

# CLIFTON VILLAGE NEWSLETTER



***AUTUMN 2013***

**Produced by Clifton Village Residents Association**

<b>Christmas Tree and Carols</b>		<b>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2013</b>
<b>Christmas Party</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2013</b>
<b>CVRA AGM</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014</b>



## **Clifton Village Residents Association Committee**

**Chairman – Kevin McCormick**

**Treasurer – Helen Huffer**

**Secretary – Graeme Barker**

**Tel: 0115 9844 866**

### **Committee Members:**

**Glenys Blacknell, Terry Kay, Simon Massarella,  
Ed Peterson, Pat Rice and John Woodall**

The yearly Subscription for CVRA membership for 2013-14 has been held at £1 per adult. Subscriptions have been collected, but don't despair if you've missed your committee member. You can join when your committee member visits selling tickets, or by calling the Secretary, Graeme Barker at 10 Nethergate, 01159 844866

**[Clifton Village Website](http://www.clifton-village.org.uk)**  
**[www.clifton-village.org.uk](http://www.clifton-village.org.uk)**

The Clifton Village Residents Website contains links to items including the Neighbourhood Watch, AGM Minutes and committee minutes, links to local newspapers, bus timetables as well as a Picture Gallery and other photos of events and more! The site is regularly updated – so do pay us a visit!

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*The CVRA would like to encourage contributions from the Village for this publication. We welcome any letters or features that could be included in the next issue, be they informative, educational, or of particular interest to the residents of the Village. Please send any letters or suggested contributions for inclusion in the next edition to Graeme Barker, 10 Nethergate.*



**With Christmas coming why not purchase a Clifton Village Tea Towels for your loved ones? They are available from the CVRA, priced £5 each. Just ask your CVRA representative or contact the Secretary Graeme Barker to order yours**

# Chairman's Message

Hello everybody. Welcome to the autumn/winter issue of the Clifton Village Newsletter. One way or another, it has been an eventful year, with car parking issues apparently resolved, concerns over the coppicing on the Grove addressed and being dealt with in an ongoing manner and a pulling together of the village, regarding an issue of trees damaging drains on Groveside, where, for all that we are concerned about Clifton Village being a preservation area, the quality of life of the residents has also been appreciated and taken into consideration.

On the entertainment side, we have done very well indeed, with the Summer Garden Party being a fabulous success and very well attended. Nice to see a presence from Clifton Hall Drive and to receive the splendid gift of a barrel of beer, made possible by Paul Carrol with assistance of the Nottingham Brewery. I don't think we realised we had so many beer drinkers, but the barrel went very well indeed. Thank you very much Paul.



Thanks once again to John and Dorothy for letting us use their garden and for all the help in the erection and dismantling of marquees etc. Thanks to all those who worked tirelessly, to produce yet again, a most splendid buffet, the quality of which is never in doubt. We can't be certain how many people are going to turn up, even having counted the ticket sales

and I am constantly impressed with the fact that there is enough food for all. Thank you very much. Excellent catering.

**Moving on we have the Late Summer Picnic, which has become yet another Clifton Village standard, as indeed has Geoff Briggs, who manages to set the tone and keep people enthused with a little bit of nostalgia and some good humour. On this occasion, the weather wasn't quite as kind as in the past, which is a pity for those who left a little early, as it**



**improved later in the day. The fun really got going and those of a stoic nature enjoyed a rousing finish. Thanks once again to Diva and Morris for their generosity and for all those who helped, once again, to erect and dismantle the marquees and tables etc., it truly has been a team effort on functions this year and I would like to thank everyone for their involvement.**

**On a more reflective note, I have to mention, although referred to elsewhere, the departure of Mavis, who in answer to a few words from me at the Summer Garden Party, gave what one might consider to be a typical, positive and forthright, Mavis response, with appreciation for all the good wishes she has received from the village. Mike and Clare however, as is their want, didn't think that a few words at one of our functions were enough and arranged to have a farewell drinks party in their garden on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. This was a really generous thought, particularly in view of the amount of work they are undertaking at the moment. Witness the scaffolding and the phoenix like emergence of the house, rising above the debris and skips, as it returns to its glory.**

**The event was attended by over 60 villagers and bore testimony to the part Mavis has played at the hub of village life for 35 years. It was lovely for her to receive the appreciation of her friends and neighbours and Mike's tribute.**

Without wishing to dwell on things, I feel I must mention Mike's personal difficulties, if only to enable me to compliment him on the amazing way he is dealing with the situation, as indeed is Clare. I am sure we all want to give them all the support we possibly can.



*The 2012 Christmas Tree Erection team hard at work*

the dates, they are all set in stone at this point and there is no reason for anyone to miss out if they want to attend. The Christmas party at the Village Hall will be on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December and hopefully, will have the high level of attendance to which we have become accustomed. There will be the usual mulled wine and buffet, so be sure not to miss it.

With regard to planning matters, there is very little to report of change. Suffice to say we understand that the Reading Room has been sold and we await developments. With regard to the all weather football pitch, there seems to have been some delay and some planning confusion. Things are moving ahead regarding the Village Hall car park. There is little change with any other issues, so it just remains for me to wish you all a super autumn and a great Christmas.

Thank You.

*Chairman - Kevin McCormick*

Now we come to future events. The dates are in the magazine, I hope we have good support for the erection of the Christmas Tree on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December and that as many of you as possible come to the switching on of the lights and the traditional carol singing around the village on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December. We will try and remind people, but do please take note of



## Village Notes

### Replacement Street Lights

Representatives of the CVRA have been in contact with both Nottingham City Council (NCC) and their contractors, SSE, regarding the recent flyer confirming that the village are to receive replacement street lighting. Current known facts are:

- The whole village should be receiving new lights except Gervase Gardens, which SSE advised was given replacement lantern heads around 5 years ago.
- The whole village, regardless of location are to receive the same replacement fitting.
- The village has been correctly designated as a Conservation Area and the fitting selected is a 'heritage' fitting agreed with Nottingham City Council.
- The fitting will give a white light as stated on the council lighting website. These will offer better quality light for security than the old fashioned orange sodium fittings as they give better definition of faces / people for the same level of light output.
- Fittings should be supplied with cowls to prevent light spill to areas which are not required to be lit for highways purposes. Some people may therefore find that some 'borrowed' security lighting is lost from their properties but the potential for light pollution in bedrooms etc. should decrease.
- A small number of fittings will not be replaced as they are 'deemed to comply' with the latest standards - the number advised was less than 10 for the village. All concrete fittings will be replaced.



- The proposed fitting is to be 5m tall version of the D W Windsor 'Warwick' fitting. Details can be found at:
- <http://www.dwwindsor.com/products/traditional+lighting/warwick>. The images on this page are from their website. The correct fitting is shown on the larger image on the LHS – the post is to be as the RHS.
- For those who want to know exactly what they look like Wilford Village Conservation Area has recently been completed with this type of fitting – albeit some of the columns are 6m high, not 5m.
- Drawings are currently with the City Council for approval - once this has happened SSE have promised us a copy. Anyone can ring the SSE number and request the same but we have been advised to wait a couple of weeks as the council may make changes.
- Most areas are due to commence on the 18th November, but a small number may be earlier. Marking out should be c. 2 weeks before this date.



A number of concerns have already been raised by residents regarding the scheme but the latest feedback from NCC is that there is little scope for public 'consultation' on the proposals. We are therefore making representations to Local Councillors on the specific concerns raised, which include the increased height of lights along the smaller scale Village Road area, especially near some of the listed buildings, as well as the possible loss of the existing cast iron columns which add character to the street.

If residents have any further concerns please do not hesitate to raise them with your representative of the CVRA, or by using the contact details in the newsletter. We would also strongly advise you to make contact with your local councillor at the same point, as time is running out before SSE implement their current plans.





# ***A Very Happy Christmas***



## ***Clifton Village Christmas Card***

**We are again organising the Clifton Village Christmas Card – all profits will be donated to the Village Hall Car Park Fund.**

**For a donation of £5 or more, you can, through this card, convey your Christmas greetings to the village residents. The card will be displayed on the Noticeboard and on the Website ([www.clifton-village.org.uk](http://www.clifton-village.org.uk)) where your name will be included.**

**Use the form printed below and hand it in together with your donation by 18<sup>th</sup> December at the latest to:  
Graeme Barker, 10 Nethergate  
01159 844866 ([graemebarker@greenbee.net](mailto:graemebarker@greenbee.net))**

## ***Clifton Village Christmas Card 2013***

**Name: .....**

**Address: .....**

**Phone No.: .....**

**Donation: .....**

## Forthcoming Village Events

### Lighting of the Village Christmas Tree and Carol Singing



**4pm on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

Come and join in the festive celebrations and partake of:

**mulled wine   roasted chestnuts   mince pies**

*Everyone is welcome*

*Note: Helpers are welcomed to assist with the preparation of the tree and its decoration on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> December. Please contact Graeme Barker or Kevin McCormick if you are able to help*



### Christmas Party

Will be held at

**Clifton Village Hall**

**12.30pm, on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**Adults £6**

**Children £3**

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

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

# *Summer Garden Party*





## Clifton Village Art Group

### Dates for Autumn 2013

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>

Nov 5th

Nov 19<sup>th</sup>

Dec 3rd

Dec 17<sup>th</sup> (Christmas theme with Doreen Hunt)



We meet in the village hall at 2pm until 4pm approx. Cost £5 to include materials and refreshments.

**Not tried us yet?**

Feel free to come along on any of the above dates.

Email: [patriciabrace@hotmail.com](mailto:patriciabrace@hotmail.com) for further details

Or call 01159140759

## Clifton Village Garden Group

### Autumn activities with the garden group

Come and join us on any of the following dates.

*Everyone is welcome.*



**Mon Oct 28th** - Planting for Autumn and Winter -

colour in the garden with Darren Rudge, a garden designer who regularly exhibits at Gardeners World.

**Mon Nov 25<sup>th</sup>** - "A Thousand Miles to Chelsea"

A talk given by Sue Haywood a medal winner at Chelsea and a local garden designer.

If you would like to be included on any of the above or for further details please contact: Clare Ashton or Pat Rice.

*Not tried us yet? Come along on any of the above dates. You won't be disappointed!*

Email: [patriciabrace@hotmail.com](mailto:patriciabrace@hotmail.com) for further details or call 01159 140759

## Residents Pages

### A THANK YOU TO MAVIS FORSYTH

*CLIFTON VILLAGE - AUGUST 1978 TO SEPTEMBER 2013*



*Mavis receiving a small token of thanks from the village at the Summer Garden Party*

**Who will fill Mavis's role in this village? She brought diverse experience which has enabled Mavis to serve the community in a multitude of ways so we may have to seek help from many. Even during her husband's lifetime Mavis had been a member of the Clifton Hall School Parent Teachers' Association which fought against the closure of the school.**

**She arrived here very shortly after being widowed with a record of public service as the first woman chairman of the 62nd Scout Troop. Not long afterwards she was asked to train as a magistrate on the County Bench thus gaining the first stages of her knowledge about the workings of the Law. When she left school she had gone to the Gloucester College of Domestic Science studying for a qualification in Institutional Catering and Management. Though Mavis was a full time mother to four children she always maintained her skills in catering by entertaining her husband's important customers in their home. Filling her life as an independent widow, Mavis joined the Nottingham Civic Society and accompanied our then**

secretary of the CVRA, Georgie Turton, to the Ruddington History Society and to the Framework Knitters Museum there. It is therefore obvious why Georgie, who had returned ill from her holiday in Peru, suggested in 1981 at the A.G.M. that Mavis should take over her role as secretary.

Mavis had already sat in Conservation Advisory Meetings accompanying Georgie who was our representative in the very early days on the group created for the first city Conservation Areas: Wollaton, Clifton Village, the Park and Sneinton. In those days we benefited from the expertise of local professional architects, engineers and planners who had been horrified by the destruction of historic areas when changes such as the construction of Maid Marion Way had been wrought. They learnt how to influence decisions by sending letters of protest before any meeting of the full Planning Committee. We had been demanding a bypass for the A453 since 1973 once the A648 had been renumbered overnight without reference to the people of Clifton.

When Mavis succeeded Georgie as CVRA Secretary in 1981 she became an activist in such issues for the community. That experience has been valuable to this village in many ways right up to the present. Mavis continued to keep an eye on public works including roads and drains by “barking at the heels” of Severn Trent and the Highways authority whenever we suffered from adverse conditions. In spite of changes in the planning system Mavis’s Civic Society membership provided her with advance warning of potential problems and with the personal acquaintance of the right people from whom to seek help.

On arrival here Mavis joined the Village History Society which some of us had set up with the help of Bill Middlebrook who was then a teacher at Clifton Hall School, living in the heart of the village. The fascination with the Clifton family originated with the deceased Head of the school, Miss Heron. Bill continued her enthusiasm and the collection of any information which could be found. Once the school was transformed into the Trent Polytechnic in conjunction with the College of Education and the technical colleges in the city centre, Bill became Professor of Education and fostered links with local primary schools so that children should be aware of their heritage. As a result History Society members learnt about the purchase of the whole Clifton estate after W.W.2 and some of the details about the Chambers estates, the areas not belonging to individual families but maintained by the city council. Two of us still remember the occasions when we have had to point out their obligations to the council in conjunction with local councillors.



Over the years Mavis has gained the reputation of being the village specialist in the history of the Cliftons right up to the present. Her fabulous memory enables her to retain details of the passage of the family title and the change to the Bruce section on the distaff side in 1869. Eventually the Bruces changed their surname to Clifton by deed poll in 1919. In a serendipitous coincidence Mavis was walking along Holgate when a couple of Australian Cliftons were investigating their family links to this village. Mavis thus learnt of the group of descendants living in the Perth area of Australia, a group which has always considered that the inheritance should have passed to their ancestors. Moreover because so much of the Clifton family history is set in marble in St. Mary's Church Mavis has become the guide when school or student groups have requested a conducted tour of the building.

From Christmas 1971 when Bill Middlebrook organized the first village party many people have been enthusiastic about such events but first it was necessary to raise funds for chairs and crockery to equip the Village Hall. Mary Arden of the Coach House led the way. Mavis assisted in this and others were coopted on to the teams. Refreshments were sold at the Fete on the Green in aid of church funds and at varied events for villagers throughout the year while Peter Thomas chaired the Hall Management Committee. In 1994 John Woodall returned to the village of his childhood and became Chairman of the CVRA. Mavis no longer took responsibility for catering but continued to provide the scones for which she is famous and to cook substantial breakfasts marking the Millennium. Indeed her knowledge of Mrs

## Mavis Forsyth is moving

33 Dutton Court  
Station Approach  
Off Station Road  
Cheadle Hulme  
Stockport  
Cheshire  
SK8 5BF



[mavisforsyth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mavisforsyth@yahoo.co.uk)



0161 488 1934

Beeton's recipe for mulled wine created a new monopoly for her in both church and village events.

In conclusion it must be said that Mavis has given her time, her talents, her energy so generously that it is impossible to think of any one person who could match her versatility and enthusiasm in maintaining the best interests and standards of this village. Undoubtedly she will leave with our gratitude for what she has done and our good wishes for her happy establishment in her new community.

**Eileen Small**

*The CVRA would like to extend their thanks to Eileen for kindly recollecting these memories for the newsletter*

## **St Mary's Church**

### **Services during Christmas & New Year**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am to 4pm Open Church  
for Bereaved Families**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

**6.30pm Christmas Community  
Candlelit Carol Service**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December**

**10.45am Holy Communion**

**Christmas Eve**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**4pm Christingle  
11.30pm Midnight Mass**

**Christmas Day**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am Parish Service at Holy Trinity  
(No service at St Mary's)**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am Parish Service**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

**10.45am Holy Communion**

**All are most welcome.**

For any queries, please contact Clare Ashton, Churchwarden, on 0115 921 3937/07775 902385 or email [mikeandclarea@btinternet.com](mailto:mikeandclarea@btinternet.com). Thank you.

## Events at St Mary's Church, Clifton Village

### Nottingham Chamber Orchestra

Musical Director : Andrew Foxley

#### Programme:-

Haydn: Symphony No.78 in Eb

Mozart: Piano Concert No.17 in G

Handel: Concerto Grosso in G for string orchestra

Op,6/1

Schubert: Symphony No. 5 in Bb

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.30pm**

**Tickets £10 per person (under 16 half price) including refreshments**

For tickets and/or further details, please contact  
Clare Ashton on 0115 921 3937 or 07775 902385 or email  
[mikeandclarea@btinternet.com](mailto:mikeandclarea@btinternet.com) or Lynne Smith on 0115 921 6604

## CLIFTON VILLAGE HALL & SCHOOL HOUSE TRUST

### **Caretaker required for Clifton Village Hall**

After many years of dedicated service to the Trust, our Caretaker, Barry Stevens, has decided to relinquish his responsibilities. Therefore the Trustees are seeking to appoint a replacement. The position has the benefit of a modest honorarium.

For further information, please contact Mike Ashton, Chairman of the Trust, on 0115 921 3937 or email [mikeandclarea@btinternet.com](mailto:mikeandclarea@btinternet.com).

**To book the Village Hall please contact Barry Stevens on 07982 820130**

# safer neighbourhoods



**We are your Local Beat Team**

**Green Lane**



PC 550 Darren White  
101  
07792 437 322  
Darren.White@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk



PCSO 9636 Joy Davis  
101  
07595 011 999  
Joy.Davis@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk



PCSO 9629 Anthony Parker  
101  
07702 141 912  
Anthony.Parker@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk



CPO 9898 Craig Litchfield  
101  
07506 172 518  
Craig.litchfield6776@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk

**Clifton Area Police Station: Farnborough Road, next door to Holy Trinity Church. 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.**

**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/](http://www.nottinghamshire.police.uk/local/nottingham_city/the_meadows_and_clifton/clifton_and_meadows/)

## Update on Tree Works to the Grove

Chris from Notts Wildlife Trust met a few villagers to update us on a few changes to the works they have planned. Chris had toured the site with a lady from the council tree services and she had suggested a few changes and Chris had taken into account feedback from previous consultations.

One noticeable change will be the retention of more larch trees in the stand on the corner, just up from the car park. These were all originally marked for removal but now only diseased or heavily leaning trees, especially on the edge, are being

removed. This means that around half of the trees will remain – the healthier and safer ones which will hopefully have a longer life. The edge of this stand next to the fence, will be planted with a new hedge of Hawthorn and Hazel.

Along the top of the Grove another change to the original plan is that more of the Horse Chestnut avenue will be left. This has not pleased everyone as some villagers were looking forward to the trees at the end of their gardens being felled for some more light. Now the plan is to keep the healthier 25 – 30% of the Horse Chestnuts mostly on the side nearest the village. This is 1 to preserve privacy and 2 to create a more open grassland area for the benefit of butterflies and other insects.

The council have also requested that as much as possible the trust leave the Elm regrowth alone. This is the original tree cover for the Grove, makes a nice woodland understory and is the food stuff for some rare butterflies recently recorded in the village.

Chris advised that the wood chopped from the top of the Grove will remain on site to rot down and provide a home for lots of wildlife. This is crucial as he hope to minimise the damage done by the contractor's work. When they drive their machinery onto the Grove they will churn it up and dragging wood out would make it worse. It is expected to look a bit of a mess with bare mud everywhere over the winter. The good news is that this will make the ideal growing space to be seeded with wildflowers to make the Grove more attractive to butterflies.

While we are talking about the contractors, we obviously only expect the highest quality of work from them and anything less should be reported direct to Chris Kennedy at NWT for him to deal with via [CKennedy@nottswt.co.uk](mailto:CKennedy@nottswt.co.uk) Chris was very committed to ensuring the contractors respect the area they are working in and don't leave any mess. The work should start soon as there is concern re bats going into hibernation shortly; final permission is just awaited from the Council. Expect signs to go up around 2 weeks before it actually starts.

Along the Trent pathway the elms are to be left to give them a few years grace. Willows will not be coppiced but pollarded with a sizeable trunk remaining as is tradition.

Re the bluebell wood it is currently not easy to get equipment up there but there is still a plan to widen the main pathway, to provide a kissing gate to prevent bikers and hoseriders from gaining access to places where they shouldn't be.

Finally Chris mentioned that there are regular volunteer days planned for the Grove for which details can be found on their website using the get involved nature reserve links.

*Tim Harding and Pat Rice*

## Clifton Village Diary

Nottingham Chamber  
Orchestra Concert

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013  
St Mary's - 7.30pm

Christmas Tree and Carols

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2013  
4pm

Christmas Party

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2013  
Village Hall – 12.30pm

Christmas Community  
Candlelit Carol Service

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
St Mary's - 6.30pm

Christingle

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December  
St Mary's - 4pm

Midnight Mass

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December  
St Mary's - 11.30pm

CVRA AGM

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
Village Hall – 7.30pm



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