

May 2023

Teme TRIANGLE

Clifton upon Teme • The Shelsleys • Lower Sapey



Youngsters enjoy the All Saints' Church Easter Egg Hunt in Shelsley Beauchamp

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-

Visit the website

www.temetriangle.net

Free to Residents



Worcester Passion Play

(L to R) Shelsley residents Des and Beryl Robson, Kate Hurst and Cassian Roberts acted in the Worcester Passion Play on Good Friday (story on page 3)

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Front Cover Picture

Children from the Shelsleys collected chocolate eggs with the Easter Bunny following All Saints' Church's Easter Sunday service (story on page 5)

A WARM WELCOME to the May 2023 edition of Teme Triangle

This is the rather lovely time of year when blossom, green shoots and vibrant new growth are bursting forth from our hedgerows, fields and gardens, making our portion of the Teme Valley look even more beautiful than usual.

This year we also have a new beginning of a different kind to look forward to: the coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6 May. From Clifton to the Shelsleys, Lower Sapey to Stanford Bridge, our local parishes are planning a host of special celebrations across the special Bank Holiday weekend.

Turn to pages 18-19 for details of what's in store locally... then look out for our June issue for event coverage. Please do send us all your Coronation photos and reports! (June issue deadline Friday 14 May, to editortemetriangle@gmail.com)

SHELSELY FOLK PERFORM IN WORCESTER PASSION PLAY

Several Shelsley residents were closely involved in the Passion Play which took place in Worcester on Good Friday, drawing an audience of hundreds to Cathedral Plaza to watch. Telling the story of the death of Christ and his resurrection, it was the second year the Passion Play had been performed.

Cassian Roberts, Kate Hurst, Des Robson and Beryl Robson, all from the Shelsleys, were part of the 87-strong, costumed cast, while Jane Roberts organised the event. Beryl Robson told *Teme Triangle*: "We were privileged to take part and the weather was again perfect. It is thanks to the organisation, co-operation and energy of Jane Roberts (organiser), James Hyslop (chairman) and the committee that this year's production was made possible. Thanks must also go to director Tim Crow, his wife Joanna (costumes), all the crew behind the scenes, sound, staging, stewarding, and St Andrews Church for accommodation and refreshments."

One of the best-known faces in the cast was Bishop John, who, as one of the Thieves, was tied to a cross and swapped his usual dress code for only a loin cloth. The part of Jesus was played by Bromsgrove actor Ollie Ward.

Beryl added: "The cost of producing this play is vast. If you feel you would like to contribute, just visit the www.gofundme.com/f/worcester-passion-play-ltd."



PHOTO ID NEEDED AT POLLING STATIONS ON 4 MAY

Parish and district elections are happening across the Malvern Hills District on Thursday 4 May - and for the first time, those voting in person at polling stations will need to show a valid form of Photo ID, in order to vote. Photo ID options include a passport, driving licence or Blue Badge.

Election poll cards should have already arrived at each registered household containing details of postal and proxy voting options, as well as the nearest polling station - which in our area include Shelsleys Village Hall and Clifton upon Teme Village Hall, both open 7am - 10pm.

For more details visit <https://www.malvernhills.gov.uk/voting-and-elections>

TEME TRIANGLE MINI SURVEY



As *Teme Triangle* magazine approaches its 22nd anniversary, we'd love to receive reader feedback on how we can make our publication even better.

Teme Triangle has brought the latest local news to 650 households in the Shelsleys, Clifton upon Teme and Lower Sapey, free of charge, ten times per year. Run by a small team of volunteers, the community publication is available both in print, and in downloadable PDF format from our website (www.temetriangle.net).

We invite you to take a few minutes to email us short replies to the following questions. Email your (confidential) feedback to editortemetriangle@gmail.com by 31 May.

Thank you!

1. **How often do you read *Teme Triangle* magazine?**
2. **How do you usually get hold of your printed copy?**
3. **What do you think of *Teme Triangle*?**
4. **Any suggestions for improvement?**
5. **Do you ever refer to the local advertisements in it?**
6. **Did you know that a PDF copy of each issue is also available on our website www.temetriangle.net, and do you ever access that PDF?**
7. **Do you ever visit the TT website www.temetriangle.net? If so, what do you think of it?**

PRIZE DRAW: WIN A TEA TOWEL!

All survey responses will be entered into a random Prize Draw to win one of three, full colour, limited edition, 100% cotton 'Teme Valley' tea towels. (Draw held on 1 June. Winners notified by 3 June via email; prizes courtesy of Shelsley photographer Michael Whitefoot)



CLIFTON SCOUTS ANNOUNCES BEAVER VACANCIES

Local boys and girls (age 6-8) are being invited to join Clifton upon Teme's Beaver Scouts group. Some spaces have become available at the Beaver group, which meets fortnightly on Tuesdays at Clifton Village Hall, from 5-6pm. Contact gsl@cliftonontemescouts.org to sign up for free taster sessions.



JOIN THE CLIFTON GUIDES, BROWNIES OR RAINBOWS

Rainbows (age 4-7), Brownies (age 7-10) and Guides (age 10-15+) meet at Clifton Village Hall hut and would love to welcome new members. Rainbows and Brownies meet on Wednesdays 5.30-7pm; Guides on Mondays 6.15-7.45pm. Call Angie on 07957 462519 or email angiegriffiths@aol.com for further details.



CHRISTIAN AID PLANS 2023

Last year approximately £3,000 was raised for the world poorest communities through various Christian Aid events as well as a house to house collection (the first since 2019). As always, the Teme Valley community and friends rallied to support Christian Aid with the traditional generosity and enthusiasm in spite of our own financial pressures. Christian Aid continues to focus its efforts on climate change and the devastating impact this has, particularly on the world's poorest regions. This year, as well as a house to house collection in Clifton, we will be holding the following events. Everyone welcome:

- Saturday 13 May 10am-12noon: Coffee Morning at The Old Vicarage, Church Lane, Clifton upon Teme (the Austins'). Coffee, tea, cakes and Bring & Buy
- Saturday 27 May 10am-12noon: Plant Sale at Harpley Church, plus tea, coffee, cakes and a tombola, in aid of both Harpley Church fund and Christian Aid.
- Saturday 3 June 9.30-11.30am: Big Breakfast at The Old House, 20 The Village, Clifton upon Teme (the Dipples'). Full English with vegetarian options available. Please book in advance by email on mjdipple@btinternet.com
- Sunday 11 June 2.30-5pm: Open Garden and Afternoon Tea at Ayngstree House, Clifton

Marion Dipple

EASTER DAY SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS

The Easter Day Service at All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp, led by Reader Jill Smith and Rev Jen Denniston, was attended by 54 Adults, 14 Children plus one dog who all enjoyed a lively, musical, interactive service of celebration. Beryl Robson reported: "Children also made Easter bonnets, Easter cards, painted plaques and much more, which they showed to the congregation. There was also a surprise visit from the Easter Bunny who led an Easter Egg Hunt around the Churchyard (*see front cover photo*). Thanks go to Holly and James Perks for the excellent refreshments."



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NEW BUSINESSES AND A MAKEOVER AT MILL FARM COUNTRY RETAIL

Mill Farm Country Retail in Stanford Bridge has had a smart new makeover in recent weeks and welcomed three additional businesses to the centre.

As well as laying a curvy, resurfaced walkway leading visitors between its independent retailers, the shopping village will also be adding new road signage, directional signage and maps on site.



The three latest additions to the site offer jewellery & handbags, Reformer Pilates and detailing. “Mill Farm is the perfect place to spend a relaxing day with a mix of independent shops that you won’t find on the high street, and we are continually improving our customers’ experience,” confirmed director Greta Sparey. “As well as our new traders we offer a licensed café bar, farm shop, butcher, garden centre, card and gift shops, eco-clothing, high-end preloved clothing, hair salon, beauty rooms, a dance studio and fitness classes.”

She continued: “The centre’s core opening times are Tuesday to Saturday 10am-3pm, but some of our retailers are open longer, so check www.millfarmretail.co.uk for individual shop opening hours. We also offer free parking, customer toilets, wheelchair access and a warm welcome!”

CAR DETAILING WITH AUTO PERFECT

Auto Perfect - a vehicle detailing business specialising in paint correction and protection - has just moved into a new unit at Mill Farm to expand its customer offering. Services include machine polishing, protective coatings including ceramic coatings, detailing, maintenance packages, wheel refurb and standard car valeting (subject to availability).

Detailer Harry Sarkar told *Temetriangle*: “We are a ZirconiteUK centre of excellence and an accredited wheeluv (alloy wheel protectors) installer. We hold all relevant insurances and only use the best products on the market. We are also Morgan Sports Car Club’s official detailer and have attended major events with them, getting multiple vehicles on the concours to help win awards.”

Find out more on social media and at www.autoperfectworcester.co.uk



MISS MILLY ACCESSORIES SHOP

Mill Farm Country Retail has also welcomed a new jewellery and accessories shop: Miss Milly.

The brand, which has been supplying its colourful jewellery and scarves to retailers across the UK and Ireland for the past decade as well as selling to consumers online, has been a finalist in several retailer, gift and small business awards in 2022 and 2023.

Now Miss Milly is opening its doors to give locals the opportunity to buy in person.



"It's always said that the British are a nation of shopkeepers... and for me it was inevitable that one day I'd open a store," said founder Sarah Watmore. "Our 'Emporium of Loveliness' will offer our own gorgeous products as well as beautiful accessories such as bags, pouches, belts, socks and umbrellas from other brands we love." View the collections at www.missmilly.co.uk

REFORMER PILATES AT PLAYGROUND STUDIOS

Also new to Mill Farm is Playground Studios owned by Sarah Gray, offering a diverse range of Reformer Pilates fitness classes.

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More details from www.playgroundstudios.co.uk

VOLANTE STRINGS IN CONCERT AT STANFORD BRIDGE

One of Worcestershire's finest baroque string orchestras, Volante Strings, will be returning to St Mary's Church, Stanford Bridge for a concert on Friday 9 June. Put the date in your diary for a mid-summer treat. Further details will be confirmed in our June issue.

LITTLE WITLEY CINEMA NIGHT

Little Witley Films will be showing the entertaining comedy 'Blinded by the Light' on Saturday 27 May, for its last film of the current season. The film follows a British-Pakistani teenager in Luton who is facing many difficult challenges... but once he hears Bruce Springsteen, he's inspired to tackle them all! Doors open at 7.30pm, film starts at 8pm. Tickets £6.50 including a drink and choc-ice.

CLIFTON WI ROUND-UP

At April's WI meeting, members were entertained by Altair who explained the history of Tai Chi and Qigong, an older form of Tai Chi. He shared many interesting facts about the history of Tai Chi and how it was encouraged in China following the Cultural Revolution having previously been banned. Altair explained many of the health benefits of Tai Chi and how the exercises can improve balance, fitness and flexibility as well as reduce stress and help control pain. A range of exercises were demonstrated which we participated in.

The next meeting on 9 May will be a talk and slides by Andy Arnold about his trip to K2 and the Karakorum Mountains. This is an open meeting so anyone who would like to can come, not just WI members.

On 10 June the WI are holding a Tabletop Sale in the Village Hall. Tables are available for £10 with refreshments and raffle to raise funds towards the summer outing to Stourbridge Glass Museum.

Save the date: Friday 20 October. There will be another Health and Wellbeing evening on the topic of Osteoporosis. We are planning to have information and a speaker to share on this important health issue as well as a range of stalls, prosecco and nibbles.

If you are interested in joining the WI or want to know more or participate in any of the coming events please email Ruth Wilson cliftonontemepres@wfedwi.org.uk or come to a meeting or event.

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SPRING CRAFT FAIR

Stacey Brown is organising another

SPRING CRAFT FAIR

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*to raise funds for the Worcester
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SHELSELY WALSH WATERMILL OPEN WEEKEND

The National Watermills Society's National Open Mills Weekend is being celebrated again at Shelsley this year. This year, the historic water mill at Shelsley Walsh - located on part of the Hill Cimb site - will be open and free for the public to visit on 13-14th May.

Trefor Cook, marketing officer at Shelsley Watermill Society, told *Temetriangle*: "At Shelsley Walsh we are proud to have the only water-powered corn mill in Worcestershire, which will be open, free to the public, along with displays of classic and vintage vehicles, traction and steam engines.

"It continues to be run by volunteers and is a great day out for the whole family... factual, interesting and nostalgic, and held at the oldest motorsport venue in the world still using its original course."

He continued: "The more people aware of our heritage the more we will be able to preserve and restore it."

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ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

The Shelsleys Tennis Tournament finals will be played on **Sunday 25 June**, on local courts.

There will be Pimms as well as strawberries and cream to jolly along the proceedings!

It will take the form of mixed doubles and you can enter either as a pair already, or as an individual and you will then be paired with another player.

Further details regarding preliminary rounds will be issued once numbers are confirmed.

It is set to be a fun event and if you would like to join in, please contact either Peter Hughes on 07701 380 926, or Karen Metcalfe on 07976 252 977



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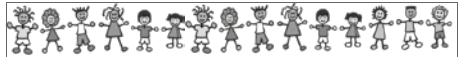
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SHELSELY WALSH GETS CLOSER TO THE COMMUNITY

Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb, which lies in the heart of our parishes overlooking the River Teme, has told Teme Triangle it is looking to engage with local residents more closely than ever in its 2023 season.

With community liaison, residents' involvement and responsible race-going in mind, the Climb's organisers Midland Automobile Club (MAC) have confirmed:

- A carefully considered events calendar aiming to attract responsible motorsports enthusiasts
- A host of interesting volunteering opportunities at the site, from marshalling to site support, offering an unmissable chance to experience the racing at close hand
- Free spectator access for all residents living within a 4-mile radius of the venue, on production of an addressed utility bill at the gate (entry includes 2 tickets per household)
- A Midland Automobile Club (MAC) representative attending every meeting of the Shelsleys Parish Council, to listen and respond to local queries
- Fund-raising for local Teme Valley causes at the Hill Climb's events

MAC director and keen co-driver Helen Evans (pictured far right), told *Teme Triangle*: "Local liaison is as important to us as our events themselves. We take our responsibilities in the Valley very seriously and have planned our 2023 season accordingly.

Five fascinating facts

1. The hill climb held at Shelsley Walsh, which was first run in 1905, is the oldest continually staged motor sport event still held on its original course
2. Its 1,000 yard (914 m), twisty uphill track features a 1:7 rise at its steepest point with drivers reaching speeds of up to 140 mph
3. The venue hosts two rounds of the British Hillclimb Championship each season
4. Prospective competitors must have a Motorsports UK (MSUK) license, and can race in anything from a standard saloon car to a vintage classic or racing car
5. Past competitors have included motorsport greats such as Raymond Mays, Hans Stuck and Sir Stirling Moss

"We also want as many locals as possible to come and engage with our exciting events in person, whether to watch free of charge, as a valued volunteer, or just to enjoy our monthly social evenings."

As well as hill climb competitions, this season's Shelsley Walsh events include a variety of racing trials, classic car celebrations, breakfast clubs, driving school days and family weekends. 2023 also sees the third year of the Hill Climb's Young Drivers Championship, giving drivers aged 16-23 affordable championship experience.

Every single event (apart from private or corporate bookings) is open to spectators, with under-16s free.

This season visitors can also enjoy new catering at the onsite restaurant – which can be hired for celebrations or business – as well as upgraded toilet facilities.

“Shelsley Walsh is a real jewel in the crown of hill climbing, and something the Teme Valley can be rightly proud of,” continued Helen. “We invite local residents to give us their feedback this season, and to come and experience this piece of local history for themselves.”

To enquire about volunteering roles in 2023 (age 16+) or to get in touch, email feedback@shelsleywalsh.com. More details on events at www.shelsleywalsh.com



Hill Climb Diary Dates: May, June, July

- 6-7 May: Speed into Spring - A weekend welcoming competitors from the Midland Hill Climb Championship
- 12 May: Members' Day - A day of non-competitive runs for MAC members
- 3-4 June: Best of British - A 2023 British Hill Climb Championship weekend featuring some of the world's fastest hill climb cars
- 1 July: Bike Bonanza - Motorbikes ascend the hill in Shelsley Walsh's first dedicated competitive motorcycle event
- 2 July: Vintage Meeting - Historic, pre-war aero engine and special cars
- 22-23 July: Classic Nostalgia - The year's biggest event – a family weekend seeing racing cars from all eras compete on the track, alongside a garden party atmosphere, live music, car club displays and trade stands

plus

- 16 May / 13 June / 4 July: Driving School - Expert instruction days
- 18 May / 15 June / 13 July: Cars in the Valley - A friendly, monthly social evening for car enthusiasts of all kinds
- 4 May / 1 June / 6 July: Noggin & Natter - An informal drink and social evening in the Courtyard Bar, open to all



THE CORONATION O

CORONATION CEREMONY ON TV:

LOCAL CELEBRATIONS

A host of Coronation celebrations are in store across our *Teme T*
Please do send in your stories and photos to editortemetriangle@gmail.com

CLIFTON UPON TEME

Wednesday 3 May

FRIENDSHIP CLUB CORONATION LUNCH

Clifton Village Hall, 12.30pm

Saturday 6 May

CLIFTON CORONATION CELEBRATIONS

Village Green, 3-5pm

Disco and barbeque on the village green, funded by Parish Council and cooked by the Lion Inn. Drinks available from the Lion Inn. Bring a chair or a picnic rug and get together on the village green to celebrate the Coronation. Strawberries and cream, cream teas, tea and coffee in St Kenelm's Church

Sunday 7 May

CORONATION CHURCH SERVICE

St Kenelm's Church, Clifton, 3.00pm

LOWER SAPEY & HARPLEY

Sunday 7 May

MORNING WORSHIP

St Bartholomew's, Harpley, 10.30am

Monday 8 May

HARPLEY VILLAGERS' TEA PARTY

St Bartholomew's Church, Harpley, 3.00pm

Fizz & soft drinks provided by the Parish Meeting, plus food. Outside if fine.



OF KING CHARLES III

SATURDAY 6 MAY 2023 from 11am

ACROSS OUR PARISHES

Triangle parishes, so enjoy the bunting, bubbly and baking galore!
Email temetriangle.net by 12 May, for inclusion in our June Coronation Special issue!



THE SHELSLEYS

Friday 5 May

SHELSLEY CORONATION BALL

Shelsley Village Hall, 7.30pm

Disco and dancing, champagne and canapés, grazing platters

Adults only. Tickets £25 in aid of All Saints' Church

Contact Dave Moore 07980 271703 / Holly Perks 07916 461733 /
Kate Hurst 07787 706147

Sunday 7 May

CORONATION CHURCH SERVICE

All Saints' Church, Shelsley Beauchamp, 11.30am

SHELSLEY CORONATION DRINKS PARTY

Shelsley Village Hall, 12noon

Family-friendly, all-age village drinks party and games

Champagne and canapé reception provided. Bar open for additional drinks

Unveiling of specially commissioned Queen's Platinum Jubilee Parish Map

Taking of village photograph

Monday 8 May

SHELSLEY STEAM TRAIN RIDES

Wilderness Cottage, Shelsley Kings, 2-4pm

Steam train rides and refreshments by kind permission of Michael and Helen Whitehouse. Donations welcome for All Saints' Church.

Please contact Louise Hutton 07803 614078 for further details

TEME VALLEY WILDLIFE GROUP: TO OAKS AND FIELD MAPLES

I must confess to being poor at identifying trees. I can cope with wildflowers, but often get stumped by bigger plants. So many non-native trees grow in our landscape and there are so many hybrids and cultivated varieties that I soon find myself in a muddle, even with the help of field guides.

Even the English oak ties me in knots. There are two common oaks growing in Britain, *Quercus robur* and *Quercus petraea*. The former is known as English oak, common oak, European oak or pedunculate oak. The latter goes by the names of sessile and durmast oak. *Quercus robur* has stalked acorns and unstalked leaves, *petraea* has stalked leaves and unstalked acorns. Confused yet? You



will be, because the two types hybridise. English oak is the nation's quintessential tree. Its short trunk, tall, broad crown and spreading outline make it familiar to us all. It was used to build Henry VIII's warship, the Mary Rose, and Nelson's HMS Victory. It is also famous for

hiding King Charles II on his retreat from the Battle of Worcester. This latter event, of 1651, is still commemorated today, by the survival of more than five hundred pubs named The Royal Oak.

Well, what about a tree that I can identify? Field maple, *Acer campestre*, is one that I reliably get right. Also called the hedge maple because it is commonly found in hedges, this slow-growing tree gives soft yellow colour in autumn and bears red, winged, twinned seeds which helicopter down in the wind. It can live for 300 years, as opposed to the mighty oak's astonishing 900, but where the humble field maple exceeds the oak is in its unrivalled use in the manufacture of stringed musical instruments. The finest and most famous of all violins were made of its wood, including those by Antonio Stradivari. The secret of the uniquely beautiful sound produced by their instruments has never been revealed, nor equalled. Those Italian craftsmen would be amazed by the longevity of their instruments, never imagining the unique quality of their field maples' 'tonewood'.

Next meeting of the Teme Valley Wildlife Group: Thursday 12 May, Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall, WR15 8RR, 7:30pm. Speakers are Russell and Audrey Price: "A Passion for Wildlife". Everyone welcome, £2 on the door.

For latest local wildlife sightings visit the TVWG Facebook page. For events, bird survey and archive photos visit www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk or email twwg@outlook.com

Stephanie Mocroft

GUEST COLUMN BY HARRIETT BALDWIN MP

Readers will, I am sure, have studied the Budget closely and by now all the commentators will have shared their views on the measures which Chancellor Jeremy Hunt set out to help local people, with a strong focus on helping people back into work, to boost the economy and fill the record level of vacancies across the UK.



For local drivers, the extension of the freeze on fuel duty will be very welcome. For all households, the extra three months energy price cap will help until lower rates feed through this summer.

Local parents and future mums will welcome the 30 hours of free childcare for every child over the age of 9 months, with support being phased in until every single eligible working parent of under-fives gets this support by September 2025.

The Government will also pay the childcare costs of parents on Universal Credit who move into work or increase their hours – removing a major barrier to work for those who are on benefits who formerly had to wait to be reimbursed.

The Chancellor also set out a comprehensive plan to remove the barriers to work facing those on benefits, those with health conditions and older workers. An increase in the pensions Annual Allowance from £40,000 to £60,000 and the abolition of the Lifetime Allowance will remove the disincentives to working for longer, especially for local GPs and top NHS doctors. A new 'Returnerships' skills offer for older workers and more stringent Universal Credit job search requirements also feature in the plan that will boost the UK's workforce, fill vacancies and support economic growth.

The budget also ends the premium that over 4 million households pay on their prepayment meter, bringing their charges into line with comparable customers who pay by direct debit. Taken together with all the government's efforts to help households with higher costs, these measures bring the total support to an average of £3,300 per UK household through this winter and beyond.

And please do make sure you claim your Alternative Energy Support if you live off grid.

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9-mile pleasure ride through bluebell woods and fields, starting from The Hill Farm, Wichenford, WR6 6YY. In aid of Midlands Air Ambulance, St Richard's Hospice and local charities. Booking between 9am - 1pm, strictly by appointment only. Payment on the day (Adults: £20 / Under 12s: £15 / Walkers accompanying riders under 16: £10)

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CLIFTON UPON TEME PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday 6th April 2022 in the Village Hall commencing at 7.40pm

Present: Councillors J. Bowden (Chairman), A. Henry (Vice-Chairman), B. Gilbert, L. Merrick, R. Henry. Also present: District Cllr C. Palethorpe, District Councillor Paul Cumming and x8 members of the public. The Chairman thanked all Councillors for the work done during their term of office and looked forward to forming the next Council following the election on 4th May.

Apologies for absence: Parish Councillors N. Campsall, P. Brooks and County Cllr D. Chambers.

Declarations of Interests and applications for Councillor dispensations: None.

Democratic Public Time: Members of the public raised the following issues –

The pathway alongside the Village Green is very poorly surfaced now and needs repair. The Clerk was asked to check with WCC Highways re ownership. Cllr Bowden will inspect the surface re any work required.

It is good news that the PC has now established ownership of the playing field and was asked when works were likely to commence? Cllr Bowden confirmed that a programme of works will be issued by contractors in due course. It was agreed that some publicity would be a good idea to inform residents of the new scope of work, programme etc. The Clerk confirmed that the footpath in front of the Church towards Old Rd will be resurfaced between 7 – 23 August 2023, by WCC Highways. The Council noted that the pavilion plumbing for the bowling season still needs repair to provide hot water. The Council was asked to see if a local Developer could assist, and Cllr Gilbert agreed to look at this option asap.

To agree the Minutes of the meeting held 2nd March 2023 – Minutes were proposed by Cllr Gilbert, seconded Cllr Henry and agreed by all. Matters arising from the meeting: Cllr Gilbert has written to J. Guest and surface work will be carried out as required.

District & County Councillor Reports: Any reports received will be circulated and uploaded to the website. District Cllr Palethorpe read out a report to the meeting and thanked everyone for their support during her term of office. The County Councillor report was noted as circulated.

Financial & Governance Matters: Payments and receipts – the schedule including additional payments to R. Wilks and A. Henry, was proposed by Cllr Gilbert, seconded Cllr A Henry. All agreed. Clerk to arrange payments as agreed. It was further agreed to accept the revised invoice from Lanyon Bowdler (including the 10% reduction). Clerk to pay accordingly.

Elections 2023 – the formal nominations were noted from J. Bowden, B. Gilbert and P. Brooks.

The Council agreed to place a notice in the Teme Triangle to ask for new Councillors for co-option after the election date of 4th May. St Kenelm's Coronation Plaque – the plaque has been progressed and will be installed prior to the Coronation date. The contribution by St Kenelm PCC of £150.00 was acknowledged – Cllr Bowden will arrange the cheque payment.

Churchyard Maintenance – the PC had received a request for a financial contribution towards churchyard maintenance. It was proposed by Cllr Gilbert, seconded Cllr Bowden to pay £1100.00 as a contribution for 2023. All agreed. Clerk to arrange payment.

Parish Matters / Updates: Village Maintenance Plan – hanging baskets work has started and an additional basket has been requested for 22 The Village this year. Village Green planters are now in place. It was agreed that Daffodils are planted by the white gates at village entrances at a cost of approx. £200.00. Cllr Gilbert is to arrange this with R. Wilks. Community Speed Watch – Police data is still awaited and the Clerk has chased this up recently. The Council noted the '20 is Plenty' campaign and options being looked at for the village.

Vehicle Activated Signage – the VAS at the Martley end of the village needs a new battery – Cllr Gilbert will notify R. Wilks. The Clerk is working with VAS options for Martley PC currently and agreed to send the information to Cllrs Bowden and Gilbert re solar VAS and costs. Coronation Events – Cllr A. Henry updated the meeting re the events planned. Cllr Merrick also offered to offer an 'ecological workshop' event. It was noted that the church is now arranging their own event.

Section 106 Matters: Four Acre Field (CFAF) Project – No further updates at this stage but it was noted that following elections on 4th May, the project will be handed from Cllr Campsall to Cllr Bowden going forward. A report will be made at the next meeting.

Planning Matters: M/23/00291/FUL – Elmsvynne Ltd, Blue Shot Pound Lane, Clifton upon Teme – variation of conditions 4,5,11,12,18 on permission 21/01227/FUL – proposed residential development of 5 dwellings. No Objection.

Planning notifications noted: M/22/01711/HP – 4 Manor Rd, Clifton upon Teme – approval for erection of single storey rear and side extension. M/22/01679/HP – Honey Bee Cottage, 42 The Village, Clifton upon Teme – approval of demolition of fire damaged lean to and provision of rear elevation single storey kitchen extension with associated internal space planning.

Strategic Planning Matters: SWDPR - Cllr Gilbert will monitor the SWDPR and notify the Council of any matters to be considered. Our response to the SWDPR has been acknowledged. There are a large number of responses which are currently being reviewed. District Cllr Cumming also updated the meeting re the proposed planning review after elections.

Neighbourhood Plan – a review has taken place and an article placed in the April Teme Triangle to say that the plan remains appropriate to the village. Resident comments are invited but none received to date. Cllr Gilbert proposed that the Plan remains appropriate for this village. Seconded Cllr Bowden. All agreed. Clerk to notify MHDC accordingly.

Highways & Facilities Matters: Parish Lengthsman – all matters are in hand. County Councillor D. Chambers matters – Cllr Bowden will send the Clerk a list of current matters for raising with Cllr Chambers. Road Closures – the closure of the Martley Rd was noted.

Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas: Cllr Bowden – the overhanging tree work at 9 Kenelm Close has been quoted as £300.00. All agreed to progress the work as quoted. Cllr Bowden to liaise with S. Wheeler Tree Surgeon. Knightwick Surgery – the Clerk has requested a copy of the ICB Report but has not yet received it – will continue to chase this. The parish may need to set up a local medicine delivery service for residents and an article will be placed in the Teme Triangle in future asking for volunteers to do this. The Clerk was asked to find out the best way to progress setting up this service. Tennis Courts – these are being used now that the net has been replaced. It was therefore agreed that Cllr Bowden purchase a second net at a cost of £60.00. Bus Survey – Cllr Bowden is looking at possible questions and is also looking at exactly what the s106 funding can deliver / what is required to create a bus stop. Pavilion Car Park – Cllr A. Henry asked if the car park could be used for a mobile food unit? Proposal details to follow. The Clerk also asked for a copy of insurance and food hygiene certificates. Cllr Merrick reported on the ongoing ecological survey of the playing field and was pleased that so many species had already been identified on the site. It was agreed that Cllr Merrick liaise with Cllr Gilbert re educational opportunities for the site in the future.

Next meeting: Thurs 18th May 2023 (later date due to Council elections)

The Annual Parish Meeting held at 7pm followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council at 7.40 pm.

Meeting closed at 8:45 pm

M. Alexander, Clerk

CLIFTON UPON TEME ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2023

The Clifton Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 18 May 2023 at 7pm. All are welcome to attend. Community Groups and Organisations are invited to make a report to the meeting. Contact Michelle Alexander, Parish Council Clerk:
clerk@clifton-upon-teme-pc.org.uk or 01886 884195

SHELSLEY PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2023

The Shelsleys Annual Parish Meeting, followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, will be held on Tuesday 16 May 2023 at Shelsleys Village Hall, commencing 7pm. Everyone welcome to attend both parts.

Contact Jan Speyer, Parish Council Clerk: 01886 812444

LOWER SAPEY NEWS

When I wrote the article for April, I was hoping for some better weather, but nothing has changed. We did enjoy a good Easter weekend, when the sun shone and even though the east wind blew, the forecast 50mph winds didn't quite materialise. The blossom is blowing off the fruit trees and it's even too cold to spend time in the greenhouse.

The sun did shine for Easter Day and a white rabbit emerged into St Bartholomew's churchyard hiding easter eggs! Let's hope the weather will change in time for the King's coronation. Incidentally, the church looked beautiful and thanks go to the loyal flower arrangers and to Shane for giving us dozens of pots of narcissi. All of these will then be planted in the churchyard.

King Charles's coronation will indeed be the big event of May and I am sure we all wish the Royal Family a wonderful day. There seem to be many celebrations in our area, some grander than others.

Here in Harpley, there will be a tea party for villagers on Monday 8 May at 3pm, in St Bartholomew's or in the churchyard if fine. Fizz and soft drinks are being provided by the Parish Meeting and there will be plenty to eat. I can't remember much about the last coronation in Hanley Swan, where I was brought up, but I vaguely remember a carnival, floats and a very, very tiny TV screen and the room filled with friends and neighbours. Much has changed since then, and not always for the better!

Our Pop-up Choir is rehearsing for the special service, but we would still welcome new recruits to come along and join us.

The other big event in Harpley is the annual Big Plant Sale, which will be on Saturday 27 May at St Bartholomew's Church. Please don't bring plants for sale as we already have plenty this year. There will be a tombola, competitions, a stall showcasing sustainable flowers and the usual cakes, tea and coffee. It will start about 10.30 and finish around 12.30. As usual, any profits will be shared between St Bartholomew's Church and Christian Aid. May will seem to be one long Bank Holiday this year, so we hope for decent weather by then.

UPDATE ON ST BARTHOLMEW'S CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS by Church Warden Candy Connolly

St Bartholomew's, 2023; preparations for the next step.

Since Christmas 2021, the ceiling netting that holds the potentially falling plaster serves its purpose in us being able to hold services and events in the church. This month, we submitted our faculty for re-ordering to provide a lower ceiling and the installation of a kitchenette and loo in the church. This will require the moving of the font to the Old Church, which is being managed by the Churches Conservation Trust, in collaboration with Historic England. Planning permission from MHDC has been applied for to build the extension on the new St Bartholomew's.

We await the outcome with eager anticipation. A Coronation Hedge is being planted and the corner woodland has been made accessible, increasing the places to walk and sit in our peaceful rural setting. Enjoy a visit to us if you have not already been. For history or events in the area please see our website at: lowersapey.wordpress

CLIFTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Clifton Friendship Club - which includes residents from Lower Sapey - meets in Clifton Village Hall twice a month and is chaired by Dot Millward.

During April, Mac our speaker, entertained us by showing how to defend ourselves using just one strong, educated finger! This will be of use if we have to defend the precious antiques which were valued by our later guest at the next meeting. We hope the coffee morning on Saturday 22 April will be a great success and the money raised will be for the Club and Christian Aid. A report will be in next month's edition.

In May, the Club is holding a Coronation Lunch in the Village Hall at 12.30pm on Wednesday 3 May. The Club's AGM will be on Wednesday 17 May in the Village Hall. New members are always welcome.

NOTICES

Services in St Bartholomew's for May. Please always check nearer the date as they are subject to late change:

- Thursday 4 May: Soup and Silence get together at the Church at 12noon. Soup is provided. This replaces the early morning Prayer Meeting and will be held on the first Thursday of the next two months
- Sunday 7 May: Coronation morning service at 10.30am
- Sunday 21 May: Methodist morning service at 10.30am
- Sunday 28 May: Circle service at 10.30am.

- Housekeeping for May is in the hands of Angie Dallow. Thank you Angie.
- The Ladies Bible Group will meet on Tuesday 9 May at 2pm. Venue to be arranged.
- The Mobile Library will call on Friday 19 May at 10.20 and 10.40am.

Just a little note that the local elections will be held on Thursday 4 May and we now have to produce photo-identity before we can vote !

Have some wonderful Coronations and Bank Holiday celebrations and we hope for the arrival of the real coming of Spring.

Margaret Griffiths

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Church Matters

by Rev Jen Denniston



There were, unusually, no Devotions at Harpley or Shelsley on Good Friday. This was to enable people to go to Worcester to the Passion: an open-air presentation of the first Holy Week. The drama opened with a few scenes from Jesus's life: Jesus helping others, praying for people, Jesus chasing away unjust traders, restoring outcasts into society, teaching and encouraging his disciples. Then, suddenly, the mood shifts and there's a malevolent desire by the religious and political leaders to try him for blasphemy and treason. And Jesus's fate is sealed. He is crucified, dead and buried. Good Friday desperation and desolation is then dispelled when Jesus rises from the dead. The tomb - a bit like our eggs on Easter Day - is cracked open. Joy is re-found. Peace is offered and received. It's a remarkable ending. A remarkable beginning of new Life, and Resurrection hope. And, living with that hope and joy, we can do what Jesus told his followers to do, and help others, and pray for others, to chase away unjust traders, to restore outcasts and teach and encourage people...

If you get the chance to go and see it next year, do take the opportunity.

You don't need to go to Thailand or become a Buddhist to meditate... There's a long and valuable tradition of Christian spirituality and meditation, and it's easily accessible. At Soup and Silence, on the first TUESDAY of the month at Harpley church, for an hour from 12.00 midday til 1.00pm, come and be nourished in body and spirit. (Day has been changed to avoid clashing with Clifton Warm Welcome.)

Changes are taking place in the formation of the Worcestershire West Rural Team of churches (WWRT). Rev Anne Potter will become Team Rector of the WWRT, with a part time house-for-duty Team Vicar based in Martley. Meanwhile, Clifton, Harpley and Shelsleys have accepted the invitation of the Archdeacon to leave the WWRT and 'move' to be part of a soon-to-be-formed Rural Mission Area. This will incorporate Teme Valley South, Teme Valley North and Wyre Forest benefices. There's 25 parishes in all, with three paid vicars and several non-stipendiary Priests, Licensed Lay Readers and Authorised Lay Ministers. Plans are still being worked out...more details will be made known in due course.

Date for the Diary: Wedding Dress Festival at All Saints Shelsley, June 14th from 10am-4pm. As part of the celebrations that day, there will be a Service of Renewal of Marriage Vows, at 4.00pm in the church. No need to book or even say you're coming, just come along.

It's Easter until Whitsun.... so I wish you HAPPY EASTER! May Easter Joy and Hope and Peace be yours.

Rev Jen Denniston

N.B. This column will now be written by a different local person each month.



**CHURCH SERVICES IN CLIFTON, THE SHELSLEYS
AND LOWER SAPEY (HARPLEY)**

May 2023

Sunday 7th May

Fourth Sunday after Easter Coronation Weekend

- 10.30am** Morning Worship, St Bartholomew, Harpley
- 11.30am** Coronation Service, All Saints, Shelsey Beauchamp
- 3.00pm** Coronation Service, St Kenelm's, Clifton

Sunday 14th May

Fifth Sunday after Easter/Rogation

- 10.30am** Rogation Service, Newhouse Farm, Clifton
- 10.30am** Holy Communion, All Saints, Shelsey Beauchamp

Sunday 21st May

Sunday after Ascension

- 10.30am** Methodist Holy Communion, St Bartholomew, Harpley
- 6.30pm** Evensong St Kenelm's, Clifton

Sunday 28th May

Sixth Sunday after Easter/Pentecost

- 10.30am** Circle Service, St Bartholomew, Harpley
- 6.30pm** Evensong, Shelsey Walsh Church

Pop-In Parish Prayers

All Welcome

- Thursday 4th 12.00 -1.00** Soup and Silence, St Bartholomew, Harpley
- Monday 15th - 9.30am**, St Kenelm, Clifton
- Wednesday 17th - 9.00am** All Saints, Shelsey Beauchamp

*Holy Communion at Heaton House, Martley every 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 10.15am
and every 1st and 3rd Wednesday via our YouTube channel – wwrmlive1*

All services and timings are subject to review and amendment – please check the website for updates: www.achurchnearyou.com

ROGATION SUNDAY

Rogation Sunday 14 May, 10.30am: St Kenelm's Rogation Service is at New House Farm, Pound Lane WR6 6EF (The farm entrance will be well signed, and it's a very pleasant walk from the Village.) Rogation is an ancient church festival to ask for God's blessing on the community, its' safety, and its' growth. There are special prayers for the crops and the well-being of the village. Come and join in the family friendly service on New House Farm, celebrate the glorious countryside and help bless the fields. Refreshments and hot dogs are served after the service. A collection will be taken for the Air Ambulance.

Ruth Wilson

CONTACTS FOR ST KENELM'S CHURCH

Christenings, weddings, funerals:

Rev Anne Potter 01886 832355 / revannepotter@gmail.com

Other contacts: Jackie Gilbert 01886 812471 / gmjgilbert40@gmail.com

Anne Gayden 01886 812448 / annegayden@hotmail.co.uk

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 3 Clifton Friendship Club Coronation Lunch, Clifton VH, 12.30pm
 4 Local elections
 5 Shelsley Coronation Ball, Shelsley VH, 7.30pm
 6 King Charles III Coronation
 6 Clifton Coronation celebrations in the village, 3-5pm
 6-7 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb: Speed into Spring weekend
 7 Shelsley Coronation Church Service, All Saints, 11.30am, then village drinks party, games & village photograph, Shelsley VH, from 12 noon
 8 Steam Train rides, Wilderness Cottage, Shelsley Kings, 2-4pm
 8 Harpley villagers' Tea Party, St Bartholomew's, 3pm
 9 Clifton WI Meeting, speaker Andy Arnold on 'Trek to K2', Clifton VH, 7.30
 12 Teme Valley Wildlife Group meeting, Stoke Bliss and Kyre VH, 7:30pm
 13 Christian Aid Coffee Morning, The Old Vicarage, Clifton, 10am-12noon
 13 Clifton Spring Craft Fair, Clifton VH, 11am-3pm
 13-14 Shelsley Walsh Watermill Open Weekend, 10am-4pm
 14 St Kenelm's Sunday Rogation Service, New House Farm, 10.30am
 16 Shelsleys Annual Parish Mtg & Annual Parish Council Mtg, Shelsleys VH, 7pm
 17 Clifton Friendship Club AGM, Clifton VH
 18 Clifton Parish Council meeting, Clifton VH, 7.40pm
 27 Christian Aid Big Plant Sale, St Bartholomew's, Harpley, 10.30am-12.30pm
 27 Little Witley Film Club, 'Blinded by the Light', Little Witley VH, 8pm

June

- 3 Christian Aid Big Breakfast, Old House (20 The Village), Clifton, 9.30-11.30am
 3-4 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb: Best of British weekend
 9 Volante Strings concert, St Mary's Church Stanford
 10 Clifton WI Coffee Morning & Tabletop Sale, Clifton VH, 10.30am-12noon
 11 Open Garden & Tea for Christian Aid, Ayngstree House, Clifton, 2.30-5pm
 13 Clifton WI Meeting with speaker, Clifton VH, 7.30pm
 14 Wedding Dress Festival, All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp, 10am-4pm
 24 Shelsleys Tennis Tournament finals, local courts

July

- 1 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb: Bike Bonanza
 2 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb: Vintage Meeting
 22-23 Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb: Classic Nostalgia weekend

USEFUL PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Shelsley Parish Council Secretary

Jan Speyer shelsleyspc@gmail.com 01886 812444

Clifton Parish Council Secretary

Michelle Alexander macebearer69@gmail.com 01886 884195

District Councillor

Caroline Palethorpe caroline.palethorpe@malvernhillssdc.net 07974 966412

County Councillor

David Chambers dchambers2@worcestershire.gov.uk 07400 590 711



BULB PLANTING AT ALL SAINTS

Shelsley locals held a planting session at All Saints Churchyard in April.

Kate Hurst (pictured above, left) said: "Around 25 adults and children turned up to plant hundreds of bulbs, perennials and shrubs to bring a little life to our quite bare Churchyard. The sun shone, children ran around with watering cans and trowels and were rewarded with chocolate eggs. The PCC really appreciated the enthusiasm of the local community!"





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Contributions for the next (June 2023) edition by Friday 12 May 2023 please
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