

May 2021

Teme

20th
ANNIVERSARY

TRIANGLE

Clifton upon Teme • The Shelsleys • Lower Sapey



The return of al fresco dining at The Den, Stanford Bridge

In this edition

- ✿ Parishes remember HRH The Duke of Edinburgh
- ✿ Pubs and cafés reopen for business!
- ✿ What's on: Events, clubs, meetings and markets
- ✿ Local news and Parish Council minutes

plus

- ✿ 20th ANNIVERSARY EDITION – ALL-COLOUR SPECIAL!

Visit the website



www.temetriangle.net

Free to Residents



Glorious spring daffodils and blossom at the entrance to Pitlands Farm Holidays and the Apple Tree Kitchen, near Clifton.

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If you or your organisation would like to sponsor *Teme Triangle* please contact Andrew Brazier. The cost of producing TT is £7 per household per year. Donations to Alden's Farm, Barbers Lane, Martley, Worcester WR6 6QD (cheques payable to *Teme Triangle* Community Magazine)

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.

Our front cover photo shows:

Customers celebrate the return of outdoor eating at The Den, Mill Farm Country Retail, served by owner Steve Parker (R) and Karis Howard.

WELCOME from the Editor

We can hardly believe it's been 20 years since the current incarnation of *Teme Triangle* magazine first brought the local news to Clifton upon Teme, The Shelsleys and Lower Sapey. Long-time residents might remember an earlier *Teme Triangle* around 40 years ago, which closed and was followed by *Church News*. In May 2001 that in turn was incorporated into the wider news focus of the current *Teme Triangle*, thanks to support from volunteers, local clergy, Parochial Church Councils and Parish Councils. Founding editor Judie Welsh wrote in the inaugural issue that she hoped the new, free-to-locals magazine would 'become an invaluable tool for all our communities'. Today, 200 editions later, we hope to have gone some way towards that goal!



Throughout, *Teme Triangle* has been made possible by a small team of local volunteers, now led by Jerry Johns. They give their time not just to write and manage the magazine ten times a year, but also to maintain our useful website (www.temetriangle.net) and Facebook page (@temetriangle). We are also grateful to the shops, community hubs and individuals who act as distribution points for each issue; and to our many local advertisers, whose participation, along with occasional voluntary donations from supporters and Parish Councils, enables us to meet our print costs and keep your *Teme Triangle* free of charge. But of course, TT would not exist without the interest and input of you, our readers! From events and diary dates to parish matters, special achievements and success stories, we always need your news and photos – email editortemetriangle@gmail.com by the second Friday of each month. Meanwhile, turn to page 15 to join us for a walk down memory lane, as we recall some of the highlights from the past two decades!



Some of the TT's volunteer team

MILL FARM SHOPS THANK SUPPORTERS AFTER BREAK-IN

Shop owners at Stanford Bridge's Mill Farm Country Retail have thanked customers and the police for their support following an overnight break-in that affected its lockdown-essential retailers in the early hours of Monday 29 March.

Stanford Farms co-owner Greta Sparey explained: "Two males were captured on CCTV breaking into Angel Gardens. They were highly masked and covered up so very hard to identify, although the sound camera did allow us to hear that they both had strong Liverpudlian accents. They also broke in to Baileys Farm Shop and Tasty Meats. The intruders got away with some cash, but luckily didn't cause untold damage beyond forcing entry. It is disappointing, but luckily no one was hurt. The police were extremely helpful and sent forensics out within the hour, as well as visiting us the next day."

Within hours of the CCTV footage being shared on social media, customers were getting in touch and back in the shops. "We'd all like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has shown their support following the incident," said Angel Gardens owner Louise Mawditt. For all the latest shop reopening news at Mill Farm Country Retail, see page 10.

LION INN ADDS NEW AL FRESCO AREA

A specially constructed, timber-framed 'outdoor inn' awaited customers returning to The Lion Inn in Clifton on 12 April, when pubs and restaurants were permitted to reopen for al fresco business after the latest lockdown. The fully lit, open-air seating area includes a 4m long bar and accommodates 30 people at 6-seater picnic tables. It was built in the Lion Inn's car park by Tim Lawson, whose company Magic Bars provides licensed mobile bar services across the region; assisted by landlords Andrea Bennett and Simon Baxter plus several willing helpers.



Lion Inn team members Mollie, Olivia and Daisy in the new outdoor dining area

Within its first week of re-opening, the initiative attracted dozens of customers keen to go out for a drink or meal again. Andrea said: "We did it! We would not have been ready for mid-April without the enormous effort from Tim Lawson and everyone else who helped him. It was great to see lots of familiar faces. Hopefully we'll see many more in the coming weeks." Clifton residents Andrea and Simon took over the tenancy of The Lion Inn last October, under owner John Fletcher. Emphasising local produce and local businesses, they offer breakfast, bar snacks and light lunches, as well as evening meals on Thursday, Friday and Saturday plus Sunday lunch.

WARM WELCOME AT SHELSLEY SOCIAL CLUB

Shelsley Social Club added a large new awning over its rear outdoor patio, ready to welcome customers back for drinks and food in April. Providing a central social hub for residents in Shelsley Beauchamp, Shelsley Kings and Shelsley Walsh, the Club forms part of the Shelsleys Village Hall and is open on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 6pm as well as Sundays from 3pm.

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee, Dave Bates confirmed: "We invite everyone to come and sit on our patio and enjoy a glass or two of our finest ales. We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all of our customers who continued to support us during lockdown by ordering our takeaways. It was very much appreciated. Going forward we will continue to serve food from our menu as well as from our occasional specials board."



The Club also has some events in the pipeline, which will be detailed on its Facebook group. "We have an auction coming up with the proceeds being split between All Saints church and the Shelsleys Village Hall," said Dave. More details from 01886 812121 during Club opening hours, or Dave Bates on 07436 110793 / batesdave07@gmail.com

NEW INN REOPENS AS TENANTS MARK 1 YEAR AT THE HELM

The post-lockdown reopening of the New Inn at Clifton has coincided with the tenants, Alan and Wendy Moore, celebrating one year at the helm – and now they are seeking more staff to join their team.

Open for outdoor drinks and dining every day of the week, the inn is once again offering its full menu of lunches and evening meals, as well as Sunday lunches and a wide selection of takeaways, including a 'Chinese night'. With three, separate covered areas and gazebos set up outside, customers can choose from a number of al fresco seating options.



"The past year may not have been the easiest start, but we've survived!" said Wendy. "Now we're looking forward to seeing customers back again over the coming months. We're also looking for experienced, part-time bar staff as well as kitchen help, so if you'd like to join our team please get in touch!"

VISITS BACK ON THE MENU AT APPLE TREE KITCHEN

The Apple Tree Kitchen team at Pitlands Farm Holidays, located between Clifton and Martley, is delighted to be welcoming guests again every Thursday to Sunday from 9.30am - 5pm, serving freshly prepared food, drinks and cakes all day. They will also be open on Fridays from 5 - 8pm for 'Pizza Night', serving hand-stretched pizzas made with their own-recipe dough, to enjoy al fresco overlooking the lake or to take away.

Co-manager of The Apple Tree Kitchen, Charlotte Thompson, said: "The gardens are looking lovely at the moment, the spring flowers beautiful and the fruit orchards full of blossom. During the latest closure, new all-weather paths have been created around the gardens, more under-cover seating areas erected and a new outdoor area developed where we hope to hold children's storytelling in the summer. There is plenty of room, but booking is advisable as we only make a limited amount of dough!"



Bookings are also being taken for The Woodhouse, a newly constructed events space with a glass-fronted log burner and rustic bar that is available for celebrations, weddings, funerals and corporate away days. "The Apple Tree Kitchen is fully licensed and able to cater for all events, from coffee and delicious cake to a full three-course meal or anything in between," confirmed Charlotte.

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ALL SHOPS BACK OPEN AT MILL FARM COUNTRY RETAIL

With non-essential retailers allowed to re-open their doors in mid-April, all twelve of the independent shops and service providers at Mill Farm Country Retail in Stanford Bridge are now open once again. The popular local shopping hub includes The Den café bar, Tasty Meats butchers, Bailey's of Stanford farm shop, Lottie's Eco bamboo clothing, Mrs Best Paper Co. card and gift shop, Aiveen Interiors interior design and store, La Brocante pre-loved and new furniture and homewares, La Bulle leather handbags and womenswear, Maria Anne Silver Designs jewellery shop, Angel Gardens garden centre, The Parlour hair salon and Pure Thyme Wellbeing & Beauty.

As an essential retailer, Angel Gardens, which marks its third anniversary in May, was one of those able to stay open during lockdown. "We've been lucky to be able to stay open in recent months and have done excellent business," said owner Louise Mawditt. "For example, we delivered 27 pallets of compost in only three months last summer! We're also proud to have been selected as one of only five garden centres in the region to still stock David Austin roses this season, following a shortage because too few plants could be potted at the start of the pandemic last spring. We've added a second polytunnel too."



Louise Mawditt (L) chats to customers at Angel Gardens

Pure Thyme Wellbeing & Beauty is one of the providers to re-open in April. Owner Julia Haywood said: "Thank you *Tem Triangle* for supporting our community for 20 years! We are so pleased to be back open, offering a range of complementary and beauty therapies. For information on the treatments we offer please visit our website www.purethyme.co.uk or give us a call."



Pure Thyme

Alexandra Winnington from handbag specialists La Bulle also confirmed: "It's wonderful to see the re-opening of La Bulle; and also of La Brocante, which has the same owner, and has increased in size to now occupy the previous fitness studio area opposite."



Aiveen Interiors

Aiveen Atkinson, creative director of interior design studio Aiveen Interiors, added: "We collectively have all worked so hard to pull this together for the re-opening at Mill Farm. I wish everyone success!"

Visitors were also pleased to see The Den café reopening (see front cover pic). Owner Steve Parker explained: "To keep our customers nice and dry we've given our outside terrace a fab makeover, including gazebos and dining on the covered deck outside our retail units, plus open tables for sunny days. Please call or message us to book. We can't wait to welcome you back!"

For more information about all the shops visit www.millfarmretail.co.uk

TRY BOWLS AT CLIFTON BOWLING CLUB'S 'BIG WEEKEND'

Clifton upon Teme Bowling Club is participating in the national Bowls' Big Weekend 2021 from 28-31 May – a national initiative offering clubs the opportunity to promote the sport and attract new members. As part of this, Clifton Bowling Club invites locals to come along, find out about the Club and try out the sport on the Saturday (29th) and Sunday (30th) afternoons of the May Spring Bank Holiday. Members will be opening the green from 2.30 - 4pm. There will be refreshments and full compliance with Covid precautions.



"The green is 26 years old and not at its best this year following no play during 2020, but at the end of the season the Parish Council is embarking on a major development of the sports and recreational areas," explains Club captain Tony Wilson. "This will include laying a new bowling green for the benefit of the community, which will be ready for the 2022 season. Please come along and find out more about this welcoming sport and how it can benefit health and wellbeing."

For more information email cliftonbowling@btinternet.com

CAN YOU HELP AT SAPEY HORSE TRIALS?

Organisers of Sapey Horse Trials have confirmed several event dates and are inviting extra volunteers to help. Although spectators currently cannot attend these events due to the ongoing coronavirus restrictions, joint organiser Greta Sparey confirmed: "We were pleased to hold our first horse trial of the year in April, and have four more planned on 23 May, 27 June, 4-5 September and 12 September. As everyone involved in the world of horses will be aware, it takes a huge effort to run these events so we are always glad of extra potential help. Visit www.sapeycrosscountry.co.uk/volunteers."





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CHRISTIAN AID UPDATE

from Marion Dipple

The Teme Valley Christian Aid group were delighted to raise over £2,000 in 2020 through online giving and events, despite lockdown restrictions preventing face-to-face activities. As always, the Teme Valley community and friends rallied to support developing countries with their traditional generosity and enthusiasm.

Christian Aid is focusing its efforts on climate change this year and the devastating impact this has particularly on the world's poorest communities. Online donations are invited and encouraged again this year via our Tapsimple link: <https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/teme-valley-christian-aid>

- Art/craft and photo challenges are being run again this year. The theme is 'Count Your Blessings'. Please enter by making a donation via Tapsimple stating your name, whether your entry is art/craft or a photograph and, if the entry is for a child, the age of the child. Then send a photo of your entry by email to mjdipple@btinternet.com by midnight on 21 May 2021. Prizes for the winners.
- There will be a Plant Sale at Harpley Church on Saturday 22 May, 11am - 2pm. Tea, coffee and cake will be available. Please bring plants to be sold if you have any spare. Proceeds will be split between Harpley Church and Christian Aid.
- We are also hoping to hold other events which will be weather dependent, details of which have yet to be finalised but please look out on the *Teme Triangle* website and Next Door platform for updates when confirmed.
- Finally, there will be a special Christian Aid Service held on Zoom from Harpley Church on 9 May at 10.30am. Please contact Marion Dipple for a link: mjdipple@btinternet.com



TEME TRIANGLE CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

Do you remember what was happening locally in May 2001, 2006, 2011 and 2016? Here are just a few memories from our *Teme Triangle* archives to take you down memory lane (continues on pages 16-20).



20 years ago

- The first issue of *Teme Triangle* is launched, 'incorporating *Church News*'. The black-and-white, 16-page community magazine promises to combine 'the best of the old' with 'news and information for Clifton upon Teme, The Shelsleys and Lower Sapey'
- As the Foot and Mouth crisis ravages British livestock, agriculture, country life and tourism, TT summarises the safety guidelines, charities supporting the farming community and the many clubs, pubs, markets and concerts still going ahead across the parishes
- Clifton is awarded a £75,000 Lottery Grant towards its hoped-for Early Years Centre for children from 3 months to school age



May 2001

15 years ago

- Artistic sixth-former Emily Wakefield, a former pupil at the Chantry, wins the 2005 Peter Spicer Young Artist of the Year prize
- A summertime Shelsley Gala Evening with orchestra and operatic soloists is announced at Harborough Bank
- The year's first local sightings of migrant swallows and sand martins are reported
- Lower Sapey PCC hopes to install a new kitchen and other facilities at St Bartholomew's to help event holders
- *Teme Triangle* launches its website, complete with a downloadable magazine PDF



May 2006



July 2003



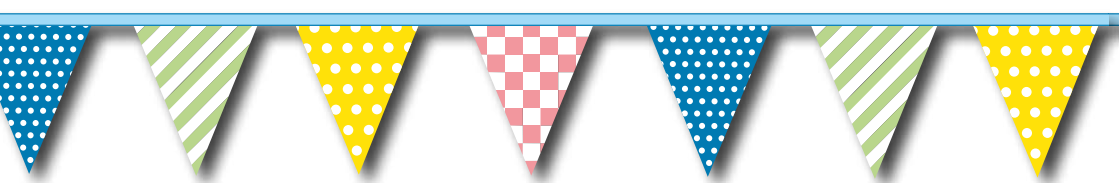
November 2005

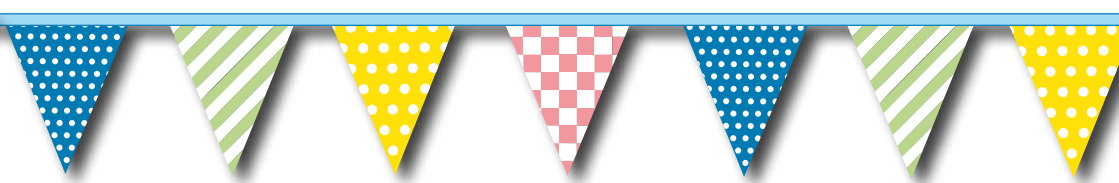


June 2007



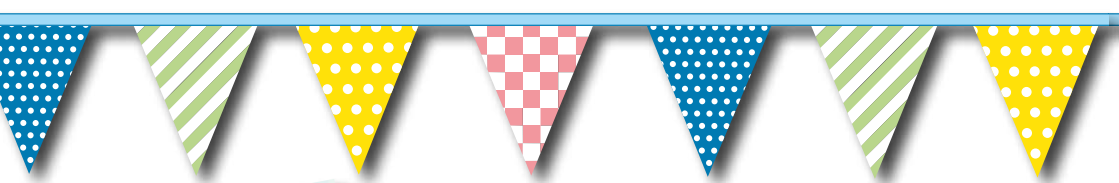
Dec/Jan 2008-9





20th
ANNIVERSARY

2001-2011





20th
ANNIVERSARY

2012-2021

10 years ago

- Our parishes are a hive of sporting effort, with locals taking up the Go Ghana! Cycling Challenge and a France-to-England cycle; success for the Teme Valley Ladies Netball Club; and a long-awaited return of the Shelsley Blossom Ride
- Resident Andy Griffie celebrates finding his grandfather's First World War pocket watch while walking a local path, a year after losing the precious memento
- Events include the Shelsleys Gardening Club annual plant sale, a music night at Stanford Bridge, Clifton Primary School's May Fayre and an Abberley Quiz Evening
- The Clifton upon Teme Hunt announces rides, a show and Summer Ball to help boost income
- After several thefts of heating oil from storage tanks in the area, police offer security advice



May 2011

5 years ago

- A devastating electrical blaze at Shelsley Beauchamp's Brockhill Court destroys The Lodge, home of Des and Beryl Robson – but with no injuries and plans to rebuild soon
- Clifton and The Shelsleys announce a day of festivities to celebrate The Queen's 90th birthday
- The difficulty in finding Churchwardens for All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp leads to proposals that it becomes a purely 'Festival Church', or that parish is joined up with others locally
- A light classical concert by Volante Strings is held at St Mary's Church, Stanford
- 15 new allotments created in Martley give locals the chance to 'grow their own'
- A coffee morning, quiz and Big breakfast are announced for Clifton's Christian Aid Week



May 2016



June 2012



May 2014



Sept 2018



May 2020

CLIFTON WI MAKES THE MOST OF ZOOM

The WI has continued to meet during recent months using Zoom for the planned monthly Tuesday evening meetings. The use of Zoom has allowed speakers from as far as Newcastle to share their interests and expertise whilst we are sitting comfortably at home. There has been a wide range of speakers. Nick Wilkes, who writes and directs plays at Malvern Theatres, talked about his career in acting and playwriting. Another speaker, Dr Sophie Moore, talked about her work in excavating and dating artifacts from an ancient site in Turkey. Worcester Wildlife Trust speaker Jasmine Walters gave a talk with local interest about rewilding and plans to develop a garden in the village.

Future events planned include Philip Bowen giving a talk about the Bishops of Worcester on 11 May, as well as craft evenings making a lavender wreath and making a mosaic tile. Members are regularly consulted so that activities and talks are arranged in line with their requests and interests. There are also regular meetings of the WI book group to read and discuss a wide range of books.

It has been a pleasure to welcome two new members this year despite the current difficulties. Although talks on Zoom have enabled members and guests to take part from the comfort of their own homes, it will be good to meet in person soon at the Village Hall; and for the normal garden meetings where tea and cake is also consumed. The WI enables women of all ages to meet to develop interests and friendships. If you would like to take part and meet new people locally and across Worcestershire, or to join our next Zoom talk please email Penny Bowden, President of Clifton WI cliftonontemesec@wfedwi.org.uk

Ruth Wilson

TEME VALLEY WILDLIFE GROUP TALK

The next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group is on 13 May and will be conducted via Zoom. The talk, called 'Butterflies of the Malvern Hills', will be given by Mel Mason. TVWG chairman Stephanie Mocroft said: "We invite everyone, members and non-members alike, to take part. All are welcome. Please consult our website or Facebook page for details of how to join."

The Group's Facebook page also contains up-to-date information on what wildlife is being seen in the area, and welcomes sightings or comments. Its programme of events, bird survey and archive photographs is available at www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk. Meetings are usually held on the second Thursday of the month.

More information from:
01568 750413 / twwg@outlook.com /
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FUTURE EVENTS:

Friday 4th October Dan Greenaway
**Friday 1st November Tenbury Young
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Friday 6th December Big Sister

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CLIFTON-UPON-TEME PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of a virtual meeting of the Parish Council held Thursday 1st April 2021 commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors J. Bowden (Chairman), A. Henry (Vice-Chairman), R. Henry, C. Haywood, J. Collins and B. Gilbert. Also present: County Cllr K. Pollock, and J. Johns.

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Clifton Hill Helpers for their continued support to the community.

Apologies: Councillors District Cllr C. Palethorpe.

Declarations of Prejudicial & Pecuniary Interests / Councillor Dispensations: None.

Democratic Public Time: No matters for consideration.

To agree the Minutes of a virtual meeting held 4th March 2021 – The minutes were agreed as a true record with the amendment that the report for the archive was tabled by Cllr Bowden, not Cllr Gilbert. Proposed Cllr Gilbert, seconded Cllr A. Henry. All agreed.

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

Cllr Palethorpe's report was read out to the meeting by the Clerk.

Cllr Pollock reported verbally on the following matters – Covid-19 update for the County, Central Government pledge for additional bus provision, updates on plans for additional road and rail infrastructure, encouragement for shopping locally and pavement / outdoor eating, County elections update for May 6th – the Parish Council thanked Cllr Pollock for everything that he has done for the local area during his time in office.

Financial & Governance Matters: Payments were approved as per the schedule circulated. The Scout & Guide peppercorn rental payment for the next 5 years was also noted. Village Maintenance Plan – Cllr Gilbert had circulated a report prior to the meeting together with quotations for proposed expenditure on hanging baskets, planters, plants and seasonal maintenance. Cllr R. Henry clarified some of the work proposed based on quotations received. It was proposed by Cllr Gilbert, seconded by Cllr Bowden that the expenditure be made from the £5k agreed budget line, all agreed. Football / Bowls Club Agreements – Cllr Bowden reported that he has spoken to MHDC about the financial aspects / charging after s106 work is completed. The Football Club agreement can remain as is, and the Bowls Club need to offer 'open days' during the year whereby anyone can play. This satisfies the agreement with MHDC s.106 funding, and the Bowls Club are happy to do this. The work to the bowls green has already been approved by this PC, and the Club have agreed that work can commence in Sept after the season closes. There may also be a need to address future maintenance of the bowls green once work has been completed, to ensure that the standard is maintained, and therefore encourage new users. The PC will need to look at this in due course with the Bowls Club and the contractor. Church Clock – Cllr Bowden agreed to defer this item to the next meeting to enable the Clerk to clarify the funding position on church property.

The Annual Parish Meeting is to be held on 6th May 2021 at 7pm prior to the PC meeting on the same evening. This will be a virtual meeting. It would be good to launch the new website at the same time. It was noted that 'in person' meetings will need to resume from 7th May onwards in line with Government regulations and with suitable risks assessed. The PC may look to hold another 'parish meeting' later in the year. Clerk to promote the APM via Teme Triangle, website, notice boards and social media.

Parish Matters: Village Archives storage refurbishment – it was agreed by all that this can now proceed as per the previous proposal circulated. Work to be undertaken during the last week in April. Village tree survey – Cllr Gilbert is liaising with a local contractor to undertake a survey.

Parish Tree Warden – it was agreed that Cllr Haywood would undertake this role. Parish website – the Clerk continues to progress this with B. Higgins, and all were asked to send in outstanding Cllr photos please as they are needed before the site can go live.

Section 106 Matters: Four Acre Field Project – the Clerk and Project Manager have met with key contractors about how the project will be managed on site. Some slight variations to the original scheme need to be quoted, including stabilising the retaining wall alongside the bowling green and tennis court and additional ways to dispose of spoil. The Clerk continues to progress land ownership matters with MHDC legal team. This has also been delayed due to restricted access to The Hive archive. The Council noted that until land ownership has been proven as required, work cannot start on the scheme as funding cannot be drawn down. It was agreed that a separate online bank account should be set up for s.106 funds to be managed more easily – Clerk to progress in line with financial regulations. It was also agreed that this may be a more effective way of managing all PC funds in the future, subject to formal agreement by the Council.

Sensory Garden – Cllr Gilbert updated the meeting regarding the agreed location of the garden, which will be located as originally planned but now 4m away from the fence line of the houses. The alternate area to the side of the pavilion cannot be used due to high voltage electrical cabling and the need to retain the area in case we ever need to expand the car park. A slightly different canopy for the garden is also planned. Cllr Gilbert to meet with local garden designer shortly.

RoSPA Play Equipment report – the Council noted the report and also agreed to relocate the current basket swing within the new play area as it has been deemed safe to use in the future. Clerk to speak to contractors re a possible new location and how it could be moved from the current position where the sensory garden will be located.

Planning Matters: 21/00514/AGR – New Inn Farm, Clifton upon Teme WR6 6DR – prior notification for a proposed agricultural building for storage of hay and straw (reply 2/4 – no objection). Decision notice – approval for two and single storey extensions, internal alterations and new porch at Highgate House, 36 The Village, Clifton upon Teme WR6 6DH

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

Highways Matters: Cllr Bowden to liaise with R. Wilks about erecting the footpaths notice board. Highways have swept the roads recently. A virtual meeting is to be set up with Highways Liaison for the village maintenance plan – Clerk progressing.

Parish Lengthsman – the new vas is on order awaiting parts. Two older vas are now with the Clerk who will liaise with Wescotec about repair / new batteries.

The option to link footways within the village (Hope Lane to Pound Lane) – Cllr Bowden to continue to look at options. Clerk to send Cllr Bowden some further information on the proposal.

Road closure notices - as circulated. Footpath closure notices – these are still not being received from WCC. Clerk and Cllr Bowden to ask again for them to be set through to the PC. The proposed dates for Shelsley Walsh Hillclimb were noted.

Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas: Cllr Gilbert asked about removing out of date Developer signage in the parish. Cllr Bowden asked about the application process for creating Assets of Community Value within the parish – options to be explored and brought to a future agenda.

Next virtual meeting to be held Thursday 6th May 2021 by Zoom invitation.

Meeting closed 20:50.

M. Alexander, Clerk

Clifton-upon-Teme Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting 2021

To be held Thursday 6 May 2021 at 7pm by Zoom invitation. All are invited to attend either on screen or via telephone. Details of how to join are available from the Clerk. Email cliftonpc@yahoo.com or telephone 01886 884195.

Parish Council Vacancy

Would you like to support your local community? Do you have an interest in local matters? If so, you might consider becoming a Parish Councillor! We currently have a vacancy on our Council and would like to hear from anyone interested in joining us. Please email the Clerk at cliftonpc@yahoo.com or ring 01886 884195 for further details about the role and how you can apply.
We look forward to hearing from you!

The Shelsleys Annual Parish Meeting

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will take place on **Tuesday 4 May 2021** at 7pm via Zoom. This is an opportunity for parishioners to raise questions and discuss anything to do with the village.

It will be followed by:

The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council to which parishioners are also invited. As always there is an opportunity for the public to ask questions of the Parish Council at Public Question Time

The Agenda for the meetings including Zoom details will be available on the website at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/myparish/ the noticeboard or from the Clerk, Jan Speyer: 01886 812444
email shelsleyspc@gmail.com

NON-FOOD STALLS RETURN TO TEME VALLEY MARKET

The next Teme Valley outdoor market, held from 11am - 1pm on Sunday 9 May on the riverside alongside The Talbot inn at Knightwick, will see non-food stallholders making a welcome return following April's latest easing of coronavirus restrictions.

Steve Thorley, general manager at The Talbot confirmed: "In addition to the many food providers the market has been permitted to offer shoppers in recent months – such as a delicatessen, bakery, butchery, fresh fish, cheeses, Scotch eggs, fresh garden produce and the Teme Valley Brewery – we're delighted to welcome back other types of stall from May. That means customers can once again browse handmade fabric homewares, facemasks, an ornamental blacksmith, a wood sculpture artist and more – all from producers local to our region."

The Teme Valley market is held on the second Sunday of each month. Its popularity has continued throughout the recent lockdown, typically attracting up to 300 people on market day. The Talbot inn itself also re-opened for outdoor service on 12 April. "It's already been a great success," said Steve. "It's fantastic to see people back out and about."



LOWER SAPEY NEWS

Congratulations to all involved with the *Teme Triangle* on its 20th birthday! I have seen other parish magazines and newsletters and our own compares more than favourably with most.

We are living in such strange times at present that it's often difficult to remember normality, but some events from the past stand out in our area.

We had many fetes, some boot sales, lunches, Christmas walks, but now, partly due to our increasing ages and lack of communal facilities, we are more restricted. In the past we used to hold events in what we called The Upper Room in Harpley, which is now apartments and of course – with use of the Church stopped until it is repaired safely – we are very limited. Then there's the pandemic of course! I do particularly remember the Art and Handicraft exhibition and the display to commemorate the start of the First World War. Other things that stand out in my memory are the Boxing Day walks to Paradise organised by David Richards and our jolly Bible Group outings.

What I miss more than anything, is our choir and we do hope we can start singing again soon. The dreadful foot and mouth disease of the early 2000s affected the area of course and we have had floods and two bad snow storms when we have been cut off from the outside world. Hopefully, the pandemic will soon come to an end and we will get back to normal.

I am afraid I have to report that the National Heritage Lottery Fund have so far turned down our application for a grant to restore the Church and develop things like the Heritage Centre and Heritage Walk, which we were so excited about. How could they do this as there are 24 listed buildings in this small area ? However, our agent will keep trying and look into other funds.

The repairs to the Church will be started in early summer and then we can start using it again. Until then, Zoom services will continue and if we have fine weather, we can gather outside.

We are holding a Plant Share and Swop Fair on 22 May between 11 and 2 and will be serving tea and cake as well. The proceeds will be shared between St Bartholomew's Church and Christian Aid. There will be beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, all manner of plants available. There will also be a Gardeners' Question Time hosted by a local leading vegetable grower. As well as all this, there will be a demonstration of sustainable Church flowers and a Churchyard fact-finding and collecting talk.

Notices:

- Jane would like to thank everyone for the many, many kind letters and cards she received after David's death. They were very much appreciated by herself, Lisa and Chris, Sophie and Ben.
- Church Services will be by zoom unless we get a heatwave and are listed in this issue.
- We may get a return of the Mobile Library this month.
- We may also start the Ladies Bible Group as soon as we are able for a group meeting, which I think is mid-June.

Happy Anniversary *Teme Triangle*.

Margaret Griffiths

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Church Matters

by Rev Canon David Sherwin



I wonder if you like me found the news of the death of Prince Philip, whilst not a surprise with his ailing health, was still a great sadness. The loss of such an influential person that most of us have grown up with, has caused us to reflect, on his life, achievements and influence, and what made him the man he was.

Whilst I never met Prince Philip in person, I did, like many undertake the 'Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme', however only reaching bronze level. Like many, who have said how much the scheme affected them, it had an effect upon me too. Giving me confidence, helping in making friendships and enabled me to undertake things I may never have done without the challenges the award presented.

Rightfully there have been thousands of tributes made to the Prince, but the most significant were given a few years ago by his loving wife, the Queen, who praised him at their Golden wedding celebrations saying that; *"He has, quite simply, been my strength and stay all these years, and I, and his whole family, and this and many other countries, owe him a debt greater than he would ever claim, or we shall ever know."*

The one word that stood out from the thousands of tributes that came from world leaders and the general public was that of 'Service'. He was a man who served our nation, the Commonwealth and beyond. Affecting people's lives for the better.

It would seem that he took the words of the one in whom his faith lay very seriously. Being a committed Christian he would have known the words of Jesus, that true greatness is not found in your position in life nor through privilege but rather through serving those around you, whoever they are.

Both he and our Queen have shown that sacrificial devotion to our nation and beyond throughout their lives. No-one is saying that Prince Philip was perfect, none of us are, but he strove to make the world a better place for all. Regardless of our social standing in life each of us are called to do the same, to serve one another, as we follow the greatest example to us all, Jesus.

In this Easter season I am reminded of the call that Jesus laid upon his disciples and all of us, to live a life of service empowered by Christ's risen presence with us. As Jesus said, *'Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love your neighbour as you love yourself.'*

We may not have Prince Philip around in body any more, but we do have the ideals and teachings he lived by, those teachings and ideals being embodied in the one whom we are all called to follow and to serve, Jesus, who calls us all to be servants of one another. Let's all play our part in doing that and in doing so bring the values of the Kingdom of God on earth as they are in heaven.

May Prince Philip rest in peace, and may we live in peace with one another day by day. God bless.

For Rev Canon David Sherwin's prayer of thanks for Prince Philip, and to read about our local parishes' tributes to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, see pages 34-35.

LOCAL CHURCH SERVICES FOR MAY 2021

2 May	10.30 am	Shelsley Holy Communion
9 May	Christian Aid Week – Climate change Youtube	
	10.30am	Clifton Holy Communion
	4.00pm	Harpley Zoom Service
23 May	Pentecost	
	10.30am	Clifton All Age Service
	4.00pm	Harpley Zoom Circle Service
30 May	5th Sunday (Bank Holiday weekend)	
	10.30 am Group Services: Shelsley, Martley and Alfrick	

Current church opening times for private prayers: Clifton - open seven days a week / Shelsley - Sundays 10am - 4pm / Harpley – closed for repairs

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 1-2 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, Speed into Spring (competitors only)
- 4 Shelsleys' Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting (Zoom), 7pm
- 6 Clifton Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting (Zoom), 7pm
- 6 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, Cars in the Valley social (MAC members only)
- 9 Teme Valley Market, The Talbot, Knightwick, 11am-1pm
- 11 Clifton WI Zoom meeting with Philip Bowden on 'The Tudor Bishops of Worcester'
- 13 Teme Valley Wildlife Group Zoom talk, 'Butterflies of the Malvern Hills' with Mel Mason
- 14 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, Members Day
- 15 Coffee Morning, Clifton Friendship Club, garden of 26, The Village, 10am
- 22 Plant Sale, Harpley Churchyard, 11am - 2pm
- 23 Sapey Horse Trials Spring ODE UA2 (participants only)
- 29-30 Clifton Bowling Club open weekend

June

- 3 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, Cars in the Valley social (MAC members only)
- 5-6 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, Best of British weekend
- 12-13 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, E-type 60 weekend
- 27 Sapey Horse Trials Mid-Summer UA3 (spectator entry tbc)

YOUR *TEME TRIANGLE*...

To keep abreast of all the latest *Teme Triangle* news, visit our website: www.temetriangle.net and Facebook page: www.facebook.com/TemeTriangle Our free, printed magazine (10 issues/year) is available in local shops and community spaces. And please do keep sending in your Shelsleys, Clifton and Lower Sapey news and photos to editortemetriangle@gmail.com... we love to hear from you!

Copy for next (June) edition by Friday 14 May please

PARISHES PAY TRIBUTE TO HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH 1921-2021



Press Association

The thoughts and condolences of the Teme Triangle team go out to Her Majesty The Queen and the Royal Family following the sad news of the death his Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh on 9 April, age 99.

In our parishes, prayers were offered by Team Rector Rev Canon David Sherwin (see also page 32) and the flags at St. Bartholomew's, Harpley; St. Kenelm's, Clifton and St. Peter's, Martley were flown at half-mast until the day after the Prince's funeral. Bells were rung where feasible, and the Church of England opened an online condolence book enabling people to submit messages (www.churchofengland.org/remembering-his-royal-highness-prince-philip).

Harriet Baldwin, MP for West Worcestershire wrote on her website: "I was greatly saddened to learn of the passing of HRH the Duke of Edinburgh. He has been a steadfast supporter of the Queen and has given a lifetime of service to this country for which we are truly grateful."

One local resident with a personal perspective is Clifton floral designer Shane Connolly, whose work has enhanced many Royal events. Shane explained: "Early on in my business, I was asked to do flowers for a Duke of Edinburgh dinner at St James's Palace. I was completely overwhelmed. But the friendly team I met with from the charity appeared to trust me and encouraged me to be creative and inventive with the brief. Afterwards they were so appreciative of everything I'd done. The commissions continued and this wonderful association remained loyal and supportive of my fledgling business and even awarded me a Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. I think this was the easiest DofE award ever won, and I feel so unworthy of it – but it gave me a huge boost of confidence and made me feel valued and worthwhile, which is exactly what these Awards are meant to do."

"My work with them led directly and indirectly to so many other things for which I am eternally grateful, humbled and astonished, including the weddings of HRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall and HRH The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. My story is a tiny part of the legacy of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. He believed that mighty oaks could indeed grow from tiny acorns. And, in an age of narcissism and self-obsession, he remained an unflinching example of loyalty, service and duty. His Awards continue to encourage and develop those same qualities in the next generations."



All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp, remembers the Duke of Edinburgh



Prince Philip and the Queen pictured in 2011 on the day of the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, as captured by Shelsley photographer Michael Whitefoot

Shelsley Beauchamp resident and former High Sheriff of Worcestershire Sir Anthony Winnington once met The Duke of Edinburgh at an anniversary lunch at London's Naval & Military Club (of which the Prince was President) in St James's Square in the late 1990s. Anthony also remembers Prince Philip dancing at a party after the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer, wearing a party hat!

Jane Roberts, also from Shelsley Beauchamp, had an interesting family connection. She confirmed: "My mother's cousin Henrietta was married to Bishop Robin Woods, Dean of Windsor from 1962-1971 and Bishop of Worcester from 1971-1982. A good friend of the family, he is fondly remembered for conducted my sister Gilly's marriage service back in 1994. Bishop Woods is credited with encouraging Prince Philip in his personal faith and belief in the Church, as mentioned in Prince Philip's obituary and brought to many through an episode of The Crown. Bishop Woods became one of Prince Philip's closest confidants... and in his autobiography mentions that he 'came to expect critical – but always constructive – comments from Prince Philip' after preaching his sermons to the Queen at Windsor!"

A prayer of thanks and for comfort for the Queen and their family, from Rev Canon David Sherwin:

God of our lives, we give thanks for the life of Prince Philip, for the love he shared among us, and for his devotion to duty.

We entrust him now to your love and mercy, through our Redeemer Jesus Christ. Amen.

Merciful God, be close to all who mourn, especially The Queen and all members of the Royal Family. May they know the hope of your promises and the comfort of your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal God, we give thanks for the life of Prince Philip, founder of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. We remember his vision and imagination, his interest in young people and his support for them. Inspire us with the same commitment to serve friend, neighbour, and stranger alike, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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