

Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

July 2012

BUS STOP RELOCATED

When the Stagecoach 277 service resumes on 14th July it will pick up passengers from the end of Manor Park. Returning passengers will alight on the hard standing between The Old Shop and Rozel. Passengers will be safer at these places.

This is hopefully the first phase of improvements which will eventually result in the installation of a bus shelter.



The bus timetable case in position at the new site

SHUTTLE SERVICE

It is very fortunate that the Claydon Fox is based in the village. Otherwise it is extremely unlikely that a shuttle service to and from Cropredy during the road closure could have been organised at such short notice. Thanks to Les, Cathy and Adam Bodily for taking care of villagers so well during this period.

Disruption is not completely over. A new order has been raised for the closure of Main Street from the Mollington Road to the Cropredy Road from 6th August for two weeks. It is not yet confirmed, but it is anticipated that the Claydon Fox will step in again.

OVER £1000 RAISED ON JUBILEE WEEKEND FOR THE CHURCH ROOM RESTORATION

A balance between fundraising for the Church Room Restoration, and allowing villagers to party without requiring money at every turn, was successfully achieved during the Jubilee Weekend. This was mainly thanks to grants from both Cherwell District Council (CDC) and our own Parish Council, plus individual organisations covering event expenses themselves.

The concert organised by the Jubilee Group on 31st May raised **£306** in ticket sales. CDC covered the entertainment expenses and the Jubilee Group paid for the wine and nibbles. At £6 per ticket this represented excellent value for those attending.

The Jubilee Group's 10th Anniversary Party on 2nd June was entirely free. It was a way of expressing their thanks for the wonderful support they have had over the last 10 years. During that time a great deal of money was spent on the Church Room and its facilities, and many other charitable donations made.

Thanks should go to Dorothy Beckett and Thelma Tibbetts for organising both of these events.



Patrissia Cuberos leading the sing-a-long at the Street Party

Thanks must go to Phoebe Shaft for putting her head above the parapet and working hard to organise a very enjoyable Street Party on 5th June. It was free, with the story teller funded by CDC and the remainder by the Parish Council. There was no pressure, but villagers generously donated **£68** to the Church Room Restoration.

Phoebe sends her thanks to everyone who contributed to making the event a success, from loaning freezer space and equipment to helping with the numerous tasks on the day.

The Diamond Jubilee Raffle was sponsored by the Claydon Trust. A total of **£641** was raised. Thanks to everyone who sold tickets and bought them.

Fundraising Cream Tea in support of the Warwickshire & Northants Air Ambulance



Glenis Doran will be holding a cream tea in her garden (pictured above) at 8 Bignolds Close on Tuesday 24th July from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. All welcome. All donations to WNAA.

CRIME WAVE HITS CLAYDON

On the evening of 26th June a road breaking attachment, similar to the one pictured below, and used by the contractors working on the water mains, was stolen from outside the Church Room. It would probably have taken either a great deal of muscle power or special equipment in order to be lifted, suggesting that the theft was premeditated.



The village allotments were targeted at the end of May when items were stolen from several sheds, and again on more than one occasion at the start of July when several hens disappeared together with the equipment to feed and water them. Down at the canal car park a vehicle was vandalised with the windows smashed, and a fire extinguisher set off inside, causing a great deal of mess.

Neighbouring villages are experiencing similar problems with the theft of the cemetery gates and an attempted burglary in Cropredy and the theft of a Land Rover (that was subsequently used for a theft in Northants) from Upper Wardington.

Even more worrying is the attack on 6th July of a 76 year old man in Little Bourton, who was punched in the head when he refused to allow in a distraction burglar, who claimed that he wanted to check the water supply. Please be extra vigilant. **If you see anything suspicious telephone police on 101 with information, or 999 for immediate police response.**



DIAMOND JUBILEE GIFT TO ST. JAMES' CHURCH

Visitors to the church will be able to see the new candle stand made by Clive Mutch. It is inscribed 'St James the Great' and to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. 2012

It is made of oak, the main stem was a Victorian newel post and the top and base are in natural brown oak. The barley twist on the stem is entirely cut by hand. The three ball feet are to enable it to stand firmly on uneven surfaces. It replaces the old stand which was beyond repair. Clive's other restoration work in the church includes: the Victorian Eagle Lectern, a wooden chest, a table, the pulpit brass candle sconces and the church doors. He also made a plaque to acknowledge Les Fox and Eric Bates who wound the clock for many years.

He is currently working on the largest of his projects, to restore

the coffin bier.

CHURCH ROOM UPDATE

Following the Jubilee fundraising, the Church Room Committee are almost in a position to repay the loans that were made to pay for the building work.

The next phase of the project is the conversion of the toilet to allow full disabled access. It will involve re-positioning of the wall and the door to allow space for a wheelchair and the installation of completely new sanitary ware.

The cost is estimated to be around £2800. It is expected that 30% of this will be met by Oxfordshire County Council, but further fundraising will be necessary to cover the rest.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

CODE OF CONDUCT

On 26th June the Parish Council held a special meeting to adopt the new code of conduct for town and parish councils. This was a result of the Government's new Localism Bill. The code is very similar to that adopted previously.

At the Parish Council Meeting on 10th July, attended by County Councillor George Reynolds and District Councillor Ken Attack, the following items were discussed:

BUS SHELTER

Councillor Jones reported that although residents in the area of Manor Park did not object to the new site of the bus stop, there were certain reservations regarding the installation of a bus shelter there.

As the Banbury area is scheduled for the next Bus Subsidy review (with services to operate from the latter part of 2013) it was decided that the focus will be on ensuring that Claydon retains a service before any further attempts are made to fund and install a bus shelter.

DANGEROUS DOGS

Both the Anti-Social Behaviour Manager and the Dog Warden at Cherwell District Council are aware of the problem of loose dogs in the village. It is hoped that the Dog Warden and a police representative will attend the next meeting.

PATHS, TREES AND VERGES

The Parish Council has received a complaint that overgrown hedges and verges plus the weeds on the blue brick path make travelling around the village with a push chair extremely difficult.

A representative from Oxfordshire County Council is scheduled to visit the village on Friday 13th July when maintenance will be discussed with Parish Council representatives. It is hoped that during this visit some progress will also be made on determining the ownership of the ditch and verge on the Appletree Road.

The Parish Council resolved to refer a complaint regarding the footpath on the railway bridge on the Fenny Compton Road to Warwickshire County Council.

BROADBAND

The Parish Council agreed to support any initiative to improve the broadband service within the village.

PLANNING

Point to Point Farm

Cherwell District Council (CDC) has rejected the applications for an additional barn and a new dwelling at Point to Point Farm.

Far Close

The appeal against CDC's refusal of planning permission to erect three chalet bungalows in the garden of Far Close is still pending. A visit by the Planning Inspector has been cancelled and a fresh date to view the site has yet to be arranged.

Wind Turbines

In addition to the applications and appeals for wind masts and turbines reported in previous issues, new applications are expected for turbines at Burton Dasset, Bishops Itchington and Knightcote.

Oxford Canal Enforcement

The Chairman reported that the appearance of the plots on the land adjacent to Otter Hollow seems much improved, but it is difficult to know whether they are all compliant with the enforcement specifications. Councillor Atack reported that an officer is planning to further inspect two of the plots.

FINANCE

As anticipated at the setting of the budget in January, finances are very tight, particularly as major bills (for grass cutting and the new fence) have been submitted by the Playing Field Management Committee and the Parish Council will not receive the second half of the precept until September.

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

It was proposed that any organisation requesting a grant from the Parish Council should submit a completed request form prior to the setting of the budget. There was some dispute as to whether the Playing Field Management Committee should be excluded from this procedure. The finalisation of the form was postponed until the next meeting.

DANGEROUS CROSSING

Concern was expressed that some trains give no warning when approaching the crossing, placing anyone crossing the line in danger.

JUBILEE MUGS

Vicky Smith sends thanks to the Claydon Trust, on behalf of the younger children of the village and their parents, for the wonderful keepsake of the commemorative Jubilee Mugs.

There are some Jubilee Mugs remaining for sale, priced at £4 each. Please ring 690510 if you are interested.

OVER SIXTIES FILMS

The next film showing will take place in the Church Room at 2.00 p.m. on

Friday 24th August

starring Audrey Hepburn and Albert Finney in

Two for the Road

A comedy drama about a couple travelling through France during various stages of their relationship

SUPPER EVENING

The Claydon History Society will be organising a supper followed by a talk by Gerald Marsh, Freeman and Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Clockmakers, on Friday 14th September at 7.00 pm. Look out for notices nearer the time.

LEFTOVERS

A plastic sandwich box and three foil serving dishes were left after the Bignolds Close party on 4th June. To claim them please ring 690066.

COMMENT

All birds nesting in the UK are protected. Swallows, martins and swifts returning to breed in this country have faced many hardships on their journey, some having to cross the Sahara and then evade the bullets of hunters across the Pyrenees. Here, thanks to the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act, when building their nests and raising their young they are protected from human interference and need only contend with the weather and natural predators.

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