

CLIFTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN



2024

CVRA VILLAGE DIARY

REMEMBRANCE DAY Dovecote	11th November 2024 10.45am for 11am start
EXTRA-ORDINARY AGM CLIFTON VILLAGE HALL TRUST	11th November 2024 7.30pm
CHRISTMAS TREE AND CAROL Cross Hill by the Christmas Tree	1st December 2024 4pm
CHRISTMAS PARTY Village Hall	8th December 2024 12.30pm
CVRA AGM Village Hall	19th May 2025 7.30pm

Produced by Clifton Village Residents Association

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Clifton Village Residents Association Committee

Chair
Pat Rice

Treasurer
Helen Huffer

Secretary
Graeme Barker

Committee Members: Ed Peterson, Philip Bull, Christine Dalby, Julie Reid, James Royston, and John Woodall

www.clifton-village.org.uk

Keep up to date with what is happening in the village

The CVRA have a village Facebook Page. You can either search for 'Clifton Village' from your Facebook homepage or find us at:

www.facebook.com/cliftonvillagenottingham

Chairwoman's Message

Welcome to our Autumn newsletter. It is hard to believe that we are more than halfway through the year. We even already have the village Christmas tree on order thanks to Julie Reid's enquiries on a recent nursery visit.

Recently we had the A453 closed due to a multiple vehicle collision outside the university campus. One can only assume that this may have been down to car meets and the regular racing that ensues as the accident took place in the early hours of the morning. We have repeatedly complained to the authorities about the disturbances this causes to those of us who live within earshot of the main road. The police have actioned a response, but this cannot logistically happen every night. We just have to hope that no one has serious injuries and that an end is in sight to this regular nighttime disturbance, though recent late night disturbance would suggest otherwise.

On to more pleasant news. The disco held back in May was a great success both in terms of food and dancing that went on late into the evening. Our thanks to everyone involved with organising the event especially our resident DJ Jonathan who obviously knows which is the best music to play to get everyone on their feet or almost everyone.

The next event on the calendar was back in April when there was some defibrillator training provided free of charge. This was incredibly well attended much to the surprise of the lady demonstrator who was overwhelmed by the interest. We have given her a generous donation for a charity of her choice as a thank you. As a reminder, should it ever be needed, the defibrillator is on the wall of St. Mary's House in the centre of the village along Village Road. One of our committee members, Phil Bull has taken on the responsibility of checking that the machine continues to be in good order.

All of the above was reported in more detail at the CVRA AGM held back in May. We only just had the required number of residents present so please consider coming along next year.

Our latest social event was held most recently in August. This was a change from the advertised event due to limited help available. Despite our fears that many of you would already be on holiday, thankfully the afternoon was extremely well attended

and the weather for once this year was sunny and warm. Our thanks to all who helped on the day either with putting up gazebos, helping with food preparation, helping behind the bar and with clearing up after the event. Particular thanks must go to John and Dorothy once again for allowing us to use their garden and also to Kath Spencer and Glenys Blacknell who organised the menu, bought the food and arranged a team of helpers to create their usual fabulous spread. We mustn't forget James who looks after the bar and buys all the necessary much needed liquid refreshment, all delivered in his trusty wheelbarrow.

You can't help to have noticed that building work at the village hall has eventually started and is due to continue for the next few months. It will be transformed once completed so look out for a special opening celebration. As the hall is virtually out of action the quiz night planned for next month has had to be cancelled. We had hoped to use the church instead, as has happened on other occasions but unfortunately the church was in need of a new boiler so it had to be postponed. I am glad to be able to confirm that that there is now a new working boiler in the church which is operational for concerts and church services.

That still leaves us with a few more regular events. The first of those is at the dovecote when we remember the fallen at the two world wars on the 11th November. Please come along for a short service at 10.45. Refreshments may be provided in the village hall afterwards – a chance to inspect progress of the building work.

At the beginning of December, we will hold our carol singing by the Christmas tree on Cross Hill. Do come along to enjoy the start of the festive season, sing carol's, eat mince pies and roasted chestnuts washed down with mulled wine, while being kept warm by blazing logs in the brazier. Jill Barker will be on hand to provide music to guide us singers and as always some will accompany her around the village visiting those residents who are housebound so that they can share in the music and singing. A week later on the 8th we will have our annual Christmas lunch. This will be held in the newly refurbished village hall.

Do you find it hard to remember all these dates? Then don't forget they are all on the front of this newsletter so do keep it and ready for next year please buy one of our village calendars which will be on sale shortly, once I have completed the design and sent it to the printers. The price remains the same at £7 each.

Finally, the committee wish you all well for the remainder of this year and we look forward to seeing many of you at our organised future events. Committee members will be around before too long to sell tickets and to take orders for next year's calendars.

Pat Rice

September 2024

Village Notes

Sand and Gravel Extraction at Barton in Fabis

The County Council met with the Applicant over the summer to give them a chance to revise and refine their application in the light of comments made by the various consultees including ourselves. This is formally known as a 'Supplementary Information Request under Regulation 25'. We also know that a number of meetings have been held between the Applicant and the relevant Council Officers in areas such as Landscape and Rights of Way.

What happens now?

The Applicant has until November 30th to respond to the Information Request and there will then be a further period of formal consultation. We understand we will have 30 days to respond (in contrast to the 5 months the Applicant has been allowed). In the meantime, and now that we have the formal written copy of the Information Request, Barton are co-ordinating significant work going through the Council letter and their original objection and identifying any issues that the Council has not properly raised. They have also raised a Freedom of Information Request for copies of any minutes / meeting notes from the meetings the Applicant has had with any Council officers.

It's also worth noting that Barton Residents, Pat Rice and Sheila Eaton (Lark Hill) are meeting our MPs Lillian Greenwood and James Naish on October 25th to bring them up to date and get their views. As soon as we have a clearer picture on when the consultation period will start, it would be useful to get us all together to plan the next stage of the campaign.

Expansion of Nottingham Trent Sports Facilities

[Nottingham Trent University \(NTU\)](#) is set to expand its sporting facilities at its Clifton Campus, with the unveiling of plans for a new multi-use sports hall and a redeveloped football pitch.

The proposed development aims to meet the growing needs of the university's sports programmes, bringing an expanded and sustainable sporting hub to the students and local community. Do remember residents can use these facilities on a walk in or booking basis.

The new multi-use facility, which will be built on half of the existing football pitch site between the sports centre and village (furthest from the village) aims to provide indoor sports facilities, including provisions for basketball, netball, volleyball, tennis, and badminton. The proposed sports hall will have a lightweight tensile structure, featuring a tensile fabric roof and sides combined with composite steel panels on the lower elevations, similar to the tennis courts. The structure will stand at approximately 12.4 metres at its tallest point, reducing towards the south to minimise impact on nearby residential areas.

Clifton Village Hall New Extension Sponsorship

For more than 60 years, Clifton Village Hall has provided quality meeting space for a wide and diverse range of groups and individuals to undertake many and varied activities. It was bequeathed in 1962 to a Charitable Trust, to be run for the benefit of the local community.



It is operated on a not-for-profit basis, with every surplus pound re-invested in the facilities. All the Trustees are volunteers. In 2024 the Hall is undergoing a significant expansion.

Based on strong demand from users, the Trustees have commissioned a building extension: this will provide a new, additional meeting room; an enlarged kitchen; more storage space and a bold new entrance. In order to finance this extension, the Trustees have invested funds accumulated over many years, but have still had to take out a loan from the Charity Bank. The exact size of the loan will not be known until the extension is completed, but it will be in excess of £60,000. The Trustees

plan to pay this loan off as quickly as they can, and to this end a number of Fund-Raising initiatives will be needed.



Artists Renders of scheme

The first of these is to invite interested parties to act as Sponsors of the Hall New Extension. We are inviting individuals, families, user groups and others to consider becoming a sponsor. There will be four categories of sponsorship, and each participant will have a plaque with their name and category of sponsorship placed on a Donations Wall within the Hall. You may have seen similar sponsorship lists in theatres, museums, libraries and other public places after fund raising drives.

The Donations Wall will also have room for other donations to be recorded, which could range from one off donations all the way up to Legacies left in Wills. It will remain in the Hall for the foreseeable future.

Village Hall New Extension Sponsorship Categories

The four categories of sponsorship, and their associated costs, are:-

- 1 New Extension Sponsor: £60
- 2 Silver New Extension Sponsor: £200
- 3 Gold New Extension Sponsor: £500 (or more)

4 Amount not specified: a donation of any amount, where the donor is willing to have their name on a plaque, but does not want the amount given to be known (a semi-anonymous donation).

There will be a different style of plaque for each donations.

If you would like to donate to the future of your village hall please complete the form below, and return it to Joe Rice as soon as possible. If you have any questions on this matter please do not hesitate to speak to one of the Trustees of the Village Hall: Clare Ashton, Glenys Blacknell, Joe Rice, Francis Buck, John Hooley, Dan Garnon, Graeme Barker or Gary Dykes.

I/We would like to be a Sponsor for the New Extension to Clifton Village Hall

Name of individual or Group

.....
.....

Wording for Plaque on Sponsor Wall (max 80 letters including spaces).....

.....
.....

Category of Sponsorship.....

.....

Bank Transfer or Cheque.....

Contact details (phone or email address).....

.....

You can donate by bank transfer to account: Clifton Village Hall Trust, NatWest Bank, sort code: 54-21-07, account number: 21440379, (please give your name as a reference) or by cheque made out to Clifton Village Hall Trust.

Please send the completed Sponsorship Form and any cheques to: Joe Rice, Treasurer, Clifton Village Hall Trust, 9 Leabrook Close, Clifton Village, Nottingham NG11 8NW

Clifton Village Hall

As set out in the fund raising section above, the building works at the Village Hall is well underway. This commenced in August, following enabling works the previous week, and is expected to be completed by the beginning of December. The hall is being used during the building works but with no access to a kitchen or the usual toilets but 2 portable toilets are available on the car park. Facilities for making hot drinks have been made available including water containers. However, the number of people using the hall at any one time has been restricted. Most of the regular users are continuing to use the hall but a few who use the hall during the day, have chosen to go elsewhere on a temporary basis.

The building works is being undertaken by MFP Building Solutions following a tendering process. However, the Trust took the decision that certain aspects of the new building would be undertaken by themselves with the help of others in the Village. This was to reduce the overall cost of the project and the size of the loan required to meet the shortfall in available funds. The work includes fitting out the new and extended kitchen and the new storage units in the new multi-use room, fitting out the storeroom (originally at the back of the ladies toilets but which will be accessed from the new multi-use room), and painting the internal walls of the new building. We are also in need of kitchen units and fixtures, so if you know of anyone that is about to change their kitchen over please do let us know.

We are looking to create a group within the Village who can assist with these activities and ask if people can contact either Francis Buck or Clare Ashton if they are willing help - thank you. This will be planned to take place once the new building has been handed over. Forward bookings for the hall are very encouraging and I'm sure the hall will be back to full strength in the New Year.

Thank you to all those who bought raffle tickets at the Summer Garden Party – we raised the grand total of £274 towards the new development – and to those of you who attended our AGM.

The Trust has been in discussions with the Charity Bank since last year for a loan which had been agreed in principal but they are now requiring the Trust to become incorporated. This requires the support of the Village and therefore an extra-ordinary AGM has been called for 11th November 2024 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm when further information will be presented. We do hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend. Please also see the article on the New Extension Sponsorship scheme on how you can also help.

Clare Ashton, Chair of Trustees

For future bookings or enquiries - please contact Clare on the Village Hall mobile number 07982 830120. See also Village noticeboard, Facebook page, or website for more up-to-date details.



Lighting of the Village Christmas Tree and Carol Singing



4pm on Sunday 1st December

Come and join in the festive celebrations and partake of:

mulled wine roasted chestnuts mince pies

Everyone is welcome

WE NEED YOUR HELP!! *If you are able to come and help erect the Christmas Tree on Saturday 30th November you would be most welcome. We will be there from 9.00 for about an hour.*



Christmas Party

Will be held at

Clifton Village Hall

12.30pm, on Sunday 8th December

Adults £10

Children £5

**Buffet Lunch with a complimentary drink
and the promise of good company in the festive season**

**Add this important event to your diary. Ticket sellers will
call on all households in the village closer to the time.**

Geoff Mills – 1932 - 2024

We were saddened to hear that Geoff Mills, a long-time resident of the village, passed away on 2nd October. More recently, as his health deteriorated, Geoff had moved to a care home in Grantham, closer to where his son Robert lives. Geoff and his wife Sheila moved into Parkland Close a few years after the houses were built. Geoff was a quiet, polite man and those who knew him may have got to know him while he was out walking his little Jack Russell dog, up until only a few years ago. His dog continued to be company for him after Sheila had died.

Geoff joined in many village activities. Joyce Whileman a particular friend of his and his wife recalls how Geoff and Sheila often helped with counting takings in the village hall. Joyce's offer to help was met with a certain look that didn't seem to welcome her offer. Little did Joyce know at the time, that both Geoff and Sheila had been bankers for Nat West which was where they met! However, the friendship flourished and Geoff and Bob Whileman often used to play bowls together.

Geoff originally worked for the District Bank in Manchester. Later becoming a manager at their branch in Loughborough, which eventually became Nat West. He worked there until he retired.

Geoff was a very good table tennis player and played in a league in Loughborough. He also played golf, only giving up a few years ago after his health declined. Geoff was also an avid Manchester City supporter. For his 90th birthday his son arranged for him, a few friends and family to watch a City match from a private room with a balcony with lunch laid on. Not only that but his son Robert also arranged for retired city players to come and meet Geoff who must have watched them play in his and their younger days. What a special day that must have been for everyone. There was also a party at Perkins where I am told Geoff gave a marvellous speech showing that his memory was as sharp as ever.



Geoff was a special, unassuming person. What few people knew and why he deserves a special mention, was that when we were raising money for the village sign, Geoff offered to pay for it as long as no-one knew! It meant receiving a personal cheque written to myself which I then had to write one from my account to the CVRA in order to keep the secret hidden.

I feel at this stage his generosity needs to be acknowledged and the village sign be seen from now on as Geoff's legacy to the village. I hope you agree. Geoff Mills's funeral is on 31st October at 1.30pm at Grantham crematorium.

Pat Rice 4th October 2024

St Mary's Church

During the last few months, church services have continued as usual with a regular service at 11am with 'Shooting Stars' for 3-11 year olds. Everyone is always very welcome.

In addition, a new 'Play and Praise' group meets every Wednesday 1-2.30pm for those 0-5 years old and there is now a regular coffee morning every month 10-12 midday (the next one is to be confirmed).

Bellringers continue to practice during the week as well as visiting bellringers. We also continue to host various groups and individuals who wish to visit the church. During the summer school term, many of the primary schools visited St Mary's to learn more about the Church history, using an interactive time travel experience including a Doctor Who's Tardis – a wonderful time was had by all. During August, we held a 'Big Clean Out' during which the church had a good 'Spring' clean and the churchyard was tidied up, particularly near the main gate – you can now see the church more clearly from the road! Thank you to all those who came along on the day. We are setting up a new cleaning and gardening rota - if anyone would like to help, that would be appreciated – please do get in touch.

Following the above, we do have an exciting time ahead of us at St Mary's. Whilst we are sorry that the Ceilidh, planned for 5th October, has been postponed to 8th February (due to the changing weather and lack of heating) the new boiler has now been installed during the week of 7th October. The long-awaited drainage works will commence in January 2025. This will include new gullies, gutters and drainpipes, new soak aways, the removal of concrete around the base of the church and creating a French drain around all of the base of the building. With a new, more efficient boiler and the completion of the drainage works, the damp in the walls and floor of the church should be reduced and the building generally improved for the future. In addition, the lack of a boiler has had an impact on what the church has been able to plan for the future.

At the end of the month, the Nottingham Chamber Orchestra will be giving a concert on 26th October – do come along and enjoy some superb music in a now

warm church! And finally, do join us for all or some of the services over Christmas (see details below).

Rev Esther Hutchinson / Clare Ashton

October 2024



**Nottingham Chamber
Orchestra**

ROSSINI
Overture: The Silken Ladder

GOUNOD
Petite Symphonie for Winds

WARLOCK
Capriol Suite for Strings

HANDEL
Concerto Grosso Op. 6 No. 6

MOZART
Symphony No. 40 in G minor

Saturday 26th October 2024, 7.30pm

St. Mary's Church, Clifton Village
Nottingham, NG11 8NH

Adults £12/ Conc. £10 / U16s FREE

Tickets: 0115 9289771

Services during December & Christmas

Sunday 22nd December

11 am Walking Nativity – *Come and walk through the nativity story as we walk through the village and finish at St Mary's, a family friendly way to explore Christmas!*

7pm 'Carols by Candlelight' – *Community Carol Service with traditional readings & carols*

Christmas Eve Tuesday 24th December

11-1pm Open Church - *a quiet reflective space to remember loved ones & bring difficult situations to God as we enter the Christmas season.*

4pm Christingle

6pm Christingle

11pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day Wednesday 25th December

10am – Joint All Age Communion Service – *Holy Trinity with St Francis (no service at St Mary's)*

There is usually a service every Sunday at 11am either Morning Worship or Holy Communion with 'Shooting Stars' Children's Group for 3-11 year olds. All are most welcome.

For any queries, please contact Rev Lydia Cartwright on 07305 820553 or Rev Esther Hutchinson on 07305 793858 or Churchwardens, Clare Ashton, on 07775 902385 or Richard Harvey on 07519 286489, or Ron Hancock, Deputy Churchwarden, on 0115 984 5330. Thankyou.

Decorating church for Christmas will take place on Saturday 30th November from 9.30am – all help is very welcome

Police Contact Details

If you wish to speak to a member of your Safer Neighbourhood Team or report an incident you can now contact us on 101 ext 801 4560.

Area Policing Lead: Inspector Stephen Dalby

Kane Dunker PC3138 Kane.Dunker@Notts.Police.uk	07595074206
PC 578 Jon Cooper jonathan.cooper@Notts.Police.uk	07792437325
Martin Fisher PCSO1178 Martin.Fisher3@Notts.Police.uk	07971059464
Melissa Starmer PCSO1312 melissa.starmer@Notts.police.uk	07814066683
PC David Faulconbridge and PC Jane Gibson	

Please see the website for further contact details for your local beat team
http://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/local/nottingham_city/the_meadows_and_clifton/clifton_and_meadows/

Neighbourhood Watch - there is currently no neighbourhood watch coordinator in post. *Enquires on taking up the role are welcomed from the village.* In the meantime visit www.facebook.com/cliftonvillagenottingham and become a friend of the CVRA to be kept up to date on events and police notices.