

Chevron

Welcome to the May Chevron. You should receive a copy of the Annual Parish Report with this issue. This is the first time that a report of this kind has been produced, draft copies have been well received and we hope that you enjoy reading it.

The Parish Annual Meeting on Tuesday 2nd May was very well attended. This special event provided an opportunity for the community to thank **John Laws** (and Sue) for all of his dedicated work with SCC and his splendid work in the Country Park over many years. We wish them a happy retirement...although we know that they will still be very busy!! Following a presentation, many groups and key individuals were able to outline and celebrate the significant work that has been undertaken in and for Clare during the past year. Additionally, Cllr Haisman gave a presentation on the Parish Council's Draft Business Plan for Clare Country Park and progress in terms of negotiations with Suffolk County Council. The presence of Bryn Griffiths from SCC and Damien Parker from St Edmundsbury Council was much appreciated. Our thanks again to the WI for providing tea, coffee and chocolate biscuits! A full report on this meeting will be placed on the website in due course.

Clare becomes a Town Council - After much debate over many years, the Parish Council has decided that our special character as an historic town with a Market Charter and our size relative to other communities should be recognised. We do not propose to have any of the trappings or paraphernalia associated with town councils e.g. mayor, chains of office etc. but we feel that our new status more accurately reflects our aspirations as a thriving and dynamic community and will have greater impact when dealing with local and national government bodies.

Library - Councillors attending a recent conference were pleased to hear that there are no plans to close libraries in Suffolk, or to reduce hours or front-line staff.

Alaric Pugh - Our Borough Councillor will be running an experimental surgery in Clare Library on the first Saturday of each month between 9.30 and 10 a.m. Any resident is welcome to visit the surgery to talk through areas of concern.

Vision 2031 - Councillors have been extremely busy recently responding to St Edmundsbury's Rural Vision document which outlines their proposals for the Borough across the following elements - homes and communities, jobs and the economy, travel, sustainability and climate change, crime and security, infrastructure and services, culture and leisure, health and well-being, education and skills, historic and natural environment.

Specific plans for Clare include three building developments on land east of the Granary, behind Nethergate Street and on Cavendish Road to the east of Stour Valley Community School - the last two developments being scheduled for 2021 - 2031. Whilst broadly welcoming the Borough's Vision, we have expressed our significant concerns over the size of the proposed developments, the current and future burden placed on the current infrastructure (utilities, water treatment etc.) due to lack of SCC and SEBC investment, the need for new buildings to reflect the town's heritage, the possible impact of planned wind turbine developments, the lack of parking, HGV transit and road safety. A copy of our full submission will be placed on the website shortly.

Footpaths in Clare - Are you interested in joining a group of people who's aim is to improve the quality of our footpaths in Clare? The group will work with the Town Council to bring about positive change and in particular to those footpaths that serve the two schools. Contact Cllr Peter Phillips via the Town Clerk on 01787 277559.



CLARE TOWN HALL
CENTENARY CELEBRATION

You are invited to join the Trustees of the Combined Halls of Clare (CHOC)
at the Town Hall on Saturday May 26th 10am to 4pm.

Displays will illustrate the role the Town Hall has played in Clare over the past 100 years and the facilities that are now available. Tea and coffee will be on sale all day and lunches from 12 noon to 1.30 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you.

For more information please phone Rosemary Warmington, 01787 277933 or Olive Smith, 01787 277082,
or speak to any Trustee.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Clare in Bloom planter : Tuesday 8th May from 9.00 a.m.

A new wooden planter will be installed by members of **Clare in Bloom** on Market Hill on Tuesday 8th May from 9.00am. To mark the jubilee a silver-leaved eucalyptus will be its centre piece.



'The Hollow Crown' by John Barton will be performed in the Town Hall on **Monday 28th May at 7.00pm.**

This is an entertaining celebration of England's Kings and Queens in words and music, sometimes in their own words or as observed by those who knew them.

Marking the Royal Jubilee, this is a joint contribution from the Ancient House Museum, Stour Valley Community School and Clare Historical Society.

Tickets: (£5, £3 under 16s) from Hudgies Hardware or Hare's Tail.

Big Picnic in the Park : Sunday 3rd June from 1 - 4 pm

Refreshment tent and bar; live music; hog roast; children's events.

Bring a rug; bring a picnic; bring the family !

Jubilee Beacon : Monday 4th June from 10 pm.

The beacon in the Country Park will be officially lit at 10.15pm on Monday 4th June. There is an online map of all the 4,000 + beacons in the UK at www.diamondjubileebeacons.co.uk.

Senior Citizens' High Tea : Tuesday 5th June 4.30pm - in the Community Centre

Residents of Clare are invited to apply for invitations, either for themselves or for a senior citizen they know and who wishes to come. Places are limited. Ladies are asked to attend with hats; gentlemen with buttonholes. There will be entertainment during the event.

Requests to the Council Office or to Cllr Phil Gryce (see below), with name and address. Invitations will be delivered a week before the event.

Jubilee volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help with our local events:

Big Picnic (Sunday 3rd June): to put up bunting, tenting etc. from 11.00am; to man refreshments/bar tent; to help with childrens' events, 2.30pm; to clear up at the end, 4.00pm.

High Tea for Senior Citizens (Tuesday 5th June): to lay out tables; to prepare food from 1.30pm; to help with serving food; to clear up at the end, 6.30pm.

Kindly contact Cllr Phil Gryce (phil.gryce@clare-suffolk.org.uk; 01787 278 192) to offer your help.

