

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

November 2011

**DON'T FORGET QUIDHAMPTON'S BIG FIREWORKS EVENT
AND GUY COMPETITION - see inside**

What's On in November

- Thursday 3 **Judging of the Guys** Lower Road
Monthly pub quiz The White Horse
- Saturday 5 **Grand bonfire and fireworks event** 17.30 start
- Mon 7-11 **Book week and recycling collection** at Bemerton St John school
- Tuesday 8 **WI Open meeting:** plant selection and Gardeners Question Time
19.30 Village Hall
- Friday 11 **Reading of the Names and Remembrance**, St John's Lych Gate 10.45
- Friday 18 **Dress Down Day** Bemerton School bottles
- Saturday 19 **Quidhampton Craft Fair** Village Hall 10.00 - 16.00 (**see below**)
- Tuesday 22 **Parish Council Meeting** incl. **Jubilee Celebration discussion** 19.30 village hall
- Friday 25 **Dress Down Day** Bemerton School bric-a-brac
- Sunday 27 **Service of remembrance** St Andrews 14.30
- Book group:** last Thursday of the month, contact editor
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CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

IN AID OF LOCAL CHARITY
LUCY'S DAYS OUT

Registered Charity Number: 1139352

SATURDAY
19TH NOVEMBER 2011
QUIDHAMPTON
VILLAGE HALL

10AM UNTIL 4PM

LOCAL CRAFTS, GIFTS & PRODUCE
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

ENTRANCE: 50p
CHILDREN: FREE ENTRY

**Come along to see some lovely
affordable gift ideas
for Christmas**

*Jo Penny says: There are several new
stalls this year and the chance to have a
cup of tea, cake and a gossip!*

Stalls include:

- Bob Stephens photographic art
- Butterfly Crafts designer handbags and gifts
- Cyril's Soap Shed : handmade soaps
- Dragonfly Jewellery Designs
- Homemade Fudge
- LazyDaze Children's wear and hand knitted hats
- On Your Doorstep Fabric Designs for Children & the Home
- Phoenix Cards
- Sandie's Cards - beautifully made in Quidhampton
- Secondhand bookstall in aid of Lucy's Days Out

Quidhampton Fireworks and Bonfire Night

Tickets are still available for villagers, family and friends: £5 family ticket, £2 adults and £1 for children before 31 October, £7, £3, and £2 on the day

Events begin at 17.30 and include Ticklish Allsorts, the Guy competition, the bonfire, fireworks, and free sparklers for children. Hot dogs, soup and toffee apples will be on sale.

Thanks go to Ron Smith and his team who are working very hard to make this event a success and to Howard and Denese, firework professionals, who, at the busiest time of their year, are arranging a super display for us. *Safety note from Denese: children who hold sparklers should wear gloves.*

Best Guy Competition: there is still time to enter.

Make sure your guy is displayed on Lower Road by 9 a.m. on **Thursday 3 November**.

To enter: on a piece of paper put the name and address of the child making the guy, where it will be displayed and hand it in, signed by a responsible

adult, to The White Horse by 9 a.m. on Tuesday 1 November.

Any questions ring Clare : 743027



This guy is almost ready

Bemerton St John School: Recycling for cash!

Between **7 and 11 November** we are holding a recycling collection to raise money towards a Christmas entertainment.

We are collecting **unwanted jewellery** (e.g. odd earrings, broken chains and watches, strings of beads), **coins and banknotes from any country** (even French francs, Italian lira etc)

and **mobile phones** in any condition. They will be sold for recycling; so we're helping the environment too.

Pass your unwanted items to a parent at the school or take them into the school office or 45 Lower Road. Have a clear out and help the school !

Moira Packer, chair of the Friends of Bemerton St John's Primary School (FOBS)

WI October meeting Win Perrett talked about the woollen industry in Wilton. The group was interested to learn about Quidhampton Mill as well as the bigger mills in Wilton. Bedford cord was made there until riots in the late 1830s when a mob of nearly 400 stormed it and threw the machines into the river. Win also told us that sheep who roam freely have finer wool while enclosed sheep are fatter with coarser wool.

Two new members were welcomed and flowers sent to Joyce Harvey who recently had a hip replacement operation.

Later note from Joyce: she wants to thank everyone who has sent her cards and flowers and visited her; she is safely home and loving it, so much better than her first operation. Now she has two hips without pain!

Open meeting: 8 November, village hall 19.30 The WI invites villagers and friends to an evening with Chris Bird. Chris is an RHS examiner and has lectured at Sparsholt College for many years. He will talk about choosing the right plants to grow in Quidhampton and will conduct a **Gardener's Question Time**.

Come along with your questions; this is a real chance to get an expert opinion on your gardening problems. Chris is happy to look at plants too, so bring them (or parts of them!) with you.

Members are probably 'baked out' after their magnificent effort at the fete but tea and biscuits will be available.

Remembrance Day, 11 November There will be a short ceremony including reading of the names at the Lych Gate of St John's Church, beginning at 10.45. Afterwards there will be tea and biscuits in the church with a display about Bemerton in wartime, the video results of the laser survey and plans for the changes to the church building. Also available will be background information about some of the names from the First World War. The editor has begun to re-search these and was delighted to discover that a sister of one of them, William Stokes, lives in Salisbury. Dorothy Humphries, born 1915, was featured in October's newsletter. Her daughter said that ever since the Lych Gate was erected the family have put a poppy there every year in memory of William.

Bemerton Local History Society "When I was a lad in Bemerton" by John Abbott, mayor of Salisbury. **Thursday 16 November** Hedley Davis Court 19.00

Bemerton Film Society **Tuesday 22 November** : Casablanca. If you've not seen this classic go along and swoon, laugh, cry. Bemerton St John School 19.00 for 19.30

Special service St Andrew's Church On **Sunday 27 November** at 14.30 there will be a quiet, reflective service to remember those who have passed away this year and in previous years. Names will be read and candles will be lit in their memory. Everyone is invited to attend. Please contact Reverend Susan Drewett with names and numbers: 36 Bulford Road, Durrington SP4 8DJ O1980 652751 rev.susandrewett@btinternet.com

Attic Sale & Autumn Fair at St John's Thanks to everyone who supported this. We raised £550. Our next big event is an evening of carols, readings and mulled wine on **Sunday 18 December**, details next month. *Moirra Packer, Community Fundraiser, Bemerton Community*

White Horse Quiz Night

Did you realise that the winning team gets to choose which charity will receive the money made on the night? Since April £252 has been given to Muscular Dystrophy research, £75 to Riding for the Disabled, £60 to the hospice, £116 to Pembroke Ward and £225 to the Stars Appeal. Why not make up a team and see if you can win some money for your favourite charity?

Sloe gin competition: there's probably just enough time to make some sloe gin for the annual competition at the White Horse, always a tasty occasion.

The Rotary Club sponsored darts

marathon: One pub was disqualified because they had two players playing at the same time! There were no such tricks in Quidhampton and the **White Horse** came second to The George at Shrewton. Well done!

Another missing signpost

Soon after the item in last month's newsletter the fingerpost at the west end of the village was knocked down (or fell over). It's now being safely kept by Wiltshire Council so the expensive metal letters can be re-used. Replacement of fingerposts is now a parish council responsibility. John Blane is concerned about losing trade at The White Horse but has been told that because grant applications have to be made a new signpost may not be in place until the next financial year.

Are we becoming a village with no signposts? Watch this space!

Missing buses?

There have been reports that sometimes evening buses do not come through the village as they are supposed to. If you have experienced this please let the editor know time and date. The information will be collected and passed on.

Forty Years in Quidhampton

Graham and Elizabeth Heeley are proud to celebrate forty years in Quidhampton on 14 November. The editor talked to them about their life in the village and the changes they have seen.

It's hard to imagine the village without Graham and Elizabeth but it was 1969 when Graham began work as a GP in Wilton. They spent two years in the surgery house, but whenever they came to Quidhampton and passed Albion House Elizabeth said, "That's where I want to live."

Buying a house was not easy. In those days GPs could live no further than 3 miles from a telephone exchange. But one day Graham heard of a nearby place not yet with agents - you've guessed it, it was Albion House. They stepped over threshold and said, "Yes."

Their love for the house is obvious. It's been extended at the back, first to house a piano, then as The North Wing, where Graham's parents lived. The original building and extension blend into a charming whole, and reflect full and active lives dominated by love of family. The walls hold sketches of their two daughters, watercolours by Elizabeth's father and old and modern photographs. The many bookshelves are full and chairs, cushions and curtains show Elizabeth's skill with a needle. Everywhere looks thoughtfully planned, not in a modern designer way but as if it grew and is still growing naturally from the interests of the owners blended with the history of the room. Above all it is a house where visitors feel comfortable and welcomed.

Elizabeth was a nurse when they met and continued to work at times while looking after their daughters who both married from Albion House which makes it even more special to them. Now in retirement she enjoys spending even more time on the house and garden and "sews and makes things,"



often for others or village events, but prefers to do it anonymously. Another important part of her life is fundraising for leukaemia research. Her granddaughter, Hannah, had three years of treatment for leukaemia but is now twelve and has happily been in remission for four years. She told her granny that when she felt most ill she could cheer herself up by imagining she was in her granny's house. Clearly a chip off the old block!

Graham retired ten years ago and wonders how he ever found time to work. He's a member and past president of Wilton Rotary Club and chair of governors of Wilton and Barford Primary School, two very time consuming roles. He is also a member of the committee of New Sarum Decorative and Fine Arts Society and is one of the professionally trained volunteers who work on the library at Wilton House.

In important ways, they say, the village has not changed. It was always friendly with a good community life and a good pub. But the facilities are very different. They remember when 6 Alexandra Cottages was a Post Office and General Stores. Bread was delivered and a fish and chip van and a greengrocer's van visited each week. There was a school bus to and from Bemerton, and the public buses were double deckers and less frequent.

Elizabeth and Graham were part of the renowned VE day group when community events happened very regularly. It was a golden time, says Elizabeth, but then people grew older. Now there are more young people in the village and she thinks things

will start up again. She has some wise words for them: don't take on too much. Fetes and entertainments are best every other year or the organisers get too tired and interest wanes.

Have we been here longer than any other incomers? Graham wonders. Do you know anyone who can beat 40 years? I'm sure you won't know anyone who offers a warmer welcome - unless you go round to The North Wing between 14.00 and 14.15 on a weekday, that is. Those 15 minutes are devoted to The Archers!

This month's newsletter is sponsored by Graham and Elizabeth. We owe the village that, they said. I think the village owes them a great deal more.

Postcard from Chez Vignas

Cilla and Rick Pickett left in the summer to live in France. Cilla's postcard for the newsletter, below, shows that they are already very involved in community life. She told me she misses Quidhampton, especially when she heard it was the harvest auction as she hadn't missed one of those in years.

Hello All

Time has flown since we arrived in July. Lots to do in garden and visits from family and friends.

Are beginning to settle in. The hardest thing to come to terms with is the fact that all the lovely things that are normally just holiday are now everyday life!!

Summer was unpredictable, with heat waves, thunderstorms and few cooler spells but Sept. and Oct are just stunning. Still 24C today- mid October - needed a dip in the pool to cool off. Evenings getting cooler and Rick is itching to stoke up the wood burners.

We also have full central heating but with so much wood around, we won't be cold.

For me, being a foodie, the highlight is the local and seasonal produce available in the markets and for free! Walnuts and chestnuts are everywhere. Duck is a local speciality and I am buying beautiful beefsteak tomatoes at no price at all.

Going to a chestnut day tomorrow and on a wild mushroom trail the week after.

A Bientot

Cilla and Rick, Chez Vignas, 24600 Vanxains, Riberac, France

A French foodie joke for Cilla: why do the French eat snails?

Answer: Because they don't like fast food.

New business with local connections

Daryl Lloyd Witt, son of parish councillor, Duncan, has recently taken the brave step of starting his own business. Daryl is an experienced cabinet maker offering "the finest carpentry work including one off bespoke pieces, modern and antique furniture restoration, wood turning and intricate hand carving. High quality at an honest and competitive price."

Daryl has always wanted to work with wood. He chose his two weeks work experience with a local cabinet maker and was immediately offered a job. After GCSE's he did a five year



apprenticeship but five years later the recession meant they were on reduced time. Daryl had to work full time to support his family so he took a landscape gardening job while slowly building his own business in the work he loves.

The best part, he says, is "creating something from scratch to such a high specification, or restoring a beautiful antique to its original condition, and seeing the pleasure it gives the customer to have their piece back looking the

way it should." It's a hard time to start a new business but someone as skilled and enthusiastic as this deserves to succeed.

Daryl's workshop is near Nunton but the best place to see his work is on his website: darylloydffurniture.com. Contact him on 07709485756

Daryl can sometimes be seen in Quidhampton as he house sits for his father when he goes on holiday.

Harvest Festival and Auction:

a newcomer's view

Contributed by Stevie Paul

John and Janice again welcomed everyone to the White Horse and the Rev Susan Drewett officiated, with a short prayer, the singing of two familiar Harvest hymns and a thought-provoking address about sharing our good fortune. Many of us feel overwhelmed by poverty and famine in other countries and feel that we can do little to help but Susan pointed out that we can help our community by being aware of the needs of people around us, particularly in this time of recession e.g. sharing our extra produce, offering to do small jobs for elderly

neighbours, giving food items to the Trussell Trust. We can make a difference locally.

The auction was great fun with bids coming fast and furious for the produce: huge amounts of quinces, apples and marrows, boxes of mixed vegetables, homemade pickles, pumpkins and a bottle of port. £155 was raised for church funds.

It was a most enjoyable and worthwhile evening. Particular thanks are due to the mysterious auctioneer and those handsome chaps at the bar who were very skilled in pushing up the bids!

Now, what am I going to do with this enormous pumpkin I seem to have bought?

Comings and goings

Goodbye to Sam, Justin and Emily Froude, of Millington Cottage, now in Harnham. They moved at such short notice they didn't get to say goodbye and want to do so via the newsletter:

"After seven and a half years of being Quidhampton residents we have moved on. We would like to take this opportunity to say how much we will miss the place and people but that we have thoroughly enjoyed living in the village and will take so many happy memories with us.

From our very first encounter on our moving in day with Ron Smith we were warmly welcomed into the community. We loved all the different events that took place in our favourite place in the village, after our own front room - The White Horse! Hosts of the harvest festival, the monthly pub quiz, Christmas Eve chaos and Christmas Day lunchtime opening, to name but a few, John and Janice were to us the loveliest landlord and lady.

The people who live in Quidhampton are such a special bunch we know we'll be hard pushed to find another place like it. We

would like to say a huge thank you for being part of our lives and being so wonderful." Sam and Justin have asked to receive the newsletter by email and intend to come back for fireworks and quiz nights.

And that leads to.....

Welcome Stevie Paul who moved into Millington Cottage in October. Stevie retired to Salisbury but wanted to live in an old cottage in a village again so is very pleased to be here. She has a daughter, son-in-law and two grandchildren in Salisbury and others in Scotland and Australia. She's taken the chance to do different things in retirement and is a Cathedral Guide and National Trust volunteer. She used to navigate for classic car rallies and is hoping to buy a classic car of her own. Stevie wants to say that she has really appreciated the welcome she has been given and thinks Quidhampton is a very friendly place. She would like to know how Millington Cottage got its name? Can anyone help?

Several others have left and arrived in the village recently. Do get in touch with the editor if you would like this acknowledged.

Crab apple trees

Following Sarah Thornton's fall some of the lower branches of the crab apple trees on the south side of Coronation Square have been removed as well as some of the higher branches that were touching the telephone

lines. Wiltshire Council is reluctant to cut the trees further. The parish clerk was told that residents should ring the council street cleaning department when apples and leaves make the path dangerous. Their number is 01722 434783.

Dumping of Garden Waste: It has been noticed that some parishioners are dumping garden waste on the footpath. Garden waste may be compost but it is a criminal offence to dump it off your own property. Please could the people concerned remove the waste onto their own property or take it to the household tip at Churchfields.

Clare Churchill, parish clerk.

Dog mess again: Sadly there are reports that people have allowed their dogs to foul the footpaths around the playground and, even worse, the playground itself. This is a particularly anti-social act as small children go there. Parish councillor Duncan Witt also reports incidents in the area round the bus stop. Please think of others and clean up after your dog.

Parish Council

Next meeting: **Tuesday 22 November**
19.30 Village Hall

There is a vacancy which can be filled by co-option. Nominations and agenda items with the clerk by 14 November please.

The following serve on the Parish Council: Viv Bass, John Blane, Jean Kalvis, Ian Lovett (Chairman), Dave Roberts (Vice Chairman), Ken Taylor, Jennifer Tyler and Duncan Witt. Contact is via the Parish Clerk, Clare Churchill, see opposite.

The Parish Council will discuss whether a survey should be carried out to assess the need for affordable homes in Quidhampton. It is not easy to see where such homes could be built but Wiltshire Council offered to do the survey in all parishes. If you have any views on the matter please contact the Parish Clerk, contact details opposite.

N. B. Even if there proves to be a big demand houses will not be built unless there are suitable sites.

Do you have ideas for the Jubilee?

The Council will again be discussing ideas for marking the Queen's Jubilee.

They support the celebration and have set some funds aside but nothing will happen without an organising committee.

If you would like to be involved or have ideas please contact the Parish Clerk or come to the meeting on 22 November when the public will be invited to join the discussion.



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 November:

Friday 4, 11 (recycling), 18, 25

(recycling)

100 Club winners: September

1st 95 G Heeley

2nd 100 D Adlam

3rd 126 S Kershaw

Newsletter editor: Bea Tilbrook 742456

bjtis@hotmail.co.uk Meadow Barn Fisherman's

Reach SP2 9BG.

The November newsletter is sponsored by
Graham and Elizabeth Heeley