

# CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

JULY 2023



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## **A word from the Editor...**

Welcome to the July issue of Spotlight

*Dear Reader,*

It has been quite a challenge fitting everything in this month but that is a good problem to have!! We have an update from the Parish council about the roundabout closures and new 20mph speed limit; which I hope will be helpful to everyone. Also, we have 2 new Advertisers this month; Maulden Plants (p25) on the A507 towards Amphill and Wrest Park Tutors (p30).



Spotlight takes a break now for the summer holidays, so whatever you are doing, have a wonderful time. See you all again in September!!

**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's lots of jobs to think about over the summer, as Spotlight takes a break until September, so this time I've concentrated on things that we can do to keep our gardens full of colour through the coming couple of months.

Some of my favourite plants are at their best during July. Delphiniums, Agapanthus, lavender, various Clematis, Achillea, Nepeta, late flowering Peonies, Day Lily, Roses, Sweet peas and Honeysuckle are all blooming and the garden is full of beautiful scents. To keep summer plants and bedding at its best and to prolong flowering, it is essential to dead head. The purpose of dead heading is to encourage more flowers. If the flower heads are left on, then the plant switches to seed production and is then very reluctant to flower again. Dead heading, which is cutting off the spent flower head, forces the plant back into the cycle to produce flowers again. Cut the spent flower off just above a leaf node which is where your new flowers will break from.

For some plants, it can be easier to take the shears to the top growth and very often a second growth and flush of flowers will follow, as with *Alchemilla mollis* and hardy geraniums. This looks drastic but is a great way of rejuvenating these plants.

Early flowering perennials can begin to look a bit tired by July and their foliage is becoming tatty and brown. If these plants are cut back now, many will produce fresh green growth to liven up the border and sometimes even a second flush of flowers. Good candidates for this treatment are Oriental poppies, *Alchemilla*, hardy geraniums, and *Nepeta*. Cut back close to the ground, feed and wait a couple of weeks. It can look a bit bare when you first do this and if you don't like the sight of too much earth, cut back just before you go on holiday.

Now is also a good time to prune early summer-flowering shrubs such as philadelphus, flowering current and weigela after they've blossomed, so they can put on new growth this year that will hold the flowers next summer. As well as cutting back for shape, look for any damaged or dead shoots and cut them out.

There's still time to plant summer bulbs for very late flowers. Try gladioli with deep colours including dark purple *Gladiolus* 'Espresso' or the beautiful *Gladiolus communis* subsp. *byzantinus* with its magenta flowers.

And this month is the perfect time to plant bulbs that will bring colour in autumn; for instance, Autumn crocus, amaryllis and nerine will flower in September and October. The nerines are particularly welcome as they have all the brightness of the early summer blooms with their blasts of pink and white and can make a real difference to the garden as winter draws in.

If you want to make some new plants for free, now is a great time to take softwood cuttings. Material is taken from the soft and flexible young shoot tips, which has the highest rooting potential of any stem cutting and often provides the best chance of rooting species that are difficult to propagate. Soft plant material loses moisture rapidly, so care needs to be taken to prevent wilting, placing cuttings in a plastic bag as you take them is a great way of reducing the moisture loss.

Penstemon, Pelargonium, Fuschia, Hydrangea, Lavender and Argyranthemum are just some of the plants that work.

And finally if you are looking at creating a flower meadow in your lawn remember that you will need to sow some Yellow Rattle seed to help reduce the vigour of the grass roots.

**Happy Gardening**

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## **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...*

**William West** was born in Clifton in 1892 and by the age of 14 was working as a farm labourer. He married Ethel Emily Sharman in 1915 and it is thought that they had at least 2 children. William enlisted in 1916, he served with the Bedford's, the Middlesex Regiment and with the 9th Battalion East Surrey regiment. He was quickly sent overseas but received a gun shot wound to the face in June 1917 and was wounded again in September that year in the right arm and chest. He resumed his duties and served in the field throughout 1918. He was demobbed in 1920. It was noted that he had 3 disciplinary issues; he made an unauthorised alteration to his clothing; he was absent from the Tattoo; and he left a working party without permission. His address through the 1920s was given as 96/Auckland Cottages, High Street, Clophill. In 1939 his occupation is given as Builder's Labourer and his address as Shefford Road, Clophill. It is believed that he died locally in 1980.

**William George Whittamore** was born in Clophill in 1888 and the family lived on Silsoe Road, later on the High Street. His father, James, was a Carpenter. His mother was called Ann. He was often referred to as "George" rather than William. He enlisted in Coldstream in 1914 in the King's Own Scottish Borderers. At the time his occupation was given as a gardener. He was 5' 3.5". He was posted to France in February 1915 having been promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal. He received a severe shrapnel wound the following month and returned to England until November 1915, when as a Corporal he returned to France. He had been a patient in Leicester Hospital. He remained in France until February 1918, being promoted to Sergeant in January 1916.

**Continued >>**



## Clophill's Serving Survivors of WW1 –continued

He received a commission in February 1918 and left the Army later that year as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, having been awarded the Military Medal. At the time of his commission he had been transferred to the Machine Gun Corps. In 1919 it is believed he married Hilda Wrench locally. They went on to live in the Hampstead area and later Reigate. William died in Old Windsor in 1975.

**Hubert Whittamore** lived on the High Street and was a Private in the 9<sup>th</sup> Cheshire Regiment per the Absent Voters Register. He was born in 1885 in Clophill and in 1901 lived in Silsoe Road with his parents and siblings. In 1911 he was an Apprentice Carpenter (his father was a Carpenter). William George (previous page) was one of his older brothers. He joined up in November 1915 as a mechanic (carpenter) in the Royal Flying Corps but later he was a sapper in the East Africa Royal Engineers, spending some time in East Africa. Later, he was transferred to the Cheshire Regiment and served in France. In 1939 he was living at 123 Clophill Road, Maulden with his wife, Lilian, and their daughter, Daphne (later Goodhall). Hubert died in 1960.

**Fredrick Willison** was born in 1895, it is thought his mother was Louisa Willison. He served as a Private in the 4<sup>th</sup> Bedfordshire Regiment. He volunteered in November 1915 and was drafted to the Western Front the following July. He fought in various engagements including Ypres, the Somme, Beaumont-Hamel and the Retreat and Advance of 1918. He was wounded 3 times. He was demobilised in March 1919. He lived his younger life in Jacques Lane, Clophill and then at 67 High Street with his wife, Lesley neé Billington and family. He worked as a farm labourer. He died in 1966.

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## Reflections – Clophill in June 1978—Voices from the past

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

While the cover photo of the Aug/Sept Outlook 1978 perhaps isn't quite as vibrant as the July one, (and I apologise for it 'being a bit 'on the wonk'), it does show part of the High Street which the Fete procession might have passed. You are probably wondering where it is (so I'll leave you to ponder) until later!



Interestingly, the first article in the magazine is about setting up a '**Good Neighbour Scheme**', where "We want 12 ladies or gentlemen with the use of a car and telephone to form an organisation to help the elderly and housebound by the collection of used magazines for redistribution (Don't quite get that). They will also be required to collect prescriptions from local chemists and doctor's surgeries, on a rota basis." (Got that bit). Then we are told of the good news that "The Churchwardens are pleased to announce that the **Rev. Philip Swindells** of Pins Green, Stevenage, has accepted the living of this parish"

It looks like there was a lot of **fundraising** going on in July in the village by the read of it. The **Cheshire Home** (now sadly no longer in operation) was the recipient of £301.16, raised from a Garden Fete held in the grounds of 'Willowstream', Old Silsoe Road, the afternoon being opened by 'Black Beauty', "star of television, ridden by its owner, Mrs Peggy White." This money was added "to pay off the outstanding loan on Agate House." (Interesting.) Another £115 was raised though "A most enjoyable Supper Party" held by Mr & Mrs Trudgill of Ivy House.

More fundraising, this time for Leukaemia Research, the Ampthill and District Darts League and the 'Rising Sun' darts team was through a jumble sale, organised by Stella Jeffrey and held in the grounds of the 'Rising Sun', despite 'bad weather'. "Rod Newman and Mandy Rowlett represented 'The Stone Jug' in a sponsored Walk and successfully raised £50 for Cedars Comfort Fund." Then the Methodist Church enjoyed a Tea and Coffee evening at the home of Mrs & Mrs Bernard Sharp when a 'Bring & Buy stall raised £46. (Clophill always was a very generous and supportive village.) The **WI darts final** was held at Beverley Court and saw a win by Mrs Caroline Broom, the runner up, being Mrs Judi Gibbs (now resident in Australia). "After refreshments, Mrs Hampson (Darts Section Chairman) gave special thanks to Mrs Filsell, the Warden for allowing them use of the Common Room for their matches." **The Brownies** had been busy too, especially when they held a 'Teddy Bear's Picnic' to celebrate their 7<sup>th</sup> birthday. There was a bear quiz, winners of which were Claire Cranswick, Deborah Harris, Amanda Parker, Amanda Telford and Helen Trudgill. Four Brownies went to Moggerhanger Riding Centre to present a cheque for £1,000, part of the £3,172.92 "raised as part of the Silver Jubilee challenge by Guides and Brownies all over Bedfordshire." (Well done them!).

One of the '**Letters to the Editor**' reads "After two months' building, cleaning and preparation our new extension is at last open! A special feature of this is the incorporation of an actual inglenook fireplace thought to be 150 years old (John & Beryl Burger, Post Office & Stores, Clophill)." There was also an article about **the history of Clophill**, where one incident occurring on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1886 was mentioned. It seems that "a trap was passing through the village when a wheel came into violent contact with a step projecting from Clophill House. The trap was overturned and dragged by the frightened horse for some distance. When it eventually stopped, the trap was found to be broken in several places. The occupant was severely shaken but not hurt. This was the second accident caused by the step." (Footpaths weren't the culprit then!).

Now, back to the **cover photo**: it was taken looking west from just past the school of 'Tony Ashtons cottages' before modernisation – 78/80 High Street. The white thatch is now a modern, two-storey house set a bit back from the road and in the middle of the hedge just before it is a driveway to bungalows. Whilst on the opposite side of the road the wall is still there, and behind it where there was a field there are now ten homes.

Please enter

St Mary's Church, Clophill

Village  
Scarecrow  
Festival

23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

September 2023



Fun for all

Entry forms available from :- the Post Office & Church Porch  
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# Clophill Lakes Update

## Tackling Himalayan Balsam at Clophill Lakes

During June our main focus has been on tackling the enormous amount of Himalayan Balsam at the Clophill Lakes site which has been left unchecked for many years.

While it has a pretty flower, it is not an indigenous species, having been introduced, and although it is loved by bees, it is a fast growing annual that shades out other wetland species, leaving bare ground underneath and reducing diversity. It is very shallow rooted and pulls out very easily, but this also means that when it dies off in autumn, the barren banks are more susceptible to erosion, which increases flood risks. Bees preferring balsam also means fewer of our native species get pollinated, further reducing biodiversity.

There was particularly a lot growing by the ditches in the fields behind Clophill Lower School. Some of our volunteers used their waders to walk the riverbed to reach the more difficult balsam on the riverbank. They also waded a longer stretch of the river to tackle the rest of the banks of the River Flit which flows through the site.

We've successfully managed to get balsam under control at our Sandy Smith Nature Reserve through years of pulling it. This is our second year pulling balsam at Clophill Lakes and we have two more balsam tasks scheduled for later in the summer to remove what was missed and the current growth.

## Clophill Community Fete

We had a fantastic afternoon at this event with lots of interest about the site and it provided a great opportunity to chat to local people.

Many enjoyed our craft activity making 'flapping' sand martins and learning how these special birds visit us every year crossing the Sahara from Africa to nest at the Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve. We hope to be able to view the holes these clever birds excavate in sand cliffs (they don't build nests) on the reserve when we open to the public.



Photo courtesy of Edward Cowley - The Sand Martin Trust



# St Mary's School News

*from Mrs. Bingley our Headteacher*

June has been another busy month at St. Mary's. After returning from half term, some of our Key Stage 2 children (Year 3 and 4) attended an Athletics tournament at Redborne. They did very well, being excellent ambassadors for the school as usual.



Some Key Stage 2 children were also busy practising their maypole for the annual Church Fete. They performed on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June, led by Mrs. Burraway and did a fantastic job at the various dances. It's so lovely that we can continue this tradition.

Our Transition arrangements are also in full swing, especially for Year 4's moving up to Robert Bloomfield. During June they not only visited RBA to watch their production of Frozen, but were involved in a sporting Transition Festival there too!

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to our end of year residential trip to Caythorpe Court at the end of June. This year we are taking Year 3 & 4 to experience the many outdoor and adventurous activities on offer over the three days!

Following Caythorpe, the weeks will fly past as we send out our end of year reports and prepare to say goodbye to our Year 4s moving onto their next schools. Before then we have the Early Years trip to Mead Open Farm, our delayed Fundraising Fun Day, a Tennis Festival and Sports Day to also look forward to. Phew – we will certainly be needing that summer break! As this is our last input before we finish for the academic year, I wish you all a lovely summer. Our next contribution will be, as usual, in October.

As always, you can find more information about the school by visiting our website: [www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk](http://www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk) and we regularly post pictures of our events on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/clophillstmarysschool>

## Jake the School Dog:

Jake has continued with his roles in school this year – hearing readers and supporting children with wellbeing needs. He has also loved to attend playtimes with the children on a Wednesday! Jake has also generally spent time in classrooms this year, whilst the children work. Here's a lovely shot of him 'helping' someone with their maths (although it seems it might all be a bit too much for Jake 😊).



# Acorn Nursery news

*from Mrs. Hayes our Early Years Leader:*

We are thrilled to announce that our fantastic, bespoke Nursery & Preschool has been **open 10 Years!!** At the time of writing, we are busy planning and looking forward to a 'Carnival' themed celebration party to be held on our front school field.

We've also been busy in Acorn Nursery exploring our term's theme 'Come Outside' by looking at different types of transport around the world. With a wide range of activities available inside and outside - we've explored and investigated all methods of travel by sea, land and air. Our fantastic interactive Smart Board has enhanced this learning for example, by the children creating their own vehicles - technology assisting the children in counting wheels, windows, doors, lights on their vehicle and then pressing the arrow to watch how it moves, enabling children to see if their calculations work - thereby including a bit of Science work too!

We've been very lucky to have real live caterpillars with everything needed to support their growth; as well as to help the children learn and observe their lifecycle in real life donated by a wonderful grandparent. And we would like to say a huge thank you to them for their generosity and support.

Thank you to everyone who visited our stall at the village fete and we hope the teddies have all settled into their new homes!

Our children leaving us and starting school are well prepared for September following our extensive transition programme and we wish them all well!

We are very proud of our amazing and hugely popular Nursery and we have very limited space available for September. If you are interested in finding out more, please email [nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk](mailto:nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk)

## **Our Values for July are Faith and Growth**

**In school**, we will learn about others whose faith has helped them to make decisions or change their actions. We will consider why faith is important and how it can help us now and in the future. In particular, for those moving onto new challenges, we will encourage children to have faith in the Values they have learnt at St. Mary's to help them as they move onto their next school and beyond.

**At home**, you could discuss who or what you have faith in as a family – the complete trust and confidence you have in someone or something. Maybe you have a religious faith as a family and could spend time discussing how this helps you in your daily lives and what you do to show your religious faith too. Books such as, "Everyone a Child Should Know" by Clare Heath-Whyte, also have good examples of people who have changed their actions or taken on challenges because of their religious faith and are lovely stories to share with children.

# Claphill Preschool News

Hello everyone,

What a fabulous summer term it is turning out to be, if a little wet at times! Our children have been busy watering the allotment and planting the tomato plants kindly donated, thank you Angela. The potatoes are nearly ready, strawberries almost ripe and we are hoping to open our fruit and veg stall open soon.

We have had our village tea party when we invite some of our village friends up for an afternoon. The children plan the event, make their own invitations and menu then make the food and serve it to our guests. It's a great way for our top cohort to get school ready by being given this responsibility. They are collaborating, planning, designing, writing, making and socialising and all have a great sense of achievement at the end especially when they receive thank you cards from some of their guests.



We'd like to thank St Mary's church and Gillian for yet another wonderful church fete. It was a beautiful day and our tombola was busy throughout. Thank you to our parents for all their kind donations. Next year we will definitely put the prizes in number order... we raised nearly £300. Part of this will be used to buy produce for the Hub and the rest will go towards our new gazebos. It was a great team effort with mums and grandmas sorting all the donations and sticking on the raffle tickets and helpers on the day in the form of staff, their husbands and their children all lending a hand. The children did their dance with Katie from Silsoe Dance and all the parents gathered round to watch them perform, they were brilliant!

Our nature garden update is that we had a group of parents to help dig the new pond. Natasha and Elliot, two ecologists from Nicholsons also came along to help and to make sure the pond is as naturalised as possible, they also helped make a hibernaculum: this is a deep hole in the ground that you fill with pipes, logs, rocks etc and it creates underground chambers that amphibians and reptiles use throughout the winter to protect themselves from the cold.

Sports day was a roaring success with more children than ever attending, nearly 70 children and their families turned up to take part: they were swinging, throwing, running, jumping and rolling their way through the afternoon. Every one of our children that turned up had a go, whether they needed the support of the SEND team to push their wheelchair in the races or a gentle word of support from a staff member to encourage the more reticent to throw the welly in the welly wang, everyone had a great time.

Continued >>

## Clophill Preschool News—continued

The run up to sports day was dad's week and it was great to have them come in, explore the setting and play with the children.

All our children took part in a week of the Childhood Mile, thanks to mum Beth for helping to organise it with us. Monday to Thursday all our children walked, hopped and sang their way round 2 laps of the village hall grounds to make their quarter mile followed by a full mile walk on Friday when we were joined by children and parents finishing with a well-earned picnic back at preschool. We raised £357 for the NSPCC, what a great result!

Lastly, Dotty the chicken has been sitting on her eggs and we hope to have news in our next article of the pitter patter of tiny chicken feet!



## News from Greensand Country

**The Greensand Country Festival 2023 saw people from across the local landscape enjoy a variety of events, activities and charity challenges, in celebration of the outstanding countryside on our doorstep.**

This year's festival took place from 1<sup>st</sup> May to 11<sup>th</sup> June and covered the entire landscape, from Leighton Buzzard to Gamlingay. Events included willow weaving, guided walks, a bioblitz, vineyard event, plant fair, fun run, ultra trail and many more. Partners were particularly pleased to hear from the local community about how much they value the landscape and appreciate the work that the partnership is continuing to undertake to preserve, protect and promote Greensand Country.

Reflecting on another successful Festival, Partnership Coordinator, Daniel Bowles says:

“My biggest takeaway from this year's festival is the number of people we spoke to about the area and how supportive they are of the work the partnership is doing in caring for the countryside. The Greensand Country Landscape Partnership attended the Leighton Buzzard May Fayre, Leighton Buzzard Market, Astral Park wellbeing event, and Moggerhanger Plant Fair and met with some wonderful local people who truly value our unique and beautiful landscape.”

Find out more about Greensand Country at [www.greensandcountry.com](http://www.greensandcountry.com). Stay up to date with all of the latest information by following [@greensandsocial](https://twitter.com/greensandsocial) on Twitter, and [@greensandcountry](https://www.facebook.com/greensandcountry) on Facebook and Instagram.



## **ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS – The Church Fete and Village Event**



After the disappointment of the weather for the Coronation picnic our prayers were answered with a perfect day for our Church Fete and Village Event in the church grounds on June 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful day and the Church and Churchyard were filled with stalls and games to entertain all the visitors. Most of the stalls were run by local organisations who had the opportunity to raise funds for their own organisation. The barbecue was fired up by Maulden Church members ready for the opening at 12 noon. Inside the church refreshments were served and books and toys were on sale.

The Fete was opened by the Greensand Community Choir and the music was relayed outside to entertain the crowd. During the afternoon we were entertained by the children from St Mary's School with the annual display of Maypole dancing and later the little children from Clophill pre-school gave a performance of dancing who, in spite of their young age, were confident in front of a large crowd.

There was something for everyone - lovely pulled pork baps and hotdogs, delicious cakes and scones inside the Church and this year we had a popular ice-cream van who was kept busy all the afternoon. The games kept many entertained by trying to win a coconut on the Coconut Shy or getting a high score on Beat the Goalie. There were lots of bargains on the stalls and things to win on the tombolas and Grand Raffle.


This event is an opportunity for the village to come together in lovely surroundings to raise funds and to meet up and chat with people they might not have seen since the previous year. A real "Village Event." It is also a major fundraiser for the church, helping us to meet our obligations and be there when people need us. The final total raise for the Church was £1,958 and the organisations made about £2,500.

On behalf of the PCC of St Mary's we would like to thank everyone who supported the Fete, whether it was donating cakes, running a stall or helping on the day. We would also thank everyone who came to enjoy the event and to meet friends.

Our next event is a Summer Lunch on July 19<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to come to that please sign the list which is on the table at the back of the church. Also, we hope to see you again at the Scarecrow Festival on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September. This year there is no theme – you can make any type of scarecrow and place it outside your house but please register so that we can put the details in the programme and on the Village map.

***Adrienne Gordon, Carolyn Cranswick and the Fund-raising team of St Mary's Church***





St Mary's Church, Clophill

Invite you to a

# *Summer Lunch*

## 19<sup>th</sup> July

12 noon – 2pm in the Church

£10 - 2 course meal

Everyone very welcome

Please reserve a place

– phone July 01525 860497 or Carolyn 01462 815433

# Shefford Craft and Produce Show

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023

The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Show will be held as usual in the Methodist Schoolroom, Ampthill Road on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September. The schedules are now available and can be collected from the Library, the Post Office, Rosebuds Cafe, the Newsagents and other locations. Please collect one and have a look at all the exciting classes we have planned. There is something for everyone, whether you are a gardener, crafter or photographer.

In the morning the competitors will bring their entries into the Hall for judging. In the afternoon, from 2pm, visitors are very welcome to come to see how clever our local residents, both young and not so young, are at growing and making. Refreshments of tea and homemade cake will be served whilst you wait for the Prizegiving at 4pm.

The Annual Quiz sheets will also be available for £1 as this creates interest and helps to support the Show.

We hope to make this year's Show bigger and better. So please have a go!

**The Committee of Shefford Craft and Produce Show**



## Clophill and District Flower Club

[www.clophillflowerclub.com](http://www.clophillflowerclub.com)



Our demonstrator on 1<sup>st</sup> June was David Wright from Norfolk, a new demonstrator to our Club, whose title was "20/20 A Vision". David had just returned from Scotland and his first arrangement of red roses, thistles and chrysanthemums echoed the colours of the Union flag and incorporated a fallow deer antler. A pre-done matching arrangement had a crown, represented the late Queen's love for Scotland.

Next came a foam-free exhibit on a tall frame using a pin holder in a cone shaped container with fatsia leaves, astroemeria and small red gebera.

Mixed greenery with roses and sunflowers came next. He apologised for the small headed sunflowers explaining that since Brexit flowers from overseas are not only more expensive but also not as good quality.

This was followed by a Japanese inspired arrangement of lime green carnations and his final exhibit contained white antirrhinums, white roses, pink carnations and alliums.

All of his arrangements used beautiful greenery both purchased and from the garden. As well as being a florist and flower arranger David makes sculptures out of chicken wire - everything from full sized stags to hares.

NAFAS our national association is encouraging arrangers to use less floral foam. This is difficult for a demonstrator as the arrangements are raffled at the end of the evening. David now tries to use smaller pieces of foam in his designs and encouraged us all to do the same. He also said not to soak the foam in the sink as small particles get into the water supply but to use a bucket and pour the remaining water over the garden where it will slowly disperse.

Following the vote of thanks the arrangements were raffled. Visitors are always welcome at our meetings. Our next demonstrations are:-

- July – Rekha Naidoo - “Festival of India”.
- August – no meeting.
- September – Fiona Harrison - “The Golden Age of Ocean Travel”.

## Clophill Community Hub*date*



First of all, I would like to thank those kind people who donated to the Just Giving page I have set up for monetary donations to the Hub, we currently have £190 in that account which will help us buy some much needed shopping this week. This sum of money will not last that long, so I have left the page open so please feel free to make a donation however large or small, whenever you wish.

As we approach the summer holidays, I would like to just highlight a number of things:

- We will stay open throughout the school holidays but please be aware opening times may vary dependent of having enough volunteers to stock, open and close the Hub, we will keep you informed on our Facebook page
- Secondly with the children at home the need for some help in managing the household budget will be a big issue for some families, so please continue with your kind donations which you can continue to drop at the Coop, St Marys Church and at the Hub itself
- If you find it more convenient to donate in cash, you can use the Just Giving page mentioned above by typing Clophill Village Hall into the Just Giving page, alternatively if you would like to donate on a monthly basis just email me on [steve.langhorn@gmail.com](mailto:steve.langhorn@gmail.com) and I will forward you bank details for the Village Hall.

And finally, I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

## Parish Registers for July and August

### 1823

#### **Baptisms**

- Jul 06 John, s of Thomas and Rebecca Payne (?).  
16 Joseph, s of Joseph and Lucy Ashby.  
20 George and William, sons of Thomas and Sarah Everitt (?).  
Mary, d of William and Sarah Richardson.  
John, s of Charlotte Mann.  
Emma, d of (?) (not Charlotte) Mann.  
Joseph, s of Samual and Ann Thomas.  
Aug 17 William, s of Robert and Ann Cunnington, f a butcher.  
18 William, s of George and Maria (?), f a tailor.

#### **Marriages**

- Jul 23 John Chalkley (?) to Dorcas Willard.

#### **Burials**

- Jul 28 Ann Wald (?).

### 1873

#### **Baptisms**

- Jul 06 Frederick Richard Tufnell.  
27 Ernest Edward White, f a Milk carrier.  
Ann Langley.  
Emma Elizabeth Ashby, m  
Mary Ann.  
Robert and Charles Grummitt.  
Aug 31 Mary Ann, Francis, Thomas and Horace Walter White. Children of James and Susan.  
James Izzard.  
Martha Alice White, d of Charles and Emma.

#### **Marriages (1872)**

- Jul 15 Thomas Cole, 29 to Sarah Cobourn, 27.

#### **Burials**

- Jul 19 Charlotte Roberts, 71.  
Aug 24 Thomas Maudlin (Mandlin), 74.  
25 Sarah Maddams, 55.

### 1923

#### **Baptisms**

- Jul 08 Gladys Beatrice Collis.  
Joan Webb.  
Aug 05 Winifred May and Kenneth Igeron Walker, f a plumber.

#### **Marriages**

- Aug 04 Cyril Percival Bottoms, 20, bricklayer from Silsoe to Rosa Appleby, 22.  
Herbert Edward Goodall, 21, to Violet Lily Herbert.

#### **Burials**

- Jul 24 Catherine Peat (Maulden), 69.  
Aug 17 Eliza Lincoln, 75.

### 1973

#### **Marriages**

- Aug 18 Ray John Roberts, 25, Nurseryman from Langford to Diane Margaret Jeffcoate.

#### **Burials**

- Jul 20 Rev. Frederick Newey Kent of Maulden, 64.  
Husband of the Head teacher of St. Mary's School.  
Aug 03 Maggie Taylor, 90.

### **St. MARY'S CHURCH REGISTERS**

#### **MAY 2023**

- Burial of ashes  
May 27 Doreen Anne Brennan, 78.

# Clophill Methodist Church



**Coffee and Croissants**  
**Saturday 8th July**  
**Saturday 12th August**  
**10am to 12 noon**



Wildlife Trust for  
**Beds, Cambs  
& Northants**

## Wildlife walks & talks **July**

**Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, Flitton Moor at 7pm**

### **Flitton Moor wildflower walk\***

A gentle evening stroll through the grazed meadows and varying environments of the moor on the edge of Flitton identifying local flora. Parking will be by the Jack Crawley Barn. Go down Brook Lane, Flitton, over the small bridge and park in the enclosed area. A nice dry warm evening is almost guaranteed!

\*£4.00 per adult

**Open to all, but please reserve, as space is limited.**

For additional information or to reserve your place please email  
[flitvale.info@gmail.com](mailto:flitvale.info@gmail.com).

(If you don't have email, please ring Ann on 07580 178889 between 6-8 pm.)

The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire

Registered charity number: 1000412 [www.wildlifebcn.org](http://www.wildlifebcn.org)

Flit Vale Local Group: [www.flitvale.org.uk](http://www.flitvale.org.uk)

# Clophill Parish Council



The impact of summer holidays meant a slightly smaller council meeting this month. The vacancy advertised for a Parish Councillor, was filled at the meeting. We are delighted to announce that Chris Moffatt has been agreed to be co-opted to the council as of our July meeting. Congratulations Chris and we welcome your appointment and look forward to you joining.

The A6 Roundabout was a hot topic again, with a number of up-and-coming road closures being announced by Octavius this week. Plus, the welcome news that the High St and Green will become permanent 20MPH zones, subject to the necessary council orders.

Agreement was reached to purchase a piece of Toddler equipment for the rec. which will be a cabin slide. The existing toddler park equipment after an inspection was deemed to not be suitable or safe; and with the village hall extension plans, all new toddler equipment will be placed in the rec.

Tree management is very much in the councils plans at the moment and over the autumn/ winter residents will notice a number of works for the communities safety. These will include pruning and reduction of the Lyme Trees on the Green and some management of Irene's wood. We have also been working with the Forestry Office on a plan to thin the Pine on Pinehill; to bring the wood back in to health.

---

## Planning Applications

**CB/23/01819/VOC** Warren Stables, Warren Lane

**Proposal:** Removal of condition number 1 of planning permission

CB/19/04136/FULL (Temporary Mobile Home) Remove condition to allow retention of dwelling as a permanent residence.

**SUPPORT**

**CB/23/01701/FULL** 22 Goodwood Close

**Proposal:** Proposed first floor extension over garage

**NO COMMENT**

**CB/23/01877/FULL** Little Field, Kiln Lane

**Proposal:** Construction of a self-build detached dwelling and associated works

**OBJECT**

**CB/23/01908/EB** Mouse Farm, Shefford Road

**Proposal:** Electricity Board Notification: Shorten the existing line and associated works

**For Information only**



**CB/23/01922/FULL** The Boat House, 12 Little Lane

**Proposal:** To demolish existing outbuilding and replace with new outbuilding for use as garage and storage of maintenance equipment. **SUPPORT**

**CBC Enforcement number: CB/ENC/18/0303**

Site Address: Paradise Farm, The Causeway

Alleged breach: Unauthorised works to land east of planning permission CB/15/02482/FULL re: land excavation/hard core.

Appeal start date: 29 June 2022

**The next meeting will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> July at 19:45 in Clophill Village Hall.**

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## **Forthcoming A6 Roundabout Traffic Management**

Central Bedfordshire Council is pleased to inform you that Clophill High Street and the Green will become 20mph as requested by residents, subject to the making of the required Traffic Regulation Orders.

### **Dates for major works and closures:**

- 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> July. A507 west arm full closure 101 roundabout to Clophill roundabout. For collaborative working with Octavius and Environ completing drainage and utility crossings across the A507 and traffic island works; plus pre-patching of the carriage way prior to surface dressing the road.
- 31<sup>st</sup> July. A507 west arm full closure 101 roundabout to Clophill roundabout. To complete surface dressing along A507.
- 18<sup>th</sup> August-28<sup>th</sup> August. A507 west arm full closure, Maulden side road to Clophill roundabout. Full depth reconstruction of 120m section of the carriageway, drainage and utility installation, traffic island reconstruction and surfacing works.

Further A6 northern arm weekend full closures in July/August are planned around the Ampthill Festival & Haynes Science of Soul events; dates to be confirmed. These are for drainage and utility installation across the A6 plus traffic island construction.

## CLOPHILL FRIENDS OF THE BEDFORDSHIRE LEONARD CHESHIRE HOME



After approximately 50 years of supporting the local Leonard Cheshire Home in Ampthill, our group is saddened to advise that the Foundation has closed the Home and all Residents have had to find alternative accommodation. However, the overwhelming majority of our regular jumble supporters (and a few new recruits!) have decided to continue to hold a **Jumble Sale**, this year on **6th October** in aid of the **Sue Ryder Hospice** at Moggerhanger.

We're no longer storing jumble all year round and still have masses of stock as we haven't had a jumble sale since 2019 but if you're interested in supporting us, please ring **Sue Pearson** on 861110, or **John Collins** on 862942.

We'd like to say *thank you so much* for all the support we have received for Clophill Friends of the Bedfordshire Leonard Cheshire home. You've made such a difference for the residents that lived there.

### Village groups

Beverley Court		860920
Brownies	<a href="http://enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk">enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk</a>	
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 <a href="mailto:victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk">victoriajhiggins@hotmail.co.uk</a>	07920 568861
Friends of St Mary's (FOSM)	Mary Milne and Jenny Garnham <a href="mailto:fosmcllophill@gmail.com">fosmcllophill@gmail.com</a>	
Scouts and Cubs	<a href="http://www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved">www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved</a>	
Tea and Chat	Anita Errick	860695
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Marylin Browning	07821 643936



## Maulden Walking Football Club

For men and women of all ages and abilities

MWFC was established in June 2021. We are a friendly group of mixed ability players.

**We meet at Flitwick Leisure Centre on the following days:**

**Mens Sessions: Tuesday 8 - 9pm and Sunday 6 - 7pm**

**Womens Sessions: New Tuesday evening session starting in September**

- Join an established team with 40 members
- Make new friends and have fun at our training sessions and social events
- Play in local friendlies and regional matches (optional)
- Give back to the community through our other fundraising initiatives
- Play on a 3G artificial grass pitch – a safe surface that can reduce injury



**Find out more:**

- Call Martin Wright, Chairman, on 07496 287 628
- Email [OBMauldenWalkingFootball@outlook.com](mailto:OBMauldenWalkingFootball@outlook.com)

# What's on in and around Clophill



## JULY

### Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>

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

### Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>

**Summer Lunch**, St Mary's Church, 12noon-4pm. *See poster.*



## AUG

### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>

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



## SEPT

### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>

**Shefford Craft Show**. *See poster.*

### Saturday and Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>

**Scarecrow Festival**, St Mary's Church. *See poster.*

### Plus....

### Weekdays during term time

\* Clophill Community Hub is open, Village Hall, 9am to 3pm.

### 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 Thursdays 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



## 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.

## Useful numbers

Gas (Emergency)		0800 111999
Electricity (Emergency)		0800 7838838
Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance		999
Water/Sewage (Anglian Water)		0845 7145145
Telephone	(Customer Services) 150	(Faults) 151
Highways Department (Central Bedfordshire Council)		0300 3008049
Benefits Agency (Bedford office)		01234 361500
Registrar's Office (Births/deaths/marriages)		0300 3008089
Rail (Enquiries)		0845 7484950
Buses 01234 262151	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511	(Flittabus) 01582 406561
Luton Airport		01582 405100
Swimming	(Flitwick) 01525 717744	(Robinson Pool) 01234 212479
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>		
Central Beds Offices (Chicksands)		0300 300 8000
Mid-Bed; MP	Nadine Dorries	0207 219 5928
Central Bedfordshire Councillors	Susan Clinch	0300 300 8516
	Gary Summerfield	0300 300 8561
	Mark Smith	0300 300 8541
Clophill Parish Council	(Clerk) Heather Myott clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk	07888 685 886
<b>HOSPITALS</b>		
Bedford (North & South)	01234 355122	Admissions 01234 261150
		Appointments 01234 359012
Luton & Dunstable		0845 1270127
<b>DOCTOR'S CLINICS</b>		
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
<b>POLICE</b>		
County Police HQ		Non Emergency 101
Amphill Station		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
Preschool	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

## Take out an annual ad in Clophill *SPOTLIGHT*

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Quarter page (H92mm x W61mm) £75

A third of a page (H61mm x W126mm) £88



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A decorative border of black and white botanical line drawings surrounds the central text. The drawings include various leaves, stems, and flower parts, such as a large flower head at the top center, a long, pointed leaf on the left, and a detailed flower cross-section at the bottom right.

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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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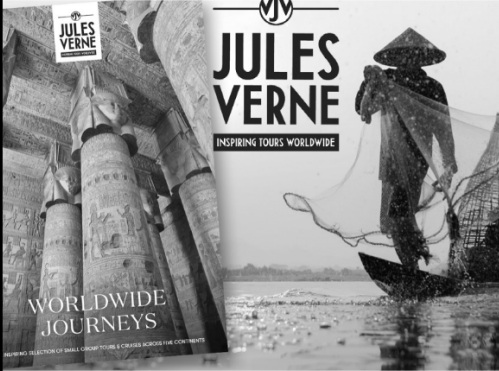
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