

March 2020

Teme TRIANGLE

Clifton upon Teme • The Shelsleys • Lower Sapey



Clifton Lottery Syndicate winners

In this edition

- Local flooding: in pictures
- Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb footpath closure bid
- Violent assault on Clifton farmer
- New farm shop coming to Stanford's Mill Farm
- Plus parish events, coffee mornings... and much more!

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Free to Residents





Parish Councillors Sid Haywood (left) and Chris Haywood with the restored parking sign – see story opposite.

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Front Cover Picture

Members of the Clifton Lottery Syndicate (CLOTS) celebrating the sharing of their winnings. (Full story on P4)

VIOLENT ASSAULT ON CLIFTON FARMER

Clifton on Teme farmer Phil Richards was violently attacked by four masked men on Thursday 6 February when he attempted to stop them stealing diesel from Highfields Farm in Hope Lane late at night. The four men, believed to be foreign, attacked Phil with bolt cutters when he blocked their escape with his Land Rover.



Son James said his father was badly bruised and shaken after the incident. “They smashed our Land Rover up and hurt my Dad,” he added. The four men were travelling in a black BMW car, registration PO66WDD. Three years ago a JCB 53070 Telescopic Handler with bale squeeze on the front was stolen from the rickyard at the same farm. Anyone with information please call Phil Richards: 853681 or 101.

VILLAGE GREEN PARKING BAN

The original ‘no parking’ sign from the 1930s has been returned to the village green in Clifton after an absence of 55 years, thanks to the discovery of it by parish councillor Sid Haywood. Recent concern by the Parish Council about vehicles parking on the village green led to Sid discovering the old sign in the former blacksmith’s forge where it had lain since 1965. Now repainted and remounted, thanks to Neil Sparey at local NDS Engineering, Sid and fellow parish councillor Chris Haywood (pictured opposite) have returned it to its rightful location on the green.

NEW INN TO OPEN ON SUNDAYS

The New Inn at Clifton will soon be open every day of the week. As well as Monday to Saturday from 4.30pm, the popular pub will also open on Sundays from 2pm, starting from 5 April.

Fortnightly during the September to April season, the pub also hosts the former Shelsley Social Club air rifle shooting team on Thursdays from 9pm, and the darts team on Wednesdays from 9pm. The pub’s winter and summer pool teams meet on Mondays from 8.30pm. In addition, Bingo is held on the first and third Saturday of every month from 8pm – with a special Easter Bingo night planned from 7.30pm on 11 April.

Landlord Colin Morley said: “As from 5 April locals can pop in every day of the week. We’re also pleased that the air rifle and darts teams have decided to remain here with us.”



NEW FARM SHOP COMING TO STANFORD'S MILL FARM

A range of quality food produce will once again be available in the area, thanks to a new Farm Shop opening at Stanford Bridge's Mill Farm Country Retail village on 14 March.

Bailey's of Stanford will be run by Sapey Common resident John Bailey, replacing the former Larder. "In the past I always felt the shop's real potential never surfaced, and when the last owners moved out, I felt it was something I could make work for the community. My principle will be to use local products and services as much as possible, and deliver them reasonably priced."

The shop will offer produce from local bakers, butchers, dairies, breweries, plus fruit and veg, together with a range of convenience items. "I want my customers to feel a warm welcome," confirmed John. "My background is in business which will hopefully help me make the farm shop a success. All customer feedback is most welcome too!"

LION INN LATEST

Villagers and regulars of the Lion Inn in Clifton upon Teme have submitted a petition to owner and local resident John Fletcher to retain the services of the couple who have managed their pub, following news that changes are planned to the way it is managed.

Manager/chef John Brandon and his wife Jean have been running the Lion since 2018. The petition described John as "an outstanding chef and a very hard-working publican who has made our village pub the pride of Clifton upon Teme".



Owner John Fletcher said talks are in hand and a consultant has been engaged to develop a new plan for the ongoing operation of the Lion. "The likely outcome will be that a tenancy arrangement will be offered and John and Jean Brandon will have the option to apply," he added. Meanwhile the bar will remain open but the restaurant will be closed for a period while restructuring takes place.

Mr Fletcher, who has owned the pub for nine years, said he is "totally committed to the successful ongoing operation of the Lion which is an important social hub of the village".

LOTTERY SYNDICATE CELEBRATES WINS

The CLOTS – members of the Clifton Lottery Syndicate, of whom there were 30 last year – recently celebrated the end of their first year's winnings, which in total came to £1,087. Each of the members pays £2 per week and the syndicate currently enters 13 lines in every Wednesday and Saturday Lotto draw. Twice a week, when the winning numbers are revealed, they get a little buzz of excitement. There are four member vacancies if anyone wishes to join.

Members of Clifton Lottery Syndicate are pictured on our front cover.

MHDC RECYCLING ADVICE

Malvern Hills District Council residents are generally pretty good at recycling, and contamination rates are amongst the lowest in the county, according to District Councillor Caroline Palethorpe.

“However, we still have particular problem areas where too many items ending up in green bins/cherry sacks are not suitable for recycling. Over the next few weeks and months we will be supporting Worcestershire County Council in running a campaign to highlight the main items which are incorrectly put into bins and help residents to get their recycling right.”

Recent sampling has revealed the following items are most commonly put into the green bin when they belong elsewhere: Clothing and shoes; food waste; household items including a cheese grater, toilet brush and photo frame; nappies and metals.

CLIFTON'S LIVER BIRDS

Three Clifton women from the same Liverpool school sixty years ago, one a member of staff, the other two as pupils, only discovered they had ended up in the village more than forty years later.

Ann MacBryde was a PE teacher at Waterloo Park Grammar School for Girls from 1958-1961, while Beth Whittenbury and Liz Rowe were there as pupils in 1959. But it was not until they all met up in Clifton in 2004 that they became aware of the connection having lost touch with one another in the intervening period.

“I welcomed Beth and her husband Jack to a meeting in the village hall and learned that they had just moved from the Liverpool area,” said Ann MacBryde. “Then we discovered that Liz Rowe had also attended the same school as us”.

Beth Whittenbury also discovered that another Clifton resident, Charles Knowles, had been the Consultant Specialist Orthodontic Surgeon at the United Liverpool Hospitals where she had worked as a medical photographer in the early 1960s.

Clifton's extraordinary Liverpudlian connections don't end there. Beth's husband Jack, their three sons and her brother have all attended Merchant Taylors' Boys School while another resident villager, Martine Jones, was a teacher at Merchant Taylors' Girls School in Liverpool.

See Ann, Beth and Liz pictured on our inside back cover.

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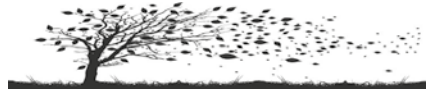


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SECOND BOOK PUBLISHED BY SHELSLEY AUTHOR

A second crime thriller is about to be published by Teme Valley resident and former BBC executive, Andy Griffiee.

River Rats, the sequel to debut novel *Canal Pushers*, is released on 2 April as part of his Jumping Jack Flash series of books based on the UK's waterways. The book continues to follow the fortunes of a fictional journalist called Jack Johnson and his partner Nina as they move their narrowboat onto further adventures in Bath. The books' publisher, Orphans Publishing, is also releasing a paperback edition of *Canal Pushers* at the same time.



Local author Andy Griffiee

"I've been really encouraged by the positive feedback and the support of neighbours and friends," says Andy, who lives with his wife Helen at Shelsley Kings. He is looking forward to a busy schedule of talks and events to mark the launch. The first is on 2 March at a monthly book club hosted by the Royal Porcelain Works in Worcester. Attendance is free at The Foyer and everyone is welcome from 7.40 to 8.40pm.

Teme Valley residents are also invited to Worcester's Hive Library on 21 May when Andy is joined by best-selling crime author Stephen Booth for a talk on 'Murder by Water – Canals and Crime Fiction'. The event runs from 6 to 7.30pm and attendance is free via the library's website. Andy's books are available from Amazon (including Kindle), good bookshops and orphanspublishing.co.uk.

TRY CROQUET THIS SEASON

Broadwas Croquet Club is inviting Teme Valley residents to join for its new season. Member Chris Croft confirmed: "More than fifty of us play at least once a week as soon as the lawns are ready, around end March/early April. We love the game because it's fun. Croquet involves skill not strength, so everyone can play on equal terms."

The West Midlands-champion club has five, full-sized lawns located just off the A44 and meets on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1.30pm. The first three trial visits are free; after which membership works out at around £2 a week. Casual wear including flat trainers is fine, with tea and coffee served afterwards in the pavilion. Coaching sessions and both fun and league competitions are available to suit all levels.

For details visit www.broadwascroquetclub.org.uk or call Chairman, Stuart Smith (01886 853311) or Fun Croquet Organiser, Chris Croft (01886 821664) to say you're coming.

CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

HILL CLIMB FOOTPATH CLOSURE BID

Clifton Parish councillors have objected 'strongly' to an application by the Midland Automobile Club to close part of a number of footpaths at the top of the hill climb course near Clifton. *See P18 for full story and map.*

GREAT BRITISH SPRING CLEAN IN CLIFTON

Clifton Parish Council has given its blessing to a local litter pick on Saturday, 4th April, in support of the great British Spring Clean campaign planned by Keep Britain Tidy. Mandy Henry said she hoped the event would be a community day in the parish and an opportunity for new residents to be involved.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting in Clifton will be held on Thursday, 21st May, in the village hall and will include a presentation of the proposals for the 'Five Acre Field' recreation area funded by S106 money arising from the Pound Lane development.

SPEEDING CONCERN

Concern about the speed of traffic in Hope Lane and near the school in Clifton prompted the Parish Council to raise the matter with Worcestershire County Council Highways Department. County Councillor Ken Pollock said money would be made available for the erection of white gates on roads at the approach to the village.

LATER LIFE ACCOMMODATION IN CLIFTON

The results of the housing needs survey carried out by Malvern Hills District Council into Accommodation for Later Life in Clifton were reported to the Parish Council. Among the 25% of residents who responded there were 32 older people (nine under 60, ten between 61 and 75, 11 over 75 and two age unknown) who expressed an interest in alternative later life accommodation ranging from five wanting it immediately to 15 not envisaging needing it until after five years. 17 of these expressed an interest in an apartment complex despite no clear plans having been presented yet of the concept and will be consulting on in due course. This seems to be evidence of sufficient demand to justify continuing to pursue the project.

"If there is anyone who has relevant experience of dealing with community groups, planning, funding, project management etc who would be prepared to join our steering group or act as a consultant we would love to hear from you," said John Wain.

CLIFTON UPON TEME PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of an Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held Wednesday 22nd January 2020 at the Sports Pavilion commencing at 7.40 pm

Present: Councillors J. Bowden (Chairman), R. Henry, A. Henry, S. Haywood, C. Haywood, and J. Collins. Also present: M. Alexander (Clerk)

Apologies: Councillor J. Dawson.

85.19 Declarations of Prejudicial & Pecuniary Interests: None.

(continued overleaf)

86.19 Budget Setting & Precept 2020-21: The Clerk had previously circulated a draft budget and precept for 2020-21, for the meeting of the Council held 9th January 2020, where it had been agreed to defer any decision to an extra ordinary meeting of the Council. Having considered the figures presented and discussed costs and plans for the forthcoming financial year, it was proposed by Cllr R. Henry, seconded by Cllr S. Haywood, that the Council accept the draft budget and request a precept for the year 2020-21 of £30,000.00. All agreed.
The Clerk to request a precept from Malvern Hills DC as agreed.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm. Next ordinary meeting to be held Thursday 6th February 2020 at 7.40 pm.

DRAFT Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held Thursday 6th February 2020 At the Village Hall commencing at 7.40 pm

Present: Councillors J. Bowden (Chairman), R. Henry, A. Henry, S. Haywood, C. Haywood, and J. Collins. Also present: County Cllr K. Pollock, M. Alexander (Clerk) and 14 members of the Public.
Apologies: Councillor J. Dawson (Vice Chairman), Ward Cllr C. Palethorpe.

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone and reminded everyone that although PC meetings are currently an open forum for discussion, it would be appreciated if questions could be asked at the end of each matter, to enable the Council to fully discuss things.

Declarations of Prejudicial & Pecuniary Interests: None.

The meeting was suspended at this point to allow members of the Public to address the Council: Matters raised at the meeting: Footpaths – a resident raised concern regarding an historical pathway by the bridge at the bottom of the waterworks, where walkers need to cross a ditch. It was noted that the path is in Lower Sapey Parish, but that Cllr Bowden (as Parish Paths Warden) is liaising with Worcs CC about it and will continue to do so. It was also noted that there may be another pathway crossing the same spot, and Cllr Bowden agreed to check the definitive map. Drivers parking their cars at the entrance to Hope Lane are causing visibility problems to other drivers turning at the junction. School children crossing the junction are also placed at risk. County Cllr Pollock explained the options available and it was noted that there are ongoing discussions with Highways. The meeting noted that Footballers are now parking at the church and outside the Lion P.H.

Approval of the Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held 9th January 2020: Proposed by Cllr S. Haywood, seconded by Cllr C. Haywood, that the minutes be agreed and signed as a true record. All agreed.

District & County Councillors Reports: Reports will be uploaded to the PC website. County Cllr Pollock also highlighted the delayed opening of Worcs Parkway Railway Station, the local 'experiment' in 5G connectivity and local Highways concerns raised. Traffic speed concerns at Pound Lane were discussed and it was agreed that the Clerk will raise a 20mph option with Highways, which Cllr Pollock will support. The Clerk read out a report on behalf of Ward Cllr Palethorpe.

Financial & Governance Matters: Payments were approved as per the schedule, proposed by Cllr Bowden, seconded Cllr S. Haywood. All agreed. Receipts were noted as Western Power wayleave payments totalling £71.86. The NALC Code of Conduct for Councillors (revised Dec 2019). Proposed for adoption by Cllr Bowden, seconded Cllr S. Haywood. All agreed.

(continued opposite)

Clerk to notify MHDC. The Annual Parish Meeting 2020 – the date was agreed as Thursday 21st May 2020. Cllr A. Henry is to send out the invitations to local groups and organisations. The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council was noted as Thursday 7th May 2020.

Parish Matters: White Gates at parish entrances – the Clerk and Cllr S. Haywood are meeting with Highways on 10th Feb to do a site walk. S.106 Community Transport – C. Hurley made a report to the meeting following a recent meeting with Worcs CC Officers. It was agreed that Cllr Bowden should progress the matter on behalf of the PC. The Great British Spring Clean event – Cllr R. Henry was thanked for already undertaking litter picking locally. Cllr A. Henry agreed to organise this event, to be held on 4th April 2020. Clerk to notify MHDC and ask for equipment and litter collection.

Housing Needs Survey Nov 2019: A report had been circulated from MHDC. The Clerk read out a report by J. Wain regarding Community Led Housing, which was noted. The PC is awaiting a response from MHDC to queries raised about local housing development / needs. Cllr S. Haywood explained options being investigated for apartments at the Hope Lane development and it was agreed to allow the CLH Steering Group to progress this matter.

Section 106 Committee update: C. Hurley updated the meeting on the following matters for the s.106 project group – Lots of information gathering currently. Topographic survey on site tomorrow. New project team members were noted. Trim Trail quotes are awaited. User contracts will be required. MHDC s.106 meeting to be arranged. S.106 notices – it was agreed that these can be placed in the new parish notice board. There is now £250-300k potential project spend. Sensory garden to be included in the project plan. Contractors involved to date were noted. A report will be made to the Annual Parish Meeting including a possible timescale.

Planning Matters: Public Path Order – proposed extinguishment of footpaths CT-602, 603, 604 and SW-501, 503,504,505 and SW-506,508 (part),509 and proposed diversion of footpath SW-507 (part). It was agreed unanimously that the PC should write and object strongly to the proposals. Clerk to notify Worcs CC accordingly before 21st March 2020. Notification was received of approval 19/01799/HP Birchfield House, Church Road Clifton-upon-Teme – single storey extension to side and rear. Erection of porch to front.

Highways Matters: It was agreed that Cllr C. Haywood speak to Red Kite pest control regarding moles on the playing field. The gully below the kennels is blocked – Clerk to report to Highways. Further to the PC request there is a speed survey planned for Hope Lane via Highways. Road closures in Pound Lane during February and the school summer holiday were noted.

Correspondence: An email had been received raising concern about road sweepers being used in future developments and causing noise nuisance. A wheel wash would be much preferred. The Clerk was asked to check with MHDC and Ward Cllr Palethorpe about options. The developer could also be approached.

Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas: Cllr C. Haywood reported on the installation of the notice board and 'no parking' sign. The Clerk was asked to write and thank NDS Engineering who donated poles and a welding plate. The new storage container has been placed on the pavilion car park as agreed. The old container needs to remain in case it is needed for the s.106 project.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.40 pm. Next meeting to be held Thursday 5th March 2020 at 7.40 pm.



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SHELSELEY WALSH HILL CLIMB FOOTPATH CLOSURE BID

An application by the Midland Automobile Club (MAC) to permanently close a number of public footpaths at the Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb site, and create instead a shorter, alternative path, has been met with concern.

Reacting to the bid, which Parish Councils received in the second half of January, Clifton Parish councillors have objected 'strongly', and Shelsleys Parish Council is to discuss its response at its next meeting on 10 March.

Under the proposals, MAC plans to cease public access to the entire length of the tarmacked Hill Climb track at any time; a path has long been a public right of way and is currently only closed temporarily on race days. Some other existing footpaths on the Hill Climb site would also close. Instead, MAC is proposing to create an alternative, shorter public footpath towards one side of the site, linking with another existing footpath heading in the Clifton direction.

Shelsley Beauchamp Parish Councillor Karen Metcalfe told Teme Triangle: "If this application goes ahead, we will lose a much-valued, metalled footpath actively used in all conditions by ramblers, dog walkers, wheelchair users and cyclists alike. In pure distance alone we will lose around 2km of path and gain only 500m in its place. This seems unnecessary given that the current temporary closure of the Hill Climb track on race days seems to work perfectly well. We urge locals to come along to our next Shelsleys Parish Council meeting on 10 March to give their views, or to contact our Clerk direct."

General Manager of the Midland Automobile Club, Gary Hall, said: "We are concerned about the health and safety of anyone using the paths when events are taking place."

The map of the MAC proposals is shown opposite. Views can be sent to the Shelsleys Parish Council clerk at shelsleyspc@gmail.com.

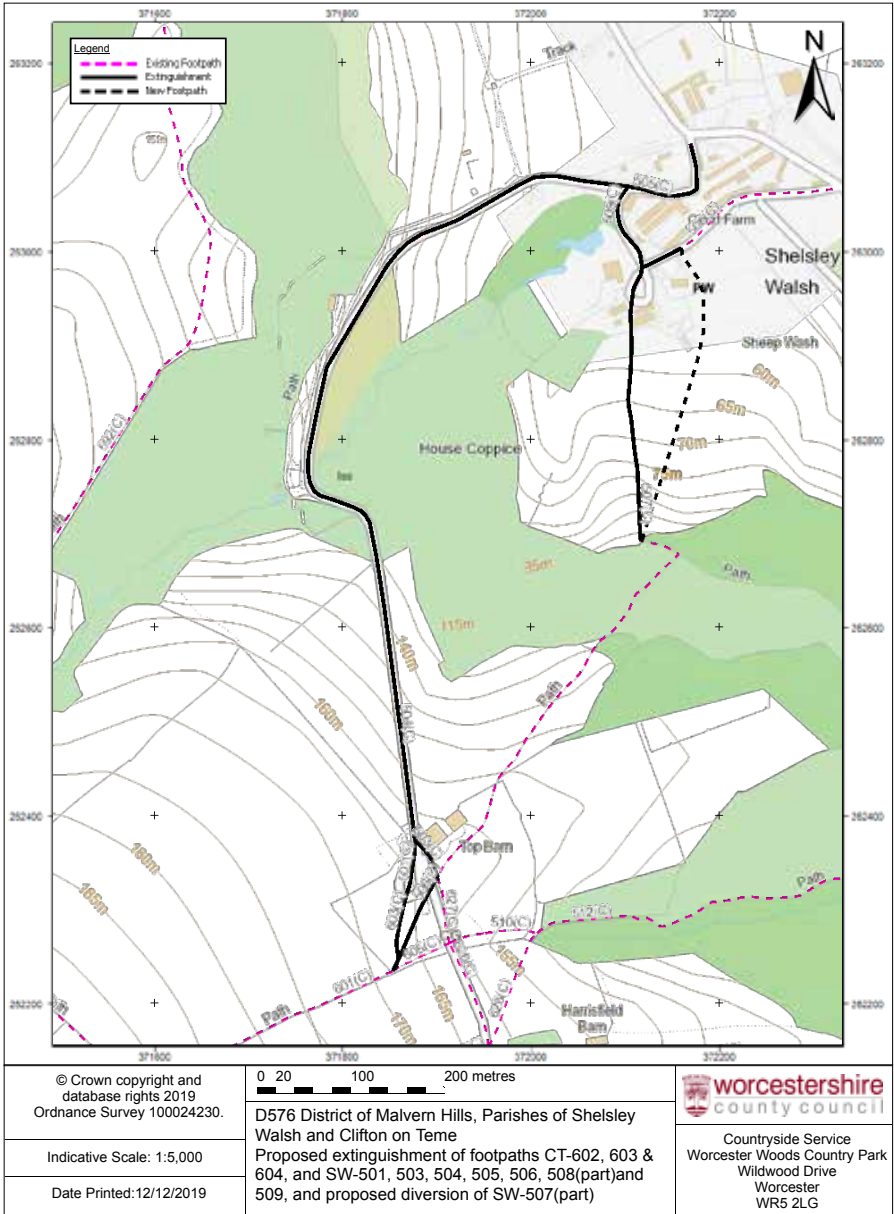
OPEN LETTER TO CLIFTON UPON TEME DOG WALKERS

"Would you stop dropping your used dog waste bags in the large communal refuge bins. The waste bags do not get collected by the council and the waste festers in the bins until someone else has to remove it and dispose of it properly in a council black bags. An unenviable task given the state of the waste after two or three weeks of decomposition. I assume residents are unaware of the unpleasant situation that their actions is creating. Hopefully this notification is enlightening and those who feel it is appropriate to use these bins will in future take their dog waste home and dispose of it appropriately."



from Ray Neave (Clifton)

Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb footpath closure bid: The proposed footpath changes at Shelsley Walsh, as submitted by Midland Automobile Club. The existing footpaths for proposed closure (extinguishment) are shown as heavy solid black lines. The new footpath proposed to be opened is shown as a heavy dashed black line. Other existing footpaths to remain unchanged are shown as red dashed lines.



FLOODING SPECIAL

At the time of going to press, the effects of Storms Ciara and Dennis were taking their toll on the *Teme Triangle* locality. After fallen trees blocking roads, fast-flowing flooding from the River Teme in particular isolated some homes and businesses, hampered travel and damaged buildings, roads and farmland. Here are some of the scenes photographed by readers on 16 and 17 February.



The River Teme waters surge across the B4204 access to Ham Bridge, taken from the Clifton-on-Teme side (photo by Jerry Johns)



Fast-flowing floods submerge the road and fields adjacent to New Mill Bridge, taken from the Shelsley Beauchamp side (photo by Jack Whitefoot)



*The River Teme floods a riverside home on the B4203 opposite Mill Farm Country Retail village, taken from the footbridge adjacent to Stanford Bridge
(photo by Michael Whitefoot)*



Flooded fields surround Shelsley Beauchamp near All Saints Church, taken from the road above Lower House Farm (photo by Michelle Whitefoot)



An car abandoned amidst flooding on the road from Stanford Bridge to Shelsley Walsh (photo by Michael Whitefoot)



Usually lush pastures in the Teme Valley between Stanford Bridge and Shelsley Walsh are replaced by floodwaters (photo by Michael Whitefoot)



A large tree brought down by Storm Ciara blocks the B4197 between Martley and Great Witley (photo taken on 9 February by Scott Whitefoot)

EVENTS ROUND-UP

FILMS

RURAL REELS

On Saturday 28 March at 7pm, Rural Reels is showing *Cinema Paradiso* at Clifton Village Hall, with an Italian buffet (free admission with a donation for the food).



LITTLE WITLEY FILM NIGHTS

Little Witley has hosted a successful film evening for the last eleven years, with the season running from October to May inclusive. On Saturday 7 March at Little Witley VH the society is showing *Colette* (cert 15), the story of the famous Belle Epoque writer, starring Keira Knightley. Doors open from 7.15pm, for 8pm start. Entry of £6.50 includes glass of wine, cheese and other goodies. For details call Jean on 01886 888122 or visit www.littlewitley.org.uk/film-society/

ART & CRAFT

MARTLEY ART GROUP AT SHELSLEYS VILLAGE HALL

Martley Art Group meets at the Shelsleys Village Hall every Thursday, and welcomes people interested in drawing and painting to get in touch. Run by artist Melanie Williams since 1991, the popular club held its most recent annual exhibition at the Shelsleys Village Hall. "It was a new experience for us to hold it there, and lovely to see so many local people popping in to view our artists' works," she said. "Our classes are held every Thursday from 10am to 2.30pm. if anyone is interested in seeing how the class operates, they are welcome to come and visit."



Melanie herself is holding a one-man art show at 54 The Gallery, Shepherd Market, London W1 between 4-9 May. "I am working hard for it at my studio at the Old Smithy. It's open from 10.30am-5.30pm and all are welcome," she confirms. Mel can be contacted on 07805 537049.

CLIFTON CRAFTERS

The Clifton Crafters continue to meet up every Thursday from 1.30-3.30pm at Clifton Village Hall. Entry is £2.50 including tea and cake.

NATURE

TEME VALLEY WILDLIFE GROUP

The next monthly meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group is on Thursday 12 March and welcomes Jim Saunders whose talk is about the wildlife on Offa's Dyke. Starts 7:30pm at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall, WR15 8RR. £2 on the door; all welcome. Call 01584 881397 for more details.



EVENTS ROUND-UP

EASTER EVENTS

NORA PARSONS EASTER FAYRE & RAFFLE

The Nora Parsons Centre in Venn Lane, Wichenford is holding an Easter Fayre and Raffle on Saturday 21 March from 2pm-4.30pm. The event includes afternoon tea and a plant sale. Raffle participants could win a bottle of gin, a hamper of Easter goodies, a basket of flowers and more.



CLIFTON NURSERY & PRE-SCHOOL EASTER EGG TRAIL

Children of all ages are invited to take part in the popular annual Easter Egg Trail around Clifton upon Teme village. Held on Saturday 4 April from 2.30pm until 4.30pm, the trail starts in the playground in Pound Lane, WR6 6DE, and finishes at The Lion pub. The event also includes chocolate, face painting, a raffle and a cake sale. Entry is £4 per hunter, with funds raised going to Clifton Nursery and Pre-School.

WINE & SONG

STANFORD WINE TASTING

A 'Fun Wine Tasting' event is being held at Stanford Village Hall on Thursday 23 April at 7.00 for 7.30pm. Tickets £20 per person include a welcome glass of wine, three white and three red tasting wines, plus a two-course meal with red and white wine. The event is in aid of St. Mary's Church, Stanford with Orleton. To book, email st.marys1769@gmail.com or telephone: 03330 064489, advising any dietary requirements and an email address for confirmation.



A CAPELLA EVENING AT STANFORD

An a capella concert performed by popular groups The Close Shaves and The High Heels is being held at St Mary's Church, Stanford with Orleton at 6pm on Saturday, 2nd May. Drinks and canapes included in the interval. Tickets are £30.

The Close Shaves and The High Heels are joining together to perform in aid of the Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven. The singers originally met while performing with the Bach Choir and this is a rare opportunity to see these renowned, close harmony groups performing together. The concert will include a wide range of music, from pop classics to musical theatre songs, as well as classical pieces. To book seats please email: winnington@aol.com or telephone: 01886 812341

EVENTS ROUND-UP

SALES

CLIFTON WI 'SWISH' EVENT

Clifton-upon-Teme WI is hosting Clifton's first ever 'Swish' event on the evening of Friday 15 May at Clifton Village Hall.

"A 'Swish' event is an opportunity to recycle or exchange adult and children's clothes, which are in good condition and no longer needed," explains Nina Gilbert. Refreshments including tea, coffee, cakes and glasses of wine will be on sale.

"More information will follow from the WI nearer the event, but why not start looking out those 'previously loved' garments now?" suggests Nina.



Table Top Sale Saturday 18th April

10am-1pm: Clifton village hall
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COFFEE & SOCIAL

OLDER PERSON'S EVENT

Older people from across local parishes are being invited to an Older Person's Event at Great Witley Village Hall on Tuesday 7 April, from 10am-12 noon.

The event is being organised by the Social Prescribing Team from Malvern Citizens Advice with support from Great Witley Surgery.

"Come along with friends and family and find out what services and activities are available locally for you. Stay for a drink and a chat!" said organiser Mary Griffiths. For more details please contact Mary Griffiths on 07572 317655.



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LOWER SAPEY NEWS

As I write this, the wind is howling outside and we are prepared here with torches, camping stove, batteries and logs for the fire, all ready for the power cut, which we hope doesn't happen. Perhaps we will be lucky this time. I hope everyone stays safe and dry.

The weather has certainly been weird this year and most of this must surely be due to climate change. Two years ago, we were cut off by the snow, last year it was quite mild and now we have the gales. Elsewhere in the world, there are the fires and now floods in Australia, millions of hungry locusts in parts of Africa and the coronavirus in China, so do we now await the plague of frogs? It's definitely a winter to remember, but not fondly. However, while the wind howls and we still have power, I can enjoy watching the cricket in South Africa!

A warning to watch out for the criminal gangs who seem to be back in our area and who have not been put off by the weather. Local farmer, Phil Richards and his wife Val were attacked recently by four masked men who were trying to steal diesel from their yard (see report on P3). Although Phil was battered and bruised, he gave a good account of himself and they eventually drove off. When we were burgled last March, we found the rural police so helpful with their security advice and I would certainly recommend them to anyone who is concerned.

Our Church improvements are progressing slowly but steadily and we hope soon to have grants to enable us to start on them. In the meantime, we are grateful to Steve Younge for keeping the Church warm for services and looking after the building. Candy is working hard on trying to obtain any grants. However, our churchyard is a picture with all the snowdrops.

It will soon be Lent. For a list of Lent classes, please see the schedule at the back of TT. A really interesting one should be the talks on a Wednesday evening in Martley Hall, on the film 'The Way'.

There is an Easter Foam-Free Pedestal Workshop on Saturday March 14th (10am-12 noon) at Martley Church on behalf of sustainable church flowers. The cost of £10 includes foliage, flowers and refreshments, the remainder to charity. Please book via kate@camomilecornflowers.co.uk

SERVICES FOR MARCH AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S

1 March	Morning Prayer 10.30am
15 March	Methodist Communion Service 10.30am
17 March	Morning Prayers 9am
22 March	Circle Service 10.30am

NOTICES

Ladies Bible Group will meet on Tuesday 10 March at the home of Margaret Griffiths. We are sorry we had to cancel our usual Christmas outing and lunch last December, but this was the day of Bettie Nicholls' funeral. We hope to arrange a superb summer outing in its place. Housekeeping for March is in the hands of Pat Savage. Mobile Library calls on Friday 19 March at 10.20 and 10.40am.

Margaret Griffiths

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR CLIFTON'S LIZ RICHES

Chris Riches, husband of Liz, would like to extend an invitation to all in Clifton upon Teme who knew Liz and her parents Bernard and Olive Tuckwell, who lived in Saxon Close and are buried at St Kenelms.



A Memorial Service for Liz will take place at 2pm on Friday 20 March at St Kenelm's Church, followed by a burial of ashes. Chris has also invited all to join him at Sapey Golf Club afterwards.

REMEMBERING THE SHELSLEYS' JOSIE BROWN

Born on 3 April 1943, Josie Brown, formerly of Stanford Bridge and The Shelsleys, sadly passed away on 29 December, in Bangor, North Wales. Josie spent the majority of her life in the Shelsleys parish, and was always actively involved in the area. She was a popular member of the community, working as a post lady, milk woman, delivery driver and in the Mill Farm shop, Stanford Bridge.

After seeking sheltered housing due to her progressive MS, Josie moved to Cleobury Mortimer but remained interested in her friends from her former area. Josie spent the last two years of her life enjoying the North Wales area, residing with son Simon and family whilst bravely battling cancer alongside the ever-progressing MS. Josie was cremated in Bangor in January. Her ashes will be interred alongside her beloved husband Bill at Shelsley Beauchamp in due course. She leaves sons Andrew and Simon, and grandchildren Jake, Faith and George.

WORCESTER WEST RURAL TEAM MINISTRY QUIET DAY

The annual Team Ministry Quiet Day is taking place on Wednesday 4 March at Holland House, Crophorne; led by the Revd Canon David Sherwin. Coffee on arrival; lunch and afternoon tea provided.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy some spiritual refreshment in the uplifting and peaceful setting of Holland House, where the gardens wind gently down to the banks of the River Avon," said coordinator Pat Snelling. "Please come, you will be most welcome." For details contact Pat Snelling: 01886 812 443 or patricia.snelling@btinternet.com

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Church Matters

by Ruth Wilson

Surprised by Joy

I first came across this quote in the Inspector Gamache books by Louise Penny as an inscription on a bench in a fictional village in Canada. Characters often sit on the bench at moments of despair and deep sadness and look at the beauty of the village of Three Pines and experience a sense of unexpected joy.

Surprised by joy is also a quote from a sonnet by Wordsworth written soon after the death of his three year old daughter. The sonnet starts with 'Surprised by joy - impatient as the wind' and continues with how he turns to share the moment of joy with his daughter, followed by the guilt he feels, that for a fleeting moment, he had forgotten she had passed away. Joy can come in those sudden unexpected moments, a feeling that can surprise us when not expected, something greater than ourselves and our concerns, a feeling outside ourselves. "Joy is to fun what the deep sea is to a puddle. It's a feeling inside that can hardly be contained." Terry Pratchett.

Surprised by Joy is also the title of C. S. Lewis's autobiography where he describes his reluctant conversion to Christianity. He explains joy as a sudden piercing pang of longing, which he identifies as a deep spiritual hunger for God.

How easy it is to be overwhelmed by everyday concerns such as the constant news items relating to climate warming, the state of the world our children and grandchildren may be living in. However there are also those moments when a sudden unexpected joy touches our life, it might be a view, a birdsong, a flower, a scent, a memory or a kind word or smile that seems to transport us to somewhere outside ourselves. Surprised by joy, is that intense feeling of happiness and hope that can cast a shaft of light through a difficult time.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. (Romans 15 verse 13.)



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- 18th May
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**Services in the parishes of Clifton, The Shelsleys and Lower Sapey (Harpley)
March 2020**

Sunday 1st March Lent 1	10.30am	Morning Prayer	St Kenelm, Clifton
	10.30am	Morning Prayer	St Bartholomew, Harpley
	10.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp
Tuesday 3rd	9.00am	Morning Prayer	All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp
Wednesday 4th	10.00am	Pushchair Praise	St Kenelm, Clifton
Sunday 8th Lent 2	10.30am	Holy Communion	St Kenelm, Clifton
	6.30pm	Evensong	St Andrew, Shelsley Walsh
Tuesday 10th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St Kenelm, Clifton
Sunday 15th Lent 3	8.00am	Holy Communion	St Kenelm, Clifton
	10.30am	Café Church	St Kenelm, Clifton
	10.30am	Methodist Holy Communion	St Bartholomew, Harpley
Tuesday 17th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St Bartholomew, Harpley
Wednesday 18th	7.30pm	Time for Time Out	St Kenelm, Clifton
Sunday 22nd Lent 4 Mothering Sunday	10.30am	Circle Service	St Bartholomew, Harpley
	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Service	St Kenelm, Clifton
	6.30pm	Evensong	St Kenelm, Clifton
Monday 23rd	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St Kenelm, Clifton
Tuesday 24th	9.00am	Morning Prayer	St Andrew, Shelsley Walsh
Sunday 29th Lent 5	10.30am	Songs of Praise Group Service	St Kenelm, Clifton

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

- 4 Worcester West Rural Team Ministry Quiet Day, Holland House, Crophorne
- 4 Lent Talk based on the film 'The Way', St Peter's, Martley, 7pm
- 5 Lower Sapey Parish meeting, St Bartholomew's Church, Harpley 7pm
- 5 Clifton Parish Council meeting, VH 7.40pm
- 6 Litter Pickers annual drink, Lion Inn, Clifton 6pm
- 7 Shelsley Village Hall coffee morning 10.30am-12.30pm
- 7 Little Witley Film Society, Collette, Little Witley VH, 8pm
- 10 Shelsleys' Parish Council meeting, VH 7pm
- 10 Clifton WI meeting: Elgar - Joe Tierney, VH 7.30pm
- 10 Harpley Ladies Bible Group, home of Margaret Griffiths
- 11 Lent Talk based on the film 'The Way', St Peter's, Martley, 7pm
- 12 Friends of Clifton Primary School AGM VH 6pm
- 12 Teme Valley Wildlife Group talk on Offa's Dyke, Stoke Bliss & Kyre VH, 7.30pm
- 14 Easter foam-free pedestal flowers workshop, St Peter's, Martley, 10am-12 noon
- 18 Clifton Friendship Club, VH 2.30pm
- 18 Lent Talk based on the film 'The Way', St Peter's, Martley, 7pm
- 21 Easter Fayre, Nora Parsons Centre, Wichenford, 2.00-4.30pm
- 25 Lent Talk based on the film 'The Way', St Peter's, Martley, 7pm
- 28 Rural Reels film night: Cinema Paradiso, Clifton VH 7pm

April

- 1 Clifton Friendship Club, VH 2.30pm
- 1 Clifton Parish Council meeting, VH 7.40pm
- 4 Martley Young Farmers Easter bingo, Martley VH 7.30pm
- 4 Great British Spring Clean, Clifton area
- 4 Shelsley Village Hall coffee morning 10am-12.30pm
- 7 Older person's event, Great Witley VH 10am-12 noon
- 11 Easter Bingo, New Inn, Clifton, 7.30pm
- 14 Clifton WI meeting: The Magistrate - Judy Hulland, VH 7.30pm
- 15 Clifton Friendship Club, VH 2.30pm
- 18 Table Top Sale, Clifton VH, 10am – 1pm
- 20 Walking together with Jesus retreat, Clifton upon Teme Rectory, 2.00-3.00pm
- 23 Fun Wine Tasting, Stanford VH, 7 for 7.30pm
- 27 Walking together with Jesus retreat, Clifton upon Teme Rectory, 2.00-3.00pm

May

- 2 Shelsley Village Hall coffee morning 10am-12.30pm
- 2 Acapella evening, St Mary's Church, Stanford 6pm
- 3 Walking together with Jesus retreat, Clifton upon Teme Rectory, 2.00-3.00pm
- 7 Clifton Parish Council annual meeting, VH
- 8 VE Day afternoon tea, Clifton VH 2pm - 4.30pm
- 8-10 Shelsley Water Mill open weekend, 11am-4pm
- 11 Walking together with Jesus retreat, Clifton upon Teme Rectory, 2.00-3.00pm
- 15 Clifton WI 'Swish' evening, Clifton VH
- 18 Walking together with Jesus retreat, Clifton upon Teme Rectory, 2.00-3.00pm
- 21 Clifton annual parish meeting, VH

AND FINALLY

You can keep abreast of all the latest news from the *Teme Triangle* area via our website: www.temetriangle.net and Facebook page: 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... we love to hear and share your news!



85th CELEBRATION: Long-time Shelsley Beauchamp resident, Jean Nuttall, who now lives in Great Witley, celebrated her 85th birthday with friends at the end of January. For more than 40 years Jean sang in the All Saints church choir and organised many Parish events. Today she remains involved in the cleaning and floristry rotas for both All Saints and St Andrew's in Shelsley Walsh, as well as enjoying both indoor and outdoor bowling.
(Photo by Caroline Whittaker)



LIVER BIRDS (L-R): Clifton's Beth Whittenbury, Ann McBryde and Liz Rowe, who shared the same Liverpool school in common (full story on P5).



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Contributions for the next (April 2020) edition by Friday 13th March please, to editortemetriangle@gmail.com

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