

Teme TRIANGLE

Clifton-upon-Teme • The Shelsleys • Lower Sapey



Happy helpers at the Shelsleys Harvest Supper

In this edition

- Harvest celebrations in the Teme Valley
- Local fundraising activities
- Shelsley Pre-Raphaelite Festival review
- Church news and services
- ... plus all your local diary dates

Visit the website

www.temetriangle.net

FREE to Residents

Harpley Harvest Supper



Following the Harvest service in old St Bartholomew's Church, Harpley residents enjoyed their Harvest Supper in David Richards's barn. As always, there was a magical feeling about the whole event.



Special thanks go to Clare Edwards-Hedges who prepared a fabulous meal, along with the team of Jen Denniston, Jill Smith, Dave Richards and Liz Younge.

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Front cover picture:

From left to right: Jan Speyer, Michelle Whitefoot, Laura Taylor, Rachel Wright, Louise Hutton and Carole Warren. (More photos on pages 18 & 19).

WELCOME to the November 2024 edition of *Teme Triangle*

As the landscape starts to change colour and the leaves start to fall, we are reminded of this beautiful world that we live in and how lucky we are to be able to enjoy it in our peaceful lives. We remember all those who have fought and died for their homelands and pray for those that are still in the midst of terrible fighting across the world.

So we should indeed celebrate that we are able to enjoy our Harvest time, and other activities, in peace, with our families and friends, and know that we have much to look forward to. Thank you as always for your contributions.

COMMEMORATION, by Johnny Crabbe

The Last Post has sounded; the notes hang, in the air;
Evening Hymn accompanies for all who stand to hear,
Our thoughts and grateful thanks flow out

To those who fought and died:

To those who did their duty

That we may be alive.

This is no celebration... what's there to celebrate?

It's heartfelt commemoration

From families and State.

The horror of the trenches, the whizz-bangs, and the mud
That plastered o'er their faces, their weapons and their food.

The futile, pointless orders on how to wage a war

That old, geriatric generals had never fought before.

Yet they carried out the orders, and fought with might and main,

Believing that the good times must surely come again.

But four long years of striving for that castle in the sky
So often ended in the mire, they knew not the reason why.

And so a hundred years has passed,

Since hell on earth did reign;

And now commemoration starts...

They did not die in vain.

Our world, though still with turmoil fraught.

Is the better for their pain.

LOWER SAPEY NEWS

October has gone, summer hardly happened, but the words of the ever popular harvest hymn keep ringing in my ears...

We plough the fields and scatter,

The good seed on the land.

For it is fed and watered,

By God's almighty hand.

Somehow, there has been confusion in the watering department in our area this year and the seeds are sinking into soggy ground. I really don't know how the farmers and growers have coped this year with the rains. However, we may have a stunning autumn and a mild winter to turn things right round! As an insomniac, I often listen to the early morning farming news and apparently farmers say it has rained continuously since October 2023. I do have a bad feeling about the pace of climate change and an example is the fact that the very warm seas have caused the increase in strength and ferocity of the hurricanes now happening in Central and Southern America. Amazingly, some plants have actually thrived in the damp, like my now massive magnolia grandiflora and even the apple and pear harvests have been quite good. However, the list of those who need our special prayers and thoughts extends to the farmers this season, adding to those who we already pray for regularly, the residents of Ukraine, Gaza, Israel and Lebanon. Ukraine seems the forgotten war now. Even great powers such as the USA seem unable to stop these conflicts.

In our area, the Harvest service took place in old St Bartholomew's church, where there always seems to be a magical feeling. We held the Harvest Supper in David Richards's barn and a report on this will appear in the next month's issue. Even the Big Breakfast took place as usual, but under canvas at St Bartholomew's and was well attended and enjoyed by all the diners.

Negotiations are taking place with the bat controllers of Malvern, the representatives of the Housing Association, builders and the Diocese and we still hope to have St Bartholomew's open for Christmas. It has been frustrating and hard work and if it weren't for the persistence of many of this church's community it may well have been closed by now. We still need everyone's help.

Congratulations to Candy Connolly on completing her cycle ride along Hadrian's Wall with her two friends. Well done Candy and for raising a goodly sum towards repairs in St Bartholomew's Church. Thanks to all who donated.

November is a dreary month, usually bringing fogs and mists and even more rain, so maybe it's time we built up our log stores and gathered a good supply of books for the dark months ahead. Possibly, also to start planning for Christmas. This is not my favourite time of the year, but then this must be my age!

NOTICES

We hope to hold the following, but please check nearer the dates.

- Sunday 3 November: All Soul's service at St Kenelm's, 3pm, to remember loved ones.

- Sunday 10 November: Short Remembrance service around the flag in St Bartholomew's churchyard at 10.45am.

- Friday 15 November: there will be a gathering around the fire-pit at St Bartholomew's with pizzas and marshmallows - weather permitting.

- Sunday 24 November: Circle service 10.30am - outside if possible.

There will be no housekeeping for our church until it is re-opened, when there will be a big clean-up. Hopefully this will be by Christmas.

The Mobile Library will call on Friday 15 November at 10.20 and 10.40am.

Ladies Bible Group will be held on Tuesday 12 November at 2pm. Venue to be arranged.

Finally, I would like to wish Dot Millward a speedy recovery from her bad fall and Jane from her forthcoming operation. Good luck to you both.

Our local website is: lowersapey.net and you can keep up with all the latest information here, or by contacting our church wardens, David Richards and Liz Younge at: lowersapeychurchwarden@gmail.com.

Margaret Griffiths

CLIFTON-UPON-TEME NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL AGM

The Clifton-upon-Teme Nursery and Pre-School will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Thursday 5 December, from 6pm until 7pm at Clifton Village Hall.

Everyone is welcome. Cakes and coffee will be provided!

If your community matters to you, please join our team! We need additional trustees who could spare an hour or two a month to help support the running of the nursery.

To find out more about the Nursery & Pre-School, go to:

<https://www.cliftoneyc.co.uk/about-us>

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THE SHELSLEYS PRE-RAPHAELITE FESTIVAL REVIEW

Following on from the photos published in the October TT.....Alexandra Winnington writes:

"This event took place at All Saints Church and was inspired by the story of the Rector David Melville and his family in the fascinating book "A Profound Secret" by Josceline Dimbleby. The book tells the story of the letters she discovered at a relative's house between eminent Pre-Raphaelite artist Edward Burne-Jones to the Rector's daughter, May Gaskell. He also wrote letters to the Rector and they had a mutual respect for each other. To mark the re-telling of this story and the contribution of the Rector David Melville in his transformative restoration of All Saints Church and the profound effect that pre-Raphaelite painter Edward Burne-Jones had on his daughter May



Left to right: Alexandra Winnington, Josceline Dimbleby and Holly Perks. The photograph was taken whilst filming for the event at Josceline's home.

Gaskell and her children, a seminar was held in the church, with a number of academic speakers, as well as talks by local Shelsley residents. Holly Perks presented the input by the Rector at the church in the first block of talks.

Holly undertook a great deal of research which formed the backbone of the seminar and created the day's programme, incorporating all the related threads. The spirit of Melville and his sheer determination was also an inspiration for the day.

Dr Ann McLarnon delivered a very interesting overview of Melville's time at Hatfield College, Durham University, as Principal. It also covered his contribution to equal living opportunities at universities in general, and state education as we know it today. Holly also spoke on the Brasenose movement and the stained glass windows of William Wailes - one of which is attributed to him in the church.

Jude Bettinson presented a fascinating story about the Consistory Court and the restoration process of the church in order to gain power and permission for the work to go ahead. This involved taking the Churchwarden to Court for allowing the church to go into a state of serious disrepair. The power was granted for the Rector to go ahead with his plans. Bridget Francis gave an interesting talk on the Reformatory which David Melville initiated at Woodbury Hill. A very strict and busy day was scheduled to try and put order into offenders lives so that they were so busy they did not have time to think.

Bridget also discovered 2 paintings by Cuthbert Bede, the church artist, hidden away in the church. Within one is a face very similar to the Rector's and further research proved that he had been a student of the Rector during his time as Principal at Hatfield College, Durham University.

Dr Peter Doll gave a very interesting lecture on The Oxford Movement, the Gothic Revival and the architect James Cranston who drew up the restoration plans.

In the afternoon, Dr Serena Trowbridge spoke about the Pre-Raphaelite movement and artists of the time. Dr Philippa Semper spoke informatively on Edward Burne-Jones and brought us into his world both artistically and from a psychological perspective. Karl Harris spoke on the caricatures of Burne-Jones and the animals which have transpired into characters in modern day adaptations of Game of Thrones and other fantastical productions.

Kate Hurst spoke spontaneously and animatedly on Ruskinland, which was an anti-industrialisation movement to get back to and protect nature. The Rev Julia Curtis told us about the stained glass window at Rochford Church by William Morris and Alexandra Winnington stepped in on behalf of the Churchwarden at All Saints Church, Wilden, to talk about the numerous Edward Burne-Jones stained glass windows at that church.

The final block of the book and the letters within, was presented by Holly and Alexandra. The painting on the flyer by Edward Burne-Jones was discovered to link in with a beautiful letter about an extraordinary room that Burne-Jones wanted to create in "the chamber of his heart" for May, which only she may enter and it would encompass "magical lands".

Presented around the church, an exhibition of Pre-Raphaelite pictures had been curated and presented by the Committee and documented by Susie James. The plans found in The Hive, and many drawings were also presented by Holly Perks, along with many copies of the letters featured in the book.



Three pieces were kindly lent - a graveture by Burne-Jones; Rector David Melville's Bible as used by him in the 1850s; and a print of the beautiful and mysterious Amy Gaskell, by Burne-Jones, wearing a now famous 'black' dress.

The day in the church ended with a Compline Service with Rev Jen Denniston,

where we celebrated God's creation and God's creative spirit that inspires us to create. Tim Goodall played the organ for a special time of singing for our gathering in the chancel.

Meanwhile, all day outside the church there was a great deal happening in the Art Tent run by Mel Williams and greatly assisted by Jen Denniston. Tiles inspired by William de Morgan were painted by children and adults, some stained glass windows and some pictures inspired by the Pre-Raphaelites. Much mirth was shared by visitors dressing-up in the variety of clothes available and photos taken.

The refreshments were superb with a hog roast provided by Kate Gunn from Clifton and a Waffle Van whose array of toppings made a delicious sweet course. The food tent offered quiches and salads for lunch, followed by tea and cake in the afternoon.

Huge thanks to everyone who helped to make the day such a success - from lending and putting up the marquees and tents, assisting with the exhibition, and lending and operating the technical equipment. Also to all those who made and served food and all the volunteers on hand to assist with virtually anything needed.

We were blessed with a dry day and visitors came from the local area with some children and other visitors from Malvern, Worcester and the surrounding environs. Both Ben Gaskell and Jo Hardy came and represented the family as Josceline Dimbleby's brother and sister. A film was made of the interview by Holly and Alexandra at Josceline's home and filmed very kindly by Diamondback Pictures. It will be more widely available to see soon. The film was shown that evening at Harborough Bank in Shelsley Beauchamp, where the Rector once lived, and formed part of an evening reception with two of our day speakers delivering further talks. A caricaturist and direct descendant, the great-great grandson of Edward Burne-Jones, came specially from London. Our thanks to James and Holly Perks for providing the venue for a wonderful evening.

Left to right: Jane Johnson, Rev Jen Denniston, Bridget Francis and Michael Johnson. Michael had worked previously with Josceline Dimbleby on a fundraising event for the church roof at St Michael and All Angels, Great Witley and had travelled from Rutland to attend this Shelsley event.



TEME VALLEY WILDLIFE GROUP

The photograph shows a field sown with sunflowers and other seed-producing plants, against the splendid backdrop of the Clee Hills. After writing earlier in the year about the seed mixes farmers use to support pollinating insects, I hadn't expected to be following it with a few words about plants grown for birds. However, the use of "cover crops", "herbal leys" and "green manures" by farmers and gardeners alike is becoming more common.



The idea behind such crops is to employ natural methods to improve the fertility and structure of the soil. By ploughing plants back in at the end of the season, soil humus levels can be usefully increased. In addition, deep-rooted plants can help to loosen compacted ground and nitrogen-fixing plants can help restore nutrient levels. It is hoped that less artificial fertiliser will be needed to grow a subsequent cereal crop. That birds, insects and small mammals get a boost from cover crops is a secondary, but very welcome, benefit.

Sunflowers are always lovely to see and were very successful when the Teme Valley Wildlife Group grew a bird seed mix in a field at Eastham some years ago. The sunflower gets its name from the fact that its flower heads turn to face the sun and gradually move by the hour as the sun travels across the sky. Although it is probably the largest flower in Britain to exhibit this behaviour, it is by no means the only one. Bright red field poppies do the same.

Some flowers open when the sun is shining and close when it goes in. The tiny flower of the scarlet pimpernel opens at about 8 in the morning and closes at 2 in the afternoon, earlier if it is dull, and has acquired the name "poor man's weather-glass" because of this. Similar behaviour is exhibited by goat's beard, a tall dandelion-headed flower which opens in the morning but has shut by noon. This plant also goes by the name of "Jack-go-to-bed-at-noon". Quite why these plants act as they do, I'm not really sure. Some flowers need to protect their pollen against rain and shut up in damp conditions, wood anemones do this, but why flowers shut up for the afternoon I do not know.

Another fascinating fact is that some types of water lily sink their buds under water over night which then rise up at daybreak to open, before closing and sinking again in the evening. The Nile lily was observed to do this by the ancients who saw it as a symbol of resurrection, dying every evening and being reborn every morning in the eternal cycle of death and resurrection.

The next meeting of the TVWG will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 14 November at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall, WR15 8RR. We welcome Jo from Haven4Wildlife whose talk is called "Gardening with wildlife in mind". £3 on the door. This will be our last meeting for 2024.

Our programme of events, bird survey and archive photographs are available on our website www.temevalleywildlife.co.uk.

Contact us by email at twwg@outlook.com.



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School governors have three main roles:

- Governors ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction. The governing body helps to set long-term plans for the school, decide where improvements need to be made and how to make them.
- Governors hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and the effective and efficient performance management of staff. The governing body looks at the quality of education being offered and ensures the Head is doing everything possible to improve results.
- Governors oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent. Governors examine budgets and spending proposals to monitor whether the school is getting value for money and ensure the money is spent in the right areas.

Our governors come from our local community and in their role they:

- get to know the school, including visiting the school occasionally during school hours and in agreement with the Headteacher, and gaining a good understanding of the school's strengths and weaknesses.
- attend induction training and regular relevant training and development events.
- attend meetings (approximately four full governing board meetings and three committee meetings a year) and read all the papers before the meeting.
- act in the best interests of all the pupils of the school.
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You must be 18 or over to apply and all governors must have Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. If you would like to find out more, please email office@clifton-upon-teme.worcs.sch.uk for further details.

CANDY'S CYCLE RIDE TOTAL

Clifton's Candy Connolly has raised a total of £1,000 for Harpley church as a result of her cycle ride, covering the length of Hadrian's Wall in September.

"I'm very grateful for all the support for this ride and recognising the importance of the work at Harpley church," said Candy on her return. "I loved it - the wind in my face and the wonderful landscapes of Cumbria and Northumberland travelling along the tectonic plate that the Romans seem to have identified as a good route for their wall."



THE SHELSLEYS HARVEST SUPPER

A huge, heartfelt thanks to all those residents who helped make the Shelsley harvest supper the great success that it was, raising an incredible £542.00 for the Shelsley churches.

In total we had 26 (!!) helpers, with input ranging from generous donations towards the wine, cheese or vegetables; prepping of vegetables; laying the tables; folding napkins; supplying table decorations; cleaning both before and after; supplying pies or puddings; serving the food; washing up after the event and clearing the hall - what great teamwork!

It was an absolute pleasure spending time with you all throughout the event. We hope you enjoy the photos and lovely feedback from our happy Harvesters!

Louise Hutton and Carole Warren

“Impressive coordination and cheery collaboration.”

“What a lovely, well-run Harvest supper, with delicious food. Really fab and a really enjoyable evening.”

“Really fabulous supper and a lovely event - just like it was when I was little and just what the village needs.”



Above photo, left to right: Richard Bettinson, Michelle Whitefoot, James, Rebecca Perry, Jan Speyer, Rachel Merrick, Isa Stewart.



Above photo, left to right: Rev Julia Curtis, John Hurst, Rev Jen Denniston, Anthony Winnington, Tony Taylor, Susie James, Alexandra Winnington.



Below photo, left to right: Andrew Brazier, James, Paul Hutton, Isa Stewart, Jane Roberts, Jamie Stewart.

Right photo, left to right: Anna Brazier, Adam Cullinane, James, Rachel Wright, Jude Bettinson, Laura Taylor, Hazel Marsh.



Left photo, left to right: Colin Francis, Stuart Smith, Bridget Francis, Robert Coldicott, Nick Denniston, Kate Hurst.

“Lovely evening and food, yummy apple juice and beautifully laid tables.”

“A brilliant evening - just what the village needs.”

“What a lovely, warm and lively evening, shared with friends old and new from across the Shelsleys.”



Above, left to right at the table: Rosemary Holloway, Rachel Wright, Ann Holloway, Carole Warren, Barry and Irene Hodgetts, Carol Smith, Patricia and Charles Barratt.





Harvest flowers at All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SALE

Diana Pollock, the hugely talented artist who painted the wonderful 'Shelsleys Jubilee Parish Map' has painted these two beautiful wintry scenes of St Andrew's, Shelsley Walsh and All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp. The purpose of these watercolours was to create Christmas cards to sell and raise funds for both churches. The cards were showcased at the Shelsley harvest supper and were very well received.

The A6 size cards are individual, not in packs, so any number of either design can be ordered. Cards are priced at £1.25 each, with all profit (25p per card) going to the Shelsley churches.

Please contact Louise Hutton on 07803 614 078 or email louise@stroyd-hutton.com to place your order.

Orders need to be placed by Friday 15 November for delivery first week of December.



Above: All Saints Church, Shelsley Beauchamp
Right: St Andrew's Church, Shelsley Walsh



THREE PEAKS CHALLENGE

A group of Clifton and Teme Valley hikers raised nearly £3,000 for Christian Aid's Middle East Appeal in October by climbing to Broadway Tower, Bredon Hill and the Worcester Beacon in Malvern, enjoying glorious views of the county from each summit.



The group included several from Clifton and Shelsley Beauchamp, among them Sue and David Warmington, Alison and Rebecca Francis, Kate Hurst, Jane Roberts, Neil Higton and Marion Dipple.

Lights of Love

Cathedral Services and Light Switch on Event
Friday, 15 November 2024

Hundreds of twinkling lights are lit in memory and celebration of loved ones, in the annual St Richard's Hospice Lights of Love appeal.

Once again we adorn our Christmas tree at St Andrew's Spire, Worcester, with lights dedicated to loved ones, as well as recording their names on banners around the tree.

For names to appear in the Worcester News on Christmas Eve, and at The Spire in time for Christmas, please dedicate your light by **5pm on 12th December**.

Dedicate your light and find out more about our Lights of Love services by scanning the QR code.

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CLIFTON-UPON-TEME PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held 3 October 2024 at Clifton Village Hall

Present: J. Bowden (Chair), B. Gilbert (Vice-Chair), R. Neave, P Brooks, S.Haywood.

Also present: District Councillors Paul Cumming, Sarah Simcock (Clerk) and x5 members of the Public. **Apologies:** County Cllr D. Chambers, Pam Cumming and L Merrick. **Declarations of Interest:** None.

The Minutes of the Meeting held 5 September 2024: Proposed by Cllr Gilbert; seconded by Cllr Neave. All agreed.

Matters arising: 63.24 Cllr J Bowden still waiting to hear from Mark Hammond. John Bowden is to meet Tanya from highways about the post for speed monitor and to talk about the speed limits. Also, The Threshing Barn has been approved even after we wrote in with our concerns about it.

Democratic Public Time: Member of the public asked about the bad accident.

County & District Councillor Reports: The County Councillors had nothing to report. District Councillor Paul Cumming gave a verbal report. SWDPR everything is just about ready to go to the inspector. Transport survey not quite ready. Discussed the neighbourhood development plan.

Finance & Governance Matters: Payments and receipts schedule – proposed Cllr Gilbert, seconded Cllr Haywood. All agreed. Clerk to process payments and to check VAT.

Section 106 matters: John Bowden still waiting for quotes from builders. Richard is continuing with the planning application. The final wildflower garden: Bruce Gilbert said the garden is starting very soon and have had site meetings about the fencing and paths. Wildflowers have been ordered. Pavilion updates: still waiting on prices from three contractors. Richard Newman is continuing planning permission for the new extending pavilion.

Parish Matters /Updates: Village Maintenance Plan – John Bowden noticed the large planter by the gateway at Church House Farm has been moved. John Bowden has sent a picture to Rob Wilkes to move it back in place. Paul Brookes mentioned that a footpath going up towards the school is overgrown and slippery - John Bowden to ask Rob Wilkes to have a look at it. Hanging Baskets have been removed. Three new bins to be ordered and to be placed by the bus stop outside Church House Farm, by the village hall and near Hope Lane. Swift boxes – Cllr Gilbert reported that over twenty two boxes have been ordered and some have been put in place and there has been positive feedback. Regarding the bit of land by Kenelm Road for a possible bus shelter - John Bowden spoke to the legal department at Persimmon Homes and

discussions to obtain the land are still ongoing. Project (CFAF) updates: John Bowden said that he noticed the horse on the playing field needs refurbishing and he is waiting on a price for it. It was mentioned that the seesaw is too near to the fence.

PSCO Quarterly Review completed by Bruce Gilbert to include the hazard parking outside school, speeding on the B4204 and rural crime. The grit bins are to be checked.

Planning Matters: Nothing to report.

Strategic Planning Matters: A verbal update earlier in the meeting from Cllr Paul Cumming.

Highways Matters: Cllr Haywood reported that some road signs by Old Road are overgrown - John Bowden to talk to Tanya from highways. Ray Neave asked whether to consider extending the double yellow lines which are from Pound Lane to the back entrance of the school and extend to the entrance to Blue Shot.

Councillor Reports & Items for Future Agendas: Nothing to note.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm.

Date of next Meeting: Thursday 14 November 2024 at 7.40pm, in the Village Hall.

STANFORD KNITWEAR SALE

Christmas is Coming!!!

Do you need to get Christmas presents for your nearest and dearest and, of course, yourself?

If the answer is yes – then come to our Knitwear Sale....

Saturday 9 November
at Stanford Village Hall
from 9am to 12.30pm

The Browns are returning with their range of men's and ladies wool and cashmere knitwear and ladies coats. This will be the last time they come, so there will be some closing down bargains. All commission goes to St Mary's Church!

We hope to serve refreshments and hold a raffle. Any queries to Robin on 01886 853 295 please.

SWIFT BOXES IN CLIFTON

More than 30 swift boxes have so far been fitted to properties in Clifton and there are plans to add some to St Kenelm's Church to increase the numbers of swifts that nest in the church tower.

Simon Evans of the Worcester Branch of the RSPB said: "We are delighted to work with the residents of Clifton-upon-Teme and their Parish Council to try to maintain the presence of the wonderful swifts who give so much pleasure during the summer months. The numbers are currently declining but we hope to reverse that trend by providing more nesting sites with the addition of the swift boxes within the village."



"It may take two or three years before we start to see the benefit of our work, but the boxes are made of marine ply and are varnished and will last over twenty years, so we are looking at a long term increase in swift numbers. I'd like to thank all the villagers who have come forward and purchased the boxes and the Parish Council who have paid for their installation."

Pictured are Simon Evans, at the foot of the ladder, and Mike the installer. If anyone is interested in adding to the number of the boxes, please contact Clifton Parish Council.

CHURCH CONTACTS

Oversight Minister: Rev'd Julia Curtis 01886 853286 revjuliacurtis@gmail.com
Christenings, Weddings, Funerals: Rev Jen Denniston 07783 432017
jendenniston@gmail.com

Jill Smith 01886 853311 Pat Snelling (Clifton) 01886 812443

All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp / St Andrew's, Shelsley Walsh Church Wardens:

Kate Hurst 01886 812184 kathrynhurst@btopenworld.com
Holly Perks 01886 812369 hollyperks@me.com

St Kenelm's, Clifton:

Ruth Wilson (Church Warden, incl. Warm Space) ruth.wilson38@btinternet.com
Anne Gayden (PCC Minutes Secretary) & Jackie Gilbert

St Bartholomew's, Lower Sapey (Harpley) Church Wardens:

David Richards / Liz Younge lowersapeychurchwarden@gmail.com

Church Matters

by Jack Whittenbury, Royal British Legion

It's the beginning of November and once again we enter a period when we try to remember those lost in conflict and offer help to the families of those in the services.

Once again, we see conflict in Europe and the Middle East. Again, man fights man. Why?

We have guidance and teachings in all the major religions of the world but we heed them not; and we do this at our peril.

Here is an appropriate poem, read by the late Pat Bradley at the Remembrance service at St. Kenelm's in 2007.

*Why are they selling poppies, mummy?
Selling poppies in town today.
The poppies, child, are the flowers of love
For the men who marched away.
But, why have they chosen poppies mummy?
Why not a beautiful rose?
Because, my child, men fought and died
In the fields where the poppies grow.
But why are poppies so red, mummy?
Why are the poppies so red?
Red is the colour of blood, my child
The blood our soldiers shed.
The heart of the poppy is black, mummy
Why does it have to be black?
Black, my child, is the symbol of grief
For the men who never came back.
But why, mummy, are you crying so?
Your tears are giving you pain.
My tears are my fears for you my child
For the world is FORGETTING AGAIN.*

Why can't we all get on?

Remembrance poppies will be on sale throughout the area from the end of October and there will be Remembrance services at all of our churches. By buying a poppy we remember, but does mankind learn?



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LOCAL EVENT NOTICES

SHELSLEY VILLAGE HALL & SOCIAL CLUB

Saturday 2 November - Bonfire night with silent fireworks, 7pm. Plenty of food available.

Saturday 16 November - 50's to 90's disco, 7-11pm.
Pete Wool - singer and guitar player.
This is a free event, but donations towards the Village Hall are invited.

Friday 6 December - Christmas wreath-making workshop, with Kate Hurst, 6-9.30pm.

Saturday 7 December - Children's Christmas party with a visit from Santa Claus, 3-6pm. Cost £5.00 per child, to include food and present (please advise child's name and age when booking).

Friday 13 December - Adult's Christmas Hoedown, 6pm til late.
Tickets £5.00 per person, to include food.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

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SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER

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Clifton Craft Group's

Christmas Craft Sale

Children's activities

Tea and cakes!!



Saturday 16th November

2.30 - 4.00

**@St Kenelm's Church
Clifton Upon Teme**



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

November 2024

Sunday 3rd November

10.30am: Holy Communion, St Kenelm's, Clifton

3.00pm: All Souls Service, Remember a Loved One Memorial Service, St Kenelm's, Clifton

Sunday 10th November

10.45am: Remembrance Services to be held in St Kenelm's, All Saints and St Bartholomew

Monday 11th November

11.00am: Clifton Village Green, Two Minutes Silence, Observance of Armistice Day. Please assemble 10.50am.

Sunday 17th November

6.30pm: Evensong, St Kenelm's, Clifton

Wednesday 20th November

10.30am: Holy Communion, St Andrews, Shelsley Walsh

Sunday 24th November

10.30am: Circle Service, The Light of the World, Holman Hunt St Bartholomew, Harpley

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 1 High Sheriff's charity fundraiser talk, Regal Tenbury Wells, 7.30pm
- 2 Bonfire night with silent fireworks, Shelsley VH, 7pm
- 3 All Soul's service at St Kenelm's, 3pm, to remember loved ones
- 4 Bellringing training, St Kenelm's, Clifton. 6.30pm-9pm
- 4 Stanford History Group, vaccinations, Upper Sapey VH 7.30pm
- 5 Clifton Nursery & Pre-School AGM, Clifton VH, 6-7pm
- 9 Knitwear Sale, Stanford VH 9.30am-12.30pm
- 9 Country Music Evening, Clifton VH 7.30pm
- 10 Remembrance Service & Parade, St Kenelm's, Clifton, 10.45am
- 10 Remembrance Service, All Saints, Shelsley Beauchamp, 10.45am
- 10 Short Remembrance service round the flag in St Bartholomew's churchyard at 10.45am
- 10 Iona Worship (Remembrance), Hanley Broadheath VH, 4pm
- 11 Two minutes silence and short Act of Remembrance on Clifton village green, 11am. Please assemble 10.50am
- 11 Stanford History Group, Nigeria/Kenya, Upper Sapey VH 7.30pm
- 12 Shelsley Parish Council meeting, Shelsley VH, 7pm
- 14 Clifton Parish Council meeting, VH, 7.40pm
- 15 Gathering round the fire-pit at St Bartholomew's with pizzas and marshmallows - weather permitting
- 16 Christmas Craft Sale, St. Kenelm's Clifton, 2.30-4pm
- 16 50's to 90's Disco, Shelsley VH, 7-11pm
- 18 Stanford History Group, Upper Sapey VH, 7.30pm
- 25 Stanford History Group, Upper Sapey VH, 7.30pm

DECEMBER

- 1 Christmas Fayre, in aid of 1st Clifton-on-Teme Guiding, Clifton VH, 10am-1pm
- 6 Christmas wreath-making workshop, with Kate Hurst, 6-9.30pm
- 7 Children's Christmas party with a visit from Santa Claus, Shelsley VH, 3-6pm
- 13 Adult's Christmas Hoedown, Shelsley VH, 6pm til late

TRAVELLING NATIVITY

Look out for the Travelling Nativity (aka Knitivity) in the weeks before Christmas. It will be making its way round local schools, pubs, clubs and homes in December... you can let Rev Jen Denniston know if you would like to 'book it in' to your place.

Tel: 07783 432 017.



SUCCESS FOR ATTITUDE DANCE STUDIOS

Attitude Dance Studios, based at Mill Farm, Stanford Bridge, has recently had great success in the 'Audacity Goes Wild!' dance competition, held at West Midlands Safari Park:

- 1st place Senior Team - Stranger Things Contemporary
- 2nd place Senior Team - Beetle Juice Jazz
- 2nd place Junior Team - Vampire Lyrical
- 2nd place Junior Team - Shake the Room Jazz
- WILD CARD- Stranger things! (Wild card means the group will get to perform at the 'Audacity' dance championship in February.)

Congratulations to everyone involved!



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