



Clipston Courier

June 2015

THE "CLIPSTON COURIER" - YOUR NEW VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Editorial

Welcome to the second edition of the Clipston Courier. The editorial team would like to thank all those who sent through their lovely, and encouraging comments regarding the new-style Clipston Courier. Ideally we would like to make every issue in colour (and it will always be available in colour on a PDF), but we do have to rely on sponsorship for each edition to make this happen, so we are very grateful to those who have already agreed to sponsor the newsletter. Please contact the editorial team with any ideas, news, and articles.

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Defibrillator Appeal

Fundraising target smashed

The fundraising appeal to install a defibrillator at the Bull's Head has been a great success, with enough money raised to purchase the unit and support materials. The £1300 raised was mostly from the Bull's Head Cornish beer festival and raffle, along with some donations from local groups including the Clipston Bulls Share Club. There's now enough to buy the defibrillator unit, an insulated box to keep it outdoors and ongoing purchases of the required support materials including training equipment, electricity, batteries and replacement medical kit.



Steve Foster, landlord at the Bull's Head said "When I heard what had happened to James and how he'd been resuscitated using the defibrillator in Sibbertoft, I was surprised that we didn't have one in Clipston.

From talking to Mishe Rengger, I knew that she had tried to raise funds to buy one before, so with her's and Colin's knowledge of what needed to be done to go through the application process, it felt like we had some impetus and events to get the money together.

It's a vital village resource and I'm pleased that with the support of the local community, we've been able to raise the funds so quickly. The British Heart Foundation, who approve and issue the units, has told us that a few minutes can make a real difference, so it felt like something that we should just do."

Training to use the defibrillator

Mishe, a district nurse, will lead the training on the new equipment. With Mishe and Colin being heavily involved in getting the defibrillator in place, helping people prepare to use it was the natural next step. Mishe said "I've lived in Clipston for a long time and I'm pleased we now finally have a defibrillator in place and I hope as many people get trained as possible. The defibrillator is very straightforward and will actually talk you through exactly what to do, but training is recommended, including in CPR. We're making sure the funds are also used to get the right training equipment and keep stocks and power replenished so it's there for the future as well."

If you are interested in getting trained on CPR and how to use the defibrillator, please contact Mishe via michelle.rengger@gmail.com.

The training sessions, which will start soon, can be run for up to 10 people at a time and are likely to be held on Monday evenings at the Bull's Head, with all staff at the pub also being trained.

The defibrillator is very simple to operate and can be used on adults and children but everyone should go through the training.

The editors would like to make it clear that the views expressed in any article contained in these pages do not necessarily represent their own views or those of the sponsors.

Clipston Defibrillator

How to access Once the unit and insulated box are installed outside the pub, anyone needing to use it can get access 24 hours a day by calling 999. There are clear instructions about this on the box. The unit will be registered with the emergency services who will give the caller a specific pin code to open the box along with sending the appropriate emergency support. If the person needing access has gone through the training, they will also have a pin code. Steve will keep a master key at the pub in case of emergencies or lack of a mobile phone. Stickers will be placed in prominent places around the village to let all know that a defibrillator is in place and where to find it.

Tennis Club

"Tuesday afternoon, clock slowly ticking away on the wall, outside the sun is streaming down casting shadows whilst fluffy white clouds scud across the sky." Most people would look at this scene and sigh wistfully and think that it's great that summer has finally arrived but there is a group of people in the village who think, "How fast is that wind? Is it going to be blowing across the court or heavily favouring someone serving at the playground end? Will that sun be in my eyes?"

Yes, the Tennis Club!

Most people in the village are probably well aware that the tennis courts belong to the village and that they can turn up and play, for free, whenever they want (which is why the Playing Field Trust needs your support to keep this great facility, along with the playground, pavilion and exercise equipment in good condition and accessible to all). But if you can never find anyone to play with or want to test yourself against a variety of opposition, then why not come down on a Tuesday evening (5:00ish to dark'ish) and join us? What you'll get is guaranteed opposition on a Tuesday evening with short games of mixed doubles played in a socially competitive structure with a great bunch of people. Ability is not a criterion for joining; there is no criterion! And then we go to the pub! For more information

Contact Martin Clarke 525558

Flower Club

Our next meeting on June 17th is a demonstration by Alison Glover entitled "You never know!" Again the stage will be filled with beautiful arrangements all of which are raffled off for the lucky members or guests to take home should they win. If you have never been to a flower arranging demonstration, come along and watch to see how it is done. Guests are very welcome. £4 includes refreshments.

Later in the month we have been invited to one of our members' gardens in Naseby. That will be a treat as she has a lovely garden. There is not a meeting in July due to the fact we will have had two meetings in June.

Heather Weston 525598

Shooting Club

Clipston Shooting Club has now been in existence for 29 years in October of this year. We were originally formed for two reasons - to enjoy clay pigeon shooting and if there are any spare profits, to help local organisations financially. So far we have donated approx. £29,000 to local causes. We only help local groups as opposed to national charities.

As examples, this year we have donated £100 to the defibrillator appeal and we will probably give £100 to the Air Ambulance and the same amount to the local British Legion to provide retired members with Christmas hampers. The club meets for a couple of hours on the last Sunday morning of every month (approx. 9.30 till 12 'ish and afterwards usually to the Bull's Head!) on a different landowner's site. It doesn't matter if you have ever shot or not, you will be made very welcome. We have safety officers and people who will lend you a gun and provide tuition.

This and our friendly members are the main reasons for the length of our existence. Everyone is welcome. We've had a good year with many new members joining - men, ladies and young people. You won't know how much you will enjoy it unless you have a go! Anyone who would like to give it a try should ring Laurie Anderson on 01858 525481 and I will answer any questions you may have.

Stepping Stones



We are a friendly, community run preschool based in Clipston, next to Clipston School

We welcome children from the village of Clipston and the surrounding towns and villages aged from two-and-a-half to five years.

Each week our children learn about different themes/topics and take part in various activities relating to a theme. Upcoming events that our children will be taking part in:

- 5th June – Barnados Toddle
- 21st July – End of Year Show

Visitors to preschool – we welcome visitors to our preschool and are always looking for people to come in to give demonstrations about topics that the children would find interesting. If you have a skill/interest that you'd love to share with the children then please contact Sharon Brigden – contact details shown below.

Registration - Our preschoolers will be leaving us in July to start school in September. The preschool will have vacancies. For more information please contact us - details below.

Committee – We are looking for a new Chair to start in September. If you would like more information you can contact Samantha Tedd via email - samanthatedd@gmail.com

Contact Details: 01858 525113 or preschool1@clipston.northants.sch.uk

Village Hall

Seems like a long time since April 2nd when we held our Jumble Sale. We raised £556, including £100 from a fundraising friend. Many thanks to those that supported in any way, including those who came from far and wide. The next Jumble Sale is on September 3rd. All items welcome. Whist drives are finished for the summer but start again on 10th September.

Abi's Travels

No doubt you are aware that DVLA are scrapping the paper part of driving licences from 8th June 2015.

However, a recent survey of many car rental companies overseas revealed that most were not aware of this and may still ask for the paper part to check on endorsements, although they really shouldn't need to. Don't get caught out.

Visit the DVLA website

preferably the day before you leave, and input your driving licence and National Insurance numbers to receive a unique one-time passcode.

I recommend that you print this page and take it with you. This passcode is only valid for 72 hours from time of issue so if you are planning to rent a car halfway through your holiday then you'll need to access the internet locally to obtain your passcode. This information is applicable for all drivers in possession of a UK driving licence - regardless of their country of residence and it is also applicable regardless of whether a client has an old style paper licence, or the newer style photocard licence.

I have a pdf document that I am happy to forward to anyone which gives detailed instructions, so please just drop me an email if you'd like a copy, or call DVLA directly on 0300 7910 6801.

No doubt there will be hiccups aplenty when collecting rental cars this summer so be as prepared as you can by having your passcode ready!
Need I mention the queues?!

Following a year of upheavals in 2014 we didn't travel too far but this year are making up for it! We had a great Easter weekend seeing the sights in Paris, I'm soon off to South Africa and Mauritius (it's work, honestly!), then Croatia for our family holidays in the summer. You can keep abreast of my travels by visiting my webpage as I always put a short blog and some photos on there when I get back.

Abi Prescott 897510

Clipston WI

National celebrations will soon be underway for the centenary year – 6 members will attend the streaming of the National AGM at Harborough Theatre at the beginning of June – speakers include Lucy Worsley and Baroness Grey-Thompson.

A Centennial Fair is being held at Harrogate in September and Linda Lake is very much looking forward to her trip to the Buckingham Palace garden party. Our June speaker is Ian, from the plant nursery in Braybrooke; July we hope to have a garden evening (weather permitting), and August we learn about the wildlife at Pitsford reservoir. New members or visitors are very welcome at our monthly Tuesday evening meetings in the village hall



Rose Anderson 525481

Coffee & Chat

Our monthly coffee mornings seem to come round quicker and quicker as the year goes by. Many of you may know that Anne, Jenny and I started these mornings to offer people some time out one Saturday each month, to go to the village hall for a catch-up with neighbours and friends. We all seem to have such busy lives and hopefully when you pay us a visit, it makes you sit down and chat. We keep our prices low. If we have money over (as we do because people are very generous and donate cakes etc.) we have given – and will continue to give – money to Canine Partners and village projects.

Why not come along - dates are below:-
June 20th – July 18th – August 15th.
Village Hall 10.30 to midday.

Canine Partners – Those of you who have met a puppy in training called "Fleur" will be pleased to know she went to "Canine University" on the 11th May. This is for her final assessment before being partnered with someone who needs some help in their everyday life. The Bedford Training Centre has a busy summer ahead of fundraising. The Annual Show is on **Saturday 6th June**. If anyone would like more details please ring Jill on **525746**.

Clipston Profile



Have you ever wondered why there is always a beautifully mown piece of grass verge halfway along the road heading out of Clipston towards the A508? Well, it is all down to the hard work and dedication of one man; at 78 years old, Bryan Wilford can still be seen 5 or 6 times a week heading out on his famous bicycle to the piece of land he rents from the church known as 'Bell Ropes'. This land has been rented by the Wilford family for over 90 years and the rent paid goes to the upkeep of the church bell ropes at All Saints Church in Clipston.

Bryan's grandfather, Richard Wilford, first used the land when he was sent home injured from the First World War. He was a butcher by trade, working for Buswells at the slaughterhouse in Church Lane, and grazed cattle and sheep on the land. Bryan remembers spending time at Bell Ropes with his grandfather from as early as 7 or 8 years old when he'd go down there and shoot rabbits from which his grandfather would make a mean rabbit pie! This same grandfather started the Wilford cycling trend and although his war injury meant he had to pedal one-legged, he could be seen, as Bryan is, heading off down to Bell Ropes to spend time on the much-loved land.

Bryan has become a household name in Clipston, his faded blue overall coat and his smiling face under his trilby hat a daily vision as he cycles down the road, often carrying all sorts of weird and wonderful goodies. Over the years Bryan has carried mowers, hen feed, lambs, bales of straw, cockerels, milk, trays of cakes or eggs and he once got stopped by the police for carrying his daughter's best friend home on the handlebars! He's cycled down to Bell Ropes in the middle of the night when he was lambing and once had to race down there when the old Dutch barn

was set on fire (the charred corner posts can be still be seen on the plot).

Amazingly Bryan has never fallen off his bike although he did have a close call when two vehicles had stopped at the bottom of the hill and there was only a tiny gap between them – Bryan, laden down with a bag of hen feed and unable to brake, just managed to squeeze between the two, at full pelt, knocking both the cars' wing mirrors off in the process – luckily Bryan remained unscathed!



Bryan, I know, will continue to work down at Bell Ropes for as long as he can and as long as his legs will allow him to cycle his trusty bike down there. So, next time you pass by that beautiful piece of mown verge, have a little look out for the bike propped against the fence, and no doubt, Bryan will be there, working hard, and helping All Saints' bell ropes survive another year.

Battle of Naseby

Anniversary 13th and 14th June

This summer sees the 370th Anniversary of the Battle of Naseby, one of the most important events of the English Civil War. On 13 and 14 June, our neighbouring village is running a series of events to commemorate the battle. Admission to all events is free for those on foot, with a £10 charge for a car park pass, which can be purchased in advance from www.naseby.com. Donations are most welcome. It's not a money making event, but purely to raise the profile of the battle and the plans to build a visitor centre in the Naseby parish church.

What's happening on the day?

The village and battlefield of Naseby will once again be filled with Royalist and Parliamentarian soldiers with over 1,000 troops in a two day re-enactment of this famous battle, led by historical society the Sealed Knot.

The event takes place on Mill Hill, on the Welford Road from Naseby, with gates opening at noon on 13 and 14 June.

As well as a Living History Camp with baggage train and traders, the event includes re-enactments of the various stages of the battle. There will also be a series of short talks about the battle at the Cromwell monument on the battlefield.

At 11:00 am on Sunday 14 June, there will be an Act of Remembrance for the fallen of the Civil Wars outside the Church of All Saints, Naseby with local residents, patrons and trustees of the Naseby Battlefield Project and members of the Sealed Knot in period uniform and a special "meet the descendants", a get together for those whose ancestors fought in the battle.



The new visitor centre

Apart from commemorating one of the most important battles in English history, the purpose of the event is to publicise the work of and to raise funds for the Naseby Heritage Group which has been established between All Saints Church in Naseby and the Naseby Battlefield Project. The church and the battlefield project are working together with Church of England buildings officers and the Diocese of Peterborough, to create a joint visitor and community centre in part of the 13th century All Saints Church. The aim is to develop a "sustainable resource for the benefit of the whole community", while delivering an educational experience which engages children and people of all ages.

Get involved

All help will be gratefully received – if you're interested in getting involved, please contact Joan Beretta by e-mail at: joanberetta@btinternet.com

More information

Please see www.naseby.com for more information about the re-enactment and other information about the events.

Clippo Bookworm

The illustrious new editorial staff of the *Clipston Courier* have agreed that an occasional piece from the Bookworm would be welcome, especially if there is a literary article or book that has a local interest. Having unearthed a significant number of local authors and books about this area over the past few years, I now have more difficulty in sticking to the brief i.e. to review books of interest specifically to "Clipstonians".

All suggestions welcome.

Recently Janet and I attended a very interesting lecture at Moulton College by Ursula Buchan who lives near Oundle. She is the granddaughter of John Buchan, author of *The 39 Steps* and other excellent adventure stories.

Ursula is an author in her own right, mainly on subjects related to gardening.

The English Garden is a beautifully illustrated coffee-table book on the development of gardens in England; as most of the gardens mentioned are open to the public it is a great book to have when thinking about where to visit when touring the country. But it is a bit expensive (£40). Her recent paperback *A Green and Pleasant Land* about how England's gardeners fought the Second World War is more affordable and quite timely as we celebrate the 70th anniversary of VE Day. But I have to say it is a bit dull unless your memory really stretches back that far or you want to know how your parents coped during those times.

I would strongly recommend booklovers to the 12th Althorp Literary Festival held this year, June 10-13th. It is always great fun to mingle with other bookworms, meet interesting authors and enjoy refreshments in a lovely setting. This year Clare Balding, Sir Ranulph Fiennes, Darcey Bussell and Alan Titchmarsh, to name but a few, will be there. Failing that there is always the wonderful Hay on Wye book festival later in the summer.

Chris Alderson Smith

Lost horses found good homes!



Clipston School

The first half of the summer term has been an extremely busy time for the children. Election fever came to the school, on May 7th, as we mirrored the events happening in the adult world. The Reception children in the Owl Class divided into three parties- The Fantastic Fun Party, The Magical Make-Believe Party and the Seismic Science Party. All the parties focused on how they would be planning the fun-filled activity day. After a series of presentations to the whole school, the children and adults were asked to cast their vote, in a mock election booth. The votes were duly counted to reveal a very close result which awarded the win to the Magical Make-Believe Party, by just 1 vote. The whole school was treated to a performance of the *Railway Children* by a travelling theatre company. We were amazed that only 4 people acted all the parts and managed all the sound and lighting.

We welcomed a visit from a local resident who talked about her visits to Nepal through a series of slides and items which she had brought back with her. The School recently raised funds for victims of the Nepal earthquake disaster, through a "wear what you want and wacky hair day". The school choir's fantastic performance in the "Music Making Day" at the Methodist Church Hall in Market Harborough on the 21st March helped raise money for Cancer Research. The children accompanied their singing with hand chimes, metallophone, ukuleles and guitars. The choir and ukulele club participated in a musical performance at All Saints Church, in front of parents and members of the local community, who kindly served refreshments afterwards. As a school we are proud that the children participate in a wide range of sports. The school's netball team was the winner of the High 5 Netball Competition for the Daventry North Cluster. They also took part in the tournament at Lutterworth. The children have been part of the Annual Syd East football tournament; children from Years 3 upwards were involved in the Cluster Schools X-Country Championships, in Daventry, along with our friends from Creaton. A group of children from Year 3/4 participated in the Mini-Red Tennis Festival and the

Quick-Stick Hockey Matches, together with two Year 5 Sports Crew Leaders. The Reception Owl Class enjoyed the visit to Bluebell Woods at Coton Manor; despite the gusty weather the children managed to spot a fairy or two and even a Gruffalo! The Year 1 and 2 children in the Robin Class continue to explore the woodland creatures that surround the school, and found some very interesting dens. Best of Britain and our wider community has been explored by the Sparrow Class, who participated in a number of traditional British games and ate homemade fish and chips, out of newspapers! The Kingfisher Class has been discovering about America, with panning for gold, campfire singing and cooking during their Wild West Day. The Year 6 children in the Woodpecker Class recently completed their National Curriculum Assessments, and to finish off their Arctic and Antarctica topic enjoyed a visit to the SnoZone in Milton Keynes.

www.clipstonprimaryschool.org

Emma Mercer

Clipston School Fete

Well, this year, like last, we were able to enjoy some lovely weather on Saturday 16th May. Just in time for the Clipston School Fete. The School Association, teachers and helpers worked tirelessly from early morning in order to get the fete up and ready to go and what a wonderful job they all did (even if I do say so myself!). Lots of parents, carers and family came to support the school and were treated to a number of wonderful stalls, maypole dancing, hand bell ringing and the crowning of the May Queen.



The children enjoyed the day and being able to showcase their maypole dancing skills they had been practicing in school. We also had the results of the photo competition with the winner (Charlotte from year 6) having her photo printed on to canvas to have

displayed in the school. All the other winners and runners-up were presented with prizes from this year's fete sponsors Strutt & Parker, whose representatives also crowned the May Queen.

This year's fete has proved as successful as previous years, and I can only say a big thank you, on behalf of the School Association, for all your support not only during the fete but throughout the year for all our events. We look forward to your continued support.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to all those teachers and helpers who gave up their Saturday to help make the fete such a success. Without you, it would not be possible to run the event and we are grateful for your help. If anyone would like any further information regarding the fete, such as the full list of photography winners or the amounts raised, please feel free to contact me;

Stevenson_emma@sky.com

Thank you once again.

Emma Stevenson

Friendship Club

New members are always welcome! Meetings include afternoon tea and a raffle and are held in Clipston Village Hall unless shown otherwise. Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month and normally start at 2.30 pm.

8th June; Lunch meeting

The meeting starts at 12.30 pm for 1pm. Following lunch we will try our hand at whist, followed by a cream tea.

13th July; John Tillotson

"Soliciting on the high street"

10th August: Garden meeting

It is time for our garden meeting at Manor House, 37 Main Street, Great Oxendon by kind invitation of Michael and Hillary Bairstow. The meeting starts at 2.30 pm and will include a "bring and buy" stall, afternoon teas and a raffle.

All we need is for the sun to shine so that we can enjoy the lovely gardens.

We are indebted to everyone who helps in any way. Grateful thanks

Mary Durran 525200

Clipston Open Gardens

Julie Connell celebrates her last Charitable Open Gardens Event.

Over the Easter weekend Julie and her team – front page main picture – welcomed 968 paying visitors to the Maltings NGS Open Gardens Event. In addition to this there were children and NGS members attending. A grand total of 1009 people visited and enjoyed tea and cakes provided by the team of voluntary helpers, many of whom have been doing this for ten years. A total of £2904 was raised from admission and £42.45 for donations for NGS Northampton Gardens Booklets to give a total £2946.45 donated to NGS. Teas, cakes and the plant stall raised a total of £875, which was distributed between Stepping Stones and All Saints Church. Donations raised in church for the Easter Story Exhibition amounted to £315 which brought the total for the church over Easter to £1190.



The Maltings NGS Garden Openings over 10 years: the facts and figures:-

Visitors total of 8895
Funds raised to NGS £25,647
To local charities £9,675 made up of;
Church £3112.50
Stepping Stones £3412.50
Other local charities £3150.00

All money donated to the NGS goes to charity; since its foundation the NGS has given more than £43m to nursing, caring and gardening charities. Last year alone the NGS donated £2.5 million to charities, including the following: Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie Cancer Care, Hospices UK, Carers Trust Queen's Nursing Institute, and various other gardening charities.

Clipston Football

Did you know that we have an excellent football team here in Clipston? I didn't but having heard they were in the Cup Final I thought I'd go along and support

them. I was not expecting to be that impressed, but I was!

An excellent performance resulted in a 5-1 win for Clipston (who had also clinched promotion a few weeks earlier to the Premier division) and although Corby Pegasus pressed them hard in the second half, the result was rarely in doubt. Two excellent goals from local lad, Simon Barby – one an easy header but the other a superb piece of skill and cool-headedness – to add to Matt Bates' opener, in his last ever match (although he's said that before!), along with a penalty, put the game to bed by half-time, and a final flourish led to a 5th goal to round off a thoroughly deserved victory.

However it was the overall skill levels, with both sides trying to play good football, and the absence of play-acting, feigning injuries, etc. that scars the modern game that really impressed me. Two very skillful full backs, Ryan Durran and Lewis Burgess, a couple of midfielders in Mike Oldershaw and Tony Bridge tackling well and creating chances for the pace of Simon and Ricky Barber & Tom Williams suggest that the team will do well in the higher division next season.

So if you are like me and enjoy football but don't like some of the excesses and prices of the professional game then why not come down and support your local team for free? They would appreciate it and you might end up, like me, being pleasantly surprised! Come on Clippo!

Martin Clarke Reporting



Clipston Football Club finished 2nd in our league, so now we have been promoted to Duston Garage Premier Division. A big thank you to all the managerial lads who do the hard work so things run smoothly on match day. Especially Jeremy Durran who marks out the pitch and Matt Bates for all his work as secretary and treasurer. Also thanks to the players who turn up early to help put up the goal posts and nets.

Our end of season fundraiser was held on the 15th May at the Bulls Head and we thank Helen and Steve very much for their hospitality on the night and during the football season.

The trophies were awarded to:-
Most improved player - Alex Forward
Clubman of the year - Karl Bandy
Players player - Tom Williams
Managers player - Jordan May
Highest scorer - Simon Barby
Thanks to all who gave their support on the night.

We look forward to playing in a new division and visiting different venues.

Parish Council

Following the election on May 7th, at its first meeting, the Parish Council said a sad farewell to retiring councillors Mike Fowler (24 years), Mike Parrott (10 years) and Paul Hooper (10 years).

The places have been filled by Pam Booker, Jonathan Wills and Mike Ward.

At the Annual Meeting Cllr. Robert Burnham was re-elected as chairman for the coming year.

Councillors

Chairman – Cllr. Robert Burnham
Vice-chairman – Cllr Anthony Price
Councillors: - Angela Fellowes
Caroline Kemsley-Pein
Heather Weston
Pam Booker
Michael Ward
Jonathan Wills

Playing Field Trust

We have had a busy winter. We were awarded a grant from The Big Lottery which, (in addition to the money raised at the Festivals), has meant that we have been able to upgrade the pavilion heating and the showers and decorate and put in a new carpet. Project management skills far exceeding anything you'd see on *Grand Designs* were shown by Faye Tan and Nikki Bugla..... Many thanks!
Many thanks again to the weekly mowers of the children's play area – Ollie Eveleigh, James McTaggart, Shaun Beasley, Dave Wilford and Bruce Bradshaw. I'm sure we can find a space in the rota if you'd like to help - all equipment and training provided!

We have also been able to start putting in equipment for everyone over the age of 14 to use. We plan to extend this to other varied play and exercise equipment over the next year. The storage sheds have also been renovated to make a secure place for the marquees that were purchased last year using the money from the Jubilee Festival fund. The pavilion and the marquees are available for use by villagers for private parties – please contact me for details. Our running costs for mowing, insurance, heating, lighting and maintenance of the pavilion and the tennis courts are well in excess of £6000 per year and we appreciate the support of everyone who can come to the **CLIPSTON FESTIVAL on JUNE 27TH** as this event is our main way to raise money for the playing fields and the pavilion.

It is great that the Clipston Youth Club and Stepping Stones are now using the pavilion regularly. Part of the reason for upgrading the showers was to meet the requirements of the Football League that Clipston Football Club play in. It is excellent that the footballers have had so much success and gained promotion again, slightly tempered for us in that we will need to upgrade the referee's facilities to meet the new requirements! Planning is in full swing.

Sadly although Clipston Cricket Club will continue to exist, they do not have enough cricketers to continue to play. This will reduce the Playing Field Trust income but not necessarily our costs as the Cricket Club worked on the square themselves. Hopefully we will see more cricketers come to live in the village and playing can start again!

We continue to plan to develop the facilities on the field. Our next main target is to afford a range of more exciting equipment for all ages in the corner near the basketball net.

Look forward to seeing you at THE CLIPSTON FESTIVAL ON 27TH JUNE
If you would like to run a stand or volunteer to help at the festival in another way please contact me

Andy Blake
Chairman Clipston Playing Fields Trust
andyblake4@hotmail.com

07768554395

Clipston Weather

It is six months since my last *Weather Report* was published in the *Clipston Newsletter* and I feel that some brief notes should be included here to 'catch-up' on the past.

The Year – 2014

Rainfall for the year totalled 924 mm (36.4 inches) which is 22 per cent above my 35 years average for Clipston. Six of the months were above average, although September was extremely dry – less than 6 mm – and the lowest September rainfall on record. Snow came in December, but quickly melted. The highest temperatures came in July, with a maximum of 28°C.

January 2015

Rainfall, or I should say 'Precipitation' as the total includes a 50 mm deep snowfall late in the month, was about 10 per cent above average.

Both day and night temperatures were about average, although the lowest of minus 5.5°C was well below any in 2014.

February 2015

Precipitation, which included 20mm of snow on the 2nd was slightly above average. Temperatures were about average again, although we had 12 nights with air frost, the lowest being minus 4° on the first day of the month.

March 2015

No snow this month with rainfall only 65 per cent of average and 18 dry days. Temperatures were about normal for March, despite nine nights with air frost.

April 2015

Another fairly dry month with about 43 per cent of average rainfall and 20 dry days. Temperatures were above average, and nationally, this month was reported as the sunniest April on record. I recorded a maximum of 19.5°C in the screen on the 10th and no night temperatures below zero.

Two weeks into May

Although the month started with rain on seven of the first eight days, the days following have been mostly dry, and the total to date is about average.

On a few days temperatures have been above normal, but still have not achieved the April maximum. The highest to date is 19° on the 11th. I have not recorded any air frost, although no doubt some white ground frost has been evident on exposed ground in the lower parts of the village.

Peter Wilford

C.A.D.S.

Following the success of our last play we have been trying to find something suitable to perform later in the year. CADS members have enjoyed regular play reading sessions over the past few months and having laughed uncontrollably reading one particular play, plan to perform this play later in the year.

The play now identified is called 'Rumours', a comedy by Neil Simon with 5 male and 5 female characters. Casting will take place during June and, assuming we are able to cast the play successfully, we are aiming for it to be performed in November. Once the initial planning stage is complete we shall be hoping to twist a few arms into helping out and will call for established or budding actors to come along to join us. If anyone feels they might like to be involved either performing or in a support role. Auditions soon! Please contact:

Val Carpenter 525441, Liz Mirams 525480 or Peter Warren 525463

Clipston Church

The church in Clipston is continuing to increase the numbers of villagers attending its services and, just as important, is developing the ways in which it engages with the local community. We want everyone to feel that the church represents something important to the life of the village and that all feel comfortable coming to it – whether for worship or to attend the various events we hold during the year. You are probably aware that the church building itself is now deteriorating badly with major leaks now occurring through the roof of the south aisle when we have heavy rain. The PCC is doing what it can, but it is only a matter of time before there is irreparable damage to some of historic memorials inside the church. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful with our recent application for a grant to replace the roof. We are, however, continuing to apply for other grants and hope that we will eventually find a way of dealing with the urgent repairs and furthering our plans for other improvements.

Easter is the major festival in the Christian calendar and this year we decided to present the Easter story through a series of exhibits within the church. This included work by local groups and individuals as well as the school. The exhibition was visited by large numbers of people over the Easter weekend and its success was in no small measure due to it being run concurrently with Julie Connell's Open Gardens. There were some beautiful messages left by visitors complementing us on the displays.

We have two main events planned for the future – our Harvest Supper on 10th October and a Christmas Tree Festival later in the year. We have decided not to go ahead with the VJ Day celebration in August and are, instead, planning to join with other local villages in running a food stall at the Shambala Family Festival over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Please see the separate invitation to be involved in this exciting opportunity for the village.

The Church now has its own website – www.allsaintsclipston.org which we hope you will find useful. The site is updated regularly and contains information about services, people and events. Please take some time to visit the site and feel free to comment or ask questions through the contact link. Services usually start at 11.00 and we are now serving teas, coffees and biscuits from 10.30 a.m. so that people can get together before rather than after the service. If you (or anyone you know) would like help to get to any of our services please let us know. Our vicar Angela is having a knee operation in early June and will be off work recuperating, so do feel free to contact any PCC member or one of our two church wardens:

Steve Carpenter on 01858 525 441
or Julian Rogers on 01858 525789

Local Clipston

A topical column about the activities of Clipston residents, featuring this time, Simon and Wendy Doughty.

Eroica Britannia, which began in Italy in 1997, is a period cycle race with riders on pre 1987 bicycles, dressed to match the era of their bikes. Eroica Britannia began in Bakewell, Derbyshire, last year as a 3 day cycling and vintage festival, culminating in a bicycle ride with a choice of three routes; 30, 55 and 100 miles. Riders came from over 40 countries to take part in the event, there were bicycles of all vintages and exceptionally well-dressed participants. All of the villages along the route got into the spirit, welcoming the riders with trestle tables full of cakes, pork pies, bacon sandwiches etc. Those who took part in the 100 mile ride, cycled up the drive of Chatsworth House, where they were greeted with champagne. Last year, Simon rode the 30 mile route on a 1930s Northamptonshire police bike, whilst I used our Citroen H van as a stall to sell our handmade wares. It was a fantastic weekend with a great atmosphere and glorious weather. We are participating again this year; whilst Simon is planning to ride one of the longer routes, he has also been commissioned to produce graphic panels, hand-drawn signage, and our van will be a pop-up shop for Random Makes (www.random-makes.co.uk).



The Eroica Britannia event at the Bakewell Showground runs from 19th - 21st of June

Weekend passes are just £10
www.eroicabritannia.co.uk

Clipston Chapel

Greetings to all from the church. There are not many folk meeting at the chapel in Chapel Lane, but we feel so privileged to be able to use the building and tend the graveyard just like those faithful people did in the 1800s. But most of all, we come to the chapel on Sundays to praise and give thanks for what God has done for us and to pray for those in need. It has been good over the past year to have two or three young children coming to our Sunday services who really enjoy joining with us as we sing our Christian praises to the Lord. Please come and join with us as we praise and worship our Saviour Jesus Christ. We would love to meet with you. We meet at the chapel every Sunday morning at 10.45 am. Communion is served the first Sunday of the month. Praying that you may know all God's peace in your lives and hope that you have a great summer. For more information please contact me on 01858 466370 **Rob Thompsett**

Dates for your Diary

British Sewing Bee

Meet the 2014 winner Heather Jacks
June 12th 7.30pm Clipston Village Hall.
Proceeds to British Heart Foundation and Air Ambulance.
Please contact:

Ruth Wallett 525346

Sulby Gardens opens under the National Garden Scheme
Thursdays 2 - 5.30 pm

25 June Wild flower meadows
20 August Ponds and Wildlife
Entry £4 per head, children free, home-made teas.

Sulby, Northants

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Whole or half lamb delivered
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Colin Morley 525337

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Kids Page

Badger topics, Courtesy of Mrs Jane Ginns

Badger Facts: Did you know...? The old English word for badger is 'brocc' and this word appears in many place names for example Brockenhurst in Hampshire and Brockhall in Northamptonshire.



Reuben Thornton



Alfie Parish



Imogen Tedd



James Hackett



Thomas Davies

About the badger...

The badger is a mammal.

The male is called a boar, the female is called a sow, and its young are called cubs.

It lives in a family group called a clan.

It is found mostly in woodland, on farmland and in towns and cities.

The badger is nocturnal - it comes out at night.

Its home is called a sett.

Its toilet is called a latrine - which is a shallow pit dug by the badger.

The sow gives birth to two or three cubs in the spring.

The badger is an omnivore - it eats a variety of food, both plants and animals, including earthworms.

Word Search.... Find the words

D I S O W M U Y L E B M
 Y N O C T U R N A L A A
 A M P L A T R I N E D M
 E A R T H W O R M S G M
 E Q O M N I V O R E E A
 S E T T S O B O A R R L
 D U L I L C U B S O E H
 A Q C L A W S C L A N E

**Word search
 Look for ...**

badger
 sett
 nocturnal
 latrine
 mammal
 claws
 clan
 cubs
 omnivore
 boar
 sow
 earthworms

[Results in next edition]

Find out more about the badger at <http://www.badgers.org.uk/>

Clipston Mums & Tots Group Meets Tuesdays, 9.15am at the Village Hall (term time only). We are a welcoming group of mums and carers who meet each week for coffee and a chat – if you have a baby or toddler, please come along! The hall is filled with toys, we often do an activity with the kids and sing songs. Many children go on to Stepping Stones Pre-School, so this is a chance for your child to make friends with others who will progress with them to school. £2 for one child, £2.50 for two or more, includes refreshments.

Liz Davies 07525 640 477



The Sunday Club usually meets every second Sunday of the month at 11am in the Orbell room next to the church. For the next club date on the 14th of June we have an 'away' visit to Haselbech church, joining them for their 4.30pm family service and tea with Bishop John. The following month, on the 12th of July, we are back in Clipston at our usual time of 11am. We don't meet in August but will resume in September. The club is open to pre-school and school age children whose parent/carer(s) are staying in church for the morning service. We regularly have 6-10 children at the sessions and new faces are always welcome - whether you choose to come just once or regularly, we'll always be glad to see you.

We cover a different topic or theme each month but usually start with a prayer followed by some teaching and discussion around the day's topic, some lovely crafts, lively music and refreshments. The sessions are varied and lots of fun and the children really enjoy themselves. But don't just take my word for it; hear what some of the children said after their last meeting...

"It's fun and a good experience to learn about Jesus and what happens in the different months!" (Mollie, aged 6 ½)

"Sunday Club is good fun because we learn about God in a child friendly way, we try out new arts and crafts and we always have time for a biscuit too!" (Emily, aged 10)

"I like making things in Sunday club and having snack, after snack we go out and show everyone what we have made." (Ellie, aged 5)

"I love Sunday Club because it's really fun and you don't miss out on any learning in church." (Izzy, aged 6)

If you want to find out more or would like to help with the running of the club (DBS checks required), please come along to a session or give me a ring (**Faye Tan 525275**). We look forward to seeing you soon!!



Dear Resident,

We have a great fundraising opportunity and we need your help!

This year, Shambala Festival has offered a stall pitch for us at the festival as means to fundraise for the village.

Planning for the event is underway, and we are delighted to say that we are working on this venture with 3 nearby villages and with Waterloo Cottage Farm.

Our stall will sell breakfast, tea and coffee all day, homemade cakes in the afternoon and pulled pork rolls into the night.

We are looking for volunteers to:

1. Make cakes
2. Loan equipment and help design and build the stall
3. Help us to run the stall – reliability, stamina, humour and a willingness to wear fancy dress are essential requirements!

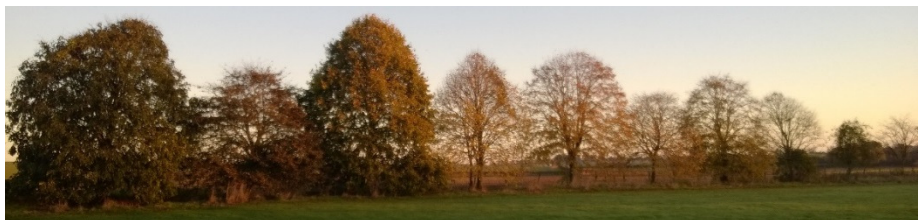
Interested? Please contact:

Val Carpenter on 525441

valj.carpenter@btinternet.com or

Jim Tyson 525697

jim.tyson@btconnect.com



Clipston Playing Field Trust - 100 Club

The playing fields and facilities, including the pitches, pavilion, tennis courts and playground are a valuable village asset for ourselves and our children. You may not be aware that there is no automatic funding to maintain or improve these facilities. The "100 Club" is a lottery with a £100 monthly cash prize and additional discretionary prizes to help raise much needed funds and have fun in the process!

The draw is at the Bulls Head on the 1st Friday of the month, and winners are posted on the pub and village noticeboards, and newsletters.

Please join! Call, text or email Charlie Shaw for more details on:

07967 649657 / ctshaw@gold-vision.com



A Garden Party
To raise funds for the
Air Ambulance
Sunday 5th July 2-5 pm
Teas, Cakes, Books, Raffle
and much more....
Greenleigh, Kelmars Rd.
The Woodgate family - 525566
Please give your support!

Clipston Youth Club

Open to years 7+



Clipston Playing Fields Fridays 7-9pm

Football, swing ball, basketball, air hockey,
table tennis, pool, films,

cake making, tuck shop, bbq, trips and much more....

Year 6 welcome to come along and try it out after half term.

County Connect: Local bus service

Booking and Helpline: 0345 456 4474

Lines open:

Mon – Fri: 9am - 5.30pm

Sat: 9am - 4pm

Cancellations and Emergencies:

0345 456 4474 Lines open:

Mon - Fri 7.30am - 6pm

Sat. 8am - 4pm

Email: countyconnect@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Website: www.county-connect.co.uk



Mobile Library

The mobile library visits the village on the second Thursday of the month:-

12 to 12.30pm

Stopping on Kelmars

Road / Bassett Way

(for enquiries contact 0300

1261000)



Support your Local Businesses : Supporting your Clipston Courier			
Business	Details / Email / Web	Contact	Tel. No:
Andrew Winter	Web Design & Brand Studio andrew@awinter.co.uk www.awinter.co.uk	Andrew Winter	01858 414 281 07980 617 669
Bob Millington Ltd	Quality used cars & personal service sales@bobmillington.co.uk	Bob Millington	01858 525138 07860 323194
Bulls Head	Clipston's 17th Century Local Pub	Steve and Helen Foster	01858 525268
Cheffins	Fine Art Auctioneers and Valuers	Mrs Julie Connell	01858 525336
Chris Spokes	Plumbing & Heating Engineer Corgi registered and OFTEC	Chris Spokes	0777 328 8686
Clipston Egg Company	Free range eggs delivered or collection	Mrs A. Essen	07709 411 262
Clipston Plumbing Service	Plumber	Chris Vials	07856 515 525
Computer Training	Computer Training for Individuals and Small Business juliablake1@hotmail.co.uk	Julia Blake	01858 525760 07880 700699
Creative Ape Ltd	Graphics websites and branding www.creativeapeltd.com	Alastair Woodgate	07738 820 427
Hannah Eveleigh	Copy-editing + Proofreading eveleighhannah@gmail.com	Hannah Eveleigh	07834 088 115
Grange Accounting	Chartered Accountant	Alun Davies	01858 437430
Joy of Music	Music Lessons	Ruby & Caroline Boa	01858 525352
JWA	Architects apm@jwa-architects.co.uk	Andy Morris	01858 525343
Krystal Decorating	Professional Painting and Decorating Service – Specialist in Sash Window Repairs and Renovations	Gary Bennett	07793 556 199 01858 525540
Leo Architects Ltd	Architect	Antony Kavanagh	07783 005515
Lindsey Cuoghi-Jackson	Planning Drawings, Applications and Building Control packages www.rmlcassociates.co.uk lindseycuoghi@hotmail.com	Lindsey Cuoghi-Jackson	07544 043071
Omniprint	For all your printing and copying requirements. 60 Nithsdale Avenue, M.H.	Graham Sayles	01858 462152
Once Upon a time - Flowers for all your stories	Beautiful flowers from garden to jar www.onceupon-atime.co.uk bummelberries@yahoo.co.uk	Tracey Mogan	07912782075
Random Makes	Handmade furnishing and accessories using vintage fabrics and trimmings. Commissions welcome. www.random-makes.co.uk wendydoughty@rocketmail.com	Wendy Doughty	01858 525414
RMLC Associates	Accountancy and Taxation Services www.rmlcassociates.co.uk	Chris Partridge	01858 525148 07912 058431
Rob Leveritt Photography	Photography robert@robertleverittphotography.com	Rob Leveritt	07802 897050

Support your Local Businesses : Supporting your Clipston Courier			
Business	Details / Email / Web	Contact	Tel. No:
Rod Dexter	Fencing, Hedge Trimming, 2 Bassett Way, Clipston	Rodney Dexter	01858 525439 07710 607 770
Serretta Jewellery	Handmade Fashion, Bridal, Children's and Bespoke jewellery.	Serretta Morris	serretta@serretta.co.uk www.serretta.co.uk
Sparkle House Cleaning	House Cleaning pam@sparklehousecleaning.co.uk	Pam Hickman	07515 825 712
T J Thornton Jeweller	Jewellery Repairs, Design, Antique & Modern tim@tjthornton.com	Tim Thornton	01858 468858
Travel Counsellors	Ski, sun, faraway, cruises, flights, UK short breaks, weddings and honeymoons. abi.prescott@travelcounsellors.com www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/abi.prescott	Abi Prescott	07887 561 965 01858 897510

Clipston Clubs/Societies			
Organisation	Contact	Tel. No:	Details
All Saints Church		01858 525342	Revd. Angela Hughes
Almhouse Charity	Lynne Partridge	01858 525450	
Baptist Chapel	R. Thompsett	01858 466370	
Bell Ringers	Ken Rutland	01858 525305	
British Legion	Hon. Rupert Law	01858 525380	
Bulls Head Skittle Team	Robert Burnham	01858 525628	
Bingo	Grace Burnham	01858 525327	1st & 3rd Tues 7.30-8.30pm Village Hall
C.A.D.S.	Peter Warren	01858 525463	Day & Venue as agreed
Clipston School Charity	Lynne Partridge	01858 525450	
Creative Arts Society	Bim Fowler	01858 525239	
Cricket Club	Andy Blake	01858 525760	Matches on Sunday afternoon.
Flower Club	Linda Warren	01858 525463	3rd Wed of month Village Hall
Football Club	Matt Bates	01455 287141	Tuesday training. Sat. Sept - April
Friendship Club	Mary Durran	01858 525200	2nd Mon in month 2-5pm Village Hall
M&A Brown Charity	Colin Morley	01858 525337	
Mothers Union	Avis Aldridge	01604 740532	
Orbell Room	Ken Rutland	01858 525305	
Parents & Tots	Liz Davies	07525 640 477	Tues. 9.15 - 11.15am Village Hall
Parish Council (Clerk)	Lynne Partridge	01858 525450	1st Wed every month, Village Hall
Playing Field Trust	Andy Blake	01858 525760	
School (Sec.)	Helen Rhodes	01858 525261	www.clipston.northants.sch.uk
School Association	Emma Stevenson		stevenson_emma@sky.com
School Governors (chair)	Graham Leah	01858 525261	
Stepping Stones (pre-school)	Sharon Brigden	01858 525113	
Shooting Club	Laurie Anderson	01858 525481	Last Sunday in month
Tennis Club	Martin Clarke	01858 525558	Tuesday evenings Play Fields £25 & £50
Village Hall	Grace Burnham	01858 525327	
Women's Institute	Rose Anderson	01858 525481	2nd Tuesday in the month, Village Hall
Whist Drive	Grace Burnham	01858 525327	Alternate Thurs 2pm Village Hall
Youth Club	Nikki Bugla	01858 525660	Friday 7 - 9pm Play Field Pavilion

Courier Photos

The editors acknowledge photographs by Arthur Foster and other contributors. If you would like an original of any of the photographs in this edition, please contact one of the editorial team. Donations for print or digital copies are welcome and will be used to help finance future editions.