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FREE

CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

MAY 2025

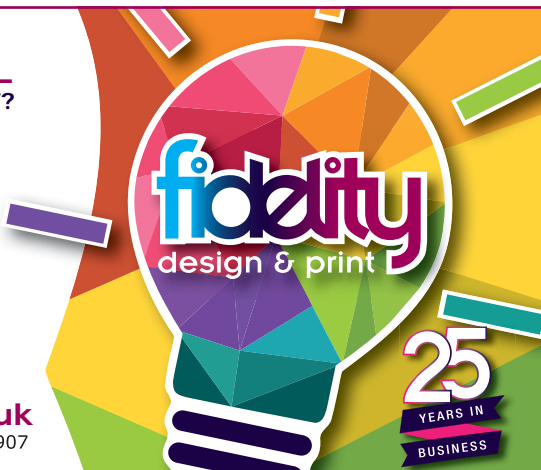
A close-up photograph of a red squirrel with a large, bushy tail, perched on a weathered tree stump. The squirrel is looking towards the left of the frame. The background is a solid, vibrant green.

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A word from the Editor...

Welcome to the May issue of Spotlight

Dear Reader,

This month on page 14 we have the start of a new series from Sue Pearson. Over the next 6 issues finishing in November, she is remembering the lives of the 6 men from the village, listed on our War memorial, who fought and lost their lives in the 2nd World War.

Now that the nature reserve is open, we have a final update on page 5 from the Greensand Trust. And of course, all our regular wonderful pieces from the schools and other contributors, plus St Mary's church which is hosting the annual village fete this weekend on the 10th. If the sun shines as it has been for the last month or so it should be a fantastic afternoon.

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

With the changes in weather, I thought it could be good to have a quick look at those pests and diseases that are causing concern and which the RHS are actively monitoring.

Chestnut blight (*Cryphonectria parasitica*) is a fungal disease that poses a significant threat to sweet chestnut in the UK. It has devastated American chestnut in Northern America and sweet chestnut in Europe. Look out for cankers (swollen or sunken) on the trunk, on which masses of yellow orange to red-brown pustules (fruiting bodies) form. Branches die back and eventually the tree may be killed.

Oriental chestnut gall wasp (*Dryocosmus kuriphilus*) is a small insect (2.5-3mm) with a black body and orange-brown legs whose larvae feed within the buds of trees. Look out for green, rose-coloured or red galls up to 4cm in diameter on the buds, leaves, and leaf stalks which causes leaf distortion as a result of the growth of the galls. Leaves affected by the gall wasp can drop early or remain on the tree throughout the winter.

Oak processionary moth (OPM) (*Thaumetopoea processionea*) are defoliating pests of oak. The caterpillars have allergy-inducing hairs that can cause breathing problems and rashes. The caterpillars are covered in long white hairs and move in distinctive nose to tail processions and produce white webbing nests in oak trees in early summer.

#NoMowMay is a national campaign run by Plantlife, the British conservation charity that is working nationally and internationally to save threatened wildflowers, plants and fungi. Once again, they are encouraging us to resist mowing our lawns until the end of May in order to boost the flowers and nectar available to pollinating insects, such as bees, butterflies and moths.

Campaign research has revealed that mowing your lawn less frequently can provide enough food for ten times the number of bees, butterflies, moths, beetles and other pollinators. A recent study found that rural honeybees have to fly further to find food than their urban counterparts, which suggests that wild flowers are much less abundant than those grown in the gardens of more built-up areas.

This time of year, is nesting season so always check for signs of activity before getting out the pruners. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 protects bird nests, so it is an offence to damage or destroy them. Smaller shrubs are less likely to hide a nest but be especially cautious if tackling dense or mature shrubs and trees. Only start work once you are happy you will not be disturbing wildlife and stop immediately if you have any suspicion birds may be nesting. If need be, you can complete the work after August when nesting season should be over.



Cut back tender shrubs such as Penstemon, Caryopteris and Fuchsia after the danger of frost has passed. Prune spring-flowering shrubs such as japonica or Japanese quince (Chaenomeles), Choisya and Ribes after flowering. Remove one stem in three from Kerria and Spiraea and shorten the other flowered stems to a suitable sideshoot. Evergreens such as Viburnum tinus can also still be trimmed this month. These all flower on the wood that grows over the summer so don't be tempted to leave this to the autumn as you will be cutting off all of next Springs flowers.

Prune overcrowded, dead or diseased stems of Clematis montana once it has finished flowering. Untangling the stems can be fiddly, but once you can see where you are cutting, you need not worry about pruning this plant as it will take being cut down to about 30 cms very well.

Happy Gardening everyone

Reflections – Clophill in May 1980 - Voices from the past.

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

Well, the front cover shows something which you will now see no longer looking like this – the frontage to the Green Man public house!

Looking inside the cover, there's an advertisement for something else that you won't see any more, but still so relevant. It has the title of COLLECT WASTE- COLLECT MONEY! It goes on to say "So



you despair of the things that you have to put in your dustbin and plastic objects we throw away? Well, some of these things can be **collected and sold for charity** or club funds." The guides collected newspaper; Robert Bloomfield School collected silver paper in aid of Guide Dogs for the Blind and ring pulls from drinks cans by the Cub Scouts in aid of Kidney Machines. (Well done those groups.)

Other topics filling the pages include **Parish Council** activities – and here "The District Council has submitted its proposed alterations to the **Clophill Boundary** – Cainhoe Manor area to Gravenhurst; Land S of Warren Farm to Silsoe and Hall End from Maulden to Clophill." Residents are encouraged to write in support of the latter as Maulden was expected to object. "It is hoped that an arrangement can be made with Silsoe concerning the transfer of the County Garage area (*now the Jet*) to Clophill".

Reflections – Clophill in April 1980 - continued ...

Under the heading of 'Change of Scenery' "Now that the **River Water Authority** have dredged the River Flitt and have built up the banks in the vicinity of the **Flying Horse** car park, Whitbread, the brewers, plan to landscape the grounds."

The report from the Village Hall mentions its hoped for storage extension; plans for the annual fete and a craft exhibition in September organised by Sylvia Lammas. She was also paid tribute as "the best booking secretary the hall has ever had" at the AGM when a new Committee was elected with Mac Ilett (Chairman), Jeffery Berliner (Secretary), Ian Selth (Treasurer), Sylvia Lammas (Booking Sec), Wendy Berliner, Carol Mew, Frankie Lovatt and Keith Fossey.

The **Kiln Youth Club** was looking for equipment - tennis racquets and balls, cricket bats and balls - or anything! There were some **musically talented** children in the village 40 years ago – and I am sure that there are some today as well. Hazel Brooks- 8yrs (distinction), Jane Turton - 8 yrs (Merit), Jane Miller- 8yrs and Zoe Wardely - 11 yrs each gained their Piano grade 1 exams, while William Knowles - 11 yrs gained grade III violin with merit as well as his piano grade V.

This rather caught my eye along with recipes for Chocolate Crunch and Raspberry Mousse and the activities of the five pubs – Tug-o-War and Darts, all five hostelries sporting busy teams – it's '**Local History**'. The first of the series has as its title '**Old Clophill Shops – part one**'. "Today there are only two surviving general stores in the village from an age when the people of Clophill had to shop locally and could purchase all their clothes, shoes, etc from the village, which they left only on very rare occasions. We don't have to go back so far to find about fifteen shops within the village. We are unable to give accurate dates, but we believe we are correct in saying that these shops were around Clophill during the first 50 years of this century. A general stores once stood on the left hand side at the top of Jacques Lane, owned by the Stimson family. Part of Tony Ashton's property (that is to the right of 80 High Street), used to be a sweet and hardware shop owned by the Parkinson family. A store run by Betsy Maudling at 58 High Street, specialised in sweets and meat. At this shop a pig was cut up and sold about once a week after it had been cared for and fattened up by various people in the village, the food being supplied by the local mill. Wooton House near the Causeway was another very pleasant village shop until very recently. Many people will remember Mrs Wooton bless her. This was Clophill's first Post Office and, as well as the shop, local people went there to be measured for their new suits. A pony and trap was also operated to take patients to the doctor's or to market. A shop was run by Mr J. Smith in a wooden building on the corner of the cross roads opposite 'The Flying Horse'. Mr Smith was a Parish and Church Councillor and was a very well-known and respected parishioner. There were toys, sweets, groceries, 2d (2 pence) draught boards, drapery etc. all sold at 7 High Street in a shop run by Mrs Mead and her sister. Another former owner, a Mr Harris, is said to have drowned himself in a garden water butt!" Well, that's an ending – in more ways than one!

Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve Now Open



The Greensand Trust was delighted to open Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve on Saturday 5th April. The new nature reserve provides stunning lakes and wetlands, alongside the nationally important Cainhoe Castle Scheduled Monument, with the Greensand Ridge forming the backdrop to the north.



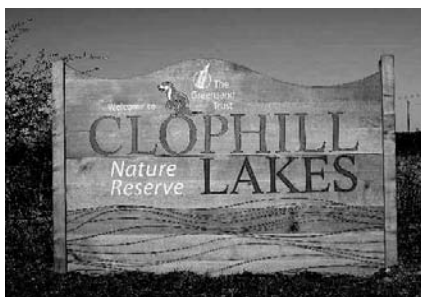
In establishing the site as a Nature Reserve The Greensand Trust's vision is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and rich heritage of this remarkable site, whilst providing sensitive, sustainable public access and promoting understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of this landscape.

With much of the reserve being recognised as a County Wildlife Site, the Nature Reserve is managed to provide a mosaic of habitats supporting a wide range of species including otters, dragonflies and damselflies and wetland birds.

We're asking visitors to help safeguard the site and its wildlife by following the paths and keeping **dogs on a lead at all times** to help protect its tranquil landscape, wildlife rich habitats and prevent erosion of its historic and cultural heritage, the Cainhoe Castle Scheduled Monument.

Receive a warm welcome at the Riverside Café (open 10am to 3pm daily) serving light snacks and barista coffee from local suppliers Wooden Hill. Open 9am – 5pm, 7 days a week the site is cashless and payment for parking by card or contactless is **on exit** (£3.50 for up to 3 hours or £5.50 for over 3 hours).

All funds raised contribute towards the day-to-day running of the Nature Reserve which is run on a not-for-profit basis for the benefit of both visitors and wildlife.



For more information please visit www.greensandtrust.org/clophill-lakes-nature-reserve or to donate please go to www.greensandtrust.org/appeal/clophill-lakes

Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve is located at Shefford Road, Beadlow, Beds SG17 5TR

Clophill Village Hall – Annual Report 2025

The financial year 2024-2025 has seen the Village Hall reporting a deficit of £1,554 which is almost entirely driven by repairs to the fire alarm system and emergency lighting which are clearly non negotiables when running our type of operation, otherwise our other performance metrics remain very satisfactory.

Over and above the costs of maintenance we have invested in a new online booking system which should make the customer interaction with us a lot slicker. This is supported by a fully upgraded website, again which should help prospective customers see what we have to offer and ensure the interface between the website and the booking system is seamless, but as always, we will always offer prospective customers the opportunity to talk to a human being to ensure their needs are fully met!

This year represents something of a change in the makeup of the Village Hall Management Committee. Significantly the core of the Committee that came together some 22 years ago have decided to 'call it a day' and step down from the Committee, me included, and pass on our legacy on to a new team.

The core of the Committee came together in 2003 when we were operating in a rather old and decrepit hall that had long since passed its 'sell-by' date and despite the valiant efforts of Tina Goddard-Mason the outgoing chair, the Committee had been frustrated in raising the necessary funds to replace the hall.

I took up the role of Chair at that time and was joined by a number of my ex St Mary's PTA Committee members in building a new Committee to try and raise the funds to build the new hall. To cut a long story short we managed to raise over £400,000 much of which came from the National Lottery (about £700,000 in today's money) and in 2004 Roger Catton and the late great Keith Fossey ceremonially dug the first sods of earth to kick off the project (the picture still hangs in the Committee Room at the hall).

The inevitable consequence of this group staying together for around 22 years is that as they came together, they would most likely step down together which has been the case this year, but hopefully this raises the opportunity for some new blood to join the Committee and take the Village Hall to its next stage.

I would like to thank all those individuals who have served on the Committee (too many to mention here) and unselfishly offered their own time to maintain and develop what I still believe is one of the finest village Halls in Bedfordshire.

Special thanks also go to the Clophill Parish Council who in its various forms has always supported us in providing a vital service to residents of Clophill and beyond.

I wish the new Committee all the very best for the future.

Steve Langhorn

St Mary's School News

from Mrs. Bingle our Headteacher:

We have just returned from our Easter break, as I write this, and have only had a few days of April within school.

However, the beginning of April was very busy with us holding a special assembly for Mrs. Daniels who retired from school after nearly 25 years of service. We will miss Mrs. Daniels a lot but wish her all the best for her retirement.

We also ended the term with Rowan class leading our Easter service, presenting 'The Three Trees' in Church to their parents/carers and the rest of the school.

On Thursday 3rd we held a Religion and World Views Day all about Easter with the children thinking about different elements of the story and completing special activities linked to these.

Now that we're back in school, this week we are thinking about Earth Day and all the things we can do to look after and protect our planet. The whole school is taking part in creating a mural out of used bottle tops that will sit proudly on display outside Rowan class when completed. We will also share a photo of it via our Facebook page.

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: <https://www.facebook.com/clophillstmarysschool>

Jake the School Dog:



Jake is very happy to be back in school after the Easter break. He has already attended assembly with the whole school, learning about Earth Day and the activities the children are taking part in.

Jake loves spending time with the children and he really supports their wellbeing too when they are sad or anxious. He also continues to be a huge wellbeing support to staff! Here is a picture of him giving me some Jake love at the end of last term!

Acorn Nursery news

from Mrs. Hayes our Early Years Leader:

We are delighted to welcome two new members of staff this term— Mrs Barr and another Mrs Hayes! They both bring with them a wealth of Early Years childcare experience and we're very excited that they have chosen to join our existing fantastic Nursery team. The children have been instrumental in helping them settle in brilliantly, living their values of friendship and kindness!



Acorn Nursery news continued ...

We're also busy this term preparing our older children to get ready for starting school in September with transition times in Chestnut Class and daily phonics sessions which the children love to join in with.

We have limited space available in our Nursery. If you are interested in finding out more, please email nursery@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk

Our Value for May is Wisdom (Understanding) and Critical Thinking

In school, children will continue to be encouraged to ask questions when they do not understand, especially in their lessons. The importance of speaking and listening will be emphasised as a crucial part of the learning process. We will promote the understanding that we should all be working towards peace in our world starting with ourselves as individuals. We will use stories and examples of occasions when people have not listened to instructions carefully, have therefore misunderstood and the resulting unfortunate consequences.

At home, you should encourage your children to ask questions if they do not understand and make sure that they listen to your explanations. Try to back up requests with reasons so as to promote understanding. You could also share the story 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. It demonstrates how long it takes for the boy to understand his friend the penguin and how important this understanding was in the end. You could also watch 'Giraffes Can't Dance' by Giles Andreae on YouTube and see how Gerald the Giraffe eventually learns to dance by listening to and understanding instructions.

Clophill Preschool News

Hello everyone,

We hope you all enjoyed Easter. We had some very busy Easter Hunt Stay & Play sessions with Julie the Easter Bunny joining us once again, thank you Julie! Our Friday Adventurers went on an Egg Hunt of their own before breaking up for the holidays, map reading and using compasses to look for the treasure chest of eggs!



Our staff did their usual First Aid termly top up session and then brought their learning to the setting showing the children how to bandage each other which was great fun for all involved.

Thank you to Rosemary for coming up and bringing the children some props and masks to help tell the story of George and the Dragon. The children decorated and cut out their own masks and continued to use them in their imaginative play.

Claphill Preschool News continued...

April 17th was Bat Appreciation Day when Carol taught everyone about bats before giving them all a fun bat quiz.

Our chickens have laid their first eggs of the season. The children care for our chickens, feeding and cleaning them out and they were delighted with the reward of warm eggs to retrieve.

The older children have been helping support our younger children to wash their hands and have been laying the tables for Julia at snack time.

As the weather warms, we have been teaching the children about flora by planting cucumbers, peppers, sunflowers and cherry tomatoes to put in the new greenhouse which our dads and grandads kindly put up for us along with the new shed. The children will nurture these plants ready for sale at their allotment shop in the second half of the term. Thank you to all those who volunteered. Another thank you to Duncan for donating gifts for the



garden, they are very much appreciated.

Our Adventurers are often exploring new activities that Carol has discovered, one such was making seed bombs. They recycled card and paper and pulped them down by ripping them up and adding water until they got a good mulch then added seeds and shaped into balls and left in egg boxes to dry. A great way to mark Earth Day!

Lastly, we would like to welcome our new children who are joining us this term. Our new starters and their families get the opportunity to join us for free weekly Stay and Play settling in sessions before they join us and this is so beneficial to their transition into the setting. We are really looking forward to the rest of this summer term exploring, planting, using our imaginations, learning new things, and building friendships and confidence.

See you at the Church fete!



Tibbs Dementia Foundation

STRIDE OUT FOR MEMORY

PRIORY COUNTRY PARK BEDFORD

SATURDAY 17TH MAY 2025

REGISTRATION 10.30AM

WARM UP 11AM

WALK 11.30AM

£10 per adult - children walk for free!

Register on the day.

All proceeds to Tibbs Dementia Foundation:

www.tibbsdementia.co.uk

Entertainment/ tombola /
information stands/
refreshments available.
Bring a picnic and stay and
relax with us afterwards.

Come and join us for our
annual community walk as we
Stride together to build a
better world for families
affected by dementia.



For more details:

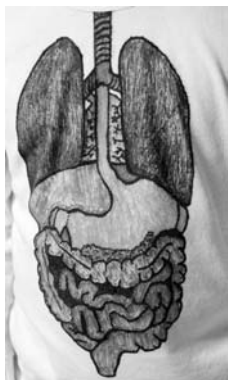
Email: contact@tibbsdementia.co.uk

Call: 01234 210993

Registered Charity: 1166596



It's been a fascinating month of discovery and creativity at school as we've been learning all about the human body, guided by the children's interests and endless curiosity. Our journey began with the digestive system, where the children created clever moving models to show how our bodies process food — from the moment we take a bite to the final stages. It was a brilliant hands-on way to understand how the body works.



To truly “get under the skin,” each child wore a white T-shirt and, working in pairs, used fabric paint to map out the organs on their bodies. With teamwork and plenty of giggles, they helped each other carefully place and paint each organ in the correct location — a fantastic mix of science, art, and collaboration.

We've also been exploring the respiratory system in a very active way. Every day this month, the children have been training their lungs using a peak flow machine, aiming to improve their readings day by day. They've been recording their results and are thoroughly enjoying the challenge of seeing their lung capacity grow week by week. It's been a great way to combine health, self-awareness, and a little

friendly competition!

The children also had the exciting opportunity to take part in real-life scientific exploration through dissection. We visited the local butcher and bought offal, which gave each child the chance to dissect a heart, lungs, and a kidney. This was done in a safe, respectful, and supervised environment, and the children were full of awe and wonder at seeing the structures they had been learning about up close. As a group, we also carried out an adult-led dissection of a cockerel, allowing the children to observe how all the organs are positioned and connected inside a living system.



Inspired by Leonardo da Vinci's fascination with anatomy, we then ventured into the world of artistic expression. The children created detailed still-life skull drawings, sketched each other in dynamic poses, and even used roller ink to produce vibrant pop-art style prints of their lungs. The results were truly stunning, showcasing their creativity while deepening their scientific understanding.

It's been a wonderful month filled with questions, discoveries, creativity, and collaboration. The children have shown incredible enthusiasm and maturity throughout, and we are so proud of everything they've achieved. We look forward to seeing everyone at the village fete, where the children will be running their own stall, all orchestrated by their own ideas.

Parish Registers for May

1825

Baptisms

- 14 Elizabeth d of (?) and Elizabeth Manton.

Marriages

- 13 Joseph Odell of Maulden to Jemima Sims (?).

1875

Baptisms

- 16 Arthur, s of George and Jane Braybrook.
Bertram, s of Samuel and Mary Roberts.
Henry, s of William and Anne Gaylor.
Clara (?), d of George and Sarah Evans (?).
Sarah Jane, d of James and Ellen Millard.
Rosa (?), d of George and Emma Appleby.

- 20 George William, s of William and Mary Ann Langley.
William Frederick, s of George and Eliza Lincoln.

No marriages or burials recorded

1925

Marriages

- 30 Alfred Thomas Vass, 19 to Freda Maud Sharp, 19.

Burials

- 06 George Parkinson, 82.

1974

Marriages

- 04 Michael Groom, 20, RAF to Teresa Anne (?) 19.

1975

Baptisms

- 03 Louise Frances Cooper.

Marriages

- 31 Mervyn James Geary, 26 to Susan Mary Keens, 24.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS

With Easter falling so late this year, we have only just (at the time of writing) finished our Lenten observance and celebrated the events of the most important weekend of the Church's year. Donations received at the 5 Lent Lunches and Maundy Thursday's Agape meal raised nearly £900 for Water Aid. With Gift Aid still to be added we won't be far short of £1,000, which is a great result. Thanks are due to those who ran the lunches and everyone who came, enjoyed the fellowship and donated so generously.

On Good Friday a number of us joined with Maulden for a very thoughtful meditation on the Crucifixion. On Easter Sunday morning the churchyard looked beautiful in the sunshine and with the trees in blossom, and a goodly congregation gathered to celebrate a wonderful service of Holy Communion led by The Archdeacon of Bedford and our own Preb. Eric Shegog.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS continued ...

Earlier 25 hardy souls and 5 dogs met at the Old Church to greet the Resurrection in a short service of hymns, prayers and a reading with a reflection led by Vaughan Wilton. This was followed by a breakfast of bacon butties and tea/coffee laid on by the Eco-lodges. Thanks to the Gardner family.

Our fund-raising committee is now beavering away planning and preparing the Fete in the churchyard on **May 10th**. This is truly a village event with stalls, attractions and, of course, tea and cake! Do come along.

May 11th to 17th is Christian Aid Week. There won't be an envelope collection this year, but you can still give either online or by dropping a contribution into the church or through the doors of 7A High St. or 36, Cainhoe Rd. The focus this year is on the farming communities of Burundi, where they are suffering greatly from the effects of climate change.

We are now beginning to look forward to the arrival of our new Rector, Rev. Steve Marsh, who will be instituted in Maulden Church on June 24th. We are also hoping that the repointing of the church will be completed by then too.



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

Wildlife walks & talks

**Saturday, May 17th, Strawberry Hill Farm, near Knotting Green,
Bedford, MK44 1AA at 10.00 am.**

Strawberry Hill Farm lead by Wildlife Trust BCN staff.

We have previously visited this wonderful site which was left to rewild for 25 years. The site of 150 hectares is the largest area of scrub and young woodland in the region and has presented a remarkable opportunity for the WLT BCN to protect this unique habitat and create a place where people can be inspired by nature.

We are hoping to see and hear Nightingales and a host of other bird species as well as invertebrates and a selection of flora.

£4.00 per person

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

Clophill's Servicemen of World War 2

Remembering the lives of the 6 WW2 men listed on our Village

Memorial. By Sue Pearson

VE Day was commemorated across our country on 8th May 2025. This is the first of 6 articles about those men listed on our village memorial that lost their lives in WW2. The average age of the Clophill men who died was 23.6 years.

War had begun 273 days before the village heard of the loss of our first man - **Ernest Arthur Webb**.

Ernest was listed as Private 5825717 of the 1st Battalion Suffolk Regiment. He died on Friday 31 May 1940, aged 26. He was one of the village's oldest men to die.

He was born August 1913 in Haynes- Son of Levi Walter Webb (born in Clophill) and Violet Annie (née Sutton) of 1 Clayhill Cottages, Maulden. In 1911 Levi's family lived on the High Street, Clophill.

Ernest is commemorated in Wulpen Churchyard, Jabbeke, Belgium - inscription "SLEEP ON, DEAR SON; TAKE THY REST FOR THE LORD KNOWS BEST. ALL HIS FAMILY."

September 1939: On the outbreak of war, the Battalion was based in Devonport. His Battalion was part of 8th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Division; in October 1939 they went to France. At the time of Ernest's death, the Battalion was thought to be holding the German troops back in preparation for the evacuation at Dunkirk. He was initially reported as missing but was later presumed to have died.

THE SUFFOLK REGIMENT									
MISSING									
OFFICERS					Army No.	Rank	Name	Army No.	Rank
Personal No.	Rank	Name							Name
44506	Captain	BURKIS, Richard Wilberforce			5827477	Pte.	DIGGINS, W. A.	4286463	Dvr.
85358	2nd Lieut.	HAWKINS, Dennis Peter			5824658	L/Sgt.	ELGIE, B. H. T.	5825233	Pte.
52685	Captain	MANSEY, Robert de Zeote			5825728	Pte.	ELLINGTON, T. T.	5825757	L/Sgt.
68677	2nd Lieut.	OSGERBY, Leo Charles			5824943	Pte.	FEW, E. O.	5824427	Pte.
					5824730	Pte.	FIELD, Henry Isaac	5824458	Pte.
					5825165	Pte.	FIELD, C. L.	5824932	Pte.
					5825283	Pte.	FRESHWATER, T.	5825587	Pte.
					5825091	Pte.	GISSING, B. S.	5825631	Pte.
					7010607	Cpl.	GREER, William	5824501	Pte.
					5827392	Pte.	HAGGER, G. W. J.	5830480	Pte.
					5825404	Pte.	HARDY, J. W.	5825528	Pte.
					5826102	Sgt.	HERBERT, A. L. C.	5932106	Pte.
					5825559	L/Cpl.	HILL, J. E.	2058709	Pte.
					5825027	L/Cpl.	HOWE, A.	5824678	Pte.
					5825504	Pte.	HOWE, W. F.	5825365	Pte.
					5824774	Pte.	HOWELL, W. S.	5824171	Sgt.
					5827312	Pte.	KING, A.	5830524	Pte.
					5825043	Pte.	KNIGHTS, H. L.	5827159	L/Cpl.
					5827407	Pte.	MALLYON, C. H.	5825717	Pte.
					5826449	Pte.	MARTIN, L. L.	5825402	Pte.
					7344081	Pte.	MATTHEWS, C.	5827250	Pte.
					6341724	Pte.	MERCER, F. C.	5827412	Pte.
					5824590	Pte.	NEWBERRY, R.	5827365	Pte.
					5932231	Pte.	NEWMAN, C.	5826114	Sgt.
									YOUNG, W. F.
OTHER RANKS									
Army No.	Rank	Name							
5825219	Pte.	ARMSTRONG, A. H.							
5825652	Pte.	AVORY, W. R.							
5824391	Pte.	BARBER, W. J.							
5804108	Pte.	BIDWELL, M. W.							
5825247	L/Sgt.	BISHOP, R. J.							
5823143	P.S.M.	BLAKE, R. H.							
5827637	Pte.	BROWN, C.							
5830168	Pte.	BROWN, W. H. N.							
5825628	L/Cpl.	BUCK, R. A.							
5827399	Pte.	BULLMORE, A. J.							
5823394	Pte.	CADMAN, E. W. C.							
5825738	Pte.	CLEMENTS, B.							
5825359	Pte.	COLE, M. W.							
5932516	Pte.	COULSON, A. E. K.							
5932908	Pte.	CROUCH, F. W.							

In 1921 Ernest was living in Lilley with his unemployed father, and he was a school child. It is not clear where he was living when the 1939 register was taken, but he was no longer living with his father.



Clophill and District Flower Club

www.clophillflowerclub.com



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*A floral demonstration
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*in his special
Retirement Evening*

Thursday 5 June 2025

6.45 for 7.30pm start

Clophill Village Hall



Visitors always welcome
at all our meetings - £7

For further details
see our website
or contact Gillian on 07960 662334



St Mary's Church, Clophill



Church Fete

& Village Event

Saturday 10th May

12 – 4pm *in the Church grounds*

FUN for ALL

Lots of stalls

Sideshowes

Barbeque

Entertainment by local organisations

Greensand Community Choir Clophill Pre-school

St Mary's School, Halo Cheerleaders

Refreshments in the Church - Lunches and Teas

For further information – call Gillian 07960662334 or Carolyn 01462 815433

What's on in and around Clophill



Saturday 10th

Coffee and Croissants, CG Methodist Church, 10am – 12noon. *See poster.*
Village Fete, St. Mary's church grounds, 12noon – 4pm. *See poster.*



Thursday 5th June

Flower Club, Village Hall, 6:45pm for 7:30pm. *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.

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 9:30am – 11:30am, Village Hall.

Saturdays...

* Community Garden, off Shefford Road, 10am – 12noon then 1pm – 3pm.



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

1 st Sunday	11am, Parish Praise
Other Sundays	11 am, Parish Communion

Services at GC Methodist Church, Clophill. See noticeboard outside church for dates and times.

1 st Sunday	United Service 10.30am held at different hubs
2 nd Sunday	10.30am Local Preacher
3 rd Sunday	9.30am Communion Rev. Wood
4 th Sunday	11:00am Rev. Wood

Clophill Parish Council

The Next Meeting is 27th May, at 7:45pm in the Village Hall .



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		Alistair Strathern	TBA
Central Bedfordshire Councillors		Susan Clinch	0300 300 8516
		Gary Summerfield	0300 300 8561
		Mark Smith	0300 300 8541
Clophill Parish Council	New PC Clerk. Lynne Killeen clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk		07888 685886
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		Non Emergency	101
County Police HQ			01234 841212
Amphill Station			101
CHURCHES			
St Mary's Parish Church	The advertisement is now posted for the new Rector		
	(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
Community Garden	Bev Hall (Bloomin Well)	07468 121508
	www.bloominwellcic.com	
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

Katherine Concert running in Amphill in June.



Friday 6th June at 2pm - Amberg Trio - clarinet, cello & piano

David, Lawrence & Christopher return to present a programme of Mendelssohn, Pärt and Mozart. (Ticket price includes post-recital tea and homemade cakes)

All details and tickets for concerts are on Katherine Concerts event tickets from

TicketSource. <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Katherine-Concerts>



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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.
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- ◇ Do you have children under 18? If so, you need to nominate guardians or they become the responsibility of the Local Authority
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- ◇ Are you in a second marriage? Special provision should be made for blended families.

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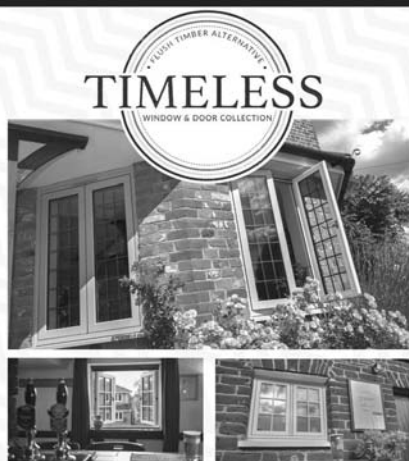


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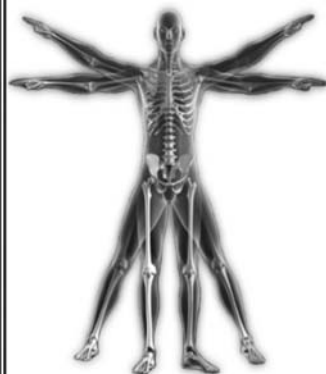
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