



Village Newsletter



Village Hall News

At the time of writing it looks like we are on

track for the removal of the COVID-19 restrictions on 19th July and we will have welcomed back all our current groups. Please contact these groups directly for news or keep an eye on the Hall's Facebook page for further updates. In addition we are already seeing an increase in private bookings for events such as weddings and parties and are pleased to see that the Hall remains a popular venue for these events.

Whilst restrictions are being lifted, the Trustees still request that we all take care of our own health and that of others by continuing to use hand sanitiser and adhere to some form of social distancing in the Hall. Whilst the legal requirement to wear face coverings has ended, the government continues to recommend their use in crowded and enclosed spaces and therefore, for everyone's health and safety, we request that they are still worn whilst moving about in the communal areas of the Hall and mixing with people you are not normally in contact with. The Track and Trace QR code is still at the entrance to the Hall and we continue to request that people scan this. And finally, if you or anyone you have been close to has had or is showing COVID symptoms then please avoid the Hall.

By the time this article is published we should have had the Village Picnic on Saturday 31st July and are hoping that the weather was good and it went well. If you get this copy electronically, in advance of the usual print publication date and ahead of the event, do come along. Please text 07528 856157 or email party@cliddesdenhall.org.uk and include the number of people in your group so we can keep track of numbers. Remember to bring your own food, drink, plates, cutlery and picnic rugs.

As previously reported, the Trustees are seeing how the Hall can expand its range of groups and regular events, what improvements the Hall could benefit from and how the Hall can get

involved in the village at large. Some ideas: lunches, tea dances, short mat bowls, card games, special interest groups, singing, etc. So, a request to everyone to think about what you would like to see in terms of clubs, groups, events and improvements to the Hall or beyond. And, importantly, what skills you have that you could offer to get these ideas off the ground. Mail your suggestions and offers of help to ideas@cliddesdenhall.org.uk - big or small, one off event, short term project or long-term club or group.

Another call for people who would like to join the Hall's management committee as 'Village Representatives' and take an active role in managing the Hall and safeguarding its future - if you are interested then again please send an email to volunteering@cliddesdenhall.org.uk.

As always, remember to visit the Hall's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CliddesdenVillageHall and website at www.cliddesdenhall.org.uk for the latest news.

Greg Mendelsohn
Village Hall Management Committee
chair@cliddesdenhall.org.uk



St Leonard's Services for August

Church Services for August 2021 at St. Leonard's (unless stated otherwise).

Sunday 1 August, 9.45am: Holy Communion, Common Worship

Sunday 8 August, 11.15am: Family Communion (Common Worship)

Sunday 15 August, 11.15am: Family Service

Saturday 21 August, 6.00pm: Holy Communion (BCP)

Sunday 29 August, 11.00am: St Andrew's Farleigh Wallop

Sunday 5 September, 9.45am: Holy Communion (Common Worship)

100 Club



Hello members

The draw for July was called at the Coffee Morning held at the Village Hall on 19th July 2021. Here are the lucky winners:

1st	243	Cathy Snook
2nd	112	David Thomson
3rd	69	Doreen Isley

Congratulations. Next Coffee Morning 9th August - come along for good cakes and company in our light, airy and well ventilated hall.

Rose Beevers Tel: 475944 (100club@cliddesdenhall.org.uk).

The New Beggarwood Surgery

Broadmere Road, Beggarwood RG22 4AQ, Tel: 01256 396500 www.beggarwoodsurgery.co.uk

The July 2021 Patient Participation Group (PPG) meeting was attended by Maria Miller MP, Alma Kilgariff and Nick Brooks from Hampshire Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Stephen Reid, County Councillor for Basingstoke South West and Felicity Greene, Chief Executive of North Hants Urgent Care (NHUC), the current provider. The Chair of the PPG explained that they had been invited in order to have a constructive conversation about the future of the Beggarwood Surgery.

The Chair then read comments taken from various neighbourhood social media sites. These highlighted the strong feelings of patients about the poor quality of some GP services in the Basingstoke area. She asked whether the CCG ever looked at these sites. The CCG do take patient complaints into account when carrying out due diligence on a prospective provider but these complaints tend to be limited as not all patients will go through the complaints process. However, Nick Brooks said that he would be happy to take a look through these sites.

Although the PPG had previously been told that they could not attend the tender presentations, the Chair again asked Alma and Nick to be allowed to sit in, along with the Vice Chair. This was agreed although they will not be allowed to ask any questions. They will however be asked for their opinions after the presentations, but everything said will be subject to a confidentiality agreement.

Stephen Reid expressed concern at the possible loss of local services, as Beggarwood has a strong community based around its public services, the surgery, pharmacy, dentist and the community centre. Alma Kilgariff reassured the meeting that a purely digital service is not for consideration and the CCG want Beggarwood to have a locally based service whereby patients can see a GP, and other health professionals, at the Beggarwood surgery.

Maria Miller pointed out the current contract ends in September but Felicity Greene confirmed that NHUC has today extended their contract to run until the end of January 2022. Alma Kilgariff reassured us that we could trust the CCG to procure the right service provider. The PPG asked that the Clinical Commissioning Group put out a patient communication in the local paper and media, which will explain exactly what is happening so that patients can be made aware of the proceedings.

Sad News

Sadly, on 24th June, Christine Bonner lost her brave battle against cancer. On 16th July Cliddesden said 'Goodbye' to Chris and you may have seen the beautiful white horse-drawn hearse travel from Pensdell Farm to St Leonard's Church accompanied by her family and friends.



Christine was a real Cliddesden girl having grown up here and lived in the village most of her life. She was involved in many village activities, such as helping with flower arrangements in the church and decorating the Christmas trees in the village hall. She loved and cared for animals, sang with the local Rock Choir, was a talented artist and a very good friend to those lucky enough to know her.

Christine adored her family and recently became a Great Grandmother. She will be much missed.

Cliddesden WI

It was wonderful to be able to hold our first meeting after 18 months abiding by lockdown restrictions and meet up again with our friends in the WI. True it was only our 2 outstanding AGMs which are not the most stimulating of meetings but now that we have got these out of the way we can look forward to enjoying the programme we have managed to arrange for the coming months.

Pauline reported on all the meetings we had enjoyed during the year leading up to the lockdown which brought back happy memories. I got the dull bit presenting the accounts for the last 2 years but I'm glad to say nobody asked any difficult questions because I'm not sure I could have remembered money transactions going back that far!

The only sad note was that because of the tight



regulations laid down by the National Federation of WIs we felt we could not have our Ploughman's lunch afterwards. It will not be long however before food is part of our meetings as we will celebrate our 99th birthday with our usual celebrations in September.

Next meeting Thursday 19th August at 7.30pm

Speakers Dave & Jenny Levy will show us some of their wildlife photos. Dave often has his pictures featured on both Meridian and South today so if you are interested please come along and enjoy our evening.

Diane Rampton Tel 01256 467533

Charity Fudge!

In September I will be taking part in a charity half marathon event along the Jurassic Coast. I'm not crazy enough to run it - the number of killer ups and downs are way beyond my fitness level at the moment, but I will walk it with purpose! It is in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, and on my part to support my sister-in-law, who at only 50 years old has recently been diagnosed with her second bout of cancer.



To raise a bit of sponsorship I thought I would set up a fudge table at our front gate (The Well House, opposite the pond) on Friday 27th August. There



will be a number of flavours to choose from and a collection box for donations. Whatever you can give will be very much appreciated, and all proceeds from the fudge sales will go to Macmillan. Thank you in advance, and happy munching!

Rachel BD



NOTES FROM THE JULY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 6th July 2021

Held (socially distanced) in the Village Hall: four Parish Councillors, Clerk, County Councillor Juliet Henderson, Ward Councillor Mark Ruffell and three members of the public present. Next meeting Tuesday 21st September.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the first face-to-face Parish Council meeting since May last year.

County Councillor Juliet Henderson said she will support where she can. She is aware of the circumstances of the pond and drainage. To please contact her at any time if there is anything she can help with.

Her particular interests are:

- As advocate for the integrity of Villages and village life. Response to Covid she said has been a testament to community. Re Upper Swallick, Juliet is opposed, citing lack of infrastructure, beautiful countryside. Need to consider new opportunities such changes in retail.
- In education. We have she said some excellent primary schools, need more provision for secondary schools and apprenticeships.

Ward Councillor Mark Ruffell joined his first Cliddesden meeting as elected councillor for the new Basing and Upton Grey Ward. His portfolio is Natural Environment and Climate Improvement, no longer including Planning and Infrastructure.

'Climate Improvement' he said, is a deliberate choice of words. Climate Change is happening, climate improvement says what we are going to do about it. To mention the Local Plan Update, steps are being made towards establishing housing numbers

and where site allocations may be.

Pond and drainage Good progress has been made in recent months.

Pond clearing as Cllr Henderson has advised, is included in this year's Operation Resilience works programme, likely in the autumn.

Grips and soakaways It was noted that recent heavy rains – c 17th to 19th June – didn't cause any flooding at the pond. Surface water runoff will have been reduced by HCC clearing the grips on Farleigh Hill early this year; there is unfortunately little opportunity for soakaways on Church Lane or Woods Lane.

Pond ecology survey The Hampshire Freshwater Habitats Trust surveyed the pond on Monday 28th June: 'as part of a regional survey and monitoring programme into pond biodiversity and great crested newt (GCN) conservation.' The survey took about 30 minutes, in daylight without causing disturbance. The on-site

water testing confirmed the pond to be fed by road runoff. Water samples taken for lab DNA testing will indicate any presence of GCN.

The Freshwater Habitats Trust ecologist noted that:

- They are confident GCN would not be present, citing the lack of submerged vegetation and dark areas showing the silt buildup.
- The pond habitat is much better than many ponds in similar locations, due to the abundance and diversity of marginal vegetation.
- Will forward a copy of the survey report (for a future *Newsletter*).

Noted that the habitat supports a variety of invertebrates, evidenced by bats over the pond. Pond vegetation like all things needs maintenance. But with silt build up there is no submerged vegetation to oxygenate the water.

Pond bench The Parish Council had agreed at the previous meeting that – 'The bench is a village asset for the community. To continue to review its use during the summer and review instances of antisocial behaviour.'

Following ongoing requests for it to be repositioned, the Parish Council has been seeking to balance priorities for the impact on one group and provision for the wider community. It has been noted by all that the bench gets a lot of appropriate use. Decision was to move – see notice foot of page.

Police Please report all crimes / incidents at <http://www.hampshire.police.uk> (or to 101) – not to individual officers. All reports must be logged – this the only way the police can evidence what is happening and allocate resources.

Our local police and police community support officers are PCSO Andy Jones and PC Ross Holdsworth (Rural South beat) and PC Will Butcher (CountryWatch). To join the distribution list for Neighbourhood Watch and CountryWatch please contact Simon Barker at sibarksy@hotmail.com

A farewell presentation was hosted for Andy Reid at the Candovers Club on 23rd July. Hopefully there will be pictures for the next *Newsletter*.



Many of you will have noticed that the pond bench has been moved to a new position

At the last Parish Council meeting there was a considered debate following requests made by a number of households in the immediate vicinity. It was noted that recently there have been a number of large gatherings, a few anti-social incidents and problems of noise when people have been using the bench later at night.

The Parish Council acknowledges such cases are in the minority, and most users are respectful of the surroundings, but we did witness first hand an example of what has been flagged to us and felt it only fair to support those residents who asked for the bench to be moved to what was actually its original site.

We hope everyone will be understanding as to why this action has been taken. However, if you have a view on this we would be happy to hear from you.

PARISH PLANNING APPLICATIONS

21/02172/LDEU (Validated 28 June)
Myhaven, Woods Lane. Certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of 'Barn 2' as constructed in 2013.

21/02118/FUL (Validated 23 June) Land
Adjacent to Millars Cottages, Station Road. Erection of a single detached one and a half storey dwelling.

21/02056/FUL (Validated 17 June)
7 Woods Lane. Erection of a two bedroom bungalow with associated car parking.

21/01810/HSE (Validated 26 May)
27 Southlea. Erection of detached building forming garage/home office and erection of new entrance gates.

21/01646/HSE (Pending, 12 May)
Swallick Cottage, Alton Road. Erection of part single storey, part two story rear extension, new front porch, bay window and detached garage with living accommodation above.

21/01591/PIP (Pending, 10 May) Little Acre, Woods Lane. Permission in Principle for the a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 dwellings.

21/01321/RET (Pending, 14th April)
Faerie Meadows, 14 Hackwood Lane. Change of use to residential garden land.

21/00931/FUL (Pending 16th March)
Newland Lodge, Woods Lane. Demolition of bungalow and erection of one four-bed dwelling. (Replacement for approved application 18/00116/FUL.)

21/00831/HSE (Pending 8th March)
4 Hackwood Lane. To add ground floor window to rear of annex and add first floor windows to rear and front of annex.

PARISH TREE APPLICATIONS

T/00330/21/TCA (Validated 30 June)
Cliddesden House, Farleigh Road. Conifer hedge: reduce height to approx 2.1m. 5 x Sycamore (one dead): fell.

T/00305/21/TCA (Validated 15 June) The Forge, Farleigh Road. Two Sycamore not yet mature (G1) – Fell as pushing wall over and overhanging roof of buildings.



GREEN WASTE COLLECTION

Update from Cllr Hayley Eachus, Cabinet Member for Recycling, Waste and Regulatory Services

Due to Covid-related staff shortages, some scheduled garden waste collections are being suspended. For updates please see <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/gardenwaste>

SPEAKING UP FOR NATURE

Presentation from Paul Beevers to Borough Councillors, the event hosted by 'Basingstoke Transition'. A copy of the presentation is available on the Parish Council website. Extracts below....

'NATURE IS VIEWED AS FREE AND INEXHAUSTIBLE SO HAS BEEN TAKEN FOR GRANTED'

Hampshire
2050 –
Extract from
State of
Hampshire's
Natural
Environment
Report -
September
2020

Loss of priority
habitats over the
last 10 years.

Losses of woodlands due to development, garden extensions and conversion to more managed parklands. Loss of wood pasture due to removal of veteran trees and conversion to arable farmland.

Losses of species-rich chalk grassland and lowland meadow due to agricultural improvement, abandonment or development.



48% of a
sample of
50 of
Hampshire's
most
notable
species are
in decline.

This is a deterioration from the 35% previously observed.

SOME CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Planning for nature as well as development has to be ambitious and finally must work – Nature, climate change, soils, water and air pollution and biodiversity need landscape scale projects to restore ecological equilibrium. – Corridors for nature measured in hundreds of metres or kilometres not tens of metres – Need to better communicate the scale of the challenge to raise the level of debate, manage expectations and encourage more community involvement – Wildlife crossings essential for motorways, roads and country lanes to overcome fragmentation, restore species populations and allow safe movement and migration – Greater efficiency from our existing transport network, buildings and land use is possible eg more solar on buildings, less on fields.

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE LOCAL PLAN UPDATE (LPU)



SUMMER 2021 – ISSUE 3: ISSUES & OPTIONS CONSULTATION FEEDBACK
BDBC completed an 'Issues and Options' Consultation in autumn 2020 to identify the Key Planning Issues facing the borough over the next Local Plan period (to at least 2039) and consider options to address them.

Key headlines from the consultation included

- Strong support for policies mitigating the impact of climate change
- Greater protection for the environment
- Improving the design and quality of new development
- A focus on housing delivery to meet needs and restore a five-year housing land supply.

See <https://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/issues-and-options>

The feedback is being used to prepare the draft Plan which will be published for consultation, scheduled for early 2022.

VISION FOR TOWN CENTRE

The borough council is working with Hemmingway Design and Allies and Morrison to develop a long-term vision for Basingstoke town centre. **A consultation on draft proposals is open from Monday 28th June to Friday 6 August at www.talkbasingstoketowncentre.co.uk**

Cliddesden Primary School



Observing COVID restrictions, it was brilliant to see children going off on their school trips and visitors coming into school.

Non-Uniform Day:

The school was very colourful for our non-uniform day. The Friends of Cliddesden Primary School raised £144.40.

KS1 Visit Marwell Zoo



Beech Class really enjoyed their trip to Marwell Zoo which fitted nicely with our current Science and Geography curriculum looking at different classification of animals, their habitats and whether they lived in a polar or desert environment.

As we visited each enclosure the children discussed whether the animal was:

a mammal: were they warm blooded, did they give birth to live young, did they have hair and 4 limbs?

a reptile: did they have scales and scutes? Were they cold blooded?

an amphibian: could they survive land and water? Were they cold blooded?

a bird: did they have wings and 2 legs?

a minibeast: invertebrates with no back bone?

The children also discussed whether the animal was prey or a predator and decided if they thought the animal was carnivore, omnivore or herbivore.

The children were a credit to our school and we all thoroughly enjoyed our day at the zoo.

Willow class enjoyed the beautiful sunshine at Marwell Zoo.

The animals were also out enjoying the sunshine, so we were lucky to see lots of them. The children were very excited to

see the sloth, he was very tricky to spot but the keeper helped us. We learnt lots of new facts, such as why Giraffe's tongues are black and zebras aren't always black and white. The children loved spotting their favourite animals and were very knowledgeable.

Their behaviour was brilliant and they asked and answered lots of questions!



Oak Class visit Sea City Museum

On Tuesday 22nd June, Chestnut Class visited the SeaCity Museum in Southampton. When they arrived, they had a guided tour of the Titanic Story exhibition. They impressed the tour guide with their knowledge of the Titanic and also learnt lots of new facts.

After the tour, they took part in a workshop where they rotated around four stations. They had the opportunity to look at and hold artefacts from the Titanic, trying to guess what each one was and what it was used for. Secondly, they had the challenge of deciding who they would put on the lifeboats, making sure the woman and children were on first and there was a crew member to row.



After that, they learnt more about what it would have looked and sounded like onboard the ship using photographs and sound boxes - they learnt that the boiler room had 29 boilers! Finally, they investigated how many leaking compartments it takes to sink a ship using a pipette and an ice cube tray.

At the end of the workshop, four of the children dressed up as people from the Titanic (Captain Edward Smith, Ida Strauss, Violet Jessop and Archie Jewell) as they learned about their journey.

After lunch, they had a self-guided tour around the two exhibitions of the museum: Southampton's Titanic Story, their history topic and Gateway to the

World, their Geography topic. While looking around the exhibitions, they had to find specific artefacts and people in order to answer questions.

Overall, the children had a fantastic day sharing their existing knowledge and learning new facts.



Sabiha Iqbal

Oak had a visit from Sabiha Iqbal, a Muslim chaplain from Roehampton University, as part of their RE theme of sacred places. Sabiha is one of a few female Imam's in England as well as a chaplain, her focus is bringing people of all faiths together.

The children had prepared many questions about sacred places and objects in Islam. They found out lots of information including; how often Muslims pray; why Mecca and Medina are sacred places; the importance of Eid and Ramadan. Oak also had a chance to share some of their history work on the early Islamic Civilisation, reading out letters they had written about the wonders of Baghdad AD900.

This was the second visitor for this RE unit to come to speak to Oak Class. A few weeks ago, Reverend Stephen came into talk about Christianity and the places that are special to him and his beliefs.

To find out more about our school, please visit our newly designed website: cliddesden.hants.sch.uk

Paula



Hello from Claire!

****If you have not yet paid this years subscriptions, please could you do so either in cash to myself or any committee member, or if you prefer online, please contact me on 07748532798/01256381504 for the bank details. Thank-you****

Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces us up, snow is exhilarating; there is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather

John Ruskin 1819-1900

As I'm writing this on a particularly wet July morning the quote from John Ruskin seems very appropriate! No moaning about the weather - although I will ask if anyone has been burning bracken?

In 'The Glory of the Garden' from August 15th 1903 there was an article entitled 'Fern Lore', which I would like to share with you:

*Where the copsewood is the greenest,
Where the fountains glisten sheenest,
Where the morning dew lies longest,
There the Lady-fern grows strongest.* - Scott



Like the far-famed ring of Gyges, fern-seed is traditionally supposed to possess the power of rendering its owner invisible and enabling him to detect all witches disguised in the human shape. But to be endued with these properties, the seed must be caught upon a plate as it falls

from the buckler fern at midnight upon Midsummer's Eve - the precise moment of that already-mystic night when, it is said, St. John the Baptist was born. Upon Midsummer's Day, charms, known as "lucky-hands" or "St. John's hands", were often woven from the curled-in fronds of the buckler fern, as these were supposed to impart a peculiar virtue to cattle troughs.

In the days of the Stuarts, the root of the male fern was much used by maidens in their preparation of love potions, although her lover might be reluctant to acknowledge the real means by which he had been enthralled:

*'Twas the maiden's matchless beauty,
That drew my heart a-nigh,
Not the fern-root potion,
But the glance of her blue eye.*



In Staffordshire, there is an old belief that the burning of large tracts of bracken is sure to bring on heavy rains. Ahead of his visit to the county, King Charles I even ordered a letter to be sent to the Sheriff of Staffordshire strictly prohibiting such an act:

"Sir, - His Majesty, taking notice of an opinion entertained in Staffordshire that the burning of ferne doth draw down rain, and being desirous that the country and himself may enjoy fair weather so long as he remains in these parts, His Majesty has commanded me to write to you to cause all burning of ferne to be forborne, until His Majesty be passed the country."

The Druids considered ferns to be sacred trees, and one of the most magical herbs that there are.

Considered to be of the masculine gender, ferns are associated with the power of the planet Mercury, the element Air, and the deities Puck and Laka.

The Druids gathered the uncurled fronds of male fern during Midsummer and dried them for good luck. They also added the roots to love potions and ate the fronds when embarking on love quests.

Oh please, let this be the last of the cancellations!

July 8th - 'Fish for Tea' - Steve Oakes

Unfortunately, the extension to the restrictions on meetings meant that this scheduled talk had to be cancelled. With the announcements made yesterday, I sincerely hope that this is the last time I will have to report a meeting cancelled due to Covid19.

THE SUMMER SHOW August 1st Cliddesden Millennium Hall

On a MASSIVELY happier note - the Summer Show should be happening either on the day you are reading this, or possibly has already happened!

And that being the case, I will be doubly thrilled to give a full report in the September issue 😊

Looking forward to September!

30th September - Cliddesden Millennium Hall - 745pm: REBOOKED FROM 8TH JULY
Steve Oakes - 'Fish for Tea'

We have fortunately been able to rebook our speaker from the 8th July. Please join us for our first face-to-face meeting in over 18 months - we will be so happy to see you!
Members entry £1, guests £2
Tea/coffee biscuits and raffle on the night

And, the last meeting of the year - AGM - Thursday 25th November 745pm
Cliddesden Millennium Hall
Members only.
Join us for a run down of all the years activities (and non-activities), food, wine and a long overdue catch up.

Happy Gardening!

Claire

News from Basingstoke Ladies Choir

REHEARSALS ARE STARTING

Basingstoke Ladies Choir may not have been in the public eye during the long months of lockdown but we have not been in hibernation! We have successfully continued to rehearse, hold a variety of social events and generally have a good time all courtesy of Zoom! Our successful Walk Round Britain for Sebastian's Action Trust, which raised £2000+ allowed us to remain supportive of our wider community.



Our greatest joy is to sing and we are looking forward to getting together again as we plan our return to rehearsals in September. So if you are looking for something new to do after lockdown with a friendly group of people we would love to welcome you!

Our choir open evening taster sessions are 13th September 2021, 10th January 2022 and 9th May 2022 or we would be delighted to welcome you on any Monday evening for fun while you sing.

For further information visit www.basingstokeladies.choir.co.uk

Social and Entertainment Club
Cliddesden Millennium Village Hall
'You'll be sure of a warm welcome and a great evening!'

The bar opens at 7.30pm and we start at 8pm. There is an intermission half way through during which ice creams and the bar are available. Admission is only £2 per person.



As I write this piece on 5 July it is with fingers crossed hoping that we will not have more restrictions placed on us, so let's hope that all nasty variants are kept at bay. The following dates are at the mercy of any further restrictions.

Thursday 5 August

It is thought that Winston Churchill said "History is written by the victors". JoJo Rabbit shows an aspect of WWII that we rarely see; the war from a German point of view.



JoJo Rabbit is a comedy-drama film written and directed by Taika Waititi, Roman Griffin Davis in the Title Role and Scarlett Johansson as his mother.

The film is set at the end of the 2nd World War. It had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, where it won the top prize. It drew mostly praise – especially for the performances, direction, screenplay, musical score. It was chosen as one of the ten best films of 2019. At the 77th Golden Globe Awards it was nominated for Best Motion Picture and gained many other awards and nominations. JoJo Rabbit grossed \$90.3 million.

Thursday 2 September

"Somethings Gotta Give" (2003, 128 minutes, cert PG) Contains infrequent strong language and moderate sex references.

American romantic comedy film written, produced and directed by Nancy Meyers. It stars Diane Keaton and Jack Nicholson who in the later phase of his acting career has created a niche for himself in comedy roles.



The film received generally favourable reviews from critics, and was a box office hit eventually grossing \$266.7 million worldwide. For her performance Keaton received a nomination for the Academy Award for Best Actress, and won the Golden Globe Award, Nicholson also received a nomination for the Golden Globe Award for Best Actor.

Thursday 7 October "The Guard" (2011, 92 Minutes, Contains very strong language, strong violence, sex references and drug use)

The Guard is an Irish [buddy cop comedy film](#) written and directed by [John Michael McDonagh](#), starring [Brendan Gleeson](#), [Don Cheadle](#), [Mark Strong](#) and [Liam Cunningham](#).

The film received critical acclaim and was a box office success. Both Gleeson and Cheadle received acclaim for their performances, It is the most successful independent Irish film of all time. The film took \$21M at the box office against a budget of \$6M

A few quotes from critics ; "Among the most purely entertaining films of the year, which cuts its laughter with a dose of Celtic melancholy. It still delivers action requirements - shoot-outs, revenges, daring deeds - and chances are, we'll be quoting lines from this forever."

A quirky buddy-cop film with an excellent cast led by magnificent Brendan Gleeson, fast-paced and with a rarely-seen quantity of witty dialogues".



All our films are suggested by members, so please suggest your own favourites and do come along, you'll have a good evening at the cinema amongst friends.

Tony Trown and The Airborne March Story

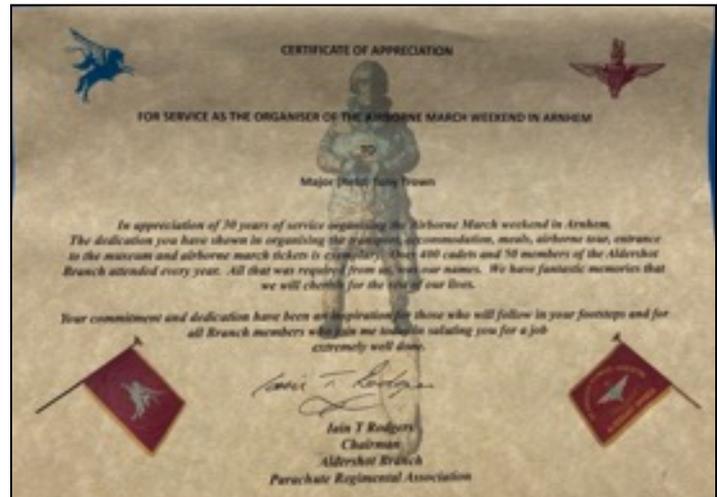
Local Cliddesden resident Tony Trown was recently invited by the Parachute Regiment in Aldershot to be presented with an award for his long service to the Arnhem Airborne March. This annual event has taken place since 1946, from its early beginnings as a small battlefield walk by locals to the large organised affair it is today. Many readers will be aware of Tony's ongoing commitment to the march, and below he has given a brief but moving history of how and why the event began, and how he came to be involved.

The Background:

In 1944 it was decided by the Top Brass, including General Montgomery, that a full Airborne Assault, backed by numerous infantry units would attack the Bridge over Arnhem in Holland. It turned out an absolute disaster and we were soundly beaten by the Germans, mainly due to most of our supplies being dropped far out of reach to be used by our soldiers. This meant all the soldiers who were still able to fight had no supplies to fight with, so were forced to surrender.

The Germans rounded up all of our men who were marched off to Prisoner of War Camps. The civilian population were told they had to evacuate their homes and the Germans then destroyed everything. The only shelter civilians had was in the surrounding G woods where they were forced to live in dreadful conditions. Over 500 civilians died of malnutrition, until the British told the German High Command that they would be personally held responsible for these and future deaths. The Germans immediately allowed the Allies to drop supplies to these poor people.

This is when the Airborne March story begins: Late in 1945 the Germans were forced to retreat back into Germany and the civilians started to rebuild Arnhem, asking the local Police HQ for permission to walk the Battlefields to pay their respects to the hundreds of dead soldiers, and those brave Royal Air Force men, many of whom had died trying to get the much needed supplies to the ground troops. However the Police said due to the amount of dead and mountains of munitions on the Battlefield they would only allow organised groups, with Police



guard. The civilians agreed and the first walk about was carried out.

In 1946 the local population again asked for a battlefield walk and it was refused again. But the police were willing to walk with them as it was their intention to make this an annual event. The Airborne Battlefield March was born, and it still happens today.

Where I fit in:

In 1984 as well as being involved with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Army Cadet Force training young Army Cadets, I became a part time member of the Parachute Company, Aldershot Regiment. That same year, Support Company of 10 PARA in Aldershot invited me to join them on the Arnhem march. This first March overwhelmed me to see that the population will never forget the attempt, and total failure, of the invasion in 1945. There are over 1978 Graves in the Airborne Cemetery, including 5 sets of brothers and one set of twins, who were born 30 minutes apart and died 30 minutes later.

I personally assisted in all of the build up of supplies, transport, accommodation, march ticket entries and anything else, and I enjoyed every moment! My lovely wife Shelagh, of 64 years, gave me huge support during this fabulous time and I thank her for her patience. In recognition of my involvement the Airborne Parachute Regiment have just presented me with a lovely scroll, setting out what we have together formed for those who will most certainly follow in so many footsteps.

I say with some satisfaction that this year should have been my 40th consecutive march, but because of the restrictions this just couldn't happen. Next year perhaps!

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

POLICE	PCSO Andy Jones - andrew.jones.13301@hampshire.pnn.police.uk	
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	Simon Barker - sibarksy@hotmail.com	07732 100 990
PARISH COUNCIL	Susan Turner (clerk) - clerk.cliddesden@parish.hants.gov.uk Alan Tyler (chairman) - alanbtyler19@btinternet.com Simon Barker - sibarksy@hotmail.com Mark Gifford - mark.gifford@biomerieux.com Hazel Metz - hazel.metz@hotmail.com Alison Mosson - alison@abe.co.uk website - www.cliddesdenparishcouncil.info	07515 777 060 460 425 07732 100 990 07504 104 621 07866 204 390 352 900
TREE WARDEN	Alison Mosson - alison@abe.co.uk	352 900
WARD COUNCILLORS	Mark Ruffell - cllr.mark.ruffell@basingstoke.gov.uk Sven Godesen - cllr.sven.godesen@basingstoke.gov.uk Onnalee Cubitt - cllr.onnalee.cubitt@basingstoke.gov.uk	346 148 355 359 07762 067 411
COUNTY COUNCILLOR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	Juliet Henderson - juliet.henderson@hants.gov.uk Ranil Jayawardena MP - ranil.jayawardena.mp@parliament.uk House of Commons, London SW1 AOM	07738 289 849 0207 2193 000
MILLENNIUM VILLAGE HALL	Greg Mendelsohn (Chairman) - 2nd alarm contact Angie Fewster (Vice Chair) - 3rd alarm contact Ken Rampton (Caretaker) - 1st contact if alarm goes off Pat Rampton (Lettings Secretary) bookings@cliddesdenhall.org.uk Jo Capehorn (Secretary) 812 657 Julie James (Treasurer) 363 753 website - www.cliddesdenhall.org.uk	842 174 475 848 461 034 461 034 363 753
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN	website - https://cliddesdennp.wixsite.com/cliddesdennp	
CLIDDESSEN COMMUNITY CONSERVATION GROUP	Alison Mosson (Chairman) - alison@abe.co.uk Angie Fewster (Secretary) - angie@fewster.me.uk website - www.cliddesdenconservation.org	352 900 475 848
JOLLY FARMER	facebook.com/The-Jolly-Farmer-cliddesden	07900 646 972
CLIDDESSEN PRIMARY SCHOOL	Kenneth Davies (Headteacher) website - www.cliddesden.hants.sch.uk	321 571
BROWNIES FARLEIGH PLAYGROUP	Sian Banks Claire Nunn 477 197 Melanie Gill 07833 528 040	333 151
ST LEONARD'S DISTRICT CHURCH COUNCIL	Revd Stephen Mourant - stevemourant@btinternet.com Lynda Plenty (Church Warden) - dancetheworld@aol.com Val Gofton-Salmond 474 425 Eamonn Harding (Treasurer) 475 985 website - http://www.farleighcandoverandwield.org.uk	381 217 07974 171022 475 985
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY	Marilyn Smith (Secretary) website - http://ellisfield.org.uk/hortsoc.html	462 584
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE	Pat Rampton (Chairman) 461 034 Rosemary Potter (Secretary) 397 594	
CLIDDESSEN COMMUNITY CHOIR	Ross Palmer - rockaxe@gmail.com	359 413
CLIDDESSEN & FARLEIGH WALLOP EDUCATIONAL TRUST	Vicky Tibble (Secretary & Treasurer) by text to Vicky.tibble@outlook.com and admin@portsmouthestates.co.uk	07552 927692
AGE CONCERN	The Orchard, White Hart Lane, Basingstoke RG21 4AF reception@ageconcernbasingstoke.freemove.co.uk	423 874
B/STOKE ASTRONOMICAL SOC	website - www.basingstokeas.org.uk	
HILL & DALE	Jean Frost (Editor) - hillanddaleeditor@gmail.com Matthew Jones (Cliddesden) 326 318 Ben Maunder (Distributor) 327 859	
VILLAGE ARCHIVE	David Brown - dave.archive@brownsmeet.com website www.cliddesden.jalbum.net	
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