



Clipston Courier

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

December 2017

THE "CLIPSTON COURIER" - YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Edition No. 12

Welcome

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the Clipston Courier. We hope that you enjoy this issue. Seasons Greetings to all !

Stephen Woodgate
Editor of this edition

The Courier editorial team takes it in turns to edit each issue.

Our March edition will be produced by Hannah Eveleigh & Liz Davies
Copy deadline **February 12th 2018.**

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The "Courier" team thanks all of our readers and contributors for their support during 2017.

Our best wishes to all for a Very Happy Christmas and a New Year full of Peace and Goodwill !

Dates for your Diary.....
Pages 2 and 3

Christmas Tree on the Green

Christmas festivities start in Clipston in early December! Not forgetting the school bazaar on December 1st (p 2) the main event will no doubt be the Christmas Tree on the Green on Sunday 3rd December. Stalls open at 3 pm with Santa's Grotto, hamper raffle, mulled wine and mince pies all on offer. **The tree will be lit at about 5 pm.**

Following on, there will be a gathering in Church to celebrate the start of the Christmas season (p2). **For more information about 'Tree on the Green' please call or text Jon Wills (07775 710708)**



Fantastic, Special, Wonderful !!

Just some of the words used to describe the two newest additions to the village!



Alex Pegram, Anne Haddon and Mary Pegram at the official opening of Haddon Fields.

Haddon Fields was officially opened and the Alex and Mary Pegram commemorative seat was unveiled on 17th September and you can read more about it on page 7.

Sadly, Mary passed away in early October, but the seat will remain a lasting memory for Alex and all of us in Clipston.



Meanwhile, at the Recreation Ground great new facilities have 'sprouted up' in the last month !

Several new pieces of activity equipment

for children eight and above plus a fantastic new shelter for Clipston children and teenagers . See Page 6 for more information about Clipston Recreation Fields Trust.



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.

Trevor Lake

Saturday 23rd September saw a number of people from our village making the trip to Peterborough for an event which has very exciting implications for All Saints' Church, Clipston (and its partner churches in the benefice; Naseby, Kelmarsh and Haselbech).

Two years ago, church member Trevor Lake began a three-year training course to become a reader (preacher) in the Church of England and that is due to come to a conclusion next year. In the meantime, Bishop Donald (Bishop of Peterborough) has licensed Trevor as a lay minister for the churches. This means that he now has permission to lead some services and assist with others as well as being involved with teaching and assisting in the pastoral care of the people of this benefice. Thank you, Trevor, for all



you are putting in to your work in our churches. Well done on achieving this special milestone. We look

forward to welcoming the bishop next year as he comes to join us to mark the completion of your training!

Revd. Angela

W4E - Worship For Everyone

1st Sunday of the month at 10.00 am.
All Saints Church

A new style of Non-Eucharistic Worship service run by Trevor suitable for every age with a particular emphasis of learning more about specific Bible passages, using video clips, where possible, to make the passages come to life. This is for everyone and refreshments will be served after each service.

Remember to check;

www.clipston.org/diary

for your up-to-date information on news and regular village events.

Christmas Greetings 2017

Philip and Heather Weston send Christmas and New Year greetings to all friends, neighbours and fellow dog walkers.



Stephen & Anne Woodgate wish a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year to all our friends in Clipston



Peter and Linda Warren wish all our neighbours friends and village residents a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Maggie and John Oldershaw would like to wish all their friends, neighbours and villagers a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

Wishing all our friends and neighbours in the village a Christmas filled with love, warmth and sparkle. And hoping the New Year brings good health, good times and good fortune.
From Faye, David, George and Joseph Tan xxxx



Mike and Bim would like to wish everyone in Clipston a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



Christmas Bazaar

Everyone in the village is warmly invited to the school Christmas Bazaar, which is on **Friday 1st December** from 1.30-3pm. Come along for tea and cakes, festive stalls, kids activities and of course Father Christmas will be paying a visit! There will be fantastic raffle prizes too!

Christmas Events

Sunday 3rd December: Christmas Tree on the Green from 3pm. (page 1) After the Christmas tree lights have been switched on, please come down to church where there will be poems, readings and songs to start off the Christmas season. The Benefice Choir will be leading the singing!

Sun-

day 10th December: Sunday Club Christmas Party 11am in the Orbell room – Christmas crafts and snacks as we look ahead to the birth of Jesus at Christmas

Thursday 21st December: Carol service at the Chapel, 7.30 pm

Sunday 24th December: Christmas crib service 4pm at Church. Trevor Lake will be leading a special Crib Service to ready us all for Christmas Day, telling the Christmas Story in an innovative style, and afterwards **carols at the Bulls Head.**



Midnight Commun-

ion at the Church of St Michael, Haselbech at 11.30 pm.



Clipston Profile: Mark the 'Postie'

In a village like Clipston there are many people who make contributions to help establish the character of the village and make it a place we all like to live in. Postman Mark is such a person, and although not a resident of Clipston, is here six days a week wearing his trademark shorts as he delivers post and parcels, always with a smile and a few words to share as he goes on his round. He lives locally and loves his job, a job he has been doing for nearly 20 years, but he has not always been a postman.

Mark was born in 1968 at the Cottage Hospital on the Coventry Road in Market Harborough. He was educated at St Joseph's Primary School in Harborough and later at English Martyrs School in Leicester. He has always enjoyed outdoor activities and played football as a goalkeeper at English Martyrs, and now enjoys cycling and running in his spare time. On leaving school he became an apprentice carpenter at Smith's, near to the railway station on Fernie Road and developed his skills over the next 4 or 5 years. When he was qualified with City & Guilds he became a joiner for the next 3 or 4 years and further developed his skills before becoming a self-employed shop fitter in 1990. He worked for Woolworths



and Tesco for 6 years in their shops in various parts of the UK and in Germany, France, Scotland and Ireland as well as working in Rhodes for two summer seasons. During this time, he was frequently away from home and got the bug for travelling overseas.

In 1995 he met and married Liz Maffeo, an Italian lady whose family was working for the Guinness family in Arthingworth. They now have two daughters, Sadie,

aged 18 and Grace, 15. Around that time a position became available at the local GPO sorting office and Mark realised that it was time to finally settle down. He applied and following a successful interview he started his new job as a postman on March 3rd, 1998 in Harborough. After a few months he began making rural deliveries to East Farndon, Great Oxendon and Arthingworth. After numerous years and reshuffles, he was lucky enough to be given the rural delivery to Clipston and Arthingworth in 2012. Five years on, and I think we can all agree that Mark is a very welcome asset to our village. He has a great memory for names and addresses and enjoys chatting to

the villagers he meets on his deliveries – he also claims he does not wear shorts all the year round! He admits that he can't believe he's been doing the job for so long – 'When you work 6 days a week, from 5am every morning, and you meet all the people I do, time just flies by'. Well, we all hope that Mark will certainly stick around for the foreseeable future and that his cheerful face will continue to grace our front doors and brighten our days for many years to come!

Roger Wallett

New Year events.... and beyond

Saturday 6th January 2018: 'Beauty and the Beast' at the village hall (page 4).

Saturday 27th January: Fish and Chip Supper and Fun Quiz. See Clipston.org/news. **Jan/Feb:** Haddon Fields Working Party; Look out for notices and on Clipston.org. **Jan/Feb:** Neighbourhood Development Plan. Open day at the village hall. Please look for village notices and on Clipston.org/news

Broadband Update

You will no doubt have noticed the digging up of footpaths and verges around the village! So, what's going on? The Community Fibre Partnership with Openreach is nearing completion and we expect their new fibre-to-the-cabinet (no digging) to be in use by Christmas. As we have a contract with Openreach, we expected to be removed from the scope of the NCC/Gigaclear (digging up), work, but NCC decided to go ahead anyway!! For updates, please click [HERE](#)

Consolidated Charities

The Trustees will be meeting during December to distribute charity funds. The charity is for residents of Clipston, and certain criteria apply (see Ed 7, p 3) or at www.clipston.org/news. Applicants wishing to be considered by the Trustees please apply in writing by no later than **first week in December**. **Secretary:** Colin Morley 2 Church Close Clipston, LE16 9RN OR **Treasurer** Jean E Wilford 6 Chapel Lane Clipston LE16 9RL

Letter

I am struggling to find adequate words to express my heartfelt thanks for everyone's love and kindness in supporting me in Laurie's loss. He would have been so touched by all your gracious tributes and astounded by the large number of friends attending his funeral. He so loved living here, and this has been Clipston at its best.

So thank you all, especially Rev Angela Hughes, Father Owen O'Neill, Julie Connell and the Clipston choir, together with Steve & Helen and all at the Bulls Head.

May he Rest in Peace,

Rose Anderson

Tennis Club

The mild autumn allowed a few hardy souls to continue playing right up until almost into November but by the time you read this the season will almost certainly have ended (apart from possibly some excursions to Harborough Dome) and will generally find the, now somewhat ageing, tennis club members "hibernating" ready to burst forth in the spring to take on all comers again. Seasons' 'honours board' goes to John Tilbrook for his success in the club tournament and to the ladies' doubles for a commendable competitive debut. Who will be successful next season? Why not join us once the clocks go forward and see if it might be YOU!! In the meantime, the Tennis Club have arranged for a pantomime to be played at Clipston village Hall. Please come and enjoy after Christmas and New Year!

Broken Pipe Productions
PRESENTS



This event is supported by Daventry District Council

Saturday 6th January 218 Clipston Village Hall
Adults £10, Child £5
Tickets; 2.30 Faye 525275 7pm Martin 525558

Would I Lie to You?

A fantastic evening of light hearted competition ended with the CADS team victorious, as the best Clipston 'liars'!



Quizmaster Martin Clarke with the winning CADS team; Sophia Clarke (a last minute sub!) Peter Warren, and Tony Price.

Clipston WI

We are nearly at the end of our year's programme but for the December 12th meeting we are fortunate to have a high-profile local resident, Jules Howard, coming along and talking to us about "Secret Beasts". Jules is a well-known zoologist, writer and presenter so this will be an open meeting – all are welcome to attend, £3 admission, for what promises to be a most interesting evening.

Our annual carol service is at Ashley this year, when Liz Mirams will give a seasonal reading.

As already reported, 2018 is our centenary year, the Clipston WI having been formed in May 1918. The first meeting was held in the old Calvinist Chapel on Gold Street.

We have a really exciting programme of speakers and extra events lined up for 2018; speakers include tales from a former Wimbledon umpire, a former royal butler and an innovative talk about the solar system.

Friendship Club

We recently welcomed the children's choir from Clipston School who sang before our quiz in September. Everyone enjoyed themselves and we hope this will be an event which will be repeated soon.

Allen Eaton the founder of Hollowell Steam, came to our October meeting (see page 6 for more details). All of the money raised is donated to the local community and this year our Friendship Club received a donation as a contribution towards our Christmas lunch which is on;

Wednesday 13th December at The Bulls Head in Clipston. 12.30 for 1 pm.

Other meetings coming up are:-
8th January – bring and buy and bingo.

12th February – "Let's get moving!" with Jason

12th March – Peter Wilford and Mkt Harborough Movie Makers

Jill 525 746



Finally, thank you to those that came along to our October teas and baked cakes; we were not as busy as in previous years but still raised nearly £100 for funds.

There were 77 members when the WI began, now there are 18, so ladies, come along, take part in some fun and friendship and help us celebrate our very special year.

A very Happy Christmas to everyone.

Rose Anderson | President, 525481

Coffee & Chat Canine Partners

Our Puppy Fund keeps growing – we have donated £1,808 so far – only £3,192 to go! Thank you to everyone for your support – and for drinking lots of coffee and eating many slices of cake.

I have been asked in the past what happens to our puppies if for a variety of reasons, they don't make the grade to be partnered with a person. Some of you will remember Jedi who used to come with Belinda and David with Crunchie. Belinda has told me that although Jedi didn't make it to being a working dog he is with a family whose little boy has been very poorly and he is helping to care for him which is lovely. Great, that all our dogs can have various roles through their lifetime.

Our next few dates for your diary are
16th December – 20th January 2018 –
17th February – 17th March.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Canine Partners Coffee and Chat Team.

Jenny, Anne and Jill (525746)

STOP PRESS: Thanks to all for fantastic sum of £501 raised at the Christmas Coffee and Chat on November 18th. Thanks for your great support!

Shambala

As in previous years, the Shambala Festival was held over the 3 days of the August Bank Holiday. Clipston continued its involvement in running the "NOSH Community Café" as part of the joint village project in which it works closely with Arthingworth and Great Oxendon. Many of you will remember that this bank holiday weekend was gloriously warm and sunny and this made this year's festival especially enjoyable,



both for the festival goers and for the many volunteers who helped in building and running the café. We served a vegetarian menu as well as teas, coffees and cakes - from Thursday afternoon through to Monday Bank Holiday. Whilst no one can deny that involvement is pretty tiring, we had a great time at what is a very unique, laid back and friendly festival and one which children seem to enjoy as much as the adults!

It has been great to see interest in the project growing with many people from across the age spectrum joining us for the first time and other stalwarts coming back year after year to take part. Thank you everyone who helped in this year's efforts, whether by baking cakes, helping in the build and dismantling effort (quite a project in itself) or working a shift or two in the café itself. The profits from this year's involvement resulted in £2,900 being allocated to each of the 3 villages involved. In Clipston, the profits are being distributed to those organisations involved in delivering the project: the Courier, All Saints Church, the Playing Field Trust and the Women's Institute.



All Saints Church

You will have noticed that the scaffolding is still up around the church. We had hoped that the work would have been finished by now but work was going along nicely until about a month ago when the contractors arrived one morning to discover a bat on a parapet wall.



The bat flew off within an hour or so but the terms of our bat licence

are such that we are required to report any findings to the ecologist. That we did and we discovered that because the bat was a different species (brown long-eared) from that named on our licence (pipistrelle) we needed to get an amendment to the licence and no work could be done until the amendment was approved by Natural England. We now have the amended licence and work is due to recommence the week before you read this edition, and should be completed before Christmas. In the meantime, the roof has had a covering of plastic sheeting and so far we have not suffered any damage as a result of water penetration.

Steve Carpenter Churchwarden

See www.allsaintsclipston.org for further information, including the Sunday club on second Sunday of the month.

General Mayow's Memorial

Some months ago Laurie Anderson started raising funds for the restoration of General Mayow's memorial in the churchyard. A number of local people generously contributed towards the work including the children from the school as reported in the last Courier. It was hoped to have been able to complete the work this autumn. Unfortunately, proposed work in churchyards can be complicated. Whilst the Clipston Church has no problem with the work being carried out, ownership of memorials lies with the families of the grave occupants. Attempts to interest family members have not been successful and the church had to seek approval from the Peterborough Diocese for the work to be undertaken. This has been done and we hope that permission will be granted soon. It is a shame that all this has taken so long but it is completely out of Laurie's hands. Please be patient and with luck we should be in a position to carry out the work before too much longer.

Steve Carpenter

As many of you will know, Laurie Anderson passed away on November 6th. You will no doubt recall the Courier Profile in Edition 11, where Laurie's untiring efforts on behalf of the village were well documented. He will be very sadly missed by our community. Hopefully, the fundraising Laurie started for the restoration of General Mayow's memorial will allow the work to be completed soon.

Editor



Orbell Cafe

If you haven't been to the Orbell Cafe at the back of the church on a Wednesday morning, please pop down and take a look! It's a thriving community cafe, and a fantastic addition to the village.

Baptist Chapel

We invite everyone to join us at our Christmas Carol service on Thursday 21st December at 7.30pm at the chapel in Chapel Lane. Teas and mince pies after the service for all to share. Sunday service with Communion is at **10.45am** on the first Sunday of every month. Refreshments are available afterwards and we welcome everyone to stay for a drink and a chat.

Rob 01858 466370

'Steam on the Green'

Allen Eaton MBE has been organising the Clipston Steam Rally for thirty years, and the 78-year-old can still be seen atop his beautiful steam traction engine, donning his trusty black bowler hat and boiler suit, the first weekend of October each year on the village green. Allen's love of steam engines began in 1956 when he became an apprentice engineer for British Rail. Sadly, he was made redundant after the Beeching Reports of the 1960s, but although he then set up his own business selling poultry, fish and game, his love of 'everything steam' never diminished.



By the time the church warden of Hollowell (where Allen lived) knocked on his door asking for donations for the church roof fund, Allen owned 3 of his own steam traction engines and suggested the church hold a fete with the

engines as a main attraction. Allen organised the event and £8,000 was made in a weekend – the Hollowell Steam Rally was born, and Hollowell Church was given its new roof!

It was only a year later that the owner of the Red Lion pub in Clipston, and a good friend of Allen's, asked if he'd be prepared to bring the steam engines to Clipston to show them there, which, of course, Allen duly did and Clipston held its very first steam rally. Thirty years on, and the steam rally still takes place on an annual basis, although it was moved to Naseby on one occasion when the Red Lion closed – Allen remembers this particularly as it was a complete disaster; the white lines had recently been painted on the roads there and as the steam engines drove over the newly painted lines, they lifted with the weight of the wheels and ended up being deposited in 'the strangest places' which totally confused anyone driving through! Needless to say, this was Naseby's first and last rally!

Allen makes no money himself from the



steam rally and all monies taken during the weekend go to those clubs and societies that support the weekend. This year, all the money taken from the trailer rides will contribute towards the cost of the Clipston Friendship Club's Christmas lunch. He is hugely appreciative of the support from the village and particularly the Bull's Head which runs a beer festival the same weekend to draw in the crowds. Ideally, he admits, it would be lovely if more of our local clubs supported the event with stalls on the village green selling local wares, cakes and books, but he is just very happy to show off his beautiful, historic engines and bring a bit of true old-fashioned living to the village.

Hannah Eveleigh

Letter

After days of grey rainy weather the sun came out last Sunday afternoon and we basked in the warmth on Haddon Fields. The opening of the project was a wonderful occasion – Miss Haddon was there so we could thank her for donating Great Hill and Little Hill to the village. Alex and Mary were there to see the unveiling of their bench. Jules was there to guide dozens of families to badger setts, fossil hunting and stream dipping. Many thanks to Stephen Woodgate and his committed team of helpers for organising everything and for liaising with the Woodland Trust with whom the project is in partnership. Our own children had an idyllic country childhood in the village and this will ensure that future generations of Clipston children can also follow these simple pleasures.

Liz Higgins

Letter received 20th September

Clipston Recreation Fields Trust

The installation of the activity equipment for older children went smoothly, and the equipment was signed off by the RoSpa inspector. Older children of all ages are encouraged to go and try the equipment out! We have begun consulting on replacing some of the equipment in the young children's area. This has been recommended by RoSpa due to the posts starting to rot. We will be updating the equipment and making changes based on feedback we have received. This project will be funded by money raised over the last year or so and a new Big Lottery grant.

By the time you read this Martin Clarke will have successfully been Rob Brydon in Clipston's version of 'Would I lie to you?'. Thanks to Martin, all the participants, bar staff and to you for coming!

Thank you also to all those who came to

our working party in October. The day was also spent installing the shelter designed and built by Mick Higgins.



Mick Higgins and his 'helpers'!

CRFT thanks Mick for his creativity and hard work! Thank you also to David (Wilf) Wilford, James McTaggart, Neil Ainsworth, Ollie Eveleigh, Shaun Beasley and James Woodgate for mowing the children's area throughout the summer. Our next CRFT event will be the Clipston Festival on the 30th June 2018.

Andy Blake Chairman CRFT

Hurray for Haddon Fields !

I'm embarrassed to admit that despite reading (and writing!) about Haddon Fields in previous issues of the Courier, I hadn't actually been there until the opening day in September. It was on this gloriously sunny afternoon that my family and I headed off to Kelmarsh Road to finally take a proper look. Generously gifted to the village by Miss Anne Haddon, these two fields are much larger than I imagined, and, thanks to Jules Howard, who gave enthusiastic and informative tours of the fields, they have far more to them than at first meets the eye. Jules first took us to a badger sett, which he had filmed overnight with a motion-sensored camera-trap, so we were treated to footage of a mother and baby badger, which the kids found fascinating. On to the next activity and Jules revealed an exposed bank of Jurassic clay, perfect for extracting fossils over 150 million years old, which had my three scrabbling about with gusto. But perhaps the most popular part of the tour was the stream dipping, where hordes of youngsters armed with nets investigated the waterlife in the stream that meanders through the fields, making me feel like I had walked into a 1950s poster advertising idyllic village life.

We enjoyed the official opening with Miss Haddon, and the unveiling of a bench, kindly donated by Alex and Mary Pegram in commemoration of their Diamond wedding anniversary (congratulations and thank you to them).

All in all a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was had by everyone, and introduced us properly to this delightful corner of the village. An ideal place for picnics, a great place to walk the dog, an opportunity for children to explore nature, and a truly tranquil space to clear your head; Haddon Fields is a fantastic asset for Clipston. Thank you, Miss Haddon, for your incredible gift to us and to future generations. **Liz Davies**



For more photographs see Clipston.org

Babysitting!

With a lot of young families now living in Clipston we thought it would be useful to have a list of available babysitters, all of whom live in the village, They are absolutely lovely (we know them all!) and would be delighted to hear from you.

Amy Barley (18) has her own transport - 07519 981214

Izzy van Besouw (18) has her own transport - 07793 052243

Freja Leveritt (17) - 525519

Josh Wakefield (17) - 525556

Sam Eveleigh (16) - 525755

Ravi Rastogi (16) - 525172

Eddie Leveritt (15) - 525519

Emily Hoinville (15) - 525976

Emily Wilford (15) - 525262

Chloe Kunz (17) - 07525 737561

Georgia Bugla (17) - 07506 413231

We'll update this list regularly so let us know if you would like to be on the list. Email to clipston.org@gmail.com



My name is Emily Hoinville, I'm nearly 16 yrs old and live on Kelmarsh Road in Clipston. In July 2019 I will be travelling to Ecuador with fellow students from Guilsborough Academy. We will be undertaking this expedition with an organisation called World Challenge and will be in Ecuador for 21 days. During this time we will be working within the local community on income generation projects and schools where we will undertake renovation and maintenance work. I need to raise £4000 to participate in this expedition, which is a challenge in itself!

To help raise money

I'm available for;

Babysitting

Dog Walking

Holiday Pet Care

Food Shopping

Ironing

Car Washing

Car Valeting

Other jobs that might be required *



Please contact me to enquire about these and any jobs* that you might have.

Please text/ring me on 07921 802376

United Benefice Choir

As many of you will know, I started up the United Benefice Choir 2 years ago with the view of singing at the United Benefice services on the 5th Sunday of a month. Just four services a year held in Clipston, Naseby, Kelmarsh and Haselbech Churches. The choir is now made up solely of Clipston members from all denominations who enjoy sing-



ing good music, although we would welcome other singers from the benefice. In addition this year, we have sung at two extra services in Clipston Church. The Confirmation Service taken by the Bishop and at the Harvest Festival service which was Trevor Lake's first service after having been licensed as a lay reader. We have sung new anthems at all of the services and quite a number of descants to various hymns.

On December 3rd after the lighting of the Christmas tree on the village green, we will be organising and leading the singing at our popular Christmas Celebration evening, Christmas carols and songs, with solos and descants sung by choir members. It was lovely last year to see the church so full with lots of good singing by the audience. We will be joined by other Clipston musicians and there will be some non-biblical readings. There will be bubbly and mince pies for everyone in church after the concert. The choir members are a varied lot, the majority cannot read music, some cannot sing in tune, some are very experienced, but the one thing everyone has in common, is, that they enjoy singing good music as a group. We really would welcome anyone else who would like to join us, you are never too old and seldom too young! We rehearse alternate Thursdays at my house. Please contact me, we really would welcome more singers.

Julie Connell 525336

Clipston Weather

August 2017: There were only twelve totally dry days in August, although there was less than 0.5 mm of rain on each of another eight days. In contrast, Tuesday the 8th was a cold and very wet day and night, with nearly 22 mm of rain in the 24 hours. Daytime temperatures were below average, despite a few warm days towards the end of the month.

September 2017: A wet month with only six totally dry days, although slight rain came at night on a few other days. The total for the month was 93.7 mm which is over 50 % above my average for September. Again, daytime temperatures were disappointingly low – there was only one day above 20°C - although there was some sunshine on all days but one.

October 2017: In contrast to the previous month, October had a very low rainfall although there were many days, especially in the first three weeks, with small amounts of rain. On Monday the 16th we experienced an unusual orange red hazy sun, followed by a dark period, caused by Sahara dust, and debris from the wild fires in Spain and Portugal, being blown over the UK by strong south west winds.

Click [HERE](#) for more a more detailed

Sulby Gardens

Grateful thanks to readers of Clipston Courier who came along to one of the National Garden Scheme Open Days at Sulby Gardens, Sulby this year. The response during 2017 to date has been extremely heartening. Visitor numbers of almost 500 and money raised of more than £3,000 by mid-October after our Apple Event equals the total for the whole of 2016. The Apple Event was our first attempt at a two-day opening and it was very successful, with 192 visitors in total, and the opportunity for people to come on a Friday and in the morning. We shall be repeating this format next year. We broke all records for a single afternoon with 154 visitors in August, including a pleasing number of children.

Stepping Stones Pre-School

We started the new school term with very good news; Sam Frape took on the role of deputy manager of Stepping Stones and we welcomed a new member of staff; Jane Hoskins started with us in October – we are so pleased to have them in our team and wish them both the best of luck! Our AGM took place on Wednesday 11th October. It was a great opportunity to meet other parents, staff, committee members and representatives from Clipston Primary School – Miss Glascodine came along to talk to us about the transition from pre-school to 'big' school – it was great to have her there and was really very useful to lots of parents so we would like to say a big thank you! Several of our current committee members chose to stand down at the AGM including our chair – Faye Tan, treasurer – Helen Bellamy, fundraiser – Vicki Scales and staff liaison – Adam Gilmore. We were very sad to see them leave us but are so grateful for the time and effort they have put in to help make Stepping Stones the wonderful place it is – thank you all very much.

New members joining our committee are; chair – Lucy Davies, treasurer – Carolyn Bland, health and safety – Helen Carr and staff liaison – Danni Smith. Welcome all!!

Well, we have already had a lot of fun so far this term, talking about our families, making autumnal pictures with leaves, baking delicious mini apple loaves with Kath (thank you!) and learning about farms. The pre-school children are out every Thursday at Forest School, enjoying the wonderful local countryside and having fabulous adventures and we had a thoroughly spooktacular time at the committee-organised Halloween Party too! We will be busy in the run up to the end of term too; as always, the children have a packed schedule of fun activities planned. We will be looking at celebrations in other cultures, including Diwali; learning all about winter and of course with Christmas fast approaching, we are preparing for our Nativity!



Stepping Stones Halloween party

Fundraising and Events....

Wednesday 20th December – (last day of term) – Nativity at the Village Hall at 11.15am and following on from our Nativity, we will be having a Christmas Party – crafts, games, songs, teas, cakes! **2018** – We already have lots of fundraising events planned – lookout for more! If you would like any information on our wonderful, local pre-school, please go to; www.steppingstonesclipston.co.uk call **01858 525113**, to speak to our Manager Sharon Brigden or **email preschool3@clipston.northants.sch.uk** And don't forget to find us on facebook **@SteppingStonesPreschoolClipston** for photos, updates and information.

All that is left to say is that the staff and committee would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a big thank you for all the support, fundraising help, donations and volunteers we had in 2017
Chloe Petty – Committee Member (525191)

Clipston - Where?

Answers to 'Where in the village will you see these objects?' [Ed 11] **Jim Tyson**



Top edge of telephone box
In Clipston High Street



Surround to door
Lion House, Gold St.

Lego and Meccano?

Do you have any Lego, Meccano, Knex or any other construction toys that your children have grown out of and are willing to donate to a local junior school ?

If so, please contact me,
Jenny May on 525304

Village Hall

Unfortunately, some youths from the village have been kicking a football at the village hall and have broken the door of the electric meter box. The two youths are old enough to know better and the playing field is the place to play football, not the village hall car park !! The situation is being monitored and if it carries on, action will be taken.

Whist Drives: From November the starting time will be 1.30 pm instead of 2 pm. This is to allow those living outside the village and with animals to feed to get home before it gets dark.

Jumble Sale: A total of £420 was raised. Many thanks to all who supported it. The next Jumble sale is on 5th April 2018.

Organ Donation !

Bruce Andrews who used to live in the village and played the organ at the church for some time owned a small electric organ which we occasionally used in the Orbell room. When Bruce moved on, he left the organ and it became a bit of a nuisance blocking up part of the church. Reluctantly, it was decided that it would have to go to the tip! On the day that it was due to be disposed of, Jean Wilford told us about an organisation called the National Police Couriers Association that might be interested in taking the organ to Africa where it would be used by a school. The local representative, Bob from East Farndon was contacted and he duly came and collected it some months ago. We were delighted to receive photos and a message from Jennipher, the head teacher at Soloboni Primary School, in Zambia to say a big thank you! I am sure that Bruce will be pleased to know that his old organ has gone to a good home.



Clipston Primary School

The school year started by welcoming the new reception children to the Owl Class and they have settled in to the routine of school life very quickly. The Kingfisher Class topic this term has been discovering all about the origin of the cocoa bean, researching its history and geography and accumulating with a visit to Cadbury's World. Dinosaurs have once again taken over the Woodpecker Class, who have been discovering about the history of the Earth with a visit to the "Dinosaurs of China" Exhibition at Wollaton Hall, Nottingham.

Our annual harvest festival service was held in All Saints Church. Family and friends joined us to celebrate harvest in our traditional way with Reverend Angela Hughes. The children made posters and donated monies for our link school, The Karisalpatti Children's Home in India. We donated over £270 which was presented to Mrs Julie Foster from Children United. Along with the produce donated



during the church's harvest service we sent several boxes of food to the Jubilee Food Bank in Market Harborough.

Our sports teams have been extremely busy this term taking part in after-school activities and competitions. Twenty-one members of our cross country club, from key stage 2 competed in South Leicestershire alongside several schools from the Market Harborough area. They participated in several races and enjoyed cheering each other during the afternoon. The year 5/6 football team displayed fantastic skills whilst taking part in a local school tournament at Guilsborough. The tag rugby team recently participated in a rugby festival in Daventry comprising of 21 teams. The year 5/6 team along with our friends from Great Creaton competed against 7 different



schools from the area and finished overall competition winners in a thrilling final. The team have now qualified for the

county final. Well done to all the teams, we are extremely proud of you.

If your child turns 4 between 1st September, 2017 and 31st August, 2018, as a reminder the closing date for the admissions for September 2018 is 15th January at 5pm. Please contact or email the school if you would like to arrange a visit or require any other information on the process. Alternatively, please visit the county council website; www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Further information about our school is available on our website: www.clipstonprimaryschool.org

It will be lovely to see you at the school's Christmas Bazaar which is being held on Friday 1st December starting at 1.30.

Visitors from the local community are always welcome to attend any of our events or even just pop in and see what we've been getting up to!

The school is open for all children aged 4 to 11 years old from 7.30 am (Breakfast Club) and there is a minibus to take the children to the After-School Club in Market Harborough, open until 6pm.

Further information is available on our website; www.clipstonprimaryschool.org

or you can follow us on Twitter @ClipstonSchool.

Emma Mercer Head Teacher

Clipston & District Flower Club

We welcomed many local guests and other flower clubs to our open meeting in September as we watched an enjoyable and expert demonstration given by a national demonstrator, Lorena Dyer. Lorena created six spectacular designs using a wide range of flower varieties, colours and form while entertaining us with hilarious stories on the theme of, 'A Moment in Time'. The stage looked magnificent at the end. It was lovely to see a hall full of smiling faces, and at the end of the evening all the designs were

taken home by lucky raffle winners... more smiling faces. To enable our small club to afford national demonstrators,



we rely on ticket sales. Thank you to those who supported our special demonstration and we hope to see you again at our meetings in the future. We have

booked national demonstrator, Mr John Chennell, another talented floral artist, for 2018. In December there will be no meeting, but do come along as a visitor to any meetings in the new year to see what goes on. In January we are holding a new year afternoon tea when we will be entertained by a mystery speaker. If you would like any information about the club, please ring me on 525463 or Heather on 525598. A Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year to all.

Linda Warren Club President

CLIPSTON BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ACCOUNTANTS

Grange Accounting

Alun Davies Chartered Accountant
01858 437430

Contra Accounting Ltd

Accountancy and Taxation Services
www.contra-accounting.co.uk
Chris Partridge
01858 414210 / 07912 058 431
chris@contra-accounting.co.uk

ARCHITECTS/PLANNING

JWA Architects

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

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Julie Connell 01858 525336
j.connell118@btinternet.com

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Leah & Nigel Gardiner
01604 740985 / 07850 624 128
oldposthouse56@btinternet.com
www.theoldposthousenaseby.co.uk

The Bulls Head, Clipston

Three double bedrooms with en-suite.
Steve & Helen Foster
01858 525 268

COMPUTER HELP & SCANNING SERVICES

Jim Tyson

Computer training sessions for beginners to more advanced skills, plus scanning services (eg old family photographs, negatives, slides or documents). Jim.tyson@btconnect.com
07801 388007 / 01858 525697

COMPUTER TRAINING

Julia Blake

Computer Training for Individuals and Small Business
juliablake1@hotmail.co.uk
01858 525760 / 07880 700 699

COPY EDITING & PROOFREADING

Hannah Eveleigh

Copy-editing and Proofreading
eveleighhannah@gmail.com
Hannah Eveleigh 07834 088 115

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Gary Bennett 01858 525540 / 07793 556 199

DOG WALKING & GROOMING

Nik Nack's—Dog Grooming

niknacksdogs@hotmail.com
Nikita McCauley
07544 107 817

The Dog House

Dog walking, in-home boarding, puppy visits, cat & small animal feeding
Beth Wakefield
01858 525556 / 07710 988 218
bethwakefield41@gmail.com

EGG DELIVERY

Clipston Egg Company

Free range eggs delivered or collection
Mrs A. Essen 07709 411 262

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Zara Glew 01858 525407/07815 895082
zara@environmentalenergies.co.uk
www.environmentalenergies.co.uk

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Once Upon a time

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www.onceupon-atime.co.uk
bummelberries@yahoo.co.uk
Tracey Morgan 07912 782 075

GARDENING

Rod Dexter

Fencing, Hedge Trimming
01858 525439 / 07710 607 770
2, Bassett Way, Clipston

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01858 525336
j.connell118@btinternet.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

Rob Leveritt Photography

Photography
robert@robertleverittphotography.com
Rob Leveritt 07802 897 050

PLUMBERS

Chris Spokes

Plumbing & Heating Engineer
Corgi Registered and OFTEC
07773 288 686

PUBS & RESTAURANTS

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Abi Prescott
01858 897510 / 07887 561 965

TUTORING

Rachel Smith English Tutoring in Clipston

Literature/Language tutoring at all levels; 8 years experience.
rachel.k.smith@hotmail.com
0774 9471739

Mobile Library



The mobile library visits Clipston on the **first Wednesday of each month from 10.40 to 11 am** and stops **just opposite the church at the end of Kelmars Road**. There is disability and pushchair access, so this facility is available to absolutely everyone, whatever age!

CLIPSTON GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS

All Saints Youth Club

Open to youngsters between 14-18 years old. We meet in the Orbell Room at the back of the church on alternate Fridays from 7.30-9.30pm.

Rob Leveritt 07802 897 050

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 525 120

Clipston Cricket Club

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

Andy Blake 07768 554 395

Clipston Computer Support Club

Computer training sessions for beginners, 5 weeks for free in small groups. Normally meet Mondays 9:30-11:30am, please call if interested.

Julia 01858 525760 / 07880 700699 or

Jim 07801 388007

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

Coffee & Chat

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

Jill Pick 01858 525746

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

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

Parents & Tots Group

Friendly group for parents and carers with new-borns 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.

Chloe Wright 07977 529859

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).

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

All Saints Church

Reverend Angela Hughes 01858 525342

Baptist Chapel

Rob Thompsett 01858 466 370

Bus Service (County Connect)

Booking & helpline 0345 456 4474

www.county-connect.co.uk

Clipston School (office)

Helen Rhodes 01858 525261

Clipston School Governors (Chair)

Graham Leah 01858 525261

Clipston School Association

Liz Davies 07525 640 477

Clipston Village Hall & Hire

Grace Burnham 01858 525327

Flood Warden

Ann Essen 07709 411 262

Footpath Warden

Julia Blake 01858 525760

Mobile Library

First Wednesday monthly 10.40 – 11am

Bassett Way 0300 126 5500

Orbell Room at the church

Trevor Lake 01858 525120

Parish Council (Clerk)

Felicity Ryan 01604 740429

Meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month at village hall at 7.30pm.

clerk@clipstonparishcouncil.org

www.clipstonparishcouncil.org.uk

Recreation Field Trust & Pavilion Hire

Andy Blake 01858 525760

Stepping Stones Pre-School

Sharon Brigden 01858 525113

Tree Warden

Mick Higgins 01858 525302

Charities

Almshouse Charity

Peter Goodchild 01858 525532

British Legion

Rupert Ellenborough 01858 525380

Clipston Consolidated Charities

Colin Morley 01858 525337

Clipston School Charity

Peter Goodchild 01858 525532