

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

March 2014

What's On in March

Every Monday : Zumba Class Village Hall 16.30-17.15

Weds 5: Ash Wednesday Communion Service: St Andrews 19.30

Thurs 6: Year 5 Open Evening Sarum Academy

Thurs 6: Monthly charity quiz Village Hall 20.00

Tues 11: Lent course every Tuesday 19.30 St Andrews

Weds 12: Call The Midwife Revisited:

Bemerton Film Society from 19.00 Bemerton St John school

Mon 17: parents evening week, Bemerton St John

Tues 18: Stay and Play: free for parents and under fives.

Village hall 10.00 – 11.00 Run by the Children's Centre, Wilton

Fri 21: Staff training day Bemerton St John and Sarum Academy: no pupils in school

Tues 25: Parish Council meeting Village Hall 19.30

Thurs 27: Parental Stakeholders Meeting Sarum Academy 17.00

Future of the Village Hall -Your Village Needs You!

A message from the Village Hall Committee:

Over recent months it has become clear that the Village Hall is a small but essential part of our community so it is even more critical that we address seriously a major problem that is about to arise. Peter Dawson, who has been the Hall's manager (and carried out most of the other Hall jobs as well) for many years, would like to hand over his responsibilities this summer.

Unless we find another saint to take over all Peter's jobs, we think they would best be shared out by a pro-active committee according to their skills and enthusiasm. For example, Peter currently covers: accountancy, furniture and maintenance, key issue and control, and arranges Fire and Health and Safety checks, utility and cleaning contracts etc. None of the jobs are too demanding on their own: less than an hour a week would cover them.

Readers are therefore invited (begged, if necessary!) to volunteer their willingness to become a Village Hall committee member and, in due course, take on one of the Hall jobs. Volunteers are asked to indicate their saintliness by contacting the editor or John Cater: Tel: 744079.

Editor: I've lost count of the number of people who've said 'thank goodness for the village hall' recently and even talked of improvements. Now we need some of Quidhampton's community spirit just to keep it going. Which job could you help with?

Another church at a crossroads

Fugglestone St Peter, the church by the Wilton roundabout, is having the same problems as St John's. St Peters, however, is much older and used to be the main church in our parish. Quidhampton people were buried, married and christened there for centuries. Maintenance and heating problems now seem overwhelming. If you are interested in the fate of this church go along to the meeting:

Saturday 8 March 15.30 Wilton Community Centre

WI : At a special meeting on 31 January Quidhampton Women's Institute voted unanimously to be suspended. This means the WI ceases to exist in Quidhampton but funds are available for a new group should one start up in the next two years.

The April meeting, **Cuba by Sarah Buttenshaw**, will go ahead as a village talk.

The suggestion of a summer party to mark twenty years of the WI in Quidhampton and say a proper goodbye to members past and present was enthusiastically agreed. The scrapbook and other records will be kept in the proposed local history room at St John's. If those plans do not work out or it later closes they will be given to the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre at Chippenham.

If you have any photos of the WI in action (e.g. serving teas at the fete) please give them to the editor or any other member so they can be included.

Call The Midwife: this well attended talk by Terri Scott Jupp, was fascinating. "It put a different light on the glamour of filming," was one comment and indeed it was hard to see any glamour at all. Many people know it can take all day to film four minutes but not many realise how untidy, even chaotic, things can be on a film set, how restricted a space the actors have and how many people are crowded round them.

Terri makes sure all medical details are correct (they are fanatical about detail, she said) and makes sure all the babies are properly looked after. Although models are sometimes used most of the work is done with real babies about a week old. Terri explained how she crouches under or beside the bed or even over the actor to make sure a real baby appears at just the right moment and onto the part of the bed that has been specially warmed. She has already worn out one pair of knee pads.

After deducting expenses £60 was given to Terri for a cancer research charity.

If you missed it or want to hear more go along to Lower Bemerton on 12 March.

It is with great sadness the newsletter reports the death of Lesley Buckley. Lesley was chair of the gardening club for many years and well known in the village. A Lower Bemerton friend said: "She was a lovely person, who gave you a good feeling any time you met or saw her, even for just a greeting. What a huge loss." Our thoughts are with her husband, Ian, and daughter, Emily.

A version of the story of Lesley's life that was read at her celebration will be in the next newsletter.

The Village Quiz

..continues on the first Thursday of the month.

Last month £30 was raised for Wiltshire Air Ambulance, nominated by the winning team. Bring your own bottle and hire a glass or make a donation for a drink and join in the only regular social event in the village.

Snacks available.

£1 quiz fee.

Cat mystery : Cilla Pickett, back temporarily from France, had an unexpected visitor: the family's cat who left home four years ago: *Three weeks ago he returned and won't leave our sides! We are convinced someone adopted him as he is so fat and healthy. We'd be happy to leave him with his new family, otherwise we'll get a pet passport and take him back to France.*

If you know him or anything about his life for the past 4 years please let me know at Melrose, Albion House or 742927 or 07546 437080

He is black, with white paws, half a white nose, bib and a white tip to his tail.

Stay and Play free sessions for parents/carers and children under five
Becky Poole writes:

I've been attending the Quidhampton stay and play, with my two girls, since it started in October 2013. We've made spider webs, painted Christmas decorations, planted spring flower bulbs and made lots of noise, all in the comfort of our own Village Hall. Unfortunately it hasn't been well attended (the busiest morning saw just three families there), so if interest doesn't pick up it is unlikely to continue beyond this month.



With children centres being closed around the country we are lucky to have one in Wilton and even more fortunate that they are prepared to come to us.

I appreciate that I am on maternity leave and not everyone eligible will be able to attend, however, if you are free please do come along and let anybody else you can think of know about the next session - they don't need to be Quidhampton residents or parents. Childminders and grandparents can go too. I am sure Jane (who runs the sessions) is rather bored of just my company! **"Use it or loose it!"**

Reliable and experienced **Cleaner/housekeeper required** for village house, to include some ironing. 4 hours, fortnightly. £10 p/h. Call Victoria : 07891 518169

Private tuition in Quidhampton: Dr Becky Poole offers maths and science tuition, up to and including GCSE, and biology at all levels. Cost £10 an hour. Becky also offers one-off sessions for that something that's proving a little tricky. Call 501648

There will soon be an **electric car** in the village: Lesa and Martin Drewett of Quidhampton Mill have had a charging point fitted and are awaiting delivery.

Bemerton St John School news from Emma Curteis

- the well attended Parents Forum resulted in several suggestions for the new school website. The date for the next forum will be decided when parents have voted for their preferred time of day for the meetings. Go to www.bemerton.com to vote.
- Also on the website is a general questionnaire for parents (Parents and Carers/ Parent View). **As many parents as possible are asked to fill this in:** Ofsted look at it before inspections
- Friends of Bemerton School held a very successful disco recently : 174 out of 208 children attended.
- Please save your Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers for us

One of our young **Valley News deliverers** noticed a set of keys in the door of a house. No one answered when he knocked so he took them out and knocked on neighbouring doors until he found someone to take them in. Young people today, eh? We can be proud of them!

Police report: Dear All, thankfully the weather seems to be a little kinder (hope I haven't spoken too soon!) Take care with all the potholes, especially on country roads, that are full of water. Yes I have ruined a wheel and a tyre on my own car so know the frustration experienced by many!

On a positive note – no reported crime in the village this last month and only 2 LGV's!
All the best, PC Pete

It's worth complaining!

When the **07.49 R3 bus** failed to turn up the parish clerk complained. This is part of the reply:

Dear Mrs Churchill

We would like to apologise for the inconvenience caused to you when the driver did not take the correct route and missed out Quidhampton yesterday morning.

We have identified the driver concerned and they will be interviewed by a manager concerning this incident as not following your duty card or misreading it cannot be tolerated.

Debbie Potter Operations Assistant
Salisbury Reds 01722 410235

Email:

debbie.potter@salisburyreds.co.uk

There are the contact details so if it happens to you: complain.

Litter bins: Clare Churchill also asks that villagers report full bins to CLARENCE 0800 232323. She did that and 'the lovely chaps came along and emptied it.' If it goes unreported it ends up overflowing.

Potholes should be reported in the same way. If it isn't reported it won't be filled.

Parish Council: next meeting 25

March. With the co-option of Victoria and Charles Frank of Almeric the council is at full strength.

The White Horse: it's cheering to see the pub being smartened up. Enterprise Inns expects to be doing some showings to prospective tenants in early March.

The historic village photographs were given to the editor for safekeeping. They will be returned when the pub is open again.

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Rector of Bemerton

Rev Simon Woodley 333750

Parish Office 328031

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 3 March recycling; **Monday**

10 household and garden waste;

Monday 17 recycling; **Monday 24**

household and garden waste;

Monday 31 recycling

100 Club winners for January

1st 66 D Heather

2nd 120 Joyce Harvey

3rd 1 Anne Meridith

This month's newsletter is paid for by the Parish Council