

# CLIFTON VILLAGE

## OUR COMMUNITY

**SUMMER**



**2020**

### **General update from the CVRA**

#### **Village Events:**

There are no planned activities and we will notify everyone once such events become possible.

#### **AGM:**

The CVRA AGM has been cancelled until such time that we can safely convene at the village hall. Our constitution allows for the current committee and key posts of Treasurer, Chair and Secretary to be carried forward for a further period and the election of members will be held as soon as it is safe to hold the AGM.

#### **Membership for 2020-21**

Due to the current situation the committee has agreed that it is best not to collect funds for the coming year as it requires door to door visits, which we are keen to minimise for everyone. We are instead planning on gathering a double membership fee from residents in 2021 to cover for two years.

**Want us to keep you informed digitally – rather than by post? Just email [graemebarker@virginmedia.com](mailto:graemebarker@virginmedia.com) and we will email you all further updates and newsletter electronically**

*Produced by Clifton Village Residents Association*

# Chairwoman's Message

Thank you everyone for joining in the tick system during this lockdown. It has been really successful and has been positively commented on by many visitors to the village and further afield. There is more about this further in the newsletter. A big thank you also, to everyone who offered and has given help to residents who have had to stay at home. Even if you haven't been called upon, we do appreciate that you were there if needed.

Looking back at last year's summer newsletter we appeared to be headed for the wettest June on record. Few can complain about the weather we have been enjoying over the last two months during lockdown. I can't begin to imagine how we would have coped had it been otherwise.

It has been a tough time for several of our residents recently who have lost loved ones, some to the virus but not necessarily all. We pass on our sincere condolences to those affected by a loss of a loved one. This period has been difficult enough, coping with the necessary restrictions to keep everyone safe. Our past chairman Kevin and his wife Sam McCormick lost their lovely, clever son Harry, who many of you will remember growing up in the village to adulthood; a sad, tragic loss. You are all in our thoughts.

If you are struggling to cope for any reason, over anything at all, please remember the warden for your area is only too happy to listen and help. Do give them a call and they will do their best to sort something out.

As already said, we are so lucky to live here and to have gardens to enjoy and sit out in. Some have commented that we seem to have become a tourist destination! I know Barton in Fabis have felt the same. It certainly makes us appreciate, if we didn't already, what we have on our doorstep. It will almost be a pity to go back to the hustle and bustle of our former experiences. It has been so peaceful; the sky has been incredibly blue and hardly any traffic could be heard. Many residents have turned to gardening and getting on with household repairs while some have become bird watchers enjoying the way birds have become more noticeable. My eagle-eyed neighbour Ade, if he'll pardon the pun actually spotted what he thinks is a sea eagle flying over our village. We checked and yes, G393 has been flying over before along the path of the river. Having been released in the Isle of Wight it flew

up here and stayed in the Peak District so don't forget to look up occasionally you never know what you might spot; a special, rare bird making a flying visit.

Even though the government are easing lockdown we will not be able to have the gatherings such as the summer garden party for the time being. Hall use continues to be suspended although some users have turned to virtual meetings which has been a godsend to many. Pilates and Tai Chi classes continue this way which gives residents a chance to see one another for a short while on an almost daily basis. The garden group have been sharing pictures of their gardens as they developed over the last two months and the art group have kept their paints at the ready should they be tempted by the tasks that they have been sent so we have found ways and means of managing.

So, keep your spirits up, enjoy what we have and appreciate what a great friendly village we live in where everyone looks after everyone else.

*Pat Rice*

*May 30<sup>th</sup> 2020*

## Covid 19 Update

[Village Signalling cards - blue tick, green tick and red X](#)

We are fortunate that virus levels never reached the projected levels in Nottingham. Thankfully, there have been very few cases of covid-19 in the village. Social distancing has worked keeping infections levels lower than they would otherwise have been. The village is also very fortunate in that it is a bit of its own isolated bubble, with relatively little external contact.

Thank you for displaying your ticks and crosses, and for flipping your ticks over daily to let us know you are OK. Thank you to our wardens for their daily patrols checking ticks and crosses in windows and to those who have helped out our neighbours in times of need. I think it has been a great help and comfort, especially for those who live alone, to know that someone is keeping an eye out for them. Clearly our wardens can't keep up daily rounds indefinitely, and as we seem to be passed the peak, we will take a small step back from patrols.

The time has come to stop changing over ticks in your windows. Please if you are willing, continue to display your tick (which every colour) while ever you are well

and don't have any other needs, until such a time as things are a bit more normal and we know a second wave is not coming.

If anyone has a problem, health or otherwise, I would encourage then to phone their warden first (numbers below) and if unable to get through or things do not get resolved quickly, please put up the red cross in your window – lots of people walk round the village daily and it will get seen quickly and help will arrive.

### Warden patrols

Wardens are going to stop patrolling daily looking at all homes for a change in tick. There are many in the village who live with others, and daily inspection of all houses is probably becoming unnecessary. If you live with others but become unwell or have any other need, please do call your warden and display your red cross until help arrives and things are resolved.

There are quite a few people who live alone. It is important that we still look out for you. All people living alone in the village will receive a separate note with this Newsletter saying that we know they live alone. For people living alone, a warden will walk past your house daily to look for your tick or cross. Please display your cross if you are unwell or have any other things we can help with. If you have not received a separate note with this newsletter, but would like someone to look out for you daily, whether you live alone or not, please phone your local area representative below and we will add you to the list.

Glenys Blacknell	9214494
Phil Bull	9848089
Helen Huffer	9841316
Ed Peterson	9843229
Pat Rice	9140759
James Royston	07747 114421
John Woodall	9211567

### Getting out and meeting up

As you are aware the government is relaxing restrictions and we are allowed to meet up with people outside in groups of up to 6 people. I would really encourage this. This will help everyone's mental health. Please do meet up with neighbours, either in gardens or in the cul-de-sacs of the village. Please wash your hands before you go. Take you own drink and cup. Take your own food and crockery/cutlery (and

go to the loo first!). Seeing people and having a chat in person will give everyone's spirits a lift.

### Village library and meeting point.

As you know Clare has been running a village library in the afternoons. It has fiction, non-fiction, audiobooks, jigsaws and children's books. Please continue to use it. The distancing policy, hygiene and quarantine system for returned items will continue to apply (see below).

Clare also puts chairs out in her garden, socially distanced. Please do come round and use her garden, as a place for a catch up and have a chat. Please bring your own drink and feel free to stay a while either to talk or simply to enjoy the serenity of her garden in the company of other people.

There are quite a few in the village who understandably have lost their confidence to go out, and we need to start and rebuild that. So whether you are on your own, or need someone other than your spouse to talk to (!), please come round.

### Social distancing

Wherever you are meeting up, please remember social distancing. Please wash your hands before you go out. Please keep 2m (6ft) away from others not in your household. Please do not share crockery or cutlery, food or drink. And of course, please do not meet up if you feel unwell (fever, new cough, change or loss of smell or taste).

As before, it is recommended to avoid public transport it at all possible.

### Help for odd jobs

Thank you to many in the village who have volunteered, we have a list of people willing to help with shopping, collecting prescriptions, running errands and doing odd jobs. Please, if you need help with something (even changing a light bulb), please contact the wardens and help will arrive.

Overall, please continue to be vigilant, please continue to look out for each other and always, please remember hand washing and social distancing.

## Village Notes

### The Old Rectory

Once again as last year nothing is happening at the Old Rectory. Last year it was bats preventing work but this year of course, Covid 19 caused work that had got underway, to come to a standstill. I have now heard from Tomlinson's Property Group Manager with the information that work will start again in the first week of July. Obviously, the end date has had to be extended and providing there is no other lockdown, work should finish in January.

### Housing Development behind Barton Green

A series of meetings were held earlier in the year at the village hall. Our two councillors, Ed Peterson and myself attended to answer questions posed by a few residents of Barton Green. Residents were puzzled by a notice posted as before at the end of Hawksley gardens which gave the initial impression that the housing project had been turned down. In fact, the notice was to inform that the Department of transport had turned down a proposal to close our well used bridleway at the two proposed crossing points into the new housing area. Instead there is to be a system called a BOAT which is a special category of public right of way which can be designed to prioritise walkers, horse riders and cyclists.

Barton Green residents also asked about the traffic situation which is already problematic when leaving the estate onto the A453. I managed to get in touch with a Highways England Route Manager, Samantha Pinnock. She arranged for a check on the situation at peak times but one morning was deemed insufficient by the Barton road users and a resultant tweak to the traffic light phasing was hardly noticed, if at all. After my follow up on the residents' behalf it was agreed for a week long survey to take place but you guessed it, the lockdown due to the virus, has prevented that happening yet.

I also found out additional information which may be of interest in that the Mill Hill roundabout will be upgraded to signal control which should make it much safer to negotiate and the signals at the Crusader island are conditioned to be improved also, both as a result of Fairham Pastures development (the proposed development between Clifton and Gotham).

The latest news on the Barton Green housing development is that the council are looking for agents to market the site but that final specifications have yet to be agreed.

### Proposed Sand and gravel Extraction at Barton in Fabis

Just before lockdown Julian Coles from Barton Fabis and myself attended a meeting with Lilian Greenwood at her office to discuss contents of letters to the government inspector which needed to be in by April 15th.

Council leader David Mellen also reassured me that the council would also be sending in a representation opposing the proposals. Both our MP and our City council have now sent in responses to the inspector with regard to the effect a quarry would have on our health, environment and the heritage aspect of our village. All the objections that we individually sent in earlier will be taken into consideration. Barton in Fabis put in an excellent series of responses to the questions posed by the inspector including, on our behalf and that of Lark Hill residents. The enquiry has obviously had to be postponed and a new date has yet to be published.

### University Lighting

Good news! The university's request to extend use of all-weather pitch lighting to 10 pm has been turned down. Thank you to everyone who wrote to object and signed our petition and in particular to Kath Kay who worked tirelessly collecting signatures. All her hard work did not go in vain.

### Garden Bonfires

I have been contacted by several residents recently about being troubled by bonfires in gardens. Although we are allowed to have a bonfire it is only neighbourly to check that washing in surrounding gardens isn't out or whether windows of nearby houses are open. The rules are that if a bonfire is considered to be causing a problem people can be fined for anti-social behaviour. If you want more information about the rules please check the council's website where greater detail is given. Let's keep on being the good neighbours we normally all are.

### Heritage Signage to the Village Green

Along with the Art Group, Phil Bull and Ed Peterson of the CVRA Committee have been making sterling progress on our Heritage signage proposals, with sketch proposals for the heritage sign, recently being received from a specialist signage

designer. The proposal is for a sign on a timber post c. 3m in height to be erected on the grass where the roads entering and leaving the village meet. There is plenty of work still to be done with highways permission, Nottingham City Council heritage team and permission from the Clifton family to be obtained, but we will keep on progressing this in coming months. Latest estimates are that the sign will cost some £4-5,000 to fabricate and erect, and it is likely that the CVRA will be establishing a specific fund raising feature to help make this happen. If you would like to make a specific contribution to the signage fund please contact your local area representative to discuss how you can do so.



**The Village Sign People**

© Heritage & Village sign specialists for over 35 years



**The Village Sign People**

© Heritage & Village sign specialists for over 35 years



Proposed village sign  
for  
Clifton Village



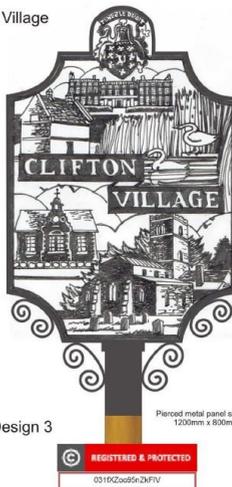
Design 1

Panel size approximately :-  
1200mm x 800mm



vsp@31520

Proposed village sign  
for  
Clifton Village



Design 3

Pierced metal panel size approximately :-  
1200mm x 800mm



vsp@5620

## Secretary's Notes

### The Village Dovecote – an update

Clifton Village Dovecote was built in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and is the largest example of its kind in Nottinghamshire. It is in serious need of renovation, before falling into irreversible disrepair. Its nearest, but smaller, equivalent can be found nestled in the middle of Wollaton 'village'. There the Dovecote was restored with funds from the 'Family First Projects Agency' in 1987.



I was shown around the Wollaton Dovecote with a view to applying for funding on the same basis that they had used. This was to ensure that their Dovecote is available to schools as a resource and to visitors wishing to look around.

This photo shows just one part of the Wollaton Dovecote interior and how it is used.

It appeared timely when we were contacted at the start of the year by the newly formed 'Buildings Trust' at Nottingham City Council. As a charity they can raise funds and are looking at all Dovecotes in the City with a view to ensuring they are in good repair.

Alice Ullathorne is leading the project, being a Heritage Strategy Officer for Nottingham City, with Tom Street who is the principal conservation officer at Nottingham City Council. Chris Gibson, our ex Nottingham City Councillor had agreed to be part of her team.

A survey/report commissioned on the building by Alice and Tom now provides a detailed set of requirements for renovation. At this stage this is a survey only and makes comments on the requirements for satisfactory renovation, the priorities and likely costs.

The last work was carried out in 1970, when the Dovecote was restored in memory of those killed in World War 2 and a roll of honour was attached to the external wall of the Dovecote on the south elevation. The commissioned report has been made available to those who attended a meeting at the Village Hall, reported on informally by Chris Gibson, in late February, this year. I show two extracts from the report on our Dovecote, below:

Summary Costs

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4	Total
Ceilings	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	<b>£0.00</b>
External Areas	£100.00	£0.00	£559.50	£0.00	<b>£659.50</b>
External Walls	£0.00	£6,943.76	£1,620.00	£0.00	<b>£8,563.76</b>
Windows and Doors	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	<b>£0.00</b>
Fixed Furniture	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	<b>£0.00</b>
Floors and Stairs	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	<b>£0.00</b>
Internal Walls and Doors	£0.00	£600.00	£2,080.00	£0.00	<b>£2,680.00</b>
Playing Fields	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	<b>£0.00</b>
Redecorations	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00	£0.00	<b>£300.00</b>
Roofs	£0.00	£51,375.40	£1,000.00	£0.00	<b>£52,375.40</b>
Sanitary Services	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£100.00</b>	<b>£59,219.16</b>	<b>£5,259.50</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£64,578.66</b>

With funding obtained, in an ideal world, the work required would be spread out over a 5 year-plus period and the priority grading referred to in the above table is explained below.

The major works would be to the roof and the report suggest this should be carried out in the next financial year - Priority 2. Of course, this report was made before the onset of Covid with its inevitable impact on raising funds for all manner of projects.

*Extract from the report: Priority Grading*

*Once the condition of the premises has been assessed, priorities are allocated according to the seriousness of the condition revealed and the urgency associated with any breaches of legislation. This has particular regard to the possible consequences of deferment.*

*The following priority grades are in context of a five-year accounting period:*

**Priority 1 - Urgent work that will prevent immediate closure of premises and/or address an immediate high risk to the health and safety of occupants and/or remedy a serious breach of legislation.**

**Priority 2 - Essential work required within two years that will prevent serious deterioration of the fabric or services and/or address a medium risk to the health and safety of occupants and/or remedy a serious breach of legislation.**

**Priority 3 - Desirable work required within three to five years that will prevent deterioration of the fabric or services and/or address a medium risk to the health and safety of occupants and/or remedy a serious breach of legislation.**

**Priority 4 - Long term work required outside the five-year planning period that will prevent deterioration of the fabric or services.**

Condition Survey Cycle



There is a detailed report of the condition of the building and work required, of which the above is a summary. If anyone wishes to see the report in full, please contact me on [ed.peterson@btinternet.com](mailto:ed.peterson@btinternet.com)

## VE Day Celebrations

Since lock down the only activity where the village could have a collective celebration although at a distance was VE Day on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Of course, we were planning a street party but that had to be cancelled. Instead, around the village residents put up buntings or flew the Union Jack on flag poles.



For the 2 minutes silence at 11 am John Woodall led a ceremony at the dovecote and laid a wreath of poppies while a piper played the lament in remembrance of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. There was a large gathering and everyone observed the two-metre rule. Those of us who were advised to stay at home observed the silence at the end of our drives or in our front gardens.



Later that afternoon some areas of the village, including Leabrook Close, held an at a distance street party starting at 3 pm. For Leabrook Close it proved to be a memorable occasion where everyone living on the close came out to join in. For some it was a chance to get to know one another properly for the first time, rather than just a cheery wave in passing by as previously. Residents came to the end of their drives with tables and chairs and after popping of corks and some cakes kindly provided by Christine and Jean, we were entertained by music, some of it live thanks to Emil and his guitar.

Down at Green Cottage, Jonathan played music for those who wanted to picnic on the village green. Wherever we were, many of us managed to participate in a VE day celebration after the morning's more solemn occasion.



I thought it would be interesting to hear some accounts from residents who experienced VE day 75 years ago so I asked some of our more senior residents for any memories that they may have of the day. Many said that they had to delay their celebrations as either their father was a prisoner of war or was not due to be back at home on the 8<sup>th</sup>. However, I received two wonderful accounts of memories of that time one of the actual VE day and the other an account of the experiences throughout the war which makes for fascinating reading and which I will save for our next newsletters.

Of course, many of our senior residents weren't living in the village at the time, and Jean is no exception. Here is her account of VE day.

### Memories as a 10-year-old child – 8<sup>th</sup> May, 1945

*It was an early start for our family, my younger brother, Robert, was going into Great Ormand Street Hospital for an operation.*

*We took a ride on the London Underground, a new experience for me. We went to Westminster Underground Station, I remember there were masses and masses of people everywhere, we saw Big Ben and the River Thames.*

*Eventually we made our way to The Mall where the crowd was even bigger, my dad put Robert on his shoulder so he could see and gave me a handkerchief to wave as we didn't have a flag. The joy on everyone's faces will live in my memory always. People were dancing and laughing as the realisation that the war in Europe had ended, sank in. Our next stop was at the hospital where we left Robert and then onto a tram for a ride through the Kingsway Tunnel to Waterloo Bridge, yet another treat for me!*

*After crossing the river on foot, my last treat of the day was a visit to the Imperial War Museum in Lambeth.*

*It was a long and fun filled day, mum told me I slept all the way on the tube ride home.*

### Recollections of an 85-year-old – May 8<sup>th</sup> 2020

*It was another memorable day, people of the close congregated on their front lawns at 11 am for the 2-minute silence in memory of all those that fought in World War 2 and then at 3pm we all met again for afternoon tea and drinks.*

*Social distancing due to the COVID -19 virus was in full effect but that didn't dampen the incredible community spirit.*

*I have only lived in Nottingham for 2 years and it was a wonderful opportunity to put names to the faces I have met since moving here. Like my day in 1945 it was fantastic, and I will remember it for a long time to come.*

*Jean Griffiths 10 Leabrook Close*

Thank you, Jean for those wonderful memories. I am sure that many of us enjoyed reading your account of 75 years ago as if we were there ourselves, seeing it through your eyes. Many of you may have seen Jean as she travels to the shops on her covered mobility scooter. I am sure she would appreciate being stopped so that she can get to know more people in our fabulous community once we are all free to move about again. Thank you again Jean for your fabulous account.

## Clifton Village Hall & School House Trust

The Clifton Village Hall remains closed at present until we receive appropriate Government guidance. However, we are still taking future bookings and enquiries – mobile number 07982 830120.

## Village library

The Village library continues to be open in the Barn in the garden of Glebe Cottage, 48 Village Rd, during the hours 2-4pm each day. Occasionally, times may vary and a note is left on the gate giving changed opening times for that day. Thank you to all those who

have used the library &/or contributed books, jigsaws, video's, magazines and have complied with our COVID rules.

### Within the library:

One person/household in the barn at a time, allow a few minutes between visits to allow for air changes (each air change reduces the airborne viral load by 63% so 5 changes of air are needed to reduce viral particles to below 1%) There will be a deposit box to drop all returns or new items in each day. Please drop items in it and don't take anything out of it. If you drop something in accidentally, please leave it – you will be able to retrieve it in 3 days. This will be covered when the library closes and not touched for 72 hours.

Clare Ashton mobile 07775 902385      email [clare31337@btinternet.com](mailto:clare31337@btinternet.com)

## Our On-line Community

For the digitally connected amongst you look for further announcements on the village Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/cliftonvillagenottingham/>

**Regular updates on the Village co-ordinated response to the virus can be found on our Facebook page.**

can either search for 'Clifton Village' from your Facebook homepage or find us at:

**[www.facebook.com/cliftonvillagenottingham](https://www.facebook.com/cliftonvillagenottingham)**

## St Mary's Church

The Clifton Parish church, which includes St Mary's & Holy Trinity with St Francis churches, now has a new Ministry Team. We welcomed the Rev Lydia Cartwright as Rector at her licensing service on 9<sup>th</sup> March and the Rev Gillian Hall was licensed as an Associate Minister, via a virtual service, on 21<sup>st</sup> April. On 1<sup>st</sup> June our new curate, Esther Hutchinson, moved into 1, Osprey Close, Barton Green with her husband Sam. Her

ordination date is yet to be confirmed. We look forward to having them at St Mary's in due course and seeing them around the Village. Rev Lydia Cartwright can be contacted on 07305 820553 or [rev.cartwright@gmail.com](mailto:rev.cartwright@gmail.com)

Unfortunately, places of worship remain closed, although the Government has indicated that they may be opened at the beginning of July. I would like to thank all those people, who live near St Mary's, or walk their dog round the churchyard, who have kept a watchful eye on the church during the lockdown. In particular, thank you to those who have contacted me when there have been problems.

Something to look forward to – Government guidance & social distancing permitting – our Ceilidh this year is planned for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October with 'Beggar's Belief' – more information in due course.

Home Worship packs have been distributed to those who regularly attend church but if you would like to receive one in the future, please let Clare Ashton, Churchwarden, know on 07775 902385, 0115 921 3937 or [clare31337@btinternet.com](mailto:clare31337@btinternet.com)

## Neighbourhood Watch



Neighbourhood Sergeant: Sgt 1083 Nigel Bradley  
E-mail: [cliftonsnt@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cliftonsnt@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk)  
Tel 101 EX 3101083 Mob 07595 004236



<a href="mailto:jonathan.cooper@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk">jonathan.cooper@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk</a> PC 578 Jon Cooper	07792437325
<a href="mailto:matthew.walker@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk">matthew.walker@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk</a> PCSO 8147 Matt Walker	07595074169
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<a href="mailto:jonathan.hartley4630@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk">jonathan.hartley4630@nottinghamshire.pnn.police.uk</a> CPO 4630 Jon Hartley	0776522 0474

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/)