

THE GUNNAS GAZETTE

The Newsletter for Clungunford Volume 27 • Issue 1 September 2023

## Dates for your Diary

3<sup>rd</sup> September – Big Breakfast – St Cuthberts Church
9<sup>th</sup> September – Ride and Stride and open church
22<sup>nd</sup> September – Flicks in the Sticks- Allelujah
29<sup>th</sup> September – Harvest Festival Supper
13<sup>th</sup> October – Arts Alive – Nickipedia
20<sup>th</sup> October – Flicks in the Sticks- Living
11<sup>th</sup> November- Beer Tasting – Hobsons Brewery
17<sup>th</sup> November – Flicks in the Sticks- A man called Otto
2<sup>nd</sup> December – Wine and Wisdom – Annual quiz
8<sup>th</sup> December – Flicks in the Sticks- Mrs Harris goes to Paris

More information on Clungunford.com

## <u>Regular events in the village hall;</u>

- Public Bar is open every Friday night from 19.00-22.00
- Foody Friday available 1st Friday of every month\*
- Carvery Sunday available 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month\*
- Takeaway Wednesday 3rd Wednesday of every month\*
- St Cuthbert's Café every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month from 10.00 12.00.
- Bike Night on the first Monday of the month 18.00-20.00
- Table Tennis Club every Tuesday 14.00.
- Thrift Shop open every Thursday In the Bowls Green Pavilion
- Post Office Van in the hall car park from 11.45-12.45 every Thursday
- Sacred Space in St Cuthbert's Church every second Friday from 6pm till 7pm

\*See <u>www.clungunford.com</u> for all details, menus and ordering contacts

#### Farm Born and Bred

I was an outdoor loving child, who really didn't like being indoors, but, my Grandmother insisted that there were jobs that needed doing in the house.

To encourage me to do these tasks, my mother devised a list of jobs with the payment to be earned!

Cleaning shoes earned me one shilling (5p today). There were six occupants of the house and seven when my father was home. One shilling for cleaning six or seven pairs of shoes!

Sweeping the stair carpet, with a dustpan and brush, that was worth one shilling. There were 4 flights of stairs of varying length. Polishing the brass stair rods, which held the carpet in place - another shilling. The same payment for cleaning all the other brasses such as doorknobs, candlesticks and ornaments.

Making paper spills to keep the spill pot, kept on the mantelpiece, topped up: this was a sitting down job, so only earned 3d (less than 2p today) Spills were strips of paper folded into narrow lengths of about 6" We used old letters, envelopes etc. Spills were used for lighting the fire from a match and kept in a pot which I still have today. It must be about 100 years old and I use it for holding pens and pencils.

Another job assigned by my Grandfather was mowing the lawns. The farmhouse is on a south facing slope. There were 2 "top lawns" and 1 "bottom lawn" This equated to an area the size of two tennis courts, which indeed the "bottom lawn" was.

I had to use a petrol lawn mower with a kick start. I needed help to get it started.

Imagine a small person galloping along behind the mower and swinging it round at the end of the lawn to avoid destroying the surrounding flowerbeds! For mowing the banks of the lawns help was needed; I held the end of a rope attached to the side of the mower to keep it on the bank, while an adult held the mower in place against the bank. For this job I earned the princely sum of 2/6d or a half-crown. (12.5p today!) My grandfather gave me a half-crown and always said "don't spend it foolish."

If I was lucky, my mother would give me the ration book so that I could go to the sweet shop in Hopton Heath to spend my money. Pear drops were my favourite! *M.E.B.* 

Sister B can't resist sharing this one:-

A woman came to the hospital to visit a friend. She had not been in a hospital for many years and was very ignorant about the new technology. She entered a lift followed by a technician wheeling a large, intimidating looking machine with tubes, wires and dials.

"Wow, I would hate to be hooked up to that thing," the visitor said. "So would I," replied the technician. "It's a floor - cleaning machine."

## In the Garden

A cloudy day in Clungunford, colder than it ought to be on an August Bank Holiday Sunday, but I'm indoors writing this rather than outside encountering the weather in any case.

At least the weedkiller I've put down several times now on my patio and pathways seems to be working at last and the weeds I've been treating with it are turning yellow at last.

When we decided to move home a few months ago now I thought in my innocence that the house would sell so quickly I wouldn't be able to carry on the normal cultivation routine I was following, so didn't carry on with it and in consequence didn't plant any of the bedding I normally grow at this time of year or any of the fruit and veg I normally harvest from the garden either because I was expecting to be doing my gardening elsewhere.

The potatoes I had bought before we were intending to move were eventually planted in the tubs on my patio along with the cabbages which were harvested because they grew fast enough for that. At Beechgrove, a gardening programme on the BBC in Scotland I watch, they were talking last week about planting their potatoes to harvest at Christmas in tubs in the garden, something we may be doing here if circumstances dictate and we are still here to do so.

I have recently planted sprouts, leeks and cabbages in our raised beds to join them. Whether we still be here to harvest them only time will tell. In the garden look out for *Buddleia Lochinch*, still giving of its best and attracting lots of butterflies and bees to its flowers which last longer than those of *Buddleia Davidii*. *Brian Taylor* 

## From Rev Martin Quayle

Our seasons give us particular patterns of weather, along with remembrance, recollections and emotional resonance. Late summer for many is a time of mixed feelings. For families, it is a time of holidays, along with preparation for a new academic year. Teachers are often beginning to plan for new school years, and whilst enjoying the long summer break are girding themselves up for new classes, and challenges which will keep them busy through the new school year.

For the rest of us, gardeners begin to plan the hard work on their gardens, knowing that the next year's garden depends on the thought and hard physical labour which is carried out in the coming months. They may well reflect on what has worked well this year, and what may have failed. In the midst of those reflections is the lingering enjoyment of what the garden has produced for this year, along with the anticipation of harvesting whatever produce they have nurtured in vegetable patches and orchards.

It is easy to overdo the metaphors and similes connected with the passage of time and seasons, but nevertheless, as we reflect on nature, the passage of time and our own mortality, there is a certain circularity about how time comes and goes, and we note how certain aspects of our lives are subject to repeating patterns, whilst other things change permanently, as we age (or if you prefer, mature). We have a choice as to how we engage with all this. We can interrogate, as it were, what it is that events and happening around us may have to teach us. We can construct in our minds a sense of meaning and accounts of purpose which explain to us a coherence or 'narrative' which enables us to make sense of our lives and the communities in which we find ourselves. Some things are chaotic chance happenings, whereas there are other things which are consequential events which have much to teach us if we have the humility and insight to reflect upon them.

For those of us of Faith, our Bible is a collection of deep and profound reflections about life, and how we might best negotiate the chances and fleeting moments which comprise much of our day to day lives. We often respond to 'stuff' institutively, without the opportunity to ponder or process our emotional and cognitive reactions as we speak, act or sense what is happening around us and to us. Of course, those of us who construct a mental life which is positive, grateful and reaches out to others, reinforces good things to the people and situations around us. That is reciprocity. Those of a more negative inclination find that opportunities for growth and goodwill fade away as we respond negatively to people and situations.

Like the school children returning to their desks and classrooms, all of us have opportunities to move on,

learn from previous errors and develop positively. This is expressed in the Lord's Prayer by the invocation to forgive, as we ask to be forgiven. This is wrapped up in the statement of asking that the will of God is not just respected but acted upon. I wish all of you a happy and joyous harvest season. *Martin Quayle* 

## Parish Church News

The Revd Martin Quayle, Vicar for the Parishes of the Middle Marches Benefice, can be contacted by email at <u>office.middlemarches@gmail.com</u>. Should you need more information about services, events etc, please contact our Church Wardens, Michael Jones (tel: 01588 661145, email: <u>mpjt51@hotmail.com</u>) or Edward Gledhill (tel: 01588 660485, email: edward@aegledhill.co.uk).

The planned Services for St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford in the Middle Marches Benefice for May and June are as follows:

Sunday	No service at	
3 September	St Cuthbert's	
Sunday	10.00 am	Family Service led
10 September		by Tim and Caroline
Sunday	11.00 am	Holy Communion
17 September		Rev Martin Quayle
		officiating
Sunday	10.00 am	Morning Service led
24 September		by Isa and Mike
Sunday	No service at	
1 October	St Cuthbert's	
Sunday	10.00 am	Family Service led
8 October		by Pat
Sunday	10.00 am	Morning Service led
15 October		by Pat
Sunday	11.00 am	Holy Communion
22 October		Rev Martin Quayle
		officiating
Sunday	No service at	
29 October	St Cuthbert's	

#### The Abbess Way

We picked the hottest time of the summer to walk from Morville to Shrewsbury, and two of our walkers transmuted from walkers to sherpas due to hay fever and blisters. The remaining eight fought their way through brambles and heat (and even some welcome rain on the last day) and everyone had a memorable and enjoyable time. We visited some lovely and varied churches (you can see all the photographs on the Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/clungunfordchurch)

Katherine Swift, author of *The Morville Hours* kindly let us explore her beautifully wild garden before we enjoyed the bells and beauty of St Gregory's in Morville. I think we all rather loved the Puritan austerity of Langley Chapel, especially in contrast with the lovely Kenley Church which must have some of the most glorious views in Shropshire? We squeezed in one last church after Shrewsbury Abbey, St Giles' where we were treated to a story about St Cuthbert and enjoyed the lovely Kempe windows.



#### Hymns and Pimms

St Cuthbert's first Hymns and Pimms was a lovely event and we are very happy to say it will be repeated next summer. We sang eight superb hymns which were made even more special as the people who chose them spoke very movingly about the significance of their choices. There were tears and laughter and the delicious Pimms added beautifully to the spirit of the event. As you sing hymns throughout the year, or cast your mind back to when a hymn made an impact on you at a turning point in your life – make a note of it ready to make your choice next time!



#### The Church Tower

The recent Quinquennial Inspection of St Cuthbert's identified problems with the church tower. The problems included cracks in the stonework and missing pointing. These have been identified before but have reached a stage when it is now necessary to address the issues. The recommendation from the Quinquennial Inspector was to engage the services of a structural engineer to look into the cracking and more specifically whether the cracks were worsening and the reason for them.

To this end, the PCC have engaged the services of Ian Ceney, a structural engineer with c2designs ltd. Ian is accustomed to inspecting church towers and is a member of the Hereford Diocesan Advisory Council (DAC), the group which advises on church maintenance, repairs and improvements. Our hope is that the work needed will be limited to pointing and addressing specific cracks rather than major engineering work. However, this is nevertheless expected to be a costly exercise with the question being 'how costly'.

The funding for the structural engineering report has been met from funds given to the Church by the 100 Club. We are very grateful for this funding and thank those who contribute it. If you would like to join the 100 Club which not only supports the church building but also provides three cash prizes every month, then please contact Mike Jones on mpit51@hotmail.com or 07531 400391, Rob Rees on rob rees@hotmail.com or Maureen Rooney on 01588 660781.

The PCC would specially like to thank Maureen for all her hard work with the 100 Club over many years.

#### The Big Breakfast ~ 3 September

It's time for the Big Breakfast again! Breakfast will be served from 9.30am and all are invited but please let our church wardens know you are coming so we can cater. We'll be in the churchyard if the weather is settled (we can always hope) but inside the church otherwise. This is always a very popular event and we very much hope to see you! There is no charge, but of course donations to the church are always welcome. Contact Mike on mpjt51@hotmail.com

#### Sacred Space ~ 8 September and 13 October 13th

Join us for an hour of music and silence in St Cuthbert's Church on Friday 8 September. We gather from 5.45 for a 6pm start and the event will be led by Anna Dreda and Clare Johnson. This is a lovely hour of quiet reflection and relaxation and everyone is very welcome to join us. The heating will be on but do dress warmly and bring a blanket if you feel the cold. Contact Anna on annadreda@icloud.com

#### The Quiet Church, from 7 September

A meditation workshop will start at St Cuthbert's Church, Clungunford, on Thursday evenings at 5pm, starting on 7 September. Initially the course will be for six weeks and each session will last about forty minutes. Although meditation is something which is used in religious practice, it has physical and psychological benefits which do not require religious belief. If you are seeking to experience calm; to know peace and to understand that 'all shall be well' then learning to meditate is a pathway to finding the silence and stillness we need in order to create a space where this can take root. It is suitable for everyone and anyone.

The introductory six-week course will be led by Carole Dixon, who hosts The Quiet Garden near Leintwardine. For further details, please contact Carole Dixon on <u>caroledixon@me.uk</u> or by phone on 01547 540685, or Anna Dreda on <u>annadreda@icloud.com</u> or just turn up.

# St Cuthbert's Café, Clungunford Village Hall and Thrift Shop

The café is open on the second and fourth Thursday of each month, from 10am - 12 noon so in September it's 14/9 and 28/9, and October's dates are 12/10 and 26/10. There are always delicious home-made cakes on offer along with tea and coffee and good folk to chat with. The Thrift Shop will be open from 11am just across in the Croquet Pavilion and the Post Office van will be in the car park from 11.45am. It's obviously the place to be!

#### Harvest Supper ~ 29 September 7pm

Join us for our annual harvest supper in St Cuthbert's Church, which is always so much fun and a lovely social gathering. Tickets are £10 per person (children free) to include lots of hearty food and entertainment, and your welcome glass of wine, beer or a soft drink. There will be a short service. All are very welcome, but please let us know you are coming! Contact Eddie Gledhill on edward.gledhill.rcl@gmail.com or 01588 660485 or Mike Jones on mpjt51@hotmail.com or 07531 400391

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The Gunnas Gazette by email

We are making genuine progress in reducing the number of printed copies of *The Gazette* delivered. However, there is still more that can be achieved, so if you can receive your Gazette by email, please sign up to do so by sending an email to

#### gunnasgazette@aol.com.

Just remember, you will be able to read the *The Gazette* in colour by signing up for the digital edition.

#### The 100 Club Winners for July:

Special prize: (£100) Ann Hunt 1. (£60) Elizabeth Hughes 2. (£30) Elizabeth Lyster 3. (£15) Anne Gledhill

#### Winners for August:

1. (£60) Suzanne Stevens

2. (£30) David Chapman

3. (£15) Trish McHaffie

If you would like to join ( $\pounds$ 5 per month by standing order), phone Maureen Rooney (01588 660781) or Mike Jones (01588 661145) or Jim Bason (01547 540782).

#### The Slow Ladies

Saturday 9 September: most of you will be walking for Ride and Stride.

Friday 13 October: - Hergest Croft Gardens. There are various options for this:-

1) spend the whole day in the Gardens at an  $\frac{1}{28}$  entry fee

2) walk along Hergest Ridge (part of Offa's Dyke path ) for as long or as short as you desire

3) spend some time along Hergest Ridge and more time in the Gardens.

You could bring a picnic or eat in the restaurant in the gardens.

Please let me know me a.s.a.p. if you would like to come and what your preference might be. The gardens open at 11.30am. Where to meet and times of meeting will be sorted out later.

New walkers are always welcome. Do not hesitate to contact me - Pauline Mattison (01588 660596)

## Clungunford Village Hall – Flicks in the Sticks

#### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 at 8.00pm Allelujah (cert 12a)

Starring: David Bradley, Jennifer Saunders, Judi Dench Director: Richard Eyre Drama

When the geriatric ward in a small Yorkshire hospital is threatened with closure, the hospital decides to fight back by galvanizing the local community. The hospital invites a news crew to film the preparations for a concert honoring its most distinguished nurse.

#### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 8.00pm Living (cert 12a)

Starring: Bill Nighy, Aimee Lou Wood, Tom Burke. Director: Oliver Hermanus Drama

Overwhelmed at work and lonely at home, a civil servant's life takes a heart-breaking turn when a medical diagnosis tells him his time is short. Influenced by a local decadent and vibrant woman, he continues to search for meaning until a simple revelation gives him a purpose to create a legacy for the next generation.

#### Entrance £5.00 Adults £3.00 Children

Licensed Bar, Ice creams, raffle (Donations welcomed),

good car parking Tel: 01588 660781 (Maureen) (<u>maureenrooney2012@gmail.com</u>) or 01588 660159

(Keith) for bookings and enquires.

We now show all our films with subtitles.

We advise booking, and request cash only at the Box Office. Card payments accepted at the bar.

## The Big Breakfast

#### "Dear Friends,

We are so pleased to let you know that this coming Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, we shall be holding once again, one of our favourite annual events:

#### The St Cuthbert's BIG BREAKFAST.

A full English Breakfast will be served from 9.30am till 11.30am.

We hope that you already have it firmly noted in your diary and will be joining us on the day. (**NB for the younger generation**: A diary is a type of notebook, where all the days of the year are laid out in order and people WRITE down (as in pen and ink write) all their commitments.)

Everyone is welcome and as in previous years there will be no charge, but, if you would like to make a donation that will be gratefully received and go towards the funding of the many church infrastructure projects that we have on our St Cuthbert's to-do list.

Now to the practicalities, in order to be fully prepared and with sufficient food so that no-one goes home hungry, please can you **reply to this email as much before the event as possible**, letting us know if you will be joining us and how many will be in your party.

Also, please can you let us know if anyone in your group has any **special dietary needs**, such as being vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free etc. We will then try and do our best to cater for them.

If the weather is fine the event will be held outside on the lawned area, in front of the church. Should the weather be inclement, then you will enjoy your breakfast inside the church, as you may have done last year. Of course, in either case, our gallant chefs will be braving all the outside elements that may be thrown at them to ensure your food is delivered to you without the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning!!!!

We are so looking forward to seeing you all on Sunday and hope you have a wonderful time.

Best wishes

Mike and Eddie

**PS** The Eggman of Clungunford, Mr Jonathan Roberts, would like it to be known that **he will be there**."



## **The Clungunford Funds**

Did you know Clungunford has two funds available to give grants to all parishioners at times of need?

Some of the things we can help with are:

Costs of travel to hospital and medical expenses School and college expenses Driving, swimming and music lessons Convalescence expenses and personal alarms TV licenses All requests will be considered

Grants are not means tested and are available to anyone living in the parish regardless of incomes and circumstances. Contributions can only be given if no help is available from public funding.

All enquiries and applications are received and treated in strict confidentiality.

#### **Clungunford Charities**

Clerk Mrs A Gledhill Abcott Manor Abcott Clungunford SY7 0PX 01588 660485 anne@aegledhill.co.uk

Chair Mrs C M Tinker Trustees Mrs M Bason Ms E Roberts Mrs M Taylor



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Clungunford Educational Foundation Charity Number 505104

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CONFESSIONS OF A FORMER TELETUBBY A mix of theatre, stand-up and stories down the pub!

## Clungunford Village Hall, SY7 OPP

KIPED

Fri 13th October, 7.30pm Tickets: 01588 660152 & www.artsalive.co.uk

# NIKIPEDIA

Sit tight for a whirlwind tour through the worlds of music, dance, the early days of alternative comedy, the rough end of 80's London and the fun of 90's Teletubbyland.

Nikky Smedley has lived through it all - and you get to choose what brutally honest stories she tells.

Where Wikipedia is shared knowledge; Nikipedia is shared histories. Come and be part of one woman's crusade to connect us through stories extraordinary and everyday.

## For grown-ups only!

Facebook : Nikipedia111



We are fast approaching Ride and Stride weekend again. This year it will be on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September.** This is a national event to raise money for the maintenance of Historic Churches of all denominations. The concept is that each church will raise money through sponsorship of Riders (cyclists) and Striders (walkers) that visit local churches on the allotted date. Half the money raised goes directly to the local church and the other half goes into a County pot that can be bid for.

It is a fun day and Clungunford always has a good turnout. If you want to join the Riders then contact Simon Lyster 01588 660152, if you want to join the Striders then contact Mary Bason 07800 530960.

If you don't feel energetic enough to join us, or are busy that day you can still support us either by visiting our Just Giving page <u>https://www.justgiving.com/page/simon-lyster-1691518756515</u>

Or by joining us for some wonderful refreshments at the St Cuthberts Church between 10am and 4pm.

## The Parish Council

Since our last meeting we have considered planning applications for a new house in Clungunford off Broome Road and an application for detailed consent for a plot previously consent on outline basis in Hopton Heath. Both were approved with some comments. It is possible that we may have filled our vacant councillor's seat – more to follow later.

The subject of broadband is beginning to come to the fore again, possible good news being on the near horizon. Although the last campaign resulted in moderate to good speeds through most of the parish with a fibre to the cabinet scheme (FTTC), it is now on the cards that further enhancements may be possible with fibre to the premises (FTTP). The benefit of FTTP is that speeds can increase to pretty much what you want to pay for, which certainly for many users in the parish, particularly business users, would be highly desirable. Even families would benefit, as multiple simultaneous users in the home will not diminish acceptable speeds.

A thorough interrogation of Openreach representatives at the Royal Welsh Show revealed no imminent plans on their part to construct a FTTP network in the village, notwithstanding that they have connected some areas close-by, largely because aged copper connections had to be re-newed in any event. However, SWS, a BT competitor, has been surveying the village and is planning to connect up Clungunford from Spring 2024: details and costs are available at <a href="https://www.swsbroadband.net/lookup/">https://www.swsbroadband.net/lookup/</a>

For those interested, it is probably a very good idea to register your interest on the SWS website. Obviously, if viability becomes an issue, the more people who have shown an interest, the more likely the scheme is to get off the ground.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 13 September in the Village Hall, stating at 7pm. Interested members of the public, as ever, are welcome to attend. Parish matters before (or after) the meeting may be raised via <u>clungunfordparishcouncil@gmail.com</u> or directly with me. *Jonathan Roberts*, Chairman (01588 660673: jonathan.roberts@morgoedestates.com).

## The Classic Car Event





What a day – The Classic Car Event on Sunday 13 August. A triumph for the three Daves who put it together, but it would not have been possible without great swathes of village volunteers, who assisted with parking, catering and you name it. The result – at least 700 people milled around the playing field, inspecting around 150 exhibits.

What is more, and most important of all, a very good time was had by all.

All in all, a very good day for Gunnas.

Photos kindly supplied by Angie (the Marshall") Spencer Tims.







