

December 2015 & January 2016

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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

Or via the website by clicking on 'Chronicles' and then 'contact'

Next edition: **February 2016**

Copy date: **January 10th**

**Kathy Blackmore 646371,
Clifton on the Web—www.clifton-beds.co.uk**

Who's Who

All Saints' Church	Rector	Revd Anne Hindle, 8 Rectory Close, Clifton revdanne@clifton-beds.co.uk	819436
	Churchwardens	Anne Sullivan, 7 KnollsWay Marjorie Cakebread, Stanford Rd	817491 815599
	Reader	Robin Welsford, 13 Pedley Lane	811303
	Organist & Choirmaster		
	PCC Treasurer	Frank Rivett 27 Purcell Way, Shefford	851816
	PCC Secretary	Philippa Whittington 27 Purcell Way	851816
	Church Hall Bookings	Dorothy Brown 1 Lychmead, Clifton	628982
	Bell-ringing Cpt	Stan Ashton, 15A Pedley Lane	813340
	Mothers' Union	Betsy Gray, 18 Hitchin Lane, Clifton	629690
	Messy Church	Suzanne Stapleton, 811929; Ruth Gray	812820

All Saints' Academy	Head-teacher	Mrs Carol Ward	628444
	School Governors	Chair: Philippa Whittington Vice-chair: Peter Blackmore	851816 646371
	School Bookings	Justine McCarthy,	628444

Elected Representatives	Parish Council Chairman Clerk (Community Centre bookings)	Barry Livesey 75 Shefford Road, Sharon Kingham parish.council@clifton-beds.co.uk	811385 07547 129038
	MP Nadine Dorries,	Constituency Office, St Michael's Close, High Street, Shefford	811992
	Councillors Henlow, Arlesey, Henlow Camp & Stondon	Richard Wenham, 2 Jordan Close, Henlow SG16 6PH, Ian Dalgarno, 172 High Street, Arlesey SG15 6TB,	0300 300 8563 735510

in Clifton

Chronicles	Editor	Kathy Blackmore , Hawarden Cottage, 47 Church Street, Clifton	646371
	Advertising	Advertising year runs May to April don-gray@ntlworld.com	629690
	Distribution	John Good , Pedley Lane, Clifton	812596

Other village organisations	Biggleswade Gardening Club	Mr A Gray www.biggleswade.gardenclub.care4free.net	01767 221428
	Brownies	firstcliftonbrownies@outlook.com www.girlguiding.org.uk	
	Care Scheme		07817 614654
	CIPS (Clifton Preservation)	Stuart Laing , Secretary	851819
	Cricket Club	Chair: Ricky Monaghan , rick1232@hotmail.com Vice Chairman Julian Boothy	07528 445888
	Friends All Saints Church	Keith Pledger , 2 Chapel Close k.pledger@ntlworld.com	629020
	Football Club	Jason Shacklock ,	816881
	Guides	Jane Attenborough , 32 Knolls Way,	629063
	Langford Tennis Club	www.langfordtennisclub.org.uk Contact; Paul Metcalfe	700991
	Police Contact	The snr community officer: Sgt Gary Kidd	01234 842531
	Providence Baptist Church	Ron Cook	850643
	Rainbows	girlguiding.org.uk	
	Residents Association	BobSmith , Secretary 30 New Road	812336
	Scouts (All ages)	Mrs Georgina Oxtan (Membership Officer)	08456 046848
	Toddlers	clifontoddlers@gmail.com	
WI	Pat Wisby	816451	
Woodlands	Pre-School, Breakfast & After School Clubs www.thewoodlands.ik.org	811486	

Forward Planner

December	
2	WI Christmas Party, Church Hall, arrive after 6.30 for 7.00
5	Lions Grand Charity Dance, Weatherly Centre
6	Advent Carol Service, 6.30 pm
7	Carols in the Churchyard, 6.30 pm
8	MU, Christmas Lunch
9	Wildlife Trust, Priory Park, 7.30 pm
12	Orpheus Choir Christmas Concert, Church,
15	MU, Cards and Secret Santa
18	Term Ends
20	Carol Service, 6.30 pm, followed by refreshments
24	Crib Service, 4.00 pm
	Holy Communion, 11.30 pm
25	Family Communion 10.30 am
27	Joint Benefice service, Clifton 10.00
January	
5	Spring Term begins
6	WI Meeting, Church Hall
24	Messy Church, Church Hall, 10.30
29&31	HATS Pantomime see p20
February	
5&6	HATS Pantomime see p20
15-19	Half-term

All Saints' Church

From the Registers



Baptisms:

25 th October	Harrison Grant Ralph Guffogg
8 th November	Maureen Cecelia Hay Leah Jo Savage Connor Mark Burbidge Jessica Louise Williams Joshua Liam Wright Alfie Terrance William Wright

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

*The Sunday morning service for Providence Baptist Church, starting at 10.30 am will continue to be held at the Community Centre, Whiston Crescent, until further notice.

Mondays (term time)

Mums and Tots – 10.00 am
5 Up Club – 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

Wednesdays

Weekly bible study and prayer meetings – ring for details.

Thursday's

10.30 am—12 noon – Coffee-pot at the church, feel free to drop in for a drink.

Fridays (term time)

10.00 am: Mums and Tots.

Secretary: Ron Cook 01462 850643

Rector's Letter



Dear Friends,

As Christmas approaches I love looking around the shops. Everything looks so very attractive, and we like to go for quality: "You get what you pay for" is the common phrase used in our culture. The church however is different. That phrase is not used, because God's grace is a free gift. If we're given a free handout when we browse around the shops we think, "What's the catch?"

When God gives a free handout there is no catch. So what is that free handout? In fact we should be saying, "What are the free handouts?" because there are so many. First of all there is Joy, peace, forgiveness, love, blessings, healing of wounds, life forever.....and the list go on. All that has to cost somebody something somewhere along the line, and indeed it did. It cost Jesus his status from King of Heaven to become fragile little baby in a dirty stable. It cost him ridicule and abuse by those who felt they were in charge of the religious life of the people. It cost him his life by those who wanted him out of the way because he just didn't fit into their clique. When it cost Jesus all that because he loves us and loves us and loves us, God showered the people with gifts of love, straight from his heart. There is no catch.



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their clique. When it cost Jesus all that because he loves us and loves us and loves us, God showered the people with gifts of love, straight from his heart. There is no catch.

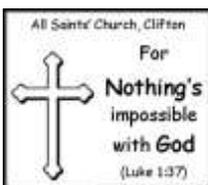
Accept God's Gift Today

John 3:16-17



<http://empoweredchristianity.blogspot.com>

Any money we do give in church is purely a means of saying 'Thank you to God' for his kindness to us and not a means of buying a service from a supplier. How that money is best used to further the whole ministry of the church is a matter for those appointed to that task. Our role is to simply enjoy God's gifts to us, and if we feel inclined, we might give a 'thank you' gift, but that in no way is used to "get what you pay for."



May you be blessed with God's gracious gifts to you this Christmas,

Rev'd Anne

All Saints Church Services

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

Sundays:

- 8.00 Communion, 2nd & 4th Sundays (2nd BCP)
10.30 Family Communion 1st Sunday
Parish Communion 2nd, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Morning Worship (non-communion) 4th Sunday
Messy Church 4th Sunday (Church Hall)
6.30 Evensong 1st Sunday, Evening Worship 3rd Sunday

Wednesdays: 10.00 am—Communion

Church Open every Monday 10.00-12.00

And 1st Sunday of the month 2.00-5.00

CLIFTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clifton Community Centre

We are fortunate in Clifton to have a new, spacious, well-equipped community centre with floodlit parking for 60 cars.

For information on the facilities available, and to see just how easy and inexpensive it is to use this hall see:

[www.clifton-beds.co.uk/halls for hire/Community Centre](http://www.clifton-beds.co.uk/halls%20for%20hire/Community%20Centre)

To check availability and make a booking, please email:

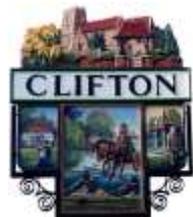
parish-council@clifton-beds.co.uk

or phone:

Sharon Kingham 07547 129038 or

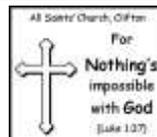
Bob Anderson on 07546 239784

Booking forms and conditions of hire can be downloaded from the website.



All Saints' Church

Special services in the next few weeks



Advent Carol Service 6th December, 6.30 pm

With a selection of readings & music for the Advent Season

Carol Service 20 December 6.30

Bible readings and poems with carols for all
This Service will be followed by refreshments



Christmas Eve: Crib Service, 4.00 pm

This is a wonderful start to Christmas
for children of all ages.

Christmas Eve: Holy Communion, 11.30 pm

Please note the change in time!
Our traditional service when celebrate the birth of Christ.



Christmas Day Family Communion, 10.30 am

Do come along to this informal and happy
service. Children **of all ages** are welcome to
share the magic of Christmas morning!

Messy Church, 24 January,
Church Hall, 10.30, See page 14



CLIFTON ALL SAINTS ACADEMY

(A Values Academy)



As always this is a very busy half term for the staff and pupils and the children get very excited, we wonder why!

Sponsored Bounce

Rising Stars kindly offered their services and the use of their trampolines for a sponsored bounce. All of the children that took part had a really fun time and were sponsored as to how many bounces they could do in their allocated time. The total amount of bounces went above 60; some children chose to do seat drops and others jumped. We will confirm how much money was raised in the next edition but we are hoping it will be over £500 by doing a quick sum of the amount pledged! Thank you all for your support, the money raised will go towards buying some new resources for the children.

Saxon Day

Our Year 3 class had a fantastic day revisiting what life was like for the Saxons. All of the children arrived in a variety of fantastic outfits including Mrs Hepburn! The day's activities included making Saxon purses using material (not metal how they would have been made!) They learnt how to dance to music played by a Lyre. Miss MacDonald made honey shortbread with all the children and in the ICT suite the children accessed a Saxon website and learned how to read messages using the `rune` alphabet. A great fun and educational day was had by all.

Prospective Parents

The school held two prospective parent sessions, both of which were well attended. We would like to thank those parents who came to visit and we hope we managed to answer all your questions. It was lovely to meet you all and show you around our school of which we are all very proud.

Pudsey Bear

We were lucky to have Pudsey Bear visit our school again in the run up to Children In Need. All the money raised through voluntary donations went directly to Pudsey to count and send to Children In Need – thank

you Pudsey for coming to our school.

Parking

Now the winter weather is upon us parking becomes even more of a problem! The office receives constant complaints from residents and parents due to inconsiderate and dangerous parking. Please can we reinforce to be considerate when parking and

DO NOT PARK:

- opposite the school gates – makes it very difficult to get out of the driveway
- on the zig-zag lines
- on the pavement – how do you expect buggies to get past?
- double park
- across resident's driveways
- never take children out of the car road side – yes we do see this

The above may be common sense but the amount of our parents that do park like this is unfortunately growing! Getting a few more rain drops on you or leaving 2 minutes earlier so you can park in a safer place could save a life or an injury.

Christmas Plays - Parents

As many of you will be aware the Christmas performances and dress rehearsal are very popular. Due to the volume of parents, relatives and members of the community attending we will be for the first time allocating tickets for **ALL** main school performances including the dress rehearsals. **Tickets for the main school performances and dress rehearsal will be available from 1st December.** Please look out for the ticket order form in your child's book bag at the end of the month.

We do request that you only attend ONE main school performance; we do not have the capacity for parents/relatives to attend them all. *We do not charge for tickets as we have a collection at the end of each performance which is split between the school to help cover the cost of costumes and props etc. and the school's charities.*

- Local Community

Children, siblings and members of the community are welcome to attend the dress rehearsal but please contact the school on 01462 628444 or email school@clifton-beds.co.uk to let us know so we can allocate ticket numbers and keep an eye on the numbers attending.

Many thanks.

Date	Day	Time	Details
14/12	Monday	2.00pm	Dress rehearsal Grandparents, siblings and the local community are welcome, but please advise the school office if you would like to attend.
15/12	Tuesday	2.00pm	Afternoon performance Ticket only
16/12	Wednesday	9.30am	Morning performance Ticket only
16/12	Wednesday	6.00pm	Evening performance Ticket only (1 per family) there will be a reserve list.

- Robins

Robins Christmas plays will be on Wednesday 9th December and Friday 11th December at 2.30pm. We do request that you only attend ONE of Robin's performances. Thank you.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year.



From all the staff and pupils at Clifton all Saints Academy

Situations Vacant! ↓ →

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Maternity Cover

Year 3 Part time (2-3 days per week)



Closing date for applications **midday on Friday 4th December**

Required for January 2016, a part time teacher for KS2 to cover for maternity leave, this position is initially for one term. This is a job share with an established member of staff.

Clifton All Saints Academy is a successful and popular village school. We offer a friendly and supportive environment with high standards of behaviour and performance.

The ideal candidate would have experience of teaching in a Lower School and demonstrate excellent classroom skills. We are looking for someone with energy and enthusiasm. Visits to the school are very welcome.

- ★ We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children therefore any job offer is subject to DBS clearance and satisfactory references.
- ★ Closing date for any applications to be received is midday on Friday 4th December via email on schoolbusinessmanager@clifton-beds.co.uk or handed into the school office.

Please download an application pack from our school website <http://cliftonallsaintsacademy.co.uk> under the vacancies section or contact the school office.

Contact : Justine McCarthy (Business Manager): 01462 628444

Midday Supervisor Required

(From January 2016)



Clifton All Saints C of E Academy requires a part-time Midday Supervisor on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday lunchtimes 11.55 am to 1.25 pm to work alongside our established team.

The ideal candidate must be a team player as well as being able to work on their own initiative, have excellent communication skills as well as a caring and approachable manner. Experience working with young children is an advantage but full training will be given.

To apply please download an application form from our website <http://cliftonallsaintsacademy.co.uk> or collect an application pack from the school office. Completed applications must be handed in by midday on Monday 7th December or via email on schoolbusinessmanager@clifton-beds.co.uk

★ We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children therefore any job offer is subject to DBS clearance and satisfactory references.



Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire

Wildlife Trust Bedford Local Group

Wednesday 9th December, 7.30 pm

Priory Country Park Visitor Centre

An illustrated talk by Nancy Reed:

"Life from Death: The Natural Wonder of Decay".

All are welcome. Free, but a voluntary contribution would be appreciated. Further details from 01462 851954, or can be found under Events on: [Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire](#)

All Saints Clifton



Sunday 24 January

Church Hall, Stanford Lane, Clifton

10:30am

- ★ **Craft activities for all the family**
 - ★ **Stories and songs**
 - ★ **Hot lunch**
- ★ **No fixed cost- donations welcome**
 - ★ **No need to book**

Come and join the fun!

Ruth Gray (01462 812820) or Suzanne Stapleton
(01462 811929) for more info if required

CLIFTON CARE SCHEME



ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

As we near the end of 2015 and approach the start of a new **year it seems natural to reflect on the year's events. This is** particularly true for those of us in the Clifton Care Scheme, having just had our Annual General Meeting.

Most commercial organisations like to report increased trading, new innovations and increased profits: yet year-on-year our Care Scheme tends to report our activities as being similar with only a slight rise in demand. Does this mean that we are failing to meet new challenges, or does this show that in fact we are continuing to meet the needs of those in our community who would like a little assistance?

I certainly hope and believe that it is the latter, so I thank all of the volunteers who give their time so freely for the benefit of our fellow residents, they should feel proud of their contribution for without them there would not be a Care Scheme.

May they and everyone in our village have a:

Happy and Joyful Christmas.

WOULD YOU LIKE HELP?

We are here to serve everyone in whatever way we can, so if you need our advice or assistance please let us know, just call us on

07817 614654

. and we'll do our best to help.



Christmas Concert

Saturday 12 December 2015



All Saints' Church, Clifton

7.30 pm concert begins,
doors open 7.00 pm

Tickets £10.00

Price includes a Glass of Mulled Wine

From: Kathy Blackmore 646371 or Jim Peacock 812514

This excellent Choir will be performing some excerpts from the Messiah and some works by David Willcocks who died in September. There will also be some audience participation carols.

Profits for All Saints' Church

Lions Clifton Sleigh Run

7th December

begins 6.00 pm

Give generously!



Carols in the Churchyard
7th December,
6.30 pm



All Saints' Academy children
will be carol singing, come
along and enjoy this really
festive occasion.

Accompanied by Shefford Town Band

**The All Saints' Academy PTA will provide
refreshments—come along!**

Christmas Presents

It is nearly Christmas and yes there will be toys and gifts put under the Christmas Tree in Clifton All Saints Church for the Christingle service on 29th November 2015. If anyone would like to contribute a present please contact me on 01462 629822 . This year the toys and gifts will be delivered to Stotfold Salvation Army, but they have asked that toys and gifts should NOT BE WRAPPED.

Thank you, Gladys Dawson



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

door-to-door collection success in Clifton

The total raised by the residents of Clifton this year is a fantastic £1648. Thankyou all for your kind generosity in supporting the Poppy Appeal for The Royal British Legion.



A massive thanks also to everyone who helped with the door to door collections and to the local business who had collection boxes for us.

If anyone would like to help with next years collection please contact me on 01462 632754.

Denise Panton



Salt for icy roads and paths

The Parish Council has a supply of salt for use by residents. It is located in a salt bin by the gate to the Community Centre.



Residents to use their own containers and take what they need for their own use.

CLIFTON

PARISH COUNCIL

Thank you

To everyone who has sent cards, phoned and called round following **Joyce's death. It has been a great comfort to me and to our family** to know that Joyce was so valued and well thought of within our community.

Thanks especially to everyone who brought red roses to place on her casket at the service and for wearing her favourite colour.



Trevor Tiney

This poem was one picked out by Joyce and read by her daughter, Laura.

One Little Rose

I would rather have one little rose
From the garden of a friend
Than to have the choicest flowers
When my stay on earth must end.

I would rather have one pleasant word
In kindness said to me
Than flattery when my heart is still
And life has ceased to be.

I would rather have a loving smile
From friends I know are true
Than tears shed round my casket
When this world I've bid adieu.

Bring me all your flowers today
Whether pink, or white, or red
I'd rather have one blossom now
Than a basketful when I'm dead.

Author Unknown

HATS at Royal Air Force Henlow Theatre presents:

DICK WHITTINGTON

AND HIS CAT

A PANTOMIME BY PETER DENVER



29th to 31st January 2016

5th & 6th February 2016

Evenings (Fri & Sat) 7.30pm

Matinees (Sat & Sun) 2.30pm

Tickets: £8 Concessions £6

Family/Group rates upon request

Box Office: 01462 700785 or 07876 353677 or online at
www.helowtheatre.co.uk

Henlow Academy Needs YOU!

We will be 40 years old!!!

Next summer we will be celebrating our 40th Birthday, Henlow VC Middle School opened in 1976 and we need your help to celebrate.



One of our projects is to make a display of past and present pupils, hopefully one from each of the 40 years we have been open; to hear about your achievements in life and see what you looked like when you were at school. We also want to find a family who has the most number of close relatives attend our School. Or maybe you have a memory of a particular event you would like to share with us.

We would also like to see photographs from 1976-1997, particularly of School events, plays, trips etc. We will copy and return them.

If you have any memorable moments, please let us have your name, contact details and memories!

ict@henlowacademyco.uk, or write:

40th Birthday,
Henlow CE Academy,
Church Road,
Henlow,
SG16 6AN



Dates for your diary

Parents SATS Information Evening
Book Fair Week, starts
Christmas Production
Christmas break commences
Term re-starts

Tuesday 1st December
Monday 7th December
Wed 16th & Thurs 17th Dec
Friday 18th December
Tuesday 5th January 2016

Woodlands Pre-school



This term our topic is '**New Experiences & people who help us**'. Within this topic we will be learning about the local community whilst celebrating various other events such as fireworks throughout the winter term. We will be linking adult led activities and free play throughout each week. At the end of term the children are looking forward to celebrating the Christmas performance, 'Jesus' Christmas Party' followed by the children's Christmas party the next day with a visit from Father Christmas.

Woodlands has welcomed new management this term. Sarah Shanley & Rachael Small have taken over from Emma French & Rebecca McGregor who successfully managed Woodlands together for over 5 years, they will be sadly missed but we wish the new team every success.

We are delighted to welcome Kate Hicks back to work with us, Kate worked with us for 3 years before having her own children & is now working part time again.

On Wednesday 2nd & Thursday 3rd December Woodlands will be hosting open afternoons for prospective families to come & see the setting in action, to book in please call the office.

We have limited spaces at our after school extended care club, if you are interested please phone the Woodlands team or alternatively visit our website detailed below for a prospectus and forms.

We break up for the Christmas holidays on Friday 18th December & return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2016, where we look forward to welcoming lots of new families to our preschool.

A reminder for anyone shopping on the internet: please go via our easy fundraising link which is: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> it doesn't cost a penny extra to shop and you can raise valuable funds for Woodlands at the same time! It takes a couple of minutes to register, please remember to specify The Woodlands Pre-School Clifton so we receive the donations. 'Every little bit helps' and we really appreciate your support.

If you would like further information on Woodlands Pre-school please visit our website www.thewoodlands.uk.org/ or call us on 01462 811486.

Clifton Planning Applications

Central Beds decisions to 9th November 2015



CB/15/03959/FULL – 23 October 2015 – 4 Clifton House Gardens, SG17 5FR. Erection of a double garage with attached bin/log store – Consultation period.

CB/15/03751/VOC – 30 Sept 2015 – Riveroaks, Stanford Lane
Removal of condition 5 to planning permission CB/14/04317/FULL :
(Change of use and provision of 5 No. pitch travellers site). – Awaiting decision.

CB/15/03430/FULL – 22 Sept 2015 – Old School Court, Church Street
Additional gas boilers and flue outlets to serve the existing 4no. flats and 4 no. houses, within conservation area. – Awaiting decision.

CB/15/03234/FULL – 28 August 2015 – The Onion Loft, 62 Church Street, SG17 5EY. Barn conversion and alterations – Granted.

CB/15/03192/OUT – 26 August 2015 – Clifton Farmyard, Church Street, SG17 5EX. Outline application: demolition of existing farm buildings and stabling and their replacement with 3 barn-style dwellings together with green open space. – Granted.

CB/15/02733/OUT – 23 July 2015 – Land off Hitchin Lane
Outline planning permission for up to 97 residential dwellings (including up to 35% affordable housing), demolition of existing outbuildings, introduction of structural planting and landscaping, informal public open space and children's play area, surface water flood mitigation and attenuation, vehicular access point from Hitchin Lane and New Road and associated ancillary works. All matters to be reserved with the exception of the main site accesses. – Awaiting decision.

CB/15/01657/OUT – 19th May 2015 - Samuel Whitbread Community College, Shefford Road, SG17 5QS. Outline Application: enhancement of sporting facilities including new '4G' floodlit pitch, tennis courts, improved grass pitches and new changing rooms. Construction of up to 64 new homes on land south west of the main school buildings and new access from Hitchin Road. – Awaiting decision.

Streetwatch



October thankfully proved to be virtually crime free in Clifton, just a couple of minor incidents but no burglaries and free from anti-social behaviour problems.

I am pleased to advise we have 4 new volunteers to add to our Clifton SW Team, a husband and wife pair completed their training and inductions only yesterday and a similar couple are expected to complete and to join us soon. We still have vacancies for a few more volunteers to join our ranks, any interested persons please contact me.

Mid- Bedfordshire has also been targeted to resurrect the Neighbourhood Watch schemes in our rural communities, these are very strong in the urban areas of Bedford and Luton, where they support both residents and Police. This is especially helpful for our elderly and vulnerable neighbours - would you be prepared to help?

For the foreseeable future, throughout Bedfordshire, our villages & towns will need all the volunteer help we can get. As I promised in last month's news, I can provide you with an update on the funding crisis which will affect our County Constabulary. You may well have heard, through the media, it has been confirmed we will not receive any additional funding following the review of England and Wales Police funding. This suggests we will suffer huge reductions in "front line" policing over the next 4 years beginning with our PCSO numbers being halved by Mar/Apr'16.

Maybe you have heard/seen our PCC Olly Martin's, controversially considering all sorts of ways to find extra monies to fund our Police Force. Many other counties are also involved in doing likewise, as government applies more funding cuts to all forces. I have heard various comments from residents suggesting Olly is trying to promote himself but I can assure you all that is furthest from the truth.

The referendum conducted prior to our rates decisions, was designed to head off these funding gaps, retain and strengthen our Police force, unfortunately he was not allowed to promote what he knew was destined to happen and only now we are suffering the consequences of our communities not backing his proposals.

Recently, Olly Martins, supported by our Chf Constable, Jon Boucher have designed a petition to approach parliament, in a bid to obtain more funds. Similarly, all Bedfordshire MP's have banded together to lobby the home secretary to reconsider this fund shortfall – we await the outcome but we don't really expect any major U-turn. Check this and "**Operation Fidelity**" on the www.bedfordshire.police.uk website.

Gary Edwards – 01462 816334

Biggleswade Sandy Lions Club



A BIG THANK YOU

Biggleswade Sandy Lions would like to say a huge thank you to all who have supported the Club through 2015. Without you we could not have raised the money to help those in need with particular emphasis on the local community.

In total we have spent more than 800 hours over the year helping in various ways within the community, giving assistance to the lonely, elderly, disadvantaged and disabled. We continue to provide transport for the Stroke Club, and took 60 children, carers and family for a day out to Wicksteed Park, as well as providing a trip to a Shannon Express rehearsal followed by afternoon tea. We held a Macmillan Coffee morning and attended 8 local village fetes and shows. In December, we distributed around 250 parcels or plants as well as taking a group of young people to a big Lions Party in Elstree. We have 5 Lions volunteering weekly in local schools listening to children read and we give help to our local Talking Newspaper. 1200 pairs of spectacles have been collected and sent to the Third World and used postage stamps collected to help Canine Partners fundraising efforts. Also, some Lions regularly undertake various roles at St Johns Hospice, and at Force5 Education and help with the Dementia group. We've helped shake tins for Marie Curie and RBL poppy appeal. In addition, we have made donations to local Care schemes, Medical Detection Dogs, local youth and community groups and as well as donations to help International disasters. And, don't forget, we have the Message in a Bottle (MIAB) and Message in a Wallet (MIAW) schemes running –if you need either – they're both free – call the number below.

Our priority is our local community. Your generous donations and the time we spend putting that money to good use is what Lions is all about. So, why not come and help us put something back into our community, making new friends at the same time. Call David or Judi Hagger on: 01462 84693 and visit our website which is continually updated www.biggeswadesandylions.org.uk.

LIONS – PROUD TO SERVE, GLAD TO HELP



Clifton W.I.



Pat welcomed 39 members and 1 visitor to the November meeting which was our 93rd Birthday. After Jerusalem was sung Iris read the minutes of the last meeting which were approved and signed.

Pat thanked Jackie for organising the Annual Dinner at The Green Man which was enjoyed by all who attended. We received a letter of thanks from Marie Curie Charity for the money raised at the coffee morning and also invitations were received from Arlesey, Stotfold and Stondon WIs to their Christmas parties. The National AGM will take place on June 11 in Brighton where we will be represented by a member from Shefford Branch. Next year's subscriptions will be £37.50 and are due at the January meeting.

Diary dates are Burn's Night Supper January 25; Michael Portillo March 14; Denman Midweek Break September 7-9; Indoor Curling February 16; County Quiz February 23; Speakers Day March 5 and Supreme Court Tour on March 11.

The birthday cake was cut by Heather Childs who was the youngest member in attendance.

Birthday cards were handed to ladies with November birthdays and the raffle was drawn.

The speaker was Audrey Burr who instead of her original topic told us about 'Send a Cow' the charity she represents. All donations received to Send a Cow's work helps poor African farmers become self-reliant. Appropriate livestock is purchased and people trained. A dairy cow is enough to provide a family with over 3,000 litres of milk a year and brings a steady source of income every year from the sale of the surplus. In addition, using the cow's manure on their land makes a huge difference to crop yields. Goats, sheep and poultry are also provided via the donations received. The charity works in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia.

The next meeting is on December 2 and is the Christmas Party with entertainment by Clive Rudd. We will eat at 7pm. Please arrive **after** 6.30pm.

Katherine Edwards 816334



Clifton Residents Association

Hi Everyone,

All the committee members on Clifton Residents Association would like to wish You and Yours a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Our page this month takes on a different format. We would like to pay a heart-felt tribute to Joyce Tiney who passed away recently after a long illness. Joyce was our Association's secretary for 11+ years from the start, only passing it over when she was too ill to carry on. She was a dedicated professional in her role and a very good organiser when it came to arranging public meetings. Her kindness was extended to various people in the village, but at a meeting, if she didn't agree with you, she would certainly say her piece!!

Her volunteering role also spread to Aragon Housing Association, where she would attend different tenant panel meetings. Her big love was gardening, and with her husband, Trevor, they wrote a gardening page in Aragon's tenant magazine to help, and share their knowledge, with others. Their joint efforts were always a joy to see when they planted up the two big tubs at the entrance to Bilberry Road.

Joyce was also one of the judges for Aragon's garden competition, which she thoroughly enjoyed.

On a personal note. Joyce was not only a committee member, but also a very good friend who you could confide in, and also have a really good laugh with!

Clifton will miss her!! Bless you Joyce.

Den



Clifton Parents and Toddlers Group

Clifton Parent and Toddler Group runs every Wednesday morning 9.15 -11.15am during term time at the Community Centre, Whiston Crescent.

- For children from birth to four years old
- £2 per adult and child, 50p each for additional children
- Refreshments for adults and a healthy snack for children included
- Ride on toys, climbing frame and slide and outdoor toys (weather permitting)
- Craft table with a different craft each week

Contact us at clifontoddlers@gmail.com, search Clifton Toddlers on Facebook.

GOLDEN LION GOLF SOCIETY

Our October, and final competition of the season, was played at **Mowsbury GC**, competing for the **Martin/Swain Trophy**. The weather was sunny and dry, with no wind. The benign conditions resulted in some exceptionally high scores. The results were:

- 1st with 48 pts – **Les Small**
- 2nd with 43 pts – **Roger Manning**
- 3rd with 37 pts OCB – **John Whitbread**
- 4th with 37 pts OCB – **Gordon Ward**
- Longest Drive – **Neill Hucklesby**
- Nearest the Pin – **John Boylen**



Our next competition will be in March, 2016

If you are interested in joining us, please contact, **Harvey Price** on **01462 812781** or **John Wall** on **01462 814097**.

Church Services Rotas December

Date	Warden	Time	Welcomers	Readers	Intercessors	Chalice Ass's	Crucifer
6th	MC	10:30	Mr & Mrs A Grant		Mrs R Wagner	Mr C Brown Mrs A Sullivan	
		6:30	Mr B Padgett	Mrs J Pavey Luke 1:1-25	Officiate		
13th	AS	8:00	Mrs P Heath				
		10:30	Mr & Mrs D Killick	Mrs A Sullivan Zephaniah 3:14-20	Mrs K Blackmore	Mr P Blackmore Mrs K Blackmore	
20th	AS	10:30	Mrs K Blackmore Mrs P Wisby	Mr R Watson Hebrews 10:5-10	Mrs M Cole	Mr B Livesey Mr K Gray	
		6:30	Mrs R Gray Mrs M Cakebread Mrs J Cooper	Special Carol Service			
24th	SW	4:00	Mrs R Gray Mr B Padgett	Crib Service			
		11:30 pm	Mrs F Kendall Mrs L Dawes Mrs K Blackmore	Mrs P Whittington Isaiah 9:2-7	Mrs A Sullivan	Mrs J Glenister Mrs K Blackmore	Miss F Kendall
25th	AS	10:30	Mrs L Burton Mrs L Patch	Mr B Padgett Isaiah 52:7-10	Rev'd Anne	Mr A Good Mrs S Collins	Mr A Good
27th	MC	10:00	Mrs M Cakebread	Mrs M Cakebread Colossians 3:12-17	Mrs A Sullivan	Mrs S Collins Mrs A Sullivan	

A copy of this rota is on the Vestry notice board. If you are unable to participate on the date given, please try to swap with someone else and inform a Churchwarden and the webmaster or amend the Vestry copy. This rota is also available at: www.clifton-beds.co.uk.

Church Services Rotas January

Date	Time	Welcomers	Readers	Intercessors	Chalice Ass's	Crucifer
3 rd	10:30	Mr D Brace Mr C Brown		Mr R Welsford	Mrs S Collins Mrs R Gray	
	6:30	Mrs K Blackmore	Mrs K Blackmore John 2:1-11	Officiate		
10 th	8:00	Mr M Richardson				
17 th	10:30	Mrs S Collins Mrs S Welsford	Mr R Parker Isaiah 43:1-7	Mrs J Pavay	Mrs J Pavay Mr R Parker	Mrs K Blackmore
	10:30	Mr & Mrs K Pledger	Mr B Livesey Isaiah 62:1-5	Mrs A Sullivan	Mr K Pledger Mr A Good	Mr A Good
24 th	6:30	Mrs F Kendall	Mrs A Sullivan 1 Corinthians 12:1-11	Officiate		
	8:00	Mrs K Whitcher				
31 st	10:30	Mrs L Burton Mrs L Patch	Mrs L Dawes Nehemiah :1-3,5-6,8-10	Mr R Parker	-	
	10:30	Mr & Mrs A Clarke	Mr A Good Malachi 3:1-5	Mr A Clarke	Mr R Welsford Mr C Brown	Mr A Sullivan Mr P Blackmore
7 th Feb	10:30	Mr & Mrs J Good		Mrs R Gray		
	6:30	Mrs C Killick	Mrs F Kendall John 12:27-36a	Officiate		

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ABOUT OUR FRIENDS



St Francis of Assisi, Roman Catholic Church, Shefford

Father	Canon Bennie Noonan	813436
Deacon	Rev Peter Hyde	711702
Parish Secretary	Rose Boulton	811547
	Sister Margaret	814079

Sunday Services

St Francis 9.00 am 5.15 pm

Saturday Service

St Francis 11.00 am

Shefford Methodist Church

Minister	Dave Haseldine	813284
Steward	Elsbeth	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

Salvation Army, Stotfold

Captain Alison Stone 01462-731072

Sunday Services: 10.30 am, 6 pm
Sunday School 11.15

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