

# Quidhampton Village Newsletter

December 2014

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## What's on in December 2014

## *Quidhampton Events in bold*

<b>Thursday 4</b>	<b>Monthly Charity quiz The White Horse 20.00</b>
<b>Friday 5</b>	Dress down day in exchange for cakes/chocolates St John's School
<b>Friday 5</b>	Christmas bazaar St John's school 15.30 – 17.00
<b>Saturday 6</b>	<b>Bus Pass Party Village Hall 15.00</b>
<b>Sunday 14</b>	<b>Part 2 whisky tasting White Horse 16.00 booking essential</b>
<b>Sunday 14</b>	<b>Skittles for a turkey at The White Horse 18.30</b>
<b>Sunday 14</b>	Christmas Concert St Johns 18.00
<b>Tuesday 16</b>	<b>Carol Service in The White Horse 19.30, sausage and mash supper 18.00</b>
<b>Wednesday 17</b>	Bemerton Film Society 'Quartet' 19.30
<b>Thursday 18</b>	Christingle Service St John's 14.30
<b>Friday 19</b>	End of term
<b>Saturday 20</b>	<b>Village Hall Christmas Concert and Carols from 16.00</b>
<b>Monday 22</b>	<b>Christmas Raffle The White Horse 20.00</b>
<b>Sunday 28</b>	<b>Sloe Gin competition entries in 15.30</b>
<b>Wednesday 31</b>	<b>New Year's Eve Party ticket only</b>

**Church services: see enclosed Christmas card**

**The White Horse Inn Christmas opening hours:**

**Christmas Day** open for drinks only 12.00 – 14.00

**Boxing Day** open for drinks only 12.00 – 14.00 and 18.00 – 22.00

**The White Horse Inn Christmas Party Menu** is available from Wednesday to Saturday, from 3 December (not Quiz Night). Booking and pre-orders essential.

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## **Christmas Concert and Carols in Quidhampton Village Hall Saturday 20 December**

Doors open 16.00 for free mince pie and glass of mulled wine or apple juice

16.30 – 17.30 carols, readings etc by local adults and children

*This event is sponsored by the Parish Council and others so villagers, young and old, and their families, can get together for a short celebration of the spirit of Christmas and community. Don't miss it!*



## **Channel swim!**

As this is being printed Rebecca Hudson of Elm Cottage is doing the last two miles of her marathon swim. She challenged herself to swim 44 miles in Five Rivers Pool, the distance to France and back. 2382 lengths. What an achievement!

This raised over £500 for Aspire, a charity giving practical help to people with spinal cord injuries. Thanks to everyone who supported Rebecca.

## The White Horse Inn : more events and news from Zoe & Nick

**Monthly Charity Quiz: Thursday 4th December.** Always a very successful evening, especially with the pre-quiz meal. This month it's festive roast dinner with Christmas crackers, paper hats and mince pies. £9.95 per head, from 18:30. Book early to avoid disappointment. Quiz begins 20.00

We now operate a weekly **Bonus Ball Draw** at £1.00 per square. Choose a number from 1 – 49 and if it is the Bonus Ball number drawn in the Saturday main lotto draw you get £25. The rest goes to Wiltshire Air Ambulance. Some people have a go from time to time, others like the same number every week. If you want to join in pop in and see us.

### **The White Horse Inn Malt Whisky Society Chapter 2 Sunday 14 December 16.00**

Booking essential £20 per head. For those who missed out on the Chapter 1 tasting sessions, these will be run again, in January 2015. Booking essential. *This could be the perfect gift for the man or woman who has everything and is tricky to buy for.* Speak to Nick if you would like to buy a tasting session as a gift.

### **Skittle for a Turkey 18.30 Sunday 14 December**

£2.00 per entrant, highest score wins the bird!

### **Christmas Carol Service Tuesday 16 December**

Join us from 18.00 for a Sausage & Mash Supper (£7.50 per head) followed by Christmas Carols at 19.30 prompt. Lovely traditional singing, Christmas humour and words from the clergy to make you think – as well as plenty of Christmas spirits!



### **Christmas Raffle Draw Monday 22 December 20.00: fabulous prizes!**

Squares will be on sale until 19.30 on the night. We have pledged that there will be over 100 prizes, valued at over £1000! So far they include: TV with built in DVD Player, DAB Radio, Kindle, Hudl 2 Tablet, Sony Digital Camera, Cordless Drill, Ladies Sekonda Watch, 3 Tier Food Steamer, Kettle, Toaster, Slow Cooker, Smoothie Maker, plus a joint of meat, bottles of wine, spirits, beer, lager & cider, chocolates, biscuits, health and beauty gifts and more. All prizes come with an optional bang! Ask Zoe, Nick or one of the team for details.

### **Sloe Gin Competition Sunday 28th December**

Have your entry here by 15.30 Sunday afternoon, then stay and take part in the judging process. Ian Lovett, Rich Stokes and Sam Stokes all have their name on the cup. Whose name will it be this year?

**New Year's Eve Party: Tickets £15.00 each** Join us for our very first Quidhampton New Years Eve Party! A 60's, 70's & 80's Disco will have us all up and dancing, there will be a full buffet, a glass of fizz to welcome in the New Year and Midnight Fireworks. It promises to be a night of fun and laughter, so why not join us to say 'Hello 2015'? Ticket only event, numbers limited.

**ONGOING Takeaway Fish & Chips** available Monday to Saturday evening and lunchtimes, not just Fridays as some thought. £6.95 small / £8.95 large. Available 12.00-14.00 and 18.00-20.30. Order on 744448. (continued on p3)

**NEW Essentials: a new service from your local pub.** Now available to purchase: things you just cannot manage without when you've run out: toilet rolls (in 2's), instant coffee, tea bags, baked beans, milk, sliced bread, dog and cat food. We're happy to consider other items. Pop in or call us to have a chat.

**Coming in January 2015:** Monthly Meat Draw, Afternoon Tea Dance, Burns Night, Winter Warmers Menu

**Something else to look forward to in January:**

**"Is it on the trolley?"** an evening at the Studio Theatre of sketches by Victoria Wood. Camilla Burgess is overseeing what promises to be another delightful evening. Save one of the dates: **January 29 – 31.** More details next month.

**Christmas concert St John's  
18.00 Sunday 14 December**

Christmas songs, carols, and readings with a contribution from the Bemerton St John School choir. Mulled wine, mince pies and hot chocolate on sale, plus the chance to buy last minute gifts and home-made Christmas goodies. All welcome, no entry charge. Don't forget to dress warmly. Proceeds to Bemerton Community



**QUARTET**

**Bemerton Film Society Wednesday 17  
December St John's School**

19.30 start, doors open 19.00 £7 with mulled wine and mince pies. If you saw *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* you will love *Quartet*, a feel-good comedy perfect for this time of year. Pauline Collins, Tom Courtenay and Billy Connolly play retired musicians who live contentedly in a plush retirement home until a famed soprano and ex-wife, played by Maggie Smith, arrives.

If you can make the time to get to see *Quartet* you will be richly rewarded. It is the first film directed by Dustin Hoffman and one critic wrote: 'Dustin Hoffman should never direct again. Perfection like this cannot be repeated.'

**New Look for Quidhampton Mill**

Lesa Drewett writes "Our nationally acclaimed local bed and breakfast is re-opening at the beginning of December as two self catering apartments with additional options of continental breakfast delivered in the morning, shopping for additional breakfast items and a home cooked dinner".

*Lesa and Martin Drewett have built a reputation for five star service and it looks set to continue.*

*The January newsletter will have an interview with them and photos of the newly renovated apartments.*

Rates from £100 a night, room only, for a minimum three night stay. Two night stay from £115, reductions for 7 nights or more. They are already fully booked for Christmas but there is availability before 21 December and after 29 December.

**A3094 Netherhampton to Wilton Road**

Lesa is also known for her efforts to improve the Netherhampton Road. Many residents have complained about the noise of lorries bouncing on the uneven surface by the Lower Road junction. Recently it was announced that Wiltshire Council will not patch repair it: they will do a full re-surfacing of the carriageway from Park Wall traffic lights to the racecourse junction. This is very good news. There is no date yet – time is needed to organise the road closure – but it will be 'this winter.'

**October 100 Club Winners**

- 1st Ron Strange - No 81
- 2nd B Scanlon - No 45
- 3rd Ian Lovett - No 109

## Fireworks in Quidhampton again!

**Howard Rowley**, the man who makes it all happen, writes on behalf of *The Pyro Team*:

“What started as a wet November day turned into a scorching evening of pyrotechnics at the village firework show. More than 400 people attended, the vast majority being family and friends of villagers.

The evening kicked off with a children’s entertainer in the marquee and sparklers in the car park.



A successful evening relies on a lot of people so here is the acceptance speech.

First thanks to Zoe, Nick and their team, who worked all day, for letting us use the pub as the organisational heartbeat of the event and their tireless efforts from early morning setting up to throwing out the fireworks team late in the evening. It was exceptional to take on an event of this magnitude and make it seem so effortless.



Thanks to Jonathan Young for heading the team, his tireless efforts on the day and his all day effort clearing up the day after.

Big thanks to all volunteers who helped over the weekend, particularly our fire safety expert, Chris Edge, who kept us safe by lighting the bonfire after everyone had left!!

We are grateful to Mark Game and Wilton Estates for the loan of the field, to the Parish Council for its generous support and to Alan and first timer Elton for firing the display with us. And thanks to everyone who came, we



hope you enjoyed it.

The fireworks and display were courtesy of Royal Party Fireworks, look them up at [royalpartyfireworks.com](http://royalpartyfireworks.com) and see if you can identify what you saw”.

*Newcomers may not realise that Royal Party Fireworks (via Howard’s wife, Denese) provide far more fireworks for the money than you would get elsewhere.*

*Howard also says: learning points for next year are to keep the bonfire covered, and make sure there are more helpers to clear up the next day. It is a tedious job but has to be done. Special thanks go to the few who did turn up – you are real community heroes.*

A nine year old from Andover said it was “a pretty impressive event. A wild range of colours covered the sky but the applause was not long enough at the end – it deserved more!”

All profits go to the Village Entertainments Fund.



## Cycling in Vietnam: 29 March – 8 April 2014

Over a year ago an entry for the scarecrow competition announced Zoe Peter's decision to challenge herself by entering the Help For Heroes charity bike ride in Vietnam.

The figure on a bicycle looking at a map of South East Asia outside Clovelly attracted a lot of attention and launched her fund raising campaign.

Zoe had to raise £3600 and a registration fee and managed most of it before Christmas. People were most generous at supermarkets and Wilton Garden Centre, she said, where she didn't stand passively asking for money but cycled on a static stand to demonstrate the energy and stamina she was going to have to put into it. She also raised £1000 with the help of her professional photographer friend.

Zoe was 25 when she did the ride and told the newsletter that she did it because she wanted a challenge: to be taken out of her comfort zone, even to be scared. And she certainly was.

No training in this country could have prepared you for the heat and the humidity of Vietnam, she said. Participants fainted, threw up, and suffered from altitude sickness, but no-one gave up.

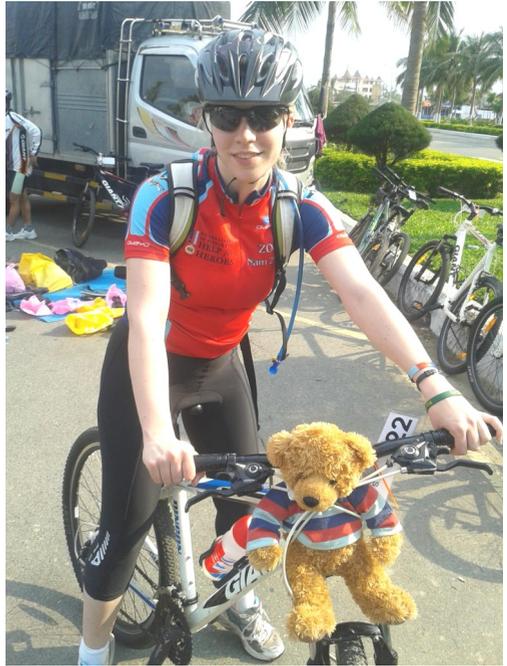
Day One was an easy ride of twenty miles to get used to the traffic which was a real cultural change: bikes, motorbikes, scooters, cars, all over the road, with horns going non stop. Their group of forty (including support staff) was an unusual sight and children ran up to them for high fives, a welcome that made Zoe feel she would survive, come what may.

And what came next was Day Two, and then Day Three, fifty and seventy miles respectively, up winding mountain roads, in a temperature of 45 degrees centigrade (113 Fahrenheit) and humidity of 80%.

A sense of fellowship among the participants developed very quickly, and without it Zoe couldn't have completed the course. She quickly formed a close threesome with Debbie, her room mate, and Simon, an ex serviceman who lost a leg in

Afghanistan in an incident where he was the only one left alive. 75% of the group had a military background.

Simon's story kept her going through Day Three, the day even the Cambodian support group found hard, and the only day that she



cried. She also found strength thinking about everyone who had given up their time to help her, from her photographer friend to people who baked cakes.

There were six days of cycling, one in torrential rain, a total of 300 miles, and educational stops too, with two Vietnam veterans as guides.

What stays in Zoe's mind, however, is the banter and camaraderie, the way everyone supported each other, seriously and with humour e.g. jokey awards such as the sash of shame you had to wear for a day if you went over the handlebars of your bike. It was such an amazing experience that she doesn't think she will ever do it again; she wants to keep it special and unique.

Zoe is now changing direction in her life: applying to university to train as a midwife. Her first degree was in equine studies

(following in her mother's footsteps!) but she has been working as a nursery nurse and got her level 3 childcare diploma. Zoe is an energetic and clear sighted young woman who has shown she can achieve what she sets her heart on and I'm sure she will manage her midwifery course. One incident took her aback however; she met a servicewoman in a

bar in Hanoi who had been injured. A few weeks later Zoe saw her Salisbury High Street! Shock soon gave way to understanding: she'd been to Tedworth House for treatment – a magic link up of money raised and actually seeing it go to a person who was using it.  
*Zoe was talking to the editor*

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### **Quidhampton Bus service**

There have been complaints recently that some buses have been late and some fail to arrive. One villager who had to use her car when the bus was late had her parking fee reimbursed when she reported it at Salisbury Reds ticket office. She was told to complain every time it happened to give them more facts to tackle the problem.

If it happens to you please take the time to report the failure to Salisbury Reds

- phone 0845 072 7093 or  
- email: talk2us@salisburyreds.co.uk or  
- in person at their ticket office at 6 New Canal, next to Sarum Jewellers,  
You can also contact **Wiltshire Council's Passenger Transport Unit**

- phone 01225 718080  
- email: buses@wiltshire.gov.uk  
- write to The Passenger Transport Co-ordination Manager, Passenger Transport Unit, Wiltshire Council, County Hall, Trowbridge BA14 8JN  
As the result of another complaint a driver is being interviewed by the manager.  
**Passengers for the 10.12 bus to Salisbury 25 November:** John Cater contacted the bus company on your behalf as agreed and learned that the bus (Service 26) had broken down (failure of wiper motor) at Ludwell. A replacement bus continued the service to Salisbury but did not come through Quidhampton as Service 8 was here before then.

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### **Parish Council November meeting**

**The Precept:** it was agreed unanimously that for the financial year 2015/16 the Precept (the part of the council tax that supports the Parish Council) would be raised to £6466, equating to an increase of £6.81 per year for the average Band D household. This modest increase will enable the Parish Council to continue to contribute to the refurbishment of the village hall and provide for possible village consultation on proposed boundary changes and highway issues. Other items from the November meeting will be in the January newsletter

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**The flood warden asks** (contact details on back page) that you report any problems with water run off or drains to him. He is still chasing engineers to look at the problem raised by a resident at the west end of the village. A phone call to 0300 456 0105 will also register the complaint with Wiltshire Council and, as with other issues, the more complaints the better.

**Tubs4Tablets:** St John's School, Bemerton, is collecting the tokens found on special 500g tubs of **Flora Original, Light and Buttery and Stork** sold only in Tesco's. Just 50 tokens will get the school a brand new Samsung Galaxy Tab 7.0" Wi-Fi 8GB tablet. (*perhaps there should be a prize for anyone over 65 who can explain what all that means!*)

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**What do you call someone who's scared of Santa?** Claustrophobic



## First World War research project Bea Tilbrook and Wendy Lawrence report:

We intend to print a booklet of the biographies of the seven servicemen from Quidhampton and Bemerton who died in 1914 with extra information that has come to light, a list of our sources etc. Watch the newsletter for details.

Between December 1914 and March 1916 only two servicemen from our villages were killed. During the winter of 1914/15 the armies in France and Flanders were digging in and preparing for what became trench warfare so there were fewer casualties in those months but such a long period (16 months) with so few men killed is unusual.

Meanwhile our research continues. We will publish in the newsletter short pieces about the social conditions of the time, information about memorials and graves, stories of men who served and survived and other related topics.

This month we have a photograph taken at The Tower of London of Angela Cake, great grand daughter of William Cake, the first soldier from our villages to be killed. His family said they knew nothing about his history but, inspired by what they learned, Angela from Oxford and her sister Julia, from West Sussex, bought a poppy from the Tower of London and travelled there to hear his name read out at dusk.

The art installation Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red filled the moat around the Tower with 888,246 ceramic poppies, one for each of the British and Commonwealth deaths. They were

bought by members of the public who could also nominate the name of one of the dead to be on the Roll of Honour read out each evening.



Angela wrote about it for the newsletter:

*On 23rd October my sister and I attended the reading of our great-grandfather's name from the Roll of Honour at the Tower of London. Sergeant W C Cake of the 1st Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment was killed on 24th August 1914, aged 23. Our first sighting of the vast number of poppies was overwhelming, a shocking illustration of the reality of just how many died.*

*Hearing the 180 names beautifully read out by Dan Snow, accompanied by a Beefeater, and lit by a spotlight in the darkness, was a very moving experience. The atmosphere was one of respect and quiet reflection. Those watching were united by a common bond, perhaps contemplating how different things might have been had these soldiers not given up their lives, and how it would have changed history. After the Last Post was sounded the Ode of Remembrance was read, with the crowd repeating, 'We will remember them.' We found the ceremony very fitting, very poignant, and very well done.*

We are proud to have enabled such a family remembrance.

## Personal message from Peg Thornton

I would just like to thank everybody for their kindness and good wishes whilst I have been in hospital. I finally came home on 3rd November after a 16 week stay! I am better but I think it will be some time before I'm dancing on the tables up the White Horse. I would also like to welcome Zoe and Nick to the Village and I hope, somewhen in the near future I will be able to meet them personally.

*It's great to have you back in the village, Peg; hope to see you soon at a table in the White Horse if not on it.*

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## Two corrections to the last issue:

1. Jennifer Tyler is the chair of the Village Hall committee and has been for many years. John Cater is treasurer and caretaker and put in the bid for the kitchen improvements. Both of them surely qualify as village treasures.
2. Alfred Knight, killed in action, 17 November 1914: Nigel Keeping, who provided the photograph, is Alfred's sister's grandson, not her great-grandson.

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## Police report

Dear All - A quick update with better news. Vans broken into at Coronation Square: a Dorset dog walker came across a stash of power tools etc under a tarpaulin in a rural location. The local police set up observations and arrested persons coming to retrieve the loot. Some of it has been identified which is great news as we can charge those concerned with our offences. Another update: we also nicked some well known felons caught red handed stealing from a farm on our patch - a better month all-round! Have a fabulous Christmas and best wishes for the New Year! Regards, PC Pete.

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## What happened to the man who stole an Advent Calendar?

He got 25 days.

This month's newsletter was paid for by two residents of the village

## Contributors & Contacts

**Police non emergency no.:** 101  
PC Pete Jung and Wilton Police Station: 01722 438981  
Peter.Jung@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

**St John's Primary School:** 322848

**The White Horse :** 744448

**Quidhampton Mill :** 741171

**Footshill B&B:** 743587

**Wiltshire Good Neighbours:**

Val O'Keefe 07557 922034

**Wilton and District Link**

**Scheme :**01722 741241

**Parish Council clerk:**

Clare Churchill 743027

quidhamptonpc@btinternet.com

1 Tower Farm Cottages, Skew Rd.

**Website:**

parishcouncil.quidhampton.org.uk/

**Wiltshire Council** 0300 456 0100

Area Councillor, Peter Edge

01722 742667 peter@pedge.net

**Rector of Bemerton**

Rev Simon Woodley 333750

Parish Office 328031

**Problems with HGVs:** contact PC Jung or leave a note in the black box.

**Village Hall bookings:**

Sabine Dawson 742843

**Community Emergency Volunteer:**

John Cater 744079

**Floodwarden:**

Ken Taylor 742456

**Waste and recycling dates**

**Monday 1 December :** garden & household waste.

**Monday 8 :** recycling

**Monday 15 :** garden & household waste.

**Monday 22 :** recycling

**Wednesday 31:** garden & household waste

**Wednesday 7 January :** recycling

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