

Clopton Newsletter

Winter 2013

CLOPTON VILLAGE FETE

The Parish Council has proposed the idea of holding a village fête during the summer of 2014, subject to there being sufficient support from residents for such an event. No specific date has yet been proposed since it would be necessary to avoid conflicting with any similar functions being held in neighbouring villages. The Parish Council would be most grateful if residents would return the enclosed questionnaire before the end of December in order to gauge the degree of support.

Clopton Parish Council

BIRD SCARERS

The use of bird scarers in the fields prompted some complaints from village residents during the last farming year. With next year's rape crop now planted, it is time for their use once again. While fully recognising the need for farmers to protect their livelihood, the Parish Council would very much appreciate it if farmers and landowners would follow the NFU code of practice on the deployment and siting of bird scarers as closely as possible, in order to avoid any complaints this coming year.

Clopton Parish Council

Produced by Clopton Parish Council

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Remembrance Day service this year was held on 10th November at the Debach Airfield war memorial. Refreshments were provided afterwards in the Education Centre. The weather was kind and the service was very well attended.



photo: Adrian Yallop

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Articles/news for inclusion in the Newsletter must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

Send to: Newsletter Editor, The Corner,
Clopton IP13 6QN or email to:

cloptonnews@gmail.com

CLOPTON PARISH COUNCIL - *Excerpts* from Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 19th September 2013. Full minutes on Clopton website: <http://clopton.onesuffolk.net>

Present: Cllr Angwin (Chair); Cllr Pryke; Cllr Fryatt; Cllr Yallop

In Attendance: 3 Clopton Residents; County & Dist.Cllr Bellfield; Mrs E Brown (Clerk)

Apologies : Cllr Compton.

The County and District Councillor's Report from Councillor Bellfield covered:

1. **Back Office Services:** BTs contract with SCC - matter ongoing.
2. **New Office Accommodation:** Waveney DC and SCC to share new office.
3. **B1079 Closure:** Cllr Bellfield has complained to SCC about poor diversion signs etc.
4. **Education:** Suffolk A' level results higher than nat. ave., KS3 & GCSE results below.
5. **Broadband:** SCC contributions have improved broadband speed in some areas.
6. **Spa Pavillion:** This is still unsold by SCDC.
7. **SCDC Office Accom.:** SCDC to move office to near Melton Station to reduce costs.
8. **Woodbridge Waterfront:** Development plans progressing.
9. **Core Strategy:** New Local Plan being used by SCDC to decide planning apps.

Police Report - Council informed that arrests made of persons thought to be involved with crimes in the Clopton area.

Apologies - Apologies for absence given for Cllr Compton. Cllr Compton is unlikely to be able to continue as a councillor due to his ill health. **(See page opposite)**

Matters Arising from the Minutes.

Casual Vacancies on the Parish Council: No response received by CPC regarding the casual vacancies on the Parish Council.

Flooding: Insufficient rain has resulted in no photos taken of affected areas.

Snipe Farm Road Speed Signs: Damage reported to SCC Highways.

Church Lane: CPC understands solicitors are in discussion. No response yet from SCC.

Rouse Hall Estate: Leaking drain inspected. Lack of rainfall means issue unresolved.

Suffolk Coastal Community Awards: Sylvia Freeman short listed for Lifetime Achievement Award.

Finance

1. **Clerk's Finance Report** - balance of accounts on 31/07/ 2013 was £6,695.71.
2. **Pay Scales: Decision** - Council to implement 2013-2014 pay scales WEF 1 April 2013
3. **PC Asset Register:** Asset register to be updated after assets are inspected.
4. **Insurance Renewal:** Insurance to be fixed for 5 years, reducing premium by 10%.
5. **Authorisation of payments** –Payments totalling £535.67 authorised.
6. **External Audit:** Clerk expects external audit to be completed without difficulty.
7. **Clerk's CPD:** –SLCC's 2013 Clerk's Manual to be purchased for use of CPC

Planning Matters

1 Market Hill Cottages - 2 storey rear extension –Permission granted.

The Meadow, Hill Farm, Drabbs Lane. Use of land for stationing mobile home for residential use for occupation by an agricultural worker – Permission refused. The subsequent appeal was rejected.

Corner Farm, Shop Road, Erection of part 2 storey and part single storey extension. Revised plans submitted to SCDC. Application under consideration.

Electoral Review

SCDC have suggested that Bredfield joins the ward containing Melton and Grundisburgh and Culpho join Otley ward. The Commission will take the views of any member of the public via their website <http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

Village Fête 2014 - Residents to be surveyed for interest in village fete.

Future Meetings - ~~7:30pm Thursday 28th November, Village Hall.~~ **CANCELLED**

7:30pm Thursday 16th January 2014 - VH

7:30pm Thursday 20th March 2014 - VH



Roy Compton 23/06/1943 to 13/10/2013

Roy was born in June 1943 in war-torn London. His father moved the family to the country, for safety, and chose Clopton as he knew someone with a house to rent in Snipe Farm Road. The family lived there for a while and then moved to Manor Road when Roy's father bought Manor Cottage.

Roy attended Ipswich School (1952-61) and then, later, went to Suffolk College to gain an HNC in Business Studies.

Roy had a varied career, including working for Ransomes & Rapier in Ipswich for 18 years (1970-1988) and then moving on to work as a Materials Manager for London Underground (1990 - 2004). He was also, later, managing director of businesses which he operated from home.

Roy was a Member of the Federation of Small Businesses; Trustee of the Ipswich district of Oddfellows; was a member of the Freemasons Society; ran the Grundisburgh Dining Club and volunteered as a marshall at Helmingham Hall's annual festival of classic cars, having an interest in vintage cars and owning two himself. Most people in Clopton will know Roy through his work on the Parish Council, of which he had been Chairman for many years. Some will remember his Summer Fetes and bonfire parties in aid of local funds.

Roy never married, having, according to a family friend, "never met the right girl", and his only sister was tragically killed in a car accident several years ago. He had, however, many friends who packed Clopton church on November 8th. Around 150 people filled the church, some having to stand at the back. Friends spoke of Roy's generosity with both money and time and emphasised what a steadfast friend he had been. The service was followed by a short committal at Seven Hills Crematorium and refreshments were provided at Ufford Hall.

Donations in memory of Roy may be sent to the Clopton Church Bell Appeal, of which he was a supporter, or St Elizabeth Hospice.

Church, Bells and Heritage Group

Our annual Christmas Gift Service is on Sunday **8th December** at **9.30** in the church. If anyone has any new or nearly new toys and books in good condition, toiletries etc we take them to the Ormiston Trust in Ipswich who do wonderful work with children and families. Even a small gift can make a great difference. If you cannot get to the service please leave any donations in the church or at Thamaniya, Shop Road. Thank you.

We are hoping that the work on the extra sound proofing work in the tower will be done by volunteers, we will just have to buy the materials. The volunteers from the village worked hard in the bitterly cold weather in February to remove the bells and then worked during the really hot weather to build the new frame and rehang the bells. We could not have undertaken the project without their help and we really appreciate all that they did to make the bells ring out again in Clopton. If you would like to try your hand at ringing please contact David Sandford on 01394 384017.

The next meeting of the Heritage Group will be on **Friday 10th January** at Thamaniya, Shop Road at **7.30pm** Everyone is welcome. Come and share your memories of Clopton in the past, look at the material we have collected so far, see if there is an area that you would like to research or just come along and join us!

Doris Main

New Craft Group in Clopton



A new craft/hobby group will be starting in Clopton Village Hall in January. Everyone is welcome, with whatever table-top craft or hobby you wish to bring along, such as: rug-making, model-making, knitting, sewing, drawing, painting, etc.

As long as your work is portable, most crafts are possible in the hall. There are large tables and good lighting from both overhead lights and big windows.

If you fancy trying something new, or progressing further with your chosen craft, why not come along and see if another crafter has experience to share.

There will be a small charge of £2 per person to go towards the hire of the hall. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided free.

Initially the group will meet once a month, but, if there is sufficient demand, we can meet more frequently and maybe vary the day of the week on which we meet etc.

The first meeting will be on **Wednesday, January 8th, between 10am and 1pm** in the Village Hall.

Hope to see you there!



Details: Della 01473 737805

Clopton Ladies Group - Thurs. 5th Dec., 8pm, Village Hall



We will have a social evening on 5th Dec instead of a speaker.
Please bring a plate of food to share.
Contact Diana 737417

Come along to the **Christmas Clopton Coffee Morning** on Wednesday, 18th December. Our usual monthly coffee morning is "seasonalised" with Christmas fare and the odd (very odd) Christmas decoration or two! If you've missed a few coffee mornings this year, make sure you come to this one and wish your neighbours a Merry Christmas!

Starts at **10:00am**, finishes at noon, **FREE**, everyone welcome - just turn up on the day!



New Years Eve Barn Dance, 31st December 2013

There will be a barn dance in Clopton Village Hall on 31st December. Dancing starts at 8p.m. to "Instep" with caller, Phil Smith, leading us through the moves. Please bring a plate of food to share and your own drink.

Tickets: adult £12, under 13's £5 - from Graham 623296 or Diana 737417

Profits will be shared between Clopton Village Hall and 24th Ipswich Scouts.

Clopton Ladies Group -2014

The first meeting of Ladies Group in 2014 is on **Thursday 9th January** and on this occasion starts early at **7:30pm**

Local artist Lindsay Bingham will run a print making workshop.
Entrance £3.

Contact Diana 737417

You can find out what's going on in Clopton by checking the Clopton website: www.clopton.onesuffolk.net and, if you would like to be kept up to date, sign on for Clopton eNews emails at cloptonnews@gmail.com

British Red Cross-Across Suffolk Autumn/ Winter Snapshot of what we do near you.

Suffolk Mobility Aids loan service has gone mobile. We can now deliver medical equipment such as wheelchairs or commodes to your home! We found that vulnerable people across the county often could not get to a local Red Cross centre and so we have introduced a new delivery service. The equipment loans are still free but there is a charge for delivery. Borrowed items can still be collected free of charge from: Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Newmarket and Southwold. We also sell second hand wheelchairs.



Richard Bye from Exning (nr. Newmarket), wheelchair maintenance volunteer at the Bury centre (busier than ever).

So far this year we have raised £50,000 locally for Red Cross services in Suffolk. This winter we need to raise £3000 to teach life-saving first aid skills to homeless people in Suffolk. Would you recognise the signs of hypothermia, and know what to do?

We are out and about in Suffolk schools at the moment with the Crucial Crew team. This brings together agencies such as Police, Fire and Red Cross to teach junior children how to stay safe and what to do in an emergency. A ten year old child may be able to put you on your side in the recovery position, a simple action which could save your life! Each school visit costs the Red Cross £50.

Our Open Gardens raised over £10,000 for Suffolk services this summer and we're looking for people to help run the scheme. If you are good at organising, baking or like to meet new people, get in touch – join the team and you could help us to raise £15,000 next year.

Thank you for your support.
Jane Dow British Red Cross Society

TOO MUCH FRUIT!

Did your trees burgeon with fruit this year? Did you have too much? Did it just fall on the ground and rot?

Next year, at fruit time, take a look at the Community Fruit Tree Harvest program on the Transitions Woodbridge website. Their idea is simple and effective. If you have too much fruit, they want it.

Phone them up and they will organise volunteers to come and pick your fruit for you and donate it to those who need it. Everyone gets happy!

<http://transitionwoodbridge.onesuffolk.net/projects/community-fruit-tree-harvest/>



MANAGING SUFFOLK'S FLOOD RISK



Suffolk's Flood Risk Management Strategy is an important new tool to help everyone understand and manage flood risk within our county. The strategy summarises information on the risk of all types of flooding in Suffolk and ways to manage that risk.

The activities identified in this strategy can only manage flood risk. It would not be possible, even if there was unlimited money available, to protect all properties from any flood risk. Instead efforts need to be made by all involved, organisations and householders alike, to help reduce flood risk in practical ways.

- Keep watercourses free from debris and unnecessary structures. Talk to Suffolk County Council if you want to put in a culvert or any other structure in a watercourse.
- Avoid paving over your garden unless you use suitable permeable surfaces.
- Help to keep rain water out of the drains by using water butts, green roofs, rain gardens, etc.
- Don't wash cement, fats and oils down your drain as this can block them increasing the risk of flooding.
- If you are building a property, talk to your local council about sustainable drainage at the earliest possible stage.
- If you have flood defences on your land, consider whether you can help to maintain them. Speak to Suffolk County Council if you need help.
- Be aware of the risk of flooding in your area. If you are at risk, sign up for flood warnings and keep a watch out for weather warnings. Prepare a plan of what you will do if a flood is forecast.

To find out more visit www.greensuffolk.org/floods

email floods@suffolk.gov.uk or phone 01473 260929.



Christmas Recipe - Mincemeat Slices

If you like mincemeat, but are fed up with traditional mince pies, why not try this really easy recipe:

5oz (150g) margerine

3oz (75g) soft brown sugar

8oz (225g) wholewheat flour (plain works just as well)

4oz (110g) porridge oats

8oz (225g) jar mincemeat

Shallow baking tin 28cmx18cm (11x7ins)

Pre-heat oven to Gas 6, 400F, 200c

Mix flour and oats together in a bowl.

Melt the margerine and sugar gently together in a large saucepan. When melted, with no sugar lumps,, add the flour/oat mixture and stir well.

Put half the mixture into the greased baking tin, spread it out, and press down firmly, using the back of a spoon.

Spread the mincemeat all over, then cover with the remaining flour/oat mix - again press firmly.

Bake for about 20 mins until tinged brown, remove from oven, cut into 12 squares, but leave in tin until cold (otherwise it falls to bits!) Eat - enjoy!

If you have a favourite recipe, why not send it in for the next issue of the Newsletter!

CLOPTON CONTACTS

Parish Council

Chairman: Chris Angwin - email: c.angwin.cpc@gmail.com -tel: 01473 735453

Councillor: John Pryke - tel: 01473 738287

Councillor: Adrian Yallop - tel: 01473 737144

Councillor: Tony Fryatt - tel: 01473 737218

Parish Clerk: Esther Brown - email: esther.cpc.clerk@gmail.com

Suffolk Coastal Councillor: Peter Bellfield - email: peter.bellfield@suffolk.coastal.gov.uk

Website, Newsletter, eNews - Della Hughes - cloptonnews@gmail.com

Clopton Church

Priest in Charge - Rev. Clare Sanders, email: revclaresanders@tiscali.co.uk

Warden - Doris Main - 01473 737602 / 01473 735183

Village Hall

Chairman: Richard Taylor - 01473 737236

Booking Secretary : Elaine Gissing - 01473 737358

We've had some rough weather lately, but nothing that Clopton hasn't seen before - as this article from 1861 shows:

BURY AND NORWICH POST, AND SUFFOLK HERALD.

JULY 9.

WOODBIDGE.

DAMAGE BY LIGHTNING.—On Saturday, Clopton and its neighbourhood were visited by a severe tempest. The lightning struck a double cottage in Clopton, occupied by W. Upson and J. Wright, labourers, and did considerable damage. The chimney was torn down to the chamber floor, and all the windows in Wright's tenement were blown out. An old man was sitting by the side of the fire at the time the bricks from the chimney fell, which piled round him waste high; and there were four other persons in the same room, some of whom were hurt. Mrs. Upson, who was in the other tenement, was rendered senseless, but her children were unhurt.

**Wishing you a happy and peaceful Christmas
from Clopton Parish Council**

