

CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

OCTOBER 2023



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A word from the Editor...

Welcome to the October issue of Spotlight

Dear Reader,

We have much to celebrate in Spotlight this month as well local information and updates plus our regular articles.

Firstly, *many congratulations* go to Val Martin for receiving the Parish council Chairmans award for Volunteer services to the village (see the Parish council update starting on page 14). **Well done Val and very well deserved.**

The **Scarecrow festival** was a resounding success with 26 Scarecrows entered throughout the village. Congratulations to all the prize winners (listed in St Mary's Church news on page 12).

The Clophill Village Hub is now well established to support those who are struggling with the rising cost of living and I am happy to report that the lunchtime "**Winter Warmers**" are back starting from 19th October (see poster on page 13).

On a more subdued note, we have an update from the Octavious on page 20 about the upcoming **A6 road closures** at the Flying Horse roundabout, South Arm. Advance notice of works is always welcome so I thank them for sending it in to keep everyone posted.

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

Come into the Garden

With Kate Gardner



September has been warm and wet and there is now a definite hint of autumn in the air. As we move into October, days become shorter and there is a coolness in the air, but our gardens can still give us a wonderful and colourful finale before winter descends. Many deciduous trees, shrubs and climbers put on a beautiful show before their leaves fall, and there are hips, berries, and fruits to enjoy, along with plenty of flowers to keep the colour going right up until the frosts hit. If you choose the right plants, autumn can be a truly spectacular time in the garden.

Acers have leaves that turn to deep magenta, purple or golden yellow. They can either be planted into the borders or make excellent container plants and thrive well in shadier areas of the garden. **Dahlias** will continue to flower until the first frosts, particularly if you regularly deadhead and feed them. With such a stunning array of flower shapes, sizes and colours there is sure to be something that will take your fancy.

Cornus (dogwoods) put on a spectacular show before their leaves fall to reveal colourful winter stems from the deepest black, through red to the palest green and yellow. Now is also a good time to take hardwood cuttings to make new plants for free but leave the majority of the stems to give winter colour and some structure in your spaces.

Ornamental grasses are at their best in autumn and combine well with all kinds of perennials and shrubs. **Miscanthus sinensis** cultivars form large, dense clumps and showcase bright, feathery, narrow plumes that look superb in low autumn light. Standing tall (up to two metres) and upright through the whole of winter is a bonus. If you prefer something smaller, try **Pennisetum** or fountain grass, with its distinctive bottle-brush flower. These clump-forming grasses do best in full sun and look good throughout autumn, especially amongst herbaceous perennials such as **Japanese anemones** and **sedums**, which are flowering at the same time.

Now is the perfect time for planting spring bulbs, so how about trying something new and plant drifts of spring bulbs informally in your lawn, including crocuses, dwarf narcissi and snake's-head fritillaries. It's also a good time to be planting up containers with plants to add winter colour. Heathers, cyclamen, winter pansies and skimmia will provide colour and interest throughout the dark winter months.

If you have been enjoying the tropical feel from Cannas, now is the time to lift them to avoid frost damage, dry off the tubers and store in cool dark conditions until spring. It's also a good time to lift and pot up any tender perennials, such as pelargoniums and fuchsias, to protect them over the winter. If lifting and storing is not an option, then leave in the ground where they have been grown, cut back the top growth to 10cm and protect the roots and basal buds with a thick layer of well-rotted manure or bark chippings.

You could also have a go at propagating some new plants to act as a backup in case we get another cold and wet winter. Take the tips where the plant material is bendy but not too soft. Cut the plant material to size, in general the cutting will need to have at least four leaves (2 pairs) at the top. (DO NOT remove the tip). Next remove the leaves at the bottom of the cutting and cut below a node (this is where you removed the leaves). Choose a pot deep enough for your cutting and fill it with compost and firm down. Make a hole with a dibber or pencil and insert the cutting around the edge of your pot. Check none of the leaves are touching or buried in the compost. Label your cuttings and water them in. Cover with a plastic bag and place somewhere warm but remove the bag to ventilate the cutting at least twice a week for 10 minutes. Cuttings should be placed in good light but not direct, scorching sunlight. Ensure the compost is moist until the cuttings are well-rooted which takes about 2 to 4 weeks. Keep them protected over the winter and then you can pot them up and harden them off to go into the garden once all the frosts are finished next spring.

You still have time to transplant any deciduous shrubs that are in the wrong place, as well as plant new evergreen shrubs. The soil is still warm so that allows a good strong rootball to develop before the cold winter weather kicks in.

Happy Gardening

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...

A W Wilson DSM A.B. (Gunner), R.N. served on H.M.S. "Inflexible," joining up in 1912 and was sent to the North Sea at the outbreak of war. The ship was then sent to the Dardenelles and he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his conspicuous gallantry in bringing back a picket boat



single-handed. He was wounded 3 times while with his ship. After the evacuation of Gallipoli he returned aboard his ship to the North Sea.

He served until July 1919, when he was demobilised. As well as the DSM he was awarded the 1914-15 Star and the General Service Medal and the Victory Medal. He lived in Jacques Lane, Clophill. Nothing further is known about this man.

Continued overleaf >

Clophill's Serving Survivors of WW1 continued

Horace Ensor Wootton was born in Clophill in 1885. He was the Grandson of James Wootton, the Postmaster/Sub-postmaster of Clophill. We don't know which of James's children was Horace's parent – possibly his father was Frederick James Wootton. Ampthill News recorded that Horace wrote regularly to his sister at the Post Office. Horace was living in Queen Square, Holborn, in 1901 and was a boarder working as an "Errand Boy - Port".

Horace appears in the 1911 Census as a Lance Corporal in the Second Hampshire Regiment. At the time of the Census, the Regiment was based in South Africa. His army career varied across the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Regiments. By 1914 he was a Sergeant and later Warrant Officer 2nd Class. He was in France from the early days of the War. In June 1916 he was temporarily incapacitated because of foot problems. He was home on leave in December of that year. In April 1917 he was badly injured by "barbed wire entanglements". In June 1917 he was in hospital in France suffering from Trench Fever. At that time, he was a Quartermaster Sergeant. By August he had returned to the front. He had been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in 1915 for conspicuous bravery on the battlefield. He was home on leave in November 1917. In May 1918 he was promoted to Company Sergeant Major. He had been recommended for a Commission but had declined it. From 1918 until at least 1924 he is a resident in High Street, Clophill. On 16th August 1919 there was a "Peace Fete" in the village. The participating soldiers were commanded by Horace.

Horace seems to have been something of a traveller. In April 1924, Horace, his wife, Rose, son Peter (aged 2), and daughter Patricia Rose (aged 1) arrive in London from Singapore on the "Karmala". It is stated in the ship's record that they intend to return to "British Possessions".

In May 1932, Horace, Rose and Patricia arrived at Southampton aboard "Sibajak" from Malaya. Their address was given as 46, (Wootton House) High Street, Clophill.

In October 1945, Horace and Rose arrived in Liverpool from Singapore aboard "SS Nieuw Holland" and their address is given as "Central Stores", High Street, Clophill. Horace gives his occupation as Club Manager. With them is Oliver William Wootton, an Accountant. Oliver is 51, 9 years younger than Horace. Possibly they may have been in Singapore during the Second World War. Again, Horace and Rose have advised that they intend to return to the British Empire, not stay in Britain.

Horace and Rose were living at that address in 1946. Horace on his own arrives from Malaya at Southampton on board another ship in July 1947. Subsequent Electoral Rolls show Horace and Rose as living in High Street, Clophill. Sometimes there's reference to Linden C Wootton living either next door or at the same address.

Horace died on 10th March 1957 and his address is given as 46, High Street.



St Mary's Church Clophill

Wed. 11th October

12noon - 2pm

in St Mary's Church

Harvest Lunch

The menu will include a jacket potato with the choice of various fillings and salad and homemade seasonal desserts. Soft drinks included.

Pre bookings required by 7th October.

£8 per person

Everyone very welcome

*To book a place please contact Julie Benson
01525 860497 or juliebenson@talktalk.net*



Reflections – Clophill in October 1978 - Voices from the past.

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

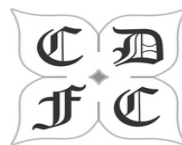
Scenes do change, don't they? This cover photo from **November 1978's Outlook** shows 7, High Street – when it was a shop, owned by “a Mrs Mead who sold toys, sweets, grocery and drapery.” I reckon that the car looks a bit mid 1910's. Looking inside the magazine, there is a long 'Letter from the Editor'



giving the good news that the **magazine** had been saved from closure (hooray!) and a new team was being assembled with vacancies for a Sports and Social Editor, a Features Editor an Advertising Manager and crucially, a Treasurer. All those interested should attend a meeting at the Village Hall on 5th December – (and seemingly they did). The many village groups reported on their activities over the past month with the **PTA's Annual BBQ & Firework** display being held on a “mild, starry evening” when a record over 500 people attended. Rex Speake and his team of helpers set off the fireworks and “Among the sideshows were a bran-tub, bottle stall, hoop-la” (still got that in my loft!), egg stall and a treasure hunt.” At the **Methodist Church** “Mrs Brown welcomed everyone to a **concert** given by the children of St. Mary's School, under the direction of Mrs Roberts and accompanied by Mrs Mason at the piano.” It being Harvest time, the **Harvest Festival services** at St Mary's Church “beautifully decorated with produce brought along by the children of St. Mary's School and members of the church congregation” were conducted by the new Rector, when the “singing of the traditional harvest hymns were accompanied by Miss Ann Jeffrey and Mrs Mason.” The harvest Supper held at the Village Hall on the Monday raised £110 for Church funds when Dick Sheppard auctioned off the produce after some fifty people had enjoyed a choice of ham, beef or cheese salad and apple pie. The AGM of **Friends of the Cheshire Home** saw Dick Hawker take over the chairmanship from John Langdon. The October meeting of **the Parish Council** heard that the application to divert the footpath round the field 'north of Back Street' will go ahead; that under the Parish Boundary Review, their “proposals to take over Old Silsoe Road from Silsoe and Hall End from Maulden were – together with practically all other proposals – thrown out by the Mid-Beds financial and general purposes committee”.

Also “There are plans to bring water to the allotments north of Townshott.” (Some things take quite a time don’t they!) Then at Pine Hill “The Clump is to be cleared of scrub and dead trees, and new trees will be planted. The field to the north will be planted with pine and oak.” (Rather relevant today as some of this now needs clearing). **The Brownies** had an enjoyable day at the Guide shop in Buckingham Palace Road and the Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, then ten days later, they enjoyed an evening with **the Guides** at their Queen’s Guide presentation, before which Katy Bousted, Joanne Constance, Jackie Eaton, Catherine Taylor, Claire O’Connor and Karen Wynn received their Entertainer badges. The first part of the **Service of Remembrance** “which took place at the War Memorial, consisted of prayer, the observation of the National two minutes’ silence, and the laying of wreaths ...” The remainder of the service continued in the church where Mrs F. Robinson was the organist. The **‘Sports section’** covered Clophill netball club, Clophill Football Club and Racing (horse, not cars), then to end there is a **story for children, local film listings** and **Sid Sidney’s** choice of recently released singles and albums. (Ah me, such a lot can change in 45 years!)

Clophill and District Flower Club



In September we welcomed Fiona Harrison to our Club for the first time. Fiona is an award-winning arranger and had recently won a first prize at the National Competitions. Her title was ‘The Golden Age of Ocean Travel’ and she used her designs to tell the history of the early Atlantic crossing by large ships.



She began with a boat shaped arrangement illustrating the type of boat and the movement through the waves. She told us stories about the rich American heiresses who came over to find a well-connected husband and how people from Britain went across to make their fortune in the New World.

One of her designs in blues and whites represented the grand staircase on the liners and she used beautiful delphiniums and orange proteas. Her final arrangement was made in three sections and formed a very large tiered cake, just like the ones served at Afternoon Tea on a luxury cruise ship.

In October we have Sandy Draper who is going to inspire us with a demonstration titled ‘Inspired by Nature’. We always welcome visitors and with our members enjoy an interesting, lively evening.

Carolyn Cranswick

Chairman of Clophill and District Flower Club

St Mary's School News

from Mrs. Bingley our Headteacher:

We hope you all had a lovely Summer! September is the start of another new academic year and everyone has settled back or in really well. We want to say a special “welcome” to the many new families who have joined us this year – both in our main school and our very popular Nursery!



Our new cohort of Forest Schoolers are already enjoying their time in Irene’s Wood on a Wednesday morning. This year, the groups are named Holly and Maple and are already returning each week saying things like, “I wish it was Forest School every day!” As always, a huge thank you to Nell Nightingale and her team of volunteers for making this amazing provision possible for our Year 1 children.

Our Year 4 group have also begun their swimming lessons at Happy Tiddlers in Barton. This will be their second set of 12-week lessons, so we are hoping for as many children as possible to achieve their 25 metres before they leave us. Thank you to the amazing team at Happy Tiddlers for the great lessons as well as Flittabus for getting us there and back safely AND our wonderful FOSM for helping to fund the Flittabus trips!

This year, we welcome two new members of staff, Mrs. Carpenter who is teaching Year 1 during Mrs. Hickman’s maternity leave and Ms. Gurney who is our new Teaching Assistant working across Years 3 and 4. We also welcome back Mrs. O’Connor from her maternity leave AND three new teaching students who are working in Years 1, 2 and 4.

We have lots planned for this year, which I look forward to sharing with you over the coming months. In the meantime, you can find more information about the school by visiting our website: 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 a brand-new timetable this year, supporting in the classrooms at different times and on different days! He continues, however, to have Thursdays off so he can rest his paws and enjoy time with his doggy pals.



Acorn Nursery News

from Mrs. Hayes our Early Years Leader:

We are thrilled to have welcomed so many new children over the last few weeks. We have also some new staff to share with you. We would like to introduce Mrs. Stynes, who is brand new to our setting, and we are also delighted that Miss Mills, Ms. Soper and Miss Wilderspin are now regular faces in our amazing Nursery.

Since the beginning of term, we have been busy enjoying the Autumn sunshine. We have been budding gardeners, pulling up our carrots and picking tomatoes and cucumber (even a prickly one!); all of which we have enjoyed during our healthy, daily snack.

Mrs. Stynes brought in some home-made owls for our week investigating the story "Owl Babies." The children also made puppets to help act out the story!

We have also started our topic of "All About Me" by studying our faces in mirrors and painting ourselves.

We are now full in our setting until after half term. However, if you are interested in our wonderful Nursery, you can join our waiting list.

Please speak to Mrs. Daniels, our Nursery Room Leader in the first instance or email: nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk

Our Value for October is Trust (and Loyalty):

In school, we will consider how Trust is a belief in the honesty, reliability and strength of another, relying on someone or something without question or evidence. We will also be thinking about what it means to trust someone and how it feels to be trusted. We will learn the importance of being reliable, loyal and honest people in order for someone to trust us.

At home, you could consider who you trust as a family and also who trusts you. You might like to recall times when you've needed to trust someone else or when someone has put their trust in you. How did it feel to trust someone or for someone to put their trust in you?



We are pleased to announce the introduction of our new service FL1 connecting:

**Silsoe – Clophill – Maulden –
Amphill – Flitwick**

Every Monday commencing 2nd October 2023

Anybody can use Flittabus and we accept:

Cash, Bus Passes, Credit/ Debit Cards, Apple Pay, Google Pay

For the timetable go to: <https://flittabus.co.uk/route-1>

Clophill Preschool News

Hello everyone,

Our year started in beautiful sunshine, then wind then rain then back to sunshine...the children seem to take this all in their stride. One day the wind was blowing so strongly, we brought the children in the hall for a while because of our weather policy. Oh my, what we hadn't remembered was how we don't like being inside anymore! It made us all realise what a positive impact learning outdoors has on our children.

We know that some people can't see the point of us being outside all day every day, but we think this is a sadly misguided perception. Since we took our setting permanently outdoors, we have discovered that our children have become more rounded, more caring, better behaved, more in tune with their own emotions; they are collaborative in their play and incredibly creative; they are interested in the world



around them, they want to look after it, nurture it and they are starting to understand the importance of where we live and our local community.

The word we use frequently to describe our approach is holistic, for us this means concerning ourselves with the whole child rather than just an individual part. Yes, we follow the EYFS and yes, we are getting children ready for the next stage in their education however, we are not purely focussed on getting children to sit still and listen or just to write their name. We support children's mental health and their physical wellbeing, their friendship building, how they relate to others, yes, they learn to write and recognise letters and sounds, they count and problem solve but we also develop their understanding of the wider world, essentially, we enable them to be rounded, caring, thoughtful, individuals.

We feel very fortunate this year to have friends join us in the village who believe in what we do and hold a similar ethos. We thought we'd get their thoughts on learning outdoors and the place it holds in their settings in their own words:

'Little Forest childcare is a childminding setting which opened in September 2023 in Clophill, we work closely with Clophill Preschool and The Fledglings. We believe that our children are the future protectors of our wonderful planet; teaching them about nature is crucial to their development and the sustainability of our world. Our Forest School activities enrich curriculum goals, enhance personal, social and emotional development, build empathy, help address challenging behaviour and enhance reading and writing along with numeracy and motor skills.' www.littleforestchildcare.co.uk

'The Fledglings is a home education group that operates out of Clophill village and although we only opened this September, we have made strong connections throughout the local area from the Methodist Church to Beverley Court, as well as working closely with Little Forest and Clophill Preschool. We teach children holistically, offering breadth as well as depth, with a real focus on building and maintaining relationships and developing children's confidence to take on challenges.' <https://www.thefledglings.co.uk>

During the pandemic the natural world seemed to take a deep much needed breath and we took our setting completely outside. We already knew how good it was for us and our children. We are excited and delighted that we now have more like minded childcare and education practitioners recognising how nature and the outdoors is integral to the wellbeing and development of our future generations.

We have had a lovely first few weeks at The Fledglings and the children are settling in and enjoying learning around the centre and further afield in the village.



We attended the Harvest Festival celebration at the Methodist church alongside Clophill Preschool earlier in the month. The children brought along tinned donations for the church and Silas taught us all a fantastic harvest tractor song that we have been singing all month. At the end of the service, we all had ice lollies as it was 31 degrees and a bit hot for too much autumnal chat!



We had a fantastic first trip to Beverley Court; the older adults loved making Hapa Zome (hammered flower) cards with us and eating the delicious apple crumble that the children had baked for them. We are all looking forward to returning later in the month for our first multi-generational keep fit class!

We have been looking at the world around us and reading nature stories to inspire our brains. One nature story we looked at was how a young snake sheds its skin, this led to some fantastic discussions and one child even brought in a snakeskin from home to share with the other children.

We are looking forward to weeding and tidying up the community allotment over the next few weeks and planting some bulbs in our flowerbeds ready for the spring.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS



Next year marks the 175th anniversary of the dedication of our church, and we hope to be able to put on an exhibition of our historical artefacts along with displays about village history. In anticipation, at the Family Praise Service on Sept. 3rd there was a whistlestop tour of the 174 years and a tantalising glimpse of some of the artefacts.

After the terrible weather in the week running up to the **Scarecrow Festival**, our prayers were answered with 2 lovely dry days. There were 26 scarecrows on display from Goodwood Close to Jacques Lane via Readshill and Back Street, so our visitors got to see the whole of our beautiful village. It was great to see so many people wandering around, consulting their maps, then coming to the church to enjoy the refreshments provided by our Fund-Raising team. People were asked to vote for their favourites in each of 3 categories, and certificates and prizes were handed out in the church by the Rector. They were:-

Organisation category:

- 1st Mother Nature, the Greatest Teacher – The Fledglings.
- 2nd Goodwood Festival of Speed - Goodwood Close.
- 3rd From Peru to our Amazing Forest School - St. Mary's School.

Adult category:

- 1st Mum, Mum we've caught a Giant - 32 Jacques Lane.
- 2nd Miss Penny Forit - 2 The Slade.
- 3rd Paddington Bear - Blair Cottage.

Family category:

- 1st ET - 36 High St.
- 2nd Bale or Swift - 19 Townshott.
- 3rd The Trubblemakers - 71 High St.

Congratulations to all the prize winners and thank you to all who participated in any way. One sad note was that one of the scarecrows was stolen on Saturday morning, a truly despicable act, which marred a lovely occasion.

Upcoming events:

Wednesday Oct 11th is the **Harvest Lunch**. The **Winter Warmer lunches** restart on Thursday Oct 19th. **Sunday Nov 12th** is **Remembrance Sunday**; the service at the church starts at 10.15 followed by the Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at 11.00am.



St Mary's Church, Clophill



Winter Warmer

Soup lunches

Every Thursday 12 noon - 2pm

Starting 19th October

If you are feeling cold.

If you are feeling you want some company.

If you would enjoy a bowl of homemade soup and some bread in warm surroundings, you would be very welcome to come to St Mary's Church where there will be a warm welcome and hospitality.

Every Thursday

A small donation would be appreciated but not essential.

Everyone will be welcome

Greensand Community Methodist Church

The more observant amongst you may have noticed a new sign outside the Methodist Church in Clophill. You will also see the same one outside the Methodist Churches in Ampthill and Flitwick. This is because, after many conversations and meetings over recent years, the three churches have now come together to be one church on three sites. To mark this we have a new, collective, name. We are now called Greensand Community Methodist Church with 'Mission Hubs' at Clophill, Ampthill and Flitwick. This merger means that we are sharing more resources, helping each other out and working more closely together.



But what difference it make to you in our community? Well, very little. We will still be open for worship most Sunday mornings as we are now. Usually on the 1st Sunday of the month we all meet together to worship in one of our hubs. Other than that, we are where we always have been at 10.30am. We still have our regular Wednesday morning drop in for a drink and a chat, our monthly Saturday morning 'Coffee & Croissants' and we will still be holding Messy Church. If you want to find out more about what is happening not just in Clophill but all three of the Greensand Community Methodist Church mission hubs, we have a brand new website -

www.greensandcommunitymethodistchurch.com and you can also find us on Facebook under our new church name.

Why not pop in and say hello. We'd love to see you.

Rev Silas

Clophill Parish Council

A well-attended meeting at the village hall was held on the 12th September, the penultimate before we move to



the Methodist Church as the evenings become darker.



The meeting began with the September Chairmans award for Volunteer Services to the village, **this was awarded to Val Martin** for all her work with the Heritage Trust, Clophill United Charities, and keeping the village moral up with her inspiring crochet projects, especially during Covid.

With the up-and-coming Royal British Legion **Remembrance Poppy appeal**, the Parish Council will be promoting this via a Lamppost Poppy Drive. The Poppies will be £5 each (or more if you would like!). We have ordered 100 Poppies for the village and you are invited to sponsor a Poppy.

Let's fill our village with Poppies for Remembrance.

Please contact the clerk for details of how to donate, and nominate your lamppost!
Clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk



A reminder to all village organisations, the Councils Grant aid fund is still open for applications. So if you need some new equipment etc please apply to the clerk by the 19th October for consideration. Details can be found on our website at the following link: <https://clophill-pc.gov.uk/policies-and-procedures/>

A new Toddler Slide has been installed at the recreation ground this month. Also, a number of maintenance items to ensure your safety will be carried out over the coming months. **Advance notice of some village tree works**; the enormous Lymes at the Green are in need of reduction and thinning as well as removal of dead wood. This work will take place over November. In January Pinehill will be thinned to bring it back into health and remove the dead or deceased Pines. The Ash Trees that line Church path will also be reduced in height.

Planning Applications

CB/23/02320/FULL 3 Tanqueray Avenue

Proposal: Single storey rear extension.

SUPPORT

CB/TCA/23/00365 59 High Street

Proposal: Works to trees within a Conservation Area.

NO COMMENT

CB/23/02453/FULL 56 High Street

Proposal: Erection of a single storey dwelling. Existing swimming pool, car port/garage to be demolished.

NO COMMENT

Appeal ref: APP/P0240/C/23/3326745 A - 3326746 B (Mr C Smith) Land South of Top Farm. Appeal closed. **CPC have made a representation**

CB/22/02081/FULL Paradise Farm, The Causeway

Appeal ref: APP/P0240/W/23/3327577 (Mr W Varey)

All representations by 04 Oct 23

CPC to reiterate previous objections

CB/23/00467/FULL Land the rear of Waterworks House, The Old Waterworks, The Pump House, 12 and 15 Shefford Road and 11 to 21 Jacques Lane

Proposal: Demolition of existing structures and erection of 33 dwellings, a new access, public open space and associated works.

OBJECT

CB/23/02627/FULL 108A High Street

Proposal: Single storey rear extension. New apex timber canopy to front entrance. Alterations to front door side panel and 2 new windows.

SUPPORT

Continued overleaf >>

Planning Applications Continued

CB/23/02820/FULL Sand Pit, Great Lane

Proposal: Erection of a self-build dwelling

OBJECT

CB/TCA/23/00442 8A Back Street

Proposal: Works to trees within Conservation Area.

NO COMMENT

CB/23/02929/FULL 7 Back Street

Proposal: Single storey front and side extensions, single and two storey rear extension following demolition of rear conservatory. New detached garage and car port with offices/games room above.

SUPPORT

Parish Registers for October

1823

Baptisms

19 Lawrence (?) s of John and Sarah Chapman, f a shoemaker.

Marriages

07 Thomas Kingston to Elizabeth Charnlin (?).

13 Benjamin Chapman to Ann Pruddon (?).

23 Thomas Harris to Mary Smith.
William Strap to Mary Tisom.

Burials

12 James Burrows.

1872

Burials

12 George Sinfield, 22.

1873

Marriages

11 Leonard Matthews 21 to Charlotte Gudgin, 20.

16 George Wootton, 22, painter, to Julie Hill, 22 from Maulden.

22 William Webb, 23, groom, to Anne Case.

Burials

01 John Everitt, infant.

1923

Baptisms

07 Joan Mary Palmer, f a farmer from Haynes West End.

Ethel Lilian Bushby, f a silk maker from Coventry.

Marriages

21 Walter Thomas Izzard, 24, gardener to Anne Elizabeth Case (Care?) 23.

Burials

06 Charles Plowman, 76.

21 Martha Plowman, 75.

26 Marian Mossman, 43.

1973

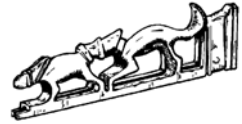
Baptisms

28 Paul Edward Bingley.

Burials

21 Philip Wallace King, 79.

**Amphill & District Archaeological
& Local History Society**
Monday 6th November 2023



Flitton and Greenfield in World War II (part 2)

Speaker: Margaret Butt

This talk continues the story from February this year when Margaret spoke to our society. It shows what life was like for the villagers and was mirrored by villages throughout England in the war years.

Flitwick Library Lecture Theatre, MK45 1QJ 7.30 for 7.45 pm start. Members free, visitors very welcome £5.00 payable on the door. The talk will also be broadcast live via Zoom to Society members.

**Clophill Lakes - establishment
works are underway**



We are delighted to let you know establishment work started at the site of our new nature reserve Clophill Lakes in early August with our contractors concentrating on installing the pathways and repairing bridges. The weather has been kind and allowed satisfactory progress.

Over the coming months, work will continue in establishing the site to allow public access next year. We will be installing services, building the infrastructure of the site and developing Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve. There is still a huge amount of work to be done but we are all excited to see the early stages of development.

Heavy machinery will be on site continually and we would like to remind people that the whole area is a building site and very dangerous - please do not attempt to access the site.



We will keep you informed of our progress and once we are further along the development, we will give an update on when we expect to be open.

We still need your donations to our appeal to help us progress this new nature reserve – please donate any amount you wish at:

www.greensandtrust.org/appeal/clophill-lakes

CLOPHILL PARISH COUNCIL

will be organising

Christmas Lights

Switch On

Sunday 3rd December 3 - 6pm

STALL HOLDERS WANTED

We are also looking for local businesses support
for donations towards event costs:

Lights, brass band, choir, Father Christmas
and gifts for children.

If you would like to help please contact:

clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk



Wildlife Trust for
**Beds, Cambs
& Northants**
Flit Vale Local Group

Wildlife walks & talks

October

**Sunday, October 8th, 9.30am for 10am start,
Amphill Park, West Car Park**

Seed Collection with Colin Carpenter

Park and meet in the west car park at TL0242 3820 (the one nearest the A507) at 9.30am onwards for a 10.00am start. We will be collecting English Oak, Beech, Hawthorn and Sweet Chestnut.

No charge, but donations welcome

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

For additional information or to reserve your place please email

flitvale.info@gmail.com.

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

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

World Mental Health Day - Tuesday 10th October



Every year 10th October marks World Mental Health Day to raise awareness of mental health, drive positive change and encourage discussions about looking after our mental health. This year the theme is 'Mental Health is a universal human right'.

At Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity, we have a number of services that can help those feeling isolated and alone or struggling with their mental health.

If you feel you need one-to-one support, our Social Prescribing service can help. Our team of Community Wellbeing Champions help people take control of their health and wellbeing and help people to connect with their local community, improve physical activity, and empower them to make decisions to support their health.

We have a range of Green Social Prescribing activities and courses available that are free to attend and help people to spend time in nature and look after their wellbeing.

Our Community Agents make home visits to older people living in towns and villages across Bedfordshire to help them with free support and assistance. Our Good Neighbour scheme supports groups to provide a 'safety net' for their local area, responding to requests from residents in need of a bit of extra help. We also provide wellbeing walks which are free and open to all.

MIND: You can access lots of information on the website, including tips for everyday living with mental health and for staying well at work. Visit www.mind.org.uk to find out more about looking after your mental health, the local support available and about World Mental Health Day.

Samaritans: If you feel like you need to talk to someone, you can contact them. Call 116 123 any time, from any phone for FREE. Find out more: www.samaritans.org

The Mental Health Foundation website has some tips on talking about your mental health, and talking to others about their mental health so you can have useful conversations and help each other. Visit www.mentalhealth.org.uk for more information.

Find out more about Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity and the ways we can help people struggling with their mental health at www.bedsrcc.org.uk or call us on 01234 838771.

Clophill Roundabout Improvement Works



IMPORTANT INFORMATION - UPCOMING TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

From Friday 20th Oct 23 – Monday 30th Oct 23, the A6 South Arm will have a full closure - 24/7 - Clophill Roundabout to the Silsoe High Street/ A6 junction.

Full depth reconstruction of the carriageway at Old Silsoe Road junction, drainage and utility road crossings, traffic island reconstruction, traffic signal installation and extensive carriageway resurfacing works being completed during the road closure.

Resident access to Old Silsoe Road/ Goodwood Close will be maintained at all times

Please be respectful to our staff and do not use abusive language.

Please adhere to the new speed limits in place.

We will continue to listen to local parishes and residents, taking onboard feedback and implementing measures to action issues raised.

Want to know more:

- Read regular updates on the notice board near the Co-op on Clophill Green
- Visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/clophill for more details
- Sign up for the ebulletin. Subscribe at: www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/clophill
- View the new flythrough for the scheme: youtu.be/p-N6cyYAN6w

Thank you for your ongoing patience during these works.

Greensand Community Methodist Church

Coffee and Croissants

Saturday 7th October

10am to 12 noon

Also to be held on

Saturday 11th November

Saturday 9th December



What's on in and around Clophill



OCT

Saturday 7th

Coffee & Croissants, Greensand Community Methodist Church, 10am – 12noon *See poster.*

Wednesday 11th

Harvest lunch, St. Mary's Church, 12noon – 3pm. *See poster.*



NOV

Saturday 11th

Coffee & Croissants, Greensand Community Methodist Church, 10am – 12noon *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 school holidays—2024

* Clophill Preschool, Stay and Play, 10-12 noon, Village Hall.

2nd to 5th April Easter Hunt, first 5 Fridays of the summer holidays, all £3 per child.

Wednesdays...

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

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

Thursdays...

* Lunchtime Winter Warmer, restarting 19th October, 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 Greensand Community Methodist Church, Clophill... Weekly Worship at the Church, Sundays at 10:30am.

Clophill United Charities

(Registered Charity No. 200034).



CLOPHILL UNITED CHARITIES IS HERE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL HELP TO THOSE PEOPLE LIVING IN OUR VILLAGE WHO MAY NEED IT AT THIS DIFFICULT TIME.

THIS HELP IS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE THAT YOU KNOW, MAY BE IN NEED OF OUR HELP THEN, PLEASE CONTACT ME.

ALL ENQUIRIES ARE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE.

There is a vacancy for a Trustee.

If you are interested in becoming a Trustee or would like more information, please contact me Val Martin.

Clerk to Trustees, on 01525 860900 or CUCclerk@gmail.com.

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 and Preschool	Tracy Hayes	860206
Clophill Toddler Group	Laura West	01525 860206
Clophill United Charities	Val Martin	860900
Conservation Group	Brian Adams	862297
Flower Club	Gillian Hill	860539
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	
	fosmcllophill@gmail.com	
Scouts and Cubs	www.scouts.org.uk/get-involved	
Tea and Chat	Anita Errick	860695
Village Hall Booking Secretary	Marylin Browning	07821 643936

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
LOCAL GOVERNMENT		
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
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 Anne Shegog	anneshegog@gmail.com	01525 864868
St Francis RC Church, Shefford		
01452 813436		
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 & Preschool (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		
Robert Bloomfield Middle School, Shefford		
01462 628800		



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It is wise to have a Will in place.

- ◇ **In recent years, the law relating to tax allowances has changed.** Check that your Will qualifies for the most recent allowances.
- ◇ **If you have no Will or your Will is invalid,** the State distributes your assets. This distribution may not be what you would have wished and could result in higher tax.
- ◇ **If you are in a second marriage or partnership,** you may wish to provide for your current spouse/partner as well as previous children.
- ◇ **If you are in a continuing relationship but are not married or a registered civil partner,** you have no automatic inheritance rights. You need protective Wills.
- ◇ **LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY ARE VITAL.** We should all have them. None of us are immune from accident or serious illness. If you do not have these documents in place, your assets are frozen. (including joint bank accounts). Even your spouse cannot act for you without first applying to Court for a Deputyship Order.

- ◆ We quote our fixed fees up front and believe in plain English
- ◆ We meet with you in informal surroundings and spend a lot of time making sure we get everything right and you are happy
- ◆ We advise on the most tax effective solutions.
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Shaws Wills and Trusts 01525 862053



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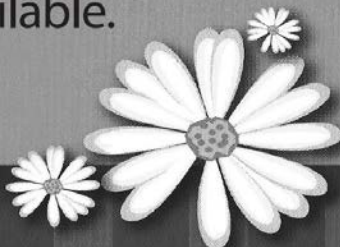
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For more information visit: www.clophillstmaryschool.co.uk



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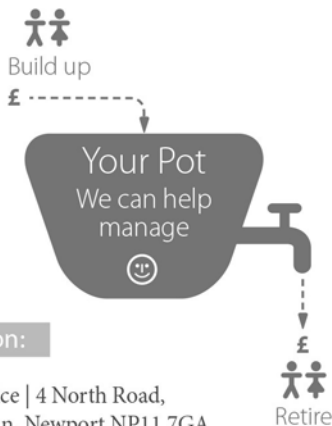
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