

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

June 2013

What's On in June

Monday 3 children back to school

zumba class 18.30 White Horse Loft

Wednesday 5 Pub closed in the evening: the staff are attending a rally in support of the 'fair deal for your local' campaign*.

Thursday 6 Pub Quiz The White Horse

Sunday 9 Bemerton Open Gardens 14.00 – 17.00*

Monday 10 Bemerton St John's Primary school: sports day

Tuesday 11 St John's Primary swimming gala at Five Rivers

Women's Institute Summer Party and national AGM report, members only

Monday 17 St John's Primary: year 1 phonic tests this week

Tuesday 18 Bishop of Salisbury talk : George Herbert St John's Church 19.00 *

Wednesday 19 Bemerton Film Society: The Sting*

Saturday 22 Bemerton Barbecue*

Monday 24 zumba class 18.30 White Horse Loft

*Starred events: details further in the newsletter

Zumba classes: only two this month because Helen will be on her honeymoon. We wish her and Steve Wales all the best for their wedding day, 8 June.

Editor's note: the classes continue to be fun and fantastic exercise. Helen has begun teaching us the can-can, drawing on her professional dancing experience when she performed it regularly. We have to be seen to be believed! Christmas show, anyone?

What's on in Wilton

Sunday 2 The Big Lunch 12.00 – 16.00 FREE community event: Wilton Community Centre and Parish Church. Indoors if wet. Live music, children's fun and games, bouncy castle, Cheerleaders etc. Food on sale or bring your own, plus something non perishable for the Trussell Trust foodbank.

Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 Festival of the Family: Wilton Parish Church

Teddy Bears Parachute Jump (11.00 Saturday), The Great Wilton Bake Off, painting competition, raffle, British Legion Band (19.30 Saturday), Sunday: 10.30 Festival Eucharist, 15.00 Joseph, the festival finale followed by barbecue.

Fair deal for your local: Peter Strawson is taking an active part in this campaign against the restrictive practices of big pub owning companies (Pubcos). The high rents and beer prices that landlords are forced to pay are a major factor in the closure of thousands of pubs. This is a cross party campaign with support from all sides. If you cannot drop in for a drink to support The White Horse then why not visit www.fairdealforyourlocal.com which will explain how you can take part in a short government

survey, send a submission or write to your MP. Letters and emails should be sent by 14 June. John Glen House of Commons London SW1A 0AA or john.glen.mp@parliament.uk It is important that the voices of ordinary people are heard.

These details were sent last week to the Quidhampton Community email list. Send your email to the newsletter editor if you want to join the 62 residents who already receive updates by email. Contact her if you want to send something round to the list.

Annual Parish Meeting, 28th May

was in a new format this year and village groups were asked to give a report.

1. The Village Entertainments Fund

John Cater, Viv Bass and Jonathan Young have taken over the Entertainments Fund from the group led by Ron Smith (thanks to Ron for looking after it for so long – something else he has done for the village). Accounts will be freely available and the group will report to the annual parish meeting.

The Entertainments Fund is quite separate from the Parish Council. It began with the increased social and community activity in the village following the 1995 VE Day anniversary celebrations. In 2004 the Entertainments Committee that ran these events ceased to exist and only the fund remained.

The fund administers the 100 Club and keeps half the profits, the other half going to the Village Hall (about £230 a year each.). It also receives the profits from village events associated with it e.g. fireworks evenings. It spends money on grants to village functions e.g. children's entertainer at the fireworks evening, underwriting the Bus Pass Christmas Party. The fund now stands at £2104.

Groups of villagers are invited to apply to the fund for projects or events. Any expenditure must be agreed by all members of the Fund group and if there were ever a problem about allocating the money there would be a meeting for all villagers to attend.

Contact details: John Cater tel: 744079 Osier House Fisherman's Reach

2. The newsletter

Bea Tilbrook has written the newsletter since June 2010, taking it on because she loves writing and believes in the importance of regular, good quality communication. She wants the newsletter to keep people informed, give them a chance to publicise things and allow them to have their say. She tries to make the language as clear and jargon free as possible.

It is a joint production with her husband, Ken Taylor, who puts her writing into the computer programme 'Publisher'. Without him it could not be produced. *(is there anyone else out there who can use Publisher in case of an emergency?)*

Bea hoped the newsletter would enhance Quidhampton's sense of community and it seems to have been successful. Even people who disagree with things in it say they like it. She appreciates feedback but doesn't often get anything specific. People who have mentioned specifics say they like reading about big village events like the Jubilee and the interviews with villagers.

Funding has not been a real problem: people have been generous from the start. In 2010 – 2012 there were 28 issues sponsored by 35 residents and 6 organisations: The White Horse (2), the Parish Council (4), Salisbury Heart Support Group, the Entertainments Fund, Quidhampton Mill and the WI. People cannot afford to give so much these days so several people may sponsor one issue.

The cost to the village is £20 for four pages and £40 for eight. The last request for sponsorship was a year ago and there is enough in hand for 10 eight page issues. This includes a 100 Club win donated by one couple, £40 sent from the USA by an ex-resident of Bemerton and £180 left from the table top sale. She loves the different ways the sponsorship money comes in, her favourite being when people simply put some money in her pocket in the pub.

3. The WI

Jennifer Tyler explained that Quidhampton WI began 19 years ago and two of the original officers are still in place – Jennifer and Joyce Harvey. Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month and there are 15 paid up members. Subscription is £33, which includes a levy for national headquarters, entry to meetings, refreshments, and two bi monthly magazines. A cribbage group meets regularly and

theatre outings are arranged. There are 210,000 members in the UK in around 6600 different institutes.

The Quidhampton group needs to raise money for speakers and the hire of the hall but ways of getting income are limited. They used to provide teas for council planning meetings held in Wilton and for coach parties in the village hall but these events happen no longer. The ageing membership is less willing to travel to other WI events or to join the committee. Although some groups have younger members local groups have a similar age profile. Realistically it is hard to foresee a long future for Quidhampton WI.

4. Chris Edge spoke about the Jubilee celebrations which reminded everyone of the

splendid community spirit and enjoyment shown at that time

Peter Edge, newly elected Wiltsire Council member for Wilton and the Lower Wyle Valley, was in attendance. He will attend all Parish Council meetings and is keen to hear from people (details on the back page). He offered to do a village walk with Parish council members.

Questions from the public: John Cater questioned the position of the fireworks and bonfire with regard to the road but was assured that everything met the health and safety requirements of the insurers.

Chairman's Report and other matters from the Parish Council Meeting

These will be reported in the next newsletter.

Presentation by young villagers

Several young people were present in order to speak to a council meeting agenda item, the recreation ground ('Quidhampton Park'). They raised questions about the target age range and the state of some of the equipment. They'd found a basket swing which was more suitable for their age (11-16 years). They offered to help keep the playground tidy and to do fundraising towards the cost of new equipment. It was a well organised and professional presentation with a accompanying catalogue and iPad illustrations and all the councillors present were impressed and in favour of doing something. It may be possible to get a grant from the area board.



Names of the young people on the slide: Marcus Churchill, Connie Roberts, Josie Roberts, Izzy Hudson, Olivia Churchill. **Not present for photo:** Sam Herring who masterminded the idea and presentation.

Recreation Ground

The Parish Council has been asked to consider extending the age limit to the recreation ground which is currently 13 years. Before any decision is taken the PC would like to hear the views of parishioners.

If the age limit is raised a new sign would identify which equipment is suitable for which age. Please contact Clare Churchill with your views by 10 July 2013. Contact details on back page.

Local people : The story continued

Chris Anderson's search for his father's plane



Chris Anderson and Belgian planehunter Benny Ceulaers with Lancaster cowling

Chris Anderson's investigations into the death of his father, Flight Sergeant Douglas Beesley, in a Lancaster bomber in April 1944 had led him to a Belgian group called the Plane Hunters.

It was an exciting moment when they got in touch. Chris realised that they were a professionally trained, government accredited group of specialist archaeologists who excavated sites of World War Two planes all over Belgium. The Plane Hunters realised that at last they could find JA 695, the only one of the nine Lancasters lost on that April night to remain unfound. They'd tracked down and excavated the crash sites of the other eight and now, out of the blue, someone was telling them exactly where the missing one was.

How can you be so sure? the chairman, Benny Ceulaers, asked. Chris's answer was simple: I have the letter sent by the MOD to my mother,

describing exactly where her husband was killed. And so two pieces of information came together in one of those magic moments historians dream about.

It took time to get the necessary permissions and for the conditions on the ground to be right but in November 2012 Chris and his son, Toby, stood in a potato field in Kievermont, now a suburb of Geel, watching the Plane Hunters team begin their excavation. Apart from perspex shards nothing on the surface indicated that the spot was anything other than undisturbed farmland, but they had already met two villagers who remembered the Lancaster coming down there. One of them, Clement Kempen, was fifteen at the time and his father was the first at the scene.

One crew member, flight sergeant A D Anderson (no relation), successfully ejected, was captured and became a prisoner of war. The tail gunner went down when the tail ripped off, and another crewman ejected but crashed fatally into a roof. A Nazi soldier ordered everyone away from the aircraft which burnt all night. The remaining bodies were removed the next day and the site guarded for several weeks until a specialist German team arrived to take what could be salvaged. Chris met a villager who showed him a hoe he still used made from metal he'd taken from the plane, despite the guard.

When the dig began last November no one was sure what they would find. The Plane Hunters group told Chris that family members had been present at other excavations they had done but never before had the son of one of the crew been present. It was a moving moment.

There were shards of perspex from the windows at ground level and Chris heard how some of it had been made into jewellery. There were also some traces of aluminium in the soil. Firm confirmation came when a small known Lancaster part from the bomb bay was dug up. Chris

has a diagram that shows exactly where this 70 cm piece fitted into the bombing mechanism.

The biggest finds were a large piece of auminium cowling missed by both Germans and villagers, and a generator. The cowling was very deeply buried and had been surrounded by oil which preserved it. Photos of these are on the Plane Hunters website under RAF Recovery.

Chris was told he could 'poke around' in the field and he found some smaller pieces including a piece of the plastic knob believed to be from the radio. The Plane Hunters team returned to the site for a final dig earlier this year before potato planting. Among other small pieces they found a florin (a two shilling or ten pence piece) and a gold pen nib. They told Chris that only a navigator would have a pen like that on board the



Artefacts from the Lancaster site: pen nib and florin, hoe made from recovered metal, Bakelite knob, engine generator.

aircraft, so it would be his father's.



Chris is astonished at how welcoming and helpful everyone in Belgium has been and how keen they are to talk about what happened. He has been back to talk again to Clement with the help of Benny Ceulaers as translator and Benny gave him his father's pen nib. Other artefacts unearthed by the group are stored and then taken to exhibitions they mount, many of them at airshows in the UK.

Benny had some other news for Chris. He'd informed Geel town council about the site and suggested they think about a memorial. There's no money, he was told, but later the message came through that money would be found from the 2014 budget, so Chris's next visit might be to the unveiling of a plaque bearing his father's name and the names of the rest of the crew.

What a fitting end to the story.

Chris's father Flight Sergeant Douglas Beesley

Quidhampton Women's Institute

Quidhampton WI is part of The Three Valleys group and their most recent meeting took the form of a competition designed to show off craft skills – and Quidhampton won! This was a lovely boost for the group whose numbers have fallen a little this year.

The competition was based on nursery rhymes and the following took part: Joyce Harvey and Pauline Thompson (Little Miss Muffett: lemon curd and a knitted spider), Sallie Grey (Humpty Dumpty cake), Audrey Potter from Wilton and Margaret Hutchings (Three Blind Mice, knitting and sewing), Bea Tilbrook (Little Bo Peep, knitting). All were displayed on a magnificent embroidered tablecloth (Jennifer Tyler, The Lion and the Unicorn)

At the AGM the officers were re-elected with thanks and Margaret Hutchings joined the committee. The other committee members are: Valerie Fry from Wilton (President), Joyce Harvey (secretary), Jennifer Tyler (treasurer), Eve Wharton, and Pauline Thompson.

The 2013/14 programme: once again the WI is providing an excellent monthly series of talks in the village hall, open to everyone, on the second Tuesday of every month. Make a special note of 11 February 2014: Terri Scott Jupp will talk about the making of the popular TV series "Call The Midwife". Terri was involved with the publication of the books on which it is based and is the technical adviser.

11 June: summer party, members only. **9 July** The Good Old Days: Life in Hand Laundry (1940s): Bill Moore

Election Results: Wiltshire Council

Wilton and Lower Wyle Valley

Peter Edge, elected, Liberal Democrat, 706 votes 57.03% ; Jain Giles, Conservative, 417 votes 33.68% ; Antony Jocelyn Labour, 115 votes 9.29%

Turnout: 33.34% Spoiled papers : 15

The previous councillor, Richard Beattie, did not stand again, having been de-selected.

Parish Council: the new council consists of Viv Bass, Paul Cripps, Chris Edge, Dave Roberts, Howard Rowley, Peter Strawson and Ken Taylor who were elected unopposed. There are two vacancies to be filled by co-option. Contact the clerk for details.

London Moonwalk

Sara Strawson thanks everyone who helped her raise £132 for cancer charities by sponsoring her for the London Moonwalk. She did the half marathon (13.8 miles) leaving Battersea Power Station at 23.05 and finishing 3 hours and 40 minutes later. Amid the thousands taking part she bumped into someone who'd been her teaching assistant in Norfolk, and caught a glimpse of Jennifer

Saunders. The roads aren't shut as they are for the London marathon, instead there were crossing patrols. There were free meals and massages for participants, very welcome because the first train back was not until 8.15. Sara found the last two or three miles difficult and wished she'd done more practice but once she finished she enjoyed watching others manage it too.

The annual Bemerton BBQ : all Quidhampton friends and families are invited. A unique not-for-profit social event.

Saturday 22 June 17.00 to 23.00 Bemerton Recreation Ground.

All ages welcome for food, fun, entertainment and dancing in a beautiful riverside setting.

Disco & Bar serving Pimms and Local Real Ale.

Gourmet BBQ (sausage, chicken, burgers salad etc) and choice of desserts. Home cooked veggie options available

Entrance by ticket which must be bought in advance. £9 adult, £6 under 12s, under 5s free. Family (2 adults, 2 under 12s £28) Contact Moira on 338681 for tickets/enquiries.

Bemerton Open Gardens Sunday 9 June 14.00 – 17.00

This popular event sees Lower Road gardens open again. The mix of different styles is a particular delight – you will find something to inspire you, however big or small your own garden.

Entry to all gardens: £5; teas, plants and garden tools for sale. All profits to the project to convert St John's church for use as a community centre.

Bishop of Salisbury comes to St John's

Nick Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury, has long been interested in the life and work of George Herbert, famous 17th century rector of our parish. On Tuesday 18 June he is giving a talk about his enthusiasm entitled "A Man that Looks on Glass".

St John's Church, Tuesday 19.00, musical interlude by Catherine Clarke. Bookings by phone : 321069. Arranged by The George Herbert in Bemerton group.

Editor's note: The title of the Bishop's talk

comes from a verse of one of George Herbert's most famous hymns: A man that looks on glass/ on it may stay his eye/ or if he pleases through it pass/ and then the heavens espy. This encouragement to see the bigger picture, though written nearly 400 years ago, is still relevant in 2013.

Bemerton Film Society: The Sting

Paul Newman and Robert Redford together again as a pair of conmen perpetrating an elaborate scam ('sting') with charm and humour in lovingly re-created thirties Chicago. Pay attention or you may not understand all the twists and turns and that glorious last moment. Released in 1973 it won 7 Academy Awards and has a memorable Scott Joplin soundtrack.

Wednesday 19 June St John's School doors open 19.00 film begins 19.30

Editor: I remember seeing this when it was released and at the end the entire audience rose to its feet clapping and cheering.

Church news: Guest services at St Michaels

June 9th we are celebrating Weddings and inviting couples to come and celebrate their commitment.

On June 16th Pet Service - bring your pets for a blessing!

On June 23rd a service exploring our doubts All at 10:30 at St.Michael's - something for everyone!

Rector Simon Woodley

Note for newcomers: St Michael's is in St Michael's Road, Bemerton Heath. St John's, between Quidhampton and Lower Bemerton, is used only for weddings and some funerals.

Ooops. The congratulations in the last newsletter to Joseph Coombs, grandson of John and Margaret Willcox of Purbeck, omitted to mention his sport. Joe is a canoe slalom athlete who narrowly missed being selected for

the 2012 Olympics. He was awarded a grant from the Wiltshire Future Olympians scheme to help with training costs as he continues working towards selection for the 2016 Olympics.

Police report

Dear All A quiet last month in the land of Quidhampton with just the one report of a criminal damage whereby someone thought it would be a good idea to smash a windscreen with a brick. Unfortunately nothing was seen and let's hope that this is a one off act of mindless vandalism. We have however, beaten the monthly record - 8 HGV sightings this last month – all of whom have been notified via their operator. Not sure what the answer is over this one but whilst Churchfields exists.....
Regards, PC Pete

Another villager is taking part in a national event: **Raising money for the**

British Heart Foundation

Jackie Peters of Clovelly, the easternmost house in the village, and her daughter Zoe have entered the British Heart Foundation's London to Brighton Bike Ride on 16 June. It is 54 miles which Jackie says is "less than my age but more than twice Zoe's".

If you would like to sponsor them visit www.justgiving.com/Zoe-Peters or simply pop round to see them.

Next year Zoe has set herself the challenge of cycling 300 miles in 10 days in Vietnam in aid of Help for Heroes.

Christian Aid Week collection

£272.93 was collected from 56 envelopes. £187.55 was gift aided which means an extra £46.75 added to the total. Many thanks from collector Jennifer Tyler to all those who contributed to make it a higher figure than last year.

This month's newsletter is sponsored by Janet Eveleigh of South Carolina, USA., previously of Church Lane, Bemerton. She gets it by email and says it reminds her of home more than anything else.

Contributors & Contacts

Police non emergency no.: 101

PC Pete Jung ext. 747442

PCSO Jenny Moss

jenny.moss@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

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

quidhamptonpc@btinternet.com

1 Tower Farm Cottages, Skew Rd.

Website: [http://](http://parishcouncil.quidhampton.org.uk/)

parishcouncil.quidhampton.org.uk/

Wiltshire Council 0300 456 0100

Area Councillor, Peter Edge

tel: 01722 742667

peter@pedge.net

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

Waste and recycling dates

Monday 3 June household and garden waste; Monday 10 June recycling: black box and blue lidded bin; Monday 17 household and garden waste; Monday 24 recycling; Monday 1 July household and garden waste

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