

May 2022

Teme TRIANGLE

Clifton upon Teme • The Shelsleys • Lower Sapey



Volunteer members of the Shelsley Walsh Water Mill Society

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plus

- ✱ **All your spring/summer Diary Dates!**

Visit the website



www.temetriangle.net

Free to Residents



Above: Edward and Anthony Winnington have planted a Scots Pine for the Queen's Green Canopy at Brockhill Estate, Shelsley Beauchamp, on a hill overlooking the Teme Valley. The tree sits adjacent to the trunk of a previous landmark Scots Pine, which died after being ravaged by weather.

YOUR TEME TRIANGLE TEAM

MAIN EDITORIAL MAILBOX EDITOR THIS ISSUE

editortemetriangle@gmail.com
Michelle Whitefoot

CLIFTON NEWS / WEBSITE

Jerry Johns: 01886 812304
crown.house@polperropress.co.uk

SHELSLEYS NEWS

Michelle Whitefoot: 01886 812779
michelle@whitefootpr.co.uk

Louise Hutton: 01886 812304
louise@stroyd-hutton.com

LOWER SAPEY NEWS

Marion West: 01886 853249
marionjeanwest@googlemail.com

ADVERTISING / SPONSORSHIP

Andrew and Anna Brazier: 01886 887898
teme.triangle@thebraziers.co.uk

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

Front Cover Picture: Volunteer members of the Shelsley Walsh Water Mill Society – known as 'the Dibnahs' – look ahead to its Open Weekend in June. Society Chair David Haggerty is pictured sixth from right, and member Tim King eighth from right. (Full story page 13).

CLIFTON PREPARES TO WELCOME UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

A small group of Clifton and neighbouring residents are preparing to welcome the first Ukrainian refugees to the area. Clifton Support for Ukrainian Refugees was set up from a public meeting in the village following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The group is headed by Penny Bowden who, with the help of other villagers including Sue and David Warmington and Neil and Hilary Higton, has already been put in touch with a number of Ukrainian families by Worcester resident Dennis Lykov.

"Dennis has put us in touch with three families in Odesa and we are arranging for them to be housed with host families in the Teme Valley area," said Penny. Anyone wishing to offer accommodation or assistance should contact Penny via cliftonsupp@gmail.com

CLIFTON UKRAINE DONATIONS TOP £1,800

Since Clifton's Village Green gathering raised £440 for Ukraine in March, further fundraisers have added to the total. A coffee morning in the Village Hall raised more than £940, while a showing of *West Side Story* as part of the Rural Reels initiative generated more than £260 from donations in lieu of an entry fee. "Added to other donations received, we've been able to give more than £1,840 to the Ukraine cause," confirmed co-ordinator Mandy Henry.

NEW DOG CONTROL POWERS

New dog control powers have been approved by Malvern Hills District Council, following a local consultation. The Dog Control Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) takes effect from 1 May 2022, enabling the Council to deal with dog control offences by issuing fixed penalty notices. As part of the PSPO the following will be an offence:



**Please clean up
after your dog**
Maximum penalty £200

- Fouling: Persons in charge of dog must remove faeces from land immediately
- Leads by order: Persons in charge of dog must place dog on lead when directed to by an authorised officer
- Exclusion: Persons in charge of dog must not take dog into a fenced/enclosed children's play area
- Means to pick up: Persons in charge of a dog must have the appropriate means to pick dog faeces deposited by that dog.

Any breach of the order could result in the issuing of a £100 fixed penalty notice, or being taken to court and receiving a fine on conviction of up to £1,000.

POISON SAFETY REMINDER: Following the unfortunate poisoning of a family cat in the Shelsley area, locals are reminded to always place any vermin poison in the right container and to store it behind locked doors.

LOCAL CHRISTIAN AID EVENTS (15 – 22 MAY)



As the horrifying events have unfolded in Ukraine, we are aware that many of us have been very generous in a variety of ways in supporting the Ukrainians. Once again, as a nation, we have demonstrated enormous compassion and empathy to those we have never met but who clearly need support. Christian Aid is part of the DEC group which has raised so much for Ukraine, and indeed the permanent mission of Christian Aid is to support those most in need across the globe.

Christian Aid week this year (15-22 May) is focusing on the issue of climate justice in order to shine a spotlight on the disproportionate impact of climate change on the world's poorest countries. We hope you will join us for some or all of the events we have planned for this year's fundraising, so that once again our community can come together for some fun and companionship, and at the same time continue to show the world we care:

- Saturday 14 May, 7pm – Illustrated Talk: Talk by Jerry Johns entitled 'A History of Clifton upon Teme' at the Village Hall. Cheese and a glass of wine will be included. Tickets £10 to be purchased in advance from mjdipple@btinternet.com / tel: 07597 950595
- Saturday 21 May, 9am-1pm – Big Breakfast and Book Sale: At the Dipples, The Old House, The Village, Clifton upon Teme. All welcome. Please book in advance: mjdipple@btinternet.com / tel: 07597 950595
- Saturday 28 May, 10am-12.30pm – Harpley Church Plant and Cake Sale: at St Bartholomew's, Lower Sapey, Harpley. Proceeds to be split between Harpley Church funds and Christian Aid. All welcome
- Saturday 11 June, 10am-12noon – Coffee Morning: at the Austins, The Old Vicarage, Church Road, Clifton upon Teme. Coffee, cakes, plants, Bring & Buy. All welcome

Marion Dipple & Rachel Austin

CLIFTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB OPPORTUNITIES

The fact that the Clifton Friendship Club celebrated its 50th anniversary last year is testament to the friendliness of folk in Clifton and the surrounding area. Today the Club has over 60 members living in the Teme Valley neighbourhood. It exists for the older members of our community, both men and women, and is under the umbrella of the Royal Voluntary Service. There is no age limit but most members are in their late fifties or older.

The Friendship Club meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month in the Village Hall in Clifton, unless otherwise arranged. Speakers cover a wide range of topics from wine tasting to Indian railways, followed by tea and cake, as well as a raffle to raise funds for outings. During the summer months, meetings are often held at the homes and gardens of friends of the Club. Outings to places of interest are also arranged and there is always a Christmas lunch which (if funds permit) is free to members.

Visitors are always welcome. For more information, contact Dot Millward: 01886 853662 or Sue Palmer: 01886 853269. (*See more about upcoming events on P28 and P34.*)

LOCAL AUTHOR'S PAPERBACK SUCCESS



Teme Valley crime author Andy Griffie has a spring in his step after the paperback publication of his novel *River Rats*. The book is set in Bath and it is part of his three-book Johnson and Wilde series. The paperback release will be followed by another later this summer, when *Oxford Blues* also hits the bookshop shelves. The stories, which began with his debut novel *Canal Pushers*, all feature a border terrier called Eddie who shares Andy's home in Shelsley Kings and can often be seen walking the local lanes with him.

CLIFTON WI NEWS: A LIFE IN PLANTS

Louise Mawditt from Angel Gardens entertained members and visitors at April's meeting sharing her enthusiasm for plants, especially roses and lavender. Following extensive training, and work at Curradine Barns and Abberley Hall, Louise set up her own nursery business, Angel Gardens at Mill Farm four years ago. This has gone from strength to strength. Louise is keen to help budding gardeners with advice and plants. An entertaining and informative evening.

Next meeting: 10 May 7.30 in Clifton Village Hall when The Hat Lady, Caroline Butcher, will talk about the history of hats and how to wear them. Caroline has a hat boutique in Droitwich where she makes hats and runs workshops. Please do come and try out the WI for this entertaining evening - email Penny Bowden cliftontemepres@wfedwi.org.uk

Save the Date: 14 October: Health and Wellbeing Evening, 7pm, Village Hall. Donna Jones will give a talk on the menopause, symptoms and how to cope. Prosecco, finger buffet and stalls also planned. Tickets on sale nearer the date.

Ruth Wilson

'TEME VALLEY SINGS': WHO WOULD LIKE TO SING AGAIN?

Teme Valley Sings, the twice-monthly, feel-good singing club, might start up again in June-July if there is enough interest. Meetings would be at Clifton Village Hall, 7.45-9.15pm, on the second and fourth Thursday of the month, probably starting after 9 June, at £2 pp/pwk.

Interested new and former members are asked to contact organiser Rachel Austin: rachelm.austin@gmail.com / 07742 977027

CLIFTON UPON TEME PC ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 5 MAY

Annual Parish Meeting, Clifton Village Hall, 7-7.40pm

Open to the public. All registered electors of the parish may speak and vote. Local organisations may make a brief report, please contact Clerk.

For more information contact the Clerk Michelle Alexander 01886 884195

SHELSELYS' ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 10 MAY

Annual Parish Meeting, Shelsleys Village Hall, 7pm

All welcome. A chance for parishioners to raise questions and discuss anything village-related. (Not a PC meeting). Immediately followed by:

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

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For more information contact the Clerk Jan Speyer 01886 812444

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TAILOR & HOFF BOUTIQUE CELEBRATES FIRST YEAR AT MILL FARM



Tailor & Hoff, the pre-loved clothing and accessories boutique, is celebrating its first year in business at the Mill Farm retail village in Stanford Bridge.

Co-founder Tracey Johns said: "We started Tailor and Hoff as an online business. Then an opportunity arose to share part of this shop as a pop-up space. We were initially only due to stay for a couple of weeks, but we received wonderful feedback and extended by a few days. After that we approached Mill Farm about renting

the unit full-time. That was almost a year ago and we're still here."

The shop offers a wide variety of high-quality clothes and accessories that are "itching to be worn again". Co-founder Sally Mitchell confirmed: "We're always collecting more wonderful clients who sell their items of clothing and accessories through us at a 60%-40% split - in their favour of course. We have recently revamped the shop and website by placing in permanent rails, and moving towards designer labels and top high street names."

Tailor & Hoff is open Wednesdays and Thursdays 10am-4pm, and Fridays and Saturdays 11am-3pm. Visit www.tailorandhoff.co.uk for more details.



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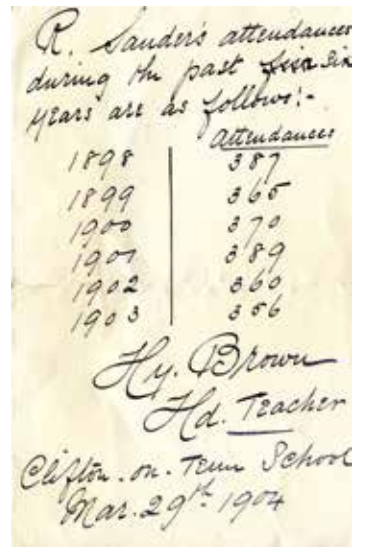
TEME VALLEY MEMORIES (Part 1)

CLIFTON VILLAGE ARCHIVE NOW OPEN

Clifton now has its own dedicated Village Archive, housed in a room attached to the school. Following an illustrated presentation of some of its contents at 7pm on Saturday 14 May in the Village Hall, there will also be an Open Day on Friday 3 June, when locals will be welcome to drop in and see what's there for themselves.

Already several residents have offered items for inclusion and display. Among them is a testimonial letter written by Henry Brown, Head Teacher of Clifton School in March 1904, for one of his pupils, 14-year-old Robert Sanders:

"I have great pleasure in bearing testimony to the good character and conduct of Robt. Sanders who has regularly attended this school since 31st July 1894. He has been in the Mixed Depart^{mt} here for upwards of seven years, during which time I have invariably found him a most punctual, regular, obedient, and diligent pupil. He has always conducted himself in school to my satisfaction, and although I should be sorry to lose him from our school, yet for his sake, should be pleased to know of his being awarded a premium by the Trustees of Webb's Charity."



Robert Sanders, born in 1891, was the son of local postman Reuben Sanders and his wife Emily who lived in the main street of Clifton. He appears to have had his name put forward for a financial grant from Thomas Webb's Charity, set up in the early 18th century to assist in the education of local schoolchildren.

Robert's own son, Raymond, was born in 1926 and died in 2018. He had been married to a cousin of local resident Sue Delahay, who has kindly donated the testimonial letter to the Clifton Archive.

"Clifton has a rich history," said Jerry Johns. "Thanks to the support of the Parish Council and the school, it will now be possible for anyone interested in our local history to explore it themselves."

For further information, contact Jerry on 01886 812304 or crown.house@polperropress.co.uk

(For even more 'Teme Valley Memories' see pages 22-23.)



Robert Sanders' father, postman Reuben Sanders, pictured with his daughter Emily at the top of Hope Lane, c. 1900

SHELSLEY WALSH HILL CLIMB: SEASON AHEAD

2022 sees Shelsley Walsh go into the 117th year of motorsport in the Teme Valley, and with that a season full of hope for some more stunning times on the hill, following a host of records that had stood for so many years falling in quick succession last August and September. 'F1 up a country lane' is a tag given to Shelsley more and more of late, but with the technology trickling down from F1 factories to amateurs who can use it to such good effect, it's a stunning thing to see up close on the hill.

Our first competitive weekend is as always the Speed into Spring over May 7 and 8 where people will be getting their eye in for the year ahead; before a new weekend on May 21 and 22 with Production cars on the Saturday and the new St Andrew's Meeting on the Sunday, where a contribution of the profits from that day will go towards the Church at the base of the hill.

The British Hill Climb Championship visits twice with the traditional June and August dates, but Classic Nostalgia over July 16-17 is a highlight for many as we celebrate older motorsport with classic cars, dancing, music and that Teme Valley view!



Furthermore, on the St Andrew's weekend, we at Shelsley would like to offer the opportunity to local businesses in the area to come to Shelsley free of charge to showcase their wares and skills in the public areas, so please do get in touch if this is of interest – email toby@shelsleywalsh.com

We have our first Thursday of each month too, where the Courtyard Bar is open from 5pm to locals and friends of the hill, so please do come down and sample local beer and local gin. We're open until just after 9pm, so when the nights are longer it is a very nice ambiance in the Courtyard so please do pop down if you can - it'll be great to see you.

We are upgrading a few facilities on the hill too, with toilets and the granary needing work, so that will be looked into and implemented soon – so we are investing back into the venue and there is always something going on. We look forward to seeing you on the hill this summer at any time.

Kind regards from all at Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb.

Toby Moody, Commercial Manager, Midland Automobile Club

SHELSLEY WALSH WATER MILL OPEN WEEKEND

Shelsley Walsh Water Mill Society will be holding the Mill's first Open Weekend in three years on 11 and 12 June – just yards away from the world's most historic motor racing track, run by the Midland Automobile Club since 1905.



The Water Mill Society is run by volunteers with wide-ranging backgrounds. Collectively known as the 'Dibnahs', since 2005 they have lovingly restored the mill to its current working condition for use as a visitor attraction and educational resource. The Society won a Pride of Malvern Hills Community award in 2019 for the high quality of workmanship in the restoration and its value to the community.

Shelsley Walsh was mentioned in the Domesday Book as a rural community of circa 40 inhabitants. There has been a water mill on the site since 1308. The current mill shows three stages of construction spanning the last 300 years, and it remained part of the Teme Valley's farming community until the early 1900s.

"Due to Covid we haven't held an open weekend since May 2019!" confirmed Society member Tim King. "At this Open Weekend there will be guided tours of the mill and workshop, plus working demonstrations of the mill, its machinery and hopefully one or two other projects the volunteers have been working on."

Open Weekend Shelsley Watermill

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The 'Dibnahs' will also be on hand to relate some of the mill's history, from its original building in 1308 and brief encounters with historical events such as the Gunpowder Plot, to the BBC's first ever outside broadcast in 1932, and how the present-day restoration was achieved.

A selection of period vehicles will be on display, and light refreshments available. Admission and car parking in the hill climb paddock are free, though as a registered charity, donations are vital for the continuing mill restoration work. Accompanied children welcome.

The mill is located at WR6 6RP, adjacent to the splendid 12th century St Andrews Church. For more details visit www.shelsleywatermill.com



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THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

LOCAL CELEBRATIONS ACROSS OUR PARISHES 2 – 5 June 2022

The bunting will soon be flying, the cakes baked and the bubbly ready to pop! Enjoy this wonderful range of celebrations around the *Temple Triangle* district, and please do send in your photographs to editortemetriangle@gmail.com of what promises to be a very special weekend!



CLIFTON UPON TEME

Friday 3 June

10 am – 12 noon

BELL RINGING of St Kenelms bells by Martley Bell Ringers (1 hr, time tbc)

Saturday 4 June

Times tbc

AFTERNOON TEA served in St Kenelms Church, followed by **DANCE** performance by Attitude Dance on the Village Green

Sunday 5 June

10am

12 – 2.30pm

VILLAGE WALK around Paradise, leaving from outside the school

BIG JUBILEE LUNCH on the Village Green (or Village Hall if wet):

- Special Union Jack cake baked by Clifton WI
- Glass of fizz to toast the Queen and Jubilee paper plates provided by Parish Council
- Please bring a plate of food to share (sandwiches, quiche, sausage rolls) and drinks, which will be set out on long tables (separate ones for specific dietary requirements)
- Free drinks for children
- Some tables and chairs available on the Green for residents with mobility issues. Other residents please bring camping chairs or rugs

Afternoon

TEA PACKS delivered to vulnerable residents. Volunteers sought to help

Plus, date tbc:

- **PLAQUE** to be placed on St Kenelms Church, organised by Parish Council

If you would like to help with distributing tea packs, providing cakes or anything else, contact Mandy Henry 01886 812 238 or amandajhenry1970@gmail.com. See also Clifton Village Facebook page for latest details.

LOWER SAPEY & HARPLEY

Wednesday 1 June

Times tbc

CLIFTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB: Grand Platinum Jubilee celebration in the Village Hall. Check for times

Sunday 5 June

3pm

TEA PARTY at St. Bartholomew's Church:

- Cake
- Competition, with a prize, for the best Flower Crown

** Flyers out soon. Tea party free to all parishioners (Lower Sapey and Harpley). **

THE SHELSLEYS

Organised by the Shelsleys Village Hall and Social Club:

** Shelsleys Social Club Bar also open all weekend * * See local notices for event times **

Thursday 2 June

Evening

'SHELSLEYS PAST' DISPLAY: Please lend old photographs, films and DVDs depicting Shelsley in bygone days, for display in the Village Hall

Friday 3 June

Evening

JUBILEE BINGO AND KARAOKE: Refreshments also available

Saturday 4 June

Afternoon

CHILDREN'S AFTERNOON:

Good, old-fashioned fun for children (and parents!) including Sports Day Games, Disco and Party Food.

Evening

ADULT DISCO

Organised by The Shelsleys Platinum Jubilee Committee:

** RSVP Jubilee Party invitation to be circulated to all local households soon **

Sunday 5 June

11 am

12 noon

12 – 6 pm

SERVICE at All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp

DRINKS RECEPTION AND ROYAL TOAST at Shelsleys Village Hall

JUBILEE PARTY at Shelsleys Village Hall:

- Village Hall bar open
- Pig Roast and 'bring your own' picnic
- Traditional afternoon tea and cakes
- Village photo (which will be framed and displayed in the Village Hall)
- Children's games
- Tug of War
- Unveiling of Jubilee Tree commemorative plaque

Plus, dates tbc:

- **TREE PLANTING:** Seven trees to be planted in the autumn, next to a footpath near the Village Hall, to commemorate each decade of Her Majesty's reign
- **PLATINUM JUBILEE MUGS:** Each household will be given a china Platinum Jubilee mug with the option to purchase additional mugs

SHELSLEY JUBILEE MAP

As part of the Shelsley Jubilee celebrations, a hand-drawn map of the entire Parish has also been commissioned and will be displayed in the Village Hall. This aims to show every property in the three Shelsley Parishes, as well as other items of interest.

If anyone objects to a photograph of the front of their house being taken (from the roadside / public access only - not by entering private property), to be used by the artist to draw the property on the map, please email louise@stroyd-hutton.com and we will ensure that it is not included. Thank you.

TEME VALLEY WILDLIFE: RIVERSCAPES

I was interested to read a recent report about a partnership called 'Riverscapes' between The Rivers Trust, The National Trust, The Woodland Trust and The Beaver Trust. Its aim is to promote healthy rivers through a Government incentive to fund 'nature for climate' projects. Part of the planning will be to mitigate flood risk in six river-catchment areas nationwide, including the Teme.

The Trusts aim to put five million trees along riverbanks where there is currently no vegetation. One initiative assists farmers to apply for grants to turn 10-20 metre strips of farmland into woodland in places where their land runs alongside rivers. These can benefit farms by reducing chemical run-off from fields and lessening soil erosion from fertile land. As trees slow the rate at which rain-water enters rivers, they can also lower the risk of farmland flooding.



The intended ecological benefits are better quality river-water, new habitats for wildlife and uninterrupted landscape corridors. The Teme is naturally lined by alder, particularly in its upper reaches, and by white willow further downstream. Such trees give dappled shade which lowers water temperatures by up to 4°C, helping the breeding success of some

fish, such as salmon and trout. Tree-roots act as a barrier to silt build-up on the riverbed, which in turn allows areas of gravel to settle where aquatic creatures such as lampreys, can lay their eggs. Fallen tree branches also act as food and shelter for underwater nymphs and larvae, on which myriad other species depend.

Once fish stocks are healthy, birds and mammals such as kingfishers and otters can thrive – as well as pearl mussels, which colonise new areas by cadging a lift on the gills of salmon, and are alive and well here in the Teme. Another Teme speciality is the black and green club-tailed dragonfly, which feeds well from shady riverbanks full of midges and moths.

Many types of bird capitalise on a river's bounties. One such resident of the Teme is the dipper, who needs not only food from the water but also the shelter and nest material provided by trees. Let's hope that each of these special characters gets a boost from the new 'Riverscapes' scheme.

Next meeting: Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall, WR15 8RR, Thursday 12 May, 7:30pm for a talk on ponds and how they can combat climate change. All welcome, £2 on the door. Visit www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk

Stephanie Mocroft

BLUEBELL RIDE: UPDATED DETAILS

BLUEBELL CROSS COUNTRY FUN RIDE

For Midlands Air Ambulance, St Richards Hospice, and Local Charities

Sunday 8th MAY 2022

Opposite Wichenford Court, Venn Lane, WR6 6XY

(Next to Wichenford Church)

Open for Registration between 10am and 1pm ([No pre booking needed](#))

9 Miles Pleasure Ride through Bluebell Woods and Fields,

Many optional shortcuts. No roadwork.

Lots of optional jumps of various heights and sizes.

Riders must have their own insurance, and valid horse vaccinations & passports.

Riders take part entirely at their own Risk.

Hard hats and adequate body protection obligatory

The organisers accept no liability whatsoever for damage to persons,

horses, or property whilst on the premises, or taking part in the ride.

No Dogs Allowed – no lone walkers allowed

Payment ON THE DAY

Riders: Adults - £20 Children under 12 years - £15

Walkers (accompanying child riders) - £10

Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Bluebell Rosettes - £3 each

If you are unable to come on the 8th, we are open on 14th, 15th, 21st and 22nd of May, starting from the Hill Farm, WR6 6YY. These dates are strictly by appointment only. Please Email to request a date and time

Contact: gbl@wichenford.net for bookings

Phone 07767 788273 – 01886 888678 in emergency



IN PRAISE OF BLUEBELLS

Many of us are looking forward to our Annual Bluebell Walk soon and local poet Jane Dallow has written a few lines to cheer the heart:

*Bluebells in the bluebell wood,
Billowing blue on blue,
Cascading towards the trickling brook
With the little bridge across
Blue heaven in the bluebell wood
Blue velvet on the ground*

*Bluebells high in the treetops,
Sing a bluebird song
The Bluebells sweet perfume
Floats up into the air
Perfume from the Gods*

*Be careful where you put your feet in
That sea of blue.
The bluebells are so lush and deep
Stretching on and on
You may fade away tout suite.*

*Tread carefully my darlings in
In case you disappear where the
Blue, blue sky meets the
Blue on blue in the bluebell woods*

Jane Dallow 2022

TEME VALLEY MEMORIES (Part 2)

Following our request for 'Teme Valley Memories', our thanks for this contribution from Don Constable, who now resides in Cornwall but has fond recollections of wartime childhood holidays at Hillside Farm, Camp Lane in Shelsley Beauchamp. Please do send in your own family memories to share with other TT readers!

WARTIME HOLIDAYS IN CAMP LANE

Hillside Farm was owned by Mrs Evans, grandmother of June Knight, who still lives in Camp Lane. Mrs Evans ran the house as a boarding house, providing accommodation for holiday makers. The following are Don's own words...

"We arrived in Camp Lane via Stourport train station from Birmingham, then taxi, at the end of August 1939. I was eight years old. The farm had no electricity, no running water and no sewerage. Lighting was by paraffin lamps and candles. The water was supplied by a gravity system from springs on Camp Lane – the springs on the lane being much higher than the tanks in the house attic. There was one inside toilet and bath, but most people used the outside 'privy', double seated and lots of fresh air!



Mrs Evans, owner and landlady of Hillside Farm

It was my first introduction to farm life. In the farmyard was a chained-up, wild, black retriever dog, chickens, a fierce cockerel, ducks, a number of cats, and milking cows with names like Daisy and Buttercup. There were also two horses, named Flower and Jimmy. Jimmy was wild until under harness. I remember an incident when my brother Glen was trying to catch him. The horse chased him across the field and kicked up its heels as Glen dived over the gate!

My earliest recollection was being in the kitchen on 3 September 1939 and listening to the radio and hearing that war had been declared. Despite wartime rationing being in place, the farm guests enjoyed a much superior diet of bacon, eggs and mushrooms for breakfast, with butter (made in the farm dairy) on the toast.

I remember one guest arriving late, having made his way via Shelsley Walsh, and found he had the wrong suitcase. On opening it, it was full of ladies clothing and lingerie, much to our amusement.

TEME VALLEY MEMORIES (Part 2)

We missed going to the farm 1940-1941 as we were evacuated, but resumed holidaying again in 1942. My brother Glen actually ended up working full time on the farm in 1945, a career in farming that he continued all his life.

I visited the farm many times over the time that Glen was working there. In the winter my brother cut down trees, helped by a German prisoner of war, aptly named Fruity. He had been a pilot and hated the Nazi regime. Talking about prisoners of war, Italians also worked on the farm, one being a tailor before the war. Mrs Evans had him altering clothing on her sewing machine.



Don Constable as an eight-year-old boy in 1939, with family farm worker Charlie Evans

The farm seemed self-sufficient in produce, much of it finding its way to Mrs Evans' stall at Kidderminster market. This included rabbits, pigeons, apples, pears, cherries, plums and damsons. The cider produced was a really rough scrumpy, which tasted best in the fields whilst harvesting. I remember Alf Martin in the next farm (Rudge House Farm) produced the best cider, and could often be found sitting in his cellar sipping some!

I will finish with an observation that nobody worked on the farm on Sundays. They didn't like to chance the wrath of God. Nowadays people would not be able to comprehend this."

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Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held Thursday 7th April 2022 in the Village Hall commencing at 7.40pm

Present: Councillors J. Bowden (Chairman), A. Henry (Vice-Chairman), R. Henry, B. Gilbert, and P. Brooks. Also present: County Cllr D. Chambers and x4 members of the public.

Apologies for absence: Cllr L. Merrick, N. Campsall, County Cllr D. Chambers and District Cllr C. Palethorpe.

Declarations of Interests and applications for Councillor dispensations: None.

Democratic Public Time: The meeting received a report from P. Bowden regarding local support arranged for Ukrainian refugees. Local residents have offered accommodation and it is hoped that three refugee families will be able to move the parish. A zoom meeting has been held between the families and those offering support and although there is still a lot to do, it is looking positive so far.

Anyone wishing to offer support or to enquire about what is being arranged can contact the support group by email at – cliftonspp@gmail.com

To agree the Minutes of the meeting held 3rd March 2022 – Minutes were proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded Cllr Gilbert and agreed by all.

District & County Councillor Reports: Reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted and will be uploaded to the website. The new MHDC Public Space Protection Order regarding dog control was noted and a discussion took place as to how this will affect the playing field. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact MHDC to see what new wording could be used for the play area and then get a quote for a new sign. It was also noted that the gate from the play area has been missing for some time and it was agreed that the Clerk should ask R. Wilks to quote for a new replacement.

The meeting also noted that dogs need somewhere to run free locally and it was agreed that Cllr Bowden should speak to local landowners regarding possible sites.

Financial & Governance Matters: Payments and receipts – the schedule was agreed as circulated. Clerk to arrange payments and check re the invoice from the Surveyor D. Prosser. Clerk salary increase – it was agreed that the salary increase of 1.75% should be applied from 1st April 2021 as per instruction from NALC. Pavilion container insurance – the Clerk is progressing contents valuations for Bowls, Football and Scouts/Guides as agreed and will contact the Insurance Co. for a revised quote. Scottish Widows account – the mandate change has been sent in and the Clerk will chase this up. Defibrillator cabinet – the Clerk is chasing the supplier for a delivery date.

Parish Matters / Updates: Village Maintenance Plan – Cllr Gilbert reported that the pavilion roof repairs are being progressed with the Clerk and Insurers. Hanging baskets and planters – due to be replanted during May. Possible to associate with the Jubilee? The sign to welcome drivers to the village (towards Martley) is still missing. R. Wilks currently has it to reinstall. Playing field gate and fencing repairs have been completed by R. Wilks as requested. Noticeboards – Cllr Bowden is progressing repairs and has also applied for a footpaths map.

Archives refurbishment – J. Johns reported that everything is almost ready for opening. A couple of extra chairs will be needed together with a clear protocol for entry arrangements. Cllr Gilbert has keyholder access currently. An Open Day may be planned for the Jubilee Bank Holiday.

RoSPA Safety Inspection – the play area has been inspected and a copy of the report is with Cllrs Bowden and Brooks to assess any immediate actions required. An update will be sent to the PC by Cllr Brooks in due course.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee – Cllr M. Henry reported on arrangements for local events so far which will also be published in Teme Triangle once confirmed. Options for a new gazebo are being explored. Lunch will be held in the village hall if wet weather. The Schools Summer Fayre will also need to be considered as part of gazebo options as one will be needed for that as well. Cllr M. Henry will bring a recommendation to the next meeting. The plaque on the Church wall has been progressed by Cllr Bowden and a quote obtained for £792.00 which was approved. The Council suggested that the PCC be approached for a contribution and Cllr Bowden agreed to progress this. Tree planting has been progressed by Cllr M. Henry together with a possible location in the new Church Garden and/ or the small green at the end of Forge Meadows. We may be able to use trees that are currently being stored with R. Wilks for planting this autumn. Cllr M. Henry to progress.

Section 106 Matters: Four Acre Field (CFAF) Project – a report had been circulated prior to the meeting by Cllr Campsall. It was agreed that the Clerk should arrange a meeting with MHDC asap to discuss next steps and funding. Legal matters are also being chased re the Land Reg submission.

Planning Matters: Applications to consider – none, however a very recently received application for Hollands Mill was circulated for comments. Notifications received – M/22/00018/HP – 9 Kenelm Close, Clifton upon Teme WR6 6DW – approval of rear single storey extension, side open carport and garden room, and material alterations to existing dwelling.

Strategic Planning Matters: Cllr Gilbert will monitor the SWDPR and notify the Council of any matters which require attention. Next SWDPR publication due this summer for consultation, with adoption currently planned for October 2023. The s278 matter remains outstanding with WCC regarding Hope Lane – Cllr Gilbert is to ask County Cllr Chambers to look into this.

Highways & Facilities Matters: STW roadworks – Cllr Bowden raised concern about access arrangements for residents of Kenelm Close. It was agreed that Cllr Bowden send details to the Clerk for forwarding to WCC Highways and County Cllr Chambers. Cllr Bowden also to include current outstanding Highways matters as well. Lengthsman matters are progressing well. MHDC to be asked to carry out road sweeping again – Clerk to progress. If dates can be confirmed, then local developers can be informed, and lorries moved off the highway. Cllr Gilbert to check is Pound Lane work has been completed and inform the Clerk. Road closure / footpath notices as circulated /uploaded to the website. Bus shelter request – the Clerk has sent an enquiry to WCC as requested but no reply as yet.

Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas: June PC meeting will be held on 9th June as the 2nd June is a Bank Holiday. May PC meeting will be the annual meeting of the Parish Council and the Annual Parish Meeting. Invitations and posters to be arranged asap via the Clerk, Cllr M. Henry and J. Johns (Teme Triangle). Pound Lane dog fouling – the meeting noted the MHDC Public Space Protection Order recently approved and discussed if a new waste bin was required and if it would actually be used. It was agreed to place information about the new PSPO in Teme Triangle and monitor the situation.

Correspondence received: None. Cllr Bowden replied as agreed to the footpath enquiry received at the last meeting. The resident was invited to attend this meeting but hasn't done so. The matter is now considered closed.

Next meetings: Next ordinary meeting to be held on Thursday 5th May 2022 at 7.40pm at the Village Hall. The Annual Parish Meeting to be held on Thursday 5th May 2022 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed 20:50

M. Alexander Clerk

LOWER SAPEY NEWS

This last month has gone by so quickly and just seems one continuous list of terrible events in Ukraine, unseasonal weather and continued Covid cases locally and nationally. Fortunately, the Covid cases seem to be affecting people less seriously now, although it is still very unpleasant. As for Ukraine, will the suffering ever end for this sad nation? We all feel so helpless, although many are doing their best with fund-raising events and some offering their homes to refugees. It is quite unbelievable that this barbaric war is happening in the 21st century. I must mention congratulations to my neighbour Pippa (age 8) who is collecting toys and writing letters to Ukrainian children. Also well done Shane Connolly and Stuart Smith for their fund-raising events which collected £17,000 and £600 respectively for the disaster funds. Many others are working hard in our community to raise funds as well. We continue to pray for everyone's safety.

Of course, village life goes on as normal, with us all hoping for a sunny spring and summer to arrive. We hope the weather will be especially kind during the week of celebrations for the **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**. Our area tea-party is to be held at St. Bartholomew's on Sunday 5 June at 3pm. Flyers will soon be out and the tea party is free to all parish members (Lower Sapey and Harpley). I can assure you that there will be plenty of cake! There will also be a competition, with a prize, for the best Flower Crown.

The other major event in our area is the second **Great Plant Sale** and this is on Saturday 28 May between 10 and 12.30, also at St Bartholomew's. Entry is free and there will be refreshments available. Please come along and stock up your gardens with flowers, shrubs, vegetable plants and seeds to keep you busy, or bring your own plants to sell. It is for a good cause, the profits to be divided between Christian Aid and St Bartholomew's Church. There will also be a demonstration of making flower crowns. My greenhouse seeds are very slow this year as it has often been dark and cold, but maybe if I talk to them, they will put a spurt on ?

We recently enjoyed a very interesting afternoon in Harpley with a demonstration of the use of sustainable flowers for decoration. Hopefully, this will have been put into practice when we decorated the Church at Easter. Congratulations here for those who erected the Stations of the Cross in St Bartholomew's during Easter week.

Friendship Club (See also story on page 4)

As Dot Millward is now leader of the Clifton and area Friendship Club, she will be writing an article regularly to list future events at the Club. The Friendship Club is a very valuable asset to the village and we all appreciate the work done by their helpers, especially in the winter months. Events there for the next few weeks are as follows:

- Wednesday 4 May: AGM Village Hall at 2.30pm
- Wednesday 18 May: Seated exercise demonstration by Alana at 2.30
- Wednesday 1 June: Grand Platinum Jubilee celebration in the Village Hall. Check for times
- Wednesday 15 June: Visit to 'Highways' garden at Hanley William by kind permission of Kevin and Ann Baker. Meet at 2.15 at the Village Hall
- Wednesday 6 July: Visit to Westonbury Water Gardens near Pembridge. Meet at Village Hall. Time to be announced

Notices:

- **Services at St Bartholomew's:** Please check these times nearer the date as they are not all available at this time.
 - Sunday 1 May: Morning worship at 10.30am
 - Thursday 5 May: Morning prayer at 9.30am
 - Sunday 15 May: Methodist morning service and communion at 10.30am
 - Sunday 22 May: Circle service at 10.30am
- **Housekeeping in the Church for May:** will be in the capable hands of Angie Dallow
- **Ladies Bible Group:** Our group resumed in April. Thank you Marion for hosting this and it was great to get together. The May meeting will be on Tuesday 10 May at 2pm at the home of Margaret Griffiths
- **The Mobile Library:** will appear again (we hope) on Friday 20 May at 10.20. and 10.40am. Please check the Library's web-site for all the useful events and classes they offer in the holidays.

Have a wonderful Jubilee month and stay well.

Margaret Griffiths

GILL MOORE (22 Nov 1932 - 12 Mar 2022)
Shelsley Beauchamp resident from 1952

ONE MORE STOP ON THE BUS

*I was nineteen when I married and some said it wouldn't last.
But I proved them wrong: when Dinty died, 58 years had passed.
We faced some hardships certainly, but when all is said and done,
Most of our life was wonderful, filled with family, friends and fun.*

*The Teme Valley is a special place full of woodland fruit and hops,
Where generations of farmers spent their whole lives growing their crops,
In all the places in England that's where I would want to be,
So spread my ashes high on a hill so the Valley is what I see.*

*And now it's time to say goodbye to family and friends.
I've reached the last stop on my route. This is where my journey ends.
So wipe away those tears, don't feel too sad. I wouldn't like a fuss.
Dying is something we all must face. It's just one more stop on the bus!!*

Willy Banks (son-in-law)

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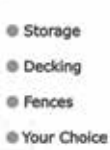
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Church Matters

with Revd Anne Potter



Time marches on and we are already in May with the longer days and warmer weather. Last month I wrote about Easter hope, the hope that is always with us. The world around has blossomed with new life as we move towards the summer months, reminding us of the never-ending cycle of the seasons.

Within our Benefice of the WWRT the parishes are moving towards visioning who we are, what are the gifts of each of our churches, how do we relate to each other both as parishes across the WWRT and as individual churches within our villages. Why are we doing this? To put together a 'job advert' to fill the vacant post following David Sherwin's retirement in January. There is a 'task team' who have been meeting with Alison Maddocks, Dean of Smaller Churches, Diane Cooksey, Area Dean and myself to put together a day for anyone who is interested in the future of our parishes, churchgoer or not. During the morning we will have the opportunity to share the characteristics of individual parishes and to work collaboratively in working out our identity as the Worcestershire West Rural Team.

The parish in which we live is important. Our church is important, whether we are a regular worshipping member or an occasional worshipper or an attender of hatches, matches and despatches or we just simply want to keep our beautiful building as a feature of the village. Many, many moons ago (probably long before any of us remember) each church had its own Vicar and then gradually over the years the number of stipendiary clergy (Vicar) serving the rural churches (and in some cases the urban churches) has decreased. In our case we have reduced to two beneficed or licenced clergy keeping an overview of 10 parishes and 14 church buildings.

Over the years there has been various ways in which ordained ministers have been licenced to serve parishes including having a house for duty Vicar, which Clifton, Harpley and Shelsley had for a number of years when Rev John Sumner was in post; occasional curates who usually serve for three - four years; and non-stipendiary (NSM) or self-supporting (SSM) which Martley, Wichenford and Lower Teme Valley had until Rev Jennifer Whittaker had to retire from that post (it comes to us all even in the Church of England and she started as a curate with David). However, we, in the WWRT, are blessed to have her continued ministry along with three other PTOs (Priests who have been granted Permission to Officiate by the Bishop of Worcester) Rev Ruth Wintle, Rev Jen Denniston and Rev Mike Gardner.

Having given a quick potted history of the past, a resume of the current situation in the WWRT, the present and now we need to look forward, to the future. Following Rev Canon David Sherwin's retirement, we are being guided by the Diocese to create a 'vision' of how we, the individual parishes, whilst also recognising our unique characteristics, can work collaboratively together to formulate an identity

for the benefice. An identity that encompasses 'who we are' so that, in effect, we can offer a post to a new incumbent that is appealing and attractive. This is not to undervalue the wonderful ministry of the PTOs alongside our Local Lay Ministers (LLMs or Readers) Pat Snelling and Jill Smith, mainly in the northern territories, our Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) who serve in a variety of parishes across the benefice, Churchwardens, Barbara Seeley and Alana Cooper and those who serve on the ten PCCs and all others who give so much of themselves in being members of the body of Christ.

Come and make your voice heard – share in creating the vision of 'who we are'.

From 9.00 am – 1.30 pm on Saturday 14 May in Rushwick Village Hall.

***'For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ'* 1 Corinthians 12:12**

Watch this space..... and may God bless you, Rev Anne Potter, Team Vicar

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

MAY 2022

Sunday 1st May

The 3rd Sunday of Easter
10.30am Morning Worship, St Bartholomew, Lower Sapey
10.30am Holy Communion, All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp

Sunday 8th May

The 4th Sunday of Easter
10.30am Matins, at the Farm of Ann and Sheila Jones

Sunday 15th May

The 5th Sunday of Easter
10.30am Methodist Holy Communion, St Bartholomew, Lower Sapey
3.30pm-4.30pm Activ-i-teas, Clifton Village Hall

Sunday 22nd May

The 6th Sunday of Easter
10.30am Circle Service, St Bartholomew, Lower Sapey
6.30pm Evensong, St Kenelm, Clifton

Sunday 29th May

The 7th Sunday of Easter
11.00am WWRT Rogation Service on The Glebe Land opposite Martley Rectory, followed by lunch

Morning Prayer

Thursday 5th - 9.30am at St Bartholomew, Lower Sapey
Monday 9th - 9.30am, St Kenelm, Clifton
Wednesday 18th - 9.00am, All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp

Holy Communion at Heaton House, Martley every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 10.15am and every 1st and 3rd Wednesday via our YouTube channel – wwrtilive1

All services and timings are subject to review and amendment – please check the website for updates: www.achurchnearyou.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 4 Clifton & Area Friendship Club AGM, Clifton VH, 2.30pm
- 5 Clifton Annual Parish Meeting (open to the public), Clifton VH, 7-7.40pm, followed by Clifton Parish Council Ordinary Meeting, Clifton VH, 7.40pm
- 6 Volante Strings concert, St Mary's Church, Stanford, 7.30pm, tickets 01299 896771
- 7-8 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, Speed into Spring weekend
- 8 Bluebell Cross Country Fun Ride, opp Wichenford Court, registration 10am-1pm
- 8 Teme Valley Market, The Talbot, Knightwick, 11am-1pm
- 10 Shelsleys Annual Parish Meeting, Shelsleys VH, 7pm, followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (both meetings open to the public, all welcome)
- 12 Teme Valley Wildlife Group talk: ponds and climate change, Stoke Bliss & Kyre VH, 7.30pm
- 14 Worcestershire West Rural Team parishes identity discussion, Rushwick VH, 9am-1.30pm
- 14 Family Fun Day & Dog Show in aid of 1st Abberley and Witley and 3rd Areyley Kings Brownies, The Cob House, Wichenford, 11am-3pm
- 14 Talk: 'A History of Clifton upon Teme', Clifton VH, 7pm (Christian Aid)
- 18 Clifton & Area Friendship Club, seated exercise demonstration, Clifton VH, 2.30
- 21 Big Breakfast and Book Sale, The Old House, Clifton, 10am-1pm. (Christian Aid)
- 21-22 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, Rally Legends / St Andrew's Challenge weekend
- 28 Great Plant & Cake Sale, St. Bartholomew's, Harpley, Lower Sapey, 10am-12.30pm. Raising money for Christian Aid and St Bartholomew's

June

- 1 Clifton & Area Friendship Club, Grand Platinum Jubilee celebration, Clifton VH, times tbc
- 2 Clifton Parish Council meeting, Clifton VH, 7.40pm
- 3 Clifton Village Archive Open Day, Clifton School, times tbc
- 2-5 Shelsleys Platinum Jubilee celebrations: Shelsleys Past Display / Jubilee Bingo & Karaoke Children's Afternoon / Adult Disco / Service / Drinks Reception / Jubilee Party - see P18
- 3-5 Clifton Platinum Jubilee celebrations: Bell Ringing / Afternoon Tea / Dance Display / Village Walk / Jubilee Lunch / Tea Packs - see P19
- 4-5 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb - Best of British weekend
- 5 Lower Sapey & Harpley Platinum Jubilee celebrations: Tea Party - see P19
- 11 Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy, The Old Vicarage, 10-12noon (Christian Aid)
- 11-12 Shelsley Walsh Watermill Society Open Weekend, Saturday and Sunday, 10am-4pm
- 15 Clifton & Area Friendship Club, Highways garden visit, meet Clifton VH 2.15pm
- 25-26 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb - Summer Spree weekend

July

- 2-3 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb - Piston Power / Vintage meeting weekend
- 6 Clifton & Area Friendship Club, Westonbury Water Gardens visit, meet Clifton VH time tba
- 16-17 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb - Classic Nostalgia weekend

YOUR TEME TRIANGLE...

Our free, printed magazine (10 issues/year) is available in local shops and community spaces. You can also visit our website: www.temetriangle.net. Please do keep sending in your Shelsleys, Clifton and Lower Sapey news and photos to editortemetriangle@gmail.com... we love to hear from you!

Contributions for the next (June) edition by Friday 13 May please



Above: The Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb's 2022 event season is expected to attract thousands of race enthusiasts and spectators to the Valley. (See season preview on page 12.)



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