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Material published in this Newsletter does not necessarily represent opinions of the editors. Material submitted without a full postal address will not be published. Publication of material submitted remains responsibility of the Editors alone.

A near disaster!

Fortunately this bus was not in service when it missed all of the warning signs before ploughing into the notorious low bridge on the A620 between Clarborough and Welham on the sunny afternoon of Wednesday, 21st April, 2010. Police were still directing traffic around remaining debris as evening rush hour approached, although by that time the bus itself had been removed.

Photos by Barrie Codling





And then there was one...

At one time Clarborough boasted three public houses...

The King's Arms

On Main Street, opposite the entrance to the village hall, the *King's Arms* is now the only pub in the village. It dates back to c.1860 although may earlier have been a farm house. The 1881 Census (try www.familysearch.org) records Edward Tinkler (widower) as farmer and also publican of the King's Arms. Edward was born in 1844 at Saltby, Leics.

In the 1960's it was a very popular place at weekends for the local punters who had to arrive early to be sure of a seat.

The pub at this time had three rooms, a large saloon bar where at weekends punters could enjoy a sing song accompanied by organ/piano, a small room where locals would play darts and dominoes and another small room where the older generation tended to gather.

In the late 1980's the small bar serving area and smaller rooms were combined and a larger bar serving area installed. In the 1990's with dining out now popular and key to pub finances; a small restaurant was added

although meals are still served in the larger bar area.

The Black Woman

The first public house to disappear was a public house called the *Black Woman*. Today very few people knew it ever existed let alone knew where it was situated.

The photo facing was taken at the beginning of the 20th century; the pub still appeared on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1921 and was located opposite the King's Arms. It was part of what was known as "Old Oak Cottage" on the left hand side of the driveway that now leads to the Village Hall. It was reportedly one of the oldest buildings in the village.

The dates it first became a public house or the

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last time it was used as such are not known. The last publican was reportedly a Mr. Otter.



After use as a public house it became a bakery, general store (twice) and latterly a Fish & Chip Shop. The building stood right next to the main road but was demolished in the early 1970's providing a small garden for the remaining dwelling house.

Gate Inn

Bereft of all its signs, the last pub to close its doors to the general public was the *Gate Inn*. As a pub it stood alongside the Chesterfield canal for over 200 years.

A building was shown in this location when the canal was opened in 1777. The canal once had a wharf where goods could be loaded/ unloaded from the barges. Whether it was actually built as a pub or storage area is not known.

In the early 1970's it consisted of one large



room with a dividing partition allowing it to be split in two if required. Darts and dominoes were popular pastimes. Gentlemen wishing to relieve themselves had to go outside to an external toilet.

In the 1990's, with dining now a key commercial factor, several changes were made: internal toilets were added, dartboard was removed and a fireplace installed. What used to be part of the landlord's kitchen was converted into a public area and a pool table installed. Initially very popular, eventually this did not pay its way.

A dining area, separate toilets for the diners and a conservatory area for diners were added along with a beer garden. The pub with its reputation for good food became very popular and successful.

The landlord then sold the pub to the Punch Group and leased it back. With the sudden death of the landlord a short while later it was

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never regained that success. There was a quick succession of landlords the longest only holding the tenancy for a year. Whether this was because of the high cost for leasing the and landlords unable to make a decent living or for other reasons is not known.

The pub closed its doors for the last time at Christmas 2008. In mid summer 2009 permission was granted for it to become a private dwelling house.

Charles W. Cave

Full Play ahead

The Play Area Project is now zooming ahead, with all the major funding in place; Play Equipment has been ordered. Site preparation and installation work is taking place in mid-May after new Play area fencing has been erected during April.

Don't miss the Play area 'Grand Opening' which is taking place on Saturday, June 5th at 12 Noon (The Saturday of Clarborough Festival Weekend – see Festival Programme on page 6 of this issue).

There will be a Ribbon Cutting by Two local Schoolchildren: Retford 'Sure Start' team will be along to Face Paint local Children and will also bringing along Soft Toys, and 'Goody Bags' for the Youngsters. Contractors SMP Playgrounds are also bringing small gifts to distribute to local children.

Ann Codling

Vice Chairman, Clarborough & Welham Parish Council.

Hints & Tips

Pay for goods over £100 by credit card. Under the Consumer Credit Act 1974, both the credit card company and the trader, are liable for breaches of contract or misrepresentation.

Faulty goods are the responsibility of the **retailer** – don't be fobbed off with 'contact the manufacturer' or similar; it's the shop's responsibility (Sale of Goods Act 1979).

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Bassetlaw Over 50s Forum

Worksop (The Crossing) 20th May

6th June Retford Town Hall

Worksop (The Crossing) 15th July

13:30 - 15:30 All welcome



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Letter to the Editor

The opinions in this section do not necessarily represent those of the editor. Letters without a full postal address will not be published. The editors reserve the right to edit all letters for publication.

Dear Greg

I have just read the article in the Spring 2010 edition of the Clarborough and Welham **News Letter** re dog fouling, written by Andrew Winfrow and I would like to say how true it is. My husband and I have lived in Clarborough for over 7 years now and have noticed a considerable increase in dog mess recently. For some unknown reason, a few dog owners allow their dogs to foul the pavement and seem unable to either pick up the mess or at least drag their dog into the gutter. Despite notices asking people to clean up their dogs mess, the problem seems to be getting worse. It is horrible to have to clean someone else's dog excrement off yours or your child's shoes and as Andrew Winfrow states it can also be an extremely dangerous health hazard; oh. and not forgetting it is a **criminal offence**. We are not dog haters, in fact totally the opposite; we have owned dogs for 30 years of our 34 year marriage and look after our son's dog from time to time. Because of this we know there is absolutely no excuse for such behaviour. It is disgusting, they should be ashamed of themselves. People are getting fed up with walking in dog excrement, please CLEAN IT UP.

Name and address supplied

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P.S. The following update was received just as the Newsletter was going to press:

'...the situation recently appears to have improved. Either the dogs are being walked somewhere else or, hopefully, these owners are taking a bit of notice and realising how disgusted people are becoming with them.'

Hints & Tips

Rubbing-in? Why spend time (and hard wrist-work) rubbing-in butter when making pastry or other such dishes?

Just put your dry ingredients into the bowl, melt the butter (a quick blast in a microwave does the trick) then drizzle the molten fat into the bowl, stirring vigorously with a fork.

Works really well for crumble too!

Go away with peace of mind that both your pets and home are in safe hands

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Contact Vicki Wilson:

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Clarborough Festival

Planning is now well advanced for a spectacular series of events with one primary aim; to bring together our community on a scale not seen before!

Saturday the 5th of June

Festival weekend commences with guest bell ringers peeling the bells of St John the Baptist.

10.00 a.m. Refreshments available in the Village Hall

11.00 a.m. Summer Fayre begins in the Village Hall

11.45 a.m Opening of the Festival by a **Guest Town Crier**

12.00 a.m. Opening of the new play park

1.00 p.m. Registration for Dog Show entrants

Local crafts and produce stalls

2.00 p.m. Dog show begins

7.00 p.m. Ceilidh in the Village Hall

All day Real Ale Festival & Hog Roast in the Kings Arms

If you are interested in having a stall on either day, please contact Sara Hardie on 01777 705 877 or Becky Hunt on 01777 711 699.

So keep your eyes open for further notices – and get your tickets booked for Saturday evening!

Sunday the 6th of June

9.00 a.m. Car Boot sale begins on the village field

11.00 a.m. Tractor Run through the Village

11.00 a.m. Car Boot sale ends

12.30 a.m. Tractors return to the Kings Arms

From midday onwards:

- Steam Engines
- **Vintage Cars & Motorcycles**
- Vintage Farm machinery
- Local crafts and produce stalls
- **Harworth Corps of Drums**
- Livestock
- **Kings Arms Tug of War Tournament**
- Children's activities
- Refreshments

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Clarborough School Gardening Club

In 2008/2009 the School decided to start a lunch time Gardening Club for the children. Morrison's "Let's Grow" vouchers were collected; a small greenhouse, seeds and other sundry items were ordered. Mr. Brian Grice and Mrs. Dorothy King volunteered to help Mrs. Hartley, Teaching Assistant at School, to set up the Club. Mrs Sewell bought two raised beds and the Club began in May 2009.

Initially only Children from years 5 and 6 were involved but now children from Foundation Stage 2 up to Year 6 are involved.

During 2009 children grew a variety of vegetables which were harvested, then cooked by Mrs Smith & Mrs Willows in the school kitchen for the children to eat with their lunch.

September 2009 saw some of the vegetables entered in the Clarborough & District Club's

Annual Show. Their giant beetroot coming second in the Adult Class and their selection of vegetables gaining First Prize and Junior Cup. During September 2009 the Club also replanted the flower beds in the playground with pansies and bulbs.

The children are very enthusiastic and enjoy coming to the Gardening Club and even during winter when the weather was bad they were still found jobs, like dead-heading the pansies, to keep them occupied.

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When Morrison's announced their "Let's Grow" Scheme again for 2009/2010 the Club registered and began to collect Vouchers. A bigger, stronger, greenhouse was ordered together with two more raised beds, potato bins, a heated propagator, watering can and seeds. Unfortunately not enough vouchers were obtained to purchase compost for the two new raised beds so the Club set up a "Wheelbarrow of Pennies" to raise money for this. Mr. Grice also very generously donated the fee he was given when he gave a talk on "Vegetable Growing" to Clarborough & District Gardening Club.

On the 20th March work began on relocating the gardening area at the School. Slabs, kindly donated by Mrs. Dorothy King (refreshments), were taken from her property to the school site by the hard working volunteers, areas for the slabs were dug out, raised beds were assembled and placed in position. During the week sand, for laying the slabs, was delivered to the car park and had to be transported to the site by wheelbarrow.

On March 27th slabs were laid round the paved areas of the raised beds and during the following two weeks the greenhouse was assembled and placed in position.

Work continues on setting up this new area but thanks must be given to the following who have already given up their time and endeavours to help:-

Mr. & Mrs. Tony Beech, Mr. Charles Cave, Mr Brian Grice, Mr. Andy Hardie, Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Hartley, Mr. Terry Hunt, Mrs. Dorothy King and last but not least

Mr. Kevin Woodward (paviour).



Mrs. Sewell has set the Gardening Club a Challenge for it to produce enough vegetables to feed the whole school one lunchtime "WATCH THIS SPACE"

Article prepared by Mrs. S. Hartley Mr. C.W. Cave

A Grand (Half-) Day Out

Why not visit the **Idle Valley Nature Reserve** on Great North Road (take Tarmac turning)? Contact James Simpson (01777 713 944 or **jsimpson@nottswt.co.uk**).

Alternative, contact Anne Coppen (Notts Wildlfe Trust) on 01777 705 031.

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Clarborough and District Community Association

The Village Hall Programme Summer 2010

Day	Main Hall			Halford Room
Mon	10:00am to 12:00am Parish Office Open (Bennett Room)	2:00pm to 4:00pm Short-mat Bowls All welcome	2 nd Monday in Month 7.00pm to 9.00pm W.I. (Halford room)	Monday 7:00pm Parish Council See elsewhere in this issue for dates
Tue	10:00am to 12:00am Over 50's Keep Fit	1:30pm to 3:00pm IT Group (Halford Room)	7.00pm to 9.00pm Table Tennis All ages	7:00pm to 8:30pm IT Group
Wed			7:00pm to 8:00pm Keep Fit All ages	10:00am to 11:30am IT Group
Thur			5:00pm to 9:00pm Cubs, Beavers, Scouts	
Fri	10:00am to 12:00am Table Tennis All ages		7:15pm to 9:00pm Bingo Entry 50p Incl. Tea and biscuits	
Sat	No regular programme, but watch out for posters advertising events The hall is available for hire, minimum 2 hours, please ring for details			1 st Saturday in Month 2:00pm to 4:00pm Gardening Club
Sun	To book all or part of the Village Hall, ring Vivienne Lilley on (01777) 710 984			

Contact details:

Keep Fit (All ages): Sally on (01777) 869 212 Keep Fit over 50s: Rosetta: (01777) 701 648 Beavers (6-8yrs): Norman (01777) 703 778 Cubs (8-10yrs): Stephen (01777) 711 583 IT Group: Greg (01777) 700 918 or Peg

(01777) 703 058

Bowls Club: Geoff (01777) 703 140 or Chris

(01777) 700 918

Church Wardens: Jim (01777) 703 378 or

Edna (01777) 702 893

Parish Council Meetings

Want you voice heard? Want to get involved? Come to Parish Council meetings at the Village Hall. Forthcoming meeting dates:

May: Monday 24th AGM + Open Public Mtg

July: Monday 5th

All meetings begin at 7:00pm prompt. A public question-answer session usually occupies the first part of each ordinary meeting.

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Oct-April: 10am - 5:30pm (closed Wednesdays)

Sundays closed 4:00pm

A walk on the wild side!

by Fellwalker

National Grid References

It does not matter which scale of OS map you have, the way of using them is the same. Great Britain is divided into 100km squares the sides of which run south to north and west to east. Each of these squares is given a double letter reference - the letters for the area including Clarborough is SK. This area stretches from Doncaster in the north, Stokeon-Trent in the west, Leicester in the south and Lincoln in the east.

Grid References - what are they?

These 100km squares are sub-divided into 1km squares, the western side of which are numbered 0 to 99 west to east with similar numbering from south to north. These 1km divisions are shown on OS maps as a series of vertical and horizontal lines in pale blue. Because these look like a grid on the map they are called - you guessed it - Grid Lines! All OS maps are printed with South at the bottom and West to the left when held with the print the correct way to be read. Along the edges of the map you will see that the vertical grid lines are numbered from left to right with the horizontal lines from the bottom upwards. On more modern maps (both Explorer and Landranger) this numbering is repeated, at intervals, across the face of the map to make life easier! Map sheets do not usually start at zero because each sheet is only a part of a 100 km square, some will involve parts of two or more 100 km squares. By using these lines, a Grid Reference can be worked out which makes it possible to locate a point to within a 100m square. On any particular map the numbering of the grid lines depends on the particular map in use.

Because the numbers go west to east the vertical lines are called *Eastings*, similarly, the horizontal lines are called *Northings*.

A Four figure Grid Reference

To find the Grid Ref of point X:

Find the value of the line forming the west side of the square containing X - this is 57.

The line to the south of the square has a value of 19. The Grid Ref is 5719.

This gives a location to within a 1km square.

A Six Figure Grid Reference

Estimate how many tenths from line 57 point X appears. About $^{7}/_{10}$.



The Easting is now 577.

Similarly point X is 3/10 above Northing 19.

The Northing is now 193.

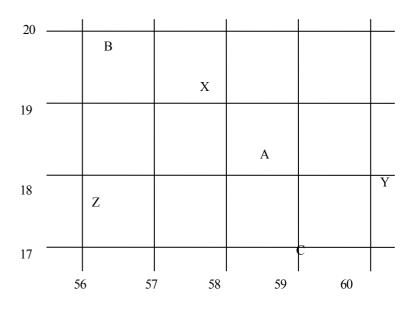
The 6 figure Grid Ref is 577193. (No space or comma!) As each $^{1}/_{10}$ of a square is 100m, this gives a location to within a 100m square. Much more precise!

For point Z the Easting is 562 and the Northing is 177. The 6 figure Grid Ref. is, therefore, 562177. For point Y the Easting is 602 with the Northing as 180 as the point is on the 18 grid line. The 6 figure Grid Reference is 602180. Six figure references are the ones usually used by people walking.

Homework: Now try Grid References for points A, B and C (answers next time!).

More detail

8 or 10 figure Grid References can be used. This gives a location to within 10 metres or 1 metre respectively. If point Z on the grid above was in the Clarborough area



then the full **National Grid Reference** would be SK562178. This allows anyone to locate point Z in Britain to within 100 metres.

NB: The advice in these articles is all given in good faith but the author cannot accept any liability for errors, omissions or incidents which may occur to those following this advice. If in doubt, don't do it!



From your District Councillor

This year every District Councillor received a grant of £1000 to spend in their Ward. With this I have been able to help 10 clubs/ committees in the villages of Clarborough and Welham, Hayton and Clayworth which has made me more aware of some of the needs in the area. Next year's grant begins after the election so if you know of a deserving cause which would benefit do get in touch. I continue to attend the usual meetings - for example in March there were 26 of various kinds. One really interesting one was that of the North East Bassetlaw Forum where 8 Parish Councils have been joined together since 2004 and meet 4 times a year to identify specific needs of the area where they are able to help each other. All Parish Councils are encouraged to group together if they feel it could be of benefit. Another productive meeting was that of our own Clarborough Events Committee who are planning a weekend of exciting events in June. They are incredibly well organised and I can't wait till all the activities begin. Let's hope the sun shines!

Kath Sutton

From your County Councillor

Winter seems now just a memory and I am mindful that Spring also closed the financial year for councils. This means that the Councillors Initiative Fund started afresh in April; this is an amount of money, each year, available for the County Councillors to give in grant form. It isn't a lot, but sometimes a small

grant can mean a lot to an organisation that is struggling financially.

To give you a better idea as to who can apply I list some recipients in Clarborough & Welham:

towards a tea urn/equipment in the community facility at St John's Church; towards a replacement marquee for the Scouts; towards the Christmas Party for senior citizens; towards a new bowls mat for the Bowls Club; towards extra insulation for the village hall and the primary school for the DARE project.

If you feel you are in need of funding for your group and the above has given you some ideas, contact me next month for a chat. I already have a project pending for planting some planters in conjunction with A1 Housing, I am waiting to hear from them with respect to this.

There is also the Local Initiative Scheme at the County Council that the Parish Council will have had a letter about recently, it is being launched with an offer to all villages and towns of either a seat or notice board to be installed in their area. It is then open for applications that are for improvement schemes that will enhance the environment in the villages.

If you have any concerns or issues you can ring me any time on 01777 860219 or email cllr.liz.yates@nottscc.gov.uk

Liz Yates

FITNESS CLASSES AT CLARBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday: Aerobics 19:00 -20:00

also: East Markham Village Hall 09:45 – 10:45

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Meet Dave Airey, your local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) and an important member of your local Safer Neighbourhood policing team.

When he became a PCSO three and a half years ago, Dave fulfilled a schoolboy ambition because he always wanted to be a police officer but in those days he wasn't tall enough to make the grade.

But now Dave is the PCSO on the Clayworth and Sturton beat, a large area that takes in around 15 villages on the east of Bassetllaw.

Although not police officers, PCSOs play a vital role in helping to police an area and protecting the quality of life in Neighbourhood areas.

Dave – like all the other PCSOs – is employed by Nottinghamshire Police. They all wear a uniform and by providing a visible, reassuring presence across the area, they are important members of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

Dave's daily routine involves working alongside regular police officers, special constables and local authority wardens who all go to make up your local Safer Neighbourhood Team.

A PCSO's duties include taking part in proactive policing operations, dealing with truants, graffiti, abandoned vehicles and litter problems, giving crime advice and assisting with house to house enquiries, dealing with anti-social behaviour, patrolling public events and liaising with local Neighbourhood Watch and other community groups.

Dave really enjoys his work "It's perhaps a little late to talk about fulfilling a boyhood ambition, but it's true." said Dave. "I really did want to be a police officer when I left school."

And Dave wants to get to know as many people on his "patch" as possible but with more than 4,000 residents and over 1,700 dwellings on his beat that is no easy task.

"But I am willing to attend events, meetings and engagements whenever possible, if contacted in advance by the leader of the group," said Dave.

Dave can be contacted at Harworth Police Station (0300 300 9999 ext. 807 7364) or on 07525 226 838.

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Turned Out Nice Again

We often speak of the 'wisdom of Solomon' when considering biblical characters. There is little doubt that this wise old man of the Old Testament knew a thing or two. I am reminded of how pertinent his comments are, when we read in the 2nd chapter of Solomon: "...the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. ...the flowers appear on the earth and the time of singing has come."

After the bitter winter we have come through, many of us will feel like singing as we look forward to sunnier days and the blessings of Spring. Doubtless there have been winters as cold if not colder than the 2009 to 2010 one and families of a bygone age would have been less than impressed by our moans!

After such a winter we have the reassurances of Spring; higher temperatures and new life in both the plant and animal kingdoms. After a very bad season weather wise, God made the promise that "...while the earth remains, seed time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease. That is quite a promise even though some times the harvest is poor and crops not all that they should be. Hopefully we can anticipate a good growing season - pleasing for both gardener and farmer alike. Then we can enjoy the gifts that God provides for each and everyone of us - vegetables and fruit that we can enjoy healthily.

It is a matter of conjecture whether the uncertain weather patterns are the result of

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'climate change'- time will tell. It seems true to say that extremes of weather are now occurring more than in the past with droughts, flooding, and greater turbulence in the atmosphere. What the eventual outcome will be is a matter of debate and one that will keep many of us debating for a long time. One thing's for sure; the weather will always be a talking point when all else fails.

Jim Keating

Editor's note: climate change is a vital, scientific, debate – no doubt. It is worrying, therefore, that a recent survey of our MPs revealed that 584 out of 650 described themselves as having no political interest in science and technology! (New Scientist, 24th April, 2010) Can a modern state really afford such a situation? Scientists are interested in politics - Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany, holds a science doctorate, so shouldn't we expect a significant proportion of our representatives to at least take an active interest in the sciences?

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Do you go to the WI?

Oh no thanks, that's not for me! I'm a modern woman. As busy as can be, If I have a minute, I sit and watch TV.

Have you got a minute now? I'll tell you things to do.

Have you ever abseiled down steep cliffs or walls.

Bent your back and knees to roll the big black balls.

Stood on the oche, to throw a mean dart, Sung in the choir, singing with all your heart. Gone down white waters in a canoe? I bet you haven't; the WI do.

Sometimes there's a demo, with many things to do.

Woodwork, Pottery, Cooking to name just a few.

If it's your ambition to do a great deal more, Visit Denman, learn crafts and hobbies, subjects by the score.

Day trips out, to who knows where: Stately homes, shopping, seaside we don't really care,

There's life in the WI ladies, quite lively would you believe,

If you don't think so; pay us a visit. Come and see!

Poem by Marjorie Barthorpe

the WI

If you wish to know more please contact one of the following officers:

Margaret Campbell: President 01777 702 179

Lesley Baines: Secretary 07967 191 007

Glenis Bennett: Treasurer 01777 704 711



Strawberry Tea



Tuesday 29th June 2-4pm

at the home of Mr & Mrs L.Cobb

Manor Barn, Main Street, Clarborough in aid of WI funds & Senior Citizens' Christmas Party

Bring & Buy Tickets - £3.00 Raffle

See page 9 for WI meetings schedule.

AN OPEN INVITATION FROM CLARBOROUGH AND DITRICT WI

We cordially invite old friends and new to an open meeting on

Monday 14th June 2010 at 7:15pm at Clarborough Village Hall

in celebration of our 49th Birthday.

Our guest for the evening will be Maggie Rampley talking about

"Ouotes and Girl Talk"



Please come and join us at no cost for a Buffet Supper with Wine and help to make it a lovely evening for everyone.

St.John the Baptist Church
Clarborough & Welham
Services to August, 2010

Services to August, 2010							
Date	Date Clarborough		Hayton				
9 May Easter 6		6:00pm Evensong					
13 May Ascension Day	9:00am Holy Communion	7:30pm Holy Communion					
16 May Ascension1	9am Holy Communion						
23 May Pentecost		6:00pm Holy Communion	11:00am Morning Worship				
30 May Trinity	Fifth Sunday service at Wheatley MC @ 10:30am		9:00am Holy Communion				
6 June Trinity 1	9:15am Holy Communion						
13 June Trinity 2			9:15am Holy Communion				
20 June Trinity 3	9:15am Holy Communion						
27 June Trinity 4		6:00pm Patronal Festival Holy Communion					
4 July Trinity 5			10:00am Patronal Festival				
11 July Trinity 6		6:00pm Evensong					
18 July Trinity 7	9:15am Holy Communion	Invited to a united service (6:30pm) at New Life Church, Bridgegate					
25 July Trinity 8		6:00pm Holy Communion	11:00am Morning Worship				

1 August Trinity 9	9:15am Holy Communion		
8 August Trinity 10		6:00pm Evensong	9:15am Holy communion
15 August Trinity 11	9:15am Holy Communion		
22 August Trinity 12		6:00pm Holy Communion	9:00am Morning Worship
29 August	All meet at Kathy's Barn for service and picnic: 4:00pm		

On Sundays, when the main service is elsewhere, transport can be arranged for those needing it. Reminder: **Beetle Drive** takes place on the last Monday of each month and the **Friendship Club** is held on the second Wednesday of each month.

Please contact the Church Wardens either to offer transport, request help or for details of these events.

Barrie Codling Photography



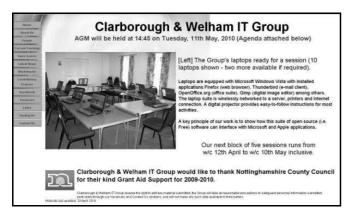
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IT Group: now with our own Website



With support from Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) the IT Group has launched its own website. Although still very much 'under construction' the website already provides access to the most recent Clarborough & Welham Newsletters in pdf (Portable Document Format) as well as up-to-date information about our services.

Of particular interest is the **Open Source** section, which not only provides background articles about this influential concept, but also links to downloads of the most popular Open Source applications. Since all of these are FREE, any serious user of a computer really ought to find out what is on offer.

Currently, the main applications listed include (Microsoft's equivalent in brackets):

Web browser: Firefox (Internet Explorer)

E-mail Client: **Thunderbird** (Outlook

Express)

Office Suite: OpenOffice.org*

(Microsoft Office)

Image Editor: **Gimp** (No Microsoft

equivalent – but similar to

Adobe PhotoShop)

These applications provide the bedrock of IT Group courses. *This Newsletter is edited and published using OpenOffice.org.

www.cwitgroup.btik.com

Hints & Tips

Tired of typing www. to access websites? Try this little trick; enter the 'core' of your chosen website's address into your web browser's address bar (e.g. *bbc/news* for their online news) hold down CTRL and tap the ENTER key. Occasionally it gets it wrong, but it's often a handy shortcut.

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