

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

June 2015

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

Thursday 4: The White Horse Monthly Quiz Night. Seven rounds of brain teasers, puzzles and general knowledge. £25 White Horse voucher to be won. Food from 18.00

Friday 5: Knit and Sew and Natter group begins at St Michael's Community Centre 11.00 – 12.00*

Friday 5 to Sunday 7 June: White Horse First Beer festival.
12 guest ales, 4 guest ciders, live music, BBQs and family fun. Free entry. See flyer for details

Sunday 7: Bemerton Open Gardens 13.00 – 17.00*

Tuesday 9: Public meeting about the future of St John's: 19.30 in the church*

Wednesday 10: Public meeting about St John's: 13.00 in the church*

Saturday 13: St Michael's Church charity stall at the Wishing Well, Salisbury Maltings. Contact Susan Drewett if you have items to donate: 01722 652751

Sunday 14 George Herbert walk 14.00*

Wednesday 17: George Herbert walk 10.30*

Wednesday 17: Topsy Turvy: Bemerton Film Society 19.15 St John's School*

Thursday 18: How the railways came to Salisbury, a talk by John Abbott, Bemerton Local History Society 19.00 Hedley Davis Court

Friday 19: St John's school dress down day: bottles for summer fete

Sunday 21: Music Sunday. Come and sing your favourite hymns in St Andrew's church 18.00

Friday 26: St John's school dress down day: bric-a-brac for summer fete

Saturday 27: Curate Ali Bridewell is being priested in Salisbury cathedral 18.00

Sunday 28: Celebration buffet for Ali in the community centre after 10.30 service

*More information elsewhere in newsletter

Future events:

- **4 July: St John's school fete**

- **Wimbledon Finals weekend : live coverage with cream teas, prosecco and strawberries in The White Horse Loft**

Babysitter available

My name is Izzy Hudson, I am 16 years old, and taking my GCSEs at South Wilts Grammar School.

I have experience at South Hills Nursery and Pembroke Park Primary School.

After A Levels I want to do BA (Hons) in Early Years Development & Learning with the Norland Diploma at the Norland College and become a Norland Nanny.

I live in the village and am available for babysitting at the rate of £5 per hour.

Contact me on 01722 743991 or izzykhudson@gmail.com

Quidhampton families shocked by school place decisions

Three Quidhampton families with children due to start school in September were upset to find they have not got places at Bemerton St John primary school.

“It’s always been our village school,” they told the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 26 May. One child would have been the fourth generation of her family to go there. “This will destroy part of the village way of life.”

Bemerton St John was heavily oversubscribed for September 2015, with 99 applications for 30 places, partly because it is such a good school and partly because there was a ‘baby boom’ five years ago. As with many other schools the admissions policy gives priority to some special categories and then to siblings of existing pupils in the designated area. This year there were 14 such siblings. After that places are offered to other children in the designated area in an order calculated by the straight line distance they live from the school. All places were filled before the line reached Quidhampton.

The Parish Council feels this straight line policy puts Quidhampton children at a disadvantage for two reasons.

1. The higher density of housing in Bemerton and Salisbury and the distance between our village and the school mean

that Quidhampton children will be offered places after Lower Bemerton and others in the designated area.

2. Quidhampton children are not in the area of any other school, and there is no other school within walking distance.

St John’s designated area is not just Lower Bemerton and Quidhampton but the entire church parish of Bemerton which includes Bemerton Heath and extends north to Devizes Road and east to India Avenue, Canadian Avenue and Ashfield Road. Families in that area are also in the designated area of other schools: Woodlands, Pembroke Park and Manor Fields, all with Ofsted rated good early years provision.

One of the parents said she was twice assured by school staff that Quidhampton children would have places at St John’s but it seems the large number of sibling places this year affected that, as well lack of official consideration that Quidhampton children have no other local school. The Parish Council chair will write to the chair of the governing body of the school expressing these concerns and asking for a meeting.

The families concerned have been given places at Harnham and Coombe Bissett. Two of them have appealed and there can be no comment from the school until the appeal process is over.

Quidhampton 100 Club: volunteers?

Every month the newsletter reports the winners of the 100 Club, three fortunate people pocket £85 between them and the rest of us hope for better luck next time – but do you ever stop to think about the organiser of this regular community fund raising? Viv Bass has run it since it began fifteen years ago but is going to retire in December.

The village needs someone to take over the organisation: doing the monthly draw in The White Horse, putting the names on the noticeboard, distributing the prizes and

supervising the collecting team of five people. Viv also does some collecting herself and she is happy to continue with that. This is a chance for someone to make a real contribution to village life, and to get to know more villagers, including newcomers. If you would like to know more contact Viv on 742483.

May 100 Club winners

1st	21	M Walton
2nd	91	R Bell
3rd	41	D Thomas

VE Day 70th Anniversary Events

The cake presented by Eve Warton to the over 70's tea party. There were so many cakes given to the tea party that it was donated to the evening event where it was raffled. The winner kindly cut it up on the spot and everyone present was able to have a slice.



The dinner and dance was a most enjoyable evening. Everyone joined in the dancing and the band, The Gershwin Gang, provided fabulous music with numbers from the WWII era.



The photos show how much villagers and friends enjoyed dressing up.



John Cater (top left) and Jane Taylor (not pictured) won the best dressed prizes.



Message from Zoe and Nick:

To everyone who helped serve teas, donated cakes, loaned bunting, helped erect the marquee and so many other tasks, plus of course those who bought tickets and supported the event - a huge thank you!

Zoe adds: We'd like to make it clear that the pub and the events we host are for everyone to enjoy, wherever they may live. Unless it is a specified Quidhampton occasion, we welcome all customers, along with friends and family, and we expect that people from Quidhampton will too.



A unique community event for forgotten Clarrie and her sisters

More than forty friends, family, local history enthusiasts and members of the local community filled the chancel of St John's church, Bemerton on 10 May. They were celebrating the life of Clarrie Price who died in 1996, aged 105, and lay in an unmarked grave for nineteen years.

For the last two years Bea Tilbrook, Barb Bentham, Clarrie's great niece from Canada, and Sue Amey, previously of Holmwood care home, have been researching Clarrie's story. She inspired great affection in all who knew her but few knew of her eight brothers and sisters and their difficult childhood in Quidhampton with a neglectful father who couldn't keep a job and spent all their money on drink and gambling. One sister died suddenly of croup and two others drowned in the river Nadder while collecting wood in 1903. They too were buried in unmarked graves.



Much of Clarrie's long life was spent in temporary homes, often caring for family and friends. She outlived all her local relatives and even slept on a sofa at the age of ninety but she never lost her sense of fun, nor her strong Christian faith and belief in good. Also at the age of ninety she was asked to record uplifting thoughts for broadcast on Canadian radio and some of her favourite sayings were printed on the order of service.



The service concluded with the dedication and blessing of a headstone commemorating Clarrie and her young sisters and everyone laid bunches of wild or garden flowers on her grave. The ceremony was simple and moving. Rev Simon Woodley said it demonstrated the values of our community that so many people had come together to honour Clarrie and put right a neglect from the past.

Back at the Village Hall (the

same hall where the inquest into her sisters' drownings was held) everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch, prepared by Sue Amey and friends, and a display about Clarrie's life. Those present included Cliff Lodge who was taught poetry by Clarrie at Salisbury Modern School in 1944, John Richards who knew Clarrie when she cleaned bedsits in the late 1960s, Mike Thomas whose aunt Gladys Hunting was a friend of Clarrie's for decades and Sue and Titch Amey with other staff members from Holmwood where Clarrie spent her last seven years being lovingly looked after. Also present was Alan Doel who

Some words of wisdom collected by Clarrie

Pick the first rose for a friend, and more will follow.

What we give today we get tomorrow

We do not get perfect character in our sleep. It comes to us as muscle comes, through doing things.

Luck follows pluck.

transcribed the 1861 diary of Clarrie's grandfather.

Family members were Barb Bentham, David (great nephew) and Elizabeth Richmond from Birmingham and Stephen Mangan, descendant of an uncle of Clarrie's.

Robert Lewis, well known Salisbury maker of chocolates and cakes, was a neighbour of Clarrie's as a child and made her a cake for her 100th birthday when he was fifteen. He kindly donated another for the occasion.

Money for the headstone was donated by Price family members in three continents, and the local community. A surplus of £250 will be given to St John's Place.

Everyone enjoyed the unique occasion tremendously, happy that a woman described on the new headstone as "a sweet and virtuous soul" will now be remembered.



Thanks are due to many people including :

Rev Simon Woodley without whose sympathetic support for the idea it wouldn't have happened

David Schofield of Spire Memorials, Wilton Road, for such a beautiful headstone

John Cater and Sabine Dawson who tolerated our presence in the Village Hall beyond our allotted time

Jonathan Young who arranged the loan of display boards from Woolley and Wallis.

Ian Newman for helping us find Clarrie's grave
Alyn Smith of Spectrum Printing, Wilton, for the beautifully printed papers and displays

The Future of St John's Place: public meetings this month

Hopes of raising another £100,000 have not been fulfilled, although there have been some generous donations. More grants and a loan are being considered. Other grants are in place for phase 2 of the conversion if phase 1 can be funded. Come to one of the public meetings to find out more.

Simon Woodley, chair of Bemerton Community Group, says "One way or another we are reaching the end of this journey, and we really want you to know what may happen to your church."

Meetings in the church Tuesday 9 June 19.30 and Wednesday 10 June 13.00.

Meetings in St John's school: dates to

Knit and Sew and Natter

A new group is beginning on Friday 5 June and the first Friday of every month in the Coffee and Chat Café, St Michael's Community Centre from 11.00 – 12.00.

Bring your own knitting or sewing, or knit for charities or for our Christmas Bazaar. Some wool, patterns and needles can be provided. Beginners or experienced - all welcome.

Contact: Susan Drewett 01980 652751 for further information.

Christian Aid Week collection:

Quidhampton raised £275.29, about £60 more than last year. Jennifer Tyler would like to thank everyone who gave so generously.

“Brave Faces” by Mary Arden, pseudonym of Evelyn Warton Success for Quidhampton author

Many villagers know the energy and liveliness of Eve Warton, one of Quidhampton’s ninety-plus year olds, and now she has achieved something people of all ages dream of: she has published her first book. And it looks as though it is going to be a great success!

The editor talked to Eve and her son, Jamie, about “Brave Faces”, how it was written and how the manuscript became the professionally printed book you can buy today.

Eve set out to tell the story of her experiences in the Second World War but it also became a coming of age story and a love story. All this and it is very readable indeed. *(There is really no need to read any more of this review; just get the book and enjoy yourself!)*

It began eleven years ago when Eve’s granddaughter asked her what she did in the war and Eve said she did so many things she could write a book about them. “Well, why don’t you?” was the reply, and Eve took up the challenge.

At first the writing was intended only for the family, so they had a record of grandma’s adventures, but it grew too long for them to read. Jamie stepped in, and cut fifty chapters down to nineteen. Although she regrets that some stories had to go Eve is very happy with the book. “It’s made my story much clearer,” she said.

What makes the book so special?

First there is Eve’s privileged background. In the first two pages, as her family return early from a holiday in France realizing war will be declared, we learn they had a Daimler and servants. Eve was fifteen and with her typical thoughtfulness for others said they couldn’t expect the servants to cut short their holidays too. She then describes with humour and affection her mother’s attempts to cook for the first time and her father’s attempts to light the boiler.



Eve with Canadian visitor Barb Bentham who bought the second copy of “Brave Faces”

Secondly, Eve’s upbringing was particularly sheltered, even for someone of her class. When she saw her recently married ex-governess’s swollen stomach she assumed she was terribly ill, and revealed she knew nothing about how babies are made.

You can see why ‘Innocence Lost’ was a possible title but the sub title ‘One woman’s journey from privilege to service’ sums it up better. Her parents insisted that Eve continue her education, including a year at finishing school and ‘coming out’ as a debutante, by which time London was being bombed. Meanwhile her mother trained as a full time ambulance driver and her father, who’d been gassed during the First World War, joined the Home Guard. Eve told me how he really did tie a carving knife to a broom handle. And yet, she said, we always believed we would win.

As soon as she could Eve volunteered and joined the Wrens at seventeen, as one of the ‘other ranks’, not

an officer. Her ability to approach everyone with friendliness and an open mind meant she made friends easily while her accent and manner meant she was also treated as an equal by some of the naval officers. The only trouble she had was with the succession of Petty Officers who were her immediate superiors. Perhaps they had never met anyone like Eve before.

Her vivid memory of those days is something else that makes this book special. She thinks this is because she was at the age when people begin to see the world anew and for her it was all so very different to what she had known before that it became permanently fixed in her memory, in the way that most people remember details of their first flight, for example.

Being too short for other roles Eve became a Night Vision Tester, training pilots to use their eyes better in the dark, so they would not be blinded by sudden flares, and could take off and land more safely. "This role was perfect for me," she says, "because the only qualifications required were a clear speaking voice and the ability to fend off amorous pilots when I was locked in the dark test room with eight of them at a time. Having been brought up with two noisy brothers and their rowdy friends I thought this will be easy. It wasn't!"

Eve doesn't flinch from describing any aspect of her life and this reader did not want to put the book down until she'd finished it. Eve still has those qualities that made her life so interesting and that make her such a special person to know today.

Special note from Eve: the author takes responsibility for any spelling mistakes and all the commas.

Brave Faces is available at £12.99 through Troubador publishers or from Eve (for contact details call editor). It will be available in late July at WH Smiths and Waterstones. The ebook costs £4.99 from Amazon, Apple and Google Play

Open Gardens and Scarecrows in Bemerton: Sunday 7 June

This year's popular event sees twelve gardens open from 13.00 – 17.00. The extra hour has been added to allow more time for people to get round them all. As well as gardens and scarecrows there will be teas, plants and home made jams for sale and a new hunt the gecko competition.

Gardens open along Lower Road are marked by a balloon outside. Tickets for the day (available from all gardens) cost £5, under 12's free. All profits to St John's Place.

George Herbert Physick Walks

Sunday 14 June at 14.00 and
Wednesday 17 June at 10.30

From Salisbury Cathedral's West Front, this beautiful walk will be guided by Rachel Heathcote, medical herbalist at Neal's Yard Remedies.

The walk ends in the 14th century church of St Andrew's, Bemerton, and after readings will adjourn to a local garden.

Booking essential : 01722 334017.

Fundraising continues for St Johns:

Ben Thornton completed the Isle of Wight Challenge Walk and raised £1717 for St John's Place. To do this he walked round the island in a 24 hour period! Thanks to everyone who sponsored him.

SUMMER MENU

Last week saw the launch of the Summer Menu at **The White Horse** with a number of new dishes but don't worry, says Zoe "old favourites such as Pie of the Day, Fish & Chips and Lasagne remain. We've added some lovely salads, Dressed Devon Crab and Smoked Duck Breast and a few other delicious summer dishes too."

The patio garden at the back of the pub is almost complete, offering a pretty and sheltered outdoor spot to enjoy a drink or lunch.

Nick and Zoe would like to express their thanks to all those who continue to support The White Horse.

Bemerton Film Society: Topsy-Turvy Wednesday 17 June St John's school Entrance £5

Film begins **19.15**. Film length 160 minutes. There will be a short interval This Mike Leigh film is about the writing and staging of The Mikado. It's a feast for eyes and ears, featuring sparkling dialogue, bravura performances and Oscar-winning costume design and makeup, Topsy-Turvy is an unexpected treasure from one of contemporary cinema's great artists. It can be enjoyed as a delightful period piece documenting the creative process, or a darker commentary on the hypocrisy and repressiveness of the Victorian moral climate.

And if you like G&S the film is worth seeing just for the music.

Parish Council ... Other news next month. Next meeting 20 July.

Help! Garage needed soon for Vintage car. Proximity to Bemerton Farm a bonus. Contact 01722 412295

This newsletter is sponsored by The White Horse. See you at the Beer Festival.

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 (not Sundays)

Community Emergency Volunteer:

John Cater 744079

Floodwarden:

Ken Taylor 742456

Waste and recycling dates

1 June: Household & final free
garden waste collection

8 June: Recycling

15 June: Household waste

22 June: Recycling

29 June: Household waste & paid
garden waste collection to start

Newsletter editor: Bea Tilbrook 742456
bjtis@hotmail.co.uk Meadow Barn
Fisherman's Reach SP2 9BG.