

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

February 2012

What's On In February

Thursday 2: White Horse Quiz Night

Friday 3: Parents forum, Bemerton St John school 09.30

Friday 3: 6 Nations Eve mixed grill night at The White Horse. Matches will be shown at weekends - basket meals available

Monday 13: school half term begins

Tuesday 14: Valentine's dinner at The White Horse 18.30 - 21.00

Tuesday 14: WI Village Hall 19.30

Tuesday 21 Shrove Tuesday Pancakes at the White Horse

Thursday 23 Bus pass lunch with Claire Routh, Wiltshire Good Neighbours

Friday 24 open meeting of Jubilee Street party group: 19.00 The White Horse

Bus pass lunches continue on Mondays and Thursdays

Music Quiz Organised by Rich Stokes to raise Jubilee funds. Watch for a notice in the White Horse.

WI January meeting

Fourteen members heard an interesting talk from Hazel Gillingham about three remarkable women who helped found and shape the WI. Members were challenged to think of three women they considered remarkable and then rank them, a discussion that involved some hard thinking about values and what is remarkable.

Members then talked about photos they had brought of remarkable women in their lives, including a stepdaughter, a godmother and Aung Sang Suu Kyi .

Next meeting: a talk about the Salisbury Playhouse archives. Members are invited to bring a theatre programme that is special to them.

What's on elsewhere

Sunday 5 Free concert at South Wilts Sports Club Pavilion, 19.00 : *London based singer-songwriter Kaz Simmons, plays Spanish and Brazilian classical guitar styles with jazz, pop and folk influences. All welcome.*

Saturday 18 Eco Park Public Meeting, 11.00 Michael Herbert Hall, Wilton.

Tuesday 21 Bemerton Film Society: The Umbrellas of Cherbourg 19.00 for 19.30 St John's school. *A love story in song, a musical "as bright and beautiful as any you've seen," happy ending not guaranteed.*

Friday 24 Open evening for residents, South Wilts Sports Club Pavilion. Access from Wilton Road From 19.00

Church News

Salisbury Churches Big Jubilee Weekend: there are great plans for 2 and 3 June - if you'd like to know more, come to a special meeting at St.Paul's, 7:30pm on 8 February

The Late, Late, Late, Epiphany Barn Dance : Put your best dancing shoes on! At St.Michaels with Methodists, Catholics and anyone else who'd like to be there. 19:00pm 18 February, donations at the door.

Lent starts on Wednesday 22 February. Sadly no pancake parties this year, Ash Wednesday service St.Michael's, 19.30

George Herbert Remembered : The annual commemoration service: Evensong at St. Peter's, Fugglestone. 26 February 17.00 Guest speaker: Revd. Jennifer Totney. Refreshments afterwards.

A new partnership for Quidhampton Mill Lesa and Marin Drewett are pleased to report that while enjoying the luxury of five star bed and breakfast accommodation their guests can also use the facilities of Parkwood Health and Fitness, London Road, Salisbury. This means that for only £6 a day guests have unlimited access to the indoor swimming pool, gym, sauna, steam room, jacuzzi and fitness classes. Or they can pay full price for a spa treatment and then have free access to the other facilities. Lesa thinks they are the only b&b or hotel in the area to offer this. What a good idea! Have you seen the price of hotel spa breaks?!

Congratulations

Steve Wales and Helen Kirby of Sun Meadow Lodge, Fisherman's Reach got engaged on Christmas Day. How romantic! Will there be a Meadowfest wedding to look forward to?

Richard Stokes's daughter Sam gave birth to Tia Jane on 5 January. Tia weighed 7 lbs 13 oz and according to her besotted grandfather is "gorgeous."

Famous neighbours

You may know that local author, Vikram Seth of the Old Rectory, Lower Bemerton, was on Desert Island Discs in January but did you know that another Lower Bemerton resident is closely connected with TV's 'Call The Midwife?' Terri Coates (aka Terri Scott Jupp of Church Lane), midwife and lecturer, is technical adviser to the series and not only that, she encouraged the author to write the books in the first place.

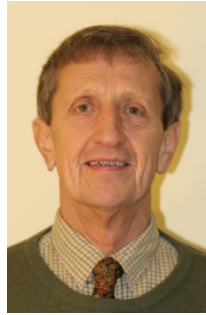
Editors note: The village paper boy, Nathan McMenamin would like to thank everyone who gave him tips at Christmas - he's not been able to thank you all personally. And I'm sure I speak on behalf of the village in thanking him for giving us our papers so early every morning.

Community Emergency Plan

All villages are required to have a written emergency plan - actually, more a list of organisations, contacts and resources with action to be taken. This should steer us through an emergency within the Parish, for example: flooding of homes, a major road or rail accident, a helicopter crash-landing in our midst.

Hopefully, none of these will ever happen but it would be sensible to have an agreed list of procedures just in case.

John Cater of Osier House, Fishermans



Reach has volunteered to co-ordinate the production of Quidhampton's Community Emergency Plan (i.e. he will do the work). He says: "Much of this information is already available: the only trouble is it's not

written down and being comparatively new here I do not know what it is."

To collect this information John is distributing a letter with questions to villagers he knows and will follow it up with short one-to-one meetings. He wants people to recommend others he can talk to and hopes others will contact him directly. In fact he says he would welcome input from *everyone* in the village.

You can contact John on 744079. He will be delighted to hear from you.

Keep snapping! Don't forget the Quidhampton Photo Competition

Village events, village people, village views. Open to everyone, no professionals. Extra prizes for villagers

You can enter four photos in each category taken between May 2010 and May 2012 Full details in the next newsletter

Jubilee celebrations: January meeting

More than 20 villagers were at the meeting, with others sending promises of help. Enthusiasm was high for marking the Queen's diamond jubilee, particularly with an event that needed a road closure!

Events decided:

- a family street party and barbecue on Saturday 2 June, working group led by Chris Edge of Hampton Court (tel: 500070)
- an evening Jubilee Bop for adults on Monday 4 June, working group led by Ron Smith of Dairy Farm House (tel: 743006)

The street party would be under the auspices of the parish council who has to arrange the road closure.

Other ideas: bunting throughout the village (bunting workshops?), gardens with red white and blue plants, a project to clear Boyes Wood of litter and build a bridge over the river there, Jubilee mugs for all village children, the Olympics to be marked separately perhaps a village sports day combined with a fete.

Historical precedent: Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee

Bea Tilbrook read out the following extract from the Bemerton Parish magazine for May 1897 to some amusement and indeed cheering during the second paragraph:

There was a large attendance at the Public Meeting held in the Schoolroom on April 26th to decide how the Queen's Diamond Jubilee should be celebrated in the Parish. It was decided by a large majority that feasting should be the order of the day in preference to any more permanent memorial and June 22nd was fixed as the date for the celebration.

Unfortunately the Quidhampton inhabitants, rejecting the old adage that "Unity is Strength," declined to amalgamate with

Bemerton, so the Parish is to be divided even in its festivities.

Later news:

- Both the street party group and the parish council have met and it has been decided: the parish council will apply for a road closure on 2 June from Footshill to the junction with Netherhampton Road.
- the parish council will apply to the south west area board for a grant to cover some of the costs associated with the street party
- the parish council will underwrite the two main events but expects to receive realistic budgets
- there will be a family disco and hogroast after the street party (subject to availability)
- the street party dress code will be 'something from the past 60 years' so you can wear your favourite outfit ever or something outrageous
- close family and friends and ex-villagers can be invited - numbers to be notified in advance.

An anonymous donor has offered to buy Jubilee mugs for all the children in the village (16 years and under) if funding cannot be found from elsewhere for this traditional celebratory gift.

How can you help?

1. Come to the **OPEN MEETING of the Jubilee Street Party group** at 19.00 on Friday 24 February at The White Horse. This is an ideas meeting: you will not get bogged down with talk of timings or finances or asked to become an organiser: the group wants to hear ideas for the day's activities and to find out what people want to happen.
2. Bunting: Collect material for bunting, start a bunting workshop, beg borrow or steal bunting - let's see how much of Lower Road can be decorated!

Wiltshire Good Neighbours scheme is extended to Quidhampton



The editor talked to Claire Routh, Good Neighbours Co-ordinator for Wilton and Quidhampton, to discover what the scheme is and what difference it will make.



The Good Neighbours scheme is funded by Wiltshire Council to help older people in rural communities. It aims 'to enable and empower older and vulnerable residents to make full use of the services they are entitled to, services that can help them live safe, comfortable, fulfilling and independent lives.'

Reassuring words but what do they mean in practice? I asked Claire to describe how she has been able to help people in Wilton. She explained that Wiltshire Good Neighbours is an enabling service. The co-ordinators are not befrienders, neither do they fill in forms for people. Instead they help people do things for themselves by putting them in touch with other agencies, providing the correct forms etc.

She gave me several examples. The service is confidential so nothing here can identify individuals.

- A 75 year old with heart problems was given information to enable her to buy the best mobility scooter, and to get forms to apply for more suitable housing with advice about what to put on the forms
- An elderly couple with care needs were helped in several ways: Claire put them in touch with Handihelp who do small maintenance jobs for older and disabled people at reduced rates, with the Link scheme to provide a befriender for the husband, with the local lunch club for social contact for the wife and with Adult Care Services who arranged some adaptations in their house.
- A local supermarket agreed to do a home delivery for a blind client while the neighbour who usually did the shopping was on holiday
- A client whose relationships with neighbours and the authorities had broken down was supported in talking to them and guided to ask for help in the future
- A very elderly client was given a list of gardeners recommended by Age UK and helped to use the Citizens Advice Bureau to find out about wills.
- A couple who had spent hundreds of pounds on taxis for hospital appointments and who were dreading the costs of a future operation were told about the transport provided by the Link scheme.

All these services are available to everyone so some people reading this may be wondering why the clients hadn't already made use of them. If you've had anything to do with elderly or vulnerable people, however, you realise that when people are most in need of help they are often least able to act for themselves. There can be many reasons for this including confusion, ill health, lack of confidence or depression. A helping hand is just what people need.

Part of Claire's helping hand is that once she has seen a client and discussed what needs to be done she calls a couple of weeks later to see what has happened and whether the agencies have done their job. This follow up is one of the things that makes the service so effective. It has won a Wiltshire award for "making the most difference at community level".

Another reason for its success locally must be Claire herself. Having met her I can see that she is thoroughly professional while at the same time being approachable, a good listener and very efficient. Wiltshire Good Neighbours say that the co-ordinator should "become a friendly and familiar face in their community" and I am sure that will happen here as it has in Wilton.

How will it work in Quidhampton?

Your chance to meet Claire informally is on Thursday 23 February when she will be at the bus pass lunch at The White Horse from midday. You don't have to buy a lunch - just go along for a chat.

You can contact her directly :07557 110413 or email gncarea05@communityfirst.org.uk And if you think a neighbour or friend needs help but is reluctant to take the first step contact Claire *with their permission* and she will ring them.

Don't think your problem is too small or inappropriate. She's as happy to tell you about computer courses for beginners as to recommend full benefit checks.

Who is our local good neighbour co-ordinator?

Claire graduated in 2000 from the University of Wales College Swansea with a Diploma in Social Work and a Masters degree in Applied Social Studies. She did community and youth work before having children. When her youngest child started school last year this job came up which seemed perfect - part-time and related to her qualifications and experience.

She has enjoyed working with older people and feels privileged to be able to visit them in their homes. Her favourite part of the job is when she can link people up with a service and make a real difference to their lives.

Something to think about

When asked what was the most common problem she had to deal with Claire said, without hesitation: loneliness. So many older people can be very isolated these days. She refers people to befriending services but nothing beats living in a real community where people look out for their neighbours.

A message from John:

(there's still only one person you mean when you say John in Quidhampton):

Dear Bea

When we had the bonfire night at the Pub someone borrowed my double extension ladder but I can't remember who. Please could you ask in the Newsletter if anyone still has it as I would like it returned to me or I will collect it as I now need it. (No, Janice is not taking up window cleaning.)

Thanks, John

Moira Packer of the **Friends of Bemerton St John school** writes: Thanks very much to everyone who supported the jewellery and coin collection in October.

Everything's been valued and we've got a cheque for £130. We used this money to help pay for a story teller to visit the school at the start of this term. It was a lovely way for the children to get back into school after the break.

Things are getting worse

Despite a plea in the newsletter and the vigilance of several villagers the problem of dog fouling is worse in the middle of the village. Residents of Alexandra Cottages find themselves stepping in it as they walk to their cars in the morning. How can dog owners think it is OK to leave dog mess there and along the path to the playground? This path is used by people walking back to the village from the bus, sometimes in darkness. Worse than this: dogs are being allowed into the playground and at least one

toddler was "covered" in dog mess recently.

The law is clear: Dog owners must pick up any mess made by their pets in public places such as roads, footpaths, playing fields, and parks. Wiltshire Council enforcement officers can issue on-the-spot fixed penalty notices and refer offenders for prosecution. A court fine could be £1000.

The parish council discussed this at the last meeting. They asked that the medical details of toxocariasis be published in the newsletter.

Toxocariasis

Toxocariasis is an infection of the roundworm *toxocara canis* which lives in the digestive system of dogs, cats and foxes. The worms produce eggs, which are released in the faeces of infected animals and then contaminate the soil. It usually affects children between one and four years old because their play habits make them more likely to come into contact with contaminated soil, and many young children have a habit of eating soil. Symptoms are wide ranging and include headaches, swollen glands, coughing, stomach pain and breathing difficulties but it is most dangerous if the parasites reach the eyes. Eyesight can be permanently damaged and blindness can occur if it remains untreated. Many more people are infected than display symptoms. Symptoms occur in people who have an allergic reaction to the parasite.

Information from NHS Direct website

Wilton Eco Park News

A public meeting was held in Wilton on 14 January, attended by over 100 people. They gave overwhelming support to the Wilton Eco Park Development Community Association to proceed with talks with a community-minded development company, interested to bid in partnership for the former UKLF site. Bids are due in by the end of February. A further public meeting is being held at 11.00 Saturday 18 February at the Michael Herbert Hall to report progress and discuss the way forward, including the formation of a Community Land Trust to carry forward community interests.

Copies of project briefings and a short questionnaire on 'The Great Green Challenge'

were also provided to gather people's views on living in an environmentally sustainable way. Questionnaires will be handed out to all homes in Wilton and Quidhampton with responses requested by 29 February. See Ken Taylor, Mike Kalvis or Alix Smith to learn more or to volunteer help or to go on the Association's contact list. Those on the list will be invited to visit the UKLF site later in February.

See also website www.wiltonecopark.com

The Quidhampton Mummers raised a total of £610 before Christmas for Jack's Place, the part of Naomi House catering for teenagers with life-limiting illnesses who have outgrown the children's hospice and need a more adult environment.

How's it going at The White Horse?

Although they looked very carefully at other pubs in the area Sara and Peter were drawn back to Quidhampton because of the sense of community they found here. They've not been disappointed and would like to thank everyone for the fantastic welcome they have received. It has been very easy to settle in.

Although sorry to lose

Adam, new chef Steve, has produced a menu that is attracting more people to eat there. The mixed grill night has been brought back by popular request (see in 'What's On') and there's a very special menu for Valentine's Day.

Obviously Peter and Sara want to increase trade but do not intend to run a gastro pub or a Sky Sports pub. They want the White Horse to continue to be a place where villagers always feel welcome e.g. they would like villagers to see bus pass lunches as a social occasion that could stretch into the afternoon.

Bus pass lunches at The White Horse

Mondays and Thursdays

choice of three main courses plus tea or coffee for £5.50

Why not meet your friends and stay after lunch to play cards, bring your knitting, have a cup of tea round the fire?

Valentine's Day at The White Horse

3 courses for £22.50, 2 courses for £19.50

Special Menu includes:

Pan fried scallops with crispy bacon and mildly spiced tomato sauce

French onion soup with stilton crouton

Rack of lamb on infused root vegetable hash with rosemary and red wine reduction

Wild mushroom risotto

Pre-booking advisable for Valentines

Another postcard from Cilla Pickett. Beware - she makes their new life in France sound so idyllic that if you read it you may head straight to the travel agent.

CHRISTMAS IN DORDOGNE

Happy new year to all our friends in Quid.

We had a lovely Christmas and New Year and also were able to pay a brief visit to the UK to see family and friends just before Christmas.

Christmas was quite magical. All the towns and even quite small villages the size of Quid had their main streets lined with fresh Christmas trees decorated with foil bows. All the churches were floodlit or decorated with white lights.

Although he shops and supermarkets were fully of lovely goodies there wasn't the terrible rush you get in the UK. We did our main food shop the day before Christmas Eve and the roads were clear, car parking was easy and there were no queues at the tills!

Two of the nicest times were a Christmas market in a small town followed by a concert in the church where the choir sang carols from around the world then a lovely supper at the local Chateau, and a candle lit advent service in a lovely church which was flood lit and being on a hill could be seen for miles around.

We missed you all, especially on the night of the carols in the Pub.

Cilla and Rick

Parish Council : further matters

There are currently seven councillors: Ian Lovett (Chairman), Dave Roberts (Vice - Chairman), Viv Bass, Ken Taylor, Duncan Witt, Jennifer Tyler and Paul Cripps. Paul, of Temperance Cottages, was co-opted at the last meeting.

There are two vacancies due to the resignation of Jean Kalvis, and the departure of John Blane. One of these vacancies can be filled by co-option at the next meeting, the other is being advertised so if you'd like to join the council contact the clerk.

- Councillors discussed the suggested Jubilee project to leave a legacy for the village by improving the footpath in Boyes Wood and building a bridge. All present supported the idea. The area is an SSSI so any work would have to meet set environmental standards. Action depends on the consent of the Wilton Estate. The Clerk will arrange an exploratory meeting with the Estate.

- It was agreed to join parishonline, a subscription service for parish councils which will provide updated maps of the parish.

- Wiltshire Councillor Richard Beattie reported that work will begin this year on the Sustrans cycle track into the village, and that additional pedestrian lights will be provided at the traffic lights in the centre of Wilton.

- Additional weight limit warning signs have been erected on the Netherhampton Road.

- Councillors recognised that some villagers want to mark the Olympics with a village event. This would be discussed at a future meeting.

Next meeting: 27 March 19.30 Village Hall

Newsletter editor: Bea Tilbrook 742456

bjtis@hotmail.co.uk Meadow Barn Fisherman's Reach SP2 9BG.

Contributors & Contacts

Police non emergency number: 101
PC Pete Jung ext. 747442

St John's C of E Primary School:
322848

White Horse Inn: 742157

Parish Council clerk:

Clare Churchill 743027

www.southwilts.com/site/

Quidhampton-Parish-Council

quidhamptonpc@btinternet.com

1 Tower Farm Cottages, Skew Rd.

Wiltshire Council 0300 456 0100

Area Councillor Richard Beattie

tel: 01747 870285

richard.beattie@wiltshire.gov.uk

The Rector of Bemerton

Rev Simon Woodley 333750

Parish Office 328031

Problems with HGVs: contact

Peter.Jung@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

or leave a note in the black box.

WI: Valerie Fry 742082

Village Hall bookings:

Sabine Dawson 742843

Refuse collections in February:

Friday 3 (recycling), 10, 17 (recycling),
24.

Collections will change at the end of March.

Garden waste bins will be delivered from February - you can still order one now but it won't come until the summer.

100 club winners January

1st 26 C Sirl

2nd 170 L Newman

3rd 28 J Barnes

The February newsletter is sponsored
by the Parish Council