



Clipston Courier

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

September 2016

The "CLIPSTON COURIER" - your VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Edition No. 7

Welcome

Welcome to the September edition of the Clipston Courier. In this issue we focus on the very successful street party to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. Also look out for the 'Clipston Profile' featuring two very well known village personalities! There are many other articles of topical news and notices for upcoming events, but please remember to check www.clipston.org/diary to get all up to date event information & news.

We hope you enjoy this edition!

Stephen Woodgate

Stephen Woodgate
Editor of this edition

The Courier Editorial Team takes it in turns to edit each issue. Our December edition will be produced by Roger Wallett
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The editors would like to thank the Parish Council for making a contribution towards the production of the Clipston Courier.

Please note that the views of the Clipston Courier are not representative of the Parish Council as a public body.

Clipston Village Show and Street Party

90
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
QUEEN ELIZABETH II

The 2016 Street Party was a great success and was enjoyed by all who attended! This event's success was down to the ideas, enthusiasm and hard work from Nikki Bugla, Julia Blake and Faye Tan on behalf of the Recreation Fields Trust. Many thanks to them.

Just a selection of the photographs from the day. To see more, go to page 6 and www.clipston.org/2016-clipston-street-party If you would like a high resolution copy of any photographs on the clipston.org web site, please contact Jim Tyson.

CLIPSTON CELEBRATION
1926 2016

See page 6 for more photo's from the Village Show and Street Party!

Please contact the editors with any news, views, stories

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.



CADS

will be back!

10th, 11th & 12th

November

'Rumours'

A farcical comedy by Neil Simon

The play revolves around a wedding anniversary party – but what has happened to the hosts? Guests arrive during the evening and accidents, misunderstandings and mayhem ensues.

Make a note in your diary to come to one (or more!) of our performances at the Village Hall. Further details will be advertised nearer the time.

[N.B. We are still looking for someone to play the part of a policeman who arrives towards the end of the play. If you think you might like to be considered, or want to find out more about the part, get in touch with me. We're a friendly lot! Rehearsals will be adapted, as far as possible, to suit the availability of the cast, and will never go on too late!]

Liz Clarke (director – what have I done?!)
525558

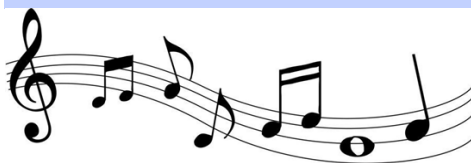
Clipston Church

**FRIENDS OF CLIPSTON CHURCH –
Garage/ Driveway Clutter Sale & Teas
Saturday, 1st October 2-5pm**

Do you have plenty of 'decent but no longer needed' stuff you want to clear out but don't fancy the inconvenience of having to move it all to an early morning car boot sale? Then why not register for our clutter sale and open up your table top, garage, or driveway and take advantage of the cluster effect when lots of other houses in the village do the same and people come out to pick up some bargains. This format has been used very successfully in other local villages and we thought we'd give it a try in Clipston.

For a £10 registration fee we will include your garage/driveway on a map which will be available on the day and we will advertise the event both within and beyond Clipston to hopefully lead people to your stall. We will be serving teas in the Orbell room and offering a central toilet facility for visitors. Proceeds from the registration fees and teas will go towards improvements at All Saints Church. All takings from the stalls will be your own!

For more information or to register for the sale, please contact Anne Woodgate on 525566.



Church Roof

All Saints Church in Clipston will benefit from £54,000 to address urgent roof repairs. The Parochial Church Council of the Church successfully applied for the grant through the Government funded Listed Places of Worship: Roof Repair Fund. For some time now the Church has been suffering ingress of water whenever it rains due to the roof covering having reached the end of its practical life.

The PCC was unsuccessful in its application to the Roof Fund last year and had to put a temporary tarpaulin over the South aisle roof last December.



Now that it will be possible to replace the roof and make the building water-tight, it is planned to carry out extensive redecoration and improvements to make the building more comfortable and suitable for community activities.

Steve Carpenter, Churchwarden says 'We are delighted to have been successful in this year's grant bid. This will encourage us in our attempts to make the Church more welcoming and increasingly to become seen as a community facility'.



Chris Blake performing in Clipston, 2015

Classical music for all!

Following his sell-out concert here last year, Chris Blake is back by popular demand and this year will be joined by soprano Melanie Armitstead. Chris is a renowned piano accompanist and former principal horn player of the Ulster Orchestra. Introducing his recent appearance on BBC Radio 3's 'In Tune' programme, presenter Sean Rafferty described him as a "consummate musician". Melanie was a recitalist for BBC Radio 3 and has enjoyed working with many leading orchestras in the UK, performing oratorios and concert arias. She has performed at the BBC Proms and made a number of recordings both for the BBC and on CD.

Two concerts on Saturday, 26th November 2016 at All Saints Church, Clipston,
Both with intervals with drinks & ice creams.

2.30pm - the matinee is ideal for families and children. Chris, Mel and friends will perform 'Percy, the Park Keeper' and 'One Snowy Night' amongst other family favourites. Children will be encouraged to join in!

7.30pm - Chris and Mel will perform more favourites from Classic FM's Hall of Fame.

Prices: £20 family ticket admits 2 adults and 2 children/£5 children/ £7.50 seniors/ £10 adults

Tickets available from Faye Tan (01858 525275) and other members of the Recreation Fields Trust committee. All profits will go to support the maintenance and improvement of facilities at the village Recreation Fields.

Nik Nack`s - Dog Grooming

- 🐾 Bath & Brush
- 🐾 Hair Cuts
- 🐾 Nail Trimming

Please call for
more info

07544107817

Pick up and drop
off service available



£5 off
first visit



Clipston Weather

May 2016

Although there were 15 dry days in the month, the total rainfall was almost up to average. Nearly 75% of the 62mm total came in five days, with the highest amount of 12mm on Tuesday 10th. Day mean temperatures were average despite two cold days in the last week when the thermometer failed to rise above 10°C. However, from the 5th to the 9th the maximum temperatures ranged from 20° to 24.5°C. The night mean was a degree above average with no air frost recorded.

June 2016

The month started comparatively dry with only small amounts of rain on five days in the first twelve. Then, on the 13th came heavy rain from the morning into the afternoon amounting to over 25mm. This was nearly a third of the 79mm total for the month, whereas my average for June is 64mm. The remainder of the month was quite wet with only three dry days. Rainfall for the first six months of the year amounts to 455mm - 29% above average. The maximum temperature in the month was 24°C in the first week, rather unusual for the June maximum to be lower than that for May. The daytime mean was a degree below average, but the night mean two degrees above.

July 2016

In contrast to the previous months in the year, July was very dry with 15 totally dry days and a rainfall of only 24mm. – a little over a third of average. The rain that did come was in relatively small amounts and light showers, with some overnight only. Temperatures were below average despite a maximum for the year of 31.5°C on Tuesday 19th. Although there was some sunshine on all days but one, it only extended from sunrise to sunset on two occasions.

Peter Wilford

Clipston Consolidated Charities

When I asked Colin Morley if the Courier could do an article on the Clipston Consolidated Charities, of which he is the Honorary Secretary, little did I know that he would arrive on my doorstep with a 3-inch thick antique-looking book full of minutes dating back to 1872. The history of the charities began in 1831 when Clipston resident and philanthropist, Matthew Brown, left to the village a 15-acre field known as the 'Poors' Twantry', for villagers to use as allotments to help the 'poor and needy'. At the same time he left the adjacent 10-acre field to the church. Since then, the two fields have been combined into one 25-acre field and the rent income is apportioned accordingly. The history of 'Poors' Twantry' allotments can be traced back to 1777 when the Enclosure Act for Clipston stipulated that it shall be 'vested in the Rector of Clipston, who will receive the rents and, pay in fuel, corn or apparel to and for the needs of the most necessitous, industrious and honest poor of the parish'.

In addition to the land, Matthew left £673 in New Consols – the 2nd charity - and his sister Ann Brown left £97 in 1871 – the 3rd charity. The three charitable offerings were combined in 1902 by the Charity Commission to form the Clipston Consolidated Charities and it is the rent from the 15 acres that today provides the village, each year, with a modest sum to help villagers in need.

The book of minutes is an enlightening historical account of the monies provided to villagers for well over a century and it is fascinating to read how such historical events as the World Wars and the Great Depression affected the amount available each year.

Over the years the charity has benefited adults and youngsters alike but over recent years, with its purpose seemingly becoming less and less well known amongst villagers, it has tended more to help the elderly who know of its existence historically. The current trustees are very keen to spread the word of the Clipston Consolidated Charities to all those in the village, old and young, who may enjoy the benefits of this wonderful village asset. It could be anything from helping with heating bills for the elderly, to buying books for college students or equipment for apprentices between the ages of 16 and 21 years. All applicants must have lived

in the village for at least two years. Applications must be sent in writing to the secretary or treasurer, or initially by email to;

clipston.consolidatedcharities@gmail.com

This historic charity, solely for Clipston residents, should and must become common knowledge to all who meet the criteria – we owe it to the Browns' legacy, and the wonderful book of minutes which has been going since 1872, and holds all meeting minutes from this time, still has plenty of empty pages to fill. As Colin Morley says, "there is room for at least another 100 years' worth of minutes in this book"!

Clipston Consolidated Charities

The Trustees will be meeting during the first week of December to distribute charity funds. The charity is only for residents of Clipston, and is applicable as follows;

- 1) Contribution towards travelling expenses of patients to and from hospital
- 2) Contribution towards entering a trade or profession or study as a student for all persons under 21 years of age in further education.
- 3) Relief in sickness for food, fuel or clothing.
- 4) Gifts of money in case of emergency.
- 5) Contribution towards funeral expenses.
- 6) No applicant may receive money entitling them to recurrent benefits.

Applicants wishing to be considered by the Trustees please apply in writing to either the Secretary or Treasurer by no later than the 30th November.

Hon. Secretary

Colin Morley
2 Church Close
Clipston
LE16 9RN

Hon. Treasurer

Jean E Wilford
6 Chapel Lane
Clipston
LE16 9RL

Sulby Open Gardens

Open in 2016

October 13th (2-5pm) Apple Day

November 17th (1-4pm): Autumn Colour

NN6 6EZ: Just 10 minutes drive from Clipston. £4 entry, Children free

All proceeds to NGS Charities

Tennis Club

Did you watch Wimbledon? Did you gasp in awe at Andy Murray's power and athleticism? Did you marvel at the way he returned serves of over 140mph? Did you delight at his perfectly executed drop shots? Did you think...I wish I could do that?.....**Well, you can't!**

However, did you see Heather Watson, giggling and laughing with her partner in the mixed doubles? Did you see them having fun and not taking everything seriously and did you think...I wish I could do that? **Well, you can...**

On Tuesday evenings the Clipston Tennis Club meets and plays mixed doubles virtually all the time. We laugh and giggle and have fun and we don't take the result, or ourselves, too seriously. Why not come along and join us and see what you're missing? Any standard welcome (ideally able to maintain a rally but even that's not vital!) from 5 pm until we get too thirsty! We're a very welcoming, inclusive bunch that, if you know your tennis, is far more like Mansour Bahrami than Nick Kyrgios.

Martin Clarke 525558

Clipston Recreation Fields

The Recreation Fields and pavilion seem to be getting more and more popular. We have more bookings for parties. Many thanks go to Alun Davies and Andrew Cleary, organisers of the under 11's football, for the installation of the new goal posts. It's great to see every afternoon that there are young people playing football. The tennis courts are used regularly. Many thanks to members of the tennis club for helping us with fundraising and general upkeep.

The 2016 Street Party was a very successful village event, as reported on page 1.



We have been successful with a second Big Lottery application for a grant. This will enable us to widen the attractiveness of the Recreation Field to other users by developing a woodland and picnic area. We want to widen that attractiveness of the Recreation Field to more people from Clipston. Planting of the woodland and installation of the play tree will take place in the autumn.

This new project is especially relevant given the problems that small local sports clubs are experiencing across the country. Sadly this has now affected Clipston F.C. and following a huge success of promotion to the premier division last season they are now facing a struggle for survival. We wish them the best of luck for the future and hope that they can continue with competitive football in Clipston.

There are also plans to increase the equipment suitable for young people to use. More news hopefully in the autumn.

Fund raising remains essential for us to cover the costs of running the Recreation Field. The street party raised around £1,000. On 26 November Chris Blake will be returning following his successful concert last year. Chris will perform with Melanie Armistead (Soprano) a selection of music from the Classic FM Hall of Fame during the evening. Chris and Mel will also be performing and involving children in a family concert in the afternoon. All proceeds will be for the Recreation Field upkeep.

See you there!

Andy Blake Chairman – Clipston Recreation Fields Trust andyblake4@hotmail.com

Flower Club

After a month off in August we will be back and raring to go on 21st September with a demonstration by Jo Poulter. Jo has been to see us before and will be sure to give us a lovely evening.

At the October meeting we will have a very, very brief AGM and then celebrate our Crystal Anniversary as the club has been running for 15 years. The Flower Club is very good at partying and there will definitely be a "knees-up" that night and of course crystal in some shape or form will be involved. That will be on 26th October which is a week later than normal.

In November we have the lovely Lucy Allen who is coming to get us into the Xmas spirit. If you want some ideas for decorating your home at Christmas come along on Wednesday 16th November at 7.30 pm in the village hall and enjoy a wonderful demonstration. You will be most welcome at any of our meetings and we look forward to seeing you.

There will be no meeting in December.

Wormslade Farm: Digester proposal

Despite many objections from Clipston residents, as well as from Arthingworth, Oxenden and other local Parishes, Northants County Council (NCC) Planning Committee was minded by a majority vote on 28th June to accept the planning application to build an anaerobic digester plant covering 13 acres at Wormslade Farm. However on the positive side, some conditions were attached to the approval. Specifically, the approval includes conditions that restricts access through Clipston and other villages. In principle, this means that traffic associated with the development will not impact the safety of the residents and in particular the children attending school and pre-school. Although it is not clear if the conditions are really enforceable, but see final comment below.

Following the Councils decision an application for a Judicial Review was considered, by AOWT (Against Oxenden Wind Turbines) who coordinated and led the objections to the Wormslade Farm digester. The purpose of the Judicial Review effectively was to challenge the Council's handling of the processes and as such, the Judicial Review would had to have demonstrated that the NCC did not act properly, and also that if there was a likelihood that had they done so, the decision would be have been different. However, on consideration of all of the facts, legal advice from Counsel indicated that there is **no prospect of success**. As a result of this advice, the formal application for a Judicial Review has been withdrawn. Nonetheless, AOWT intend to action a complaint with the Local Government Ombudsman on the manner of the 'debate' during the planning meeting.

AOWT are also recommending that the Community forms a Wormslade Action Group and that volunteers will be encouraged to join this team. Their objective will be to scrutinise every action of RAW Biogas and to ensure that they don't put a single foot wrong in the site's development and operation. Their main focus will be to ensure that operational conditions - **particularly transport through the villages** - are correctly applied and prosecuted in accordance with the planning conditions. ,

Clipston Parish Council

You are invited to CLIPSTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN –

Last chance saloon!!

The initial meeting to discuss the above was not well attended so the Parish Council is holding another one on **THURSDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2016** at the village hall – 7.30 pm.

A Neighbourhood Plan is important for the future of Clipston. With the inevitable expansion of villages and towns to satisfy housing demands, this is an opportunity to have a real say on the future of the village. It is a chance to get hold of what is on offer, namely:

- ◇ Communities have a right to prepare planning initiatives for their areas

- ◇ Opportunities to shape and influence future development of the village
- ◇ Greater weight in decision making

Do not be put off that Clipston is a relatively small village. Other close villages are starting the process – East Langton, Foxton, Lubenham and Guilsborough have made the first step, namely designating the village a Neighbourhood Area. Spratton is well advanced, having an imminent referendum – the final part of the process. If we do not proceed with a Neighbourhood Development Plan then Clipston may be subject to development planning speculation rather than having some control over what might happen.

Please come along whatever your views on the matter. You all have a right to be heard on what is an important matter for the times ahead.

Clipston WI

Unfortunately the sun did not shine for us for our planned garden party but a convivial evening was enjoyed at the home of one of our members instead.

A lovely summer's afternoon did bless our July visit to Rolleston Hall Gardens – they are not usually open to the public so 15 of us were very privileged to visit the walled garden, walk by the lake and admire the stunning borders, created and tended by head gardener, Tracey Spokes, who also runs a flower business in Clipston. Tracey will be heading up a gardening Q & A for us in September.

October is our Annual Meeting and look out for our famous vintage teas in the village hall on the first Sunday in October.

We will be crafting in November when Wendy Doughty will be telling us about her business and no doubt encouraging us to make something.

A few members have taken up the offer of some IT training provided by Julia Blake and Jim Tyson – thank you. Also a big thank you to all the team who made the recent street party such a success – we all enjoyed it so much.

Ladies, you are very welcome at our monthly meetings.

Rose Anderson, President

Clipston Broadband

SuperSLOW! Broadband in Clipston

Is your broadband super slow? Does it drop off all together when you need it most?

You are not alone. Many of the residents have similar issues with the service that BT currently provides to Clipston. Because Gigaclear showed an interest in Clipston, BT missed us out in its initial roll-out of Superfast Broadband in the area. However, GigaClear was unable to sign up enough residents for its service and as a result we have been left with no provider at all.

There is a solution. **We need your help** to register the demand for Superfast Broadband in Clipston. The county council has launched a survey to find out more about the current level of demand for Superfast Broadband in the county. The demand registration survey is available to complete online via the Home Page on the Superfast Northamptonshire website

at www.superfastnorthamptonshire.net.

Or directly

at [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SuperfastNorthamptonshireSurvey)

[SuperfastNorthamptonshireSurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SuperfastNorthamptonshireSurvey)

The survey only takes a few minutes to complete. Please help us turn

SuperSlow into SuperFAST !!

Thank you.

Coffee & Chat Mornings and Canine Partners

It has been a time of celebrations recently for our coffee and chat mornings. Firstly, Anni Wenlock who comes to our mornings with her handcrafted cards, reached her personal target of raising £1,000 for Canine Partners. Thank you to everyone who supported her by buying her beautifully designed greetings cards – please pop in one month and have a look – they are reasonably priced and unique in design.

Secondly, it is 10 years since the formation of the Satellite Training Centre at Clapham near Bedford. We held our Annual Dog Show at the centre and invited any person who had been partnered with a dog that had been puppy-walked and trained at Clapham during those ten years. It was a joyous occasion with many a tear shed from our puppy parents on seeing their puppies again – grown up – and making such a difference to someone's life.

Our next coffee morning dates are;

**17th September – 15th October –
19th November – 17th December.**

Our November date will be our Christmas event with some extra attractions – including delicious homemade soup at lunchtime. We will also have a tombola and raffle and would welcome any donations of prizes. All proceeds from the event will go to Canine Partners.

Jenny, Anne and Jill (Jill – 525746)

Village Hall

A Jumble Sale will be held on Thursday, 1st September at 7pm.

Clothes, bric-a-brac, odds and ends, books, cakes, raffle and refreshments!

Anything saleable will be accepted (but not too large please).

In aid of village hall funds.

Please support your village hall!

Whist Drives will start again on Thursday, 8th September at 2pm,

Then every fortnight until the last one for the season on 1st December.

The December Whist Drive will raise funds for **Cancer Research UK**.

Grace

All Saints Youth

We are excited to be setting up a youth meeting at All Saints Church Clipston.

We are setting up this youth group for ages 14 to 18 with the support of All Saints Church and the Diocese of Peterborough. We will be meeting in the Orbell Room at 7.30pm on Fridays. It is designed to be a space for the youth to meet and chat with friends, activities and the opportunity to get involved in local projects.

We had an introductory meeting before the summer holidays where we met with some of the youth and discussed possible events they would like to see happen. There were plenty of ideas which means we have loads to fill the Friday evenings.

There will be film nights, food nights, bonfires and night walks to name a few but also we want there to be an opportunity for the youth to be involved in the communities of which they are a part. If you know of any opportunities where we, as a youth group, could help you then please get in touch with me.

We are starting this new season with the youth putting on a meal for the community in Clipston! This will be in November on a Sunday afternoon. If you are interested in coming for a **Sunday Community Roast Lunch** in the village hall, please let me know and I will make sure that when we have the dates confirmed you are at the front of the queue! (We are hoping to get Grace Burnham's recipe for apple pie but as it is top secret, that is not confirmed!)

If you are aged 14 to 18 we would love you to get involved and be a part of something new, it is free to attend. Although it is run by All Saints Church you don't have to be a churchgoer to attend and there is no pressure to go to church. We would just love to see you there on Friday evenings. We start back on the 9th September at 7.30pm finishing around 9.15pm.

If you would like any further details or have any questions then please feel free to call, or drop me an email.

Robert Leveritt 525519
rob@robertleveritt.com

Clipston Show and Street Party



For more photo's see www.clipston.org/2016-clipston-street-party

Village Diary of Events

Please look for details of these events and also for regular village events at; www.clipston.org

September

1st: Jumble Sale (Village Hall at 7pm)

12th: Film night (Orbell Room at 7pm) 'FAITH LIKE POTATOES' Contact Trevor 525422

13th: Stepping Stones Social (Bulls Head from 7.30 pm)

15th: Clipston Development Plan (Village Hall at 7.30 pm)

27th: Stepping Stones Social (Village Hall from 7.30 pm)

October

1st: Stepping Stones Open day (Stepping Stones 10am to 12 noon)

1st: Village Clutter Sale & Teas 2-5pm (Start & Teas in Orbell Room)

2nd: WI Vintage Teas (Village Hall)

16th : Harvest Lunch (Village Hall)

November

10th ,11th ,12th: CADS (Village Hall)

26th: Concerts in Church 2.30 & 7.30pm

NHC Friendship Club

An Open Meeting was held in 1971 and a Club was formed to be known as the Naseby, Haselbech and Clipston Friendship Club. We meet on the second Monday of each month in Clipston Village Hall at 2.30 and usually have a speaker and a tea is served afterwards.

Members come from all around this area – membership is not confined to those three named villages – all are welcome.

The next few meetings are;

12th September – by popular request a session of bingo.

10th October – Richard Adams will give an illustrated talk entitled "A magic carpet ride".

14th November – Peter Wilford and Market Harborough Movie Makers – return to show films of a local flavour.

14th December (Wednesday) – Christmas lunch at the Bulls Head.

If you would like to find out more about the Friendship Club, please telephone Jill Pick on 525746.

Air Ambulance

The Woodgate family are very pleased to announce that a total of £1,100 was raised for Air Ambulance at the Garden Party held on the 10th July. Many thanks to all those who helped with activities on the day and of course, all of those that attended and enjoyed the afternoon!



James Woodgate and family at the Air Ambulance open day on 10th August, together with paramedic Paul Mullins, who, by coincidence, was on the flight that came to James's rescue in 2015.

Christmas is coming !!

If you would like to send Christmas greetings via the Clipston Courier, please send your greetings message together with a small donation to the editor by the **25th October**

Clipston Profile: 'Grace & Angela'



What strikes you most when you spend an afternoon in Grace's and Angela's company is not only that they share the same sense of humour, boundless energy and infectious laugh, but that their lives have been so similar despite the generation gap. Both were born and bred in the village and were the only girls in a family of boys, both attended Clipston School and were married in the chapel.

Today, they live in the village (Angela in the house where Grace was actually born!) and are stalwarts in the community ensuring the village hall runs smoothly, the papers get delivered and, over the years, the football and skittles teams are supported.

You would be hard pressed to find someone in Clipston who has not heard of Grace Burnham. She has been in charge of the village hall for over 40 years and not only cleans and maintains the facility, but organises all the events bookings, the jumble sales, and has arranged bingo and whist for many years. Her memories of village life are fascinating and enlightening, from watching the horses being shod at the forge on the High Street, to waving at American airmen from Harrington as they passed by her house on their way to the pub. She recalls standing at her doorway at the end of Kelmarsh Road and watching Coventry burning in the Blitz and she remembers Clipston School (although not altogether fondly) – "We started with scripture, then had arithmetic and afterwards, composition...I hated it!" Her clearest memory of her schooldays is being ridden to school on the handlebars of her brother's bike after a serious bout of rheumatic fever which left her too weak to walk. She missed the 11+ having fallen off her bike the day before the exam and left school at 14 to work in an underwear factory in Market Harborough. At 17, she married Douglas Burnham and they went on to have 7 children. Tragically, two died as tiny babies from a congenital heart condition, but 5 are still very much alive and living locally, either in the village or surrounding area.

Grace's daughter, Angela Fellowes, is Clipston's unsung heroine! She rises at 4am every morning for her cleaning job at the golf club in Harborough. She is back in Clipston by 6.30am armed with the villagers' newspapers, some of which are delivered to the pub, and some of which she delivers by hand. By 7am, Angela is back home having done a day's work before many of us have even opened our curtains. Angela is probably best known in the village for her tireless support of the Clipston Football Team. She laughs as she explains her love of football started the day a ball was kicked in her face – while she was still a baby in her pram! Rather than it putting her off, Angela developed a real passion for the game and has been chair of the team in Clipston for over twenty years; she cleans the pavilion after matches, makes the teas and every week you will see the team kit flapping on her washing line. Sadly, promotion to a higher league has had a negative effect on Clipston's team – some of the players have been poached by bigger clubs and this season there are not enough players to continue its existence. Angela is still eager to revive the club and would love to hear from anyone over 16 who is interested in playing football and getting a team together again. On top of all this, Angela is a massively active member of Clipston Chapel's congregation and attends every weekend with her mother and granddaughters, Maddison and Emily, and can be seen through the summer months striding up and down the graveyard with mower in hand.

It is fair to say that Clipston is a far richer place with these two familiar faces and we are eternally grateful for their enthusiasm and hard work in everything they do for our community. Next time you see either of them in the village, just remember that Grace has probably already put out the bins and cleaned the loos in the village hall and Angela will have been up since the crack of dawn cleaning, delivering, mowing and washing football kit, all for our benefit and the greater good of our village!

Stepping Stones Pre-School

The setting has had a busy year with OFSTED visiting and retaining our 'Outstanding' rating and various events and activities taking place. Most recently we have had a parent craft involvement afternoon and we raised money for Barnardos by the children taking part in the Barnardos Toddle at the village playing fields.



The children all received medals for taking part in the Barnardos Toddle
Stepping Stones Pre-school finished for the summer on Wednesday 20th July when the children took part in the end of year show. This year children performed 'Sleeping Beauty' to their families. We presented children leaving us and going onto school with a portfolio of their time with us and all staff wished them all the best for their next journey at school in September.

Stepping Stones Pre-school reopens on Monday 5th September. For enquiries about places for September please contact Sharon Brigden on 01858 525113 or preschool1@clipston.northants.sch.uk

Calling all parents/carers of pre-schoolers

Social at the pub

New to Stepping Stones or the village and keen to get to know some other parents or just fancy some adult conversation after the long summer holidays?? Then why not join us for a drink at The Bulls Head on Tuesday, 13 September, from 7.30pm onwards.

Social at the village hall

Our official welcome evening takes place on Tuesday, 27 September, starting at 7.30pm. Members of the staff team and parent committee will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. There will be displays and information about our Forest School as well as helpful tips about preparing for school. Refreshments will be available and this is a great chance to meet other parents/ carers.

Open Day

Stepping Stones Pre-School is rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted (May 2016) and we are keen to show you why. If you are considering Stepping Stones as a pre-school option for your child, please come along to our open day on Saturday, 1st October 10am-12noon. Parents/carers and children are invited to come along, see what we have to offer and speak to members of our staff team. Plenty of toys and refreshments will be available! (There is no charge for this event.)

Friends of Stepping Stones

Stepping Stones Pre-School is a registered charity (number 1023443) and is run not-for-profit by a voluntary committee of parents. It is rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, offers a weekly forest school and ably caters for children with special educational needs. We are extremely fortunate to have such a fabulous facility in our village and there are lots of ways you can help to sustain us into the future. If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, providing help with fundraising, or if you simply wish to donate, please get in touch!

Faye Tan, Committee Chair 525275

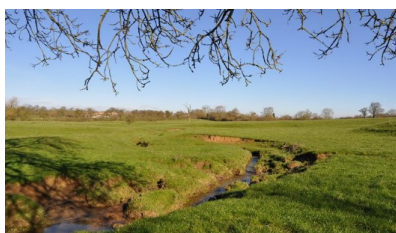
01858 525113 www.steppingstonesclipston.co.uk

Woodland Trust in Clipston

Did you know ... that former Clipston resident Miss Anne Haddon has gifted two fields in Clipston to the Woodland Trust to manage for the benefit of the community? The total area of just over 30 acres is contained within two fields, known locally as 'Great Hill' (below) and 'Little Hill', at the end of Kelmarsh Road. At short notice, some native tree planting by the Woodland Trust and a few local volunteers, took place earlier this year. Now that the land transfers are settled between the Woodland Trust and Miss Haddon, it seems like a good time to promote this resource for use by all of us. So, what is the best way of getting the community involved?

At another Woodland Trust location (also gifted by Miss Haddon) in Alhampton, near to Castle Cary in Somerset, a 'Friends of Haddon Wood' has been established. This group of interested volunteers works at the location to make 'Haddon Wood' a community resource for use by all. Readers may also be interested to visit Haddon Woods, so if you are ever in Somerset, nearby to Castle Cary, think about a visit (www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/wood/5659/haddon-wood).

To enable us to gain ideas about how the 'Friends' group was set up, we made contact with the 'Friends of Haddon Wood' and they have kindly offered to help us to set up a 'Friends group' here in Clipston!



Great Hill & Little Hill

Miss Haddon is very much in favour of using the same approach here in Clipston, and I am pleased to say that this idea has now been endorsed by the Woodland Trust. In Clipston, it is likely that there will be areas both of 'conservation' grazing (using sheep) and woodland development in natural habitats. The Woodland Trust are finalising their management plan which will be shared with us in the near future. If you are interested in finding out more, please let one of us know.

Stephen Woodgate & Jill Pick

Are you interested in establishing a 'Friends group' for the Woodland Trust in Clipston?
If so, please contact Stephen Woodgate 525566 (stephen@beaconresearch.co.uk) or Jill Pick 525746

Clipston Primary School

Welcome to the newsletter for Clipston Primary School.

The end of the academic year is always extremely busy as we said goodbye to our Year 6 children and wished them well as they begin their next journey in their academic life.

We also said a sad farewell to Mrs Geri Morrison who has been our reception teacher since 2010. We wish her well in her future career.

In June we welcomed the Bishop of Brixworth, John Holbrook, to open our Peace Garden; a quiet area designed by the children and gardening club. Bishop John participated in our morning assembly where he showed us all the robes that bishops wear and told us that he designed the colourful pattern himself!

This term the oldest children explored life in Victorian England, culminating in a visit to the National Trust Workhouse in Nottinghamshire. The year 4 and 5 children enjoyed discovering the history of the Olympics, researching the forthcoming Games and taking part in a mini Games at school. The Year 3 class was propelled back in time to the Viking era, including designing their own longboat, and making Viking food.

The Key Stage 1 children have also been extremely busy discovering what life is like living on a Scottish island and researching this through the *Katie Morag* stories. Reception children have enjoyed this last term with explorations of their local area, researching facts about their home villages and enjoying a visit to Kelmars Hall.

The children in Key Stage 2 enjoyed a visit to London to Kidzania, as well as the Year 5/6 traditional residential to the Kingswood Centre in Norfolk. The end-of-term play performed by Years 5 and 6 was a fantastic performance of *Robin Hood*. It was lovely to welcome back so many ex-pupils who came along to support their friends.

The end of year Awards Assembly saw many of our children being presented with certificates for personal and academic achievements. Mrs Judd presented the Poetry Cup to Evelyn in Year 6; the Year 2 Friendship Cup was awarded to Lukasz. The RE Cup was recently presented to the school by Bishop John to be awarded to the child for progress and achievements in RE. This year the cup was awarded to Lucia. During the Leavers' Service the Year 6 trophies were presented to Vaughan, Ella, Sophie, and Archie for their individual progress, achievements, support and friendship to others in the school since they started their academic life here. Well done to everyone.

We look forward to welcoming the children back in September, especially the new reception children, and wish you all a lovely summer. Further information about our school is available on our website: www.clipstonprimaryschool.org [where you can access our Twitter Page.](#)
Emma Mercer Head Teacher

Picture left, shows Bishop John, together with Emma Mercer, Reverend Angela and Trevor Lake (Governor) and some of the children attending the opening.



Clipston School Association

Well, that's another school year over. I would just like to say on behalf of the School Association a massive THANK YOU to all of the parents, carers, villagers and local businesses who have helped us have one of our most successful years to date.

As well as maintaining our regular annual contributions to the school, we have managed a number of additional expenses to help enhance activities this year. The Movie Nights proved a huge success and our main events of the Christmas Bazaar and Summer Fete were well supported. We also ran an additional summer event this year, the Family Treasure Hunt, which was also well attended. All in all, a fun, successful year all round!

From September 2016, the School Association will be looking for new members to help continue the work it does. It is very important for the continuation of the association that we get new members to help with the events. The more help we have, the more successful and fun these events are!

If you would like to be a part of the association, in any capacity, please let me or one of the other association members know.

We hope you have all had a wonderful summer holiday, and once again, thank you all for your continued support.
Emma Stevens. Stevenson_emma@sky.com

Visit www.clipston.org for more news, views and events in and around Clipston

Remembering the Past

Clipston resident, Alex Pegram, continues to give us a fascinating insight into life in the village over the last century. In this issue, he writes about life in the village. By 1943 there was now a mood of optimism as the American forces were arriving in vast numbers. The American 8th Air Force started to take over aerodromes in Northamptonshire and East Anglia, including the airfield at Harrington, about 6 miles from Clipston. At the time RAF bomber command was using the base as an operational training unit, flying mainly Wellington bombers. Very little was known about the American operations from Harrington as it was used by the SOE (Special Operations Executive), a top secret operation whose information was 'restricted' for over 50 years. Servicemen from all surrounding camps and aerodromes came to the surrounding villages, including Clipston, when off duty. They made friends easily and kept the pubs busy too. The massive military build-up continued at full speed into 1944, in preparation for D-day in June, although the German Luftwaffe was still active overhead.

I remember an incident when the 4 of us boys were down at White Arches bridges (the old bridge by Bridge House on Kelmarsh Road), when a plane was seen approaching from the direction of Naseby. Everybody used to take part in aircraft spotting and one of the boys said it was one of our 'Blenheim bombers'. It came



down very low and as it passed overhead, we waved to it, but to our horror we could now see that it had German markings! We kept quiet about it afterwards as we did not want anybody to know that we had been waving to a German plane!

The 'White Arches bridge' near to Bridge House (partly hidden) on Kelmarsh Rd.

When D-day came on the 6 June we all realised that something big was happening as we were woken up very early by the noise of aeroplanes going over. When we looked out we were amazed to see the sky full of planes with many of them towing gliders. It was an amazing sight that we would never forget! At school, prayers were said for all those going into battle and I remember the headmaster, Mr Halestrap, saying that this was a great event because the outcome would bring peace to Europe.

As a result of the war, farmers were faced with immense changes to their working practices. Fields which had never been altered were now being ploughed up and tractors were rapidly replacing horses. All these changes were overseen by the War Agricultural Committee, and farmers were told how much land they must plough up and what they should grow. The Women's Land Army was recruiting as many girls and ladies as possible to work on the farms and woodlands. They proved to be a valuable asset to food production which rose to a level never known before. By 1944, Italian POWs were allowed to work on the farms, but they wore British army uniforms dyed a dark chocolate colour with large yellow patches sown on them. The POWs were available to farmers in the area, as they came from the local camp built on Farndon Road in Market Harborough.

As we all know, the war in Europe came to an end in May 1945 and Clipston celebrated the event with the same enthusiasm as the rest of the country. On the Japanese front, the fighting continued for a further 3 months until Japan surrendered on 9 August 1945, soon after the atom bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. *To be continued.....*

Letter

In the last Courier, I read with interest Alex Pegram's account of events in World War II and in particular his piece about the bullets passing through the hood of his young sister's pram - she had a lucky escape. At that time of the war, the sound of machine guns firing overhead was frequently heard in the villages around here when trainee gunners, sitting in the gun turrets of the Wellington bombers from the airfield at Husbands Bosworth, were practising firing at targets towed by smaller aircraft. I'm sure the bullets were expected to fall harmlessly some distance away in open countryside, but occasionally a few went astray into a residential area.

I also probably had a narrow escape when as a boy, playing with others outside in Gold Street, with the sound of machine guns overhead, a bullet



whistled down beside me into the road. I 'dug' the .303 calibre bullet out of the tarmac and have kept it as a souvenir of the war-time days.

From my photograph, the flattened point caused by the impact into the road is clear to see. Peter Wilford

Seated Exercise

NASEBY VILLAGE HALL

Starts 10am on Tuesday 6th September and on each Tuesday thereafter; £3 per session.

Perfect for the older generation who like to exercise gently. It helps with coordination, memory and agility. Come along and give it a try and see if you like it.

After the exercise session which is delivered by AgeUK Northampton there will be a chance to socialise over tea/coffee and biscuits.

Please encourage your friends and family to give it a try. It's never too late to start exercising - but that doesn't mean having to take up marathon running to make a difference!

For further info contact Sarah Farrell: 01604 743293

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01858 437430

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apm@jwa-architects.co.uk
Andy Morris 01858 525343

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helen@nurture4health.com
Helen Selby 07821 197 541

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eveleighhannah@gmail.com
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Nikita McCauley
07544 107 817

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01858 525556 / 07710 988 218
bethwakefield41@gmail.com

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01858 525439 / 07710 607 770
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If you would like to advertise your business here, please contact Julia Blake on 01858 525760

CLIPSTON GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS

Bell Ringers

We usually ring the bells before a service at 10.30am on a Sunday (normally at Clipston, but other churches in the benefice too). We warmly welcome new members and anyone who would like to watch. We meet on occasional Tuesdays.

Ken Rutland 01858 525305

Bulls Head Skittles Team

We play home and away matches on Fridays from October to March and Wednesdays from April to September. New members welcome.

Robert Burnham 01858 525628

Clipston Amateur Dramatic Society (CADS)

Regular play-reading sessions and performances, new members always welcome for both acting and supporting roles. Meetings are 'as and when' so contact us if you fancy joining!

Val Carpenter 01858 525120

Clipston WI

Enjoy interesting talks and demonstrations. We meet every second Tuesday in the month in the village hall at 7.30pm. New members welcome.

Rose Anderson 01858 525481

Clipston Cricket Club

Currently not playing matches due to lack of players. If interested please call.

Andy Blake 07768 554 395

Coffee & Chat

3rd Saturday of each month in the village hall. 10.30am to 12pm. All welcome.

Jill Pick 01858 525746

Craft Club

We meet on the second Thursday of each month at members homes from 7.30 until 9pm. We share our skills and knowledge of a wide range of crafts in an informal atmosphere. Next meeting is at the home of Linda Warren (525463). New members welcome.

Ruth Walleth 01858 525346

Flower Club

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Village Hall at 7.30pm for demonstrations, workshops, speakers and more.

Linda Warren 01858 525463

Friendship Club

As always, new members are most welcome. Our meetings are held on the second Monday of each month in the village hall, and commence at 2.30pm unless otherwise stated. Following the speaker, we enjoy afternoon tea and a raffle, held to enhance club funds.

Jill Pick 01858 525746

Orbell Café

Every Wednesday 9am-12noon. Freshly brewed coffee, tea cakes and lots of chat.

Parents & Tots Group

Friendly group for parents and carers with newborns to 4-year-olds. We meet Tuesdays in term time in the village hall 9.15-11.15am. £2 for one child, £2.50 for more than one child. Includes refreshments.

Liz Davies 07525 640 477

Shooting Club

We meet on the last Sunday morning of every month (approx. 9.30am-12) on different landowners' sites, and afterwards usually go to The Bulls Head! All abilities welcome (inc. beginners).

Laurie Anderson 01858 525481

Sunday Club

Kids Sunday school club, held in the Orbell Room at the church during the service on the second Sunday of the month at 11am. All ages welcome. Children learn about Christian values through storytelling and craft activities.

Faye Tan 01858 525275

Tennis Club

We meet on Tuesday evenings at 5ish at the tennis courts from the end of March to October (weather dependent!). The group is very social, and all levels are very welcome.

Martin Clarke 01858 525558

United Benefice Choir

We get together and practise to perform at local church services and special church events. New members welcome. We meet on alternate Thursdays at 6pm.

Julie Connell 01858 525336

Whist Drive

A group of us meets on alternate Thursdays from September to May, 2pm at the village hall. Come and join us.

Grace Burnham 01858 525327

Church & Chapel Services

All Saints Church

Sundays at 11am. All welcome. The Sunday Club for children is every second Sunday in the month at 11am (see information in Groups section). www.allsaintsclipston.org.

Baptist Chapel

Sundays at 10.45am. All welcome.

Useful Contacts

Clipston Village Hall & Hire

Grace Burnham 01858 525327

All Saints Church

Reverend Angela Hughes 01858 525342

Baptist Chapel

Rob Thompsett 01858 466 370

Clipston School (office)

Helen Rhodes 01858 525261

Clipston School Governors (Chair)

Graham Leah 01858 525261

Clipston School Association

Emma Stevens

Stevenson_emma@sky.com

Mobile Library

First Wednesday, monthly, 10.40-11.00
Bassett Way 0300 126 1000

Stepping Stones Pre-School

Sharon Brigden 01858 525113

Orbell Room at the church

Ken Rutland 01858 525305

Recreation Field Trust & Pavilion Hire

Andy Blake 01858 525760

Parish Council (Clerk)

Felicity Ryan 01604 740429

Meetings monthly 1st Wednesday at the village hall 7.30pm.

clerk@clipstonparishcouncil.org

www.clipstonparishcouncil.org.uk

Bus Service (County Connect)

Booking & helpline 0345 456 4474

www.county-connect.co.uk

Flood Warden

Ann Essen 07709 411 262

Footpath Warden

Julia Blake 01858 525760

Tree Warden

Mick Higgins 01858 525302

Charities

Almshouse Charity

Peter Goodchild 01858 525532

British Legion

Hon Rupert Law 01858 525380

Clipston Consolidated Charities

Colin Morley 01858 525337

Clipston School Charity

Peter Goodchild 01858 525532

Please let us know if any details on this page change (see front page for contacts).