

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

November 2013

What's On in November

Mon 4 Sarum Academy pupils return to school

Wed 6 Bemerton St John pupils return to school

Thurs 7 monthly village quiz: village hall 20.00 for 20.15

Mon 11 Short remembrance service to include reading of the names, St John's Lych Gate 10.45

Tues 12 Women's Institute: stories of the First World War Village Hall 19.30

Sun 17 Bereavement Service, St Andrews Church*

Tues 19 Stay and Play: Village Hall 10.00 – 11.00*

Wed 20: Bemerton Film Society: We Need to Talk about Kevin 19.00 St John's school*

Thurs 21 Parish Council Meeting 19.30 Village Hall

Thurs 28 Bemerton Local History Society: recent research. Hedley Davis Court 19.00

Sunday December 1: Advent carols, St Andrews 16.00

**More details in newsletter*

Village Quiz Night

The October quiz was a great success, financially and socially, with teams of all ages. Howard Rowley, quizmaster and organiser, would like to thank everyone who helped. £70 was donated to Salisbury Hospital CT Scanner Appeal, the charity chosen by the winning team.

Don't forget the next quiz night:

**Thursday 7 November Village Hall
20.00 for 20.00 start**

Tapas and drinks available or bring a bottle and hire a glass

The only regular way to socialise and meet new people in the village

100 Club September winners

1st 134 L & B Payne

2nd 24 A Catford

3rd 7 G C-Moore

Thanks to everyone who supports the 100 Club. All profits are divided between the Entertainments Fund and the Village Hall. The draw takes place at the monthly quiz.

A new venture for Quidhampton

Free session for all parents and young children

STAY AND PLAY

Tuesday 19 November

Quidhampton Village Hall 10.00 – 11.00

Meet other parents, do activities to help your child's development, and talk to the team from Wilton Children's centre for support and advice.

One child must be aged 0 – 5, brothers and sisters welcome

Contact the children's centre : 743364 or just come along

Also Tuesday 17 December

***Please note the new date for the Parish Council meeting:
Thursday 21 November.***

There will not be a meeting on Tuesday 26 as previously announced

Correction of a correction: village fete quiz answers: There are 50 states in the US including Alaska and Hawaii. Washington DC and Puerto Rico are not states. Hope that clears it up!

False widow spider in Quidhampton
Tony Bolger of Havilland Cottages spoke to the editor :

On one of the last sunny October days Tony was cutting roses in his garden when a spider fell from the bush, landed on his bare chest, and dropped to the ground. Tony quickly realised he'd been bitten. There were two raised marks and pain spreading across the left side of his chest, pain so severe he thought it might be a heart attack. It faded after about 45 minutes and there have been no after effects. Tony contacted his GP who said, from the description, it probably was a false widow spider bite.

Since then the false widow spider has been in the news and most readers will have seen photos of it.

The Natural History Museum website says seven species of false widow spider have been recorded in the UK. The one that is causing problems was first seen here in the 1870s and has become more established since the 1980s. It likes mak-

ing a web at least 1.5 metres off the ground. Inside homes it likes conservatories and kitchens, especially high up. Its web is not a classic spider's web but a three dimensional tangle of threads.

It does not bite unless provoked, preferring to run away. Bite symptoms have generally never been much worse than a wasp sting, perhaps longer lasting and with some radiating pain from the site. Currently such bites are **not considered medically significant**, though if more severe symptoms are experienced it would be wise to seek medical advice.

Be aware that heart palpitations and hot and cold sweats are symptoms of shock and more likely to be attributed to the event of a spider bite rather than any effect of the spider venom.

It would also be wise to be fully clothed and wear gloves when gardening. Tony has found and trapped a second false widow spider on his flowers which suggests it is established here.

See Erskine/Wilton Hill planning submission at Wilton Council Chamber

Revised planning has gone in for Wilton Hill, the former Erskine Barracks site, and can be inspected 9.00-13.00 weekdays at the Wilton Council chamber, or search online on the Wiltshire Council planning portal for application number 13/04870/OUT. There are 150 documents, and I suggest readers first look at the Planning Statement, the Design and Access Statement and the Statement of Community Involvement. Wiltshire Council's closing date to receive comments is 21st November.

You'll see that the new plans provide for

292 Redrow homes of various sizes, 40 retirement homes and an Enterprise Zone providing accommodation and jobs. The Enterprise Zone, planned in outline at present, provides a further 130 accommodations primarily for services veterans in apartments, live in work units, a care home and adapted houses. 22 of the apartments will be for rental on a Wilton first basis. A business enterprise hub is also planned, together with further business units, and a convenience store. Community involvement means that the site will have higher than usual levels of sustainability.

Contributed by Ken Taylor

In late summer **Wiltshire Wildlife** wardens were in the village for a day on a mission to rid the waterways of giant hogweed and Japanese knotweed. Noxious weeds, biting spiders... what next in Quidhampton?

Ha ha ha .. or a groan. The December newsletter usually includes some seasonal jokes. If you know any – witty, clever, or only suitable for a Christmas cracker – please send them in.

Bus Pass Christmas Party

Saturday 7 December Village Hall at 15.00

Put on your glad rags and join us
to start the Christmas Festivities.



Prizes for the best made Christmas card wishing the village
good cheer.

Anyone with a short **party piece** for the music interval will be rapturously received.

Request time with Sophie: have your favourite songs ready
All proud owners of a bus pass living in Quidhampton invited
admission free : donations to the raffle very welcome

For catering purposes please let us know as soon as possible if you are coming
Phone Maureen (743587) or Joy (743080). Cut off date: Monday 2 December.
We look forward to seeing you.

Church News

Remembrance Service, including reading of the names on the memorial: 11 November at 10:45 at St. Johns Lych Gate. Representatives from Bemerton St. John school will be attending.

Bereavement Service 17 Nov, 14:30, St. Andrews church: a chance to say a prayer for those loved and lost, but never forgotten.

Advent Carols on 1 December at 16.00 in St. Andrews. A great way to start your preparations for Christmas. Avoid the

crowds at the Cathedral and shop local instead!

Many thanks for the half dozen who are now taking turns to lock up St. Andrews – it's so great to have your help. (*This means you can go inside this historic church at any time for prayer or to be in a quiet place or simply out of curiosity.*) If anyone would like to serve tea and coffee at St. Michael's in our cafe, there are still spaces for volunteers! Please let me know!

Rev Simon Woodley

Bemerton Film Society : We Need To Talk About Kevin

Wednesday 20 November St John's school 19.00 for 19.30 start

This 2011 film is not easy to watch. The relationship between a desperate mother and her malevolent psychotic son makes a gripping psychological thriller but there is neither sentimentality nor false hope as the tragedy unfolds.

Advance notice

Quidhampton Carol Service will take place in the Village Hall on Saturday 21 December at 16.30.

The programme so far consists of carol singing and readings. Contact Joy Wagstaff (743080) or Bea Tilbrook (742456) if you can help with performances or Clare Churchill (743027) to help with organization.

Circus Success Nearly 400 tickets were sold by the Friends of Bemerton St John School for the Happy Circus staged in a Big Top on the Recreation Ground. A really happy atmosphere for families surrounded the occasion. The amount raised will be reported next time.

Stella Garry: memories of a life long villager

Stella Garry of Coronation Square is one of a growing number of villagers who are ninety years old. Stella has lived here all her life so has a unique perspective on Quidhampton.

When I interviewed Stella I was immediately struck by how alert and active she is. She says that's because she's kept busy all her life and has always read, done crosswords etc. Her sight deteriorated five or six years ago, but she still watches TV quiz shows and showed me an amazing pair of glasses – something between spectacles and binoculars – that enable her to see enough to enjoy them. "I don't sit and think about my age, I just get on", she said.

Stella was born in 1923 in Victory Cottage, now Millington Cottage, where her parents and grandparents lived. Her grandfather, Henry Wainwright, worked at the whiting factory driving a steam powered Foden lorry. Her grandmother was French: Jeanne Marguerite Bastide and they met in Paris in 1897. He was a groom travelling with his employer, but married men in service couldn't live with their families so they came here to be near his mother.

A Frenchwoman in Quidhampton was very unusual in those days. Jeanne was an excellent cook and used to help as a midwife and to lay out the dead. Like many other women of the village Jeanne and her daughter Marguerite, (Stella's mother), worked in the Wilton Estate laundry.

Marguerite married Albert Williams, one of sixteen children, from Salisbury, and had three children, Stella, Bertie and Marianne. They went to Netherhampton school, as did many from that end of the village. Stella got a scholarship but her parents couldn't afford to send her to the



grammar school so she finished her schooling in Wilton.

Stella says her grandfather was very active in village life, running a boys club with its own library, whist drives and other social activities. Prizes cost sixpence from Woolworths.

Her mother died in 1939 when Stella was 16 and she then had to look after the house and family as well as working at Wilton carpet factory. That year was also the beginning of the Second World War. "The war woke us up in Quidhampton," Stella said emphatically. "If you had a spare room you had to have a soldier in it, and there was every kind of nationality." RAF airgunners were billeted in the village hall and went to Wilton House for their training.

Stella worked in the Air Ministry offices at Chilmark. She met her husband, Ted Garry from Birmingham, at the White Horse and they married 9 months later. He was in the artillery. "The pub often had little alcohol to sell but people went for the social occasion. It was always the place for gossip!" Ted played the piano one night and continued, playing for local bands after the war, sometimes for Rosemary Squires.

Stella didn't want to move to Birmingham so they moved in with her parents, then to one of the Nissan huts behind the pub and

finally to one of the newly built houses in Coronation Square, two doors away from Ted and Peg Thornton who Stella says have been the best neighbours anyone could wish for.

Ted Garry died in 1975. "We were very happy," Stella said "and blessed with brothers John and Michael, whom we adopted." John now runs a haulage business in Edinburgh, Michael has an electronics business and lives at Stapleton.

Marianne, Stella's sister, married John Gape and they lived next door. After Ted died Stella moved in with them and still lives there with John today. Marianne died three years ago. Their brother, Bertie, died when he was 27 from a thrombosis caused by a kick in a football match.

Stella says the biggest change in the village is that she knows only a few people. When she was younger she knew everyone who lived here. She wouldn't like to be a child today. "They grow up far too quickly," she said. "They can't play in the streets, they don't have the freedom that we had". Some, she feels, don't always show enough respect to elderly people.



Stella and Ted Garry 1974

Stella's family, Wilton Carpets and the Queen

Stella, her husband, sister and brother-in-law all worked for Wilton carpets. John was there for fifty years, rising to maintenance manager. Stella worked in the laboratory while Marianne worked in repairs.

The repair team would sometimes get a call from Windsor Castle regarding a repair to a corner of the carpet in the Queen's private apartments where the corgis had been misbehaving. They would remove small pieces of each affected colour and take them to Wilton where Stella and colleagues in the laboratory mixed dyes until they got an exact match. Small amounts of wool were then dyed and taken to Windsor Castle where the team sewed it very carefully into the damaged carpet. It usually took two or three days and they stayed overnight in the grounds. Stella and John still treasure the thank you letters Marianne got from the Queen.

She thinks the village is better kept today and people look after their houses more.

Once her children were older Stella went back to work at Wilton carpets but had to retire at 60 which she resented. She loved her job and felt she had more years to give. She kept herself busy with voluntary work and evening classes, including a cordon bleu class. She's always loved cooking – a talent from her French grandmother no doubt – and still makes a full Sunday lunch. People cook less now, she says, there are more convenience foods and takeaways.

Stella celebrated her birthday quietly with her family, looking back on her long life, no doubt, with its tragedies and joys. It is certainly a very different world to the one she was born into but I get the impression that Stella sees it with quite a balanced eye. The past wasn't all golden and neither is the present all bad.

**Some of Stella's childhood memories:
Quidhampton in the 1920's and 30's**

- No cars came through the village except on race days.
- Children sat on the wall on the corner of Lower Road and Netherhampton Road and shouted "Penny for the races." Racegoers would throw pennies for them
- Children drew chalk stumps on Elm Cottage (next to the village hall) and played cricket across the street.
- There was a sweet shop next to Rose Cottage, down the steep steps. When the shopkeeper moved to what is now the Old Bakery the shop moved too
- There was a blacksmith on Tinkerpit corner
- The Penny family lived next door to Victory Cottage. They were coal merchants and ran a shop selling sweets and knick knacks
- Where Hampton Court is now was a field where gypsies and peddlers stayed
- Your jug could be filled with milk at the farm at the west end of the village
- There was no lighting in the street and houses were lit with oil lamps and candles
- The village pump was between Coronation Square and Edgam Place – another good place for gossip
- People had an outside toilet which was emptied every Friday
- When piped water came to the village many landlords had just one outside tap installed per house
- After work all the men washed, had tea and went to the pub

Congratulations - to Sam and Paul Finnerty of Coronation Square on the birth of their daughter Lola Faye on 29 September. Baby weighed 7lbs 4oz. Mother and baby are doing well.



- to Nicky Burgess, daughter of Camilla and Peter Burgess of The Coolins, who married Andy Copeland on 28 September in St John's, Bemerton. The ceremony was followed by a reception during which the bride and groom sang and played as part of the live music entertainment.



- to Bethan Strawson who has successfully completed her MA in textile design at Bath University.

Our sympathy goes to the family of **Rosemary Denton** of Albion Bungalows who died on 6 October. She had a serious stroke earlier this year but was able to remain in her home with the help of carers and her sons.

Sympathy is also extended to **Gordon Mitchell** of Albion Bungalows whose wife of sixty six years, Anne, died recently after some time in a care home.

Say not in grief she is no more but live in thankfulness that she was

The Studio Theatre

Camilla Burgess, Quidhampton's talented theatre professional, was delighted to be asked to direct Studio Theatre's production of three episodes of Fawlty Towers when the original director withdrew. "Farce is in my blood," she said. Her father, Geoffrey Lumsden, wrote Caught Napping, a farce that played in the West End in 1959 after opening in Salisbury with Timothy West and Prunella Scales.

Camilla says she has 'a perfect cast' for Fawlty Towers, and an especially 'wonderful' Manuel. Three episodes are being performed:

A Touch of Class (Basil fawns over Lord Melbury who is not what he seems)

Communication Problems (a demanding deaf guest stays at the hotel)

The Hotel Inspectors (you can imagine what happens!)

This production sounds as though it will attract people who don't usually go to the theatre. Better get your tickets early.

Traffic and roads

Park Wall traffic lights: Clare Churchill, Parish Clerk, reports that Wiltshire Council recently approached the Highways Agency about the possibility of traffic turning right at the Park Wall traffic lights (junction of the A36 and the A3094, Netherhampton Road). The idea was that if traffic turned right it would not use Quidhampton as a short cut. "Highways Agency were quite dear: no chance", she said, adding that people who lived here when there was a right turn will remember the long queues. Traffic flow improved when the right turn was removed. Coincidentally Redrow, the Erskine

Barracks developers, did their own survey and came to the same conclusion: with a right turn added queues would stretch for much longer in all directions, especially along the Netherhampton Road. Their survey showed that 35 cars an hour go round the Wilton roundabout and head for Salisbury.

Speed limit: by the time you read this the 40 mph signs on the A3094 should be in place. So far only the posts have been put up. Lesa Drewett of Quidhampton Mill says she is pleased to see spray lines around the noisy dip on the A3094 just at the end of the junction of Lower Road as that surely means work will begin soon.

A savage village? Mary Crowther reports:

Our neighbour "Barry the Hippy" (his description) heard his cockatoos squawking recently and on going out to their cage was strafed by a predatory buzzard !

I chatted to an understandably indignant "brother who walks the black and white dog" from Nadder Lane who had been charged by an escaped goat outside the pub !

And quite a few residents have had near misses with the farmer's goose, now alone after its mate was taken by the fox.

Who would have thought life in Quidhampton could be so savage ?!



created by John Cleese and Connie Booth

*5th, 6th, 7th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th & 14th December
each night at 7.30pm - Matinée (Dec 7th) at 2.30pm*

tickets £10 and £8 (concs) from Salisbury Information Centre,
Fish Row, Salisbury. tel 01722 342860

Parking in the village is on the agenda of the **Parish Council** at its re-arranged meeting on Thursday 21 November. 19.30 Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can speak at the beginning of the meeting. There is still a vacancy for a councillor. Do you know someone who could do it?

Police news:

Hi everyone, we've had 5 HGV sightings this month and a similar scheme is up and running in Lower Bemerton. We share the info so we aren't duplicating. The shed /outbuilding issues: these are the most vulnerable of our buildings and often contain the goodies the criminals are after. I still believe the best form of deterrent is a noisy shed alarm that can be purchased from the interweb. Regards, PC Pete

Shed break ins

On the night of 26 October two sheds were broken into at The Alders (the row of houses on the north side of Lower Road, nearest Salisbury) and some equipment taken. PC Jung's newsletter message this month is again about the value of alarms on sheds. He recommends an alarm that makes a loud noise, easily available on the internet. Chris Edge of The Alders said nothing was taken from his shed because it was very tightly packed which suggests that the perpetrators do not want to risk hanging about and that a noise alarm would be effective.

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All ideas and contributions to the newsletter gratefully received

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Problems with HGVs: contact PC Jung
or leave a note in the black box.
WI: Valerie Fry 742082
Village Hall bookings:
Sabine Dawson 742843
Waste and recycling dates
Monday 4 Nov household and garden waste; **Mon 11 Nov** recycling: black box and blue lidded bin; **Mon 18 Nov** household and garden waste; **Mon 25 Nov** recycling

This month's newsletter is sponsored by the donor of the silver jug that was sold to a dealer after the table top sale last year. The donor wanted the newsletter to keep the money, and wants to remain anonymous.