

# Claydon with Clattercote Newsletter

November/December 2021

## CHARGES FOR BROWN BIN COLLECTIONS

At the Parish Council Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November, Cherwell District Councillor George Reynolds confirmed that from early 2022 there will be a change to the waste food collections in Cherwell.

Residents will empty their waste food into lockable bins which will be emptied weekly. A consequence of the change is that charges will be introduced for the emptying of brown composting bins.



The Cherwell District Council (CDC) website indicates that the charge will be introduced in February 2022 and will be £36 per bin. If residents fail to sign up for the charges before 1<sup>st</sup> February they will increase to £40 per bin, even though it is likely that all bins will be emptied in February regardless of any payments, as food bin collections may not be under way until March.

## **PARISH COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION**



Following Councillor Veronica Purdey's resignation from the Parish Council she was thanked for her service to the village.

Although, with an election due in May 2022, it is not necessary to appoint a replacement it was agreed that, provided that 10 villagers do not request an immediate election, a new councillor will be co-opted.

A notice giving the deadline for applications for the position will be posted on the Noticeboard. They should be sent to [garythedenham@yahoo.com](mailto:garythedenham@yahoo.com)

## **OTHER PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

At the Parish Council Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> November, which was attended by County and District Councillor George Reynolds, the following further items were discussed:

### **CLERK VACANCY/RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER (RFO)**

There have been no applications for the position of Parish Clerk. Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils (OALC) had supplied a list of clerks who may be willing to undertake locum work but all of them live a considerable distance away from the village. OALC had also suggested that the number of paid hours be increased to make the position more attractive, but the Parish Council felt that this could not be justified. The possibility of applicants who live closer to the village but over the county boundary will therefore be investigated.

It was agreed that in the absence of a clerk, Councillor Denham will undertake the role of Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) until the new Parish Council is elected in May 2022. Councillors Ferguson and Jones will assist where possible.

### **DAMAGE TO VILLAGE GREEN**

Councillors agreed to meet and inspect the Village Green with a view to including the repair in the budget for the next financial year. The width of the track has gradually expanded caused by traffic to Manor Farm and Claydon House.

### **NEGLECTED SECOND HOMES**

The contents of the letter to be sent to Victoria Prentis MP, on the subject of neglected second homes Bank Cottage and The Old School House were agreed. Councillor Reynolds also indicated that he would write to the Chief Executive of CDC regarding The Old School House.

### **PLANNING**

The application for a five bedroom mobile home at High Furlong Farm has been withdrawn. As the owner is believed to be living at the existing mobile home on the site, the Planning Enforcement Officer at CDC was subsequently contacted. The response was that the Officer is satisfied with the earlier explanation that the mobile home is used purely for shelter whilst tending to the sheep.

A letter will be drafted to the Head of the Planning Department for consideration at the next meeting.

## **COUNTY COUNCIL NEWS**

Councillor Reynolds reported that:

County Councillors have been awarded a 10% pay rise.

Within the next 6 months Banbury Library will move from its present position in Marlborough Road to the first floor of the space previously occupied by Marks & Spencer in Castle Quay.

OCC contractors are now responsible for statutory parking fines.

20 mph speed limit zones are being tested in 5 parishes in the county.

It has also been proposed that all food within OCC should be vegan.

In view of the current restrictions on public sector pay increases, the Parish Council resolved to write to the Leader of the Council objecting to the 10% pay increase.

## **LITTER PICK**

Following a request from a young parishioner, the Parish Council resolved to organise a village litter pick in Spring 2022.

## **HEAVY TRAFFIC ON BODDINGTON ROAD**

There has been a large increase in traffic, including heavy lorries on Boddington Road, prompting a parishioner request for a 'No Works Traffic' sign. The Parish Council resolved to contact HS2.

# **Thanks**

## **Late Summer Party**

Thanks to Mel and Dan Love and Tony Clegg for organising the event which was enjoyed by many villagers.

## **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2021**

Thanks from Anne Hoggins to everyone in Claydon and Clattercote who contributed to a total amount of £398.33  
*(And to Anne for organising the collection. Ed)*

## Obituaries

# JOAN TAYLOR

30<sup>th</sup> September 1933 – 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021



Joan Mary Hillier was born at Goichley Fold Farm in Hawkshaw, Lancashire to parents Joe and Alice Hillier. When the couple moved to Clattercote Priory, as it was near derelict, with no electricity or running water, it was not suitable for a baby and, with Alice needing to work all hours on the farm, Joan was sent to live with relatives. She was brought up by a religious spinster aunt and then sent to a draconian boarding school which she hated.

Joan qualified as a teacher in 1953 and taught at St John's Roman Catholic School in Banbury. She married Ion at St John's Church in 1955 and carried on teaching until Adrian, her eldest son was born in 1956.

It's not surprising then that she had chosen St John's when she arranged her own funeral, much to the confusion of her family who had begun to organise funeral proceedings at Aston le Walls. Joan had arranged her

own funeral as consideration for her family as she had felt that if she 'popped her clogs' during harvest she wouldn't want to be a bother.

Joan and Ion went on to have three more children, Nigel, David and Anne-Marie. A more pleasant aspect of Joan's childhood was learning to ride and her passion for horses was passed on to Nigel, Anne-Marie and granddaughter Philippa, with both Nigel and Anne-Marie competing at International level.

Joan's other passions were food and her dogs. She even managed to make a lurcher fat. Her favourite dog was a black Labrador called Jo-Jo whom she re-homed from a rescue when he was a few months old. When out on walks he would frequently disgrace himself by either rolling in something unmentionable or catching a live pheasant, but to Joan he could seemingly do no wrong.

In June 2007 Joan was diagnosed with a rare form of leukaemia and given only a year to live, but she completely defied the odds.

## **MARJORIE FOX**

**22<sup>nd</sup> February 1928 –2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021**



Marjorie Olive Bratt grew up in Bodicote, daughter of William and Lilly. She was the youngest of four, having two brothers and a sister. Marjorie was particularly close to her sister Elsie – in adulthood they could have been taken for identical twins. From an early age, as a farmer's daughter, hard working was evidently in Marjorie's genetic make-up and became her way of life. Before going to school in the mornings she delivered milk around Bodicote, and later she drove a lorry around Banbury delivering vegetables.

Marjorie's move to Claydon came in 1954 when she married Andrew and became a farmer's wife. Their family grew with children Catherine and Clifford. She loved her life in Claydon, and was deeply part of the village, working hard to support aspects of church life, including a wide range of fundraising events. There were barn dances, harvest suppers, and carol singing around the village on tractor and trailer. There were also many occasions in and around the house when Marjorie would be responsible for the delicious food.

Marjorie didn't have hobbies as such – rather activities that became a way of life – in addition to cooking, she hugely enjoyed gardening, and the results clearly demonstrated her expertise. This love has been passed on to her daughter and grand-daughter who also love gardening. Villagers on her list of customers for home grown tomatoes considered themselves very fortunate. Marjorie also had a great love of buying and selling and enjoyed many car boot sales. At these events her bedding plants were so popular and of such good quality that the queues were crowding around before she had time to unload the car.

Marjorie's dogs were a huge part of her life and important companions, and she had many over the years. There were other animals too – the hens, the geese and the large tortoises. When not in hibernation the latter would spend time in the garden, but would then return to the house, walking through the conservatory along to the kitchen and settle next to the Aga.

Generous hospitality, an open house and good food were always involved. And Marjorie's kitchen was a hub for friends of all ages and backgrounds, from both the village and the wider area.

# *Diary Dates*

## **POP UP CAFÉ**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December** 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm in the Church Room

## **OUTDOOR CAROLS**

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December** 4.00 pm (venue to be confirmed)

## **CRIB SERVICE**

**Christmas Eve, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December** 4.00 pm at St James Church

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

**Christmas Day, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December** 9.30 am at St James Church

## **Gifts of the Season**

Each time, each season offers its own gifts, if we learn again how to give our attention to the season. Still living with the ongoing effects of pandemic living, the times and seasons have perhaps taken on a new importance for us. Here we are in the season of Advent, on the approach to Christmas, and once more the busyness and stress can overwhelm, Once more the bittersweetness of this time can bring its own challenge. The season of Advent can help us. Here are some ideas to help us receive again precious gifts, and maybe find a way to do something differently this December. They are both playful and serious, stressing the Advent themes of day-by-day waiting, watching, and preparation.

- Remember darkness and light are Advent gifts. Take time to appreciate this dark time of the year: have a meal by candlelight; do some star-gazing, or watch the sky change colour at sunrise or sunset;
- Notice the gifts of the natural world – make a wreath from natural materials; listen to the autumn songs of garden birds; make a nativity scene with found natural objects;
- Take a 3 minute break away from those screens - light an Advent candle, be still, take time, become aware of your breath, use an Advent prayer 'Come Lord Jesus'.

May the gifts of Advent bless you into the joy of Christmas.

*'Walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone.'* (George Fox)

***Revd Hilary Campbell***

*Edited and produced by Jenny Jones*

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