

# Clifton Chronicles March 2011

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All contributions and information from clubs, societies and general community interest items are welcome. Please send e-contributions to:

**[chronicles@clifton-beds.co.uk](mailto:chronicles@clifton-beds.co.uk)**

or take articles to—All Saints School Office

Next edition will be: **April 2011**

Copy date: **March 10th**

Kathy Blackmore 646371

# Who's Who

<b>Churchwardens</b>	<b>Felicity Kendall</b> Millow Bury Farm, Dunton <b>Kathy Blackmore</b> Hawarden Cottage, 47 Church Street	<b>01767 312831</b>  <b>646371</b>
<b>Curate, NSM (unpaid, PT)</b>	<b>Caren Topley,</b> 7 Fairfax Close, Clifton	<b>615499</b>
<b>Organist &amp; Choirmaster</b>	<b>Peter Maundrell</b> 24 Heron Close, Biggleswade	<b>01767 314621</b>
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	<b>Frank Rivett</b> 1 Clifton Farm Barns, Church Street	<b>851816</b>
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	<b>Anne Sullivan</b> Knolls Way, Clifton	<b>817491</b>
<b>Church Hall Bookings</b>	<b>Dorothy Brown</b> 1 Lychmead, Clifton	<b>628982</b>
All Saints Church Tower Captain	Stan Ashton, 15A Pedley Lane, CLIFTON	813340
<b>Saturday Club</b>	<b>Terry Sullivan</b> Knolls Way, Clifton	<b>817491</b>
<b>Head-teacher, All Saints' School</b>	<b>Interim Head: Mrs Denise Gower</b>	<b>628444</b>
<b>School Governors</b>	<b>Chair: Philippa Whittington</b> <b>Vice-chair: Peter Blackmore</b>	<b>851816 646371</b>
<b>School Bookings</b>	<b>Justine McCarthy</b> All Saints School	<b>628444</b>
<b>Parish Council Chairman</b>	<b>Barry Livesey</b> 75 Shefford Road, Clifton	<b>811385</b>
<b>Community Centre Bookings</b>	<b>Judy Lanham,</b> Clerk to the Parish Council 10 Alexander Close, Clifton	<b>813520</b>
<b>MP Nadine Dorries</b>	<b>Constituency Office, St Michael's Close, High Street, Shefford</b>	<b>811992</b>
<b>Councillors Langford &amp; Henlow</b>	<b>Tony Rogers</b> – District & County 3 Poppy Hill, Henlow <b>Jon Clark</b>	<b>816305</b>

# *in Clifton*

<b>Chronicles Editor</b>	<b>Kathy Blackmore</b> , Hawarden Cottage, 47 Church Street, Clifton	<b>646371</b>
<b>Chronicles Advertising</b>	Advertising year runs May to April	<b>811303</b>
<b>Chronicles Distribution</b>	<b>Don Gray</b> Hitchin Lane, Clifton	<b>629690</b>
<b>Clifton Football Club</b>	<b>Jason Shacklock</b> ,	<b>816881</b>
<b>Clifton Cricket Club</b>	<b>Colin Weaver</b> 10 Clifton House Close	<b>812412</b>
<b>Biggleswade Gardening Club</b>	<b>Mr A Gray</b> <a href="http://www.biggleswade.gardenclub.care4free.net">www.biggleswade.gardenclub.care4free.net</a>	<b>01767 221428</b>
<b>Brownies</b>	<b>Sandra Ransom</b> , 1 Bilberry Road, Clifton	<b>813724</b>
<b>Care Scheme</b>		<b>07817 614654</b>
<b>CIPS (Clifton Preservation)</b>	<b>Mr J Peacock</b> , 61 Shefford Road <a href="mailto:cips@clifton-beds.co.uk">cips@clifton-beds.co.uk</a>	<b>812514</b>
<b>Dramatic Society</b>	<b>Heidi Burniston</b> , Secretary	<b>649331</b>
<b>Guides</b>	<b>Jane Attenborough</b> , 32 Knolls Way,	<b>629063</b>
<b>Parent and Toddlers</b>	Beccy	819373
<b>Police Contact</b>	<b>PC S Busby</b> Non-urgent no. 01234 842567	<b>01234 841212</b>
<b>The Woodlands</b>	Pre-School, Breakfast & After School Clubs <a href="http://www.thewoodlands.uk.org">www.thewoodlands.uk.org</a>	<b>811486</b>
<b>Providence Baptist Chapel</b>	<b>Nick Rogers</b>	<b>07910 353520</b>
<b>Rainbows</b>	<b>Ruth Burns</b> , 20 Brickle Place, Clifton	<b>622125</b>
<b>Residents Association</b>	<b>Joyce Tiney</b> , Secretary 43 Stockbridge Road, Clifton	<b>814902</b>
<b>All Scouts</b>	<b>Sarah Panton</b> , 123 High Street, Henlow Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Explorers	<b>813799</b>
<b>Under Fives</b>	<b>Elaine</b> 3	<b>07788 670935</b>
<b>WI</b>	<b>Katherine Edwards</b>	<b>816334</b>



Dear Friends

Clifton bade farewell to Mark-Aaron, Cigil and Winston-James Tisdale at the end of January at a cheese and wine reception at All Saints' School. Mark-Aaron was presented with a sterling silver Home Communion Set, there was a voucher for Winston-James and a cheque for Cigil to buy something for their new home when they are settled in the autumn. Mark-Aaron and his family left the village at the end of half term to go to St Edmunds School near Canterbury where he will take up his post as School Chaplain after the half-term holiday.

Meanwhile the wardens and PCC have taken over responsibility for arranging services during the interregnum. We are delighted that, with the exception of 8.00 am Holy Communion services, we will be able to maintain our usual pattern of services in the short term. The 8.00 am Holy Communion services will only be held on the last Sunday of each month which will follow the order of service from the Book of Common Prayer. We are very grateful to Rev Caren Topley, Rev Paul Lanham and our trainee Reader Robin Welsford for their support. Some services will of course be covered by clergy from outside the parish. The first point of contact for all parish matters during the interregnum is the wardens Felicity Kendall and Kathy Blackmore – find their numbers in Who's Who. If you have an emergency pastoral matter please contact the Rural Dean Rev John Harper, 01462 813334.

The recruitment process to appoint a new Rector began with a joint meeting of the PCCs of Clifton and Southill with the Bishop and Archdeacon of Bedford. We hope to be advertising the post by April but the process will inevitably take some time. We will keep everyone informed about progress through the website, the weekly pew sheet and of course the Chronicles.

The life of the parish goes on pretty much as normal: we are holding our Churchyard Working Party on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March, if you can help, please come along between 10.00 and 1.00 or contact the wardens; our pre-Lent supper will also be held at 7.30pm on 5<sup>th</sup> March; the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> March in the church at 8pm and on 3<sup>rd</sup> April there will be a non-Communion service for Mothering Sunday - all are welcome to come.

We recognise that this is a period of uncertainty but it is also a time for growth and an opportunity to enjoy different styles of the various clergy and ministers who will lead our worship in Clifton.

With kind regards, Felicity <sup>4</sup>Kendall and Kathy Blackmore

# From the Registers



## Funerals:

10th February Lorna Watts  
11th February Alan Burnage

## Baptisms:

30th January Jack H Tupper  
Miller H Smith

## Wedding:

15th January Heather D Jeffs and Grant M Brasier

## All Saints Church Services

*(for dates see sidespersons rota at back of magazine)*

### Sundays:

8.00 Communion last Sunday BCP

11.00 Parish Communion (Last Sunday Family Communion)

6.30 Evensong

Wednesdays: 10 am—Communion

*Under 5's - 2-3 pm on Thursdays (dates Forward Planner)*

## Under 5's



2-3pm in the Church \* All Welcome

Thursdays 3rd, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31st March

## **Providence Baptist Church – Clifton**

### **Sunday Services**

10.30 am and 6.00 pm. A warm welcome is assured to all.  
Communion following the service 3rd Sunday in the month

### **Mondays**

Mums and Tots – 10.00 am  
Monday Club {Lower School Age} – 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm  
The Zone on Monday {Middle School Age} – 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

### **Wednesdays**

Weekly bible study and prayer meetings – ring for details.

### **Thursday's**

10.30 am – coffee pot at the church, feel free to drop in for a drink.

### **Fridays**

10.00 am: Mums and Tots.

**Pastor:** Nick Angell 01234 381094, [nick.angell6@googlemail.com](mailto:nick.angell6@googlemail.com)

**Secretary:** Nick Rogers, 07910353520, [njr.pbc@gmail.com](mailto:njr.pbc@gmail.com)

## **All Saints' Clifton**

### Services during the vacancy

8.00 Holy Communion services will ONLY be held on the last Sunday of the month during the vacancy; other services will be maintained in our normal pattern for the immediate future.

# **All Saints' Voluntary Aided** **Lower School**



## **School Closure**

Please can the residents of Clifton be extra vigilant if they are walking near or around the perimeters of the school at the weekend and evenings. As during the night of the 2nd February the school was accessed and over 10 meters of gas copper pipe was removed from the side and roof of the school premises. The pipes were left exposed with gas leaking. The school had a very strong smell of gas throughout the whole building. We were very lucky that this did not cause an explosion. The gas was turned off and the area made safe. The school had to be ventilated throughout the day to remove the smell of gas. We apologise for any inconvenience caused but we are sure you appreciate the safety of the pupils and staff came first.

## **1st & 3rd**

Some of the children took part in a Gym Festival, our year two children came 1<sup>st</sup> and our year 4 children came 3<sup>rd</sup> we were very proud of their achievements.

## **March Events**

We are looking forward to our 'Living Eggs' being delivered on 14<sup>th</sup> March. The children (and staff) really enjoy watching the eggs hatch and how the chicks develop and grow so quickly.

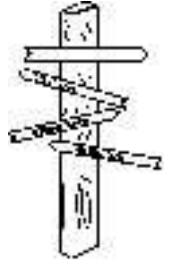
We have our annual parents evening on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of March where parents have the opportunity to talk to the class teacher and discuss their child's progress. Naturally we are available to talk to throughout the academic year if you have any concerns or require any further information.

We would like to welcome Philippa Whittington to her post as Chair of Governors and Peter Blackmore as Vice Chair due to the departure of Mark –Aaron Tisdale.

Please check our website [www.allsaints.beds.sch.uk/](http://www.allsaints.beds.sch.uk/) for newsletters, updates and photographs of recent events. The website has a variety of sections; therefore it is often worth checking this first before phoning the school with any queries.

# Parish Council

## Keeping up Appearances - The “Big Society” and Clifton?



At the conclusion of a recent Central Bedfordshire Council Conference, representatives of Town & Parish Councils were asked to take the following message back to their town or village: “Central Bedfordshire has to save money and increasingly it will be up to you and your residents to help maintain your environment”.

Clifton is a very attractive village and the Parish Council is determined that it will remain so. Lots of people already do a lot and their efforts are very much appreciated but in the future it is clear that we need everyone to play their part in looking after our village. What we ask is that we all take responsibility for the area outside our home, keep it litter free, look after our verge, park our car responsibly, if it snows clear our footpath if we are able and take in our bin promptly when it has been emptied.

During the last snow the drivers went off in heated cars leaving our elder people, mums with prams and young children to struggle about the village on lethal ice covered pavements. Shame on us!

Our Spring Litter Pick is well established and we have selected 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> March so that the village is looking good for Easter. We hope to paint the 5 village seats and the pond wall at this time. If you would like to help please drop us an email to: [cliftonparishcouncil@lanham.free-online.co.uk](mailto:cliftonparishcouncil@lanham.free-online.co.uk)

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You can also contribute to Keeping up Appearances by getting ready for the Clifton Gardens Competition in June—see page 13



# CLIFTON CARE SCHEME



## WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

As the current economic situation begins to bite we are all faced with the challenge of trying to preserve our way of life. The inevitable restrictions in public services mean that our community needs to become more self-reliant, using increased voluntary effort to compensate for the cut-backs.

The Care Scheme is only one of the many organisations that are meeting this challenge, with all needing volunteers in order to succeed. If you would like to help please contact us **and tell us what you could do (for some tasks you don't even need to leave your own home)**. If however, you feel the Care Scheme is not right for you, we will happily try to introduce you to a group who might suit you better - just give it try!

## NEED HELP?

Almost all our clients are people who have lived self-reliant and independent lives, so they often find it difficult to admit that a bit of assistance may be needed. Therefore we try to ensure that when we get a call, we responded appropriately. All we want to do is help, so if you need that little bit of assistance just phone us on . . .

07817 614654



## Clifton Residents Association

Hi Everyone

As I write this it is very windy and it reminds me of my time living in the dales!

At our last committee meeting we elected a new chair and vice chair. Our new chair is Mr. Steve Hatton, and he is looking forward to a busy year in office.

Some neighbours and myself are going to create a shrub garden in Bilberry Road. This is to convert three areas that at the moment are weed infested and they look very unsightly. We will be totally responsible for clearing, planting and maintaining the sites, and we have applied for funding to purchase the shrubs that we need.

Our first open meeting of 2011 is on March 8th in the church hall, starting at 7.30pm. We have a guest speaker, Sonia Banks, and will be holding our usual raffle, tea and coffee will be served. See the separate advert in this issue.

We look forward to any queries that you have or things that we should know about in the village. Remember, we are your residents' association.

Stay lucky, Den Fensome

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## **National Census 2011—do you need help?**

National Census forms will be sent to every household by 4<sup>th</sup> March and these must be completed and returned by the end of the month. The forms require answers to 40 questions, therefore if anyone has difficulty completing them the Clifton Care Scheme offers a free and strictly confidential service to help with this task.

Ring: Clifton Care Scheme **07817 614654**

## JOB OPPORTUNITY IN CLIFTON



The long serving **Clerk to Clifton Parish Council** will retire at the end of September 2011. The Parish Council wishes to appoint a replacement to be **in post from 1<sup>st</sup> April** thus allowing a period of overlap and support.

The position of Clerk is a part time job and involves an interesting range of responsibilities including producing agendas and minutes of meetings, conducting correspondence on behalf of the Council, taking bookings for the Community Centre and dealing with all financial matters. Training will be available.

Applications from interested parties are invited now and in the first instance they should contact me for a full job specification and application form.

Barry Livesey,  
Chairman, Clifton Parish Council, Tel: 01462 811385

## The Rt Revd Paul Bayes, Bishop of Hertford is seeking a full-time Personal Assistant/ Researcher to support and resource his ministry



The postholder will be based at the Bishop's office in  
Knebworth, Herts

The successful candidate will be efficient, organised, confidential and discreet and able to work independently in a quiet office

Starting salary £20,535

For further details please email [bishophertford@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:bishophertford@stalbans.anglican.org)  
Or write to: The Bishop of Hertford, Bishopswood, 3 Stobarts Close,  
Knebworth, Herts SG3 6ND

Potential candidates are welcome to telephone the present postholder, Mrs Pip Austin, for informal conversation about the post if they so wish

01438 817260

Closing date: 18 March 2011<sup>11</sup> Interviews: 8 April 2011



Calling all Heroes!

Can you help?



Rear Churchyard & Garden of  
Remembrance Working Party

Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup>

10am - 1pm

Refreshments provided all morning

We are planning a working party to tidy and care for this **valued village resource, particularly focussing the morning's** efforts on the yew walk from the Church to the Churchyard.

All welcome, particularly those with hedge trimmers!

If you are able to spare some time during the morning to help, please let either of the church wardens know.

Felicity: 01767 312831 [felicityk25@btconnect.com](mailto:felicityk25@btconnect.com)

Kathy: 01462 646371 [kb08@clifton-beds.co.uk](mailto:kb08@clifton-beds.co.uk)



# Gardens' Competition 2011

You don't even have to enter to take part!!



## Prizes:

We have a pledge of £50.00 from the Parish Council – are there any other sponsors' prepared to come forward?

## First round judging: 18th June 2011 – 24th June 2011

24 finalists from all round the village will go forward to:

## Final judging: 25th June 2011 – 30th June 2011

Overall winner and 7 runners up (1 from each zone)

Presentation of Prizes and Certificates at the Church Fete -  
**Saturday 2nd July 2011**

Large or small, simple or ornate, lawns or hard landscaping, bedding plants or pots all gardens/frontages will be judged as seen from the nearest point of public access. Judging will be based on general impressions based on:



- Pots/baskets/planters/tubs/window boxes
- Use of colour and planting
- Design and focal points
- Use of hard landscaping

You don't even have to enter to take part. The 24 finalists will be notified by letter by 27th June and the prize winners will be notified by 1st July. Keith Hichisson from Langford Garden Centre has agreed to judge our 24 finalists and present the prizes and Competition Certificates at the Church Fete at 3.00pm on Saturday July 2nd.

Good luck – let's all give our gardens some special care and make our village look even lovelier. This event is endorsed by:

Parish Council   Clifton Church PCC   Care Scheme  
Residents Association   Improvement & Preservation Society

Businesses or Organisations that might be prepared to help sponsor this event are asked to call Kathy on 01462 646371

# Christian Aid Week—envelope collection

## 15—21 May 2011

Poverty—People made it. People can end it.

Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty.

We work globally for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. We are part of a wider movement for social justice.

We provide urgent, practical and effective assistance where need is great, tackling the effects of poverty as well as its root causes.



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## Lavender House, Meppershall

We were very busy and lucky at Christmas, Meppershall Village Choir and the school choir came and performed and we also had a carol service and our Christmas party on Saturday 18th December. On the day of the 'great snow storm' we were lucky our entertainer arrived before the storm and our cook did us proud with a wonderful selection of food and drink. We made £119 from our raffle for our residents' fund. We even had a New Year entertainer and this week 3 residents enjoyed a ride through the countryside and pretty villages ending at a garden centre for lunch.

We have a programme of events to look forward to this year including our summer fete which will be held on Sunday 12th June in our gardens which will soon bloom again.

Sincere thanks to all concerned<sup>14</sup>

Lesley Skerman, Activities Organiser

# CLIFTON IMPROVEMENT AND PRESERVATIONS SOCIETY

## Notice of the Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 16th March 2011  
in the Church Hall, Stanford Lane, Clifton

Registration from 7.30pm for 8.00pm Meeting

New Members are Welcome

For further information please telephone  
Mr Jim Peacock (Secretary) 01462 812514 or  
Mr John Whitbread (Treasurer) on 01462 811826

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## The Woodlands

This month saw us say 'goodbye' to Julie Saggars, our manager. Julie has been a part of our village pre school for many years, firstly as a volunteer, then becoming a member of staff in 2001. In 2005 she became Play Leader, and then Manager in 2008. Julie worked enthusiastically and tirelessly over this time, and not least to secure funding necessary to finance a move to our own building so that the children had better permanent facilities with more sessions, and also after school care to support local families. She has always reflected on how things are done and how they can be improved upon; something which was instrumental in leading the Woodlands to achieve its 'Outstanding' Ofsted rating – something of which we are all very proud.



Fittingly, Julie's last day with us saw the children enjoy a party at the Community Centre, finishing with staff, parents and children presenting Julie with numerous gifts, photos and a scrapbook of pictures drawn by the children, and passing on their good wishes to her in her new career.

We are all sad to see her leave the Woodlands, and although we wish her and her family well and know she will stay in touch with us all, it won't seem the same without her!

# Clifton Chronicles



The longest running village newsletter in Bedfordshire  
Produced by volunteers,  
supported by the  
Parish Council and Church

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It's a miracle of the Big Society—we just didn't know it before!

However although it is a miracle, is free at point of delivery and is produced by entirely voluntary labour it cannot be produced without ££££££££. Our main source of funding is the advertisers, we know that many local businesses find it the best way to promote their business and we know that residents (our readers) find it an invaluable source of information about local services and trades people. If you run a small business and would like to advertise now is a good time to get in touch with us as our 'advertising year' starts in May. There is a full FAQ sheet on the website and an extract is included here:

## 1 How often does it come out?

We deliver 1300+ copies of Clifton Chronicles to every home in Clifton ten times each year and an additional 50 copies are available from places such as the school. The advertising year runs May until April.

## 2 How much does it cost?

2011 prices are:	<i>Inner Page</i>	<i>Outer Cover</i>
Single Block 6 x 6cm	£50	£55
Double Block 12.5 x 6cm	£85	£95

## 3 What size is an advert?

The content of a single block will be printed within a 54 x 54mm square and a double block within a 54 x 119mm rectangle (this allows for the 3mm margin and single line border which are added automatically at the compilation stage). Masters may be larger if the aspect ratio is maintained.



## **5 Can I include a logo?**

Yes: the content must be either line work (ie black and white, no grey tones) or if you wish to incorporate greys, or colour to be reproduced as grey, the originals must be pre screened to print at 90 points/inch at the printed size.

## **6 Do I have to have my own artwork?**

If you would like us to design or change an advert we will discuss this with you and provide a draft layout for your approval, we then produce the master from the agreed copy. THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE.

## **7 Do I have to do it for the whole year?**

Yes – we only include advertisements on the coloured pages of the Chronicles and we set these for a whole year.

## **8 What if my business changes and I want to change my advert?**

If you would like us to design or change an advert we will discuss this with you and provide a draft layout for your approval, we then produce the master from the agreed copy. THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS SERVICE.

Don Gray

18 Hitchin Lane, Clifton, Shefford, Bedfordshire, SG17 5RS

Tel: 01462 629690

email: don-gray@ntlworld.com

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## **BUT**

There is always a but ... for the last 2 years we have run at an operating loss and although we are raising our prices to advertisers this year we NEED the financial support of all the organisations who regularly put articles into the Clifton Chronicles. We asked for support last year and were disappointed at the response. Does your organisation need the Chronicles to keep in touch with people in the community? Then please support us to keep this miracle alive and dropping on door mats in Clifton 13,250 times each year.

# Saturday Club

★ 26th March ★

## EASTER FUN &

### ★ Activities! ★

£1.00 Per Session

★ Come join us for

## Crafts & Fun!

Who: All 5-12s welcome

★ When: ★

Saturday, 26th March

Where:

All Saints Church - Clifton

Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm

★



# Clifton W I

36 members and 2 visitors were welcomed by President Katherine to our February meeting. Secretary Iris read her full, interesting monthly report. Katherine then read out lots of events etc, available to members, and names of those booked for the Spring Federation meeting on 18th APRIL. Finally Treasurer Chris read out the current financial details.



We were entertained tonight with stories told by Philip Lane. Philip's first true, humorous story was about his booked visit to our meeting this evening. Five varied stories followed. One from Armenia, how a spot of honey spilt onto a village shop floor, caused so much grief!. Philip told his five stories completely from memory, with lots of humour. The final one to end our entertaining evening was about a man with a boring life, who one day met a young lady in a restaurant. As she sat near by, she sneezed so hard causing her glass eye to dislodge. Luckily he managed to catch it for her and she hastily replaced it. She was very grateful and invited him home for coffee. He was asked to stay the night and was given a nice breakfast next morning. He asked why she had been so good to him. Her answer "YOU CAUGHT MY EYE"

We all enjoyed Philip's visit and Iris thanked him on our behalf.

Tea ladies: Audrey Steeds and Mary Newman

Comp winners: Helen Chessum, Jennifer Ward Fletcher, Audrey Steeds, Iris Smyrk

Next meeting: March 2<sup>nd</sup>. A.G.M. Social Evening. Clifton Church Hall 7.30pm

# Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club

A member of Lions International, the largest voluntary service organisation in the world.



## ST DUNSTAN'S

The St Dunstan's charity is the only organisation specifically dedicated to the care and rehabilitation of service personnel, current and past, whose eyesight has been affected in combat or has deteriorated over time. At present it has Centres near Brighton and Sheffield but has just purchased the North Wales Medical Centre near Llandudno. This will be developed into a state-of-the-art recovery, rehabilitation and training centre with high dependency beds and respite facilities and is due to open in the autumn of this year.

In addition, there will be two Day Rooms costing £50,000. The Lions of Great Britain and Ireland have pledged to provide one of these and are aiming to finance both, dedicated to Lions Clubs. You will remember that Helen Keller asked Lions to be "Knights of the Blind" and this has always been one of our key aims.

Not only this, but at our annual convention in Belfast this year, a Memorandum of Understanding confirming the partnership of Lions and St Dunstan's will be signed.

Finally, Lions are financing the building of a large wooden shelter at the national Memorial Arboretum which will be opened in the spring of this year to record the names of all Lions who died in the previous year, which will be reviewed annually.



For more information about Lions in general and Biggleswade Sandy Lions in particular, call Roger Wolburn on 01462 814967. Why not come to one of our meetings and find out at first hand? Without obligation! You will be very welcome.

**LIONS - PROUD TO HELP**

# All Saints' Clifton Bellringers

**On Sunday 23rd January 2011**  
**A quarter peal of 1260 Plain Bob Minor**



Clive Moncrieff	1
Sheila Ashton	2
Harriet Moncrieff	3
Philippa Whittington	4
Peter Blackmore	5
Frank Rivett	Tenor

Conducted by Frank Rivett

Rung to celebrate the 25th wedding anniversary of Clive and Harriet (19th October 2010), the 21st birthday of Charlotte Moncrieff (9th October 2010) and the 18th birthday of Alexandra Moncrieff (11th April 2010).

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**On Sunday 30th January 2011**  
**A quarter peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples**

Peter Blackmore	1
Sheila Ashton	2
Harriet Moncrieff	3
Teresa Brown	4
Philippa Whittington	5
Nicholas Brown	6
Frank Rivett	7
James Peacock	Tenor



Conducted by Frank Rivett

Rung with the best wishes of all the ringers to Mark-Aaron (Rector of Clifton), Cigil and Winston-James as they prepare for their move to Canterbury.

## 2011 Census – What do I need to do?



The next Census will take place on 27th March 2011. Every household in England and Wales needs to complete a questionnaire so that statistics about the population can be produced. Government money for health, police, councils and other public service providers is allocated according to the population of an area, so it is vital that everyone is counted. Make sure your area gets its fair share of Government money. Questionnaires will be delivered from 7th March so look out for the purple logo, and complete and return the form as soon as you can.

### **Who needs to be included on the form?**

Everyone who lives at your address. This includes family, newborn babies, lodgers, and students who live somewhere else during term time. People who are staying in the country for 3 months or more must be included. The number of visitors staying overnight on 27th March can also be included.

### **Why should I take part?**

All citizens have a duty to complete the census questionnaire. Businesses and local services need to know how many people live in their area, and other important information about your gender, age, ethnicity and about your housing. This ensures that the right services are available in the right place. It is also a legal requirement, and refusal to complete the questionnaire may result in prosecution and a fine.

### **How do I complete my questionnaire?**

You can choose whether to complete the questionnaire on-line or by hand. Every questionnaire has a unique code to enable completion at [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk). The questionnaire pack contains a prepaid return envelope if you prefer to post it back. The questionnaire has enough room for six people. It takes only 10 minutes for each adult, and much less for each child. If you have more than 6 people in your household, request additional individual questionnaires from the website or telephone 0300 0201 101.

### **I don't have a computer, but I want to complete on-line**

No problem. You can use the computers at public libraries, or you can visit one of the completion events that are taking place at various locations in your area. Check with your local council where and when these are happening. Some events are shown below.

### **I need help or someone I know needs help to complete the questionnaire?**

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There is lots of help available. From 4th March you can telephone 0300 0201

101 to request guidance in over 50 languages and in accessible formats such as large print, Braille and British Sign language. You can also request a personal visit from a Census Collector who will come to your home. The number for text relay for hard of hearing is 18001 0300 0201 160. Many community groups are holding events to help local people complete their questionnaires. Check the location, dates and times with your local council. The Census website contains lots of information about the Census at [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk)

## **What happens if I don't return my questionnaire?**

From 6th April Census Collectors will visit households that have not returned their questionnaire. They will carry identification and will offer help and assistance, or answer your questions about the census questionnaire. To avoid a Census Collector knocking on your door, just return your questionnaire promptly after 27th March. People who refuse to complete a census questionnaire will be investigated, and this may lead to prosecution and a fine.

## **Useful information**

Information about the census, and census events in your area can be found on the Bedford Borough and the Central Bedfordshire websites:

[www.bedford.gov.uk](http://www.bedford.gov.uk) or [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

You can also contact the Census Area Manager, Jan Esson on 07801 331386 or email [G106@census.gov.uk](mailto:G106@census.gov.uk)

## **Census questionnaire completion events**

If you need help, want to ask questions, or want to complete your census questionnaire on-line, please come along to one of the completion events. Check the local council website for the latest information. These are the events arranged so far:

Monday 28th March at Kempston Library 11am to 4pm

Wednesday 30th March at Bedford Learning Centre, 88 High Street, Bedford 10am to 2pm

Saturday 2nd April at Bedford Learning Centre 9am to 1pm

Monday 4th April at Sandy Library 10am to 3pm

Wednesday 6th April at Bedford Learning Centre 10am to 2pm

Saturday 9th April at Bedford Learning Centre 9am to 1pm

Monday 11th April at Putnoe Library 2pm to 5pm

Wednesday 20th April at Putnoe Library 2pm to 5pm

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REMEMBER TO BRING ALONG YOUR CENSUS QUESTIONNAIRE

# Sense in Switching?

At a time of rising energy prices on-line comparison can help you save money. Switching energy supplier on-line is easy. A switch usually takes effect within 6 weeks and can result in annual savings of up to £100 a year.



Switching supplier makes no difference to the actual gas or electricity you receive. The big six providers share the same supply infrastructure. However, customer service, payment options and price do vary significantly.

Comparison sites can help you compare customer satisfaction ratings, penalties for leaving contracts, capped price options and dual fuel discounts. A green electricity tariff is the best for the environment and usually costs extra.

To switch you need to know the name of your existing supplier(s) and either the cost of your energy for the last year or (for improved accuracy) the number of kWh used.

You won't be able to change suppliers if you are in debt to your present supplier. The Home Heat Helpline on 0800 33 66 99 can help in this situation.

Even if you are happy with your current supplier, you may still be able to save money by moving to direct debit and on-line account management.

For more information visit:

[www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk/saving](http://www.cocoonyourhome.co.uk/saving)

This article was produced by United Sustainable Energy Agency (USEA).

Contact: Gordon Glass, Marketing Coordinator

To email USEA staff please use the firstname.lastname@usea.org.uk format



## CLIFTON PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP



Clifton Parent & Toddler Group runs on a Wednesday morning from 9.15 till 11.00 at the Community Centre, Whiston Crescent. There's a warm welcome for everyone who comes along and joins in the fun - you'll meet new friends, have a drink and a chat, you can let your children socialise with other toddlers and play with our large selection of toys and activities.

We are a very popular toddler group and have a large number of children and parents attending each week. Our committee members who regular attend put in lots of effort and as a toddler group we are very lucky to have such a good committee who source new equipment , pay all the bills associated with toddlers, buy and prepare snack, sort out birthday cards for the children , welcome new parents, organize sellers and craft activities , and sing and lots more but , as their children move on to preschool they too will be leaving to if you like the group and would like to see it continue to run well and stay open !!! They please consider joining the committee we do have fun too!!

Also we are in **DESPERATE NEED** of a chairperson without whom the group can only run for 6 months!!!

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## **Samuel Whitbread Parent and Toddler group**

Every Thurs in Term time from 1.15pm-2.45 pm

Children 1-5 years

(In the Brand new Building!!)

Qualified and experienced Staff on hand

Space at the nursery is limited so booking is required to avoid disappointment please ring and put your name down on the day by 10.00 am

**On 01462 815637**

Weekly fee of 30p to cover the cost of snack, drink, and any activities that will be provided! We look forward to seeing you!





**Saturday 19th March** *clifton dramatic society*

# quiz night

at Clifton Church Hall  
Stanford Road, Clifton  
Starts 8pm

£7.50 per person

Price includes a buffet, drink,  
plenty of questions and lots of fun!  
Teams of up to 6 people.

**All proceeds to  
Macmillan Cancer Support**

Tickets must be booked in advance.  
For more info and tickets  
call or email:

**01462 649228**

[cliftdramsoc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cliftdramsoc@hotmail.co.uk)

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity number 261017. We are  
Main charity number 604.

Email: [cliftdramsoc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cliftdramsoc@hotmail.co.uk)





## Biggleswade & District Art Society

### 12th Spring Art Exhibition

part of the Northhill Arts Festival

Northhill Village Hall (opposite the church)

Saturday 7th May (10.00–4.00) Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May (10.00-4.00)

Free Admission Original Paintings for sale Refreshments

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## Shefford Bowling Club

### Open evenings—11th, 18th & 25th May

The bowls club are proposing to hold 3 open evenings on the 11th, 18th and 25th May 2011 from 6.00pm to 8.00pm on the green at the STMA in Hitchin Road Shefford.

We cordially invite members of the public along to try their hand at the game of bowls. Equipment will be provided by the club but we would ask anyone coming along to bring shoes that have flat soles and heels as possible.

Please contact Ralph Archer, Hon Secretary  
89 Clifton Road, Shefford, 01462 857224

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## Clifton Residents Association

Open Meeting Tuesday 8th March @ 7.30 pm

Church Hall, Stanford Lane, Clifton

Our speaker for the evening is Sonia Banks the manager of the hospice at Home Voluntary Service.

There will be a raffle and tea, coffee and biscuits will be served

We look forward to seeing you there.

# Shefford Town Band

Come & have a blow out with Shefford Town Band

The Band welcomes Brass or Woodwind instrument players old and young alike also a percussion player who is able to read music. Town Bands are diminishing our area should be proud to have a band of its own.

The band meets every Thursday at 7.45 pm, in the rear halls of the Shefford Methodist Church Rooms. A variety of music is played and we endeavour to attract and cater for players of all ages & abilities. The band spans a wide age group playing saxophones, euphoniums, cornets, bassoons, oboes, flutes and clarinets playing at numerous functions in the local area.

More information: [www.sheffordtownband.org.uk](http://www.sheffordtownband.org.uk)  
Jane Steinfeld Tel 01462 629026

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## Bedfordshire Police



A number of attempts have been made to steal metal/lead in Clifton over the last two weeks. If you see or hear anything suspicious please call in and report to control room on 01234 841212 or 999 in the event of an emergency. Your information could be very useful to us. Speeding is still an issue in Clifton and a number of vehicles were caught speeding by the mobile speed camera in New Road. Slowing down can help keep you and the people around you safe!

Police surgeries are now being held every six weeks in the car park of the One Stop Shop. The next surgery is Thursday 24 March, 2011 between 2.00 – 3.00pm. If you have any concerns regarding your local neighbourhood please pay us a visit. We can be also be contacted on 01234 842567 or [SNT.SheffordStotfold&Arlesey@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:SNT.SheffordStotfold&Arlesey@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

“Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.”



## **Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011**

Want to do something different? Want to raise money where you live or work? Want to eat Fish and Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2011 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre.

SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 means you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

Last year we had over 100 suppers taking part in England and Wales and we raised £6,000. In 2011 we want to double that figure and ensure we can provide more support to spinal cord injured people.

The money raised from the suppers will help the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

Community Fundraising Officer, Elizabeth Wright, says, “The Fish and Chip Supper is a wonderful opportunity for a great evening with friends and family. We are also encouraging people who work to hold a Fish and Chip Lunch in their work places to raise even more funds. You may be even a local community group wanting to run a fun evening with your group.

Be a part of something special and make a real difference to help spinal cord injured people gain access to the information and support they need to enable them to live full and independent lives.”

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 678 6633 xtn 229 or email [fishandchips@spinal.co.uk](mailto:fishandchips@spinal.co.uk) or visit [www.spinal.co.uk](http://www.spinal.co.uk)

# Forward Planner

March	
2	Annual Meeting of Parishioners at 7.45pm to elect the Churchwardens, followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting at 7.55pm.
2	WI, AGM and social, 7.30 pm, Church Hall
3	Under 5's, 2-3 pm, Church, all welcome
4	Women's World Day of Prayer, Church 2 pm
	Census forms will be received by this date
5	Churchyard Working Party, 10 am – 1.00 pm
6	Church Open, 2.00-5.00 pm
8	Residents' Association, Open Meeting, Church Hall, 7.30 pm
9	Ash Wednesday Service, 8.00 pm, Church
15	MU, Church Hall, 2 pm, "Amusing Moments in a Volunteer's Afternoon"
16	Preservation Society (CIPS) AGM, Church Hall, 7.30 for 8.00
17	Under 5's, 2-3 pm, Church, all welcome
19	Clifton Drama Quiz Night, Church Hall, 8.00 pm
24	Police Surgery, One Stop car park, 2.00-3.00 pm
26	Saturday Club, 2-4 pm, Church
26/27	Village Spring Clean and Litter Pick
27	<b>Census Day</b>
31	Under 5's, 2-3 pm, Church, all welcome
April	
3	Church Open, 2-5 pm
21	Maundy Thursday service, 8.00 pm, Church
22	Good Friday 10.30 family service, meditation 2.00-3.00
28	Under 5's, 2-3 pm, Church, all welcome

## Sidespersons and Readers March 2011

Date	Time	Sidesperson	Reader
6 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00	Mr B Livesey Mrs J Dann	Mrs A Sullivan 2 Peter 1.16 - end
	6.30	Mr K Gray	Mrs C Killick Matthew 17 9-23
13 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00	Mr P Blackmore Mr D Brace	Mrs S Collins Romans 5 12-19
	6.30	Mrs K Blackmore	Mrs J Pavey Luke 15.1 - 10
20 <sup>th</sup> March	11.00	Mr & Mrs C Brown	Mrs M Gorringe Romans 4.1 – 5, 13-17
	6.30	Mrs N Gifford	Mrs M Cakebread Luke 14.27-33
27 <sup>th</sup> March	8.00	Mr M Richardson	
	11.00	Mrs P Lowing & Family	Miss F Kendall Romans 5.1-11
	6.30	Mrs H Moncrieff	Mrs P Whittington Ephesians 6.10-20
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	11.00	Mr & Mrs J Good	Mrs L Dawes Corinthians 1.3-7
	6.30	Mrs M Cakebread	Mr B Padgett James 5

Please note:

8.00 Holy Communion services will ONLY be held on the last Sunday of the month during the vacancy.

A copy of this rota is on the Vestry notice board. If you are unable to read or be a sidesperson on the date given, please try to swap with someone else and inform a Churchwarden or amend the Vestry copy. This rota is also available at: [www.clifton-beds.co.uk](http://www.clifton-beds.co.uk).

# ***ABOUT OUR FRIENDS***



## **St Francis of Assisi, Roman Catholic Church, Shefford**

<b>Father</b>	Canon Bennie Noonan	813436
Deacon	Rev Peter Hyde	711702
Parish Secretary	Rose Boulton	811547
	Sr Margaret	814079

### **Sunday Services**

St Francis                      9.00 am    5.15 pm

### **Saturday Service**

St Andrew's RAF Henlow 6.00 pm

## **Shefford Methodist Church**

<b>Minister</b>	Dave Haseldine	813284
Steward	Elspeth	817199
Bookings	Chris & Peter	815069

### **Sunday Service**

9.30 am Worship for all, plus Junior Church, crèche facilities & refreshments afterwards

Other activities see the notice-board &  
[www.sheffordmethodist.org.uk](http://www.sheffordmethodist.org.uk)

## **Salvation Army, Stotfold**

Major Joy Davidson 01462-731072

**Sunday Services:** 10.30 am,                      6 pm  
Sunday School 11.15