

Vol 48 | No.7

FREE

# CLOPHILL SPOTLIGHT

SEPTEMBER 2025



**LOVE YOUR  
LOCAL NEWS**



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

Welcome to the September issue of Spotlight

*Dear Reader,*

We are back after the summer break, refreshed and raring to go again!!

This month we have an update on page 8 about the mindless arson attacks in our beautiful new nature reserve at the lakes. The Greensand Trust is asking for our help both in donating to the appeal to fund the repairs and in spreading the word about the appeal.

On a happier note, there are a couple of annual events taking place in the village soon. The coffee and cake morning at St. Mary's Church on 20<sup>th</sup> September in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, and the Jumble sale in the Village Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> October for Sue Ryder St. Johns Hospice Moggerhanger. See pages 5 and 14 for more details.

See you all again in October!!

***Best wishes, Elaine***



## **The magazine staff**

EDITOR	Elaine Jones editorial@clophillspotlight.co.uk ads@clophillspotlight.co.uk	07918 975823
ADVERTISING MANAGER	Colin Watt	
DESIGN MANAGER	Toni Elston	07979 643047
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER	Paul Leckie	
TREASURER	Jon Bates	07725 068828

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

You can also read Spotlight online

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

# Come into the Garden

*With Kate Gardner*

This summer has presented lots of challenges with the incredibly hot and dry weather we have experienced, but as the schools return there is plenty that we can do to extend some summer colour.

Probably the quickest way to add instant colour to your garden is to look out for some colourful bargains in the garden centre, to give your garden an instant improvement. Summer bedding plants are being sold off cheaply to make way for autumnal plants and these are a great way to add a pop of colour back into the garden. Snap up tender fuchsias, pelargoniums (often sold as 'geraniums'), and osteospermums and use them to fill gaps in pots or around the patio. Plant up areas close to your outdoor eating and seating areas, so that these are the most colourful parts of the garden as you enjoy the end of the summer.

Trailing petunias, fuchsias, and ivies can get too big for their space in containers and pots so trim back leaves to avoid your container displays looking top heavy or lop sided. It's also a good idea to trim back any plants that have crowded out other plants in pots, so that you can see every plant in the display. Water and feed summer flowering plants in pots to get as many blooms from them as possible. It may be September but summer displays in pots can keep looking good up until the first frosts. Plants such as pelargoniums, nemesia, roses and fuchsias have lots more flowers in them if you give them a bit of TLC. Check the compost in the pots by pushing your finger into it. If the compost is dry all the way down, then it needs a good soak. Add a general fertiliser such as liquid seaweed to your watering can before watering, to give your plants a late boost of nutrients.

Sow hardy annuals such as calendula, larkspur, nigella and honesty direct into the soil in the garden now to create a mixed display for next year. Mix together all the seeds with some sand and sow them over a bare patch of soil to create a riot of colour early next summer. Make sure the soil is weed free before sowing, add some compost to increase its ability to retain moisture and rake it level. Sow the seeds and then gently rake them into the soil, before watering well. Label the area after sowing so you don't forget about them. Sowing in straight rows makes it easier to identify the weeds from the new seedlings.

If you have been keeping a bit of your lawn long as a mini meadow, now is the time to give it a cut. Leave the clippings on the ground for a couple of days to allow any flower seeds to drop to the ground and then remove all of the clippings. You might want to give the area a rake to agitate the soil to help the fallen seeds to get good contact with the soil. If you want to add yellow rattle to reduce the grass growth, then sowing fresh seed onto bare soil in the autumn has shown to have the best success rate.

Who wants plants for free? Now is the time to be saving seeds from your favourite plants. Collect ripe seed on a dry day, as soon as the seedheads (e.g. capsules or pods) ripen.

This is often indicated by a colour change from green to brown, black or red, but must be before they open and shed their contents. Pick the seedheads, either singly or on stalks, and lay them out to dry on a greenhouse bench, warm windowsill or in an airing cupboard. Use paper bags or envelopes to catch the seed and store until you are ready to sow them. Some seeds (e.g. hellebore) are best sown immediately as their viability reduces with storage.

Here's hoping for some much-needed rain too.

### ***Happy Gardening***

---

## **Reflections - Clophill in September 1980 - Voices from the past.**

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

The September issue of 'Spotlight' has reports from village events in July, there not being an August edition. It also has perhaps a rather unusual cover, but 'back in the day' at the **Village Fete**, there was a highly respected **dog show** and the photo is of 'Candy', champion Lakeland Terrier with some of her trophies. Looking to the inside pages, there were more trophies, well, certificates achieved. "In the summer session of examinations of the **Associated Board of the Royal School of Music**



there were two village candidates at Grade II. Catherine Naylor, aged 12 passed with 114 marks and Chloe Benson, aged 9, gained 115 marks." **The Dedication Festival Week in St Mary's Church** back in July proved to be a great success, with an exhibition of photographs of 'Old Clophill' being a main attraction. It appears that "arrangements have been made to photocopy the photographs and pictures" (I wonder what happened to those?) "On Saturday, July 12, a large number of people attended the church to hear a fascinating and illuminating talk by Mrs. Mary Phillips about Clophill's history. A recording of the talk has been made." (I wonder what happened to that as well?) The following day the rains held off for a 'very successful' Open Gardens and "The Festival Week concluded with a most enjoyable concert by the talented Pulloxhill Singers." (Now, there's a coincidence, as exactly 45 years on, the Pulloxhill Singers entertained us at the church Garden Party on July 5<sup>th</sup> this year!).

Back in 1980, the **Clophill and District Flower Club** had a very busy start to July with "All Creatures Great and Small" as the title of that month's demonstration, where the "most impressive arrangement was a jungle scene with a monkey (created from coconuts) placed among ferns and bright orange lilies." Then the following weekend "many of the members were busy at Silsoe Church which was celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary." There is a letter of thanks from Doris Tucker on page 11. (Interestingly, the architect for St James, Silsoe and for our St. Mary's Church is the same.)

## Reflections – Clophill in July 1980 - continued ...

The report from the **Darby and Joan Club** covered four superb outings. The first was in May and was a guided tour of London, taking in “Trafalgar Square, Westminster Abbey, lunch in Leicester Square, a tour of the left bank, The Marina Little Venice – and London markets! Then, in June there was a lovely trip to Hunstanton and, “Having passed a strawberry field on the way out, all were eager to stop for purchases on the way back.” There was also a stop in St. Neots for a drink and fish and chips.

“The next event was tea at Clophill House, the tea was delicious with cakes made especially by Mrs Susan Bunting. Mr & Mrs Willmott and family and many other friends joined members of the club for supper at Cainhoe Manor.” The last trip was “a lovely afternoon on the Grand Union Canal aboard the Leighton Lady. A most enjoyable afternoon tea was served on board.”

Perhaps just as exciting “**Spotlight birthday greetings** in August go to Glynn Webb, Scott Langridge, Jason Langridge, Philip Baker, Paul Hill, David Everitt, Melanie Gibbs, Jonathan Farr (and September) Jonathan Bird and Adrian Farr.” All were wished ‘A happy birthday’. Congratulations, along with a £1 gift token each went to David Everitt (August) and Jonathan Bird (September) whose names were picked out by last month’s winner Paul Gibbs.

***What a happy note on which to close!***

### **Sue Ryder Starlight Hike Bedford on Saturday, 11 October:**

Get together with friends and family and take part in a 5k or 10k walk for someone special while raising vital funds to help Sue

Ryder. Taking place at the beautiful Everard Meadow (MK42 0BX), the walk offers live entertainment, an electrifying glow stick fitness dance session, and entertainment along the route. Hundreds of walkers will have the chance to come together to celebrate the lives of loved ones.

At the finish line, participants will receive a well-earned medal, knowing their efforts have helped ensure that no one faces death or grief alone.

Sign up today at [www.sueryder.org/StarlightBedford](http://www.sueryder.org/StarlightBedford), contact the fundraising team at [stjohns.events@sueryder.org](mailto:stjohns.events@sueryder.org) or call 01767 642412. Standard tickets start from £20 per adult, which includes a medal and t-shirt.

Volunteers are needed to support Starlight Hike and help make the evening truly special. Get in touch with the fundraising team to find out more.



palliative,  
neurological  
and bereavement  
support



CLOPHILL FRIENDS OF –  
Sue Ryder's St John's Hospice  
Moggerhanger

# GRAND JUMBLE SALE

## FRIDAY 10th October 2025



**BRIC-A-  
BRAC**



**BOOKS**

**TOYS**



**CASH ONLY**



Good quality 2<sup>nd</sup> hand, brand new and nearly new  
clothes

ADMISSION: ADULTS 50p EACH /Accompanied Children Free

DOORS OPEN 7.00PM

PHONE 07890505201

Sue Ryder is a charity registered in England and Wales (1052076).

# Clophill Parish Council



At the last meeting held on Tuesday 29th July, key community issues were discussed and several resolutions passed, as the council works to address local concerns and improve village amenities.

## **Speeding and HGV Concerns Addressed:**

Public concerns were raised over increased speeding and the use of The Causeway by heavy goods vehicles (HGVs). The Parish Council acknowledged the issue and confirmed a meeting with Central Bedfordshire Highways is being arranged. The council reaffirmed its commitment to a 20mph speed limit scheme but emphasized its limited control over drivers violating traffic laws.

## **Planning and Correspondence:**

A planning application for non-material amendments to a previously approved development on Cainhoe Road was reviewed, with the council opting to submit "No Comment". Discussions were also held regarding a potential application from Bloomin Well under rural diversification policies, though no decisions were required at this time.

## **Village Maintenance and Facilities:**

A resident reported a streetlight fault on Jacques Lane, which will be addressed by contractor Andy Muskett. Efforts to improve recreational facilities were highlighted, with Cllr Nester providing an update and Cllr Patrick agreeing to follow up with Hayfield to complete work on the play area near new housing at Hayfield.

A new tree will be planted at the bottom of Great Lane in October to ensure optimal growing conditions.

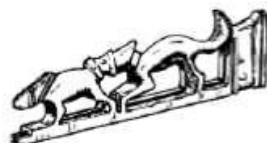
## **Financial Approvals and Administrative Updates:**

Overdue payments from June to August were approved. The July financial reconciliation was deferred to the next meeting, pending review by the incoming Parish Clerk, who is set to be appointed shortly. August pre-authorised payments, including direct debits, were given the green light.

## **Standing Items and Forward Planning:**

The council carried forward discussions on domestic abuse awareness, as well as updates on the Clophill Nature Reserve. The Neighbourhood Plan draft will be circulated by the Chair, with a village consultation event planned for the autumn. Allotment availability will be advertised through the Parish Council's Facebook page and the community newsletter, *Grapevine*.

**The next meeting will be held at 7:45pm on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> Sept in the Village Hall.**



**Monday 6th October 2025**

**Tales from Bedfordshire Churches – Miracles,  
Wonders and a Broken Heart**



**St Mary the Virgin, Keysoe.**



**All Saints, Eyeworth.**

Continuing from our October 2024 meeting, this is David's second talk. It includes the Keysoe Miracle involving William Dickens' fall from Keysoe church steeple, Eilward of Westoning and his miraculous recovery from castration and Alice Anderson's touching memorial on which she records how her heart is forever entombed with her dead husband, four years before she re-married!

**Speaker** – David Longman.

Flitwick Library Lecture Theatre, MK45 1QJ, 7.30 for a 7.45 pm start. Members are free, visitors are very welcome £5.00, payable at the door. Tea and coffee will follow.

*The talk will also be broadcast live via Zoom to Society members.*

**The next meeting:**

November 3rd – at Millbrook Proving Ground

[www.adalhs.org.uk](http://www.adalhs.org.uk)





# Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve Clophill Lakes Boardwalk Destroyed by Arson.

Your support is needed more than ever.



Shocking acts of arson have left Clophill Lakes boardwalk in ruins. The scenic walkway, much appreciated by visitors for its wonderful views and for how it enabled access between the lakes, has been **completely destroyed**. The Reserve was systematically attacked, with fires lit at multiple points, damaging not only the boardwalk but also new interpretation boards and bins. The boardwalk provided a crucial link between the lakes, offering a shorter, more accessible route for those seeking to connect with nature in a wildlife-rich environment. Its loss severely impacts access and the educational and conservation efforts that the Greensand Trust has tirelessly worked to maintain.

## The Nature Reserve Remains Open: Your Support is Essential

Despite the destruction and disbelief, Clophill Lakes remains open to visitors. We are committed to protecting the environment and ensuring that everyone can enjoy it, but we can't do this alone – we desperately need your help to rebuild what has been lost. **How You Can Help?**

- **Donate:** Every contribution brings us closer to restoring the boardwalk and preserving this vital habitat for wildlife and visitors.
- **Support:** Help spread the word about the Clophill Lakes Appeal. The more people who get involved, the sooner we can raise the funds necessary for reconstruction.



## Quotes from Greensand Trust's Chief Executive Gill Welham:

"We are devastated to see the boardwalk completely destroyed by a mindless deliberate act of destruction."

"Since opening in April we have been so grateful for care taken by visitors to help us protect this wonderful site, we know just how much the Reserve has meant to people, and how much the community, and our staff and volunteers have committed to open the Reserve for everyone to enjoy".

"I hope anyone who hears about this will find ways to support our determination to overcome this challenge, and rebuild the 68 meters of boardwalk, which enabled access for all."

**To donate:** please visit: <https://www.greensandtrust.org/Appeal/clophill-lakes-boardwalk-appeal>

**For more information:**

[www.greensandtrust.org/clophill-lakes-nature-reserve](http://www.greensandtrust.org/clophill-lakes-nature-reserve)

Clophill Lakes Nature Reserve, Shefford Road, SG17 5TR

**Registered Charity no. 1077055**

## **Are you in need of T.L.C?**

T.L.C. otherwise known as **"The Thursday Leisure Club"**, is an informal gathering which meets in St. Mary's Church on Thursday afternoons between 2 and 4 pm. It is run by **Clophill Community Care** by kind permission of the church. Many of the attendees are widowed and most are pensioners, but neither of these conditions are necessary. Anyone who would like to spend a couple of hours in congenial company, making jigsaws or playing table-top games, or simply enjoying a chat and a cup of tea is very welcome.

There is no charge, but we do appreciate a small donation to cover the cost of lighting, heating when needed, and refreshments.

**Why don't you come along and give it a try?**

## ***A BIG thank you from Cora:***

**For Alzheimer's Research UK for a cure.**

I wanted to thank you all personally for your help in giving me items for my sale, it was so pleasing that so many people came to support me.

Alzheimer's is one of the many devastating illnesses which makes life so very hard for their families and friends.

What the future is certain of, is the power of research to find a cure.

It gives me great hope to know there are dedicated individuals like yourselves that help me raise money to find a cure.

Well, I must thank you all from the bottom of my heart and also my helpers. I have raised an incredible £1,057.30 towards a cure for Alzheimer's research UK.

With heart felt gratitude,

***Cora Sheppard***

**ALZHEIMER'S  
RESEARCH UK** **FOR A  
CURE**

# Maulden Walking Football Club

We have a membership of circa 70 members (mostly aged in their 50s and 60s) from: Ampthill, Clifton, Clophill, Flitwick, Greenfield, Maulden, Pulloxhill, Silsoe, Wilstead to name but a few!



We make everyone welcome, irrespective of their ability, so don't worry if you have not kicked a football before or in years! Our sessions are about enjoyment, meeting new people, etc.

For each session (Tuesday 8pm to 9pm or Sunday 6pm to 7 pm) we play on 2 x 3G pitches. We randomly pick 4 teams each week so members get to play with different people. For the first 30 minutes the matches are played. We then use what we term as our very own 'Boulter rule' (one of our members ideas) whereby the winners on each pitch play against each other and likewise the losers for the final 30 minutes.

General walking football rules include: not shooting inside the area, no kicking above head height, no tackles from behind, no physical contact and no running (one foot must be on the ground).

Our members have the option of playing against other local (affiliated teams)



which usually take place on a different day and are at no extra cost to our members. In June, some of our members enjoyed a free away trip to Whitstable where we played them, Margate and Ramsgate and enjoyed the rest of the day there. We have recently played MK Mad Walkers, Rushden & Diamonds, and Bedford and have further fixtures planned against other teams.

There is a social side to our club with: a night of bowling at Maulden Bowls Club, evening at George Inn – Maulden, regular visits to Drover's Arms in Steppingley. Again, this is optional for our members. If you only want to play our Tuesday or Sunday sessions that is fine by us.

Take a look at our website. We are @ClubMaulden on Twitter.

Should you be interested in joining email:

[OBMauldenWalkingFootball@outlook.com](mailto:OBMauldenWalkingFootball@outlook.com) or contact 07496 287 628.

It will also help us if you could join our Facebook group if you are not already a member and invite your friends too as there are many people in the area not aware of us.



# Clophill and District Flower Club

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



## A practical/social evening of 'Seasonal Delights'



Do join this social evening with the usual refreshments and plenty of time to chat too!

Please bring your scissors, we will provide everything else.

**Thursday 2 October 2025**


6.45 for 7.30pm start at Clophill Village Hall

Visitors always welcome at all our meetings - £7



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





**Maulden Art Group**

**Exhibition & Sale**

**Sunday 19th October**

**11am - 4 pm**


**Maulden Village Hall**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Children's Activities**

**Refreshments**

**Working Artists**



# Clophill's Servicemen of World War II

**Remembering the lives of the 6 WWII men listed on our Village Memorial.** *By Sue Pearson*

## **Ernest Albert George Lincoln**

Pte. 5953265. 1st Battalion, Hertfordshire Regiment and Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment, he died on 25 November 1941. (He died 7 months after villager S Matthews, Ernest was 25.)

He was born in 1916 in Greenwich, but the family moved to Clophill the following year. He was the son of Ernest William; a WW1 survivor and initially a milliner's labourer, and Ada Elizabeth née Crates of Clophill. In 1921 Ernest lived with his parents on the High Street and his father still worked at the mill as a carter. In 1939 Ernest was a felt hat worker, living in Shefford Road with his parents.

Ernest is commemorated in Knightsbridge War Cemetery, Acroma, Libya.



Operation Crusader Libya: In October 1941, the British Eighth Army developed a plan to disrupt Axis defence at various locations; the plans included the assassination of Erwin Rommel at Beda Littoria, Libya, should the opportunity arise. The operation was launched on 10th Nov 1941 as submarines HMS Torbay and HMS Talisman departed from Alexandria, Egypt.

Ernest's regiment were then stationed at Tobruk fortress and a decision was made 4 days before Ernest's death that the garrison should break out from the fortress. Unfortunately, a supporting brigade had had to change its plans due to the unexpected presence of 200 German tanks. However ultimately the Operation was considered an overwhelming success despite the Allies suffering 17,700 casualties.

### **A local newspaper reported:**

"Whilst waiting at the entrance to the Parish Church on Christmas morning, the postman arrived with the sad news for Mr E Lincoln whose eldest son had been killed in action."

Mr Lincoln Snr had played the organ in the church for many years and his family believe that he never played again due to his devastation.

St Mary's Church, Clophill



# COME FOR COFFEE AND CAKE

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.**  
CANCER SUPPORT



**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

**10am – 12 noon**

**in St Mary's Church, Clophill**

**Everyone very welcome**

## A Blooming Success in Clophill: Bloomin' Well CIC's Agricultural Therapeutic Gardens Grand Opening

The sun shone brightly on Clophill as Bloomin' Well CIC officially opened its *agricultural therapeutic gardens* on Saturday 9th August – a day that blossomed into a joyous celebration of community, nature, and new beginnings.



Nestled in 1½ acres of agricultural land on Shefford Road, the gardens were unveiled in style, with the Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire cutting the ribbon and praising the project for its inspiring vision: using the power of agriculture and gardening to nurture wellbeing, inclusion, and connection.



The event drew a wonderful crowd, who spent the afternoon exploring the gardens and enjoying a host of activities. Families tucked into a sizzling free BBQ, children (and plenty of adults!) tested their skills at hook-a-duck, and the plant and cake stalls were in constant demand. Homemade honey, chutneys, and jams flew off the tables, while the face-painting station proved a huge hit – with bright butterflies, roaring tigers, and sparkling superheroes adding colour and fun to the day.

In the cabin, children threw themselves into craft activities, carefully making colourful dragonflies and butterflies to take home – a creative keepsake from a very special day.

The highlight came with heartfelt speeches by both Beverley Hall of Bloomin' Well CIC and the Lord-Lieutenant, who spoke warmly about the power of therapeutic agriculture to transform lives and bring people together. Their words were met with generous applause, capturing the spirit of the project and its promise for the future.

From start to finish, the grand opening was alive with laughter, community spirit, and the unmistakable sense of something important taking root. With the glorious weather, delicious food, and a lively programme of activities, it was a truly memorable afternoon.



**Bloomin' Well would like to say a heartfelt *thank you*** to all our amazing volunteers for your support, dedication, and hard work before, during, and after our grand opening. Your time, energy, and enthusiasm made the day such a success, and we couldn't have done it without you. We are so grateful for everything you do to support Bloomin' Well and the community.



## Bloomin' Well CIC cont...

### Come and Join Us:

Bloomin' Well CIC invites you to be part of something special. Weekly sessions are now running at the gardens:

- **Wednesdays, 10am–3pm (fees apply):** for adults with learning differences, autism, and head injuries. Volunteers are also welcome on Wednesdays (DBS check required).
- **Sundays, 10am–12pm (free):** everyone welcome – children must be accompanied by an adult.
- **Sundays, 1pm–3pm (free):** adults-only sessions focusing on mental wellbeing.

The gardens are located in the first field on the left up the track opposite Hawthorne Close, Clophill.

For more information, contact Bev on **07468 121504** or email [bloominwellcic@gmail.com](mailto:bloominwellcic@gmail.com)

### Special Open Day – Wednesday 24th September:

On Wednesday 24th September, Bloomin' Well CIC will host a free open day (10am–3pm) for professionals and organisations working with adults with learning differences, autism, and head injuries. Visitors are invited to drop in for an hour or two, meet the team, tour the gardens, ask questions, and even take part in some hands-on gardening activities.

---

## CLOPHILL UNITED CHARITIES

### Christmas donation to Widow(er)s and Pensioners –November 2025

This year the distribution will take place on November: **Saturday 29th November**, 11-12 am in the Oakley Room, **St Mary's Church** and 9.30-11.30 am at **Beverley Court**.

The distribution is taking place early this year due to other commitments of the Trustees and the availability of the Church.

No person or group is entitled to receive this benefit as of right. Please be aware that forthcoming Christmas donations should only be claimed by those widow(er)s and pensioners who are really in need of extra help at an expensive time of year and not by those who don't need it. This will enable us to provide help to others throughout the year. Posters will be displayed in the village during November as a reminder of these times. Please remember too that all through the year, Clophill United Charities are pleased to be able to help Clophill villagers of all ages in times of hardship. If you, or anyone you know who lives in the village, is experiencing financial hardship please contact me (on 01525 860900) in total confidence.

**On behalf of the Trustees:** Val Martin (Clerk)

## Parish Registers for September

### 1825

#### **Baptisms**

25 Betsy, d of Mary Roberts, single woman.

#### **Marriages**

06 Ebenezer Brashier of Lidlington to Anne Susannah Maddams.

#### **Burials**

11 Widow Cox.

### 1875

#### **Baptisms**

26 Frederick, s of Charlotte Sinfield.  
Annie (?) d of William and Eliza Lammass.

#### **Marriages**

25 William Sharman, 22 to Emily Kedge, 20.

### 1925

#### **Baptisms**

06 Rose Lillian, d of Frederick and Ada Billingham.

### 1975

#### **Marriages**

24 Raymond Benson (miller), 20 to Lynda Joy Fletcher, 18.

---

## St. Mary's Church Registers - August 2025

05 Funeral, followed by burial at the Old Church  
Paul Andrew Nichols of Rushden, formerly of Clophill, 82.

---

## ST. MARY'S CHURCH NEWS

This time last year I wrote about having a Garden Party in the churchyard to bid farewell to our then Rector, Canon Lynda Klimas. This year we started the summer by holding a Garden Party to welcome our new Rector, Revd Steve Marsh and his wife, Tamsin. We have really enjoyed getting to know them and they are very keen to get to know as many of their parishioners as possible, not just the regular church goers. So please take the opportunity to meet them at one of our events, including our Sunday services. You will be most welcome. As the Church of England is "by Law established" everyone who lives in Clophill is a parishioner of St. Mary's.



Steve is also Rector of Maulden, and their church is also consecrated to St. Mary, so on the recent festival, commemorating her death, we held a joint Benefice Service here on the Sunday closest to August 15<sup>th</sup>, sometimes called the Feast of the Assumption. It was great to see the church so full and to hear the lusty singing of the well-chosen hymns. Afterwards a wonderful buffet lunch was laid on by our hard-working fundraising team. It was a most uplifting experience.

You may have noticed that the repointing of the church has finally been completed, which has greatly improved its appearance as well as making it more weatherproof for the future. Maintenance of the building is a huge burden for a small congregation like ours, so our many fundraising events are essential to keep your church fit for purpose. We really appreciate your support. We couldn't do it without you!



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



## **Wildlife walks & talks**

### **September : October**

**Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, Flitwick Moor (TL045354). Meet at 7.00 pm**

#### **Bat Walk at Flitwick Moor with Aidan Matthews, BCN's Senior Reserves Manager (Bedfordshire)**

Flitwick Moor is an excellent area for bats and we hope to see and identify several species. The wider rides provide good hunting for Pipistrelles. If you have a bat detector, please bring it along. A torch is essential and insect repellent is a good idea at this time of year!

Charge: £4.00 per person

**Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, Flitwick Moor (TL045354). Meet at 10.00 am**

#### **Fungal Foray at Flitwick Moor, a joint event with Herts & Beds Fungi Group**

A combined event with the Herts and Beds Fungi Group (HBFG). Hoping for a mix of damp and mild weather to guarantee a good showing of mushrooms and toadstools. Experts will help you identify your findings and tell you more about the wonderful and sometimes weird world of fungi.

Free, but donations welcome

**Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Nene Wetlands visitor centre (NN10 6FH), Meet at 10.00 am**

#### **Walk around the beaver enclosure at Nene Wetlands with leader Lara Jones, SPA Engagement Officer**

Take a walk around the beaver enclosure at the Nene Wetlands with Lara and find out what our furry friends have been up to since their arrival in February. In this daytime walk, we will spend some time looking at their habitat, learning about their management and hopefully spot some signs of their work. Beavers are nocturnal creatures, so we are unlikely to spot them on this walk, but we will spend some time at the Nene Wetlands Visitor centre where we can watch plenty of trail camera footage of their antics on the screens.

Free car parking is available at Rushden Lakes for 5 hours maximum.

Charge: £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](mailto:flitvale.info@gmail.com) or**

**Phone (leave a message or text if you prefer) 07580 178-889 to reserve your place.**

The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs & Northants  
Registered charity number: 1000412  
[www.wildlifebcn.org](http://www.wildlifebcn.org)  
Flit Vale Local Group  
[www.wildlifebcn.org/flit-vale-local-group](http://www.wildlifebcn.org/flit-vale-local-group)

# What's on in and around Clophill



## SEPTEMBER

### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>

Macmillan Coffee and Cake morning, St Mary's Church, 10am – 12noon. *See poster.*

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>

Clophill Agricultural Gardens open day, 10am – 3pm. *See Bloomin' Well article.*



## OCTOBER

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup>

Flower Club meeting, Village Hall, 6:45 for 7:30pm start. *See poster.*

### Friday 10<sup>th</sup>

Clophill Jumble Sale in aid of Sue Ryder St. Johns Hospice Moggerhanger, Village Hall, doors open at 7pm. *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.

### Sundays 10-12noon (All), Sundays 1-3pm (Adults only)

\* Agricultural Therapeutic Garden, off Shefford Road (up track by no 9)



## CHURCH SERVICES

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

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 11am, Family Praise

Other Sundays 11 am, Parish Communion

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

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday United Service 10.30am held at different hubs

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday 10.30am Local Preacher

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday 9.30am Communion Rev. Wood

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11:00am Rev. Wood

# Useful numbers

<b>Gas (Emergency)</b>			0800 111999
<b>Electricity (Emergency)</b>			0800 7838838
<b>Emergency Fire/Police/Ambulance</b>			999
<b>Water/Sewage (Anglian Water)</b>			0845 7145145
<b>Telephone</b>		(Customer Services) 150	(Faults) 151
<b>Highways Department (Central Bedfordshire Council)</b>			0300 3008049
<b>Benefits Agency (Bedford office)</b>			01234 361500
<b>Registrar's Office (Births/deaths/marriages)</b>			0300 3008089
<b>Rail (Enquiries)</b>			0845 7484950
<b>Buses</b>	01234 262151	(Link A Ride) 01525 840511	(Flittabus) 01582 406561
<b>Luton Airport</b>			01582 405100
<b>Swimming</b>		(Flitwick) 01525 717744	(Robinson Pool) 01234 212479
<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>			
<b>Central Beds Offices (Chicksands)</b>			0300 300 8000
<b>Mid-Bed; MP</b>		Blake Stephenson	020 7219 7477
<b>Central Bedfordshire Councillors</b>		Susan Clinch	0300 300 8516
		Gary Summerfield	0300 300 8561
		Mark Smith	0300 300 8541
<b>Clophill Parish Council</b>	PC Clerk. Lynne Killeen clerk@clophill-pc.gov.uk		07888 685886
<b>HOSPITALS</b>			
<b>Bedford (North &amp; South)</b>	01234 355122	Admissions	01234 261150
		Appointments	01234 359012
<b>Luton &amp; Dunstable</b>			0845 1270127
<b>DOCTOR'S CLINICS</b>			
<b>Amphill</b>	(Houghton Close) 01525 300898	(Oliver Street)	01525 631395
		(Greensands)	01525 631390
<b>Shefford</b>	Enquiries 01462 818620	Appointments	01462 810034
<b>Barton</b>	01582 528700	<b>Flitwick</b>	01525 715300
<b>POLICE</b>		Non Emergency	101
<b>County Police HQ</b>			01234 841212
<b>Amphill Station</b>			101
<b>CHURCHES</b>			
<b>St Mary's Parish Church</b>			TBA
(Rector) Steve Marsh			
(Church Warden) Mrs Anne Shegog	anneshegog@gmail.com		01525 864868
<b>St Francis RC Church, Shefford</b>			01452 813436
<b>Clophill Methodist Church</b>	Revd Silas Wood, email: swood11@me.com,		01525 571392
	Mr John Errick		01525 860695
<b>Baptist Churches</b>		(Maulden) Ian Crawford	01525 634325
		(Shefford) Hazel Arnold	01462 812564
<b>SCHOOLS</b>			
<b>St Mary's C of E Lower School, Nursery &amp; Preschool (Headteacher Mrs K Bingley)</b>			01525 860206
<b>Harlington Upper School, Harlington</b>			01525 755100
<b>Preschool</b>	clophillpreschool@gmail.com (Chris) 07936 006381 or (Imogen)		07765 887868
<b>Redborne Upper School, Amphill</b>			01525 404462
<b>Robert Bloomfield Middle School, Shefford</b>			01462 628800

## 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	Sophie	TBA
	Alex	TBA
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)	Johnathan Matlock and Anna Neuff	
	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

### Take out an annual ad in

### Clophill *SPOTLIGHT*

*Black & White per year*

A sixth of a page (H31mm x W126mm) £58

A quarter of a page (H 92 x W 61 mm)

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

Half page (H92mm x W126mm) £123

A full page is £230

Please email our Advertising Manager

ads@clophillspotlight.co.uk

# Chapman & Kirby Heating

**Gas, Plumbing & Heating Installations**



**Gas Safe Registered**

**Boiler Servicing & Maintenance**

**Call us now on: 07831 132308**

**Email: [info@chapmanandkirbyheating.co.uk](mailto:info@chapmanandkirbyheating.co.uk)**

11 Lyall Close, Flitwick, Beds., MK45 1JB



## ACCOUNTING SERVICES

Providing a **Much Better** service for **Mid Beds** since 2000

If you are **Self-employed** or a **Small Business** and require assistance with

**Accounts, HMRC tax returns, VAT**

we offer a total confidential service at competitive rates

Contact T: 01525 861087 M: 07714189994 E: [mbaccounts@btinternet.com](mailto:mbaccounts@btinternet.com)

Telephone

**01525  
860526**

## The Stone Jug

**A Free House**

BACK STREET, CLOPHILL

### A Proper Pub for Proper People

A family run village 'boozer' serving up great value, quality lunches that will fill you up without emptying your wallet! A pub is for 12 months of the year, 365 days and we're here for you on each and every one of them!

- 5 real ales, including 3 guest pumps that change frequently (see our Facebook page for details)
- selection of wines and Prosecco by the glass – or even better, by the bottle
- home-cooked lunches Tues-Sat, 12pm-2.30pm



### REMEMBER OUR MOTTO

**"A VISIT TO THE JUG IS BETTER THAN GOING TO A PUB"**

**CHEERS JOYCE, VIKKI & MARK**

[www.stonejug.co.uk](http://www.stonejug.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/thestonejugclophill](http://www.facebook.com/thestonejugclophill)

# FLOOFYS



BEDFORD ROAD, CLOPHILL, MK45 4AE

10% OFF  
YOUR FIRST  
GROOM

Get in touch with  
Amber to book an  
appointment

07592966619

floofysdoggrooming

Floofys Dog Grooming



## Take out an annual advert in Claphill *SPOTLIGHT*

*Black & White per year*

This is one-quarter  
Height 92 x Width 61 mm  
£75

Please email our  
Advertising Manager  
[ads@claphillspotlight.co.uk](mailto:ads@claphillspotlight.co.uk)

Other sizes:-

A sixth of a page (H31mm x W126mm) £58

Quarter page (H92mm x W61mm) £75

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

A full page is £230



## A Family Vet for Family Pets

We are a family-owned veterinary practice in the centre of Amphill. We believe in providing fantastic stress-free care tailored to individual pets and owners.

We have now launched our Pet Health Plan, to help make preventative health care for your pet as easy as possible.

For more information:

Visit our website at  
[www.amphillvets.co.uk](http://www.amphillvets.co.uk)

or

Phone us on 01525 582002

or

Pop in for a chat and to meet the  
team





We offer a **FREE** review of your existing Will.

### **Having a Will in place provides peace of mind**

So many people have died without a Will thus increasing the stress and expense (and often the tax) that their families face.

## **SEVEN GOOD REASONS TO REVIEW YOUR WILL**

- ◇ Have you married or entered Registered Civil Partnership since the date of your last Will? If so, your Will is annulled.
- ◇ If you have no valid Will, the State's distribution of your assets may not be as you would have wished and could result in higher tax.
- ◇ 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?
- ◇ Do you have children under 18? If so, you need to nominate guardians or they become the responsibility of the Local Authority
- ◇ Will your family be able to claim all tax allowances? Many Wills written before 2017 do not allow the full Nil Rate Band to be claimed.
- ◇ Are you in a second marriage? Special provision should be made for blended families.

- ◆ 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
- ◆ Our clients tell us that their experience has been a pleasant one and they are extremely glad that they have the necessary documents in place.

**Please phone Susan Shaw now:  
Shaws Wills and Trusts 01525 862053**



# DAVID JAMES



WWW.DAVIDJAMESKITCHENS.CO.UK



MANUFACTURE DESIGN INSTALLATION

We are a local manufacturer of beautiful kitchens. We sell direct to save you money. The factory showroom has an extensive display of different styles.

**SAVINGS ON ALL KITCHENS**  
 & Up To 25% Off Top Brand Appliances  
 01525 722230 PULLOXHILL BEDS MK45 5EU

# SCENTSY



INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT



Join the wonderful world of Scentsy for all your home fragrance, wax warmers, cleaning products and so much more!!

- Plug in wax warmers - no flame, smoke or soot!
- All warmers come with a Lifetime guarantee!
- Premium quality paraffin wax scent bars!



@Tracy's Scentsy Treasures



tracysscenttreasures.scentsy.co.uk



# APN ELECTRICAL

- ✓ Rewires - Extensions, New Builds & Renovations
- ✓ Consumer Unit Upgrades
- ✓ LED Lighting Upgrades & Installations
- ✓ Outside lights & Security Lighting
- ✓ Power Supplies to Outbuildings, Sheds & Garages
- ✓ Smoke, Heat & Co2 Detectors
- ✓ Fault-Finding & Repairs
- ✓ Boiler Controls
- ✓ EICRs (Electrical Inspection Condition Reports)
- ✓ EV Charging Points



- ✓ Free no obligation quotes
- ✓ Friendly and reliable service
- ✓ Fully insured

**CONTACT US  
FOR A FREE QUOTE...**



ALEX NEW



07531765164



Apn.electrical@outlook.com



# 6 WEEK CHALLENGE



- **TRAIN WITH US 3 TIMES A WEEK ON OUR GROUP TRAINING PROGRAM**
- **PERSONAL NUTRITION COACHING AND ACCOUNTABILITY**
- **BUILD STRENGTH, FITNESS AND GET IN GREAT SHAPE**

## **WHERE IS THE GYM?**

**OUR GYM IS BASED AT UNIT 3, LONDON LANE, HAYNES WEST END, BEDFORD, MK45 3RA**

## **WHEN ARE THE SESSIONS?**

**WE HAVE SESSIONS AVAILABLE EVERY WEEKDAY MORNING (6-11AM) AND EVENING (5-9PM) PLUS SATURDAY MORNINGS (7-11AM). YOU CAN COME TO WHICHEVER SESSIONS SUIT YOU BEST.**

## **DO I NEED TO BE FIT?**

**NO - WE'LL MAKE SURE YOU'RE WORKING AT A PACE THAT MATCHES YOUR EXPERIENCE AND FITNESS LEVEL.**

## **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER?**

**IT'S YOUR CHOICE - YOU CAN BECOME A FULL MEMBER OR IF YOU DECIDE WE'RE NOT FOR YOU, WE CAN PART WAYS WITH NO HARD FEELINGS.**

**INFO@TRIBESTRENGTHGYM.COM**

**TRIBESTRENGTHGYM**

**WWW.TRIBESTRENGTHGYM.COM**

**CALL US ON 07500006408**



# THE AVENUE KITCHEN

**NEW COFFEE SHOP NOW OPEN IN WREST PARK  
WITH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SEATING AVAILABLE**



**DOGS WELCOME 🐾**

**POP IN FOR BREAKFAST, LIGHT LUNCHES, OR TEA  
AND HOMEMADE CAKE**

**PLEASE CHECK OUR SOCIAL MEDIA FOR CURRENT  
OPENING TIMES**


**f THE AVENUE KITCHEN  
01525 864400**

**BUILDING 59, WREST PARK, SILSOE, MK45 4HS**

Stray Cat  
Rescue



We are a registered charity, run by volunteers. We are based in rural Bedfordshire and have been rehoming and rehabilitating cats for over 20 years.  
We always have lots of beautiful cats waiting for loving homes.

*If you're looking to adopt, please check out our social media pages & get in touch with us!* 



facebook.com/StrayCatRescue



straycatrescue



www.straycatrescue.org.uk

PURE

Joinery Solutions

Bespoke carpentry and joinery solutions serving homes in Clophill and the surrounding area. Fully qualified with over 40 years' experience. We specialise in creating quality bespoke storage solutions, door hanging, fitting wooden flooring and refurbishing staircases, alongside a wide range of general carpentry and joinery services.

[info@purejoinerysolutions.co.uk](mailto:info@purejoinerysolutions.co.uk)

07786 463217



**Tammys' Talons**

Nail Technician  
Gel. Manicure and Pedicure

IZABELLE HAMMOND  
NAIL TECHNICIAN & PEDICURE  
CARGEL IZ nail design

**Tammy Kirby**

Clophill, Bedfordshire, MK45 4AW

Tel : 07968379309

[tammystalons@gmail.com](mailto:tammystalons@gmail.com)

### ***Laptop & Computer***

Printer, Apple Mac, setup, Repair, Data Recovery, Internet, Wireless Network, Virus Infection, Hacked, Email setup, Home office computer problems. **NO FIX- NO FEE. Qualified & Experienced. 'We Come 2 You'**  
**01525306316- 07925338435** [Pclaprepairs@gmail.com](mailto:Pclaprepairs@gmail.com)

A new professional  
dog grooming salon in Clophill

Please contact Freya on  
**07503 923165**

**Freya's**   
DOG GROOMING

# LOCAL INDEPENDENT MORTGAGE ADVICE



- Access to the whole market
- Industry experts
- Personal service
- Vast experience
- Remortgage
- First time buyers
- Moving home
- Buy To Let



**THE  
MORTGAGE  
EXPERT**

[www.tmexpert.co.uk](http://www.tmexpert.co.uk)

*Contact your local independent mortgage expert: 01525 30 67 60*

*Endeavour House, Wrest Park, Silsoe MK45 4HS*

**YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE**

*We charge a fee of £495 for the straight forward mortgage application and up to £1,495 for the more complex ones.*

*Prior to application we will let you know when this becomes payable.*

*Please note we do not charge any fees upfront or for any initial advice.*



## WREST PARK TUTORS

**Face-to-Face Tuition  
Maths, English, Science  
Reception to A Level**

- Expert tuition from qualified teachers
- Tailored to your child's level
- Fully equipped learning centre in the grounds of Wrest Park
- Term-time and/or school holidays

**Our students develop confidence,  
resilience and independence.  
They love learning with us.**

**QUALIFIED TEACHERS NEEDED TO  
JOIN OUR TEAM OF TUTORS**

**Contact Katie at  
[wrestparktutors@gmail.com](mailto:wrestparktutors@gmail.com)**

**f @wrestparktutors**

## E.T. Accountancy Services

Experienced Chartered Accountant and Chartered Tax adviser based in Clophill providing a full range of accountancy and taxation services to businesses and private individuals.

To arrange a free initial consultation please telephone me on 01525 590465 or email [emma@et-accountancy.co.uk](mailto:emma@et-accountancy.co.uk)

**Chartered Accountant and  
Chartered Tax Adviser**

**Emma Thoullass FCA CTA  
[www.et-accountancy.co.uk](http://www.et-accountancy.co.uk)**

**01525 590465**

## Painter and Decorator

Call Chris : 07950714579



*do you want your  
home brightening up?*

*all interior & exterior work*

*no job too small!*

*free no obligation quote*

*25 years experience  
& fully insured*

*facebook: @christopherthepainter*  
*email: chris.minihane@btinternet.com*

## JK Garden and Landscape Services Ltd



**We offer...**

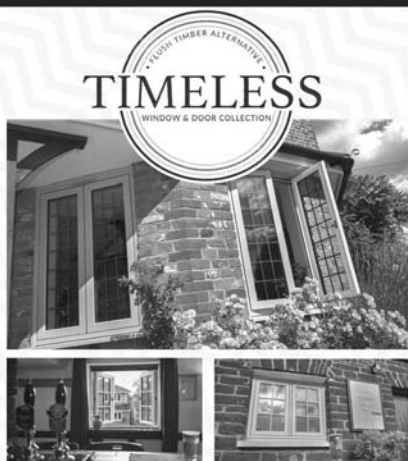


*full landscaping service  
patios  
fencing  
decking  
new lawns  
driveways  
all garden maintenance*

Contact us on **0791 2028254**  
or at **jkgardening@hotmail.co.uk**

You can also find us on Facebook

## Kings Windows



Available in a range of traditional colours  
Choose classic joints to look like wood  
Stunning handle options

### TIMELESS FLUSH TIMBER ALTERNATIVE WINDOWS

as seen in The Old Compasses & The Stone Jug

*available exclusively from  
Kings Windows*



**01582 882 800**  
**www.kingswindows.co.uk**



Lively,  
stimulating  
sessions

Great songs,  
Pop, musicals,  
folk, classical,  
world music  
and more

# Greensand Community Choir



**Mondays 7.30pm - 9pm,**  
St. Mary's Church, High Street,  
Clophill MK45 4BJ

No auditions,  
no need to read  
music

Come along and sing with your  
local community choir, for adults of all  
singing abilities

ISM  
- MUSIC -

e: [greensandcommunitychoir@gmail.com](mailto:greensandcommunitychoir@gmail.com)

t: 07975 520085

Find us on

Yellowpages.com



**Tel: 01525 861416**  
[www.thebluecat.net](http://www.thebluecat.net)

Find us on Facebook @thebluecatcattery  
or email us at [enquiries@thebluecat.net](mailto:enquiries@thebluecat.net)

The Bluecat is a luxury cattery  
set in the quiet area of Jacques Lane  
in Clophill. With just 14 cat chalets,  
we have time to fuss, pamper  
and play with your cat to its heart's  
content whilst in our care.  
Please call for further information.



- All aspects of plumbing
- Oil heating and maintenance
- Drainage
- Free quotations on all bathroom refits and renovations
- 24-hour callout

Telephone:  
**07789 693959**

Email:  
**jamieb535@  
googlemail.com**

*I specialise in  
bathroom design*

## Misty Double Glazing?

**KEEP YOUR WINDOW FRAMES...  
... WE JUST REPLACE THE GLASS!**

• UPVC • Aluminium • Or Wood

Because we replace just the glass the repair is a  
Fraction of the cost of a complete replacement window.



**[mistydoubleglazing.co.uk](http://mistydoubleglazing.co.uk)**  
**QUALITY GLAZING SERVICES**  
**01525 876808**

**WE ALSO REPLACE BROKEN...**  
• Glass • Handles • Hinges & Locks  
**AND REPAIR...Patio Doors & Conservatories!**





## Your dream Holiday is my priority

Based in Silsoe, I am your local travel advisor. Allow me to arrange your next holiday with care and lose the pain of planning. I'll take care of every last detail so you can explore with confidence and make memories to last a lifetime.

*Neil Forrester*

TRAVEL COUNSELLOR

07479 479934

neil.forrester@travelcounsellors.com  
travelcounsellors.co.uk/neil.forrester



the  
café

Eastcotts Park,  
Wallis Way,  
Bedford, MK42 0PE  
01234 266 366

Visit

[www.peacockscafe.co.uk](http://www.peacockscafe.co.uk)  
for more details on our opening  
hours and to view our full menu.

**W&H PEACOCK**  
AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

## The Cafe at W&H Peacock is **OPEN**

View the salerooms for our upcoming auctions and  
then relax with a coffee and a slice of cake.

Our unique cafe in Bedford Auction Centre with free wi-fi  
comfortably seats over 100 customers. We serve cooked  
breakfasts, paninis and sandwiches, light lunches and  
snacks plus a range of hot and cold drinks.



# LOCAL ALLOY WHEEL REFURBISHMENT



**Tel:**  
**01525**  
**860069**

**Alloy Wheel Repairs**

**Diamond Cut Alloy Wheels Repaired On Site**

**Powder Coat Primers & Lacquers**

**Fast Turnaround Alloy Wheel Welding**

**Tyres At Competitive Prices**

**NEW for 2015 - 4 Wheel Alignment Service**

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

## Welcome to Clophill St Mary's C of E Lower School and Nursery

We are a small, friendly, village Lower School, graded "Good" by Ofsted (2021), with close links to the local community.

We welcome children from 2 years to 9 years, supporting and nurturing each individual child AND teaching them about life-long Values.

Wrap around care available for all ages (breakfast and after-school care).

### Acorn Nursery

Preschool provision in a beautiful bespoke building and outdoor space! Providing 30 hours free childcare entitlement with wrap-around care too!



**SPACES  
CURRENTLY AVAILABLE**



**EVERYONE is welcome at St. Mary's and you do not have to be a practicing Christian to attend our school.  
We are first and foremost a Village School and Nursery-)**

To arrange a visit, please call: 01525 860206 or email: [generaladmin@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk](mailto:generaladmin@clophillstmarysschool.co.uk)

For more information visit: [www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk](http://www.clophillstmarysschool.co.uk)

# Auction Sales & Valuations

Valuation, collection and auction service  
of individual items through to complete  
property and commercial clearances.

Call for a free no obligation quote or  
email **info@peacockauction.co.uk**

## SALE ENTRIES NOW INVITED

Antique & Modern Furniture • Clocks • Books • Ceramics & Glassware • Pictures & Prints • Bicycles  
Jewellery & Watches • Collectables • Garage Tools & Equipment • Household Electrical Items • Office  
Furniture & Equipment • Retail Products & Stock • Vehicles • Horticultural & Commercial Equipment  
Building Materials • Garden Furniture & Effects

**www.peacockauction.co.uk**



**W&H PEACOCK**  
AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS  
**01234 266366**



Eastcotts Park,  
Wallis Way,  
Bedford,  
MK42 0PE



## T. Butlin Building & Plastering

**Local Builder and Plasterer  
for  
40 years**

m: 07778 680393  
e: [timbutlin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:timbutlin@hotmail.co.uk)

Est. 1986



**FIREWOODSHIRE.co.uk**

## KILN DRIED LOGS TO CLOPHILL



**£15 DISCOUNT**  
on first order

**USE CODE: CLOPHILL1**

**01234 484486**

# A L & G ABBOTT

## Funeral Directors

~ Established 1832 ~



With you when it matters most

An independent family business providing care and professional services to  
Kempston, Bedford and surrounding villages.



- 24 Hour Personal Service
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Home Arrangements
- Pre-Paid Funeral Plans
- Green Burials
- Funeral Wishes
- Bereavement Support Groups  
(free to anyone)

☎ 01234 843222    🌐 [abbott-funerals.co.uk](http://abbott-funerals.co.uk)    ✉ [support@abbott-funerals.co.uk](mailto:support@abbott-funerals.co.uk)

📍 150 Bedford Road, Kempston, Bedfordshire, MK42 8BH

Home  
is where the heart is  
*Let's keep it there™*



### Care in your home, just as you like it.

You may be in a situation where you need an extra pair of hands, or you may have complex needs that require dedicated care.

Our well-trusted care service ranges from a 30-minute daily visit through to full Live-in care.

**Call our friendly team today.**

Bluebird Care Central Bedfordshire

**01525 713389**

[bluebirdcare.co.uk/central-bedfordshire](http://bluebirdcare.co.uk/central-bedfordshire)  
[centralbedfordshire@bluebirdcare.co.uk](mailto:centralbedfordshire@bluebirdcare.co.uk)



# Residential Conveyancing

Experienced Local Consultant Conveyancer (Clophill)

**Michele Hosey**

**[michelehosey@photiades.com](mailto:michelehosey@photiades.com)**

**01525 300577**

Competitive legal costs, personable, efficient,  
strong communication, faster turnaround times

**Contact me for a free no obligation estimate  
or to discuss your specific requirements**

Recommended by Local Estate Agents

**photiades solicitors**  
FRIENDLY EFFICIENCY



How to use your pension pot wisely

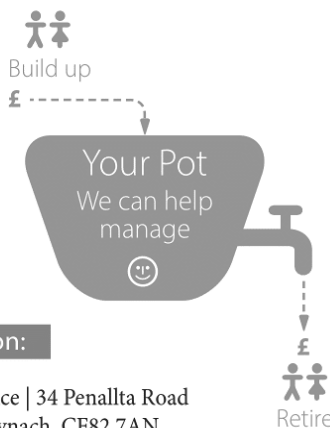
## Do you have a plan?

Maybe you have several pension pots?

What about old employer's pension schemes?

We can help you make the right choice – either when you retire or to build your pot. You now have more choices than ever.

We make sure we take the time to understand your needs, goals and preferences before we make any recommendations.



For professional, friendly, financial advice contact us on:

01525 861803 | [john@stellarfp.co.uk](mailto:john@stellarfp.co.uk)  
Enterprise House, B52 Wrest Park, Silsoe MK45 4HS

Head Office | 34 Penallta Road  
Ystrad Mynach, CF82 7AN





# NEVILLE FUNERALS

We take care of the details, so you can say  
goodbye the way you want to.

NEVILLE. Because there is a difference.

## **AMPTHILL**

The Old Church, Flitwick Road MK45 2NT

t: 01525 406132

e: [ampthill@nevillefuneralservice.com](mailto:ampthill@nevillefuneralservice.com)

---

## **SHEFFORD**

24 Clifton Road SG17 5AE

t: 01462 813258

e: [shefford@nevillefuneralservice.com](mailto:shefford@nevillefuneralservice.com)

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



# HAPPY PLACE, RESTORED

If you love your lawn,  
you'll love GreenThumb.  
Our year-round treatments  
will give your grass  
the TLC it deserves,  
so you get a lawn you  
can feel good about.



**GreenThumb**  
LAWN TREATMENT SERVICE



Discover more at [greenthumb.co.uk](http://greenthumb.co.uk)

Scan  
here

Bedford & Huntingdon

01234 709345 or 01480 597432 [bedford@greenthumb.co.uk](mailto:bedford@greenthumb.co.uk)

Baths, Toilets &  
Showers  
Sinks and Taps  
Guttering  
Leaks and Burst Pipes  
Drainage  
Handyman jobs also



beta plumbing

Silsoe based  
No call out fee – free estimates  
Fully insured and guaranteed  
No job too small  
**07720 723653 01525 864859**  
[info@betaplumbing.co.uk](mailto:info@betaplumbing.co.uk)  
[www.betaplumbing.co.uk](http://www.betaplumbing.co.uk)

## TIM DOWNING

**Washing Machines Dishwashers Dryers Electric Ovens**  
**Repairs Servicing Sales**



Tel: Tim on Clophill 860148  
Mobile: 07969 545 276



A local family business offering a quality service at a competitive price

A member of the White Goods Trade Association  
Fully Insured Est. 1981

# Root 'n Branch

Your Local Friendly & Reliable Gardener

All aspects of Garden Maintenance undertaken  
• PRUNING • MOWING • WEEDING • PLANTING • HEDGING

Southfields, Shefford  
email: whooley@hotmail.co.uk

**Tel: 07771 537385**

Public Liability  
Insured



THE CONIFERS  
— CANINE HOTEL —

LUXURY  
ACCOMMODATION  
HOLISTIC FOOD SHOP

01525 860339

[www.the-conifers.co.uk](http://www.the-conifers.co.uk)



*Bathroom  
Vogue*

EST.  
1989

- Suppliers of traditional and modern equipment
- Working whirlpool & spa baths, power & steam shower systems on display
- Over 40 settings on display
- Complete installation service if required
- Personal friendly service from a family run business
- Wall and floor tiles
- Accessories
- Mirrors
- Bathroom furniture
- Heated towel rails
- Saunas
- Bathroom cabinets

**SHEFFORD 01462 627002**

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

Unit 4A, Shefford Industrial Park, St Francis Way, Shefford SG17 5DZ



# BURGLAR ALARMS

*New Alarms Fitted or Upgrade Existing Alarms*

## BURGLAR ALARMS

We fit New Alarms - Wired or Wireless Systems

*\*We can service and maintain your existing alarm\**

## CCTV

We fit high quality systems to maximise your security.

Access your CCTV via the internet or mobile.

## DOOR ENTRY

We fit a range of quality video and audio intercoms to suit your needs.

*We are a family run business with over 35 years experience in home security and crime prevention.*



[www.maximumsecuritysystems.co.uk](http://www.maximumsecuritysystems.co.uk)

Contact:

**01582 864138 / 07746 111520**

*For a free quote and consultation*



# NEWBURY FARM PLANTS

Plant Inspiration

NEWBURY FARM, AMPHILL ROAD, SILSOE MK45 4HB

OPENING HOURS - WED - SAT 9 - 5 & SUN 10 - 4

TEL: 01525 860048

**WIDE SELECTION OF BEAUTIFUL GARDEN PLANTS**



**RHS Gold Medal Winner 2023**

**NEW Pilates** classes based in **Houghton Conquest village**. Small group classes to ensure correct posture and alignment in a friendly **private studio**.

All abilities and ages welcome with equipment provided. Classes are 45 mins in length, including a warm-up, main session and closing stretch.

**Pilates is a low impact** form of exercise which is kind on the joints. Focusing on strengthening the **deepest core muscles** which support and wrap around the spine. There are many benefits to Pilates including the easing of lower back pain and reducing stress and anxiety.

- **Group Mat Classes** – Mon, Wed, Thurs & Friday 9.30am/10.30am, 6.30pm/7.30pm
- **121 Mat Pilates** Sessions available at request
- **121 Reformer sessions** – Body Control qualified, please enquire for available times
- **DM on Facebook, Instagram or email** – [info@thepilatesbox.co.uk](mailto:info@thepilatesbox.co.uk)



## AMPTHILL & FLITWICK PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC

Tel: 01525 720882

[www.chartered-physiotherapy.co.uk](http://www.chartered-physiotherapy.co.uk)

[Info@anfphysio.co.uk](mailto:Info@anfphysio.co.uk)

**1 Kings Road Flitwick MK45 1ED**

**Helping you get back on track**

We offer the very best hands-on physiotherapy treatment

Neck/ Back/ Shoulder/Knee pain

Headaches/Migraines/Sciatica

Arthritis and all joint pain

Whiplash/RSI/Osteoporosis/Sports injuries

Vertigo and dizziness/Posture training and ergonomics

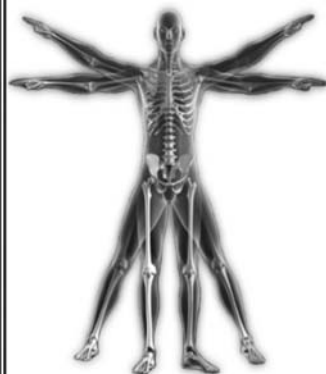
Long Covid

**WE ARE PROVIDERS FOR MOST INSURANCE COMPANIES**

**We also offer complementary treatments:**

Acupuncture/Chinese medicine

Clinical Psychology/Deep Tissue Massage



## Hire Clophill Village Hall



Wedding Receptions  
Birthdays & Special Occasions  
Dances and Discos  
Club & Community Meetings & Activities

Phone: 07821 643 936

Mail: Clophill.villagehall@gmail.com Web: www.clophillvillagehall.co.uk

## ROGER STOREY

**YOUR LOCAL PAINTER AND DECORATOR**

Friendly and Reliable Service

Many Years Experience

Please phone: **01525 861253** or **07800 777615**

## ANDREW BAKER WINDOWS

9 SHEFFORD ROAD  
CLOPHILL BEDS  
MK45 4BT

SPECIALISING IN UPVC WINDOWS,  
DOORS, CONSERVATORIES,  
FASCIA, SOFFITS, GUTTERS AND  
CLADDING. ALSO AVAILABLE FOR CARPENTRY  
WORK. NO JOB TOO SMALL OR LARGE.

20 Years experience.  
Free local quotes.

**FENSA**

Fensa Registered  
FIVE YEAR GUARANTEE

Contact Andrew: 01525862804 / 07825017855

Email: [abakerwindows@gmail.com](mailto:abakerwindows@gmail.com)



# WOBURN COUNTRY FOODS THE GOURMET BUTCHER

**HAYNES WEST END - WOBURN SANDS**

## THE FARM SHOP, HAYNES WEST END

WEST END FARM, HAYNES WEST END, MK45 3RA  
BUTCHERS HOTLINE - 07845141969

## FROSTS FOODHALL WOBURN SANDS

NEWPORT ROAD, WOBURN SANDS, MK17 8UE  
BUTCHERS HOTLINE - 07754215335

## ORDER ONLINE

WOBURNCOUNTRYFOODS.COM

# Advertisers index

## Auctioneers & valuers

W&H Peacock 34

## Bathroom Services

Bathroom Vogue 39

## Builders & Carpenters

PURE joinery solutions 28

T. Butlin Building & Plastering 34

Stuart Benson Building Projects IFC

## Car Services/Repairs

A&F Motors Ltd IFC

Mint Alloys 33

TC Coomber Car Services BC

## Choirs

Greensand Community Choir 31

## Computer Services

PCLap Repairs 28

## Electrical Services

APN Electrical 25

## Financial Services

ET Accounting Services 29

Stella Financial Planning 36

MB Accounting Services 22

The Mortgage Expert 29

## Food & Refreshments

Café at W&H Peacock 32

Woburn Country Foods 43

The Avenue Kitchen 27

## Fuel

Anglia Firewood 34

## Funeral Services

AL&G Abbot, Funeral Directors 35

Neville Funeral Service 37

## Garden

Coles Growers IBC

Green Thumb Lawn Treatment 38

JK Garden and Landscape Services 30

Newbury Farm Plants 40

Root 'n Branch 39

## Health & Beauty

Bluebird Care 35

Amphill & Flitwick Physiotherapy 41

Pilates Box 41

Tracy's Scentsy Treasures 25

Tammy's Talons 28

Tribe Strength Gym 26

## Home Improvements

Christopher The Painter 30

David James Kitchens 25

Roger Storey - Painter & Decorator 42

## Legal

Photiades Solicitors 36

Shaw's Wills 24

## Pet & Animal Services

The Conifers Canine Hotel 39

The Bluecat Luxury Cattery 31

Amphill Veterinary Centre 23

Floofys Dog Grooming 23

Freyas Dog Grooming 28

Stray Cat Rescue 28

## Plumbing & Drainage Services

Jamie, the happy plumber 31

Beta Plumbing 38

Chapman & Kirby Heating 22

## Print Services

Fidelity Design & print IFC

## Public Houses

The Stone Jug 22

## Repair Services

Tim Downing Repair Services 38

## Schools

Clophill PreSchool BC

Clophill St Mary's C of E 33

Acorn Lower School and Nursery 33

## Security Services

Maximum Security Systems 40

## Travel Services

Travel Counsellor 32

## Tuition

Wrest Park Tutors 29

## Village Hall

Clophill Village Hall 42

## Windows/Replacement

Andrew Baker Windows 42

AW Windows IBC

Kings Windows 30

Misty Double Glazing 31

*IFC = Inside Front Cover IBC = Inside Back Cover BC = Back Cover*

## Love reading Spotlight?

Don't forget to mention us when you use a business that advertises in this magazine!

# ColesGrowers



**BRITISH CUT FLOWERS**  
SEASONAL, SUSTAINABLE, UNIQUE

Fresh bouquets £15 £25 or £40

Posy in a jar £12 – these make beautiful gifts

Bud vases 2 for £14 for a small celebration

Special occasions please get in touch.

**Collect from Gravenhurst Fri/Sat am or pm.**

**Order deadline 3pm the day before.**

Please contact us via:

Text/WhatsApp 07736 106326 or

Email: [lynda@colesgrowers.co.uk](mailto:lynda@colesgrowers.co.uk) for how to order



## NO PRESSURE SALES – YOU DEAL WITH THE OWNER FROM START TO FINISH



- ✓ A-rated windows as standard
- ✓ Composite doors
- ✓ High security
- ✓ Bifolding doors
- ✓ Conservatories
- ✓ Fascias, soffits and guttering
- ✓ Insurance-backed guarantee
- ✓ Fensa certificate



**Contact: ANDY WOOD**

**01582 536944 or 07796 272539**

**[sales@awwindows.co.uk](mailto:sales@awwindows.co.uk)**



See reviews from satisfied customers at [awwindows.co.uk](http://awwindows.co.uk)



# Clophill Preschool

We are a unique outdoor setting based in the rural grounds of Clophill Village Hall welcoming children from the age of 2 and offering a bespoke SEND provision.

Our passionate and experienced staff nurture every child and broaden their perspective, enrich their knowledge and spark the magic of wonder through a curriculum based in nature.



**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

**Call or email to find out more**

07765 887868 or 07936 006381

[clophillpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:clophillpreschool@gmail.com)

[www.clophillpreschool.co.uk](http://www.clophillpreschool.co.uk)



Find us on  
**Facebook**

**TC Toombers**

**MOT'S CLASS 4/5L/7**  
**CAR SERVICING & REPAIR**  
**TYRES & EXHAUSTS**  
**AIR CONDITIONING**  
**DIAGNOSTIC CODE READING**

**Collection  
& Delivery**  
SERVICE AVAILABLE  
Please ask

**AMPTHILL**  
**01525 406330**

UNIT F, AMPTHILL INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, STATION ROAD, AMPTHILL, MK45 2QY