



Clipston Courier

Your Village Newsletter

March 2022

Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of 2022! In this, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year, we've certainly got lots of things to look forward to. There are exciting plans for the jubilee celebrations (p7). There's an amazing opportunity to learn about the World Gliding Championship taking place right on our doorstep (see also p8). The village festival is back on 2nd July. There's a fascinating concert in the church (p6), an Open Morning at the Village Hall, and family activities in Haddon Fields. All that together with the regular news from other groups and organisations you'll find this a packed edition. Sit back and enjoy!

Courier up-date

We're delighted that Caroline Pemberton has joined the editorial team, as it means that we now have enough editors to continue producing 4 editions a year (just!). However, if there's anyone else out there who would like to come on board, we'd be very pleased to hear from you. Get in contact if you want to find out more about it.

Liz Clarke
Editor

Jim Mcinulty
Co-Editor

HOW TO CONTACT US

clipston.org@gmail.com

Julia Blake (Distribution) 07880 700 699
Liz Clarke 01858 525558
Liz Davies 07525 640 477
Hannah Eveleigh 01858 525755
Rachel Smith 07749 471739
Jim Mcinulty 0771 2623592
Caroline Pemberton 07885 094 640

Deadline for articles for Edition 30 is 6th May 2022

Up, Up and AWAY!

Learn more about the gliding 'Olympics' coming to SIBBERTOFT this summer!

The Women's World Gliding Championship (yes, that's right, the biggest gliding championship for women in the WORLD) is being held, for the first time in the UK, at The Gliding Centre near Sibbertoft in August - and Clipston WI have organised for YOU to have a sneak preview!

All Clipston residents over the age of 14 (both men and women) are warmly invited by the WI to a preview event at The Gliding Centre on Tuesday 29th March at 6.30pm. Tickets are £10 each and will include a two-course meal, a talk from Liz Sparrow (the Competition Director), a tour of the glider hangars and the chance to have a go in a glider simulator. See page 8 to book your place.

Julia Blake, President of the Clipston WI is delighted to be part of the build-up to the championship and to help promote it within the local community.

"To have a world-class event like this for women on our doorstep is so exciting. And for us to be asked along to get a sneak preview of what it will involve is a real privilege. We hope as many people as possible in Clipston will join us for what promises to be a really fascinating and fun evening."



more on Page 8

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.

Clipston Profile: David Holmes

David Holmes, of No.2 The Green, has become known for many talents in his 7 years in the village. Whether for the ease with which he masters the piano, his invaluable technical know-how at the summer festival, or to his closest neighbours, his operatic-style morning greetings. There seems no limit to his musical flair, or the delight it brings to those around him.

Perched at his kitchen table this overcast morning in early January, David describes how his interests in all things theatrical developed at the age of ten. Three short years later he was totally enamoured by musical theatre, namely its 'emotionally visceral' nature. And his love of drums helped, too.

He gained an honours degree in Theatre Lighting Design from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama at the Barbican where he developed a 'fascination for controlling an audience's perspective from behind a velvet curtain'. For how, like a puppet master, he could gently or dramatically guide the crowd's emotions regarding a particular character or plot twist. Following the completion of his studies, David began his career as an Assistant Lighting Designer, then Associate Lighting Designer for London stage productions. He was taken under the wing of esteemed Lighting Designer Hugh Vanstone who, with his meticulous eye for detail, introduced him to the exciting reality of the industry. In their 7 years working together, David assisted on the design of such prestigious shows as *The Graduate*, *Spamalot*, *Bombay Dreams* and *The Lady in the Van*.



David Holmes

However, amidst this period of mounting accomplishments and increasing standing within the arts, David recognised the need to take a step back and focus on his health. What followed was an intense yet necessary period of self-reflection, one that saw David emerge with a fresh perspective on what was best for him and his family.

One opportune afternoon, against the backdrop of Haddon Fields, another great Clipston talent, Jules Howard, approached David with a proposal. A proposal that would lead to the opening of new doors and, indeed, pathways. Jules wanted David to narrate a virtual reality exhibit about 'toad procreation'. And how could David refuse? After completing the project, and another voice-over piece for the Department for Transport, David began to consider a career in the field. What began as an interest, a 'no-pressure' venture, soon turned into a new career as a freelance Voiceover Artist.

After much re-training, the formation of a portfolio, and a major makeover on the spare bedroom, David was well on his way. He has since taken on a variety of roles in the charity sector, as well as the gaming industry and with campaigns such as Love Food, Hate Waste; his vocal chords have also featured in radio adverts, and an exhibition of Van Gogh's work.

In December of last year David was short-listed for a distinguished Vox award for a promotional piece entitled Discover Lanark completed for Bauer Media. Of around three hundred competitors and nine shortlisted, David was awarded the prize for Best Voice in Promo, S&P and Imaging (TV, Radio, Online and Gaming). He found the experience both 'enlightening and humbling', adding that the night had left him feeling 'like a toddler at a school disco who comes in and steals all the crisps.'

So what's next for our vocal maestro?

David plans to continue to invest time in building his new business and is excited to branch into new areas of voiceover work, working with local businesses in a range of sectors such as training and e-learning, ecology, and mental wellbeing. After all, he says, 'being kind to ourselves, each other and the planet' is what it's all about.

You can find out more about David's venture at:

www.holmesvoice.co.uk

www.linkedin.com/in/holmesvoice

Rachel Smith



What truly shaped David into the successful Lighting Designer he became was the amalgamation of skills he gleaned from Vanstone and Howard Harrison, the latter being someone he still collaborates with to this day. Alongside Harrison, who David describes as 'charming' and a master of 'well-executed, simple concepts', David designed musicals, plays and orchestral performances at many of the great theatres in the country: *The Young Vic*, the RSC in Stratford, Royal Festival Hall and the West End. His longest standing engagement, of no less than twenty-two years, is that of *Mamma Mia!* – a true testament to the longevity of his talent.



Friends Of Haddon Fields

I'm really pleased and excited to announce that Friends of Haddon Fields (FoHF) have been given the green light to extend the areas for tree planting in Haddon Fields! Actually, it is more like 'two green lights', as the Woodland Trust (WT) and Northamptonshire archaeology (on behalf of Historic England) both had to give their approval for the areas that we proposed.

Our proposal is that the larger of two the plantations will be established to commemorate the Queen's platinum jubilee or 'Tree-bilee' as Prince Charles has named this special jubilee. To make this plantation in Great Hill even more memorable we are designing the shape as a heptagon (seven sides) in recognition of the Queen's 70 years on the throne.



We have designed a second oval plantation on Little Hill, within which we hope to plant trees that will be dedicated by village residents. For those that have asked me already about this idea, I will be in touch to discuss the next steps. However, if you would like to consider dedicating a tree – for whatever reason- please contact me.

Please see diagrams above that shows the platinum jubilee heptagon (which encompasses the current smaller rectangle plantation) and the tree dedication oval. Hopefully, we will obtain funding for the fencing of the plantation areas in the coming months, and this will allow us to plant tree saplings in the autumn/ early winter. Although this seems like a long way in the future, please remember that the Platinum Jubilee celebration continues through the whole of 2022, so there is plenty of time.



On Sunday 20th March, Jules Howard will lead a practical event 'building a wildlife pond' in the wildlife area surrounding the Field Centre. Hopefully in June, Friends of Haddon Fields intend to hold a 'summer event' at the Field Centre to include music and Pimms! We will also attend the village Festival on 2nd July to highlight our various activities. Please look out for posters and FaceBook notices for more details.

Later in the year, we intend to hold our annual open day (September) and, following the outstanding success of our Marshmallows, Music and Mulled wine evening in 2021, (see photos) we are planning to reprise the event in November this year! Finally, thank you to those that have become 'Friends' of Haddon Fields at the village festival or at the open day. If you missed out, it is not too late! Please contact me if you would like to become a friend for 2021/22 and get your own FoHF key ring and Friends card.

Stephen
On behalf of Friends of Haddon Fields (FoHF)



Clipston Neighbourhood Development Plan

Neighbourhood Plan Approved

As reported in the December 2021 edition of the Courier, the Referendum for the Plan was held at the Clipston Village Hall on the 2nd December 2021. A resounding vote for approval was made with 202 votes cast for a Yes vote and 31 votes cast for a No vote. In percentage terms 86.7% were in favour and 13.3% were against.

It is very impressive that the turnout (from an electorate of 543) was 42.9% which is very high for a referendum for a neighbourhood plan – and on a cold day too. The average turnout is around 33% so thank you to all those parishioners who voted.

Following the referendum and the subsequent formal “making” of the Plan by the West Northamptonshire Council (WNC) on 3rd December 2021 the Plan is now part of the statutory planning process. It will be used by WNC when determining any planning applications concerning Clipston Parish, and Clipston Parish Council will consider the Plan when making any representations to any such application as a statutory consultee.

NDP Advisory Committee

Spring in Haddon Fields



Clipston Church News

The battle with the Peterborough Diocese continues! They are still continuing to insist that we spend money that we don't have in getting an architect to produce a detailed specification and drawings for the work which is urgently required to replace the weather vane and restore the clock faces. An architect has now been commissioned so we hope to be able to get approval for the work before too long. We have been lucky so far that the vane has not been brought down by the wind. Fund raising remains an issue with fewer actual church services and little opportunity to raise money. Meanwhile, issues keep arising. We now have a problem with water from the church when it rains flooding the next door house drive and forming a lake on the road which is dangerous if frosty. It looks as if we will be faced with a bill of around £2000 to instal a soakaway and drain to alleviate this problem. Please support our efforts to raise money for these works and let me know if you have any ideas as to how we might increase our fund raising in these difficult times.

Steve Carpenter - Churchwarden 525120

A Message from Reverend Miranda

Dear Friends,

As spring breaks out all around us, how wonderful it is to feel that we can “break out” too! As new life springs up in our gardens, woods and fields, it certainly feels to me like something of a new beginning. It is two years now since we entered that first lock-down; how long ago it sometimes seems – yet on other occasions it can seem as though time as stood still, and our lives have been on hold.

Life is stirring, and so are we, yet some of us may feel a bit of trepidation as we step out in to unfamiliar freedom. Have we got so used to limited horizons that we need support and encouragement to expand them once again? As we return to doing some of the things we have done countless times in the past, do they feel different and, if they do, how do we respond to that? Are we more appreciative of what we took for granted before, looking with fresh eyes on things that previously we barely noticed because they were always there or always happened? I wonder if we will simply slip seamlessly back into old habits, or will we take the opportunity to retain and enact what we have learnt about the things that really matter? At this pivotal time, it is, perhaps, fortuitous that you are likely to be reading this in Lent, a season when Christians make special efforts to discern the health of their relationship with Christ – a relationship which is made visible in the outworking of our daily lives. We are called to look afresh at how we relate to others, and how this reflects God's love both for us and for them. We are called to examine our lives, to put aside those things that damage and diminish us and take up those things that are beneficial both to the body and the soul. As we venture out once more into a familiar but changed world, whether you are Christian or not, this seems like good advice. With every blessing on you all,
Miranda

The Revd Canon Miranda Hayes, Rector

P.S. I am really looking forward to the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in the village!

Sad Farewell to the Flower Club

After 21 years of friendship, creativity, learning, personal growth, and a great deal of fun, our happy club is sadly closing after exhaustive attempts to avoid the inevitable. Even before the pandemic, the continuation of our club was in the balance despite the hard work and determination of the committee.

The club was formed after the wonderfully inspiring and successful flower festival staged in church as part of our village Millennium celebrations in 2000. In preparation for the special event, weekly classes were held to help volunteers to learn and develop skills in both floral art and calligraphy.

New friendships were formed and there was great enthusiasm for a regular creative opportunity in the village. It was obvious that a club dedicated to floral art and allied crafts would be well supported. This proved to be the case, and we began very quickly to attract members not only from Clipston, but from surrounding villages as well as further afield.

Our members share numerous happy memories of spectacular demonstrations, workshops, socials, and many Clipston based events including Christmas Tree Festivals, Commemorative displays, Weddings, several Flower Festivals staged in church and the chapel, raising lots of money for charities both local and national.

We were also invited by the Baptist Church in Market Harborough to design and stage a festival for them. It was an enormously inspiring and eventful festival, particularly for those of us involved in creating floating displays in the filled baptismal pool! When the village held an annual flower and produce show, the club organised the floral art competitions attracting many beautiful, and some intentionally amusing, entries. One year two members, with the help of 'ladder holders', even climbed up to the Millennium Beacon filling it with flowers.....very scary,

but the resulting display impressed and pleased all who attended the show. Several members took part in a Festival of Flowers at Coventry Cathedral. We were invited to decorate part of the Chapel of Industry. It was an unexpected opportunity for us and wonderfully memorable. Our inspiration was the Bishop's Chair, and for those of us lucky enough to be hands on designing and staging, it was an exceptionally memorable experience. I still have my Coventry Cathedral Memory Box. The club was also asked to represent the South Midlands Area at the East of England Show in Peterborough, and we are also proud to have had some success in Area and National competitions.

There is inevitably sadness when such a happy group has to decide to disband, but our friendships will remain. Some members are planning to join other local groups to continue sharing our interest in floral art, making new connections and friendships. The committee had long discussions as to where our remaining funds should be donated. It was felt that as plants, gardens and flowers are important to all members, a charity linked to our interests was appropriate. 'Greenfingers Charity' is a national charity dedicated to creating magical and inspiring gardens for life-limited children and their families who spend time in hospices across the UK. The work they do is truly wonderful. We also decided that the

Village Hall, our home for 21 years would also benefit.

As one of the smallest clubs in the NAFAS, (National Association of Flower Arranging Societies), I feel very proud of what we achieved over the years, and the joy shared through our club. I thank the members and everyone who supported us in any way.

Linda Warren



Music with a difference!

For those with an interest in history or music or those who just would like to enjoy an unusual and fascinating night out, here is a date for your diary....

On Saturday 26th March, All Saints Church Clipston will be hosting "de MOWBRAY'S MUSICKE" – a group of talented musicians who will treat us to a varied programme of Medieval and Renaissance music. They have performed at English Heritage venues and other historic sites, as well as for town events, festivals, town revels and banquets. They will play a variety of reproduction historical instruments, enabling us to enjoy the sound and musical atmosphere of the 15th to 17th centuries. We can look forward to hearing magnificent and evocative sounds from a variety of instruments - from quiet renaissance recorders, to loud Shawms and English bagpipes as well as the curiously curved Crumhorn,

Cornett and Lysard and the occasional stringed instrument. The concert will feature a range of short pieces for different mixtures of instruments, together with dancing displays and harmony singing. The band will be dressed in colourful and evocative clothes of the time (neither Royal nor peasant). During the interval and after the performance, you will be able to see the instruments up close and have a chance to chat with the players. This church fund-raising event will start at 7.30pm (doors open 7pm). Tickets can be booked at £12 per adult (family tickets also available). This includes a variety of 'light bites' that will be served during the interval. Drinks will be available and you can pre-pay for a bottle of wine (£10) when making your booking.

This premium event is expected to be popular both within and outside the village, so you are encouraged to secure your tickets early. Tickets will be available from Julie Connell on **01858 525336** or by email: **j.connell118@btinternet.com**



Canine Partners

Thank you everyone who has donated old printer cartridges and postage stamps. Keep 'em coming please. One of my aims this year is to spread the Canine Partners word via collecting tins placed in businesses etc. If you would like to know more or have somewhere suitable please contact me 525 746 (answer machine - please leave contact details and I'll return your call). Thank you again for all your support.

Jill Pick

Friendship Club

The reunion afternoon tea held last year was well attended and enjoyed by all. We hope to restart our meetings soon but will be in touch with members when this will be.

If you would like to find out more about the friendship club please contact me on the number below.

Jill 525 746

Royal British Legion

Just to let everyone know who collected or contributed to last year's Poppy Appeal, the total for Clipston & district was £2,059.79p with Clipston alone raising a fantastic £709.95. Thank you so much. We will still need collectors this November; if you think you can help, please contact me.

Rose Anderson tel: 07742379444

Join in with the Jubilee Celebrations

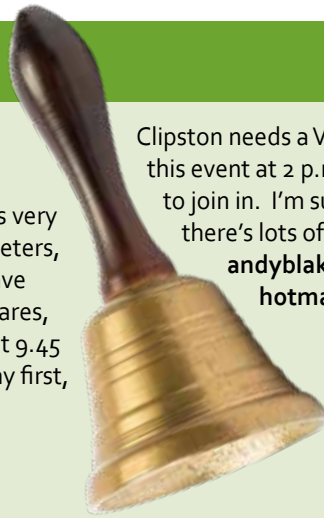
Don't miss Clipston's celebrations on the occasion of HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee:

Thursday 2nd June

We'll be lighting the beacon at the Recreation Field at around 9.50pm in line with the national Jubilee celebrations.

We will also perform the specially written fanfare beforehand. It's very easy and it would be great to have a large band of Clipston trumpeters, buglers and cornet players. If you play or have ever played and have an old instrument in the loft or would like to borrow one of my spares, please contact me. Don't think. Just do it, it'll be fun! We'll play at 9.45 p.m. They've also written a special bagpipe tune which we will play first, so if you have some bagpipes at home come and join me! We're performing at 9.35 p.m.

Andy Blake



Clipston needs a Village (aka Town) Crier to promote this event at 2 p.m. Please let me know if you'd like to join in. I'm sure we can have a crier per street if there's lots of volunteers!

andyblake4@
hotmail.com



Sunday 5th June



**10am Service of
Thanksgiving &
Celebration at
All Saints Church**



**12-3pm The Big
Jubilee Lunch and
Street Party on
the High Street**

There will be live music with jazz from the 1950s, a quiz and communal singing. Dressing for the occasion, patriotic table decorations and flag waving are all encouraged!

Bring your own gazebos, tables, chairs and picnics! Some furniture (for less able residents) can be provided if requested. To book a space for your group or to get involved, please contact:

Faye Tan	525275	faye@oldrectory.uk.net
Julia Blake	07880 700699	juliablake1@hotmail.co.uk
Nikki Bugla	525660	nicola@abbeypark.co.uk
Miche Rengger	525425	michelle.rengger@gmail.com



For information on what's going on and ideas to help plan your own celebrations, please visit www.clipston.org and to view more photos of the 2016 street party go to <https://www.clipston.org/2016-clipston-street-party>

The Clipston Street Party 2016



Message from The Queen to holders of
Big Jubilee Lunches

I am delighted that you are planning to join The Big Jubilee Lunch as part of the special events to mark my Platinum Jubilee in 2022. It is my sincere hope that this will be an opportunity for communities across the United Kingdom, and further afield, to join in a spirit of togetherness and to celebrate the enormous achievements of the last seventy years.

I send my warmest good wishes to you, and all those who will join you, at what I hope will be a joyful and most memorable occasion.

ELIZABETH R.

Women's World Gliding Championship

This awe-inspiring international event will take place at The Gliding Centre from 13-27 August, where top women glider pilots from across the globe will compete to become the 2022 World Champion. You'll be able to watch the mass launch of up to 100 gliders and follow them on live race tracking as they race across our skies. Family entertainment at The Gliding Centre will all be part of the celebrations surrounding this international competition, including gliding-related activities for the kids, air and ground displays and street food stalls. If you're interested, come along to the preview event on the 29th March and find out more!

www.wwgc2022.co.uk www.theglidingcentre.co.uk



Husbands Bosworth Gliding Centre

Book Your Sneak Preview

Tues 29 March, 6.30pm
The Gliding Centre (near Sibbertoft)

- Two course meal
- Talk from Competition Director, Liz Sparrow
- Tour of the glider hangars
- Simulator experience

Everyone welcome aged 14 and over
£10 each

To book your place please complete the form opposite and return with cash or cheque (made payable to Clipston WI) to

Liz Clarke
5 Naseby Road
01858 525 558



Sneak Preview Booking Form

Full
Name:

Email:

Contact
Number:

No. of
places

Total £

No. of
vegetarians

(Other dietary requirements may be possible on request)

Kelmarsh Windfarm Community Benefit Update

KWCB is a charity that is funded by payments from Cubico Sustainable Investments & GLIL Infrastructure, the owners of the Kelmarsh Wind farm. In Clipston over the last year or so, the following projects have been funded:

- A new electric piano that has been used at various events e.g. the Clipston Festival, Christmas Eve music at the Bulls Head, the concerts at the Rec and in the church. It's available for proficient keyboard players to use for events;
- The renovation of the memorial lamp on the green;
- The new fenced enclosure around the Haddon Hut at Haddon Fields;
- The creation of a Den-engineering area in Clipston School;
- The materials for the Clipston Quilt which is on display in the Orbell room;

- An upgrade of the Clipston Village Hall facilities including the opening of an outdoor café;
- The insulation of the two houses in Clipston managed by the Clipston Alms House charity;
- Subsidised Tennis Coaching for young people;
- The renovation of the defibrillator located at the Bulls Head.

The total money provided for these causes was well over £20,000.

If you have a charitable cause that you'd like financial help to improve or create please contact:

Andy on andyblake4@hotmail.com or Ian on ianmay231@hotmail.co.uk

Andy and Ian

Farming

Walking around Clipston you can see many examples of some skilled hedge laying that has taken place over the last few months.

In the days before tractor mounted hedge trimmers, hedges were laid every ten to fifteen years following a period when they were allowed to grow tall. Hedge laying involves removal of a lot of the branches to allow the trunk of each plant to be partly cut through and laid. This means that the hedge is more stock proof and encourages new growth from the bottom of the hedge. Laid hedges are much better for wildlife and preventing farm animals from getting through.

This is what you get if you trim the top of the hedge with a flail hedge trimmer. You can imagine a sheep eyeing the gaps with glee!



However, if you lay the hedge by hand, this is what you get immediately:



And then after a few months:



Hedge laying has declined since the mid 20th century with the increase in mechanisation on farms, but also because the job takes a long time and is both skilled and tough. The people with those skills are very much rarer in the rural community now. If you haven't been recently, go for a walk up Brown's hill and along the Mere ... then carefully down the Kelmarsh road back to Haddon Fields ... you'll see some great examples along the way.

Andy Blake

News from Clipston Primary School



This term has flown by, with the children making great strides with their learning. It is always a pleasure to pop into classes and see the huge variety of activities being enjoyed by the children. Pupils in Owl and Robin classes have been learning about the countries in the UK in Geography, the "Causes and Effects" of the Great Fire of London in History and about plants, animals and their habitats in Science. In Music, Junior pupils have been learning about rhythm and pulse, and about the artist Faith Ringgold in Art and Design, where they created story quilts in oil pastels. During assemblies, the children have been leading discussions and becoming more confident in speaking in front of an audience.

Following the extensive improvement works to the original building over the summer, the mobile classrooms have been refurbished this term, with new access ramps and beautiful wood cladding to the double mobile; a huge improvement to the aesthetics!



Our peripatetic music teachers are delighted with the number of children taking part in extra-curricular lessons. As well as a number of children playing the violin, guitar and piano with Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust tutors, Mr Britcliffe now has seven children from across the school having brass lessons on the cornet, trumpet and trombone – nearly enough for our own brass band! We all enjoyed World Book Day in March. The 25th anniversary of this event focused on Bed Time Reading. Each child had the opportunity to borrow one of our Bed Time Reading Bags containing a variety of books and stories to whet their appetites and promote a love of books and stories. All the pupils were given a wooden spoon to turn into a book character – their imaginations and craft skills have created a super display!

As the end of term approaches, we are delighted to be returning to church for our Easter Celebration this year, where no doubt the Lenten Cross will once again be a stunning focal point.

Clipston School is open for all children aged 4 to 11 years old from 7.30am each morning (Breakfast Club). And we offer After School and Holiday Care in liaison with Castle Lane Day Nursery in Market Harborough.

Further information about the school is available on our website: www.clipstonprimaryschool.org and our Twitter page @ClipstonSchool.

Emma Mercer - Head Teacher



Stepping Stones Pre-School



Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas raffle in December 2021 – we made an amazing £1615 which is an incredible achievement for a small charity like ourselves – we appreciate all your support. A special thank you to our committee who worked very hard to organise it, with lots of amazing prizes and a huge selling effort. We are very grateful, thank you.

We are delighted to announce that we have two new staff members at Stepping Stones,

both Jan and Kelle have previous experience working with children in the early years, they have settled into the team quickly and the children have enjoyed getting to know them and playing with them.



On 5th February 2022 we held a "Lambing event" – another super fundraising event organised and hosted by Louise and Did Gowling. It was so lovely to see the newborn lambs and an incredible opportunity for the children of Stepping Stones to see a real working farm. We all thoroughly enjoyed it! Thank you very much Louise and Did.

We provide a fun, supportive, learning environment which helps prepare children for school. If you are interested in your child starting at Stepping Stones Pre-school we have spaces available from September 2022. See our website for more information www.steppingstonesclipston.co.uk

Contact us for more information: Tel: 01858 525113 or
E-mail: preschool1@clipston.northants.sch.uk
Sam Frape (Pre-school Manager)

CWI - Clipston WI

Cocktails... how to make them, what ingredients work best and everything else about their history and science from the Cocktail Shaker Boys

proved to be a fab evening. Many guests joined us too and enjoyed the samples, although for some reason the mocktails (non-alcoholic) were less popular than the Manhattans!



Our monthly Tuesday walks have been somewhat muddy but it's good to get out and laugh together especially as our indoor programme was disrupted again due to COVID in December and January. Carol singing around the village in December brought heartfelt thanks from some Clipston residents and our book club meeting in the pub, our February 'social', looking at All Among the Barley by Melissa Harrison, triggered discussions ranging from the changing agricultural landscape and British culture to issues of mental illness.

On Wednesday March 23rd we're looking forward to Sally Wilson from Knot Sew Simple who will demonstrate macrame techniques and we'll all try to make a macrame piece on the night. Why not come as a visitor, ladies?



As you have seen we are hosting a fabulous open event at the Gliding Centre, nr Sibbertoft on March 29th. Great times with friends old and new, so put some dates in your diary with our colourful 2022 programme (enclosed) – you don't have to be a member to come along. Come and join in the fun and we look forward to new friends.

Take a look at www.clipston.org/wi for much more information.



Clipston Parish Council Update

Traffic

A number of comments and concerns have been received regarding accidents and near misses at the Naseby Road/Longhold Road crossroads. A meeting was arranged onsite with a representative of West Northants Council to discuss this. Notwithstanding our expressed serious concerns, we have been told that the Highway Authority cannot further improve visibility at the junction and the signage approaching the crossroads had already been improved. It was agreed that the white lines and the large white STOP lettering on the road would be redrawn and this has been done. Traffic speeding through the village can often be a problem so the Council has decided that speed indicator signs would be helpful in reminding drivers of the need to slow down.

There are a number of suppliers and designs of these signs and the Council has researched the various types. Other Parish Councils that have radar signs were also asked for their opinions about their choice of sign. It was agreed that reliability, visibility, capability for traffic analysis and minimum maintenance requirements were important factors and, with that in mind, a supplier and design has been approved.

The procurement process has begun for two solar powered fixed signs, to be located on Naseby Road and by the Playing Field on Station Road. A grant has been applied for, to cover the cost.



Village Maintenance

Village maintenance is ongoing, with street lighting in particular needing regular attention. Keeping our lovely village looking neat and tidy relies not only on our volunteers to mow the Village Green and verges (a five hour job) but also on a reliable and efficient ride on mower. The current mower is showing its age and has latterly been regularly out of action, awaiting repairs and parts, so replacing the mower is now on the agenda.

Neighbourhood Plan

Thanks to the hard work of the members of the sub committees, the Neighbourhood Plan reached its final stage, of Referendum, on the 12th of December. The Plan had been agreed by the Examiner except, disappointingly, for the rejection of the allocated development site due to the potential impact on the scheduled ancient monument (ridge and furrow). The village overwhelmingly approved the Plan in the Referendum (see article p4).

The Parish Council meets regularly on the first Wednesday of each month in the Village Hall, with additional meetings as required. For those interested, the minutes of each meeting are displayed on the notice board opposite the school, and archived minutes, accounts and planning information can be accessed on the Council website www.clipstonparishcouncil.org.uk



Cyber Security

We are all very concerned nowadays about cyber security. The 'Northamptonshire Police Cyber Investigation Team' have produced a document aimed at helping protect your online presence and data.

Key points:

- Make all of your passwords long and strong
- Use a different password for each account or site
- Enable two-factor -authentication on all your important accounts
- Never click links in unverified emails, texts and messages
- Verify all invoice, wages and payment change requests
- Make all staff, volunteers, members etc. aware of the risks and advice
- Report all Cybercrime and Fraud to Action Fraud (0300 123 2040)
- Contact the Cyber Team for Cyber Security and Safety Resource

You can access the full document via the Clipston Village web-site.

Village Hall News

What's been going on since the last edition

We are grateful to all those who supported our autumn and Christmas fundraising events - whist drives returned and we enjoyed two Saturday markets, a ceramics evening and the fabulous pantomime 'Treasure Island'. In addition, we were most grateful to receive donations from the flower club on their closing and from the very enjoyable murder mystery evening. Thank you to all those involved with these events and groups who have helped to swell our funds. We have also received financial help from our district councillors towards our hugely increased electricity bills. Village Halls Week falls annually in January and this year the focus was on cyber security. The Northants Police Cyber Security team provided lots of practical advice and ways to help protect individuals and organisations from cyber crime and fraud and you can view their presentation on the village website (www.clipston.org).

As we head towards the 50th anniversary of the village hall we are working up detailed plans for its redevelopment. We've been refining layouts, researching heating solutions and discussing requirements with contractors to understand the costs and lead times involved. We would like to invite all residents to our **Open Morning** in March where we will share our plans for the future and seek your input and approval for a way forward. If you'd like to be involved in this project, please get in touch.

Weekly Programme of Activities

Monday morning fitness classes for the over 50s

Tuesday morning Playgroup for parents/carers with babies and pre-schoolers

Thursday mornings Parent and baby fitness class
Thursday afternoon Whist drives (alternate weeks – 10th, 24th and 31st March, 14th and 28th April, 5th and 26th May)

Thursday evening Latin and ballroom classes

Saturday morning dance school for children



Flossie doing Acro - Saturday mornings with the Michelle Ann school of dance

The hall is available for private hire for meetings, parties and events - please contact Faye (525275, faye@oldrectory.uk.net) for more details or to make a booking.

What's coming up...

Open Morning

Sunday 20th March 10am-12 – come along to view the plans for the village hall and have your say on the direction we take.

Jumble Sale

Thursday 7th April - starting at 7 p.m.. Anything saleable will be gratefully received. All the money raised from the sale will go towards the Village Hall. If you have anything you would like to donate - clothes, toys, bric-a-brac etc., or have any questions, please contact **Angela Fellowes** on 525612 or **Faye Tan** on 525275 faye@oldrectory.uk.net.

Dates to Remember

March 20th	Open Morning – Village Hall
"	Friends of Haddon Fields event
March 26th	De Mowbray Concert
March 29th	WI Gliding Event
June 2nd	Lighting the Beacon
June 5th	Thanksgiving & Celebration Service
"	Jubilee Street Party
July 2nd	Clipston Festival
Sept 25th	Clipston Trail Run



© Jim Tyson

Clipston Recreational Fields Trust

Jubilee Celebrations

On June 2nd we'll be lighting the beacon at the Recreation Field 9.50pm in line with the national Platinum Jubilee celebrations. (see page xxx for details).

Other News

Sadly we have had to take one of the ash trees down. One major branch had broken off and the remainder of the tree was leaning over the path that most people use to walk into the field.

Don't forget the pavilion is available for booking. £10 per hour for the length of the event, setting up and clearing up free! Contact: andyblake4@hotmail.cpm

Other dates for your diary:

Saturday, July 2nd: Clipston Festival 2022

Sunday, September 25th: Clipston Trail

The popular Clipston Trail Half will return for its fourth year. The inaugural run in 2019 saw over 130 competitors from the local area and beyond descend upon Clipston Recreation Ground to battle against a half marathon distance course over the bridleways of Clipston, Kelmarsh and beyond. The event was acknowledged by both organisers and competitors alike as an unqualified success. The event has continued to grow and we were fortunate to be able to run the event in between the two lockdown periods of 2020.

Can you help?

Paramount to the success of these trail runs has been the number of willing volunteers and course marshals ensuring that the runners have a safe and enjoyable experience. This year the organisers have extended the event to include a new 5 miles Country Trail as well as the original Trail Run - this will mean that we will require some more marshals, particularly as in the last few years we have seen poacher turned game-keeper as marshals, inspired by the event, have chosen to become runners themselves.

If you would like to become a volunteer please contact **Mark Ginns on 07949 954 363**. As a marshal you will certainly feel part of the event encouraging runners as well as enjoying being out on the course amongst some of our spectacular scenery. Whilst there will be no financial reward for your efforts, like the runners you will qualify for some delicious home-made cakes at the end of the event - all tax free. Some of you may even be interested in taking part in the event yourself - entry details can be found on the Race Harborough website <https://raceharborough.co.uk/clipston-trail-half/>

Clipston Trail Half and 'New for 22' a 5-ish mile race as well – entries at <https://raceharborough.co.uk/clipston-trail-half>



100 Club Winners

November	Dave Bates, Angela Fellows, Christina Faul
December	Sam Rastogi, Charlie Gowling, Marsha Day
January	Trish Towers, Alan Skinner, Hannah Eveleigh
If you're new to the village and would like to support the Recreation Field please join the 100 club by contacting Nikki on nicola@abbeypark.co.uk	

Tennis Club



A major change for the Tennis Club for next season is moving our Club night from our traditional Tuesdays to Wednesdays (a move not unconnected to the new opening hours for the pub!) with effect from the start of the season. We will also be continuing with the "priority booking" system for Club members on Thursdays as this proved successful last year.

We will also – despite the results from last year – be entering a Men's Team and a Mixed Team in the East Northants League, so if you are interested in playing competitively or socially we can meet your needs.....so why not join up? Details of the court availability (as from the end of March) and how to join are as follows:-

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
8.00				Club Day Club Members to pre-book slots If courts are NOT in use then they are available but please be aware members may turn up!			
9.00							
10.00					Adult Coaching		
11.00							
12.00							
1.00							Potentially Junior Coaching
2.00							
3.00							
4.00			Social Club Night				
5.00							

CLIPSTON BUSINESS DIRECTORY

ACCOMMODATION

Naseby Old Post House - B&B & Holiday Let
Leah & Nigel Gardner
01604 740 985 / 07850 624 128
oldposthouse56@btinternet.com
www.theoldposthousenaseby.co.uk

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
tel: 01858 437 430
www.grangeaccounting.co.uk

ARCHITECTS/PLANNING

JWA Architects

apm@jwa-architects.co.uk
Andy Morris 01858 525 343

Vinter & Prentice Ltd

Domestic & commercial: new build, extensions
tel: 01858 525 336
Lindsey@vinterandprentice.co.uk
Lindsey Cuoghi-Jackson 07711 067018

AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

JS Fine Art Free Valuations

by George Archdale on all collectables
Pictures, China, Silver, Books, Furniture,
Jewellery, Medals, Sporting etc. Julie Connell
01858 525336. j.connell118@btinternet.com

CABINETMAKER

Jamie McAllister Cabinetmaker

Handmade furniture and kitchens,
Antique restoration. 07970 584787
Facebook@jamie.Mcallister
handmade.furniture.and.kitchens

CAMPING

Buttercup Meadow Caravan and Motorhome site. Jane Austin 07905 016 316
Open from April until October. Adults only, off grid. www.buttercup-meadows.co.uk
SjaneAustin@outlook.com

CHILDMINDER

Catherine Poynton Childminder

The Old Police House, Clipston
Providing childcare for little people of all ages. OFSTED registered;
tel: 07788 298 015

COPYWRITING

Freelance Copywriter

Writing services including websites,
brochures, newsletters, email marketing etc.
Liz Davies 07525 640 477
www.elizabethdaviescopywriter.co.uk

DIGITAL SCANNING SERVICES

SCAN AND SHARE your old/new
photos, negatives, slides, docs etc.

with a local trustworthy service
Call to discuss 07801 388 007
jim.tyson101@outlook.com

DOG & PET SERVICES

Nik Nack's - Dog Grooming

niknackdogs@hotmail.com
Nikita McCauley
07544 107 817

The Dog House - Beth Wakefield

Dog walking, puppy visits, cat & small animal feeding.
01858 525 556 / 07710 988 218
bethwakefield41@gmail.com

The Paddocks Doggy Daycare

Husbands Bosworth. Indoor and outdoor facility. Full days, part days and ad hoc places
T: 07715 682377 Find us on Facebook
thepaddocksddc@yahoo.com

EGG DELIVERY

Clipston Egg Company

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

ENVIRONMENTAL ENERGY

Environmental Energies

Installers of Solar PV for Domestic,
Agricultural and Commercial Properties
Zara Glew 01858 525 407
www.environmentalenergies.co.uk

FURNITURE & INTERIORS

Very Vintage Cote Hill Farm LE17 6JN
Antique, Vintage, French, Country & Salvage
Furniture barn Open Sundays 10am -1pm
Teas and home-made cakes also served
www.veryvintage.co 07973 295 168

GARDENING

Great Little Garden Company

Clipston garden maintenance
Contact Dan Martin Tel. 07920 853 933
hello@greatlittlegardencompany.com

HANDYMAN

Stefan the Handyman

Quality woodwork, tiling, decorating,
repairs and more. 01858 881 775
stefanthehandyman@outlook.com
Facebook: @StefantheHandyman

HOME, GARDEN & GIFTS

Wren & Moss Home and garden accessories, gifts and seasonal decorations. Free local delivery. Home parties.
sarah@wrenandmoss.co.uk
www.wrenandmoss.co.uk 07768 415 968

JEWELLERY

T J Thornton - 01858 468 858
Repairs, Design, Antique & Modern.
www.tjthornton.com
tim@tjthornton.com
Find us on Instagram

MUSIC LESSONS

Julie Connell

Piano, Flute, Recorder and Theory of Music Lessons. Beginners to Grade 8. Seldom too young and never too old to start learning!
01858 525 336 j.connell118@btinternet.com

PLUMBERS

C.K. & O. Spokes

Plumbing & Heating Engineer
Gas Safe Registered and OFTEC
07773 288 686

QUALITY USED CARS

Bob Millington Ltd

Quality Used Cars & Personal Service
www.bobmillington.co.uk
r.j.millington@btinternet.com
01858 525138 / 07860 323 194

FOOD SHOPPING

Back to Basics Mobile Village Shop

Clipston Village Hall Wed 8.30am - 12.30pm
Plastic free, quality fresh fruit & vegetables,
bakery, refills, handmade cheese and more
www.back2basics.shop 07592 173 062

THERAPY SERVICES

Nila Lakhani

Experienced Harley Street consultant
Paediatric and Adult Physiotherapy
0774 789 6740
nilalakhani@childrentherapyservices.co.uk

Tania Richards

Specialist Speech and Language Therapist
www.figureofspeechandlanguage.co.uk
Tel. 07759 327 039
taniaisl@yahoo.co.uk

Jane Trent Counselling Therapist

Adults and Children. Experienced working in NHS, Schools, Private. Bereavement, Trauma, General and Creative therapy. Confidential text 07901732156 janetrent@gmail.com

TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS

Travel Counsellors - 01858 897 150

Your Local Personal Travel Expert - affordable, bespoke holidays to just about everywhere.
www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/abi.prescott
abi.prescott@travelcounsellors.com

TREE SURGERY

James Stevenson - 07541 253 869

Operating since 2003. Fully qualified & insured
All aspects of tree care. Free quotations
Facebook: jamesstevensontreesurgery
jamesryanstevenson@hotmail.com

TUTORING

Rachel Smith

English tutoring in Clipston
Language/Literature tutoring of KS3-5
11 years experience 07749 471 739
rachel.k.smith@hotmail.com

Advertise your business here for just £20 a year!

Email clipston.org@gmail.com

Clipston Groups & Organisations

Bell Ringers

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

Lydie Melvin 07866 622063

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)

A friendly group who enjoy putting on productions or supporting events on an 'as and when' basis! New members always welcome for both acting and supporting roles.

Val Carpenter 01858 525120

Clipston Homeworkers' Lunch

We are a group of people who all work from home and we meet at the pub on the last Friday of the month for a social lunch. To join the WhatsApp group contact Sam samandamit@yahoo.com

Clipston WI

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

Christina Faull 07714 470 452

Friendship Club

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month in the village hall at 2.30pm unless otherwise stated. Following the speakers, we enjoy afternoon tea and a raffle to enhance club funds.

Guests welcome, fee £2.

Jill Pick 01858 525746

Kelmarsh Windfarm Community Benefit

A charity that allocates funds from the wind farm to charitable projects. Applications for grants can be from village groups or individuals. Please contact Andy Blake or Ian May for more information.

andyblake4@hotmail.com

ianmay231@hotmail.co.uk

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, and £1 for additional children.

Includes refreshments.

Catherine Poynton 07788 298 015

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

Forest Church

Welcoming children (7+) and families from across the Benefice at our site near Hannington, monthly on the 3rd Sunday. New topics and challenges every week. Games/quiz with prizes, stories and snacks around the campfire. Contact Fr. Kris.

curate@nasebygroup.org

Tennis Club

We meet on Wednesday 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

Services on Sundays, times vary. Please see www.nasebygroup.org Forest Church for children is every 3rd Sunday in the month (see information in Groups section)

Baptist Chapel

Sundays at 10.45am. All welcome.

Useful Contacts

All Saints Church

Trevor Lake 01858 525422

Baptist Chapel

Rob Thompsett 01858 466370

Bus Service (Centrebus)

www.centrebus/info

Clipston School (office)

Helen Rhodes 01858 525261

Clipston School Governors (Chair)

Helen Bellamy 01858 525261

Clipston Village Hall & Hire

Faye Tan 01858 525275 / 07725 427311

faye@oldrectory.uk.net

Flood Warden

Ann Essen 07709 411 262

Footpath Warden

Julia Blake 07880 700 699

Orbell Room at the church

Val Carpenter 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

Police non-emergency contact number
101

Recreation Field Trust & Pavilion Hire

Andy Blake 07768 554 395

Stepping Stones Pre-School

Sam Frape 01858 525113

Tree Warden

Mick Higgins 01858 525302

Charities

Almshouse Charity

Peter Goodchild 01858 525532

Clipston Consolidated Charities

Colin Morley 01858 525337

Clipston School Charity

Peter Goodchild 01858 525532

Kelmarsh Wind Farm

Community Benefit

clipston@kwcb.co.uk

Bus Service to Harborough

Clipston to Harborough return on
Tuesdays and Fridays only

Departs Clipston 10.10 > 10.35
Departs Harborough 12.50 > 13.17