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FREE

CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

JULY 2024



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A word from the Editor...

Welcome to the July issue of Spotlight

Dear Reader,

The warmer weather has arrived at last, just in time for the Open Gardens weekend. It was a resounding success and made a significant amount of money for St. Mary's Church funds. Thank you to everyone involved in making it such a success; from the organisers, to those who helped run and support the two days, and to those who opened up their gardens to view.



This month we have the Garden Party at St Mary's on the 13th; turn to the poster on page 15 for details.

Spotlight takes a break now for the summer. I hope you all have a glorious summer wherever you are and whatever you do.

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

Come into the Garden

With Kate Gardner



As we move into July, I'm hoping that the weather will be a little kinder, by that I mean warmer and a little less wet than May and June have been. However, the rain has benefited the gardens, and it was great to see so many people visiting our wonderful Clophill Gardens during the Open Gardens weekend. Visiting gardens is a great way to gain ideas for your own patch and there is plenty of evidence that just being out in the garden is good for our health and wellbeing.

There are 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 what I hope will be a warm summer.

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 fresh 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 wonderful 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, & 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 suitable 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 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 which 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.

To keep your containers looking brilliant throughout the summer months remember to feed them at least weekly when you water. I use a seaweed or comfrey based liquid feed which gives lush leaves and good flowers. Watering in the evening gives the plants time to absorb the water and then they are better able to withstand hot summer days. When you are watering don't water the leaves but direct your water straight onto the soil as that way the water is being used where its needed rather than being lost to evaporation.

Happy Gardening

Ampthill Health Walks

Fortnightly walks in and around Ampthill

Short led walks, all welcome

Ampthill Health Walks are for anyone who wants to get more active. They are about **3 miles long** and last about an hour and a quarter. Everyone walks at their own brisk pace, with a backmarker to make sure no one is left behind. There may be some hills and in bad weather there might also be some mud but we do our best to minimise this!



The walks are all free and start at 10am.

Please note that dogs are not allowed on the walks and ensure you wear suitable footwear.

19th July Aspley Woods car park, Longslade Lane MK17 9HZ
2nd August Caffeine and Machine, Houghton Conquest MK45 3JP
16th August West Car Park, Ampthill Park MK45 2HX
30th August Woburn Car Park Woburn MK17 3PG
13th September Rufus Centre Flitwick MK45 1AH

After the walks we usually find a cafe or similar for refreshments.

We are a very friendly group so why not come along to one of our walks and see if it's for you?

For more information contact Mike Fayers on mikef@bedsrcc.org.uk
or 01234 832619

Reflections – Clophill in Aug/Sept 1979 - Voices from the past.

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

Well, it looks like I had a bit of a typo last month when talking about **Jacques Lane** and I apologise. It was never 'Jacks' Lane, it was 'Jakes' up to the 1871



census and then it became 'Jacques'. According to a website Jakes was originally spelled Jacques. Like its equivalent Jack, it was intended as a generic male name, so someone going to the toilet could euphemistically say they were going to visit Jacques / Jakes." Well, there you go, you live and learn!

Now to get on with **Spotlight Aug/Sept 1979** and here's another **Tug-of-War team** of fine muscular fellows, this time representing the 'Flying Horse' at the 1978

Church Fete and prominent on the cover of that month's **Spotlight**.

Interestingly, the **Editorial** covers "concern expressed on the subject of the siting of a **new airport**." under which Clophill would be on the flight path. This was the suggestion that a third London airport could be at Hoggaston, near Wing or at Yardley Chase and opposition to it was being rallied by the Misses Gillett who used to live near the church. It seems that Clophill would have been in the line of the runway for the Hoggaston site and under the stacking area of the Yardley Chase one. How different the village would be if those plans had been passed. I wonder if it would it have expanded to its current size?

In a '**Letter to the Editor**', the then Rector of St. Mary's Church, Philip Swindells thanked everyone for their support of the Church Dedication Festival which was held in July (and this year, it will be in September). He writes "the attendance at the various events was excellent and the wealth of talent presented by so many people was quite staggering." He says that a previous parishioner "described the village as 'The most wonderful place on earth'; certainly nearly everyone I meet here says that there is nowhere they would rather live. The Festival showed what can be done by a community of people willing to work together to a common end." Well, nothing changes there then. The sense of community and support is still as strong 45 years on.

In another '**Letter ..**' Mike Benson writes that the application to Eastern Gas for an extension of supply to the village would require "a contribution in excess of £1,400 per customer from at least 90 potential customers." It didn't happen! Other articles include congratulations to **Barbara Hudson** who won top honours at the East of England show for her floral arrangements.

Reflections – Clophill in June 1979 (continued ...)

The **Parish Council** received complaints about the state of the burial ground, car parking at the 'Stone Jug', Mill Lane and on the pavement by the 'Green Man', while the **Village Hall Committee** halted bookings of discos due to complaints "about noise and drunken and obscene behaviour accompanying these events."

The Guides had great successes – Susan Page gained her Queen's Guide badge and Linda Howell passed her Camp Permit test. A rather lovely idea was that "Each month we shall be printing the names of youngsters between 2 and 13 whose birthdays occur during that particular month of issue." So, names were sent in, put in a hat and one received "a £1 gift token." The first two to be mentioned were Melanie and Lara Gibbs whose birthdays were in August and September so both got a voucher. Lucky girls. The recipe for '**Apple Snow**' looks remarkably easy – stewed and pureed apples, mixed with whisked and 'peaked' egg whites – that's my kind of recipe!

The **Methodist Church** held two very successful events – the Sunday School Anniversary when lessons were read by Amanda Telford, Clare O'Connor and Kathryn Naylor with recitations from Dawn Chapman, Rachel Bodiley, Susan Errick and Emma Naylor and a Tea and Coffee evening at the home of Mr & Mrs Bernard Sharp of 'Dawnbreak', Kiln Lane. Another Coffee evening was to raise funds for **St. Mary's Church** and held at the home of Mr and Mrs Bale of 55, High Street. So, lots of coffee and tea drunk and funds raised for both churches. As you read through this, I am sure that you will think 'No change there then!'

Clophill United Football Club

The club is run by volunteers and our website provides more details - www.clophillunitedfc.org.uk. We are always happy to be contacted by parents/guardians of players who would like to discuss playing opportunities (from Reception/Year 1 to U18). Training and matches take place in various locations; unfortunately, a large enough piece of land is not available in Clophill to allow the whole club to train and play matches in the same location.

2023/24 Season

The club fielded 9 teams with 113 registered players: 30 in the Lower School age groups U6 to U9, and 83 in U12 to U18 age categories. 20 coaches supported the players and teams and 32% of the players are from Clophill. As the teams progress through the age groups, more players are required when they play 5, 7, 9 and 11 a-side. The teams played in three leagues: Mid Beds Mini League (U7 to U9), Chiltern Junior 7s (U10 to U12) and Beds Youth Saturday League (U13 to U18).

Clophill United Football Club (continued ...)

Congratulations to all our teams for brilliant performances this year. As a comparatively small village club, we have had a very successful season, arguably the most successful to date. Our St Mary's age group teams are all non-competitive (where the Football Association mandates that results are not published) but have achieved great success this year, including our U6 Lion Cubs at the Ramsey Manor tournament. The U12 Panthers finished top of Division 4, having lost only 2 games all season. Our U14 Tigers finished top of Division 3 were unbeaten all season, and made it to the Plate final where they had their only off-day, losing to Sundon Park Rangers. Our U16 Pumas topped their Division 1, losing only two games all season, and made it to the League Cup Final. Unfortunately, they narrowly lost out to Crawley Green Vipers, who they'd beaten in the league.

The U16 Jaguars and U18 Lions also had strong seasons, finishing mid-table in their respective Division 1 and Division 2 leagues.

Congratulations to all our players, coaches, and parents/guardians, **and thank you** for all your hard work throughout the season. The club understands we all have busy lives, and it takes a great deal of collaboration to make it all happen. I would also like to thank the committee (the 'backroom' staff) who strive to create and maintain the environment in which our teams can participate and enjoy football.

Preparations are already in progress for the 2024/25 season, and we are looking forward to building upon our success when we go again in September!

Matthew Crannis - *Chairman*



Cubs at the Ramsey Manor tournament. The



St Mary's School News

from Mrs. Bingley our Headteacher:

It's been an exciting June at St. Mary's! First of all, we held a special day around our linked charity this year – MAF – Mission Aviation Fellowship.



MAF works in partnership with hundreds of other organisations to provide help and much need supplies to some of the world's most remote and inaccessible communities. On Wednesday 5th June, we held a day to learn more about MAF which included a visit from a MAF plane to our playground! All of the children loved sitting in the cockpit like a pilot.

During June, both a Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 group of children travelled to other schools to take part in athletics festivals with other schools from our cluster. The children had a fantastic time and, once again, were brilliant ambassadors for our school.

In the middle of June, we held our Fundraising Fun Day to celebrate all of the fundraising work we've done over the year and to collect even more money for our chosen charity, MAF. Premier Sports organised this exciting day with sporting activities both inside and outside including glow in the dark dodgeball, laser tag, tri-golf and cricket to name but a few!

June also saw our Key Stage 2 children travel to Go Ape in Northamptonshire for their end of year trip. They tackled high ropes courses and some ground based gorilla games!

Don't forget, you can keep up to date about school events by visiting our website: www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk

or joining our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/clophillstmarysschool

Acorn Nursery news

from Mrs. Hayes our Early Years Leader:

We have had another wonderful month in Acorn Nursery. We have continued to learn about our topic 'Come Outside'. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about all the different vehicles in and around our environment. Lots of children would love the experience of a hot air balloon ride or a trip in a space rocket! The children have been using both small and large construction toys to make models representing different forms of transport.

A memorable highlight this month was a real aeroplane coming to our school! All of the children who were in Acorn Nursery that day sat in the pilot or co-pilot's seat and pretended to fly the plane! We all put our hands in feely boxes to feel items the plane would carry on their missions, such as first aid equipment and food. We then enjoyed flying our paper aeroplanes - What a wonderful opportunity!



We have also enjoyed lots of Eco activities while on our Acorn Adventures!

A favourite this month was making natural play-dough with lots of daisies, clovers, dandelions and grasses the children harvested from the grass. It was so pretty!

Our Values for July are Courage and Confidence:

In school, especially with school and class transitions coming up, we will talk about what we're afraid of and go on to consider how we can overcome our fears. We will think about the importance of talking to friends and family when we are worried. We will also look at examples of others who have shown courage and reflect on times when we have been brave, considering how that made us feel. We will also discuss how bravery doesn't just mean physical feats but also to words and actions that we use daily, like standing up for what you know is right.

At home, you may like to examine this 'thought for the month' and discuss its meaning: ***"Sometimes the biggest act of courage is a small one."***

This month, as a family, you could try and do something reasonably challenging like removing the stabilisers from a bike or jumping into the swimming pool for the first time. As a family you could also discuss the importance of talking about your worries and how you can overcome them bravely, together.

NEEDED: Forest School Volunteers!

We need VOLUNTEERS to help with our fantastic FOREST SCHOOL provision next year. If you would be interested in spending time in gorgeous woodland on a Wednesday morning with a small group of fantastic Year 1 children, please take a look at the information and form by visiting our website here:

www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk click on the Curriculum tab/ Forest School tab/ Volunteering at Forest School page.

Full training and support will be provided. Once you have read the information, if you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Clophill Parish Council

A quiet meeting at the village hall this month, probably due to the England match and sunshine!

The 20mph zone petition for the village was presented to the Traffic Management Committee on the 11th June by Cllr Brough. The petition was noted and the officers were actioned to reach out and discuss with residents. The CPC will be writing to CBC to take this forward.

CBC Ward Councillors will be doing a monthly ward councillor drop in at the Wednesday Methodist Church tea and chat; the first of these will be 10th July.

The Clerk Vacancy has been filled, and from 10th July Tim Hill will be joining the council.



Clophill Parish Council

Planning Applications

CB/24/01176/FULL 14 Great Lane

Proposal: Proposed two storey and first floor front extension, new front door and new lean-to porch.

SUPPORT

CB/TCA/24/00240 26 The Slade

Proposal: Works to trees within a Conservation Area: Large Oak tree opposite 26 the Slade that is dead inside, needs felling as is in danger of falling on 26 The Slade.

NO COMMENT

The next meeting will be held on 23rd July, 7:45pm at Clophill Village Hall.

Tibbs Dementia Foundation

Is Dementia an Issue for You?

Bedfordshire's Tibbs Dementia Foundation is here to support you. We have been helping local people with dementia and their family carers for over 10 years, to continue to live as well as possible. We would love to meet you and welcome you to our community.



Registered Charity no.
1166596

Our wide range of regular activities for people at all stages of dementia include Music for Memory, a walking group, Cognitive Stimulation Therapy, walking football, indoor and outdoor bowls, exercise classes and an allotment.

Our programme for family carers includes information sessions and support groups and also a bereavement group. There is also a special group for carers whose loved one is in a care home. For dates and times call us on 01234 210993 or take a look at our Service Timetable on our website - tibbsdementia.co.uk

How Should I Take the First Step?

Sign up for our weekly email newsletter, which is packed with activities and information. Just email contact@tibbsdementia.co.uk

Join us for an informal afternoon for people with dementia and their carers, every Tuesday from 2-4pm at Kempston East Methodist Church, 227 Bedford Road MK42 8DA. We start with a few table games, moving on to a variety of stimulating activities, and ending with a few songs around the piano – with plenty of tea and cake of course! Carers are welcome to take part, or chat to each other or our helpers if they prefer.

St Mary's Church, Clophill



A Celebration Exhibition

A Festival to mark the 175th Anniversary
of the dedication of the New Church

What do you know about the church?

Why was it built?

Who paid for it?

Who was John Mendham?

To find out, come to an Exhibition on :-

7th and 8th September

12 noon – 4pm each day

There will be **Exhibits** and **Artefacts** showing the history of the Church enhanced by **Flowers** arranged by Members of **Clophill and District Flower Club**

Admission free – donations welcome

Delicious refreshments served in the Church

Clophill Community Hubdate

The Clophill Community Hub continues to go from strength with demand growing and an ongoing improvement in our supply chain. Which in simple terms means we are hopefully helping more and more people manage their household budgets in difficult times and stopping perfectly good foodstuffs ending up in landfill!

I hope lots of you enjoyed Clophill Open Gardens where we were blessed with a wonderful sunny weekend and some stunning gardens on show.

My Hub colleagues Andy & Kate Gardner not only opened their garden but actually created a refreshment stop featuring drinks and home-produced products all of which originated from donations from Tesco and the Community Fridge in Flitwick. Indeed, the preserves on sale were made by Kate from fruit and vegetables that would have otherwise gone into landfill. A brilliant initiative by Andy and Kate which resulted in them raising £390 for the Clophill Hub.



Our current focus is to try and raise funds to install a fridge in the Hub so we can provide a wider range of products and extend their shelf life. We do not have power in the Hub or the adjacent garage so it is slightly more complex than simply buying a fridge. We need to run power from the Village Hall down to the Hub building which is not easy or cheap to do, but we will do our best to make it happen in the next few months.

One thing that does help us budget our offering is the cash donations we receive via Direct Debit each month. We are so grateful to receive this money as it enables us to “go shopping” to fill the gaps we have in our various product donations. So I would ask anyone who feels they could donate few pounds on a regular basis to contact me on clophillhub@gmail.com and I will help you get set up on a regular bank transfer.

As always thanks to our small team of volunteers who collect contributions, stock the Hub and open and close the Hub six days a week. Without them giving up their time the Hub simply could not continue.

Steve Langhorn

Claphill Preschool News

Hello everyone,

This month we are delighted to announce that we are in the first cohort to achieve the Healthy Child Healthy Workforce accreditation with Central Bedfordshire Council which reflects the high level of support and care we have in place for our children, their families and our staff; keeping mental health and wellbeing at our heart.

We are growing our team to meet the huge interest that continues for our outdoor preschool. Sadly, we will also be saying goodbye to some wonderful staff: Kirsty is moving down south with her husband's job and Becky will be setting up home on the coast with her fiancé. We wish them well and thank them for their passion and dedication. Of course, it's the time of year when we will also be saying goodbye to our top cohort of children as they take the next step in their education journey. The staff and leavers have been practising for their end of year show for the parents with their songs and signing. It's always a very emotional day with our Graduation picnic awards and show. It's followed by an afternoon of fun with Animal Edge farm when we invite the rest of our children and parents as well as those that attend our Friday Parent and Toddler Group. It should be a great way to end our 11th year!



Meanwhile we continue to prepare our leavers for their next exciting step. In this final year with us, they are invited to join our Adventure Friday group, it's integral to who we are. We started them way back in 2017 with 6 children, we took them outside for the whole day offering a variety of natural crafts and started to teach them about the wider environment. What was soon very evident was that they didn't want the resources we had set up, they wanted the freedom to explore their natural surroundings; they were fascinated by the minutiae of life around them, they wanted to climb trees, lift rocks

and walk the local footpaths. The less resources we gave them the more they dipped into nature. Adventure Fridays also lent themselves to the children testing themselves physically and mentally on a level above that which preschool usually offers, they started to engage in riskier play, as Thrive Outdoors Scotland suggests: *'It's not about children blindly taking dangerous risks, it can often be something as small as a child deciding to climb a tree that little bit higher or jump that little bit further.'*

It's the child who makes the decision on how far to push their own boundaries with guidance from staff on how to manage their own risks, and encouragement to test themselves. Our Adventure Fridays have produced results in our children's development that we still marvel at: high levels of resilience, self-awareness, improved mental health, problem solving, communication skills and confidence, all vital to these little learners as they leave our preschool.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS

It's all happening at St. Mary's Church at the moment. Many of you will have enjoyed our Open Gardens weekend which was blessed by beautiful weather, if a little hot after what we have been having! It was great to see so many people walking round our lovely village and to hear their appreciative comments. 14 gardens were



open showing a variety of types from courtyard to large, wild to manicured, works in progress to mature, secluded to spectacular and everything in between, and all well worth seeing. Enormous thanks are due to everyone who helped to make the weekend such a success from the owners to the washer-uppers. You know who you are and we are hugely grateful, especially to so many who are not regular church members who give their time and expertise unstintingly. The first count shows that we raised a very much needed approaching £4,000! Again many thanks for your generosity.

Our next event on July 13th is a chance to say goodbye and thank you to our Rector, who is retiring the following day after a service in Maulden Church at 4.00pm with the Bishop of St. Albans. We are holding a Garden Party in the churchyard (fingers crossed and hands together!) and if you'd like to come you can order a cream tea in advance for £10.

We at St. Mary's will be sorry to see her go, but she leaves us in much better heart than she found us and she has been very active visiting people across the village. Thank you, Lynda, from all of us.

Finally we are gearing up for our 175th anniversary exhibition and flower display on Sept 7th/8th (and there will be cake!) with a celebration of Holy Communion with the Bishop of Bedford on Sunday at 11 o'clock. We'd love to see you at either of these events. The exhibition will be opened by Professor Dame Helen Atkinson, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the School of Aeronautics at Cranfield University and one of the Deputy Lords Lieutenant of Bedfordshire. We hope to put on a good show for her and if you have any relevant photos, artefacts or information please let us know at St. Mary's. There is more explanation on the poster elsewhere in this magazine.

Parish Registers for July and August

1824

Baptisms

July 18 Richard, s of Benjamin and Ann Chapman.
William, s of William and Elizabeth Arnold (?)
(?), s of John and Sophia Ansell (?)

Aug 08 One indecipherable
Isaac, s of John and Dorcas Chalkley (?)
Joseph, s of William and Sarah Redman (?)
Rhoda, d of William and Mary Roberts
James (?) s of John and Elizabeth Hare (?)

24 (Blot!) d of John and Sarah Lobb (?)

Burials

July 27 Mary Pack, widow.

1874

Baptisms

July 26 Ernest, s of John and Diana Whittamore.

Kate, d of Emily Kedge.

Aug 10 Florence, d of Joseph and Sarah Stephens.

The first record of the name in our register since it was given to Florence Nightingale who was born in Florence.

26 Annie, d of Emily Wood of Luton.

30 Ann, d of Charles and Louisa Whittamore of Gravenhurst.

Sarah Amelia, d of William and Mary Ann Gudgin.

Burials

July 18 Benjamin Coley, 75.

21 Joseph Dudley, 86.

Aug 20 Florence Stephens, 18 months.

27 Kate Kedge, 10 weeks.

Both baptised last month.

1924

Baptisms

Aug 31 Henry Major, s of Henry and Maud Jones, f a clerk.

Burials

July 08 Emma Cole, 79.

09 Alice Prince, 3.

1974

Burials

June 26 Anne White, 81 (omitted in error).

July 12 Emily Jane Woodward.

15 Mary Ann Garrett.

St. MARY'S CHURCH REGISTERS JUNE 2024

Baptism

June 02 Emmett Hazen Louis Nagel.

Burial of ashes

June 22 Raymond John Jones of Flitwick, 92.

St Mary's Church. Clophill

Please come to

A Garden Party

and Picnic Tea

Sat. 13th July

from 2.30pm

Rock Choir at 4pm

Picnic boxes may be ordered

Pimms and drinks served

Admission by Ticket £10

available from Gillian 01525 860539, Gill 01525 861058, Carolyn 01462 815433

Everyone welcome.

From painting the stones for the Clophill open gardens trail, to catching the bus and paying for their own tickets with correct change, to planning their own first sports day; the children have been rushed off their feet this past month!

Following on with our 'Seaside's in the past' study,



the children used the typewriter to write an invitation for their families to join us at 'Fledglings-on-sea' for our immersive Victorian seaside day. They then walked to the post office to purchase their own stamps, wrote their addresses on the envelope and posted them home. The children were very excited to see King Charles on the stamp and it led to lots of discussions about stamps they had seen previously and some children designing their own stamps of their favourite things.

The children learnt all about Victorian bathing machines and decided they wanted to teach the older adults from Beverley Court about

them too! The children and older adults then spent a whole afternoon working together to create their own tiny bathing machines out of shoeboxes. A fun, creative afternoon had by all!

The children are becoming more and more independent in their learning and even our very youngest four year olds are now able to measure out all of their own ingredients independently. Another crucial life skill practised to perfection. Our older children are already looking forward to September when they will begin to prepare and cook hot lunches for the rest of the setting each week, using the fresh produce they have grown in the allotment.



We are enjoying every second of the final few weeks of term and the staff have been reflecting on how lucky we are to have had such a wonderful first year in Clophill. The community have been so welcoming to us all and we could not be prouder of ourselves for following our dreams and curating an educational programme that meets the needs of today's children.



Can you help us tell the story of Clophill Lakes?



As we are preparing Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve, we're looking to gather as much information on the site as we can. This will help us to learn more about it and the stories that local people have, informing the interpretation we have on site and on our website.

Clophill Lakes has a rich history, from the medieval Cainhoe Castle and later moated site to the Fuller's Earth quarry, always being an important part of the village. As we are recording the history of the site, we want to make sure local stories are captured too: those that worked, played, and appreciated the site. This might be what the site looked like before the quarrying, working or seeing the quarrying, and its subsequent restoration.

Please get in touch!

If you have any memories or stories we would love to hear from you, as it will build up our oral history archive about the site. Alternatively, if you just wanted to write down some memories that is great.



We are also on the hunt for any photographs of the site, particularly from when it was a quarry or being restored. These can be digital or hard copy, and we will arrange collection, scanning, and return of any items. You will of course be correctly credited for any images supplied.

If you would like to get involved volunteering on this project, helping with interviews and transcription, we would welcome your support.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Daniel Bowles

Partnership Coordinator

The Greensand Trust

daniel.bowles@greensandtrust.org 01234 743666



Coffee and Croissants

Greensands Community

Methodist Church

Clophill Hub

10am to 12 noon



Saturday 13th July

Saturday 10th August

All Welcome



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



Wildlife walks & talks

July : August

**July 27th Saturday, Nation Trust car park (LU6 2GY),
10.00am**

Butterfly Walk* at Whipsnade Downs with Dr Wilf Powell

Come and join butterfly enthusiast Wilf as we search for some of the lovely species to be found on the Downs. Parking is £3.50 for the day (ticket machines take card or cash).
*£4.00 per adult

**August 3rd Saturday, Jack Crawley Barn, Brook Lane, Flitton,
10.00am**

Dragonflies and Damselflies* with John Curd

Come along to this lovely reserve and join John as he shares his expertise and enthusiasm for these charismatic creatures. We hope to see several species this morning.
*£4.00 per adult

Booking for outdoor Flit Vale events is essential, as places are limited.

Please contact Ann by email: flitvale.info@gmail.com or

Phone (leave a message or text if you prefer) 075801 78889 to reserve your place.

The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs & Northants

Registered charity number: 1000412

www.wildlifebcn.org

Flit Vale Local Group

www.wildlifebcn.org/flit-vale-local-group

What's on in and around Clophill



JULY

Saturday 13th

Garden Party, St. Mary's Church, from 2:30pm. *See poster.*

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



AUGUST

Saturday 10th

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



SEPTEMBER

Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th

A Celebration Exhibition, St. Mary's Church, 12noon – 4pm each day. *See poster.*

Plus....

Weekdays during term time

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

Also open on Saturdays 10:30am to 2:30pm.

Mondays...

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

Tuesdays... in school holidays - 2024

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

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

Wednesdays...

* Tea and Chat, Greensand Community Methodist Church, 10:30am – 12noon.

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

Thursdays...

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

Fridays ...

* Little Saplings, Stay and Play 9:30am – 11:00am, Acorn Nursery at St. Mary's School.

Fridays... during term time

* Clophill Parent & 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.

Useful numbers

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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		Alistair Strathern	TBA
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

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 Parent and Toddler Group		
	Imogen	07765 887868
Clophill Preschool	Imogen	07765 887868
	Chris	07936 006381
Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School, Nursery and Preschool		
	Tracy Hayes	860206
Clophill United Charities	Val Martin	07845 731134
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	
	fosmclophill@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



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- ◇ Was your Will home made? If so, you could be storing up difficulties for the family and higher tax could be payable.
- ◇ Executors are personally liable. Are they still willing and able?
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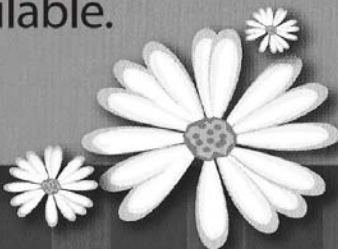
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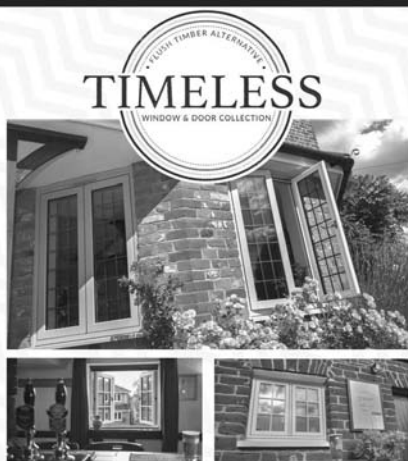


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