

## School News – Justin Murray

*Head Teacher of St. Mary's School gives an update for the new academic year.*

St Mary's CE Primary School has had an exciting start to the new academic year, filled with positive changes to enhance our students' learning experience.

Over the summer, we continued significant building work, which will provide additional learning space, freshly redecorated class-rooms, and renovated cloakrooms. These improvements have created a vibrant, welcoming environment that inspires both pupils and staff.

We are delighted to report that the children have settled back into school life smoothly. Their enthusiasm for learning is infectious, and it's wonderful to see how quickly they've adapted to their updated surroundings, new classrooms and teachers.

This year, we are particularly excited about promoting our ethos of learning outside the class-room, with a strong focus on maths and science. By connecting traditional teaching with real-world experiences, we hope to spark curiosity and a deeper understanding in these key subjects.

The entire St Mary's community is looking forward to an engaging and successful year, fostering growth, creativity, and a love for learning in every child. We thank everyone involved for their support in making this difference, and we can't wait to see the positive impact it will have!

## A Parish View – Colin Humphris

*The news has been dominated by the fire at Arun Waste on the Bairds Business Park.*

This was a real wake up call for the village. Thankfully no direct injuries were reported as a result of the incident, but it has clearly been a very unpleasant time for many residents affected by the acrid smoke and the traffic chaos.

West Sussex Fire and Rescue, the landowner, plant operator and other agencies all worked hard to bring the incident under control to minimise harm to the community and to our environment and to start the slow clear up.

There will be an investigation, and the Parish Council will want to understand the causes of the fire, how these might be avoided, and how the fire was managed - those things that went well in addition to those that could be improved. There will be talk of lessons learned but we will want to see findings implemented appropriately across the many similar waste activates in Clymping and Ford - at South Coast Skips, TJ Waste, Viridor and Grundon. We must reduce the risks to the community and other businesses.

West Sussex County Council chose to concentrate waste handing activities here and it is now appropriate for this strategy to be questioned. There is a lot of new housing coming, additional homes that themselves will produce yet more waste that needs to be handled. How do we ensure they coexist safely?

On other topics little has changed, the archaeologists have left the field and their diggings, but there is still no news on finds and drain-age. The Rampion inspectors are considering their report for end year publication. The first winter storm arrived in August! This does not bode well for the autumn and we have raised questions about improvements to the bund with the Environment Agency.

.. but oh, what a joy to see so many enjoying the summer event at the Village Hall and playing fields. A big thank you to Anne Miller and those who volunteered to make it all happen!

## Clymping Beach Update – Sarah Lupton

*The Environment Agency provides an update on the beach.*

Following our public safety works in the spring, the beach continues to evolve at Clymping, creating a more natural coastline as it adapts to the removal of beach structures. There are areas along the coast where small rocks have accumulated creating rocky habitat covered in a range of seaweed as pictured.



There is larger debris east of Clymping Street which has been pushed further seaward by the tides, much of this material is not vegetated and is no longer breaking up wave action. We are working with the landowner to identify what material can be removed without accelerating coastal erosion here.

The shingle banks performed well during the high spring tides in August. The Environment Agency are not planning any further works on the beach this year, aside from incident response work, routine monitoring and surveys.

Last year we applied to 'stop up' (remove highways status and rights) the end of Clymping Street to allow the shingle bund to continue over the highway and for us to remove the tarmac before it enters the marine environment. This application is still on-going although nature has already moved shingle over the highway here. The same process will need to be followed to 'stop up' the end of Bread Lane to allow us to close the gap between the shingle defences. We are working with our partners to progress through the formal application process.

## Clymping Open Gardens

*Would you like to participate?*

St Mary's Church will be organising a very special Clymping Open Gardens day on Saturday 14th June 2025, celebrating it's 25th anniversary. They are looking for as many gardens as possible to showcase our lovely community.

As before, minibuses will be taking visitors round to participating gardens all day, from 10am till 5pm, and there will be further attractions at the Church Hall, including morning coffee, lunches, afternoon teas and various stalls.

If you would be willing to open your garden, or to help in any other way, please contact Colin Morris:  
via email: [colin.morris80@outlook.com](mailto:colin.morris80@outlook.com)  
via phone: 07740 213521

**flower  
illustrations**



Visit the Facebook group page to see more upcoming events! Scan the QR Code or search Clymping Parish Council in Facebook.

**Skitties Night**  
Friday 25th October 2024  
Clymping Village Hall  
Anne [last name, number/  
email]

**Community Coffee Morning**  
Saturday 7th December  
10.30am-noon  
Clymping Village Hall  
Anne [last name, number/  
email]

All are welcome!

## Dates for the Diary

**quick  
contacts  
page**

# Clymping Village News

**what photo  
for cover??**

September 2024 Issue

**Welcome to the September  
edition of the Clymping Parish  
Council newsletter!**

Over the last few months the Parish Council has been considering a plan to improve resilience in the event of an emergency. The importance of this planning has been brought home to us by the recent fire which has affected us all. If you would like to get involved in shaping the plan please contact me via email at [jnunes.cpc@gmail.com](mailto:jnunes.cpc@gmail.com)

We are also sending out with this newsletter a short questionnaire that aims to identify local resources skills that could be used in an emergency. Please take the time to complete it and return to me at the email address given above, or post to the address on the form.

Communication is another area that the Parish Council is working on. With that in mind, we have set up a new Facebook group with the aim of letting the village know what is going on with regard to planning applications, and events in the village as well. It will also provide a space to go for information when something unexpected occurs. If you would like to join the group, find us under Clymping Parish Council on Facebook.

## Bat Talk & Walk



Thank you to those who came out on a cold and rainy evening to the Bat Walk & Talk at the Village Hall. Paul Stevens gave a really interesting and enjoyable talk, and we then ventured out along the tree line of the playing fields in search of bats with our bat detectors. Even in less than ideal conditions we saw three different species of bat, the common pipistrelle, the soprano pipistrelle and the serotine (which is one of our bigger bats).

### COMMON PIPISTRELLE



The common pipistrelle is our smallest and most common bat. All UK bats are nocturnal which means they prefer to come out only at night. They feed on midges, moths and other flying insects that they find in the dark by using echolocation. They roost in tree holes, bat boxes and even the roof spaces of houses, often in small colonies. During the summer, females form maternity colonies and have just a single pup each. They hibernate over winter, usually between November and April, but may come out to feed on warm days.

### SOPRANO PIPISTRELLE



The soprano pipistrelle is small in size, with brown fur, black wings and a black face. They are almost identical in appearance to the common pipistrelle but the soprano is slightly smaller. The most reliable way to distinguish the species is by the frequency of their echolocation calls.

### SEROTINE

photo of  
serotine bat

The serotine is one of our largest bat species and one of the first to appear in the evening, often when it is still fairly light. It flies at treetop height and around lamp posts, using echolocation to hunt for flies, moths and chafer beetles. Serotines tend to roost and hibernate in older buildings and chimneys, and are rarely found in trees. During summer the females form maternity colonies and have a single pup.

Information supplied by The Wildlife Trust.  
Thank you to Clymping Parish Council for sponsoring this talk.



## High Flyers

Phase 2 of the installation of swift boxes, house martin and swallow nests is underway. In Phase 1 earlier this year we installed 9 swift boxes and 15 house martin nests. We had great success with the swifts with 4 of the boxes known to have been used which is extremely unusual for the first year.

Swifts return every year so we are really hopeful of seeing them again next year. The house martins were also active, and helped by the archeological dig on the field south of Horsemere Green Lane, which provided mud for their nests. Phase 2 will install 19 swift boxes, 9 house martin nests and 1 swallow nest, helped by a generous grant donation from Sussex Ornithological Society.

We are so delighted that this project has caught the imagination of residents and we look forward to our 'High Flyers' returning next spring.