

# PARISH NEWS



Clare  
Parish Council

ISSUE THIRTEEN - SEPT 2011



## New School for Clare

Stour Valley Community School opened its doors on 6 September 2011 and welcomed its first cohorts of students. Over 170 excited students gathered in the hall to hear Headteacher, Mrs Christine Inchley, say the words that she and the whole of our community have been waiting so long to hear: "Welcome to Stour Valley Community School"

Mrs Inchley explained the educational ethos of the school: "An all round education centered around Maths, English and traditional Sciences enables our 11 - 16 year olds to obtain a thorough comprehension of numeracy, literacy and sciences which enhance life chances. At age 16, having enjoyed learning within the secure and familiar surroundings of our rural community and developed an

understanding of their individual potential, each Student will be best equipped to choose from many further education and vocational options on offer within the wider area."

This has been a long and often hard fought campaign lasting over five years for parents, children and community groups in Clare and the surrounding villages. At last success is ours and Clare has its own secondary school. Congratulations to everyone who has been involved!

Parents of Year 6 children are invited to an Information Evening on 4 October at 7pm and also to Guided Tours of the school at 8.45am on 17, 18 and 19 October. Please go to [www.svcschool.org](http://www.svcschool.org) or call 01787 279342 for further information.

## Fun Day Frolics

The Community Fun Day took place on the Playing Fields on Saturday 23 July. Ably organised by Tilly Mills, Pauline Brown, Pippa Smith, Ryan Wilson and Sharon Benson, the event raised over £1200.

Big attractions were the bouncy castle slide, trips round the field on the fire engine, ballet and cutting open a vehicle in an road traffic accident simulation.

One of the casks of ale had been given to Clare as part of the Village of the Year 2010 competition – its contents were sold as a money-raiser.

The Olympics Open Weekend Fund provided money for a marquee; the Parish Council also put up funds. Local businesses gave generously with their time, goods and prizes.

All in all, a popular success – we look forward to making this an annual event.



Don't forget to visit the Clare website at [www.clare-uk.com](http://www.clare-uk.com)





## Young and old in Clare celebrated the Royal Wedding in traditional style

The CLASP Wednesday lunch club celebrated with tea and cakes on Wednesday 27 April. While on Friday 29 April the children of Clare were invited to a Royal Tea party in the Park. The sun came out just in time for 180 children and families to enjoy a picnic in our beautiful park- the perfect setting for a Royal Tea Party!

Organisers Alison Golding, Claire Kent, Georgina Lovejoy, Tilly Mills and Robyn Sheppard would like to thank the following for their help and support:

Clare Parish Council, Co-op, Asda (Bury), John Laws (Clare Country Park), Café Clare, Clare Middle School, Danielle Taylor (Wraparound Club Clare), Hudgies, Marks and Spencers (Bury), Moo Juice, Mrs Sears, Newsagents, Number One Deli, Passion Flowers, Tesco (Sudbury), The Bell, The Cock Inn, The Swan, Tuckermans, Waitrose (Sudbury) and Clare WI.

"The day was such a success it felt to me that we were also celebrating the community of Clare." Claire Kent



## Cemetery chapel restored

The chapel has now been fully restored – new roof, new block flooring, new door; superior protective screens on the windows; seating in the porch made good; painting throughout. Currently unlit, the cost of installing an electricity supply is being assessed.

It is hoped that it will be open to parishioners on a regular basis for quiet reflection. We are seeking volunteers who may be willing to lock and unlock the door to the chapel on a regular rota basis. Kindly contact the Parish Clerk.

## First Responders grow in numbers

First Responder volunteers are trained to attend emergency calls received by the ambulance service and provide care until the ambulance arrives.

The First Responders are pleased to report that they now have eight trained Responders. One of the latest members of the team is Melanie Butcher, our Parish Clerk. Already a trained Red Cross first aider, she joined the team and has been called out on over ten occasions.

The First responder team are aiming to provide as much coverage as possible throughout our area, which includes Clare, Stoke by Clare and Hundon. We welcome more First Responder volunteers, particularly in Clare.



Training is provided and on call times are flexible. For further information please call the local Coordinator, Martin Lewin on 01787 277961 or their Administrator, Roy Draper on 01787 277747. In an emergency always call 999.





## Clare goes to Chatillon

In mid-July some 70 folk from Clare and environs set off to take part in an 4 day European festival in Châtillon-sur-Indre, France. Other cultural exchanges have previously taken place with this community: footballers, firemen, children.

Comments from our participants paint a lively picture: Delightful hosts, champagne and delicious canapes • lanterns, fire throwers & Chinese lanterns set the scene for an enjoyable stay • inclusivity of the wreath-laying ceremony at the war memorial, as all nations represented came as one to their respects to the victims of war • struck a friendship

with two Belgian entertainers and spent a wonderful evening swapping funny stories • who says the Belgians don't have a sense of humour! • Slovenian hat dance was very funny • the joy on people's faces as we attempted to speak French • Fireworks – fantastique! Like paperweights in the sky • an amazing feat of cross-country organisation.

Clare Art Society had a stand with paintings and drawings of Suffolk. Local children painted an enormous frieze under the guidance of David Gilbert, the organiser.

The local Prefect and the Euro MP opened the international market. Keith Haisman, chair of Clare Parish Council, compered Jeux Sans Frontières competition in three languages. Clare youth narrowly took first place out of the five nations.

We look forward to future exchanges with Châtillon.

## Alaric Pugh - Borough Councillor for Clare

I am delighted to have been elected to represent Clare and look forward to doing my best to uphold the interests of the town at St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

I expect to be in attendance at all Parish Council meetings to report on things that concern Clare at Bury. I will be happy to answer any questions from councillors or parishioners on those occasions.

My reports will be published on the website and the Parish noticeboard.

I have been asked to serve on the following committees and outside bodies:

- Development Control
- Sustainable Development Working Party

- Rural Working Party
- Substitute for Performance and Audit Scrutiny
- Dedham Vale & Stour Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Project



To see me about Borough Council matters at any other time, please call me during working hours on 07930460899.



## Country Park talks

Discussions on the future of Clare Castle Country Park are now with a small group formed from interested parties, including Clare Parish Council, National Trust, Clare Society, Suffolk County Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council. It is hoped that a practical solution to the safeguard the future of the park is found.

## Clare Library

A Tourist Information point has been installed in the Library, following discussions with St Edmundsbury Tourist Office, Clare Tourism Forum and library management. The Tourist Office will regularly supply appropriate leaflets. Local walks will be featured.



## Localism Bill

Councillors are attending meetings regarding the localism bill proposed by the government. This will directly affect the Parish Council as new rights may be given to local communities covering 'assets of community value' (parks, libraries, shops, pubs.....etc), aspects of traffic control and parking, social housing, development infrastructure and planning permission. Local referendums will allow local people to have a greater say.

## Flyposting

Very soon all unlicensed flyposters found on signposts, poles, lampposts and trees that are located in public areas will be removed by our Street Wardens. There is large new notice board in Pashler's Alley. The old one, once renovated, will be placed on the back wall of the Parish Clerk's office in Cock Lane.

## Shop local – save fuel!

Clare has a wide range of facilities for a relatively small population. Local retailers have posted prices that suggest they can equal or better the giants on some products. Small doesn't mean more expensive. Take a closer look and support your local shops.

We welcome the expanded Blue Dog and the Harris & Harris bookshop.

## Stop Press

Clare has just won the Anglia in Bloom trophy for the Best Large Village 2011 – great news for the Clare in Bloom team. The Nuttery also won first prize for Best Conservation project – thanks to Keith Mison and his helpers. The Almshouses were commended for the Courtyard Garden.



Take off from the Country Park, April 2011



## War Memorial

The renovation of the War Memorial in Market Hill is complete. Major degradation was found in the central core of the monument, but this has now been repaired paid for by English Heritage, the Parish Council and Suffolk County Council.

A rededication ceremony of the War Memorial will take place on Remembrance Sunday, 13 November.



**Clare**  
Parish Council

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Don't forget to visit the Clare website at [www.clare-uk.com](http://www.clare-uk.com)

