

Claydon Courier

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGE

OCTOBER 2007

PORTABLE WC DEPOT STARTS UP

Villagers have reported a rise in noise and traffic levels since the opening last month of a depot for the storage and cleaning of portable WCs. They also point out the negative visual impact of the operation.



The land off Main Street that is now in use as a depot for portable WCs.

The land - a yard and storage facilities - is located next to Astell Farm Cottage, off Main Street.

It has previously been used for a variety of purposes and the yard was made available to the village in July as a temporary car park for this year's Claydon Festival.

If you have a view on this issue email courier@claydonvillage.net.



VILLAGE BREKKIE BOUNCES BACK

Following the success of the village breakfasts held earlier this year, they will start again this month.

The first is on Sunday 28 October, at 9.30am in the Church Room.

Everyone is welcome - it's a lovely time to meet up with other villagers over a buttie or croissant and a piping hot tea or coffee.

Rvd Pat Freeth

DON'T FORGET! The clocks go back one hour at 2am on Sunday 28 October.



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- Pub websites for dogs

NEW ROAD SIGNS AND SURFACES ... BUT NOT EVERYONE IS HAPPY

The look of roads in the village has changed in the last couple of months as new street signs and road surfaces have appeared.



The new street signs in place

Two cul-de-sacs have been fitted with street signs indicating that they are no-through roads. While the Bignolds Close sign was installed without incident, some Manor Park residents were not impressed with their sign and, according to Cherwell council workers, prevented an initial attempt to install it, though this has since been done.

The signs were requested by villagers at a Parish Council meeting at the beginning of the year to indicate to large vehicles the lack of through access.

And in August Mollington Road was resurfaced from the junction with Main Street out to the Southam Road.

Rather than the traditional asphalt renewal though, the work was done by laying loose gravel chips on a thin bed of tar.

Almost immediately, however, the new surface began to wear through to the old surface.

It appears that work has been done to patch the worst affected areas, but many villagers are less than pleased with the new surface, which also caused damage to some vehicles, as gravel chippings have cracked windscreens and scratched paintwork. Other roads in Oxfordshire are believed to have been similarly treated this year.



Resurfaced and relined, Mollington Rd at the junction with Main Street



The new surface on Mollington Road is already showing signs of wear

BONFIRE NIGHT EVENT SET TO SPARKLE

Claydon's annual Bonfire Night Event will take place on Saturday 10 November. As in previous years the date has been chosen to avoid clashes with school, club and other public displays on or around 5 November.

Financial donations for the firework display are still needed and can be dropped off at Walnut House, Walnut Gardens.



Following the firework display will be an evening of music and dance - a fun opportunity to let your hair down with your neighbours! More details to follow...

Hot BBQ food will be available, as will the usual licensed bar, serving warm mulled wine.

Although no entrance fee is charged, donations will be gratefully taken on the night. Bonfire Raffle Tickets are also now on sale now at £1 each/£5 per book. Prizes include a meal for two at The Inn at Farnborough.

All proceeds from the Bonfire Event will go to improve the Playing Field.

Bonfire Night Schedule

- Kids' activities 6.00pm
- Refreshments start 6.30pm
- Bonfire lighting 6.30pm
- Guy competition 7.00pm
- Firework display 7.15pm
- Evening dance 7.45pm
- Raffle draw 9.00pm



TRICK OR TREAT WELCOME HERE!

Halloween (31 October) falls on a Wednesday this year.

To ensure that the tradition of children trick or treating is enjoyable for all it has been suggested that both householders and trick or treaters adopt a Halloween Code:

Halloween Code

A hollowed-out, lit, pumpkin placed in front of the house or on a front windowsill **or** a cardboard pumpkin shape on the front door says trick or treaters are welcome. Trick or treaters will visit only homes displaying a pumpkin.



BUMPER TURN-OUT FOR

The Church Room was packed on Friday 5 October as more than 40 villagers turned out for a special Harvest Supper.

As the evening's theme was 1940's wartime the Room was suitably decorated with facsimile propaganda posters, Union Jacks and even black-out curtains (whose resemblance to black bin liners was uncanny!).

Villagers who had bought a £5 ration book (entrance ticket) were then treated to a freshly-made hot meal, including sausage plait, onion tart and pumpkin fritters and delicious just-baked bread. Poached pears and toffee apple cake rounded off a very satisfying supper.

An autumnal alcoholic fruit punch and soft drinks were included and villagers were also able to buy beer and wine to slake their thirst.

Lubrication of the vocal chords was certainly needed as the evening continued with entertainment by Janice Hamilton and sister Christie, followed by a sing-along of popular '40s tunes including *We'll meet again*, *Rule Britannia*, *White cliffs of Dover* and many other favourites.

Fun was had by all and huge thanks are due to the organisers for putting together such a terrific spread and bringing back a sense of real village community. Some had even taken up the invitation of dressing 1940's-style and brought an extra sense of authenticity to the evening.



The event raised £400 and half of this will go directly towards restoring the physical fabric of the Church.

The total raised included monies from the Harvest Raffle, with many tickets sold to villagers who were unable to attend the Harvest Supper. The prizes of harvest

hampers and other culinary goodies were drawn at the Harvest Service on Sunday 7 October.

Harvest Raffle Winners

1st: Darren Jordan, Crossing Lane

2nd: Maxine Hay, Main Street

3rd: Lisa Simmons, Bignolds Close

4th: Louise Bryer, Bignolds Close

Others: Angela Ferguson, Robert Adams, Rob Avent, Pat Freeth, Spencer Prestidge, Pete Kearney, Fred Jones, Roger Goldsmith, Robert Millward, Doris Beswick, Sylvia Ingram, Veronica Purdy.

CLAYDON HARVEST SUPPER



The black-out curtains fail to dampen spirits inside the Church Room!



Everyone joins in for a rousing rendition of *We'll meet again*



Delicious harvest hampers and other goodies for the lucky raffle winners



Angela Ferguson, Pat Freeth and Christina Kennedy keep the wartime food coming



All photos: Simon Kennedy

For more village info go to www.claydonvillage.net

VISITORS FLOCK TO RURAL MARKET

The first local Rural Market took place on Sunday 7 October at Boddington Village Hall and was so successful that further markets are planned.

Originally conceived as a farmers' market, the concept was broadened to include a wide mix of stalls - including an evocative display of paintings by members of Claydon's Art Group - that proved immensely popular.

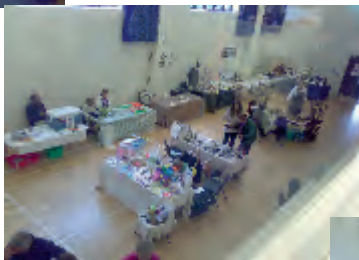


Also on offer was a large range of cards and stationery, handicrafts like wood turning, saddle stitching and jewellery, second-hand furniture and household items and an inspirational photographic display by Badby & District photo club.

Those who were tired after visiting the stalls, which were located on both levels of the hall, were revived by some delicious refreshments.

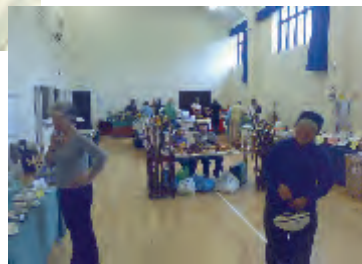
There were many happy winners at the tombola, the proceeds of which went to Katherine House Hospice.

Market organiser Jane Law is delighted with the strong support for the event and is planning to hold the next one on Sunday 18 November.



Over 300 people are believed to have passed through the hall between 10am and 2pm.

Stalls were packed with local produce, including freshly-picked fruit and vegetables, organically raised meat and dairy produce, taste-tling chutneys, pickles and jams and exceedingly good cheesecake.



If you are interested in taking a stall please contact Jane on 01327 261113.

PLAYGROUND'S NEW COLOURS

Children's play equipment in the Playing Field's play area was treated to a lick of paint at the end of September.

Further improvements to Playing Field items are in the pipeline.



TORNADOES BRUSH CLAYDON

A series of mini tornadoes that swept across the South East last month left Claydon unharmed.

Strong winds charged through the village for about half an hour at around 6am on 24 September, but no damage was reported.

NEW BANBURY GUARDIAN CORRE

The *Courier* editor is now also the correspondent for the weekly Claydon entry in the village pages of the *Banbury Guardian*. Many thanks go to Bethany Ferguson who previously held this role.

If you would like your event or activity included please contact Mark Simmons on 690155 or email mark@claydonvillage.net. Deadline is Friday for publication the following Thursday.

KIDS CLUB KEEPS BUSY

The monthly Claydon Kids Club has started again after the summer break. A busy day on October 7 saw village children prepare a play which was presented to an appreciative audience at the Harvest Service that evening.

The next Club will be on Sunday 4 November when activities will be themed around advent. The last Club of the year on Sunday 9 December will include preparations for a presentation at the Christmas Eve Service

We will have free time for play of choice at each session. All sessions will be in the Church Room from 10am - 11.15. Parents and helpers are welcome for a tea or coffee, with a small charge of 50p per person/child to cover cost of refreshments.

Karen Jackson