

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

January 2015

What's On in January *Quidhampton events in bold*

- Monday 5:** school term begins Sarum Academy
Tuesday 6: school term begins St John's Primary
Thursday 8: **Curry Supper from 18.30 Quiz from 20.00 White Horse Inn**
Monday 12: **Meeting about Quidhampton social events in 2015 :
20.00 White Horse Inn**
Wednesday 14: Bemerton Film Society: Manhattan 19.30 St John's School
Thursday 15: Sixth Form Open Evening 18.30 Sarum Academy
Saturday 17: **Music Quiz with Rich Stokes 20.00 and Meat Draw in the interval
White Horse Inn**
Sunday 18: **Repeat of Chapter 1 of the Whisky Society 16.00 White Horse Inn
- call in to book a place**
Saturday 24: **Burns Night White Horse Inn: Bagpipes, Kilts and Haggis!**
Tuesday 27: **Parish Council Meeting 19.30 Village Hall**

2015 Social Events in Quidhampton:

Meeting in The White Horse Monday 12 January at 20.00

This meeting has been arranged to work out a calendar of events for 2015 so there are no clashes, and the use of the marquee can be co-ordinated.

New events can also be considered.

If you cannot go on 12 January but have ideas and opinions about timings or new events contact Jonathan Young of 2 Hampton Court. Tel: 744066

He will be pleased to hear from you.

The Fireworks event made a profit of about £400 which will go to the Village Entertainments Fund.

Music Quiz: Saturday 17 January The White Horse Inn

A varied quiz encompassing all eras of music. Rich has prepared it very carefully and it promises to be a fabulous evening. Tell your friends: it's not often you find a purely music quiz and music lovers will really like it.

Meat Draw at the Music Quiz:

A trial to see if there is any interest. If there is it will become a regular feature at the pub. The draw takes place on 17 January in the interval of the music quiz. Prizes are: 1st a joint of beef and a chicken; 2nd two 6oz rump steaks and 2 gammon steaks; 3rd 2 pork chops and sausages; 4th breakfast pack. Tickets £1 a strip and everything but the cost of the meat goes to Wilts Air Ambulance.



Burns Night 24 January:

**Book now for a traditional
haggis supper and a wee
dram (or wine!)**

November 100 Club Winners

1st	17	H Budd
2nd	135	C & A Stirman
3rd	96	S Williams

View from The White Horse

Our first 'Quidhampton Christmas' whistled past us in a blur of tinsel, Christmas parties, turkey and scaffolding! Fortunately, the external works to the pub are now complete, with just a little more to be done internally over the coming month.

We'd like to thank so many of our friends - both old and new - and our customers and neighbours for all their kind Christmas wishes. It was lovely to see so many of you in the pub for our Christmas Carol Service, on Christmas Day and on Boxing Day. We really are trying to make The White Horse Inn a 'pub for Quidhampton' and we are continuing with new ideas for 2015. Music Quizzes, Meat Draws, and 6 Nations Rugby Afternoons all feature on our

Dates for your Diary* sheet, along with some traditional favourites such as a Burns Night supper.

We're introducing our **Winter Warmers Menu** in January. Traditional warming dishes such as Chilli con Carne and Cottage Pie are just £5.95, which is excellent value for tasty, home cooked dishes.

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year and we hope to see you soon.

Nick & Zoe

*The Dates for Your Diary sheet was delivered with the newsletter. Pick one up in the pub if you didn't get it. It includes a list of basic items now stocked at the pub in case you run out.

Monthly pub quiz

Quizmaster Howard Rowley writes:

Since the pub reopened in August the generosity of the supporters of the quiz has been fantastic. Over £400 has been raised for good causes.

The next quiz will be on 8 January, not the usual 1st Thursday of the month which is New Year's Day. There are two prizes, one for the team with the most points and the other for the Best Average Score (points divided by the number of team members) so everyone has a chance of winning. The half

time Chocolate Challenge continues as it's so popular, especially with people on a diet! The theme of January's quiz is '**What can you remember about 2014?**' Curry Supper is served from 18.30.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported the quiz and hope that you enjoyed it. There is plenty of room if people want to come along and join in. Don't be concerned if there's only one or two of you we can always make a larger team - and new friends.

**Is it on the Trolley?
An Evening With (out!) Victoria Wood
At The Studio Theatre Ashley Road Salisbury
29 – 31 January 19.30**



Is It On The Trolley? promises laughs, one-liners, several soups and probably the greatest gathering of female talent ever assembled on the Studio stage. Anyone looking for a great night out to beat the post Christmas blues is in for a treat as they plunder the sketchbook of the fabulous Victoria Wood.

On the menu is a delicious smorgasbord of old bats, daft waitresses, gormless girlfriends, shifty shop assistants, ladies who lunch and outraged matrons. The cast of 20 includes Quidhampton's very own Camilla Burgess who has also had a hand in the directing, and a trio of token blokes.

Tickets £10 and £8 concessions from Salisbury Information centre Fish Row
01722 342060

Sounds like a great girls night out!

Christmas Events in the Village

The bus pass party is a very popular pre-Christmas event for those of a certain age (over sixty at least!) and once again drew appreciative comments from those who attended. This year, in addition to delicious food served at beautifully decorated tables and carols sung to Sophie's accompaniment, a group of young village children performed The Twelve Days of Christmas. It's hard to think of anything that would please the attendees more – except the friendship and feeling of community such an event celebrates and encourages.

Pam and Eric Mitchell of Coronation Square asked for their thank you to be published in the newsletter:

Thank you all who must have worked very hard for our lovely tea and entertainment with the pianist and children. They were lovely.

It was also nice to see lots of people we don't see very often.

We were very thankful for Graham (Stokes) taking us home. It takes a half hour for my husband to walk home so we were very thankful Graham brought us home – right to our front door. An angel in disguise!

From Pam and Eric Mitchell who wish a Happy Christmas and New Year to all

Thanks for the party go to Maureen Goff and her team, who organise it with the minimum of fuss. It is a big commitment for which the village is very grateful Pam's letter, however, raises another issue. Most of us walk to the pub or village hall without thinking about it but for others it is a major undertaking and for some an impossibility. Could you offer an elderly or disabled neighbour a lift to a village event? It's worth a thought, isn't it? Graham Stokes can't be the only angel in the village!

Carol Service in The White Horse

Another well attended occasion with some lusty singing of carols and thoughtful and cheerful words from Rev Susan Drewett. There were lovely harmonies from visiting members of the St Michael's church choir, with others joining in too. And after the 'official' bit of the service there was more lively singing and even swaying to popular Christmas songs, as Sophie was joined by Helen Kirby playing percussion. A collection for church funds raised £80.



The Christmas Draw

Landlady Zoe writes: *The Christmas draw was a massive success with all the proceeds going back into prizes. Thanks to everybody who supported it. We ended up with 138 prizes ranging from an iPad to a toblerone, and a cordless drill to hand cream!*

In fact ticket sales were so good that a halt was called at 2000. Anyone who saw the display of prizes – and balloons that made it go off with a bang – will realise the amount of hard work that went into it. Thank you, Zoe and Nick.

Audrey's annual poem

Audrey Catford has created another village tradition: a poem written and read by her at the Bus Pass party. She reminds us of village events through the year and always leaves us with something deeper to think about. This year's poem was so much appreciated that she was asked to read it at the Christmas Concert too. The newsletter is proud to print it. It is set to the tune of 'God rest Ye Merry Gentlemen'

Christmas 2014

*Greetings fellow villagers with Christmas on the way
For here we are all together again on Bus Pass Party Day
A much appreciated diary event and one we hope will stay
Bringing tidings of comfort and joy.....*

*2014 started with rain and gales with floods following in their wake
The Wylde and Nadder burst their banks to form one enormous lake
But at last came months of glorious sun for our fete and long summer break
And holidays to enjoy.....*

*The great news for us all this year is that our pub is open once more
With a smart new makeover at the time of takeover giving a fresher and lighter décor
So it's now Zoe and Nick and their three-pawed Pickles who greet us at the door
Bidding a welcome of comfort and joy.....*

*A traditional hog roast on opening night brought folk from far and near
So our popular White Horse is now well back on course for social events and good cheer
While good food prevails with a choice of fine ales for those just wanting a beer
For imbibings of comfort and joy.....*

*With so many countries around the world suffering from war and hate
How lucky we are in this village of ours that a peaceful life is our fate
Our trivial worries just speeding lorries or our wait for a late R8
By contrast small reason to annoy....*

*So what lies ahead for 2015? An April Royal baby for starter
Then Salisbury's prestigious award from the Tourism Board will bring crowds from every
quarter
To celebrate 800 years since the signing of Magna Carta
A historic occasion to enjoy.....*

*As we start to ring out the old year and to welcome in the new
Here's wishing a Happy Christmas to everyone of you
And heartfelt thanks to our generous hosts for everything they do
To provide us with such jollity and joy.....*

Sloe Gin competition

Sixteen entries were sampled in the traditional manner, contestants coming from Crewkerne (Zoe's mum) as well as Quidhampton. The gins ranged from very dry to sweet and from a light to a strong sloe taste. Several makers had experimented with flavourings: almonds, cloves, coriander and ginger. It's more complicated than an outsider might think.

The winner was Ron Smith, second Alan Chater and third Ian Lovett. Zoe's mum came fourth. She has made slow gin for many years and remembered that when she sent young Zoe out to collect sloes she'd come back complaining about being scratched.





Christmas Concert in the Village Hall

Last year a concert was organised to provide a Christmas get-together while the pub was closed. This year the emphasis was on families and even more people came along to sing carols and enjoy readings and performances by villagers and their friends. Susan Drewett told a Christmas story and Sophie kept everyone in tune again. Donations raised approximately £100 for Village Hall improvements.

Being greeted with mulled wine or apple juice, having time to chat with friends and neighbours, the informality and friendliness of the event seem to be what people like.

Thanks go to Joy Wagstaff and Clare Churchill who organised everything and the Parish Council who met most of the expenses, the rest being given by a private donor. *Editor's comment: if I wasn't his proud grandma I would say that Oskar was the star of the show, telling jokes with expression and a sense of timing that would be admired in a professional comedian, let alone a nine year old schoolboy. Oh, I have said it! Isabella, Ron Smith's granddaughter, deserves special mention too: her confident and tuneful 'Five Gold Rings' encouraged the other eleven days of Christmas to sing out. But perhaps the quietest and shyest performers deserve most praise – it must be far more difficult for them to play their part. Well done everyone.*

The Quidhampton Mummers managed a last minute date at The White Horse and delighted another good crowd on Saturday 20th. Isn't it great to know our own very special village tradition is still going strong?

Christmas in the Village

– and elsewhere Thanks to villagers who sent in their stories

Chris and Clare Herring of Withy House were please to learn they had won a bottle of sloe gin in the Christmas Draw but when they next went to the pub it was their son Sam's 18th birthday and barmaid Kim gave the bottle straight to him! (after inspecting his ID, of course)

John Cater wrote: An Inconvenient Trout

On Christmas Eve I took my Scottish grandchildren down to the river to show them how good Grandpa is at catching pike.

Second cast: bingo! serious fish hooked. It turned out to be not a pike but a notably big trout. Much acclaim from my grandchildren. "Hurrah for clever old Grandpa!" Thinking how good it would look on our breakfast plates I grabbed the small club I

use to dispatch the fish I take home, whereupon my 7 year old granddaughter let out a huge wail that they must have heard in Wilton, following it with heart-breaking tears.

"Oh, alright", I said, "I'll let it go". And I tenderly returned the inconvenient trout to the river.

"No, no, Grandpa", she said when the crying had stopped, "I wasn't worried about the fish. I screamed because I'd put my hand on the electric fence that keeps the cows out of the river".

Moral of the story: trout are out of season and I am no sinner.

But this is the Christmas story more people will envy:

From Fiona West, 28 December

Am writing this from Melbourne, Florida where we have spent Christmas with an old weightlifting colleague of Bill's, Steve, and his wife Jen, in the sun. Here are

some highlights of our visit so far: Christmas Eve at CoCo beach watching nearly 300 surfers dressed in Santa outfits surfing in the sea for charity followed by 20 sky diving Santas landing on the beach. On Friday we went to the Kennedy space centre and among the highlights were the space shuttle Atlantis and the Saturn V rockets. You cannot appreciate how huge they are until standing beside them. Bill went fishing yesterday on the San Sebastián river and caught 6 different spe-

cies of fish including a 6lb Red fish which was later filleted and BBQd for dinner, delicious! Today we are going to the beach so Bill and Steve can fish for shark from the shore and Jen and I sunbathe from a safe distance! I'll let you know if they were successful.

Happy New Year to you all.
Fiona West

Thank you Fiona. We look forward to hearing more of your stories when you get back

A headstone for Clarrie Price 1890 – 1996

Bea Tilbrook's research into the Price family who lived in Nadder Lane from 1890 – 1915 has gone a step further.

Briefly: Clarrie's father, Charles Price, was a well regarded photographer but lost his money and several jobs through drinking and gambling. When two of his daughters drowned in the Nadder in 1903 the Salisbury Journal said the family was living in 'great poverty'. Charles eventually joined his second son Sidney in Canada but his wife and two other daughters stayed here.

Several local people still remember Clarrie who lived to be 105. Before she moved to Holmwood care home in the late 1980s she had no permanent home and had spent the previous 20 years living in the spare rooms of friends, even sleeping on a sofa in her nineties. Everyone who knew her speaks of her with a smile. They say she was an amazing woman with an unwavering religious faith who was never sorry for herself and had an intense interest in life.

Clarrie was buried in St John's in an unmarked grave but, after Bea's talk about the family in 2012, interest was shown in marking it. Not only has the grave been found (see newsletter June 2014) but Clarrie's Canadian relatives have collected £1190 toward the cost of a headstone, leaving only a further £443 to be raised.

On Sunday 10 May, the anniversary of her funeral, Simon Woodley will hold a short service at 12.30 to dedicate the headstone which also commemorates her sisters. If you would like to attend this ceremony and the display and lunch in the village hall afterwards please get in touch with Bea – details on last page.

She would also love to hear from you if you want to make a contribution to the remaining cost, no matter how small, or if you have any memories of Clarrie that you can share.

The photo shows Clarrie aged about 16 in the garden of either Nadder Lane or Withy House

If you want to hear more come to Wilton Community Centre on 19 January at 19.30 when Bea has been asked to give her talk to Wilton History Society. Everyone welcome.





The First World War : The Christmas Truce 1914

Much has been made this year of the 1914 Christmas Truce when men who had been trying to kill each other crossed the narrow strip of land between them, exchanged gifts, sang together, buried their dead in peace, and maybe even had a game of football.

There were, however, many sections of the Western Front where this did not happen. Here are the entries for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day from the war diary of the First Battalion Wiltshire Regiment in Belgium near Ypres.

24th December: in trenches near Kemmel

Marched from Locre at 3.15 pm and proceeded via Kemmel to the section of trenches known as J. Took over from Northumberland Fusiliers, completed by 8.30 pm. Night shift improving trenches. 1 killed, 2 wounded.

25th December: in trenches near Kemmel

A thick fog all day practically no shelling on either side but a little sniping in the trenches. The same system is in vogue in the trenches i.e. one company in fire trenches, one in support and one in reserve. Owing to moonlight a good deal of difficulty in relieving fire trenches. Cold. 2 killed, 1 wounded, 1 missing

Excellent school news

The 2014 Primary School League Tables were published by in December and Bemerton St John Primary School was ranked fourth in Wiltshire with 97% of the pupils in Year 6 achieving level 4 or above in reading, writing and maths. Congratulations to headteacher Alun Richards and to all the school team. It's a justified reward for all your hard work. Well done to the pupils too, now working hard at schools all over Salisbury and doing their bit to enhance the reputation of our village school.

Would you like a new iPad Air?

The Technology Trust has donated one to the Bemerton Community Group and they are raffling it. Tickets £1. Raffle to be drawn on Valentine's Day. All proceeds to St John's Place. Tickets are available from members of the committee and may be also available at The White Horse – to be confirmed! More people than ever went to the Christmas concert at St John's which raised over £1000.



Parish Council Matters

- The metrocount showed traffic speeds on the A3094 Netherhampton Rd to be within required norms so no action will be taken. No date has yet been announced for the re-surfacing of the road.
 - Pedestrian safety in the eastern part of Lower Rd. The Wiltshire Council Traffic Engineer feels the only option is to paint a white line on the north side (a broken line so cars can access the Alders parking spaces). This will indicate that the road is wide enough for only one vehicle. The Parish Council resolved to proceed with this option.
 - the Parish Council will put forward a bid for a 20 mph speed limit in 2015. A task group of Paul Cripps, Charles Frank and Ken Taylor has been formed.
 - A bid of £1500 is being made by the Village Hall committee to the Area Board for new toilets in the Village Hall. The Parish Council will donate £150 towards the cost.
 - Various requests for donations to local charitable organisations are to be considered at the January meeting.
- Next meeting: Tuesday 27 January 19.30 Village Hall**

Police Report from PC Pete Jung

Dear All, I hope you all had a good Christmas and lets hope 2015 goes well. Overall 2014 went pretty well for the village despite several spikes on the crime front. Let's hope we don't see anymore for a while. We've had several reports of theft elsewhere on my patch of batteries and wellies! It's the more expensive boots like Hunter that are left in the porch after a day's beating or walking in the countryside. There have been sightings of a red Transit pick up van scouting the area.

If you are reading this and not on my email bulletin list please drop me a line peter.jung@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk so I can keep you updated. All the best for 2015! PC Pete
PCSO Jenny Moss has transferred to Wilton.

Praise for public services

It's not often you hear this but the editor has been asked to mention two things that went right:

- Some blue bins weren't emptied. The missed collection was reported on Tuesday afternoon and the bins were emptied on Wednesday morning.
- On Christmas Eve the 10.12 number 26 bus which comes from Donhead St Mary, was 10 minutes late. The driver explained that it had broken down at Wilton and a replacement had been sent out just for Quidhampton.

What excellent service on both occasions. (but please continue to tell the newsletter or parish clerk when things go wrong)

This month's newsletter is paid for by the Bemerton Local History Society in recognition of the WWI research done by Bea Tilbrook and Wendy Lawrence and published in the newsletter. In 1914 much of it was about men who lived in the Bemerton part of the parish.

Contributors & Contacts

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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:
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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
Wednesday 7 Jan : recycling
Tuesday 13: household & garden waste
Monday 19: recycling
Monday 26: household & garden waste
Monday 2 Feb : recycling

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