 7.30pm  
St. Mary's Church, Clophill

Free entry.  
Retiring collection  
in aid of Sue Ryder and  
St. Mary's Church  
Refreshments provided.

in support of

Sue Ryder  
St John's  
Hospice

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS

The first 2 weeks of November are a period of remembering, starting with All Saints' Day through to Remembrance Sunday. We celebrated All Saints at the morning service on October 30th the nearest Sunday to November 1st. That afternoon we held our now annual commemoration of All Souls' Day (Nov. 2nd) when people who are bereaved are invited to a special service including the opportunity to light a candle to remember those we have loved and lost.



On Friday the 11th, Armistice Day, the children of St. Mary's School gathered round the War Memorial to hear the Roll of Honour read and to observe the 2 minutes silence. This year they were joined by the children of our Pre-School, who walked down from the Village Hall. They all had woollen poppies to lay on the War Memorial. All the children behaved impeccably as always.

Clophill turned out in force for the Service of Remembrance on the Sunday, with more than 100 in the congregation, who were joined by several more for the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial. As always, we are grateful to Martin Dunn for his contribution at both these events, playing The Last Post and Reveille.

In September we told you that we had gained the Eco-Church Bronze Award for our efforts to protect the environment. I am pleased to report that we have now received the silver award. For this we were required to re-evaluate various aspects of our church life in worship and teaching, management of building and land, community, global engagement and lifestyle. This is judged by the environment organisation, A Rocha. We have much to do to achieve the gold award, but we plan to tackle this early next year. Our support for the new Village Hall Hub and our Winter Warmer lunches helped to enhance our submission for the silver award.

The lunches of homemade soup with bread are held on Thursdays from 12 noon and morph into Community Care's Leisure Club from 2 o'clock. All are welcome regardless of personal circumstances. We'd love to see you there!

### SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve: Lessons and Carols by Candlelight at 6.00pm to include the dressing of the Crib by any children present.

Midnight Mass: at Maulden starting at 11.30 pm.

Christmas Day: Parish Communion at **9.30 am.**

## Reflections – Clophill in December 1977

### Voices from the past

Continuing our series looking back at previous issues of **Spotlight and Clophill Village life...** *By Julie Benson*

You might well wonder why I spend time pouring over past copies of 'Outlook' (and enjoying every memory), the pre-runner of 'Spotlight'- and giving you a very brief summary of their contents? I suppose it's to remind folk who remember Clophill 45 years ago (hence lots of names & raffle prizes – how they have changed) and to let you newer (and very welcome) residents of how vibrant the village was then and how central 'Outlook' was. I have to leave out lots of info about the football and netball clubs; 'Sid's Scene' – a resumé of recent record releases; 'Screen scene' – info about films being shown locally; 'Junior Outlook' (speaks for itself) and recipes for example. The magazine was representative of (and encompassed) all that was going on in the village – and of course, was the way in which information was disseminated before our age of the internet and Grapevine. Barry Inskip was the editor (and I am pretty sure might have also been 'Sid' and film and train timetable researcher) plus a team of typists who used 'skins' to put on a 'Banda machine' (which was kept in the church) to duplicate. I am thinking that the cover was printed externally and then Barry inserted and stapled the magazine, before handing out 300 or so copies @7p per copy to be distributed by a willing band of volunteers – who, although perhaps not the same people, are still today so vital and so much appreciated.



As to the cover of the December 1977 issue - well, your guess is as good as mine! There's no explanation as to what this happy gathering photograph on Outlook represents - or when it was taken. It looks a bit like a pantomime cast – perhaps a 'Music Hall' evening; there's a 'wedding party' on the front row and the placard reads 'NO WORK, NO DOLE, NO RELIEF', perhaps it's a further part of the

post war celebrations? They all look like youngsters – apart from the audience to the side. Looking into the magazine, the **Parish Council** outlined their main expenses for 1978 – Village Hall - £400, New bus shelter - suggested that it should be coloured brick with a slab roof, to protect people from the west wind but not to have dark corners at night - £500; Street lights - £300 and burial ground, including new gates - £650. It was noted that the "District Council is studying whether the **Box factory** in Old Silsoe Road is being used in the way described in the original planning application."

Also, there was a plea for somebody to come forward to run a Youth Club. The Village Hall Management Committee welcomed Mrs Gill Jones as the new booking secretary and were pleased that track had been erected for new stage lighting, for which six lights were on order, also dates for future events were decided.

Now, you know that 'Home Brew' has featured quite a lot, and it does again in December's issue. How about this? They played at a dance at Hunting Engineering "when they earned the praise of Acker Bilk who had to follow shouts of 'More, more!' from an audience who kept the jazz star waiting, whilst 'Home Brew' took the dance by storm. He said "Next time I play with 'Home Brew' they better not play so good!" What a compliment eh?

Back here in Clophill, the Methodist Church held a concert by the Bedford Congress Hall Band of the Salvation Army; the Guides entertained the Brownies with a series of sketches and Katy Bousted, Joanne Constance, Catherine Taylor, Luisa and Mirella Dolente and Jan Whittles were enrolled. At another meeting, the Brownies raised money via a sponsored silence and entered a team: Claire Cranswick, Elizabeth Brooker, Helen Trudgill and Carolyn Jones for the Road Safety quiz.

Beverley Court held a very successful Christmas Fair (the raffle having 18 prizes) the first of which was a turkey. The Darby & Joan Christmas Draw had 71 prizes which included a brace of pheasants, Champagne, several Christmas puds, nine bottles of sherry, 6 x 'groceries', handkerchiefs, coffee and sugar, toiletries; and a cuddly toy!

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## Let's decorate Clophill for Christmas...



to bring joy and pleasure to all in the Village.

Please decorate your door, a window, your gate or somewhere at the front of your house for people to enjoy as they walk around the Village.

There will be a special Christmas Evening in the Churchyard on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December, and the Church and Churchyard will be decorated.

***Let's make it a special Christmas Evening all around Clophill.***





**St Mary's Church, Clophill**

**An invitation to a**

# **Christmas Evening**

## **in the Churchyard**

### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

**from 4.30pm**

**Carols with the Clophill Christmas Choir at 5.30pm**

**(A collection will be made for Crisis at Christmas)**

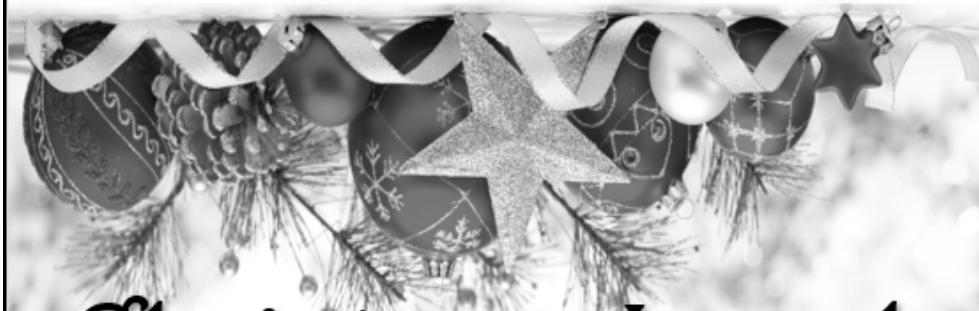
**Festive refreshments Christmas tombola**

**Activities for children**



**The Churchyard and the Church will be decorated**

St Mary the Virgin Church, Clophill



# Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December

12 noon – 2pm

A 3 course festive meal with drinks £12.50

Roast with berry coulis, Turkey and leek pie with vegetables,  
and a selection of desserts. Tea/coffee and mints.

Christmas Raffle Everyone very welcome

Booking is essential - to reserve a place please contact

Enquiries to [juliebenson@talktalk.net](mailto:juliebenson@talktalk.net) or 01525 860497

# St Mary's School News

*from Mrs. Bingley our Headteacher*

We've had a busy November! We all thoroughly enjoyed Friends of St. Mary's fantastic fireworks night at school at the beginning of the month and our older classes went on the Faith Tour for the first time since Covid.19! They visited a Mosque, Church and Gurdwara in Bedford as part of their Religious Education work, learning about different places of worship.



The whole school recognised Remembrance Day on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November and we visited the war memorial for 11:00 and laid a large poppy rock down as well as a beautiful leaf wreath made by the children at our Forest School.

As always in November, we recognised Anti-bullying week and Road Safety Week. The younger children also thought about World Nursery Rhyme week!

Our fantastic School Council organised a range of fundraising activities of Children in Need and, at the end of November, some of our Key Stage 2 children visited Alameda Middle School for a Basketball Festival. Acorn Class held their first Stay and Play session of the year – welcoming anyone who wanted to take a look around our amazing pre-school provision.

## Jake the School Dog:

Jake has really been enjoying his time in class recently. It is lovely to watch him listening to the children read, working with the children or simply spending time with them ☺.

## Acorn Nursery News

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

At the beginning of November, we prepared for Fireworks night with lots of different activities, including counting up and down to 10, and pretending to be fireworks blasting off into space!

We enjoyed acting out the story, 'We're going on a bear hunt' on the front field where there is lots of mud, long grass and leaves to bring the story to life!

The older children joined the whole school assembly for Remembrance Day. The children were very proud of the stones we painted as poppies to take home.

Singing songs is a daily activity in Nursery, and we were very busy in November, practicing for our Early Years Christmas Concert.

We have limited spaces available in our superb Nursery, if you (or anyone you know) is interested in a place please email me at [nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk](mailto:nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk). We take children from 2 years old at any point in the year, accept 2- and 3-year-old funding and welcome visits to come and experience our fantastic setting.

## Our Value for December is: Justice (Equality)

**In school**, we will learn that Justice means giving all people what is right and fair for them to have. It is about acting out of a concern for what is right and helping others to understand that they have choices about how they behave and act. When discussing Justice, we will be developing the children's understanding of being part of a community that knows that everyone's well-being is considered, not just the rights of one person alone.

We will also talk about the fact that everyone deserves equal rights and we will think about some of the rights that children have. Along with these rights, we will also consider the responsibility that comes with these – understanding how we should be treated but then also how we should treat others too.

**At home**, you may wish to discuss the concepts of Justice and Equality when the phrase, "it's not fair!" crops up, with children again understanding how decisions might be made in order to make things, in fact, fair and equal for everyone!

It's also good to identify things that are special about ourselves and others. You could do this within your family, reinforcing that diversity should always be celebrated and, again, that Justice and Equality applies to everyone, regardless of our amazing differences.

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## Claphill Preschool News

Hello everyone,

We started November making stick and wool poppies for the Remembrance service for the children at St Mary's church on Friday 11th. Our children walked down to pay their respects at the church and lay their poppies on the memorial. Our children made us extremely proud; their behaviour was exemplary.



We met Anne and Rosemary from the church, and we have invited Anne to come up and read us a Christmas story. Sarah told the children the story of her grandad who fought in the second world war, they were captivated by her tale, and it snowballed into story retelling with pictures to accompany. The talk moved to countries around the world and mountains, they explored facts about Everest and talked about their own grandads and family trees. By sharing some of her cultural capital Sarah sparked so many children's thinking and wonder, in fact the talk is still going on, with parents commenting that their children have been retelling the story at home.

# Clophill Preschool NEWS continued...



Kirsty brought in her husband's army uniform and Julie put it on and ran the children through a drill as they marched around the garden following instructions. Kirsty showed the children her husband's medals too which they were fascinated by.

The children have been doing some winter garden tidying. The children raked and collected the leaves to make leaf mulch for the garden. We chatted about the bugs that

will keep themselves warm over winter in the leaf piles. Woodchip has been laid to protect our dormant plants and we have been feeding the birds as the weather grows cold.

There has been lots of fun with the children snuggling into dens and playing hide and seek and sardines. Lots of mathematical was being used and developed as children talked about if they could squeeze one more person in and discussing whether there was enough room and counting as they went.

We have been reading lots of stories, looked at the changing seasons, we have been identifying seeds using reference books and field guides. Lynne came in to teach the staff about planting and growing to empower them when they teach the children. The parents have been getting green fingered too when we had Carolyn, Christine, Nancy, Joan and Jean from Clophill Flower Club in to run a wreath making workshop. Thank you, our parents loved it!



Some of our lovely mums came in to bake gingerbread biscuits to sell on our stall at the Parish Council's Christmas Light Switch on, which was a great event once again. Thank you, Tracy for organising it.

Our children have been making leaf print Christmas cards to take home and we are looking forward to our Magical Woodland Walk coming up at the end of term. Our children will come with their parents to wander through our decorated woodland on a magical Christmas scavenger hunt before they come back to preschool and meet Santa! It's such a lovely festive event with all our families invited, including those who left us last summer.

This just leaves it for us to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to sharing all our adventures with you in 2023!

## **Clophill Methodist Church**



### **Alternative Christmas Tree Festival**

**Saturday 10th December**

**10 to 4pm**

Enjoy our Christmas Trees made by our  
local community.

Entry is FREE, but we would be most grateful if  
you are able to make a donation to our Food Bank  
Tree, for Bedford food bank this Christmas.

Christmas stalls/ Raffle/ Refreshments  
Coffee & Croissants, in the morning.

Join us young or old for our Pop -Up Nativity at  
3pm. You can dress up if you wish.



# 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...*

**David Yeo Bartholomew Tanqueray** lived on the High Street and was a Captain in the King's Royal Rifles. He was born in Totnes, Devon on 20 Aug 1896 and had one older brother, Andrew and an older sister, Margaret. His father, Andrew Hawkins Tanqueray was born in Tingrith on 3 Feb 1864. David's mother was Alice Lucy Cory. Andrew senior was a brewer in Ampthill and then in Totnes before becoming the owner of a Mechanical Engineering Company, when the family lived in Finchley. Although Andrew appears on the 1910 electoral role for Finchley, none of the family appears on the 1911 Census.

David was posted to France on 20 May 1915 as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 9th Battalion of the KRR. On his record his address in 1921 is given as Ivy House, Clophill.



Also on his record are the words "Vologda Force" and NREF. So it is likely that David served in the North Russian Expeditionary Force, an adventure that was not a success. He was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. At some stage he moved to the Peterborough area and with others he was involved in the patenting of a laundry ironing machine. He travelled widely and visited New York twice and Quebec. The manifest on the ships lists him as a Director, and he must have been wealthy in that he travelled First Class, including on the Queen Mary.

David married Marjorie Edith Bryant in March 1938, although some records indicate that her surname may have been McDonald. In 1938 David & Marjorie travelled to Southampton from Durban on the Windsor Castle. They had 2 children. David was born in 1939 and Davina in 1941.

In 1941 David registered a patent in Canada as an inventor of an automatic washing machine control! They were then living at The Old Vicarage, Helpston, Peterborough. David died at the age of 47 in West End Hospital, Regent's Park, London on 21 March 1944.

**Frederick George Tanqueray-Willaume** - Born in 1879 in Kensington, with 3 subsequently born sisters born in India as his father was a Bombay Revenue Surveyor. Frederick married Violet Holford in 1905, divorcing her on grounds of adultery in 1908, when he served on HMS Britannia whilst serving in the Royal Military Artillery. In 1911 he lived with his parents in Bedford, his occupation is given as a Captain in the Marine Artillery- a division of the Royal Marines, to man the artillery in bomb vessels. The family of 5 had 3 servants.

Frederick married Margaret Cory Tanqueray in 1913. They were second cousins. She was sister of David Yeo Tanqueray who was also a survivor living in Ivy House, High Street. They shared a great-great grandfather whose brother created the worldwide gin empire which originated in Bedfordshire in the 1830's. The Tanqueray family were originally silversmiths in France but left for England in the 18th century and built a life in Tingrith, Bedfordshire. Three generations of the family became rectors and built Tanqueray House as their family home, a Grade II listed house that still stands in the village today. However, in 1830 their great uncle Charles Tanqueray defied family tradition when aged 20 and decided to leave Tingrith for London to establish a distillery, instead of becoming a clergyman. Frederick died in 1919 in Gosport of pneumonia.



### Clophill in the Great War

Those who died and those who survived  
by Colin Watt

A book to complement the above series of articles.

Visit website for purchase details– [bit.ly/307uLMM](https://bit.ly/307uLMM)

Printing sponsored by Ampthill & District Archaeological & Local History Society.

## Clophill Lakes – an important haven for wildlife

The Greensand Trust is proud and excited to at last be creating the new Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve. Work is underway to make it ready for local people to access and enjoy next year – our third public tree planting event was held last month and we planted 900 more trees!



There's a lot to do - creating paths, bridges over the river, walkways across the wetlands, and of course, continuing to support, survey and monitor the wildlife and their habitats.

The Clophill Lakes site already provides an important haven for wildlife.

It includes the Cainhoe Lakes County Wildlife Site (CWS) recognised for its habitat mosaic of semi-improved acid and neutral grassland, woodland, scrub, hedgerows, marshy grassland, swamp, ditches, ponds and lakes.

All donations made to our Clophill Appeal during 2022 will be matched by The Peter Smith Charitable Trust **so whatever you can give, will be doubled!**

If you're considering donating towards the creation of the nature reserve, please can you aim to do this before the end of December:

[www.greensandtrust.org/Appeal/clophill-lakes](https://www.greensandtrust.org/Appeal/clophill-lakes)



## Sign up to have your Christmas tree recycled and support Sue Ryder

Sue Ryder is encouraging local residents to keep spreading the festive cheer into the New Year by signing up to have their Christmas trees collected and recycled to raise vital funds for families needing their care. After the festivities are over, Sue Ryder volunteers will be collecting real Christmas trees direct from people's front door or driveway so that they can be chipped into mulch and recycled. For a donation, people who live in Clophill can have their trees collected between **Saturday 7th and Tuesday 10th January 2023**.



All money raised will help Sue Ryder to continue offering its compassionate palliative care and bereavement support - helping its teams be there when it matters. **To book a collection visit [sue Ryder.org/bedfordshiretrees](https://sue Ryder.org/bedfordshiretrees) by Tuesday 3rd January 2023.**

## CLOPHILL FRIENDS OF THE BEDFORDSHIRE LEONARD CHESHIRE HOME



We would greatly appreciate a little help. Our group has been established for over 40 years. We have two main functions, the first is to raise money to support our local Home for Leonard Cheshire Disability, in Amptill. To this end we have, for many years, held two Jumble Sales each year and all the funds that we raise directly benefit the Residents of our local Home.

Our second function is to meet a few Residents, once a fortnight, on a Wednesday morning at the Bedford Interchange Retail Park or in summer, Wrest Park. We usually wander, and in Bedford shop for a while; and then settle for coffee and a chat in a nearby café.

In recent past years our helpers have ranged in age from 20 to over 70. We all find it a most enjoyable morning and it has the added benefit of helping someone who is confined to a wheelchair to do their shopping, or just have a change of scenery or company.

Most regrettably one of our regular helpers has retired from helping us and we would be delighted to hear from anybody who could spare a couple of hours per fortnight, either regularly or occasionally to help us continue with this activity. We really don't want to disappoint any of the Residents by reducing the number that we are able to take with us.

If you would like to find out more then please call Richard or Sue on 861110, or email [Richard.sue.pearson@gmail.com](mailto:Richard.sue.pearson@gmail.com)

## Katherine Concerts running into 2023.

Continuing the outstanding classical music series set in the beautiful acoustic of Amptill's Methodist Church.



Katherine Concert's events in January and early Feb are:

Friday 20th January - Nataly Ganina, piano

Friday 27th January - Hannah Parry, baroque recorder & lute

Friday 3rd February - Niamh Adams & Magdalene Ho, violin & piano

Friday 10th February - Dmytro Fonariuk, clarinet & piano

The 45-minute recitals at Amptill Methodist Church begin at 2pm, and are followed by refreshments in the upstairs School Room. Tickets (£10) are available via Absolutely ShabbyLass or [www.ticketsource.co.uk/Katherine-Concerts](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Katherine-Concerts)

## 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
Clophill Toddler Group	Charlotte Messer	07538 150058
Clophill United Charities	Val Martin	860900
Conservation Group	Brian Adams	862297
Flower Club	Gillian Hill	860539
Friends of the Cheshire Home	Sue Pearson	861110
Funzone After School Club		07903 167493
Greensand Community Choir	Luke	07975 520085
Indoor Carpet Bowls	Tony Meredith	860754
Messy Church	Victoria Higgins	07920 568861
	victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk	
Friends of St Mary's (FOSM)	Mary Milne and Jenny Garnham	
	fosmclophill@gmail.com	
	www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved	
Scouts and Cubs	Anita Errick	860695
Tea and Chat	Marylin Browning	07821 643936
Village Hall Booking Secretary		

## Clophill and District Flower Club



We were delighted to welcome back Theresa Rodrigues to our November meeting with her intriguing title 'Gardens by the Bay'. We were to imagine a 12 hour flight to a tropical island, hot temperatures and driving to an iconic hotel that featured in the BBC Two programme 'Amazing Hotels'.

Singapore was our destination which brought back very fond memories for me as I had stayed at the hotel in 2014.

Theresa's first arrangement was inspired by the hotel which is located along the Marina Bay waterfront and features three cascading towers topped by an extraordinary Sky Park, resembling a surf board, complete with infinity pool! To depict this Theresa chose a horizontal design which was raised on top of a tall stand and into prearranged foliage she placed Irises, white Avalanche Roses and Coral sprayed silver to resemble the sky and water.

From the Sky Park you can get an excellent view of the 'Gardens by the Bay' which brings to life Singapore's vision of creating a city in a garden. Theresa's four arrangements each focused on a particular garden. Inspired by the architecture of the Esplanade Theatres in the East Garden and a conscious effort to reduce the use of floral foam, Theresa had produced a 3D structure using bamboo and sticks. Into this she interwove flowers as if she were producing a hand tied bunch.

One of the key highlights of the 'Gardens by the Bay' is the grove of soaring, surreal structures known as Supertrees. These sustainable vertical gardens span 25 to 50 metres in height and house over 162,900 plants of over 200 species. This was to be the inspiration for Theresa's final design. Known for her creativity she produced her own version of a supertree, a tree trunk covered with moss into which she had incorporated succulent plants. She then produced an all-round arrangement on the top followed by lights twisted around the trunk. The six arrangements were very individual with excellent & varied choice of flowers and foliage, including Calla Lilies, Cymbidium Orchids, Strelitzia's, Protea Pincushion, Cock's Comb, Ginger, Gerbera & Roses. A very interesting demonstration ending with a beautiful display of arrangements.



January 5th our Annual General Meeting will be held in Clophill Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

***Ann Dowding - Committee Member***



**AMPTHILL**  
— & DISTRICT —  
**CHORAL SOCIETY**

# **Christmas Concert**

Featuring

## **The Three Ships**

By Eric H. Thiman

**Monday 12th December**

**7:45pm**

**Parkside Hall, Woburn Street,  
Amphill, MK45 2HX**

**Musical Director — Alan Childs**

**Tickets — £10 on the door**

**(includes a glass of wine & mince pie)**

**Start your Christmas with festive music and sing along to your favourite  
carols**

# Clophill Parish Council



(Meetings held on 25th Oct and 22nd Nov)

Parishioners should note a **number of helpful services that are** free to assist with the cost of living crisis. They are provided by Central Beds Council, Citizens Advice Bureau and other voluntary organisations such as our own Clophill United Charities. We will be collating a list of resources so please keep an eye on social media (Facebook) if you can or notice boards in the village (Co-op, Methodist Church and Near the Old Church Path). If you don't have access to the internet, ask one of the Councillors or a friend or get in touch with the Clerk on 07888 685886.

**The October meeting** was well attended for the presentation on the CBC Roundabout, and a lively Q and A followed. The October meeting minutes are on the PC website.

The Chairmans award for Voluntary services to the community was presented to Ray Sharp, who for over 40 years has contributed to the community most recently as Treasurer for Clophill Charities and including teaching many of the village children to swim.

**The November meeting** was a festive affair as Parish Council members attended in Christmas jumpers bearing mulled wine with mince pies!

**The 2023/24 budget** was approved, and prudent financial stewardship over the last year enabled the Council to unanimously vote to leave the precept at nil uplift bearing in mind the current cost of living crisis.

It has been decided to close the **toddler park at the village hall** on health and safety grounds. However, the Council has resolved to add new equipment at the recreation ground for this age group. Maintenance and repairs to current play equipment at the rec will take place in early December.

On the 12th November a CPC working Party spent a busy and successful woodland management day at The Clump (Pine Hill). Dead and dangerous trees were felled and the foot paths cleared. **If you are willing to help** future working parties, please let the clerk know by emailing, [clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk)

During January CPC will be hosting a **tree giveaway**, as part of the Queens Green Canopy. Watch out for more information on Facebook and the Council Website.

**The Christmas light switch** on was well planned and included around 20 stalls. The Amptill Town Band the Choir were singing. The tree is up on the Green ready to sparkle. We can't promise the snow this year but let's hope it's another memorable occasion.

*Planning on opposite page.*

**Next Parish Councill Meeting**  
**10th January, Methodist Church @ 7:15pm.**

## Planning Applications

A new planning application No: CB/22/04417/FULL has been submitted to convert the Green Man into 3 flats. The proposal is a Conversion of the Listed Building into three residential apartments with associated alterations to the building and site layout.

**CPC Resolved to object**

### Merry Christmas from Clophill Parish Council!

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## Parish Registers for December

### 1821

#### **Baptisms**

25 Robert Cunningham, s of Robert and Ann.

Sarah Roberts, d of William and Mary.

#### **Marriages**

23 Joseph Thomas to Sarah Timms (?)

24 George Redman to Elizabeth Millard.

### 1822

#### **Baptism**

02 Joseph and James Hamill (?) sons of Robert and Elizabeth.

#### **Burials**

06 Joseph Hamill (?) see baptisms above.

25 William Taylor.

### 1871

#### **Marriages**

02 William Clark, 22 to Mary Gudgin, 20.

15 James Page, 24, porter, to Emma Bass (?) 20.

#### **Burial**

19 William Hart, 19.

### 1872

#### **Baptisms**

29 Emily Brown, d of Amos and Ann. f a butcher from Maulden.

Ernest Francis, s of William and Elizabeth.

#### **Burial**

12 James Roberts, 65.

### 1920

#### **Baptism**

04 Michael John Tysome.

No marriages or burials recorded in either 1921 or 22.

### 1971

#### **Marriage**

24 Keith Frank Gay, 25 to Stephanie Tufnell, 23.

### 1972

#### **Baptism**

22 Douglas John Bainbridge Turner.

#### **Burials**

17 Elizabeth Eddy, 84.

28 John Eddy, 84.

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## St. Mary's Registers November 2022

### **Burial of Ashes**

12 Nicholas (Nick) John Langdon, 53.

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# What's on in and around Clophill

## DEC

### Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>

**Coffee and Croissants**, Methodist Church, 10am-12noon.

**Christmas Tree Festival**, Methodist Church, 10am-4pm. *See poster.*

### Monday 12<sup>th</sup>

**Greensand Choir Christmas Concert**, St. Mary's Church, 7:30pm. *See poster.*

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>

**Christmas Lunch**, St. Mary's Church, 12noon-2pm. *See poster.*

### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>

**Christmas Evening**, St. Mary's Churchyard from 4:30pm. *See poster.*

## JAN

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>

**Coffee and Croissants**, Methodist Church, 10am-12noon. *See poster.*

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### Plus...

#### **Mondays...**

\* **Greensand Community Choir**, St. Mary's Church, 7:30-9pm.

#### **Tuesdays...** in term time

\* **Clophill Preschool**, Stay and Play 9:30-10:30am and Thurs 1-2pm, Village Hall.

#### **Wednesdays...**

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

\* **Beverley Court Bingo Night**, in the Residents lounge, 7pm. All welcome.....

#### **Thursdays...**

\* **Lunchtime Winter Warmer**, St Mary's Church, 12noon – 2pm. followed by...

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

#### **Fridays...**

\* **Clophill Toddler Group**, 10am-11.30am, Village Hall.

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## CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

Other Sundays.                                11am, Parish Communion.

### **Regular services at Clophill Methodist Church...**

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

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<b>Electricity (Emergency)</b>			0800 7838838
<b>Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance</b>			999
<b>Water/Sewage (Anglian Water)</b>			0845 7145145
<b>Telephone</b>		(Customer Services) 150	(Faults) 151
<b>Highways Department (Central Bedfordshire Council)</b>			0300 3008049
<b>Benefits Agency (Bedford office)</b>			01234 361500
<b>Registrar's Office (Births/deaths/marriages)</b>			0300 3008089
<b>Rail (Enquiries)</b>			0845 7484950
<b>Buses</b>	01234 262151	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511	(Flittabus) 01582 406561
<b>Luton Airport</b>			01582 405100
<b>Swimming</b>		(Flitwick) 01525 717744	(Robinson Pool) 01234 212479
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>			
<b>Central Beds Offices (Chicksands)</b>			0300 300 8000
<b>Mid-Bed; MP</b>		Nadine Dorries	0207 219 5928
<b>Central Bedfordshire Councillors</b>		Michael Blair	01525 404513
		Paul Duckett	07988 184061
		Mark Smith	0300 300 8541
<b>Clophill Parish Council</b>	(Clerk) Heather Myott	clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk	07888 685 886
<b>HOSPITALS</b>			
<b>Bedford (North &amp; South)</b>	01234 355122	Admissions	01234 261150
		Appointments	01234 359012
<b>Luton &amp; Dunstable</b>			0845 1270127
<b>DOCTOR'S CLINICS</b>			
<b>Amphill</b>	(Houghton Close) 01525 300898	(Oliver Street)	01525 631395
		(Greensands)	01525 631390
<b>Shefford</b>	Enquiries 01462 818620	Appointments	01462 810034
<b>Barton</b>	01582 528700	<b>Flitwick</b>	01525 715300
<b>POLICE</b>			
<b>County Police HQ</b>		Non Emergency	101
<b>Amphill Station</b>			01234 841212
			101
<b>CHURCHES</b>			
<b>St Mary's Parish Church</b>			
	Revd Cannon Lynda Klimas	rev.l.klimas@btinternet.com	01525 403139
	(Church Warden) Mrs Anne Shegog	anneshegog@gmail.com	01525 864868
<b>St Francis RC Church, Shefford</b>			01452 813436
<b>Clophill Methodist Church</b>	Revd Silas Wood, email: swood11@me.com,		01525 571392
	Mr John Errick		01525 860695
<b>Baptist Churches</b>		(Maulden) Ian Crawford	01525 634325
		(Shefford) Hazel Arnold	01462 812564
<b>SCHOOLS</b>			
<b>St Mary's C of E Lower School &amp; Nursery (Headteacher Mrs K Bingley)</b>			01525 860206
<b>Harlington Upper School, Harlington</b>			01525 755100
<b>Preschool</b>	clophillpreschool@gmail.com (Chris) 07936 006381 or (Imogen)		07765 887868
<b>Redborne Upper School, Amphill</b>			01525 404462
<b>Robert Bloomfield Middle School, Shefford</b>			01462 628800



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9:30AM	MOVE	POWER	ENGINE	POWER	HYBRID	POWER	BUILD 9AM
10:30AM						ENGINE	
5PM		POWER	ENGINE				
6PM	MOVE	POWER	ENGINE	POWER	HYBRID		
7PM	LIFT	POWER	LIFT	POWER			
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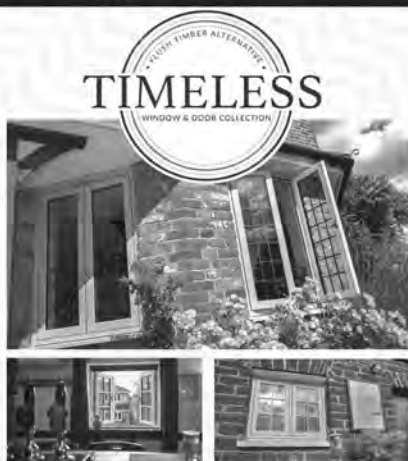


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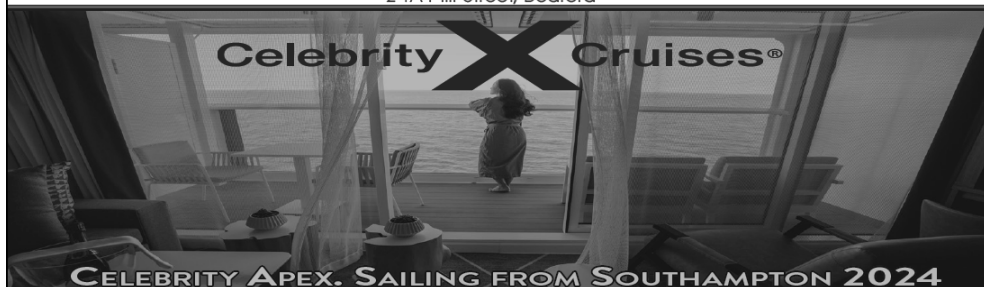
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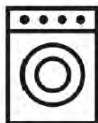


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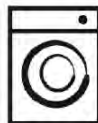
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