

# Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

September 2011

## GREAT ACTORS VISIT CLAYDON

In August the Newsletter was contacted by villager Keith Sutton who had encountered Prunella Scales and Timothy West strolling into the village on one Sunday morning. Their narrowboat was moored on the canal near the Boddington Road.

Their main aim was to visit the museum. In conversation with Keith (who very kindly allowed them to dispose of some rubbish in his green bin) they were very disappointed to hear that the museum has now closed. It transpired that this was not their first visit to the village as they remembered Andrew Fox and were sad to hear that he had passed away. However, they were still keen to visit the church and continued in that direction. We hope that they enjoyed their visit (they signed the church visitors' book but left no comments) and the rest of their journey along the Oxford Canal.

Most of the contents of the museum have now been despatched elsewhere, sometimes over great distances. The pharmacy shop was sent in its entirety to the United States. One consignment has been sent nearer to home, to a nursing home for patients with Alzheimer's disease. It is hoped that the old household items, which the patients would have seen and used years ago, will act as a memory jogger.

Coincidentally August was a popular month for actors in the village. A young actor who is appearing in a production of 'The Homecoming' at Stratford brought his family to stay in one of the holiday cottages at Clattercote Priory Farm for three weeks during the school holidays.

## FAR CLOSE PLANNING APPLICATION REFUSED

Senior Planning Officer Jane Dunkin recommended refusal of the application to build three chalet bungalows and garages in the garden of Far Close, on the grounds that the new buildings could not be considered as infill, the increased vehicular movements had not been addressed with regard to highway safety, and no consideration had been given to the Monkey Puzzle tree on the site. There were over 20 individual letters of objection (12 from the neighbouring area) in addition to that of the Parish Council.

## **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

The Parish Council Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> September was attended by District Councillor Ken Atack and County Councillor George Reynolds. The Chairman, David Hill welcomed the new Parish Clerk, Louise Aston who comes with lots of local government experience and contacts.

### **PREPARATIONS FOR WINTER**

Oxfordshire County Council will fill the grit bin in the village and deliver one tonne of salt for villagers to replenish the bin as and when required. Councillor Hoggins agreed to arrange storage of the salt. The grit bin on the Fenny Compton Road is the responsibility of Warwickshire County Council. It is now in its correct place and has been filled. It was pointed out from the floor that following the repairs to the railway bridge, a potentially dangerous gap has been left at one side.

### **PLANNING**

#### **Oxford Canal**

The appeal hearing against the enforcement orders issued by Cherwell District Council (CDC) regarding the unauthorised change of use of land from agricultural to private with mixed domestic was held on 6<sup>th</sup> September. Allegedly the new planning laws overrule the old canal acts that leave the mooring rights to the individual landowners. No date has been given for the Planning Inspector's decision.

#### **Cropredy Marinas**

Both marinas were discussed at the meeting in Cropredy on 5<sup>th</sup> September when it was claimed that British Waterways are attempting to move all narrowboats that are line moored on the side of the canal onto marinas. The main impact on Claydon will be the additional traffic to the large marina and the control of water on the canal. This year the water shortage has necessitated the closing of the locks at certain times. Additional boats will only compound the situation. A member of the public was worried that the arrival of the large marina would result in an event on a similar scale to that of the Crick Festival. The Parish Council resolved to submit these concerns to CDC.

#### **10 Bignolds Close**

The application to install decking at the rear of 10 Bignolds Close has been approved by CDC.

#### **9 Bignolds Close**

The Parish Council had no objection to the installation of decking at the rear of 9 Bignolds Close

#### **Stoneton Wind Farm**

A leaflet outlining the intention to install a 13 turbine wind farm at Stoneton has been distributed to all households in the village.

## **RED TELEPHONE BOX**

Following a suggestion that a red telephone box be reinstalled in the village, the Parish Council decided that it could not meet the estimated cost of at least £2900 plus ongoing maintenance charges.

## **ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTING**

Dorothy Beckett volunteered to take electric blankets for testing on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. She has booked several slots for the free service offered by CDC. If you have a blanket that needs testing contact Dorothy on 690322 as soon as possible.

## **ADOPTION OF SEWERS BY THAMES WATER**

There is some confusion as to whether the new rules on sewer adoption mean that Thames Water is responsible for the sewers which run through the back gardens in Bignolds Close. The Parish Council will seek clarification.

## **QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE WEEKEND 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2012**

Dorothy Beckett announced that the Church Room Sub-Committee will be asking each individual village group that uses the Church Room to organise an event during the celebration weekend with the proceeds in aid of Church Room maintenance. A sum of £9000 is being sought to replace the roof.

## **THREAT TO CLAYDON BUS SERVICE**

The publication of the August Newsletter coincided with the day that Geoff Amos ceased trading. The route which posed a threat to the 277 service has now been taken over by Stagecoach. Negotiations are ongoing but Councillor Attack thinks that the route will probably switch back to the A361 when it reopens. To compensate Cropredy, Stagecoach may improve the 277 service. Councillor Attack promised to push for any improvement to also include Claydon.

## **PLAYING FIELD NEWS**

At the Playing Field Trustee Meeting following the Parish Council Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> September the Playing Field Management Committee announced that they will not progress the development of a Nature Trail due to insufficient enthusiasm from villagers. Instead they will be investigating the installation of a path from the Play Area along the Cropredy Road side of the field. Other suggestions included in the recent survey were a roundabout, a skateboard ramp, goal posts, a basketball hoop a zip wire and more trees and shrubs. The bank balance currently stands at £6249.

## **Welcome**

back to the village to Ashley Broughton, with wife Sam and daughter Harriet.

## **Best Wishes**

for a full recovery to Tony Martin.

## **ROYAL MAIL COLLECTIONS**

Royal Mail collections are made not only from the box opposite the church, but also on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from Veronica Purdey's house at 7 Boddington Road. As Veronica has a franking machine with a 'Banbury' post mark, she is able to process letters and small packets up to 2.5Kg (just under 5lbs) without the need to visit a post office. As a neighbourly gesture, Veronica is willing to process villagers' mail if they call between the hours of 9 and 12 on her normal collection days. The postage cost would be the same as charged at a post office. As this is not an official post office, proof of postage can only be given for recorded deliveries.

## **OVER SIXTIES FILMS**

The next films are as advertised in the original flyer. The showing will take place in the Church Room at 2.00 p.m.

### **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October      Overboard**

A buoyant screwball comedy starring Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell

### **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December      It's a Wonderful Life**

Starring James Stewart in a Christmas classic

## **MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE**

The Message in a Bottle Scheme is a simple idea to encourage people living on their own to keep their basic personal and medical details in a common location where they can be easily found in an emergency. The emergency services will be alerted to membership of the scheme by a sticker inside the main access door and one on the fridge where the container will be kept. If you are interested in this free service contact Dorothy Beckett on 690322 for a container and instructions.

*Written and produced by Jenny Jones*

*Contact: tel. 690510, e-mail [clayclatnews@btinternet.com](mailto:clayclatnews@btinternet.com)*