

# Quidhampton Village Newsletter

April 2012

## What's on in the village and school in

### April

- Thursday 5 Quiz Night The White Horse
- **Easter Saturday 7, barbecue and garden games from 18.00 The White Horse**
- Easter Sunday lunch traditional menu with a special touch The White Horse
- Tuesday 10 WI : Village Hall 19.30 'Salisbury Almshouses'
- Monday 16 School term 5 begins, and selected after school clubs
- Thursday 19: mini marathon training at St John's school

Friday 20 April

**St George's Day event**

**at The White Horse,**

**Music and entertainment. Watch the noticeboard for more details**

- Thursday 26: mini marathon training as before
- Friday 27 Pamper and Shopping night St John's School
- Monday 30: Year 6 Bikeability Day 1 St John's School
- May 1: Year 6 Bikeability Day 2

**The White Horse:** boules court is open from Easter weekend and a tote will be running for the Grand National.

Remember: bus pass lunches **every** Monday and Thursday, main course and coffee

## Easter Church Services

- **Maundy Thursday** 19.30 St Michael's Communion with foot washing
- **Good Friday**  
10.00 St Andrews An Hour by the Cross

## Bemerton St John: great Ofsted result

Bemerton St John Primary School had an Ofsted inspection in March and is now officially a good school. 'Good' is Ofsted-speak for pretty brilliant. Headteacher Alun Richards told the newsletter:

*We are very pleased with the outcome of the Ofsted report as the school has moved from satisfactory to good with outstanding Behaviour and Safety of pupils. Since September we have worked extremely hard as a whole team to move the school forward. Both inspectors were really impressed by the lovely atmosphere within the school and thought the children were fantastic.*

'Outstanding' means absolutely brilliant! Well done to Alun and all the staff who work so hard all the time to give the village children such a good education.

## Waste and recycling now collected on Mondays

**Monday 2:** recycling: blue lidded bin for plastic bottles and cardboard, and the black box

**Monday 9:** household waste for landfill in the black bin and garden waste in the green bin

**Monday 16:** recycling:

**Monday 23:** household and garden waste

**Monday 30:** recycling

Wiltshire Council said there will be no change to the collection days over Easter

11.00 Families Egg Hunt and hot cross buns at St Michaels

14.00 St Andrews An Hour by the Cross

- **Easter Day** 10.30 St Michaels Families Communion

## What else is happening at The White Horse

**The Music Quiz night** run by Rich Stokes raised £37 for the Jubilee fund and £51 for RNLI. Peter and Sara would like to thank Rich for all the hard work he put into doing the quiz (there's much more to it than you think) and are pleased to announce that he will do another one in the autumn, on a weekday evening.

**New menu:** there will be a new and more summery menu from Easter.

**Energy survey:** Peter and Sara were pleased to have the free energy survey. "We cannot afford not to save energy and thus save money," said Sara. There is a lot to do - old buildings can give the most problems. When they receive the final report they will create a display to show how

they hope to make the pub more environmentally friendly. As a start they are growing herbs for the kitchen and want to grow more.

**Advance Notice:** 26 May Folk Night with Alex Roberts, first of a monthly series. Although there are still quiet days the Strawsons are very glad they moved here. They've been encouraged by fully booked events like Valentine's Night and Mothers Day and remain committed to running a community pub.

**Village shop:** Sara and Jo Penny continue to research this idea but very few questionnaires were returned. Does this mean there is not enough support for a shop? You can still fill one in - they are on the bar beside the newsletters.

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## Events in Bemerton

**Bemerton Film Society:** Tuesday 24 St John's Primary School 19.30: Kind Hearts and Coronets

This was top of the list of films voted for by those who returned the questionnaire and is one of the best Ealing studio comedies. Alex Guinness gives eight of his most well known performances. If you don't understand that reference you are in for a real treat; if you do then go along and enjoy it all over again.

**Bemerton Local History Society:** Thursday 19th, Hedley Davis Court 19.00

AGM and a chance to look at most recent finds of Bemerton's history

**Friends of St John's School:** Friday 27 Pamper and Shopping night 20.00 - 22.00 Confirmed: Regent Tailoring, Jamie at Home, Avon, Phoenix Cards, Wilton Holistic Centre £3 including a glass of wine

**Bemerton Community:**

1. Monday 30 19.30 - 20.30 St. John's church. Public meeting: update with refreshments. See the latest plans for St John's and ask questions about the project.
2. **Advance notice:** Car Boot Sale Monday 7 May 12.00 - 14.00 details Eric Bohm 500451

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**Estelle Smith**, retired headteacher of Bemerton St John, now living in Spain, sent this for the newsletter:

*I am thoroughly enjoying retirement and finding lots to keep me occupied.*

*We now have two little dogs who were abandoned so walking them keeps us fit. We have just returned from seeing our son in*

*America and then returned to Spain via the UK. We paid a flying visit to Salisbury which was lovely.*

She sends best wishes to all who remember her and says she often thinks with great pleasure about her last days at the school which were made so memorable for her.

## Jubilee

### Street Party: Saturday 2 June

The grant application to the Area Board was successful so all plans are going ahead. Full details in the next newsletter.

The parish clerk received no objections to the proposed road closure advertised in the last newsletter and has now applied for it. The



Lilibut

closure will be between 12 noon and 18.00. A ticket for a free raffle will be

given to all households who come to the street party and to all households who decorate their house, also to entrants in some of the games and competitions. Jubilee doll Lilibut, handmade and donated by Sandie Smith, is one of the prizes.

The party will include: games, competitions, tea, Jubilee cake, magician, prizes, Jubilee mugs for village children, village photo, hog roast and family disco.

What help is needed? The committee will produce a list after their next meeting: see notices in the village or May newsletter

Donations needed: the other main raffle prize will be a hamper of quality goodies.

Can you donate a favourite non-perishable item of food? Or lend a hamper? Contact Chris Edge or the editor.

Bunting can still be ordered at reduced rates from Denese Rowley on 744617

Jubilee Photo competition: display screens needed. Please get in touch with the editor or Sara Strawson at The White Horse if you

can lend a screen or know someone who may be able to. The first entry has already been received. Closing date: 18 May. Full rules on the village website. Flyer available in The White Horse.

**Neighbourly behaviour:** please remember to consider others when you light a bonfire. It's the time of year when most people hang their washing outside.

### The Village Jubilee Bop

#### Monday 4 June

*(Remember Tuesday is also a bank holiday!)*

**Full details in the next newsletter**

**Dance to a 5 piece band with supper, raffle etc**

**Tickets will not cost more than £10**

#### **What are the forms on the yellow sheet in the newsletter? (village residents only)**

1. Although everything will be free the organisers must know how many people are going to come so please fill in and return the form. Family and close friends can be invited but non-residents are asked to make a donation toward costs on the day.

2. **Jubilee mugs** will be given to all children who are 16 or under on 31 August 2012 **and** who live in the village whether they come to the Jubilee tea party or not. Please fill in the second part of the form to claim the mug.

You will be able to buy extra mugs - details in May newsletter. Cost: no more than £6

**Olympic grandson?** Joe Coombs, grandson of Margaret and John Wilcox, has made it to the final trials for the Olympic Canoe Slalom team 13 to 15 April. Good luck, Joe! How wonderful it would be to have an Olympic entrant with a Quidhampton connection!

## Local people: the editor talks to Bethan Strawson, youngest member of the new team at The White Horse

Whenever I hear talk about the pub someone says: "Bethan is very good." And I've thought so myself, so I wanted to find out more about her

Bethan, 22, has finished what she called the straightforward part of her life - school and university. What she does now is less easy to decide: how to get a job, and where, should she try to run her own business, work part-time, do volunteering, or something else.

What Bethan has done is put her life on hold to help her parents establish their new business. It's a big change, going back home to live with mum and dad, home now being a three bedroomed flat above a pub, not a six bedroom house in a village outside Norwich. "We will get it sorted one day!" she says.

Bethan grew up in Norfolk and was educated in a first, middle and high school system, like the first, middle and upper schools we had on this side of Salisbury. Good at science she preferred the arts and did art, photography and psychology at A level, after which she went to Bournemouth University for a four year degree. The first year was a foundation course in fine art which she did not enjoy so she specialised in textiles and loved it.

Most students work as well as study and Bethan had part-time jobs throughout her four years, first in Gap where her people skills and efficiency led to promotion and extra responsibility. Eventually they needed her to work more hours than she could so she left for a job in Habitat. Her student loan doesn't bother her: she knows she won't start paying it off until she earns more than £15000 a year when it will be like a small extra tax related to her income.

Delays in taking over The White Horse



meant Bethan was unable to earn and save money here in the autumn as she'd intended, and because of the uncertainty she couldn't get another job either, but she refused to claim benefits. "I lived with my boyfriend or my parents," she said "and I had enough money to pay my phone bill. That was all I needed."

She'd never worked as a waitress or behind a bar but is really enjoying it at The White Horse although she says she can take things a little too personally because it is the family business and she wants everything to be right. And she never stops looking for a job related to her degree.

Bethan had a work placement at George at Asda but she was on a computer all day and would not like that permanently. Her dissertation was on the popularity of hand craft work which seems to get more popular in a recession so she is hopeful. She's been encouraged by the recent interest in vintage designs. Everyone knows the name of a textile designer these days, she said, meaning Cath Kidston.

Bethan's personal life keeps her in this area: boyfriend Ollie is studying for a master's degree in fine arts and lives in Blandford though a sculpture scholarship may send him further away next year. He looks set for success, having already worked at the Venice Biennale, a major contemporary art exhibition held every two years.

Bethan is caught in the trap many graduates are in: she needs work experience to get a job and it seems experience can only be gained by working for free. She is trying to build up her portfolio e.g. screen prints for bags to be sold for a cancer charity. And she's going to make some special floral bunting with letters spelling Quidhampton to be used for the Jubilee celebrations, the



parish space in the marquee for the Queen's visit to Salisbury and at future events. Meanwhile she continues making life brighter for customers at The White Horse. Thank you, Bethan.

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### **Wilton Eco Park**

- Following the public meeting on 18 February the proposed Wilton Community Land Trust is being formed to work with Our Enterprise, the chosen developer. The deadline for the submission of the bid to develop the Erskine Barracks site has been postponed again as the MOD clarifies more details. Once this has been done three weeks notice will be given for bids to be submitted.

- "Save Energy, Save Money": a small number of Quidhampton residents as well as people from Wilton attended this session at The White Horse and heard basic advice

about saving energy. Energy monitors were discussed - devices to tell you how much energy you use at any one time. Some people thought they were complicated but you can try before buying: Salisbury Library will lend you one for three weeks. One Quidhampton resident bought hers three years ago and after acting on the information it showed her energy and water bills have come down by £200.

- Quidhampton Mill, The White Horse and two private houses have benefited from a free environment and energy survey carried out by the Environment Centre, Southampton.

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### **A message from the editor: Can you support the newsletter?**

As most people know, the newsletter is paid for by sponsorship and it's time to ask for some more. Sponsorship has been for ten, twenty or even forty pounds, but any amount will help to keep the newsletter coming through your door once a month. Please contact me if you can help. (details on the last page).

In the last twelve months the newsletter has been sponsored by the Parish Council (twice), Quidhampton Mill, and by 9 individuals or couples from the village, some commemorating a special occasion such as living here for forty years.

An eight page edition costs forty pounds. The high quality printing is by Spectrum of North Road Wilton.

## WI March meeting

Ann Orr of Collective Legal Solutions spoke to 18 members and guests about wills, powers of attorney, care costs, and inheritance tax. It may sound a little tedious but death and money are often central to fictional dramas and she urged us to avoid that drama in our own lives.

Some things you may not know:

- An unmarried couple do not have an automatic right to inherit anything from each other.
- If you get married your will becomes Invalid.
- If you don't have a power of attorney allowing someone else to deal with your affairs when you cannot, and you suddenly become incapable, your finances are frozen and an expensive and lengthy application to the Court of Protection has to be made.
- A letter of wishes with your will can avoid disputes about personal possessions. Unlike a will it can be updated at no cost.
- If you own property abroad you need a

local will made in that country to deal with it.

- You should review your will regularly: the law, as well as your personal circumstances, can change. Any pre-2007 will with an inheritance tax saving discretionary trust will be out of date and there are likely to be better alternatives now.

Although she previously worked as a solicitor (for the Queen's firm, no less!) Ann prefers her current job visiting clients in their homes to work out what is best for them. She'll look at your will and tell you if it needs updating without charge. She'll also check a will you've made using a 'do-it-yourself' kit.

One WI member used Ann to write her will and reported that she didn't mind how many times she had to explain things - a very important quality in a legal adviser!

**Next meeting Tuesday 10 April:** Alan Corkhill will talk about the Salisbury Almshouses. Members are asked to bring a photograph of an old building and something for a bring and buy stall.



**Ron and Barbara Strange** with the card they received from the Queen on their diamond wedding anniversary. The card was a complete surprise, but eventually their daughter admitted to having arranged it. Congratulations Ron and Barbara on your 60 years together.

## More accolades for Quidhampton Mill Bed and Breakfast,

now the number one bed and breakfast in Wiltshire on the Trip Advisor website. They have also just been nominated for the "The AA's Friendliest B&B of the Year". There are 25 nominations from 3,500 in the UK and the winners will be announced on 15 May. Lesa Drewett said "We're certainly not resting on our laurels and are always looking to improve." As well as iPod docking stations in each room they now provide iPads as well, very popular with guests looking for local information.

## Thank you John and Janice

Ron Smith presented John and Janice with a cheque for £500 (see picture) and the special White Horse card made by Quidhampton's premier cardmaker, Sandie Smith. (no relation!) As previously reported John and Janice were overwhelmed by the collection and had a similar reaction when they read the messages stuck inside the card. They want to spend the money on a real treat for their ruby wedding on 24 June and may even stay on Burgh Island, at the art deco hotel favoured by Agatha Christie and Noel Coward. Lovely to think of them enjoying a bit of such luxury. Janice says she enjoys being retired but after he'd done the immediate jobs around the house John got very bored. He's now planning to help a friend on his venison stall at Salisbury and Wilton markets and may also do some racecourse stewarding with Graham Stokes. They were both lost for words when trying to thank everyone. John said that when he had



the new Quidhampton signpost made he should also have put: "a lot of nice people live there." Good news: John has agreed to be the third judge in the jubilee photo competition so we hope to see him and Janice at the street party.

*Editor's note: I should have interviewed John properly when he was still here - he let slip some very interesting information about being in the Merchant Navy and spending a night in an Australian prison!*

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## School news

Please could you let the school or police know if you see anyone acting suspiciously on the field or in the school. This follows an incident when the football goals were removed and put in the field. Time is also being taken each day in clearing rubbish dropped by the public before pupils can go into the field to play. If you have any toy cars you can donate they

would be very welcome as they are being made available at break and lunchtimes for the children to play with.

Parents are reminded to make sure their child has a hat, water bottle and suncream on very sunny days. New menus will be available after Easter and sent home in the children's book bags.

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**Police report:** Dear all, I would like to advise that former PCSO Sam Spacey has been accepted into the regular Police Force and has now begun his training. I wish him well and hope he gets the posting he would like (Swindon is currently favourite!!) This means we get a replacement PCSO and that will be Jenny Moss. She has been in the job for some years and has gained good experience working in Salisbury City. Coming to Wilton will be a change of direction but I have no doubt she will fit in and do a splendid job. Please keep

the HGV reports coming - only 2 this month!  
**Regards, PC Pete**

**Police report extra:** It was reported at the Parish Council meeting that several cars in the village have been deliberately scratched. If this spiteful vandalism happens to you please report it. One incident will not attract much attention but if the police know of several they can put more resources into it. Ring 101 to report a non-urgent crime or put a note in the black box or go to [www.wiltshirepolice.uk](http://www.wiltshirepolice.uk) 'contact us'

## Parish Council News

Because of the late date of the meeting more news will be reported next month

**New councillors:** Peter Strawson and Chris Edge were co-opted to the council

**Community Emergency Volunteer:** John Cater presented a draft report

**The Queen's Jubilee visit to Salisbury** beginning of May: there will be a small space for the parish in the South West Area Board tent in Cathedral Close. It was decided to display the WI's Quidhampton millennium embroidery and the bunting made by Bethan Strawson.

**Next meeting and annual parish meeting:**  
22 May

**Dog fouling** seems to have stopped in the centre of the village but this letter was received on 30 March

*A beautiful spring morning spoilt by three piles of dog poo and bags of dog poo carelessly tossed in the hedgerow, especially behind the pub. We have four bins in Quidhampton and anywhere we walk is not far from our own bins. Who are these people who have no respect for our lovely village?*

*Yours sincerely*

*A responsible dog owner/lover  
(Name and address supplied)*

**Change to the buses:** the number 13 bus for Quidhampton and Lower Bemerton has been re-numbered and is now R8. No changes to times, just to the number.

**Still some hours left.** Villager looking for work as home help or cleaner. References and CRB checked. Ring Linda 744046

The April newsletter is sponsored by two residents of the village

## **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

Quidhampton Mill B&B: 741171

Footshill B&B: 743587

Wiltshire Good Neighbours:

Claire Routh 07557 110413

Wilton and District Link Scheme:  
741241

Parish Council clerk:

Clare Churchill 743027

[www.southwilts.com/site/](http://www.southwilts.com/site/)

Quidhampton-Parish-Council

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Area Councillor Richard Beattie

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[richard.beattie@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:Peter.Jung@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)

or leave a note in the black box.

WI: Valerie Fry 742082

Village Hall bookings:

Sabine Dawson 742843

Waste and recycling: see front page

## **100 club winners March**

1st	131	M Goff
2nd	132	Mrs Green
3rd	125	Mrs Coleman

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