

# Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

September/October 2016

## CONGRATULATIONS POM AND PHIL



**Pom and Phil with son Doug**

On Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August, family, friends and villagers gathered to celebrate the marriage of Adele Broughton (better known as Pom) to Philip Al-Anazi. The ceremony took place at St. Peter & St. Paul Church, King's Sutton, followed by a reception at Sulgrave Manor. The dress was designed by Charlotte Balbier and the bridesmaids included Philippa Taylor, while Harriet Broughton acted as flower girl. The men were not to be outdone, as Arron Broughton surprised everyone with an a cappella solo during the ceremony.



**Pom with proud father Martin**

## **SUPERFAST BROADBAND**

Parish Councillors met representatives of BT Openreach and agreed the siting of the new broadband cabinet. There was concern regarding the roots of the trees and any possible access to the designated bus shelter site, should circumstances change and a shelter be required in the future.

The site was chosen to allow sufficient space for pedestrians to pass between the road sign and the cabinet. It is expected to be installed by the end of September.

Further work will then be required to lay fibre optic cable down the length of the Mollington Road. This is expected to be complete by December.

Once in place, superfast broadband should be effective within a 900 metre radius of the cabinet.

# NEW COMET BUS SERVICE

The Comet bus service is a new service which is very similar to Dial-a-Ride as the service can be door to door. In fact the 16-seater buses are those previously used by Oxfordshire County Council when it was running the Dial-a-Ride service. Those buses are now used for home to school transport, but this leaves a window during the middle of the day when the vehicles are available to make other journeys. Although the available times advertised are 10.15 am to 2.30 pm, Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays), if returning to Claydon, the final time would be 2.00 pm, as the vehicle would need to be in Banbury for its school pick-up around 2.30 pm.

The service can be used in 3 different ways: Group bookings, Individual bookings or Shared use. Both individuals and group organisers need to register and create an account by calling **01865 323201** and paying a one-off registration fee of £3. Those people booking for individual or shared use will then buy credit for their account by using a credit or debit card before travel.

Group bookings can be for different types of group trips or for a community route. The charge is £20 per hour which can be paid after travel. If there is insufficient time for the vehicle to be used on other trips between the outward and return journeys, waiting time will be charged at £10 per hour.

Individuals can have sole use of the vehicle and may bring up to 15 companions. The cost of the trip will be £1.50 per mile, with a minimum charge of £7.

If individuals do not mind travelling with others and can be flexible about what day they travel, attempts will be made to match the journey with other bookings in order to reduce the price.

Trips can be booked by calling the above number between 9.00 am and 4.30 pm Monday to Thursday and 9.00 am to 4.00 pm on Friday. Shared travel should be booked at least 24 hours before the required journey.

Further information including full terms and conditions can be found at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/comet](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/comet)

# Claydon with Clattercote Parish Council

## **URGENT**

### **Councillor vacancy**

Claydon with Clattercote Parish Council currently have a vacancy for a parish councilor and are aware that another vacancy is likely to come up very soon so we really need more volunteers. If you are enthusiastic about your community and would like to work as part of team to maintain and improve the village then please consider joining the Parish Council.

The Parish Council meets bi monthly on the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November and it is hoped that the council can co-opt a new member at that meeting.

**If the parish council become inquorate (less than 3 members) the council can no longer legally function and the running of the village will pass over to the District Council. This should be of great concern to the parishioners as the District Council have no personal experience of the village and therefore do not know what issues actually concern the parishioners.**

***“But I don’t have time to be a Councillor; I’m too busy.”***

The Parish Council should be a team of five people from across the community – young and old, retired and working, parents and grandparents. If you have lots of time - that will be useful, if you are busy at work all day the council could benefit from your work and

business experience. If you are bringing up children you will know what young people in our community want to see. The Parish Council needs members with a range of experience and knowledge.

***“You must be joking, I’m not political.”***

The Parish Council is not a party political organisation – all councillors represent the whole community.

If you have any questions or would like to put your name forward to be considered for co-option please contact the clerk on [cwcclerk@outlook.com](mailto:cwcclerk@outlook.com) or 01295 275372 or speak to any of the existing councilors (David Hill, Anne Hoggins, Jenny Jones and Richard Millward).

## **CRITERIA FOR STANDING AS A PARISH COUNCILLOR**

Candidates must fit at least one of the following criteria –

- ✓ On Electoral Register (i.e. registered to vote) for the parish
- ✓ Have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish/community area over the last 12 months
- ✓ Lived within 3 miles of the parish over the last 12 months
- ✓ Their principal place of work is in the parish and has been for at least 12 months

# HORTON HOSPITAL UPDATE

At an Extraordinary Board Meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> August, the Oxford University Hospitals Foundation Trust (OUHFT) agreed to 'temporarily' close the consultant led maternity service at the Horton General Hospital (Horton) on the grounds of safety. Although the OUHFT had known for over a year that it was having difficulty recruiting junior obstetricians, very little appears to have been done to make the positions more attractive. Following the resignation of two doctors, the decision was made to close the unit, leaving just a midwife led facility. The Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) will also close.

Board members were persuaded that the situation was just temporary and the unit would re-open as soon as sufficient doctors could be recruited and passed an induction period at the John Radcliffe Hospital (JR).

This means that the remaining service gives women the same experience as giving birth at home with just a midwife in attendance. Should there be any complication, the patient and midwife would then be required to travel to the JR by ambulance. When things go wrong, it happens extremely quickly and the local GPs, local councillors and the Keep the Horton General Campaign Group have serious concerns regarding the safety and time taken in such a transfer.

The closure of the consultant led service was originally planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> October, but it has now been brought forward to 1<sup>st</sup> October. The birth rate at the Horton was around 1500 per year. It is anticipated that the midwife led unit will see less than 400 patients per year, leaving an already struggling JR to cope with the rest, though some may opt for Warwick or Northampton. The Horton has regularly taken babies into the SCBU when the JR has run out of capacity. With this option no longer available, babies may have to travel even further afield.

There are suspicions that the closure is a deliberate ploy to avoid a consultation on the issue. The Clinical Commissioning Group is working on a Sustainability and Transformation (ie saving money) Plan. The options put forward so far have not included consultant led maternity or children's inpatient beds. The consultation is due in December and then **as many people as possible need to object to the downgrade of services.**

Meantime the Keep the Horton Campaign Group is fighting on. It continues to raise funds for a legal challenge and there will be a protest in Westminster on October 10<sup>th</sup>, joining with other campaign groups who are seeing their hospital services downgraded. A petition will also be delivered to Downing Street.

# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

At the Parish Council Meeting on 11th September the following further items were discussed:

## **PLANNING**

### **The Barnhouse**

The application for the replacement of the roof, additional cladding and alterations to the internal room layout has been granted,

### **Rozel**

In commenting on the application for a large extension to the side, another to the rear, and a coating of lime based render to the whole building, the Parish Council has requested some form of screening or landscaping be introduced in order to reduce the impact.

### **The Brambles**

The application for the replacement of the fence adjacent to the public footpath with a wall was to be circulated amongst the parish councillors for comments.

### **Point to Point Farm**

An application has been made for all conditions regarding the log cabin at Point to Point Farm to be scrapped. The log cabin was originally to be demolished after 3 years, but in 2013 an extension of a further 3 years was granted. Although the original application had been granted for a stockman to live on site in order to manage a large herd of cattle, it was felt that the size of the herd had never reached that specified in the original plan.

### **Cropredy Marina**

The Parish Council had submitted an objection to any further development in support of Cropredy Parish Council.

### **Catesby Estates Cropredy**

An application has been submitted to build 60 new houses in Cropredy, in close proximity to the railway line. It was agreed that Claydon would be represented on a working party of local parish councils, organised by District Councillor Ken Atack, to object to the development.. 130 Cropredy residents have objected. It was felt that the development would result in a significant increase in traffic, which, already a problem in Cropredy, has worsened due to the loss of the bus service. The school and the surgery are also at capacity

## **PROPERTIES**

The house, built as part of the Cherwell District Council (CDC) **Build!** project, on Fenny Compton Road, has been completed to the shell stage. The new owner will have the opportunity to choose and fit the bathroom, the kitchen and the doors. The house will be available on a shared ownership basis to enable some-one who ordinarily couldn't enter the property market to live in the village.

CDC is investigation the long term empty properties in the village. There are apparently structural issues to be overcome at 12 Manor Park before it is brought into a habitable state. A property inspection of the Old School House by CDC is planned.

## **CLAYDON ALLOTMENTS**

£55 in rent has been paid, leaving none outstanding. Plots 10 and 11 will be vacated in April. The tenant is willing to negotiate the retention of the polytunnel if a new tenant comes forward. The tenants of the two plots which have not been cultivated this year will be informed that if there is no further cultivation their tenancies will not be renewed in April.

It was agreed that the unoccupied plots would be trimmed in preparation for winter.

## **VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD**

Councillor Millward has kindly offered to build a new noticeboard. It will have two doors, one of which will be lockable, in order to provide cover from the weather. The Parish Council will fund any materials required.

## **WASTE BINS**

Although at a previous meeting it had been decided that the waste bins would be removed and not replaced, there was reluctance amongst villagers to have nowhere to dump the large amount of litter which is regularly scattered around the village. CDC has apparently lined the bins with back sacks, but there was still a concern that they may not be emptied if they contain dog waste.

The Clerk will clarify the rules on bin emptying with CDC.

## **POTHLES**

As potholes in the roads around the village appear to be a major source of complaint, residents are urged to visit '*Fix My Street*' on the Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) website.

# PLAYING FIELD NEWS

In August we once again held the Claydon Games which was well attended. We were lucky with beautiful weather. There were running races, three-legged and space hopper races. We once again enjoyed the very popular wet t-shirt competition and the wellies were wanged.

This year's wellie wanging winners were:

For the adults: Neil with 29.46 m and Chris with 15.60m.

For the under 12's: Oscar with 15.60m

For the under 6's: Jacob with 9.25m

Congratulations to everyone who came along and took part.

If you are interested in helping out at future events or would like to join the committee, please email [pamela.putt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pamela.putt@yahoo.co.uk)

Save the date: Saturday 26th November. Plans are in the pipeline for a family Christmas quiz evening



# Welcome to the Village

to Zabin and Liz Al-Anazi in Bignolds Close.

## **POPPY COLLECTION**

Anne Hoggins will be collecting for the British Legion Poppy Appeal from Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

## **DO WE NEED THE PHONE BOX?**

The BT phone box in Claydon has not been working for a while and, despite lots of time spent by a Cllr chasing this up with BT, it has still not been fixed.

It has been suggested that the phone box is no longer required in the village so the parish council are considering having it removed. If you feel that the phone box is necessary in the village please contact the parish clerk on [cwccclerk@outlook.com](mailto:cwccclerk@outlook.com) or 01295 275372 before 1st November 2016.

## **Churchyard Survey**

Last year a group of villagers conducted a survey of the churchyard to record information from the headstones. This has allowed us to create a map and a list of the grave plots which is now available to view in the church. Additionally the Claydon Art group have generously agreed to provide a larger illustrated (village scenes) map which will eventually be displayed in the village. Paul Gallagher will also construct a digitised version of the map for enclosure on the village web-site. These projects are very time consuming and I am extremely grateful to all those people who are prepared to give their time and expertise to this project.

The Claydon History Soc. hope to write a comprehensive history of the village in the future months and anyone interested in contributing to the project would be warmly welcomed.

*Don Siviter*

## COUCH POTATO UPDATE

9th October is the Oxford half marathon date!

Since starting this challenge 20 weeks ago I've achieved:

- 290 miles run in 44.5 hours
- Initial timing was 12:27 min per mile (4.8mph)
- Personal Best time so far is 8:21 min per mile (7.2mph)
- Furthest distance covered in one run was 10.45 miles
- Over £1250 raised for Macmillan Cancer Support so far!



As part of my training I've also run the Blenheim 10k on 2nd October, completing in 56minutes and raising over £120

# STOP PRESS – SELF CHALLENGE COMPLETED



Couch Potato to Half Marathon runner in 20 weeks!

Oxford Half Marathon Official time recorded was 2hrs 51seconds, excellent for my 1st attempt at a Half Marathon & with only 20 weeks training....

Pity I wasn't clock watching whilst running as I might have been able to shave off 52 seconds! Next time, sub 2hrs I will have you!

A BIG thank you to those who have donated already and for those who would like to donate to Macmillan Cancer Support, please either;

Visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Paul-J-Gallagher>

Call me 01295 298699

*Paul Gallagher*

# *Diary Dates*

*The funeral of Thelma Tibbetts will take place at  
St Mary the Virgin Church, Cropredy  
on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October at 11.15 am.*

## **OVER SIXTIES FILM**

The next film showing will take place in the Church Room at 2.00 pm on

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

starring Meryl Streep as

**Florence Foster Jenkins**

## **HISTORY SOCIETY MEETING**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October** at 7.30 pm in the Church Room.

## **COFFEE MORNING**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October** at 10.30 am in the Church Room

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November** at 7.00 pm in the Church Room

followed by

## **PLAYING FIELD TRUSTEE MEETING**

## **FAMILY CHRISTMAS QUIZ**

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November**

*Edited and produced by Jenny Jones*

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