

November 2020

# Teme TRIANGLE

Clifton upon Teme • The Shelsleys • Lower Sapey



*Pitlands Farm opens The Apple Tree Kitchen*

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## In this edition

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- \* Clifton Hill broadband update
- \* Pitlands Farm's new indoor café
- \* Shelsley eye surgeon behind national scheme
- \* Parish Council minutes
- \* Remembrance Sunday services

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*One of the magnificent flower displays created for the Harvest Service at All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp on Sunday 18 October (Full story on page 13).*

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*Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Teme Triangle is not responsible for goods and services advertised. Contributions may be edited at the discretion of the editor.*

**Front cover picture:** *The Apple Tree Kitchen team at Pitlands Farm, Clifton upon Teme (L to R: Jo Thompson, Charlotte Thompson, Alice Mann, Pippa Green) Story on page 4.*

## **BROADBAND COMING TO CLIFTON HILL**

Last November the Old Road Broadband (fibre to the property) Project was started that would provide houses and businesses with much improved broadband in the Old Road and nearby properties on Clifton Hill. This would benefit from government funding called the Rural Gigabit Broadband Voucher scheme. Unfortunately, at that time the project was not able to proceed as the funding did not cover the projected cost of the scheme.

The good news is that Worcestershire Superfast have now come to the project's rescue by offering a top up facility. Local residents John Winer, Ricky Martire and Chris Hurley have been working hard to encourage everyone to sign up to the scheme and, as a result of an excellent response, the project is now viable. Subject to completing the paperwork, it is hoped that Openreach will commence their work early 2021 with the properties being connected 'within 12 months'.

'Fibre to the property' is projected to provide download speeds in excess of 50mbps and up to 1gbps for those who want it!

## **FOUR ACRE FIELD PROJECT LATEST**

The Clifton Four Acre Field project team report good progress with their preferred suppliers, for the perimeter path, play and sports zones, now recommended to the Parish Council. The final equipment layout for the play zones has been received and is now displayed at the school, on the village noticeboard and at the pavilion as well as on the village and school websites. The sports zone structure has also been finalised so that tennis and netball courts will be in one enclosure with the second enclosure supporting 5-aside soccer, basketball and a second tennis court.

With the benefit of updated costs, the CFAF project team are now able to deliver their master plan for the Parish Council to consider. If all is well with the PC, a formal application will be submitted to MHDC early in 2021.

Regrettably a final consultation exercise planned at the Village Hall will not be delivered as a result of Covid-19 guidance and discussions with MHDC. The project team have been complimented by the District Council on the quality of consultation in challenging circumstances via regular updates in *Teme Triangle*, website, noticeboard and working with the young villagers – including school, beavers, cubs, and scouts. As a result, MHDC have confirmed that the survey carried out as part of the Neighbourhood Plan in 2017 coupled with the team's communication work during 2020 provides the ideal foundation on which to deliver the project.

## NEW INDOOR CAFÉ AND CHRISTMAS TREES AT PITLANDS FARM

Hot food, cakes, gifts and a cosy log fire (as well as Christmas trees for sale) are set to attract locals and holidaymakers to Pitlands Farm near Clifton, which has just opened its long-planned indoor café, the Apple Tree Kitchen.

Following on from the success of the farm's summertime open-air tea room, Alice and Ian Mann of Pitlands Farm Holidays are now looking forward to welcoming customers indoors for warming hot food as the autumn sets in. Alice said: "Pitlands Farm had a very good summer, despite the circumstances of 2020. Our on-site self-catering holiday properties have been fully booked and it was lovely to see so many local people regularly visiting for outdoor teas. Everyone seemed really pleased with the setting and the delicious food!"



Now the couple has opened the Apple Tree Kitchen in time for the colder weather. "Customers can enjoy indoor seating, a log fire, a small shop selling gifts, cards, food and drink – and of course our home-cooked hot food, including breakfasts, jacket potatoes, soups and all our popular cakes and bakes," she added.



The café uses local and home-grown seasonal produce wherever possible. "We have lots of local suppliers for meat, bread, cheese, cider and beer," Alice confirmed. "We also grow as much fruit and veg as we can. In terms of Covid, to protect everyone face masks are worn, we offer table service and use disposable menus. Our children's play area is now open too."

In addition, Pitlands Farm will be selling Christmas trees, wreaths and more from Saturday 28 November. "There will be 1000's of Christmas lights around the farm to get everyone in the seasonal spirit, plus lots of festive treats available from the Apple Tree Kitchen including mulled wine, mince pies and Christmas-inspired afternoon teas," she revealed. Additional plans for the near future include a second dining room, monthly evening supper clubs, a function room for event hire (Covid permitting), and sales of plants and garden sundries from spring 2021.

The Apple Tree Kitchen is open 9am-5pm on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Reservations aren't essential but are highly recommended – call 01886 812220.

## SHELSELEY EYE SURGEON'S NATIONAL SCHEME OFFERS PATIENTS PROMPT LOCAL EYE CARE

Consultant Ophthalmologist Dan Calladine BMBS BMedSci FRCOphth, who lives in Shelsley Beauchamp, is behind a fast-growing, national, private eye care scheme designed to help the two million eye patients struggling to get an NHS appointment.



Dan Calladine, previously a consultant at the Worcestershire Royal Hospital from 2013 and now a full-time private practitioner with rooms at Worcester's Spire Southbank Hospital and Ombersley Medical Centre (amongst others), set up OcuPlan in 2019 initially for his private patients. Now the idea is helping people across the country, including towns across Worcestershire.

OcuPlan provides patients with private treatment plans for long term, stable eye diseases, which affect 4 million people in the UK. These include glaucoma, ocular hypertension, age-related macular degeneration and diabetic eye disease. Dan explained: "I created OcuPlan to help my patients find private practice more affordable and accessible. It also helps to support local optometrists by paying them for scans and engaging them in shared care medical pathways in the private sector. It's now become a national service with over 250 registered optometrists and 30 consultant eye doctors throughout the UK."

Vicki Maskell, Chief Operating Officer of OcuPlan added: "We have seen a massive increase in the number of patients signing up. Sadly the NHS was really struggling to see some long-term eye patients even before the Covid pandemic. Now the capacity problems are more severe, we can offer part of the solution. In helping patients access their care privately, we help both the patient and the overburdened NHS. We have seen massive growth; in fact by the end of last year we had created the capacity to do over 250,000 scans at our partner optometrists' practices."

OcuPlan now aims to double that capacity in 2021. Vicki confirmed: "OcuPlan puts the power back into patients' hands. They can choose the optometrist performing their scans, their preferred consultant and when to see them at their private rooms. Patients appreciate seeing the same consultant every visit, with tests done locally – all for less than the cost of a daily newspaper."



*Shelsley Ophthalmologist Dan Calladine*

"We're very proud to now be the country's leading provider of treatment plans for long-term eye conditions," said Dan. Packages start from £24.99 a month. For more information visit [www.ocuplan.co.uk](http://www.ocuplan.co.uk) or call 0121 517 0423.

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## COULD YOU HELP CLIFTON SCOUTS AND BEAVERS?

Clifton upon Teme Scout Group is looking for volunteers to help with its Beaver group and Executive Committee.



The Beaver group, for children aged 6-8, meets on Tuesdays from 5-6pm at the Clifton Baden Powell Hut. The group is seeking a new leader to help them try new things, make new friends and stand on their own two feet. Helen Wain, Group Chair said: "You don't need to be Bear Grylls to join us! Whatever your skillset, join our team of volunteers and we promise you'll get out more than you put in. We provide the training. Come and try it for four weeks and you'll know if Scouting is for you." For details contact [gsl@cliftontemescouts.org](mailto:gsl@cliftontemescouts.org)

In addition, the team needs "behind the scenes superstars" to keep the group running behind the scenes. "We need Executive Committee members, particularly to help with marketing and risk assessments, and you would be involved with Group decision making. Again, we provide the training, so all you need to volunteer is the enthusiasm!" Anyone interested should contact [exec@cliftontemescouts.org](mailto:exec@cliftontemescouts.org)

You can also visit [www.cliftontemescouts.org](http://www.cliftontemescouts.org) or [facebook.com/cliftonscouts/](https://facebook.com/cliftonscouts/)

## SHELSLEY WALSH HILL CLIMB HELPS THE MAGGS DAY CENTRE

On 12-13 September the Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb held a Harvest Festival competition weekend. To mark the season, the Hill Climb team asked the 200 competitors taking part to donate food items for the Maggs Day Centre in Worcester. Around 100 soups, cereals, snacks, desserts, pasta and fruit – covering three tables – were generously donated in response to the appeal.

Maggs was founded in 1984 after a homeless man died after years of sleeping rough on the streets. His death prompted members of several local churches to come together and form an action group. Their work led to a day centre being created in the former St Albans church, dedicated to helping the homeless people of Worcester. Gary Hall, General Manager of the Hill Climb confirmed: "The response from everyone taking part in the weekend was amazing. So much so, that the weight of food tested the suspension on the car that delivered it! The people running the Maggs centre were heartened and extremely thankful of the time, care and donations made."



## MILL FARM COUNTRY RETAIL ROUND-UP

### NEW SHOP: PRE-LOVED FURNITURE FROM LA BROCANTE

A new shop, La Brocante, opened at Mill Farm Country Retail, Stanford Bridge, during October. Selling pre-loved items of furniture, ornaments and objets d'art, including pictures, its philosophy is “#reuse #repurpose #recycle”.

### BREAST UNIT HAVEN COLLECTION

In extended support of Pink October, shoppers at Mill Farm Country Retail are being invited to donate to the Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven in November. Collection boxes can be found at The Den, Baileys Farm Shop and Mrs Best. Alexandra Winnington of La Bulle shop said: “There are also lovely pink bags for your shopping and Christmas cards designed by Luke Thrush for sale, in aid of the charity. It would be wonderful if any shoppers could support the cause in these difficult times.”



### CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENT



Mill Farm Country Retail is planning a Christmas Shopping event on Thursday 3 December, when shops will be open until 8pm (abiding by all social distancing rules). The Den Café will also be open for drinks and food. For updates visit their Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/millfarmstanford](http://www.facebook.com/millfarmstanford)

### BAILEYS INTRODUCES FRESH FISH FRIDAYS

Bailey's of Stanford farm shop, at Mill Farm Country Retail, has introduced 'Fresh Fish Fridays', giving customers the chance to pre-order fresh fish and shellfish – from cod, salmon, dover sole and plaice to dressed crab, scallops, prawns, fish pie mix and more. Orders should be placed by 6pm Wednesday, for pick up on Friday afternoon.



“With fish and shellfish highly recommended as part of a healthy balanced diet, our Fresh Fish Fridays are already going down well,” said owner John Bailey. “Customers simply let us know what they would like, and we'll aim to get it!” To order, pop into the shop, call 01886 853596 or email [baileysofstanford@gmail.com](mailto:baileysofstanford@gmail.com)



# TALKING TURKEYS

## GOODMAN'S GEESE & BRONZE TURKEYS

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"All our birds are free range, prepared on the farm and hung for 10 days to enhance the flavour and eating quality in time for collection or delivery," explained Andrew Goodman. "They are reared on all natural foods, and we're feeding them exactly the same as always this year (no downsizing for the 'rule of six!'), so customers can choose whatever size they prefer." Pre-payment is required for all collections. Collect from Walsgrove Farm WR6 6JJ on 23 December. Visit [www.goodmansgeese.co.uk](http://www.goodmansgeese.co.uk), email [sales@goodmansgeese.co.uk](mailto:sales@goodmansgeese.co.uk) or call 01299 896272.

## BALDWIN'S TURKEYS

David Moore of Baldwins in Shelsley Beauchamp, is taking Christmas orders for his traditional white and classic bronze turkeys.

Please contact David on 01886 812482.



## SHELISLEY BEAUCHAMP HARVEST SERVICE

Despite the new rules surrounding Church services, All Saints hosted a truly splendid Harvest service on Sunday 18th October. Led by Revd Becky Elliott, the congregation (all socially distanced within their bubbles of course) were treated to beautiful music from Jason Fisher and a heart-warming 'pop-up' choir consisting of Des and Beryl Robson and Richard and Jude Bettison. It was fantastic to hear voices singing in Church again and they certainly made up for the missing congregation voices, who found it very hard not to join in!

The flower displays, all created by our local ladies, were magnificent and brought life back into the Church again. It was obviously a great shame that this year we were not allowed to continue our Harvest



celebrations with the usual supper in the village hall. However, special thanks to Beryl and her team for providing the lovely Harvest boxes for each of the congregation to take home. These contained beautifully hand-made Miniature loaves, baked by Bridget Francis and homemade scones from Harriet of Bromyard Road Methodist Church. A really thoughtful and appreciated gesture. Well done everyone for being part of such a memorable service during these difficult times.

*Louise Hutton*

## BIG SUCCESS FOR HARPLEY'S BIG BREAKFAST

As touched on in our last issue, on a sunny morning in early September, Harpley held an extremely successful Big Breakfast Bap event in St Bartholomew's Church car park, in aid of church funds. The main organisers and chefs for the day were Candy Connolly and Liz Younge. "It was attended by about 50 people and enjoyed by all!" said Margaret Griffiths. "We raised over £250 for the Church. Thanks to all who helped out."



*Organisers Candy Connolly (L) and Liz Younge at the Harpley Church 'Big Breakfast Bap' fundraiser.*



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## UPBEAT AT BROADWAS CROQUET CLUB

Broadwas Croquet Club has pronounced itself “upbeat but watchful” as it concludes its 2020 season; and has heralded plans for monthly, socially-distanced Croquet Club Breakfasts over the coming winter to help members keep in touch.

The Club has been back in action since May, despite the absence of external croquet competitions due to the pandemic. Keen to not disappoint its many prospective new members, the Club took Croquet Association guidance to introduce an exhaustive sanitisation regime (without its pavilion and toilets) and a new booking system to control lawn usage and record player details. “Life has been very different, but we’re more than managing; plus a side benefit of our new system is that our members are now spreading their lawn usage over more of each week.” said Organiser Chris Croft. During the summer, the Club obtained a generous grant from Sport England to create a new fifth lawn, expanding playing space. One of the Club’s coaches also ran an internal league Golf Croquet competition for members.

“We really have tried and, I think, largely succeeded against all the odds in keeping things going during lockdown, whilst keeping closely to Government and Croquet Association guidelines,” confirmed Chris. “Next spring we will hopefully be looking forward to a new season playing the game that offers so much fun and fellowship to us all.” Visit [www.broadwascroquetclub.org.uk](http://www.broadwascroquetclub.org.uk) or call Stuart Smith (01886 853311) or Chris Croft (01886 821664) for more details.

## RETIRED LOCAL RUGBY PLAYER’S NEW BOOK



Former International Rugby player, Rauri Maclean, who has played for Gloucester, Scotland and captained the Barbarians, has written an historical fiction book, *A Man In Moccasins*, based on his family history. Now based in Martley, Rauri’s story is described as a ‘true adventure story about how Canada was created’, following the life and work of Ruari’s ancestor, the Reverend John Maclean and his extraordinary life, beginning in Scotland in 1856.

John Maclean travels to Canada and to the Canadian wilderness, where he encounters the native people to whom he dedicates his life, learning about and integrating within the unfamiliar society. Though the story is one passed down through generations, it carries with it messages about tolerance and understanding. Characters’ attitudes towards society, family and women are all ahead of their time, even while battling with their own incredible hardships. The book is based on original letters and research that hold the story and timeline, and Rauri’s own imagination that brings life and voice into the characters.

*A Man In Moccasins* is available at the Martley shop and online from Candy Jar Books in Cardiff. For more information go to: [www.ruarimaclean.com](http://www.ruarimaclean.com)

*Anna Stephens*

## NORA PARSONS DAY CENTRE AGM SUMMARY

The Nora Parsons Day Centre Annual General Meeting, held under Covid regulations on 13 October, noted “a Roller Coaster of a year”. The AGM covered the period to 31 March 2020, during which, in addition to its Autumn Fair and Christmas celebrations, the main achievement was the final installation of double glazing to fully insulate the property. Treasurer Eileen Richmond reported a loss of income over expenditure due to fewer members (even before lockdown) and the cost of the final phase of the double glazing. Grants and donations from many sources had been received for which she expressed thanks. The Bank balance as at 31 March 2020 stood at just over £15,800.

More recent events were also relevant. Secretary Pam Morgan confirmed: “The Volunteers met in February 2020 realising that it would be some time before it could reopen. They made themselves responsible for those who had attended and have done a grand job by telephoning, shopping and generally consoling them as much as the regulations would allow.” She added: “We are scouring legislation daily to find ways of opening up the Centre and will do so as soon as it is safe. In the meantime we are caretaking the premises and making small improvements where possible.”

### CHRISTMAS RAFFLE IN AID OF NORA PARSONS CENTRE



Tickets are now available for the Nora Parsons Day Centre Christmas Raffle. First prize is a Goodman turkey, second prize a bottle of Plymouth gin, third prize a decorated coffee table by local artist Margaret Burns; plus there is a Christmas hamper and many more prizes. The draw will take place at Venn Lane, Wichensford on Wednesday 16 December at 11.30am. Tickets £1 from local shops and volunteers, from the Centre 01886 888374 or Margaret Stratford 01905 641072.

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN THE TEME VALLEY

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Tim shares a refreshing insight into the background and meaning of the parable of the Prodigal Son.

- **Wednesday 4th November**
- **Wednesday 11th November**
- **Wednesday 18th November**
- **Wednesday 25th November**

The evenings will be run on Zoom, starting at 7.30pm and finishing at 9pm.

Please register your interest with Jill Smith on [jill.together@gmail.com](mailto:jill.together@gmail.com) We hope you can join us!

*If you have any concerns about Zoom, please contact us*



## CLIFTON-UPON-TEME PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the Parish Council held Thursday 1st October 2020 commencing at 7.30 pm

**Present:** Councillors A. Henry (Vice-Chairman), R. Henry and J. Collins.

Also present: M. Alexander (Clerk), J. Johns, C. Hurley.

**Apologies:** Councillor J. Bowden (Chairman), S. Haywood, C. Haywood, County Councillor K. Pollock and District Councillor C. Palethorpe.

**Welcome:** Cllr A. Henry welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Declarations of Prejudicial & Pecuniary Interests:** None.

**Democratic Public Time:** No matters for consideration.

**To agree the Minutes of a virtual meeting held 3rd September 2020** – The minutes were agreed as a true record. Proposed Cllr R. Henry, seconded Cllr Collins. All agreed. No matters arising.

**District & County Councillor Reports:** Reports to be uploaded to the website.

### Financial & Governance Matters:

Payments agreed as per the schedule – Michelle Alexander - Clerk salary & back pay £531.81 / Michelle Alexander - Clerks expenses - £60.25 / Michelle Alexander – home-office fee Q2 £60.00 / HMRC – PAYE Q2 £361.20 / MHDC – wheelie bins Q2 £119.74 / Westcotec – VAS additional battery £105.00 / PACE print & design – bus survey £95.00 / B. Gilbert – notice board repairs £35.99 / Westcotec – VAS battery (paid 3/9/20) £105.00 / Glasdon UK – litter bin £211.82 Receipts – MHDC precept part 2 £15000.00

CUT Archives – report as circulated by J. Johns. The school now needs to be approached and it was agreed to defer the matter until Jan 2021 to enable various issues to be investigated and for the school to look at options, budgets, security, space planning and safeguarding issues.

Councillor resignation – the resignation of Cllr S. Haywood was formally agreed. Clerk to notify MHDC and the current vacancy notice to remain in place.

Councillor Co-option – the meeting approved ‘in principal’ the application received by B. Gilbert, which will need to be formally accepted at the next meeting as the period to display a Councillor vacancy has not yet expired. Clerk to notify B. Gilbert and place on the next agenda.

Planning Lead – it was agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting.

**Parish Matters:** Footpaths Noticeboard – deferred to the next meeting as no quotes had been received. Fencing damage – a letter had been received from J. Delahay re damage to his stock fencing. A quote is awaited from R. Wilks regarding the damage to the fencing to the rear of the goals on the playing field. Clerk to progress. Playing Field Bins – a request had been received from R. Wilks to replace the x3 bins with covered ones to stop the rain collecting. It was proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr R. Henry that the Clerk order x3 bins as required – cost approx. £200 per bin. All agreed. Playing Field Storage Container – the meeting noted that Cllr Bowden was liaising with the Bowls Club, Football Club and J. Delahay re the moving of equipment and container disposal arrangements.

**Section 106 Committee update:** Report as circulated by C. Hurley. The meeting agreed that the letters of intent should be sent to Kompan and Grimshaws as per the draft circulated by the Clerk. A full schedule of projected maintenance costs for the new play equipment and field, as provided by C. Hurley, were noted and are also available on the CFAF project G-drive. Kompan and Grimshaws have assisted with the costs schedule and R. Wilks has been consulted re grounds maintenance works / costs. The meeting also noted the effect that new development within the parish will have on the precept income going forward. It was also noted that the Council should consider earmarking reserves annually against playing field costs going forward in order to manage the assets. The s.106 consultation process to date has been forwarded to MHDC and a response is awaited by C. Hurley and the CFAF project team to see whether sufficient consultation has taken place to meet s.106 requirements.

**Section 106 Community Transport Proposal:** The Clerk has had the surveys printed as per the approved draft and it was agreed that Cllr A. Henry would organise distribution asap.

**Planning Matters** – Applications to be considered – 20/01046/HP Mr A. Tulloch, Hollands Mill, Clifton WR6 6HJ – rear two storey extension and refurbishment of dwelling. Responses to the Clerk please. Applications responded to – 20/00782/ADV Mr J. Guest land at Os 7113 6138, Hope Lane Clifton – construction site advertising. OBJECTION submitted 11/08/2020 – no permission currently in place so inappropriate to advertise. Notifications Received – 20/00815/AGR – Cliftonswood Farm, B4204 The Village to Herefordshire – prior approval not required for an agricultural track.

**Highways Matters:** The meeting noted the recent measures in place by MHDC to tackle dog fouling which are helping, but it remains an ongoing problem. Road closure notices were noted as circulated.

**Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas:** None.

**Next meeting to be held virtually on Thursday 5th November 2020 at 7.30pm**

Meeting closed 20.20

M. Alexander

Clerk

***To read the full minutes of meetings of Clifton Parish Council, go to: [www.clifton-upon-teme-pc.org.uk/index.php/parish-council/agendas-and-minutes/minutes](http://www.clifton-upon-teme-pc.org.uk/index.php/parish-council/agendas-and-minutes/minutes)***

## **NEXT SHELSLEYS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The next meeting of the Shelsleys' Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 10 November. Its format (Zoom or in the Village Hall) will be confirmed nearer the time – visit 'The Shelsleys' section of the Worcestershire County Council 'My Parish' web page, or see the Village Hall noticeboard, for details. If held on Zoom, the details for joining will be shown on the agenda.

*Jan Speyer*

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## **FUTURE EVENTS:**

**Friday 4th October Dan Greenaway**  
**Friday 1st November Tenbury Young  
Farmers Firework and  
bonfire night (open to all)**  
**Friday 6th December Big Sister**

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## LOWER SAPEY NEWS

Autumn is well and truly here now, even though my garden pot flowers are refusing to die and be replaced for the winter. Like many, I get great pleasure from the garden and the wildlife and this has helped greatly during the pandemic's restrictions. Recently, we have watched the Red Kite regularly looking for carrion as well as the tawny and brown owls calling at night. We are so lucky living in this lovely area.

It has already been reported that we held a successful outdoor service in St. Bartholomew's Church car park in late August, serenaded by Candy's quartet; and that our September Big Breakfast Bap morning (*see report on page 13*) was also enjoyed by many – and both these occasions raised about £500 for the Church. If the weather stays fine, we could also hold other services outdoors in the future.

We also held out PCAGM in the parking area, the main discussion being the collapsing ceiling in our Church. This is a great pity as we were all set to go with the new heating system. We have had a tower erected in the Church thanks to Ness and Steve; and the ceiling has been inspected by surveyors and builders. Mike Prosser has given us a comprehensive report – thanks Mike, we hope to act on this when we have the funds. That is the big question of course. Contributions welcome!

Our Church has become a communal gathering place for events in recent years and it is so important to our village, as well as for the services we hold there. We have held art and craft exhibitions, local meetings, an 'Antiques Roadshow' and our choir has also been formed and practised regularly there. Because of government restrictions none of these can be held now, even in other surroundings. We can only look forward to a better 2021.

However, the Remembrance Service will go ahead on November 8th outdoors, and other services will take place via Zoom, in which some of us are becoming almost expert. In the meantime, farming activities continue, potatoes are being picked, apples sent to make cider and ploughing is progressing when the weather is fine. I hope all the harvests will be good. I have a glut of tomatoes, pears, apples and chillis, so it's not all bad news this year. Take care and stay safe.

## NOTICES

- The national Remembrance Day service is on November 8<sup>th</sup>, outdoors and will be a Methodist service.
- There is no news of other services at St. Bartholomew's at this early date. Watch this space!
- The Ladies Bible Group hopes to hold meetings again when restrictions are lifted.
- The Mobile Library will, however, be calling as usual on Friday 16 October at 10.20 and 10.40am.  
*Margaret Griffiths*

## TEME VALLEY WILDLIFE: UNDERSTANDING 'ZONOSSES'

Last summer, concern for the environment and worries over plastic pollution dominated the news. This summer the all-engrossing topic has been the coronavirus pandemic. At first sight they don't seem to be connected, but on closer inspection subtle links can be drawn between them. Some coronaviruses affect bats, of which a particular type has recently made the jump across species and is now infecting humans. Its capacity to move swiftly from person to person has caused the global pandemic that we are currently experiencing.

Diseases which infect both animals and humans are called zoonoses. They're not new and are often sporadic and don't spread through the human population. Farmers may be familiar with orf, a skin-blistering virus sometimes caught from sheep. Another is leptospirosis, a disease of rats, very occasionally contracted by sewerage workers. Bovine tuberculosis, currently the source of much trouble to badgers, was in the past quite commonly a cause of disease in humans too, until the introduction of milk pasteurisation put a stop to it.

Bubonic plague, probably our most famous epidemic, killed an estimated third of all Britons back in the Middle Ages. It was a bacterial disease of rodents infecting humans (via fleas) which spread widely and rapidly to devastating effect. Perhaps surprisingly it continues to this day in wild rodent populations, in America it still exists in racoons. Prior to coronavirus, other diseases new to humans have arisen over the last four decades. In the 1980s human immunodeficiency virus moved to humans from primates, possibly due to the consumption of "bush-meat" and since then West Nile virus (from birds) and Zika (from monkeys) have jumped the species barrier too.

So what makes animal disease transfer to humans? Scientists believe that habitat destruction, encroachment of human habitation into wild places, trade in wild animals and use of wild animals for food all play a part in the process. Habitat destruction, particularly deforestation, and habitat degradation, such as by pollution, bring animals into closer contact with people, disrupting their ecology and straining the equilibrium of animals and their natural population-checking diseases. Once the diseases make the move to people, man's propensity for travel spreads them further.

We should reflect that we are animals living alongside other animals, heir to the same dangers that they are and we would be wise to treat them with respect. We may want to carry on behaving as we currently do, putting Mankind's interest above all else, but Nature will have a way of containing us.

Meetings of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group are currently on hold whilst it awaits the re-opening of its venue. More information from: 01568 750413 / [twwg@outlook.com](mailto:twwg@outlook.com) / [www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk](http://www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk) *Stephanie Mocroft*

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# Church Matters

by Pat Snelling



During these Covid times on Sunday mornings, Mike and I have been listening to Radio 4's Sunday Worship, given that our local churches are temporally having limited services. This morning we were enjoying the service which came from Ewenny Priory in Wales, led by the Bishop of Llandaff, when a message arrived requesting: could I possibly write a 'Church Matters' article for the November edition of *Tem Triangle* to beat the deadline?

I thought – do I have the time to help out? Just at that moment, I heard the beautiful words of Psalm 23, set to a lovely modern tune coming over the radio – 'The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want, he lets me rest in fields of green grass, and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water'. I rested for a moment on these wonderfully comforting words – because Jesus is the good shepherd, whether we believe in him or not, but for those who do believe, they can find great comfort in the Lord. Psalm 23 was written by King David, you might remember David and Goliath, that's the same David who wrote Psalm 23.

I suddenly felt inspired and hopeful, that maybe I could help out. And then the final hymn rang out – 'O God our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.' What amazing words of truth, hope, comfort and love these are. They seem to fit exactly to the message I felt moved to give, for these are words that can help us during these dark Covid times, all very much on our minds at the moment... and which has touched every one of us as we go about our daily lives. Remember too, we can pray at any time, even if we cannot find the right words, God understands the sighs of our hearts – they are enough.

I wrote in this article a few months back about keeping the candle of hope burning. The words of Psalm 23 and the words of the hymn above are about that hope, so let us all try to continue to keep that candle of hope burning, and to walk and trust in the light of Jesus the Good Shepherd. If the going gets tough, send up some of those prayerful sighs to God, he will be waiting and listening. The skies will clear, and the sun will shine on us again.

## UPDATE FROM ST KENELMS

Just to let you know that we are moving along with the electrification of the church clock. Having completed the dreaded Faculty Forms we are now in the process of displaying, for 28 days, the Planning Forms from the Diocese. This timescale will be completed by the end of October and once these forms are returned to the Diocese, we will then await the final go ahead for the work to start.

We hasten to add that this may well be into the spring next year, judging by the backlog of work that the company, who will do the work, has on its books. Nevertheless, we feel that this is good news, especially for the wonderful 'chaps' who climb up every week to keep the clock 'ticking away!'

We are still keeping St Kenelms open for Private Prayer every day, and thanks must go to the folks on the cleaning rota, who spray and clean each day. We have been having two Services per month and these have been very well supported, as well as numerous visitors who just want to come and sit in the peace and quiet of our lovely church. Regarding Remembrance Service and, further down the line, Christmas Celebrations, at present we just don't know what form they will take. We will get information to you as soon as we know any details.

Following details of our Quiet Garden in a previous issue of *Teme Triangle*, we have had lots of offers of help. One from Lyn and Rachel Merrick, professional garden designers and ecology experts, and one from Mark Woolliscroft for construction help. Many thanks to them and to others who are keen to be involved. The churchyard and the area for the garden have been strimmed and look tidy for the winter. We will be keeping this maintenance up to date. Please, if you have any questions or ideas regarding anything to do with St Kenelms get in touch with either Alana or Barbara or leave a note for us on the font in church. God Bless.

*Barbara Seeley and Alana Cooper*

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICES



### **St Kenelm's, Clifton upon Teme**

Remembrance Sunday will be very different this year. Usually, we have a parade through the village and a Service in the church. This year this isn't possible owing to the strict rules around Covid restrictions. There will therefore be a short Service of Remembrance in the Churchyard of St Kenelm's at 10.45am on Sunday 8 November. We ask that you maintain social distances of 2m throughout the service with anyone who is not in your family 'bubble'. On the 11 November 2020 at 11am there will also be a 2 minute silence on the village green. Thank you for your understanding.

*Rev Becky Elliot*

### **All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp**

A short Service of Remembrance will be held in the Churchyard of All Saints at 10.45am on Sunday 8 November. Please wear masks and observe social distancing.

*Jane Froggatt*

### **St Bartholomew's, Harpley**

The St Bartholomew's Remembrance Day service is on Sunday 8 November at 10.45am, outdoors, and will be a Methodist service.

*Margaret Griffiths*

## LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2020\*

### Sunday 1 November

8.00am St Kenelm's, Clifton – BCP Holy Communion

### Sunday, 8 November (Remembrance Sunday) *Details on P29*

10.45am St Kenelm's, Clifton – Remembrance Service (outdoors)

10.45am All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp – Remembrance Service (outdoors)

10.45am St Bartholomew's, Harpley – Remembrance Service (outdoors)

### Sunday, 29 November

10.30am St Andrew's, Shelsley Walsh – service

6.30pm St Kenelm's, Clifton – Evensong Advent Carol Service

\* All details subject to change depending on Covid restrictions. Each church is on [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) and has up-to-date calendars and event details there.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November

- 4 Prodigal Son Zoom Talk hosted by Churches Together 7.30-9pm
- 5 Clifton Parish Council meeting – Virtual, 7.30pm
- 8 Remembrance Sunday – see Local Church Services list
- 10 Shelsleys' Parish Council meeting – see WCC website / VH noticeboard
- 11 Prodigal Son Zoom Talk hosted by Churches Together 7.30-9pm
- 11 POSTPONED - The Shelsleys Gardening Club – Shelsleys VH
- 18 Prodigal Son Zoom Talk hosted by Churches Together 7.30-9pm
- 25 Prodigal Son Zoom Talk hosted by Churches Together 7.30-9pm

### December

- 3 Mill Farm Country Retail Christmas Shopping event – until 8pm
- 9 POSTPONED - The Shelsleys Gardening Club – Shelsleys VH

## TEMEBAY

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## AND FINALLY

You can keep abreast of all the latest news from the *Teme Triangle* area via our website:

[www.temetriangle.net](http://www.temetriangle.net) and Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/TemeTriangle](https://www.facebook.com/TemeTriangle) Our free, printed magazine (10 issues/year) is also available in local shops and community spaces.

Keep sending your articles and photos in to [editortemetriangle@gmail.com](mailto:editortemetriangle@gmail.com)... we love to hear and share your news!

**Copy for next (Dec/Jan) edition by Friday 13 November please, to:**

**[editortemetriangle@gmail.com](mailto:editortemetriangle@gmail.com)**



## TEME VALLEY CALENDARS 2021

2021 local wall calendars showing country views around the Shelsleys, Clifton, Lower Sapey, Martley and Stanford Bridge are now available. Featuring photographs by Shelsley Beauchamp professional photographer Michael Whitefoot, the calendars are available in A4, and slim (the latter with envelope) and include writing spaces for key appointments. All are available to *Teme Triangle* readers at £5 each.

Contact Michael on 01886 812779 or [michael@michaelwhitefoot.co.uk](mailto:michael@michaelwhitefoot.co.uk) by 15 November, for pick up from him end of November.

## SCENIC CLIFTON CHRISTMAS CARDS

Clifton's Ros Wain has turned her photographic talents to a series of six, seasonal Christmas cards depicting snowy Clifton upon Teme.

Designed and produced by Ros, with proceeds going to support community projects, a pack of six cards with envelopes is available at £5 (or individual cards at £1).

To order, contact Ros at [jcandrwin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jcandrwin@yahoo.co.uk), via Nextdoor message or on 07368 395501.



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Contributions for the next (December/January) edition by Friday 13th November please,  
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