



Summer fun at Haddon Fields (see page 9)

Clipston Courier

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

June 2018

Edition No. 14

Welcome

Welcome to our summer edition! With the biggest village event of the year almost upon us, find out more about what's happening at the **Clipston Festival** (more on p5). We welcome contributions from our new junior reporter **Eddie Leveritt** (see All Creatures Great & Small on p3) and the talented illustrator **Katy Dynes**, who has drawn illustrations for some of our regular features (see p6 & p8). Learn how you can get hold of the updated **Clipston Heritage book** (p8), and the beautiful new **village map** (p2). Above all, have a wonderful summer everyone!

Hannah Eveleigh & Liz Davies
Editors of this edition

The Courier Editorial Team takes it in turns to edit each issue. Our September edition will be produced by Stephen Woodgate. Copy deadline 31 July 2018.

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Yes, the Clipston Village Festival weekend is nearly upon us, and this year the traditional 'Festival on the Rec' is just one part of a whole weekend of activities across the village.

In addition to the festival down at the playing field there is an architecture trail you can follow, which takes you on a tour of some of Clipston's most interesting buildings. Four of these buildings (the church, chapel, school and village hall) will be open, showcasing art displays from talented villagers, as well as historical displays of old photographs. And if you are green-fingered or simply fancy tea and cake in a beautiful place, head to Julie Connell's Open Garden event at her new house on The Green. More infor-

mation on each part of the festival can be found on page 5. Be sure to make the most of this fantastic weekend and have a really wonderful time!

Festival Programme £3

The festival programme will be sold door to door prior to the festival, so look out for the volunteers gracing your doorsteps very soon! The programme price (£3) includes entry into the raffle to win a £100 prize, as well as a map and all the details on the architecture trail, plus further information on what's happening and when across the whole weekend. So don't forget to bring your programme along with you!

Special Church Service

A special church service will be held on **Sunday 1st July at 9:30am** to celebrate the festival weekend. The Bishop of Brixworth, the Very Revd John Holbrook, will license Trevor Lake as a Reader within the Peterborough diocese and admit 5 children to their First Communion. The benefice choir will lead the singing and we hope that you will join us.

It's not too late to take part!

If you would like to submit any artwork for the displays around the village, we are still accepting entries! It can be anything you may have created, from sculpture and photography to painting and embroidery. It is an opportunity to sell your work too, if you would like to. Contact Ruth on 525346.

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 any advertisers.

Start your Sunday with Breakfast and a BANG!

New shooting club member David Holmes shares his first experiences of joining the club and reveals why it's the best way to start a Sunday morning.

The sun is out! Summer is here! A welcome warm weekend morning beckons to you: a lovely walk, a bike ride, some repotting in the back garden... or, perhaps, once a month... the Clipston Clay Pigeon Shoot?

One Sunday per month the Clipston Shooting Club hold a short, informal, safe and friendly clay pigeon shoot open to all at 10am; held in various open farmlands around the area often with beautiful surroundings (nb. don't wear flip-flops). Not only that, early-birds (if they prebook) get a slap-up Breakfast at the Bull's Head pub from 8.15am!

The club's tagline is: *Everyone welcome, Novices mentored, Veterans challenged.*

I was, and very much am, a novice. I was encouraged to go along for the fun. I did, and rather than feeling out-of-place or intimidated I was welcomed by all (even the grumpiest looking of farmers). I was given 25 cartridges, ear-defenders and a gun to borrow, I was mentored and instructed, and, low and behold, I shot 4 clays (out of 25!) I've been to every shoot I could attend since. It's fun.

As much as a fun, casual sporting event, it is a social event. Those who attend are



an excellent cross-section of the village and the surrounding communities and from all walks of life; farmers, commuters, sportspersons, artists, tradesmen, young and old. Most importantly they are friendly people that you may not otherwise meet; and all in a fun, safe and supportive surrounding. It's an excellent part of the Clipston area social scene.

Novices are always mentored and there is often a Have-A-Go stand if there are many newcomers. First-timers are also *guaranteed* to have shot at least one clay by the end (although it may be one lying on the ground). There's always helpful advice from instructors and other shooters to help you "up your score". The price is £15 cash (an additional £5 for the optional breakfast beforehand) which includes your 25 cartridges and all instruction. Membership is also available.

Just imagine: *Up early... (ish). Excellent fry-up. 25 shots in good company. The sun on your face and wind in your hair* And back home by 12 ready for Sunday lunch!*

Blow the month's stress away... Blow away a Clay!

*Neither weather nor hair are guaranteed in price

David Holmes (*personal best: 9/25*)

Upcoming shoots:

**24 June, 29 July,
19 August, 30 September**

ClipstonShootingClub - add as Friend
for an "Invitation to Breakfast!"
CSC Shoot Breakfast

Call Daryl on 07919 252964

Clipston Map On Sale

Clipston resident and talented artist Janet Alderson-Smith has created this beautiful artistic impression of Clipston as a map, which will be produced as a limited edition print run, and will go on sale over the festival weekend at various village venues. The first printed copy of the map will be framed and displayed in the village hall at the festival, and will be the prize in a raffle to be drawn at 4.30pm on Sunday 1st July in the village hall. Orders for further copies will be taken at the festival and you will also be able to order copies through Clipston.org website. The print for the raffle is A2 size, printed on muse-



Win a copy in the Clipston Map Raffle!

um quality paper and was framed by Country Crafts in Market Harborough. All profits will go to the Clipston Recreation Fields Association. Get your copy soon!

Clipston Homeworkers' Lunch

The first Clipston Homeworkers' Lunch took place at the end of May; a new idea launched by villager Sam Rastogi to get those of you who work from home together for a networking lunch on the last Friday of every month, at The Bulls Head. It was a great event and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended, all agreeing that it is a fabulous opportunity to meet new business contacts (and friends!) in the village. If you would like to join in, the next lunch will take place on Friday 29 June. Food will need to be pre-ordered by the day before. To be added to the WhatsApp group please email your mobile number to Sam on samandamit@yahoo.com and menus and details will be circulated within that group. Big thanks to Sam for organising everyone!

All Creatures Great & Small

Many of you will have seen dogs walking around the village, but have you seen these dogs, riding around the village on the Clipston steam rally weekend on a steam lorry? Molly and Freddie are the friendly Basset Hounds of proud owners Philip and Heather Weston and love sitting in the trailer watching the world go by as Philip drives his steam lorry around the village. Basset Hounds have an exceptional sense of smell and were originally bred to hunt hare. The name derives from the French word 'bas' meaning 'low'. For over 40 years, Heather and Philip have had Basset Hounds in their family; all, except Molly, have been rescue dogs and their first dog Ben, was found at the RSPCA Centre in Northampton when he was 3 years old. He had creamy white and brown fur and they immediately fell in love. Since Ben, they have owned 5 Bassets: Bertie, Murphy, Harvey, and now Molly (aged 14) and Freddie (12).



Freddie has many interesting traits including chasing the swallows at the park, riding on Philip's steam engine, and his favourite activity - travelling in the campervan. Even the jingling of the van's keys gets Freddie excited and he is out of the door before Heather and Philip! Molly's favourite activity is lightly dozing; well, after all, she is 98 in human years! At the end of the day, despite their advancing ages, the pair get on very well, and like nothing better than relaxing after a long day in front of a roaring fire!

Eddie Leveritt



Just before we went to print we were sorry to hear that Molly passed away at the end of May. We hope this is a fitting tribute to her and her life in Clipston.

Help needed at Shambala!



For the last four years, volunteers from Clipston, Great Oxendon and Arthingworth villages have put together and run a café stall at the Shambala festival at Kelmars Hall over the August bank holiday weekend. The profits have been shared equally between the villages, which, for Clipston has meant a £6000 boost to village fund-raising.

In Clipston the money from the NOSH Community Café has supported a range of initiatives including church repairs and maintenance work; development of the Orbell café; amenity development and maintenance of the playing fields as well as contributing to the publication of the Courier and the village website. These projects have been supported because the people who volunteer their time are involved with the church, the playing fields and the Clipston Courier. Last year we also received specific help from the WI in cake baking.

If you are interested in volunteering, especially if you are part of a village group that would like to benefit, we'd like to hear from you! Delivering the NOSH café each year is a very enjoyable project in which to be involved, whether at the festival ground itself or in other activities. Examples of tasks include: building and set up of the café structure, food preparation, making up of packed lunch boxes, cake baking, transportation of provisions between the village and the festival site, and of course, preparing and serving cooked breakfasts, meals and teas as part of the on-site catering team.

We have a group of volunteers who enjoy their involvement so much that they come back to help us year after year and

are extremely grateful for all their support. The project offers interesting opportunities for people of all ages and we know part of the pleasure is in meeting new people from across the villages involved. Some of the shifts in the café are best described as "full on" especially the breakfast shifts when we cook and serve hundreds of cooked breakfasts and serve even more teas and coffees over a period of 4 to 5 hours!

Volunteers are generally able to re-use their entry passes over the course of the weekend and this does provide some compensation for the hard work, enabling them to enjoy the laid back atmosphere of the festival and its many and varied live performances, parades and other recreational activities.

With Shambala now set to continue for at least another 8 years, there are significant opportunities to build on our experience to develop the project further. There may be other organisations in the village who wish to play a part in the project, perhaps as part of their own fund-raising activities.

The café itself runs from late on Thursday 23rd to Monday 28th August, but there is much that we need help with before the festival too! If you are interested in volunteering or feel you are able to contribute in any other way, please do have a word with one of the Clipston project team.

Val Carpenter 525 120
Andy Blake 525 760
Jim Tyson 525697
Chris Partridge 079 120 58431 (Treasurer)

Village Hall

The jumble sale on 5 April 2018 raised a great £380 and thankfully all raffle prizes were claimed. Many thanks to all the helpers – we had some extras this time due to the regulars being unable to help out so a special thanks to them. The next jumble sale will be on 6 September at 7pm.

Whist drives have now finished for this season and will start again on 13 September at 1.30pm, and then fortnightly until December.

And a little moan... someone has been playing football against the wall of the village hall – there are marks on the window and one window has been broken. The meter box has also been broken. Please could I ask that balls are not kicked against the hall walls and windows as it can cause damage and will cost money to mend. Thank you.

Grace Burnham

Clipston Recreation Fields



Clockwise from top middle: Teigan, Sophie, Rose, Milly and Freya enjoy the new play equipment



We've been busy! The new equipment for the young children's play area has now been installed, a project financed from a grant from the Big Lottery, the Paddocks development, finance from Clipston Cricket Club and money that you have raised for us.

We've also done some work under the Scots Pines to prevent badgers digging up tree roots and killing them and would ask that you are just careful with the bark when playing on the trees.

Thank you to the tennis club who continue to give their support to the trust. We hope to make the courts our next focus so we need to raise a significant sum of money as it is more tricky to find grant money for sporting facilities for small clubs. The tennis club does an excellent job in raising money and Martin Clarke's 'Would Clipston Lie to You' initiative and the January pantomime were great successes. Thank you, everyone.

We still have a problem with dog poo in the park – please, please do clean up after your dog as this is a lovely area where so many people play, walk and sit.

It would be great to hear from anyone wanting to join our management committee. The current committee has been together 4 years and would benefit from a larger group to help develop new ideas. We meet about four times per year and that could be the limit of the commitment ... of course, taking on extra responsibilities is unlikely to be refused!! Contact me or any trustees if you'd like to join us. Our next event will be the Clipston Festival. Please come and enjoy yourselves and help us to raise money to maintain and develop the recreation field.

Andy Blake Chairman

Clipston Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

If you attended the NDP meeting in March, you will know that three 'theme groups' have been formed. These will be exploring the following categories:



- **Housing and the built environment**
- **Natural and historic environment**
- **Community facilities, employment and transport**

These groups are now busy at work collating information and developing ideas

around each theme. Each group will produce a 'chapter' which will be incorporated in the completed plan, alongside summaries of the questionnaire results and the open day conclusions.

Once this work is completed (by early autumn) a second open day consultation will be held to gain the views of Clipston residents. Look out for more details in the next Courier!

It is not too late to get involved! If you have any questions or comments please contact Clipston NDP by e-mail: clerk@clipstonparishcouncil.org

Clipston WI Centenary Celebrations

Our centenary celebrations are well underway. Members and guests enjoyed a most entertaining talk in March all about the life and times of a royal butler: William French was butler on the Royal Yacht Britannia and also worked for Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman – he had quite a few entertaining tales to tell!

May has seen our main celebration – a party with some light-hearted poetry



Members of the WI gather for the dedication of the bench to mark their centenary on Clipston Playing fields

and magic, and dedication of the bench on the playing field. We are also taking part in the village festival with a display in the Baptist Chapel.

Dr David George is talking to us in June about how to "Live a Longer, Happier, Healthier Life", something to which we all aspire.

Any ladies are most welcome to join us at our monthly meetings.

Rose Anderson, President 525481



Clipston Festival Weekend (30 June & 1 July)

Festival on the Rec

WHEN: Saturday 3pm -10.30pm
WHERE: Recreation Ground



Live music at last year's festival

Get set for a fantastic festival atmosphere down at the playing fields from 3pm on Saturday 30 June. There will be a prosecco and beer tent; fun races, steam rides, face painting; a raffle; various stalls; teas and cakes (3-5pm) and a BBQ & hotdogs (5-7pm). Enjoy live music late into the evening from talented local musicians and singers (including the Clipston Allstar band) and top everything off with a delicious curry and naans (made by the pub!). Best day of the year!

Architecture & History Trail

WHEN: Saturday 11am -5pm
Sunday 11am -5pm
WHERE: Trail in programme



Discover more about buildings like Clipston Baptist Chapel

Follow this village trail and learn more about some of Clipston's most historic buildings. Trail map and information on these buildings can all be found in the festival programme. The trail includes the oldest house in the village and tours of the old school building. There is also a children's trail which involves spotting unusual architectural features and landmarks. Combine with the arts trail and stop off to see the arts displays and indulge in some tasty refreshments too!

Arts Trail

WHEN: Saturday 11am -5pm
Sunday 11am -5pm
WHERE: Village Hall, Church, School & Baptist Chapel



Janet Alderson-Smith— one of many local artists displaying their work over the festival weekend

Discover arts created by talented villagers at four village venues. From textiles to photography, pay a one-off fee at any venue and have access to them all. The village hall will display art by local people; the church will showcase old slide shows of Clipston plus a 3D display and photography from Rob Leveritt. There will also be a little music, singing and poetry in the church on Sunday from 3-5pm. At the Chapel discover the WI centenary exhibition plus flowers and textiles, and finally see the art display at the school, with something on show from every child.

Eat out ALL weekend!

Several festival venues are serving food this weekend. From cakes to curry, check out where to go!

SATURDAY 30 JUNE

- Orbell Room 11am-5pm Tea & cake
- 11am -2pm Light lunches served
- Open Gardens 2-5pm Tea & cake
- Festival on Rec 3-5pm Tea & cake
- 5-7pm BBQ & Hotdogs (kids tea!)
- 7-10pm Curry & naans

SUNDAY 1 JULY

- Orbell Room 2-5pm Tea & cake
- Open Gardens 11-5pm Tea & cake

Open Gardens

WHEN: Saturday 2-5pm
Sunday 11am-5pm
WHERE: The Wooden Owl, 10a The Green



Visit Julie Connell's beautiful garden which is opening under the National Gardens Scheme during the festival, providing a quiet haven in the middle of the village. Built around her new house, in the stable yard of her previous home, it is a plantsman's garden, full of unusual perennials, shrubs, clematis, many fruit trees and a new water garden. Home-made cakes and scones will be on offer.

Tennis Club: A Tribute to Anne Tilbrook

The start of the season has been overshadowed for everyone at Clipston Tennis Club by the sad passing of one of our stalwart members... Anne Tilbrook. For many years until her illness, Anne was an extremely active and popular member of the club. A better than average player with a consistent serve and a sharp eye for a net volley, Anne was very competitive but equally loved the social, friendly, accepting of all abilities, culture of Clipston Tennis Club. She herself lived those values, happy to encourage youngsters and always keen to offer words of wisdom to anyone.

Anne acted as a very diligent treasurer for many years including being instrumental in applying for the grants that finally secured the monies to re-surface the courts. When the tennis club put on some pantomimes to try and raise money for the re-surfacing of the courts in 2009, Anne starred as the Fairy Godmother in "Cinders Ella" and then took on roles in the subsequent years' productions, "Haven't a Cluedo" and "A Very Civil War". Not quite sure Anne was exactly in her element on stage, certainly not in amateur pantomimes, but she fully entered into the spirit and was part of a very close and cohesive cast... a very happy memory for all of us involved.

In addition, Anne and John hosted the traditional BBQ after our summer tournament for many years and we were always

greeted by their warm welcome and fantastic hospitality.

Anne's illness deprived us of her company in recent years and understandably John's playing time was reduced greatly as he cared for her in a way that leaves many of us in awe of his selfless devotion to Anne, and our love and thoughts are with John and all their family at this time.

Hopefully Anne is at peace now and if she is looking down on the courts on a Tuesday night we hope she will enjoy the laughter and sporting recognition of others good shots... exactly as she did herself.

I'll end, in true tennis style, by saying to all the Tilbrooks, "Love All".

Martin Clarke



£461 raised by Clipston girls

Two enterprising eleven year olds from Clipston have raised over £400 for *Stand up to Cancer* after holding a very successful coffee morning at the village hall on Saturday 12 May. Hannah Roberts and Ava Roberts (not related!) who are both in year 6 at Clipston School, were inspired to do the event because of The Great British Bake Off, which encourages fundraising through baking. They posted flyers through doors to publicise the event, and then baked cakes and biscuits to sell on the day. The girls baked some cakes themselves, but had many donations from people in the village.

The coffee morning was extremely well attended, and the amount raised was very impressive. "We were so pleased to see so many people there," said Hannah. "Thanks to everyone for their generosity."



Ava (left) and Hannah outside the village hall with their home-made sign

"Thanks also to those who helped on the day and donated cakes," said Ava. "We really enjoyed it." A huge well done to both of them!

Clipston Weather



March 2018

This was the wettest March here, with a total of 103.2 mm of precipitation, since 1982 when I recorded 105.8 mm. My average for the month is 54 mm. Unusually late snowfall came on the first three days which accumulated to about 100 mm (4 inches) with more where drifting occurred.

Both day and night temperatures were below average. There were four days when the thermometer failed to rise above freezing point. The first day of the month was exceptionally cold when the maximum for the day was 4.0°C below zero! That is the coldest day maximum I have recorded in March since the start of my records in 1981. There were 11 nights with air frost, the minimum being -4.5°, also on the 1st.

April 2018

The wet weather continued into April with a total rainfall of 80.8 mm - 50% above my average - although no rain fell on 14 days of the month. Over half this came in three days - the 1st; 9th; and 27th. Day temperatures in the month were about average despite a record high of 27°C on the 19th. This the highest April maximum I have recorded. Night temperatures were a good 2 degrees above average, with the thermometer only falling to zero on the last day of the month.

Sulby Gardens

Opening times as follows:

Thursday 14 June 2 - 5pm. Featuring the wildflower meadows. PLEASE NOTE this date does NOT appear in the Northamptonshire NGS booklet due to NGS administrative error.

Thursday 2 August 2 pm - 5pm featuring ponds, butterflies and dragonflies

Entry £4 per head, homemade teas £3 per head. 5 miles from Clipston between Sibbertoft & Welford. NN6 6EZ.

Clipston Past & Present

In this issue we thought we would take a look at the churchyard wall which, as many of you will be aware, is currently badly in need of repair. However, as you can see, in around 1900 the wall looks positively new, with very white pointing. This is perhaps not surprising, as we know the church underwent some renovations in 1898 so it is likely the wall was done at the same time. We know this photograph was taken before 1900 because the fence on the right shows that Pegram's corner shop (now 1 Kelmarsh Road) is yet to be built on this corner (it was built in 1900).

The shape of the wall has changed too—in 1900 the wall was as high on the left of the gate as on the right, but skip forward to present day and the wall considerably lowers on the left as it goes round the corner. Why it was made so much lower is not clear—possibly to do with visibility for traffic—but maybe it was not as expensive to maintain if there was less of it! Maintenance is desperately needed today—the photos here show how badly some parts are crumbling. Fundraising for the wall is underway but needs lots of help! See the article below.



Churchyard wall to cost £100,000

In November a small section of the churchyard wall collapsed into the road opposite Fern Cottage and had to be repaired. We know that the whole wall needs taking down and rebuilding, but the most recent quote for doing this was around £100,000. This is beyond our resources without significant grant income. We are therefore embarking on planned maintenance of the wall in sections to keep it safe and secure until we can get the rebuild done. This planned maintenance in itself will be

costly, and the church *receives no financial help at all from the Church of England*. The only income the church has is from fundraising and the support of people in the village. Quite a few people make regular donations to the Church and without this we would not be able to meet our commitments – to them we say a big thank you. Not all contributors are Church attenders and some people have said that they want their contributions to be for the care and maintenance of the fabric of the Church only and not

for general Church funds. We therefore have set up a **Fabric Fund**, which is a separate pot of money for work to the Church building and its surrounds only. Please consider whether you are able to help us with this work.

Please contact the Church Treasurer Julie Connell on 01858525336 j.connell118@btinternet.com or Steve Carpenter on 01858525120 ashtoncarpenter@btinternet.com if you would like any more information.

Steve Carpenter, Churchwarden

Stepping Stones Pre-School

It's the summer term!!!...

... which hopefully means we can spend more time outside on our new ride-on toys – these and a few other lovely outdoor goodies were purchased with a grant from The Apethorpe Educational Trust to whom we are so grateful and to Carolyn Bland (our treasurer) for working so hard to secure it for us. We've also purchased games, books and much needed additional storage with fantastic donations from our wonderful local community - a big thank you to David and Faye Tan for match-funding an event that we supported meaning we received even more to help buy items to keep our setting looking lovely! In March we had a children/parent craft afternoon. It was great to see so many parents getting involved and enjoying spending time at the setting seeing the kinds of things their children are involved in. We have another one in June and hope to see lots of parents/carers again.

Another busy term is ahead, covering topics including Weather, Our Senses, Mini Beasts (an awesome craft activity for the children to make their own creatures), Life Cycles (watching and nurturing caterpillars changing into butterflies and also understanding the human life stages), Pirates – ahh haaaaa! And our biggest topic, People Who Help Us - learning about the various roles in our community and how they help us. We are hoping to have a visit from a police officer, a nurse, a therapy dog and the fire service.

If you would like to volunteer to come and speak to the children about an interesting job or hobby you have, please do get in touch. They would love to see you!

EVENTS:

13 June – Father's Day Parent Craft Morning – 8.45-10am – all parents welcome

30 June – Clipston Festival – bouncy castle, play area and sweetie cones!

3 July – End of Year Trip – Kelmarsh Hall – a fun-packed morning of activities and exploring

20 July – End of Year Show – Village Hall

Please find us on facebook

@SteppingStonesPreschoolClipston for photos, updates and information.

Chloe Petty
Committee Member (525191)

Flower Club



In April we had a demonstration entitled "The Green Fingered Flower Arranger" by Linda Seabrook. She created six flower arrangements during the evening, producing some smaller Blue Peter "here's one I made earlier" arrangements. The stage was filled with some beautiful flowers from roses to carnations, lisianthus to orchids.

In May we celebrated with a "Royal Wedding" workshop. Members were asked to create either a buttonhole, table arrangement, posy, cake, etc. but using British or garden flowers that Megan Markle requested in her bouquet. This was followed up with tea and cakes.

For our June meeting we will be visiting Julie Connell's new garden. It will be fascinating to see how it is progressing.

July is "lavender workshop" by Linda Warren. We will be using lavender to make different things so if anyone wants their lavender pruning get in touch or pick it yourself and come along to the workshop and see what you can do with it. You will need 30-50 long stems.

Everyone is welcome at any of our meetings; either workshops or demonstrations. There is no meeting in August but on 19 September we have National Demonstrator John Chennell visiting us. This will be a real treat and definitely a demonstration not to be missed.

Linda Warren 01858 525463
Heather Weston 01858 525598

Friendship Club

Yes, at last we held our Christmas lunch in March! We had a lovely meal at The Bulls Head and the children's choir from Clipston School came along to entertain us. Thank you, Jane, for organising this and we look forward to seeing the children again later in the year. We have now held our AGM and members received their programme for the next twelve months. We welcome some old favourites but also will hear all about the Wildlife Hospital at Kibworth; Rob Leveritt will tell us about his life behind the camera; Mick Higgins on the Market Harborough Food Bank and music from Val and Paul. If you have recently moved into the village you are more than welcome to attend as a guest (fee £2) to try us out. It's a very informal event but always finishes with an afternoon tea of sandwiches and cakes.

Dates for your diary:

9 July - Musical afternoon with Val and Paul

14 August – Great Oxendon garden meeting

10 September – Bingo

8 October – Kibworth Wildlife Hospital

For more information, please contact Jill Pick on 525 746

Coffee & Chat Canine Partners



Amazing Dogs Transforming Lives

Pup update - latest figure to raise is just over £1,000 – the end is in sight. Our coffee mornings continue to be well supported by folks near and far. We also welcome Anni each month with her lovely greetings cards suitable for all occasions. Claire also comes with her chutneys and jams.

Don't forget the charity can raise funds by collecting used postage stamps (it's the zinc content that is recovered from them that raises the money for us), and empty printer cartridges (sorry, not Epson). You can drop them off at our coffee mornings each month.

Next few dates for your diary – 16 June – 21 July – 18 August – 15 September
Jenny, Anne and Jill

Clipston Primary School

We have had a busy summer term so far and taken advantage of the beautiful weather by using the outside classroom for reading, maths and science.

We welcomed parents, children and visitors to our 'Royal' summer fete this year, with traditional maypole dancing and a large selection of stalls. It was a fantastic opportunity for the Year 6 children to be a central part of the day, before they look forward to the next stage of their academic journey in September.

Years 2 and 6 have worked exceptionally hard in the run-up to the National Standard Assessment Tests and have shown a positive attitude and enthusiasm throughout. Well done to all the children and staff for their hard work.

The choir has again taken part in the Eisteddfod competition in Northampton, which was hotly contested, and the children performed beautifully.

The Owl and Robin classes have been exploring Katie Morag stories this term, which has led to many exciting activities; writing letters, making lighthouses and boats and role-playing in the post office. Kingfisher Class has celebrated the end of their World War II topic with a VE Day street party. This included making sandwiches and scones and designing games to play. They have also begun exploring fairy tales from around the world, and the countries from which they originate.

Woodpecker Class is studying the Victorian era this term and has visited the new



lottery-funded exhibition at Kelmars Hall, 'Below the stairs'. They experienced what life was like during this period, comparing it with today.

Following on from a visit to Sparkenhoe School for the Year 2 children earlier this

year we have been lucky enough to have the Year 2 children from Sparkenhoe come and visit us. It was a fun day where the children learnt about what life is like in a school very different from their own. Our sports teams continue to enjoy extra curriculum activities both at lunchtime and after school. The Year 3 and 4 children have taken part in a hockey skills festival, Year 5 and 6 children came 5th in the netball competition, and the Year 1 and 2 children have taken part in a rugby skills festival. They are also looking forward to other events including badminton and tennis later this term.

Our sports crew leadership team has just undergone their training, in order to lead fun sporting activities with the younger children which help promote a healthy active life.

We also have our annual sports day taking place in June (hopefully the weather will be kind to us!), the year 5/6 residential to Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire and our Leavers Service, held in All Saints Church.

The school is open for all children aged 4 to 11 years old from 7.30 (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 on our website: www.clipstonprimaryschool.org or you can follow us on Twitter

@ClipstonSchool.
Emma Mercer

Haddon Fields Family Day 16 September

The grand opening of Haddon Fields last September was such a success that we are holding another family day this year, on **16 September**. Make a note of the date in your diary and look out in the next edition of the Courier for more information on what will be going on.

In the meantime, please do come and enjoy Haddon Fields any time. It is a fabulous place for walking, exploring the wildlife, paddling in the stream and picnicking, as you can see here! Why not take your family there for a long leisurely picnic, while the kids roam free and enjoy the outdoors? Perfect on a warm summer day (lets hope we get lots of those this year!).



Please just remember to respect this lovely green space and be mindful of the wildlife and farm animals that share these fields with us. Please take home any litter and pick up any dog poo, and, as always, please keep dogs under con-

trol. It is great to see so many villagers and visitors enjoying the area and we hope you all have fun there over the summer months.

Stephen Woodgate 525566

Clipston's Got Talent: Ragged Enz

There are not many villages that can boast their own jazz band but Ragged Enz definitely fits that bill here. After a conversation in the Bulls Head 10 years ago with the then landlord, Paul, an experienced tenor sax player, Andy Blake (trumpet), Mark Ginns (bass and guitar), Robin Hickman (drums) and Jenny May (alto sax) decided to form a jazz band. Andy tells me "When we first started to play together we were all finding our way around the music and as a result the endings would be 'interesting'. It used to be commonplace to hear us say 'that was OK apart from the ragged ending'." It made perfect sense for this to become the band's name, the spelling being Mark's idea, an homage to 80's New Zealand band 'Split Enz'.

Andy had already played jazz with a number of Big Bands in the area but for most band members the genre was new. Mark's background was in rock and pop and he admits to 'finding notes on the bass he had never seen before!' Robin had played with The Strangers (the other Clipston band!) but was keen to add jazz and swing to his repertoire and Jenny had just started learning the alto sax so she jumped at the chance to play regularly with a band. A friend from Harborough Big Band, Steve Cockayne, joined later on keyboards and it was he who wrote many of the arrangements they still play today. The band has evolved to include Jim Bates on tenor and baritone sax and Steve and Eleanor Riches who play jazz guitar and tenor sax. The band plays well-



Ragged Enz: L-R Mark Ginns, Steve Riches, Robin Hickman, Eleanor Riches, Andy Blake & Jenny May

known jazz tunes and standards from the 1920s to present day. 'Autumn Leaves' is a favourite as are the theme tunes to Top Cat and The Simpsons ('in a jazz-style'), but mostly they just want to play music that people recognise and can enjoy at any level. "The music we play works well as the background to an event creating a relaxed atmosphere rather than it being any kind of formal concert" Andy explains. They would love some more gigs and are keen to play for charities' fundraising events. They are happy to play for free... though a bottle of beer or two certainly wouldn't go amiss!

Don't miss Ragged Enz at this year's Clipston Festival! 5pm Sat 30th June.

If you are interested in booking the band contact Andy Blake on 07768 554 395.

Hannah Eveleigh

A big thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported and helped contribute to my Spring Shopping event fundraiser for Ecuador in April. I really appreciated all the help and it was definitely a very successful event. In total we managed to raise £487 which was even better than I had hoped for. Thanks again. **Emily Hoinville**

New Bin Day: THURSDAY

This month sees the beginning of new recycling and bin collections for us all. These are the main changes to note.

Bin day changed to THURSDAY

Remember to put your bins out for Thursday not Wednesday anymore!

Different collections

Every week Food waste (brown caddies)

Every 2 weeks Recycling (blue-lidded bin)

Every 3 weeks General Waste (black bins)

A new blue-lidded recycling wheelie bin

Gone are the blue and red recycling boxes which blew rubbish around the village, and in their place are large blue-lidded wheelie bins which can take all your recycling (no more sorting!) and protect your recycling from the weather.. These new bins also take large cardboard.

Garden Waste Bins

These will no longer be collected unless you pay £35 a year (call 0345 2185215 or visit the website to arrange this). These

Clipston Heritage Book Reprinted

CLIPSTON HERITAGE
by Maurice D Wilford



5th Impression 2018

A fascinating book on Clipston history written by Maurice Wilford in the 1960s has been republished. Many residents will remember the original green booklet, produced by Maurice and his son Peter. Peter has been working with Jim Tyson to rescan and update the booklet, retaining the original copy and photographs and updating information that has since come to light. The book contains lots of information about how Clipston used to look, the old shops that used to be here, the kinds of events that took place and how village life was in times gone by. It will be on sale at the Clipston Festival, and all money raised will go towards the churchyard wall fund.

CLIPSTON BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ACCOUNTANTS

Contra Accounting Ltd

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

Grange Accounting

Alun Davies Chartered Accountant
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Rachel.k.smith@hotmail.com

To advertise your business here,
contact Julia Blake on 01858 525760

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 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

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

Our meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month in the village hall at 2.10 pm unless otherwise stated. Following the speakers, we enjoy afternoon tea and have a raffle to enhance club funds. Guests welcome, fee £2.

Jill Pick 01858 525746

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.

Chloe Wright 07977 529 859

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).

Daryl Robinson 07919 252 964

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, 1.30pm 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 Association

Liz Davies 07525 640 477

Clipston School Governors (Chair)

Graham Leah 01858 525261

Clipston Village Hall & Hire

Grace Burnham 01858 525327

Flood Warden

Ann Essen 07709 411 262

Footpath Warden

Julia Blake 01858 525760

Orbell Room at the church

Val Carpenter 01858 525441

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

Police non-emergency contact number

101

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

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