

October 2021

Teme TRIANGLE

Clifton upon Teme • The Shelsleys • Lower Sapey



The Clifton Friendship Club Team celebrating 50 years

“There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October.”

Nathaniel Hawthorne

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MIGHTY HIKE FOR CLIFTON SCHOOL STAFF

Clifton Primary School Head Karen Groves completed a 26 mile hike along the Wye Valley with two colleagues last month, raising more than £1,800 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Pictured with Karen (right) are Bridget Johns and Nic Allen.

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Front Cover Picture

The Clifton Friendship Club team: (Back row, left to right) Rose Holloway; Dot Millward; Jacky Gilbert; Chris House. (Front row) Penny Arkinstall; Marie Thompson; Sue Palmer.

A VERY WARM WELCOME to the October 2021 edition of the Teme Triangle.

Well, after a cooler end to the summer months than we would have liked, the recent September sunshine has indeed been much appreciated. Make the most of these last few warm evenings and of the fantastic sunsets that they bring....they really do ease the mind.

With Covid restrictions lifting, we dare to dream of a return to normality (whatever that may now be!). Please do continue to keep safe though, and remember to remain kind and considerate to others – in these strange times we all deal with life in our own way and we must always respect others feelings and viewpoints.

This is quite a full edition of the Teme Triangle, so we hope you enjoy it. Many thanks to all those contributors. Please do continue to send in any articles and photos that you feel others may enjoy. We all want our special little publication to be interesting, informative and a joy for people to read, and it is by hearing all your fascinating news that enables this. So please keep it coming – contact details are on the inside front cover of the magazine. On behalf of the Teme Triangle team, thank you.

REFLECTION

With Rev Canon David Sherwin, Team Rector

In my penultimate article for the Teme Triangle magazine, I have been asked to reflect upon my time amongst you, and I thought rather than just catalogue what I have done, I would reflect upon the strengths I have found amongst you that are an important part of any rural community and of the Christian faith.

Welcome – upon my arrival 20 years ago I found people to be most welcoming; I am sure that was not just because I was the vicar. As our communities grow, those who move in need to feel welcome and included. Our Christian duty is to 'love one another' and so to be welcoming to all, regardless of social background, race or colour. We are all part of God's world.

Thank you for your welcome to me and my family, may such welcome continue for all whether in church or out in the community – which leads me to my next thought...

Community – having been involved with the mining communities of South Yorkshire before I arrived here, I had an appreciation of the strengths that strong communities afforded. I found similarities between the way a mining community functioned and the rural communities I had become a part of. Community means that we are part of a larger 'family' other than our nuclear family. Whilst our immediate family is vitally important, it is good to know there are others we can turn to when in need and for friendship.

In any community there are communities within communities. These include local interest groups and we are not short of those thankfully. For example, WI, Scouts and Guides, Heritage, Wine, folk music, Morris dancing, and Friendship groups to name only a few.

There is of course a 'community of faith' too, which is called the church, to which we are all invited to be a part of, and that whether we wish to be part of that community or not, we are always welcome. The church is not just about worship in a building on a Sunday but about life and relationships day by day.

Buildings/Ministry – The church is often seen as a building, and what wonderful buildings we have in the villages of the area. I have been blessed to be able to lead worship within them and thankful for the support that has been given when they have faced problems, both practically and financially. They are a visible presence of our faith, but of course, our faith is worked out in the living presence of Christians out in the community, you and I. Living out our faith day by day.

I thank you for the way in which you show this living faith in acts of kindness and service, and for the way in which the wider community and church community merge together, for we are part of each other. I am sure all groups within our communities seek to 'love one another' ('as I have loved you', said Jesus.)

Active Faith – as an Anglican Priest, when we are ordained and given responsibility within a community, we are given the 'cure of souls' or the 'care for all' as I like to see it. In the communities in which I have served I hope I have given that to you all, whether you regard yourself as one of faith or not, for our ministry is for all without prejudice, and I hope that the churches in which I served have that same ethos in all that we do. I know that my colleagues with that same calling upon them will seek to do the same in the days and years ahead.

There is much more I could reflect upon, but I must sign off for now. Next month I will look to the future and give you an insight into what the next phase of my journey might include. Even though none of us knows exactly what lies ahead, all I can do is trust God to lead and guide us in the days, months and years ahead.

For now, God Bless you all, David.

FIFTY YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP IN CLIFTON

Members of the Clifton Friendship Club celebrated their fiftieth anniversary last month with a special gathering in the village hall, when they were entertained by actor, pianist and singer Michael Lunts who performed 'A Hundred Years of Comedy Song'.

The Friendship Club was formed in 1971 under the umbrella of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service (WRVS). The Club's present leader, Marie Thompson, joined in 1987. Meetings are held twice a month on the first and third Wednesday and the Committee organise a programme of events throughout the year.



PIANIST NEEDED FOR U3A SINGING GROUP

Throughout lockdown many of the singing group members of Bromyard U3A have been meeting weekly via Zoom. We were hoping to start singing again in the Methodist Church in Bromyard in September. However, our pianist has decided it is time to retire from the group and without a pianist the singing group cannot go ahead.

If you know of anyone that plays piano and may be able to help, please ask them to contact either Sylvia on lacy388@btinternet.com or Julie on julie@bloor.org.uk. The singing group meet twice a month at 2pm until 3.15pm in the Methodist Church, New Road, Bromyard.

POSSIBLE SHELSLEY YOUTH DISCO

The Shelsley Village Hall Committee are considering putting on an Under 15 disco on a Sunday from 2 to 5pm, as there are currently very few (indeed if any!) social gatherings for this age group.

If anyone has any ideas or would like to offer their help with organizing this event, please do contact Dave Bates on 07436 110 793.

CLIFTON UPON TEME WI

The next evening meeting of Clifton WI will be on **Tuesday, October 12th at 7.30pm** when Bethany Parmenter from the Good Soil Trust based at Top Barn will be talking about the work they do with adults whose lives have been challenged through addiction, homelessness, poor mental health or crime. This is a local charity working with the people of Worcester and should be an informative evening. Please come and join us.

Many thanks to all those who came to the coffee morning in September helping to raise approximately £370. The next special event will be the **Women's Well Being Evening 19th November at 7pm**, more information next month, save the date!

Members took part in an excellent tour of Worcester Cathedral in August where many interesting facts about the history of the building were revealed. The cathedral was founded in 680 and the present building started by Saint Wulfstan in 1084. Did you know there is a carving of Mary giving birth to Jesus in a bed with a very bored Joseph looking on? There is also a pink giraffe in one of the windows! In true WI tradition the tour finished with tea and cake in the café.

If you would like to know more, please drop in to an event or email cliftonontemesec@wfedwi.org.uk.

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For more details please contact us by our website,
or call 01886 812 121 and leave a message.

SHELSLEY SOCIAL CLUB EVENTS

Shelsley social club upcoming events, WR6 6RA, Tel: 01886 812 121.

- 'Fish & chips Wednesday', every Wednesday, 5:30pm-8:30pm.
- Pizza night every Saturday, wood fire pizzas, any toppings £6.
- Bingo & raffle 9th October, eyes down 7pm.
- Virtual horse racing, Saturday 16th October, 7pm start, free entry with a free slice of pizza.
- Bingo & raffle 23rd October, eyes down 7pm.
- Halloween party, Saturday 30th October, under 18's best dressed competition & tuck shop, 6pm onwards.

RURAL REELS IN CLIFTON

Film nights are coming back to Clifton Village Hall. The regular evening will be the 4th Saturday in the month but due to other commitments, the first film will be on Saturday 2nd October.

Last year the Italian night with a screening of Cinema Paradiso had to be cancelled at the last moment because of lockdown. As a welcome back gesture, the organisers are going to show Cinema Paradiso next month but there will be no admission charge. They will even throw in some pizza if you get there in time. Doors will open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start. The bar will also be open.

For further information, or to reserve a seat, please contact Mandy Henry on amandajhenry1970@gmail.com or 01886 812 238. Please do not attend if you are displaying Covid symptoms.

CHIC

For those who are new to Clifton, CHIC is a monthly draw and is one of the main sources of income for the Village Hall.

The Clifton Village Hall Trustees had tentatively decided to collect a half-year subscription in September in an effort to re-start the draw. After careful consideration, they feel the best course of action will be to re-launch CHIC in the New Year with our usual February collection.

Subscription is £12 per year. There are three prizes every month - £30, £20 and £10.

The Trustees will do a letter drop to every house in the village in early February inviting existing members to renew their subscriptions and encouraging new members.

YOUR VILLAGE HALL NEEDS YOU

The Village Hall in Clifton dates back to 1620 and is one of the main focal points in the village and well used by the local community. After 18 months of almost complete closure we are now starting to see bookings slowly increase and hopefully the hall will soon be running at full capacity once more.

The hall is run and managed by a group of volunteer Trustees and is regulated by the Charities Commission. Over the last two years, four Trustees have retired and we are now down to six. We are very keen to fill at least three if not all four of those vacant positions to help spread the load. The role is not onerous and will involve meetings on a Tuesday evening approximately every six weeks. On a day-to-day basis, we deal with booking enquiries, showing people around the hall, being available to answer questions/respond to problems, etc. We get together three or four times a year to weed the car park and once a year to carry out a spring clean. Certain Trustees have specified roles - Secretary, Treasurer, Building Maintenance - but we all muck in together where possible.

If you would like to volunteer as a Trustee or have a general chat about the role, please contact Mandy Henry (Chair of Trustees) on amandajhenry1970@gmail.com or 01886 812 238.

SHELSLEY HARVEST SERVICE

This year's Harvest Service at All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp, will be on Sunday 17th October at 5pm, followed by supper in the Village Hall at 6pm. Tickets £10 (including a glass of wine or non-alcoholic drink).

To reserve a place please contact Jane Froggatt
on 01886 812 215.

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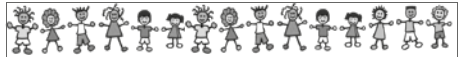
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TEME VALLEY, By Charles Eden

A litany of loveliness
The names that grace the twisting Teme.
Come climb together from mouth to
source,
Twined with paths its silver gleam.

Past Bransford's bridge, the barn at
Leigh,
Soughing wind through Lusley's trees,
Grating of gears up Ankerdine,
Cropping of grass on Ham Bridge leas.

Through Martley's red rock portal
The accompanying road descents,
Entrance to the Vale of Enchantments,
High banks and fast-flowing bends.

Long, rounded limbs and female forms
Smooth the valley's steep sides,
Under dark dingles of gruesome name,
Where the Severn's wild daughter rides

A Shelsley with a sandstone church,
The other built of travertine,
Clifton above and Stanford athwart
The river on its wandering line.

Mamble – a secret not to tell –
Eastham's wrecked bridge stood here,
Tenbury's annual Mistletoe Fair
And Clew whose brow shows clear.

Dreaming cows under orchard trees,
Hopyards and fields of ripening wheat:
A surviving mixed farm, unusual now,
Where Hereford, Worcester and Salop
meet.

Turning north at Wooferton,
Ashford Bowdler savours fear
His sister Ashford Carbonel,
Her pretty bridge above the weir.

Ludlow is a fluttering flag
High on its prosperous hill,
While just above lies Bromfield,
Horse chestnut shading water-mill.

Swinging west through Downton Gorge,
Past Burrington's headstones of iron
To the Parlour Pub at Leintwardine,
Then Bucknell and Brampton Bryan.

Knighton and Knucklas, train into Wales,
Llanfair Waterdine, Mary's church,
Beguiling Beguildy beckons us to
The final village in our search

Felindre turns its ghostly wheel,
We leave behind its last abode
To climb up bare Cilfaesty Hill,
The last we see of house and road.

Now bead the names upon a thread
To make a charm to wake a dream,
That litany of lovely names
Found on the peaceful banks of Teme.

'TEME VALLEY SINGS' IS BACK!

Rachel Austin

And we can sing! After a long absence, 'Teme Valley Sings' is back on Thursday 23rd September, 7.45pm to 9.30pm, in Clifton-upon-Teme Village Hall.

It runs on the second and fourth Thursday in the month, excluding school holidays. It is open to **anyone and everyone** who would like to come along, meet like-minded people, have fun and sing anything from rock, pop, gospel, folk – if you want to sing it, we can sing it! (Or at least have fun trying!)

For anybody new, if you love to sing in the shower, in the car or while you work then this is for you. Singing makes you feel good, relieves the stresses of the day and can improve your sense of happiness and wellbeing. Learning new songs is cognitively stimulating and exercises our brains, but above all it is FUN, boosts our mood and whatever you may have been told, EVERYBODY can sing. No one needs to be able to read music, just have a love of singing and making music together.

It costs £2/week to cover the cost of the hall hire and tea and coffee. This is a community choir for the valley, all helping with the choice of songs, making coffee and having fun together. If you can't make every week please don't let that put you off - we want the choir to be there for you, young and old. For all of you who came along before, please see if you can root out your music folders and bring them along.

Invite your families and friends from in and around the Teme Valley – the more the merrier!

Looking forward to singing with you all on 23rd September at 7.45pm.

If you would like any more details please email me on rachelm.austin@gmail.com, call 07742 977 027, or you can contact me on NextDoor.

ST KENELM'S HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE

Barbara Seeley

Come and join us for this traditional Service of Celebration on Sunday 10th October at 6.30pm at St Kenelem's Church in Clifton to give thanks for the Harvest in all its many forms.

Archdeacon Robert Jones will be joining us and Rev. Canon David Sherwin will be leading the Service before he retires in November.

Naturally, being Clifton, we will be having a buffet after the Service, a chance for you all to catch up with friends and chat. We look forward to seeing as many of you all as possible.

God Bless, from us all at St Kenelm's.

DONATE YOUR UNWANTED SPORTS KIT

Freedom Leisure is working with BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester to support the month-long 'Kit Out The Nation' campaign to help provide sports equipment to children and young people who need it most. Up until 2nd October 2021, people will be able to donate their unwanted, good condition sports kit at Malvern Splash and Tenbury Community Pool.

Donations can include everyday items of sports clothing and regular games equipment that a young person can use in an activity, such as balls, bats and rackets. Find out more about donating on our website: <https://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/news-alerts/sports-kit>

CLIFTON RECREATION GROUND PROJECT

If you are wondering why no works have commenced on the Recreation Ground, using the S106 monies, from The Meadows and The View housing developments, Clifton Parish Council forwarded an application to Malvern Hills, which was met with enthusiasm and success but with the one condition: that we prove that we own the land.

This has proved to be difficult to establish, as the land was obtained in three different parcels, at different times and we did not have full 'proof' that we owned each section.

We have therefore had to instruct a solicitor to formally register each section and this process is now reaching the stage where all parties need to process the documents. It is hoped that this process will be completed this year - it takes a very long time - to enable the works to commence in Spring 2022.

It is unfortunate, but at least we will have solved the problem for all future users and generations. We will endeavour to keep you informed.
Bruce Gilbert, Clifton-upon-Teme Parish Council.

FUN HALLOWEEN TRIVIA

- Halloween is one of the world's oldest traditions, it began in Ireland and dates back 2000 years to the Celts who called it Samhain.
- In the Celtic calendar, 1st November was the start of the New Year, and they celebrated their version of New Year's Eve known as All Hallows Eve. They believed that in the transition between years, on the night of October 31st, the human and spiritual worlds become less secure and spirits that died recently would rise up and roam the earth.
- The Halloween costume actually had a practical purpose – the Celts would dress up in order to blend in with spirits.
- Witches used to be honoured and were known as 'the crone' amongst the Celts until a fear of older women, particularly those who didn't marry, spread and the kindly figure of the crone morphed in the popular mind into a cackling evil witch.

- In fact, the name 'witch' comes from the old Saxon word 'wica' and it means 'wise one'.
- A useful precaution (so they say!) on Halloween is to hold your breath when walking past a graveyard so you don't get possessed by an evil spirit, and to turn out your pockets so you don't accidentally carry a ghost home!
- Another way (apparently!) to keep those pesky evil spirits at bay is to light a bonfire. Spirits are terrified of the light and heat created by fire and would much rather skulk around in the dark.
- Orange and black, the traditional colours, are believed to have originally represented the harvest (orange) and death (black).
- Pumpkins aren't only orange, they also come in white, blue and green.
- Trick or treaters used to receive fruits and nuts, not chocolate and sweets.
- During World War II when sugar was rationed, trick or treating began to disappear; luckily today it's back and bigger than ever!
- Many of the games traditionally played at Halloween, including bobbing apples date back to the ancient Roman festival of Pomona.
- Today, Halloween is the second most-expensive day in the year after, you've guessed it, Christmas.

A special Halloween extra for the kids:

Where do mummies go for a swim? *To the dead sea....*

Where do vampires go for a swim? *The undead sea....*

What type of crisps do ghosts love? *Ghoul hoops....*

What do ghosts love to eat for breakfast? *BOO! Berries and Dreaded Wheat....*

What do ghosts wear when it rains? *A Ka-Ghoul....*

What do you call a ghost who eats curry? *A Balti-geist....*

Where does Dracula keep his money? *In a blood bank....*

Why didn't the skeleton go to the prom? *He had no body to go with....*

Why are ghosts so bad at lying? *You can see right through them....*

What do ghosts grow in their gardens? *Ceme-Trees....*

The History and Modern Role of the SAS

Local man Mark Skipp, who has over 20 years of military experience under his belt, will talk about the history and role of the modern SAS on Tuesday 9th November in the Shelsleys' Village Hall. The Hall (and its cash bar) will be open from 7.30pm, and Mark's talk will begin at 8pm.

Tickets £20 (including complementary wine or non-alcoholic drink on entry) in aid of All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp.

To reserve a place please contact David Moore by text or WhatsApp on 07980 271 703.

Bring your friends to what is sure to be a fascinating evening, with the opportunity for Q&A at the end. Numbers are limited but, if over-subscribed, this event will be run again in the New Year.

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Abbreviated Draft Minutes

The Shelsleys Parish Council Meeting held on September 14th 2021

Present: Dr Laura Taylor, Mrs Karen Metcalfe, Mrs Jean Hammond, Mr David Styles, Mrs Louise Hutton, Mr David Bates, Mr J Stinton and Mr Robert Pound.

In Attendance: Eleven members of the public, Councillor David Chambers and the Clerk.

Apologies: Mrs Val Jones and District Councillor Palethorpe.

Declarations of Interest: None.

Minutes: The minutes of July 13th 2021 were agreed as a true record.

Public Question Time: See next item.

Midland Automobile Club: Three representatives of the Midland Automobile Club were welcomed and questions raised in Public Question Time were answered as follows.

The MAC lease allows the track/road to be used 30 times a year and for these the footpath is closed. Some events such as a touring car club visits, parades of cars up the hill or filming according to the MAC do not count in this limit.

The MAC has no jurisdiction on people driving on public roads although they are asked to drive responsibly and the MAC has produced and placed many signs locally. Marshalls are not allowed to instruct cars on public highways.

Drivers who are observed to be causing a nuisance are banned from future events.

Supercar Fest and Retro Rides are not MAC events and will not be allowed by the Board to run in their present format next year.

Traditional and Corporate events will hopefully not run on consecutive weekends.

The MAC suggests that a Residents' Group be formed fronted by Toby Moody (MAC Commercial Manager). This will allow discussion between the MAC and local residents. The MAC is keen to know what it can do for the community.

The Board of the MAC will liaise with the Parish Council after its Board and AGM meetings later this month.

The Police Community Support Officer from Tenbury in attendance gave advice on speeding and highway matters to be followed up by the Parish Council with the Safer Roads Partnership and Operation Snap.

Highways: The salt bin at Pudford Lane has not been replaced. Salt available from WCC must be ordered by October 14th. Lengthsman will be consulted on the amount to be ordered.

Planning: MHDC decisions

21/00842/HP and 21/00843/LB The Old Post Office Shelsley Walsh approved.

Urgent Decisions: Planning. 21/01393/LB Harborough Bank In consultation with Councillors MHDC was informed by the clerk that the application was supported.

Finance: The following requests for payment were received and agreed:

HMRC PAYE £145.40.

CALC subscription (the previous cheque lost in post and cancelled) £293.62.

Received from WCC in payment for the lengthsman £192.00.

Broadband: WCC to be contacted for an update on voucher progress.

Councillors' Reports and items for future agenda. Proposed bench at Shelsley Kings.

Future Meeting Dates: November 9th 2021.

The meeting concluded at 20:45.

To view the minutes and agenda online go to the WCC website and look at The Shelsleys.

<http://e-services.worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish/>

Jan Speyer, Clerk, 01886 812 444.

DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held Thursday 2nd September 2021, commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Councillors J. Bowden (Chairman), A. Henry (Vice-Chairman), R. Henry and B. Gilbert.

Also present: 3 members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs C. Haywood, J. Collins. County Cllr David Chambers, District Cllr C. Palethorpe.

Declarations of Interests: Cllrs A & R Henry – matter regarding MHDC proposed funding contract with the PC re land at Walnut Lodge.

Democratic Public Time: Matters considered – The meeting was updated regarding Community Led Housing and the potential site on land at Walnut Lodge. It was confirmed to the meeting that there is no current agreed site and that the PC, as a proper body, had only been asked to facilitate the transfer of funds between two external organisations. The history of the project was also summarised to the meeting by Cllr Gilbert.

To agree the Minutes of a virtual meeting held 1st July 2021 – The minutes were agreed as a true record. Proposed Cllr A Henry, seconded Cllr R Henry. All agreed. No matters arising.

District & County Councillor Reports: Reports were read to the meeting and will be uploaded to the website.

Financial & Governance Matters: Payments were approved as per the schedule circulated. Proposed Cllr A Henry, seconded Cllr Gilbert. All agreed. MHDC proposed funding agreement for land at Walnut Lodge: Cllr Bowden proposed that the PC facilitate the funding transfer, noting that the PC is not supporting anything at the moment other than undertaking the highway survey to ascertain feasibility. Seconded Cllr Gilbert. Vote 2 in favour with 2 abstentions. Vote carried. Clerk to notify MHDC as required. Teme Triangle funding: It was proposed by Cllr Gilbert, seconded Cllr A Henry, that the PC fund Teme Triangle Community Magazine in the sum of £500.00. All agreed. Clerk asked to arrange payment and also to check previous funding amounts made.

Parish Matters / Updates: Village Maintenance Plan – Clerk to circulate the email from Cllr Bowden listing the issues / actions from the site meeting held on 22nd July with WCC. The new gate has been fitted on the recreation field footpath. Cllr Bowden to follow up with R. Wilks regarding outstanding village green works. Cllr Bowden to arrange the repainting of the village milestone.

Tree survey: Cllr Gilbert reported that the survey has been completed and recommendations were circulated to the meeting. Works have been quoted as £1,475.00 + vat. It was proposed by Cllr Bowden, seconded Cllr A. Henry, to undertake works as recommended. All agreed. Clerk to place the order as quoted.

Archives refurbishment: Skellerns are still to produce the door. Cllr A Henry to follow up with them.

Parish defibrillator: Cllr Gilbert is to look into a possible location for an additional defib. The matter was deferred to allow the Clerk to circulate costs and for Cllr Gilbert to assess locations. Matter to be placed on the next agenda.

Electric vehicle charging points: Cllr R Henry asked the PC to consider the option to install EV charging points in the village for the public to use. The Clerk is currently looking into options and costs to consider on a future agenda.

Section 106 Matters: Four Acre Field Project – land ownership matters are still to be resolved with MHDC and the Clerk is working with the Solicitor to progress this for the Council. Documents have been produced for submission to the Land Registry in due course together with sworn statements and evidence of historic management of the site by the PC. Cllr Gilbert agreed to prepare a summary for Teme Triangle. All works currently on hold. Clerk to keep contractors informed. The PC is also to consider maintenance of the Bowling Green as a future agenda item. Electrics on the recreation field have been removed by WPD and so there may now be an option to relocate the sensory garden.

Community Bus Service to Malvern: WCC hope to launch this autumn and the PC agreed to support the launch of the service locally with posters, leaflets etc as supplied by WCC.

Planning Matters: Applications for consideration:

21/01227/FUL Blue Shot, Pound Lane, Clifton upon Teme WR6 6DE – proposed residential development of 5 dwellings. The Parish Council makes the following objections - There are two areas of land between the 4 cottages to the North of the site where these 5 houses are planned - Lime; Cedar; Chestnut & Maple Cottage and the new houses on “The Meadows”. These two areas of land are called up as “Blue Shot” & “Blue Shot Meadow”. The Planning Application for “Blue Shot” has 5 houses on it, very small, with almost no land. As the “Neighbourhood Development Plan - Objective 3” allows for projects of 1-5 units which are “affordable”. If this development is passed, the land to the south “Blue Shot Meadow” cannot be developed. It would be much better to plan for a total of 5 houses over both the sites & provide small, 2 Bed Houses, some for rent, to allow local & young families the ability to stay within the village. Our other point is to reinforce the comments from Bob Hughes, Land Drainage Partnership, which points out that no proper provision has been made for disposal of surface water. The obvious solution is to run the storm water into the drainage currently provided within “The Meadows”.

Planning notifications: 21/00627/HP & L21/00628/LB – Cockshot Cottage, Clifton upon Teme WR6 6DY – permission and listed building consent has been granted for the erection of one and a half storey extension to be located at the north end of the existing extension.

Strategic Planning Matters: Cllr Gilbert will monitor and notify the Council of any matters which require attention.

Highways & Facilities Matters: Lengthsman tasks – no outstanding matters. WCC meeting held 22nd July was reported by Cllr Bowden (see 57.21.01). Road closure notices – none.

Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas: Cllr A Henry asked if the PC would support Carols on the Green this Christmas – possible date 17th December. It was agreed that the PC will support the event and it was further agreed that Cllrs A Henry and Bowden will look into options for music / local band. Cllr Bowden advised the meeting that The Lion PH is to ask MHDC for advice on planning permission required for the outside canopy which has been erected.

Correspondence received: A letter of thanks has been received from the Friendship Club for the funding received from the PC. Cllr Bowden read out an email to the meeting regarding an empty council bungalow in Old Road. Clerk asked to enquire with MHDC as to its status.

Next meeting to be held on Thursday 7th October at the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 21:00.

M Alexander, Clerk.

THE HARPLEY BIG BREAKFAST BAP

On a glorious Saturday morning, with very welcome September sunshine, St. Bartholomew's Church, Harpley was offering a 'Big Breakfast bap'. This is now an annual occasion in the Harpley calendar.

Thanks once again to the organization of Liz Younge and her team, the event ran smoothly, with people coming from far and wide to partake and help in this popular fundraising activity.



LOWER SAPEY NEWS With Margaret Griffiths

We are into October already, but because of the rather damp, dark summer, the trees are nowhere near turning to red or gold. The seasons seem to roll into one these days, with only the rising and setting times of the sun to distinguish them. Where did the cricket season go? Now we have about six months of winter to live through, but hopefully, there won't be another lockdown, despite high covid rates.

This may improve as some children will be vaccinated (if wished) and we oldies will have a booster. Covid is here to stay for at least a few years and we must learn to live with it. Talking of the damp summer we have experienced, reminds me of the interesting talk on Cop 26 given to us at a recent Circle Service by 'a local activist'. I am sure we learnt many things from our guest.

These groups, especially Extinction Rebellion, certainly keep the question of climate change in the forefront, but I sometimes wonder if their extreme demonstrations actually do more harm than good. I am sure we all know what we should be doing to improve the situation, even the government, who are doing so much more than many other governments.

On September 11th, St Bartholomew's held our annual Big Breakfast Bap in the churchyard, to raise more funds for the roof and ceiling repairs to the Church (more later). We were blessed with a lovely autumn day and over 80 people attended. We made a profit of over £325 for the church repairs fund, which is much appreciated. Thanks go to everyone involved, including those who attended, to make this a very enjoyable occasion. Special thanks to Liz and Steve Younge, who organised the event.

As to the on-going saga of the church repairs, there is finally some good news! We were originally told that the roof repairs could not commence until Spring 2022, due to the bats. However, Candy has just heard that the Bat Society has changed their mind and will now allow us to work on the church ceiling during the winter months. Hopefully, the repairs will now be well under way, and dare I say, even finished by the Spring. Thanks must go to our stalwart Church Warden Candy, who admits that this problem and fighting for us with various authorities has proved very stressful. Fingers crossed - maybe our luck has changed!

In the meantime, our choir continues to practice, using all the techniques learnt from Nicole Taylor recently and we hope to have a sung evensong in the future. Onwards and upwards!

We are re-starting our Ladies Bible Group on Tuesday October 12th, meeting at 2pm at The Hatt House, courtesy of Pat Savage. It will be great to get together again and resume Bible studies as well as enjoying the discussion and conversation and maybe tea and cake. We last met in January 2020.

I am sure there will be much to look forward to this winter, but some sadness at the departure of David Sherwin and his family, who are emigrating to mid Wales. We hope to see them often in the future and wish them much happiness and good health there. Just to add, big congratulations to the Clifton Friendship Club, who celebrated their 50th anniversary in September and thanks to Marie and the organisers who give the over 60's much pleasure.

NOTICES

Church services at St Bartholomew's will be as follows hopefully, but please check times elsewhere in this edition:

Morning prayer on Sunday October 3rd at 10.30 via Zoom.

Circle service on October 24th at 10.30 via Zoom.

PCC Meeting via Zoom at 3pm on October 4th

Ladies Bible Group meet at 2pm on Tuesday October 12th at The Hatt House.

Mobile Library calls on Friday 15th October at 10.20 and 10.40.

The last churchyard clear-up will be on Saturday, October 16th at 3pm. Please come along and help if you can. Bring tea and biscuits if you wish. I hope everyone has a happy, healthy and peaceful Autumn.

TEME VALLEY WILDLIFE

Worcestershire has long been known for its fruit-growing; apples, pears, plums, damsons, cherries and blackcurrants all thrive in the moderate climate and fertile soil of our county. Here is a traveller looking down from Broadway Hill in the late eighteenth century, "I well remember standing some time to gaze over the rich country below. The day was fine and the Vale of Evesham lay below me spread out like a map, the fruit trees and hedges being whitened with the finest blossom that ever was known." The traveller was England's "Father of Geology", William Smith.

Today, orchards are far fewer. Apples are still produced commercially for cider-makers and cherries are now grown inside poly-tunnels, but pears and traditional stone-fruit are no longer economical to produce. Many old orchards still hang on though, untended and unpruned, sometimes grazed by horses. Some are notable for their festoons of mistletoe, others for nurturing lesser-known creatures. Their past-their-prime trees provide a home for one of these, a rare beetle called the noble chafer. Although once present in Kent and Devon, it is now only to be found in the three counties of Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire, in the dead wood of old orchards.

One of Worcestershire's veteran naturalists, Harry Green, has long been fascinated by these insects and has pioneered projects to identify likely sites where they might live, encouraged volunteers to look for evidence of them inside decaying trees and toured the county to spot adult beetles during their short flight time between July and August. This year he has been testing a new pheromone trap in the Teme Valley to try and attract these otherwise rather elusive insects.

I'm pleased to report that, loaned to the TVWG, the trap has found four beetles, all safely released I hasten to add, and that I have seen one for the first time, in my own orchard. That I'd never spotted one before surprised me as it's a big beetle, the size of the end of my thumb, and an iridescent green to boot. Their life-cycle perhaps explains why. The adults live just 4-6 weeks, during which time they mate and lay eggs in decaying fruit-tree wood. The developing larvae munch through rotting wood for 2 years then take flight as adult beetles. They sometimes visit hogweed flowers where you might be lucky enough to spot one. To help them, if you've an old fruit tree, then let it quietly moulder to give a home to these odd characters. They might be unseen, but they are definitely still around. Despite the lifting of legally-binding coronavirus restrictions, the Teme Valley Wildlife Group is experiencing challenges in arranging meetings in our familiar format. Our speaker secretary is working very hard to adapt our programme because some speakers have become unable or reluctant to come and deliver a talk in person. We hope that we will soon be able to offer meetings where we can meet not only the speaker, but one another too. As this is proving tricky at the moment, thank you TVWG members and friends for all your on-going support.

The next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group is on Thursday October 14th, when Suzanne Noble is scheduled to give a talk entitled "Growing native orchids in meadows and gardens". For details of how to join us please consult our website or Facebook page. Everyone is most welcome.

For up-to-date information on what wildlife is being seen in the area, or to give us your sightings or comments, visit our Facebook page. Our programme of events, bird survey and archive photographs are available on our website www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk. We normally hold meetings on the second Thursday of the month. All are welcome. Contact us by telephone on 01568 750 413 or by email at tvwg@outlook.com.



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Laugherne Farm House, Martley
Worcestershire, WR6 6QB

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- 2 Clifton Village Hall, Rural Reels 'Cinema Paradiso', no admission charge. Doors open 6.30pm for 7pm start.
- 9 Bingo and raffle, Shelsley Village Hall, eyes down 7pm.
- 10 Teme Valley Market, The Talbot at Nightwick.
- 10 Harvest service at St Kenelm's, Clifton, 6.30pm.
- 12 Clifton WI meeting, Clifton VH, 7.30pm. Talk by Bethany Parmenter from the Good Soil Trust, based at Top Barn.
- 12 Lower Sapey 'Ladies Bible Group', meeting at 2pm at The Hatt House.
- 14 Teme Valley Wildlife group zoom meeting. 'Growing native orchids in meadows and garden's', by Suzanne Noble.
- 15 Lower Sapey Mobile Library calls at 10.20 and 10.40.
- 16 Lower Sapey last churchyard clear-up at 3pm.
- 16 Virtual horse racing, Saturday 16th October, 7pm start.
- 17 Harvest Service at All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp, 5pm, followed by supper in the Village Hall at 6pm.
- 23 Bingo and raffle, Shelsley Village Hall, eyes down 7pm.
- 30 Kids Halloween party, Shelsley Village Hall.

November

- 9 'The History and Role of the Modern SAS' talk in Shelsley Village Hall, 7.30pm.
- 16 Shelsley PC Meeting, Shelsley Village Hall, 7pm.
- 19 Clifton WI meeting, Clifton VH, 7pm. Talk on Women's Well Being.
- 27 Christmas Fayre, Shelsley Village Hall, 10am – 4pm.



CHURCH SERVICES IN CLIFTON, THE SHELSLEYS
AND LOWER SAPEY (HARPLEY)

OCTOBER 2021

Sunday 3rd October

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Holy Communion, All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp
10.30am Morning Worship, St Bartholomew, Lower Sapey

Sunday 10th October

The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

6.30pm Harvest Service, St Kenelm, Clifton
(Followed by Harvest Refreshments)

Sunday 17th October

The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

5.00pm Harvest Service, All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp
(Followed by Harvest Supper at the Village Hall)

Sunday 24th October

The Last Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Circle Service, St Bartholomew, Lower Sapey
6.30pm Evensong, St Kenelm, Clifton

Sunday 31st October

The Fourth Sunday before Advent

3.00pm Memorial Service, St Kenelm, Clifton

All services and timings are subject to review and amendment –
please contact the Rectory or check the website for updates.
01886 888664
www.achurchnearyou.com



The 'Big Breakfast Bap' fundraising morning at Harpley Church.



The TT Team

AND FINALLY...

A reminder again that Teme Triangle has a Facebook page – so you can keep abreast of all the latest news on our site:
www.facebook.com/TemeTriangle.

Also, our printed magazine will continue to be available in all local shops and community spaces so you can choose how and when to keep up to date.

Do keep sending us your news and photos – thank you.



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