

# Quidhampton Village Newsletter

Late August / September 2016

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## What's On in late August and September 2016 Quidhampton events in bold

### **August Bank Holiday weekend at The White Horse**

**Friday 26: Summer Seafood Night** : Fruit de Mer platters (lobster, crab, scallops, mussels and crevettes) Surf 'n' Turf (lobster and steak), Moules Mariniere, oysters and more. **Booking, pre-orders and deposits essential.**

### **Sunday 28: Rock 'n' Roll Bingo Eyes Down 19.00**

Replacing numbers on your bingo card with artists and tracks, Rock & Roll Bingo is easy and fun. With music from the 60's to modern day hits everyone can play. Just £1 per card - and you can have as many cards as you want in each round. Win a pint for a line or a £10 voucher for full house. Four rounds in total. The last round is a Charity Round: ticket sales split 50/50 with half to The Salisbury Hospice Charity and half to cash prizes!

### **Monday 29: Bank Holiday Party from 12.00 noon**

BBQ, Hog Roast pork and apple roll, a Cider Bar with guest ciders, and Live Music from Mustang Sally, this time with a fiddle. Come to the pub garden for a great bank holiday party.

## **September**

**Thursday 1: Monthly Charity Quiz night at The White Horse with Howard Rowley. Quiz from about 20.00, food from 18.30**

**Friday 2:** start of term for Year 7 and Year 12 students Sarum Academy

**Monday 5** School begins for pupils at Bemerton St John Primary School and for all other year groups at Sarum Academy

**Monday 5 and every Monday: Monday Night Meal Deal at The White Horse: steak burger with chips salad and coleslaw, or Bangers and Mash with peas and gravy, plus a pint, for just £10. 18.30 – 20.00 only**

**Monday 5 Girls Love Fit** : fitness classes for women by women begin at St John's Place. 19.15 – 20.00 Contact 07772678737

**Wednesday 7 and every Wednesday** Fitness class for women St John's Place 18.00 – 18.45

**Friday 9 and every Friday:** Activities for older people 10.00 – 12.00 St John's Place

**Wednesday 21: Monthly Bike Night at The White Horse from 18.00**

**Thursday 22:** Bemerton History Society: Progress on the Burials Parish Records by John MacKay

**Tuesday 27 Quidhampton Parish Council meeting Village Hall 19.30**

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**Quidhampton Recreation Ground** Do you use it? Do you have ideas for improvements or new equipment? Contact the Parish Clerk, details on back page  
There are still some nicely dry large logs and small branches for villagers to take away.

## 'Bus Pass' Tea Party: CHANGE OF DATE AND COMPETITION

This year the tea party will be on **Saturday 10 December**.

We are holding a competition to rename the get-together. The original name was chosen to invite villagers over 60, but with changes in pension ages it is a little out of date!

We still want it to be for all villagers over 60 so please get your ideas to:

Maureen Goff, Footshill [maureenggoff@gmail.com](mailto:maureenggoff@gmail.com) or Joy Wagstaff, Dintonia [joy.wagstaff51@gmail.com](mailto:joy.wagstaff51@gmail.com)

There will be a splendid prize for the chosen name!

Closing date: **Friday 16 September**

### **From the Horse's Mouth: Zoe Hoare writes:**

**Golf Day** Thanks to all who took part in the 2016 White Horse Golf Day and huge thanks to Howard Rowley for organising it. We thought it would conclude with a presentation evening and supper. Well, it did, but not quite as planned!

The power cut we all had that day was a little bothersome and when we knew there was no hope of power before 22.00 we had to come up with Plan B very quickly. The barbeque made an unrehearsed appearance and we cooked jacket potatoes and chilli con carne on a caravan stove! Staff dashed to the supermarket for all the baps they could find and hey presto - dinner was served. Two generators chugging away meant we had some lights and a functioning cellar so no one went thirsty or hungry. It was a great atmosphere that evening, with a huge cheer when the electricity returned.

**Charity Day 30 July** An amazing day! Regular customer Natalie planned it from her Southampton hospital bed, after being

diagnosed with Burkitt's lymphoma in February. Her dream was to have a celebration party once she got the all clear. During her 4 months in hospital she came up with lots of ideas, and intensive chemotherapy and 4 cardiac arrests weren't going to stop her.

Between us, Natalie and her family, the Charity Fundraising Day came to fruition with raffle, tombola, craft stalls, face painting, and many other attractions. Eve Warton arrived with an enormous coffee & walnut cake, which promptly became 'Guess the weight of the cake'. The clever winner was Dan Johnson from Salisbury: exactly 2kg. That raised £19.70, so many thanks to Eve for the generous donation. In all £887 was raised on the day and with donations via Natalie's Just Giving page that is now over £1350 to be shared between Southampton Hospital (for Ward D3, who treated Natalie) and Salisbury Hospice, our chosen charity.

**Later in the year:** Steak Night returns on Tuesdays. Christmas Menus now available - sorry if this is too early for some!

### **100 Club winners**

#### **May**

1st K. Adlam, 2nd A. Thake, 3rd G. Heeley

#### **June**

1st Z. Hoare, 2nd M. Robins, 3rd T. Chappell

#### **July**

1st The Spinneys, 2nd M. Goff, 3rd A. Witt

## Letter from Parish Council Chairman

As a member of the Emergency Services and the new Chair of the Parish Council I was disheartened to learn of a problem that affects all of us in the village.

The problem is parking.

In the recent past, a resident needed the attention of the South West Ambulance Service. Unfortunately, due to the way vehicles were parked at the west end of the village, there was a delay in getting in to render assistance.

I am not privy to the nature of the incident but I am worried that if an ambulance can't get through the village how are other services going to get through. I'm a firefighter and driver at Wilton Fire Station and our area includes Quidhampton. I would be devastated if I couldn't respond to the village due to inconsiderate parking.

We all want to park as closely as we can to our home but the village has changed and when initial consideration was given to parking here homes had one car. Now some have 3, 4 or even 5 vehicles.

So all I'm asking is that we park with some consideration for the rest of the village, not just for emergency services but also for the buses to get through as the drivers are getting frustrated. If you are lucky enough to have space to park on your property please do park there.

Finally let's try to help each other out and keep driveways clear and double yellow lines empty so that we can leave our properties in a safe manner without having to, maybe, take a gamble.

**Chris Edge**

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## Welcome to the village

Welcome to Hannah and Tom and their four daughters: Ava, 10, Freya, 8, Lilia, 6 in September and Rosanna, 3. The oldest three are at school in Harnham because there wasn't space at St John's. Originally from Woking in Surrey they now live in Wylve Close. Hannah said they love their larger house and living in Quidhampton and look forward to getting to know more of their fellow villagers.

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## Avian pox in Quidhampton

Hannah hasn't loved seeing a great tit with avian pox in her garden. She took a photo and asked that it be mentioned in the newsletter.

**Information from the RSPB:** Avian pox is a viral disease previously seen in pigeons and sparrows, now also in great tits. Growths can be on the head, wings or neck and are grey, red, pink or yellow. They can be smaller than in this photo and more warty.

The disease is mild in other species but great tits can have severe symptoms preventing them from feeding and leaving them at greater risk from predators.

It is spread between birds by biting insects, direct contact with other birds and possibly indirect contact through contaminated bird feeders.

Avian pox virus is not known to be infectious to humans or other mammals.

In order to track its spread through the country report any sightings you make to the RSPB. 01392 432691 (SW regional office)



## **Village Hall AGM and public meeting**

Ten members of the public attended the July meeting, and 18 villagers sent apologies and expressions of support for keeping the hall open.

The situation is well known: there is an annual shortfall because the income from hirers no longer covers running costs. Financial reserves have also been used for essential maintenance and improvements. (grants need matched funding which means an equal amount of money has to be found elsewhere) If there are no unexpected expenses there is just enough left to cover the costs of the next three years until the lease is due for renewal.

The hall is owned by the church and leased from them for a peppercorn annual rent of £5. If the lease is renewed money will have to be found for roof repairs (estimated at more than £15,000) and probably other building issues.

Everyone expressed enthusiasm for renewing the lease if the terms were favourable. It was agreed that people other than the committee should take on the task of exploring the viability of renewing it.

Three supportive proposals were accepted:

- Ken Taylor offered to find out about possible grants for repairs and improvements, consulting with others about the repairs likely to be needed.
- Maureen Goff and Joy Wagstaff volunteered to run two or three fund raising events for the hall every year
- Bea Tilbrook suggested that if grants were awarded an appeal should be

made to the village for help with the matched funding rather than taking all the money from reserves.

First the conditions of the renewal of the lease must be clarified. Jennifer Tyler will find out who to contact.

**AGM** The usual business of an AGM also took place. All committee members agreed to continue to serve and were heartily thanked for their efforts: Jennifer Tyler (chair), Sabine Dawson (booking secretary), John Cater (treasurer and handyman), Hannah Brown (secretary) and Viv Bass.

Sabine gave an interesting breakdown of bookings. The Parish Council is now the only regular village user, apart from annual events (bus pass party and carol concert), occasional events like the jumble sale and bake-off coffee morning, and private hirings. Elections mean a full day's hire.

The most regular hirer is a band that has practised in the hall twice a month for two years. Most other bookings are for children's parties and family get-togethers, and for performing groups to practise e.g. dancers, musicians and recent bookings from Studio Theatre. These groups like using the hall and have said they prefer the new heating system because it is easier to control, and gives more space. Sabine said she did not believe St John's Place would affect bookings. Their main room is much bigger and more expensive. She has talked to the manager who wants to visit the Village Hall and intends to advise people who want a smaller venue to consider it.

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### **Police request:**

If your car is deliberately damaged (e.g. a smashed window or scratched bodywork) please report it. It may not be an isolated incident and the more knowledge the police have the bigger chance of solving the crime.

## The Last Peak : part two of Fiona West's Three Peaks Challenge.

*We left her watching the sunrise as she descended Scafell Pike in the Lake District. After a six hour drive they start climbing Ben Nevis at 12.45.*

Photo Ben Nevis



We were still behind time so again the group split into a faster group with the best chance of getting to the top, and the rest of us. We had just eight hours!

The sun was out when we set off and everyone was in high spirits. It was the hardest, most intense climb and when the second group got to the halfway point some of the first group were waiting to join us. Due to the limited time and some knee and other injuries we knew we would not make it to the top so the safety group decided we should return. The clouds came in, the rain started, and we were a soggy lot that got back to the bottom at 18.30.

The others got to the top and back down by 20.30, a fast time for this mountain. The whole group gathered for celebratory dinner that night but it was not long before everyone retired to bed for a well earned sleep!

Sunday morning, after a hearty Scottish breakfast, we were presented with our certificates and t-shirts and had a group photo. Everyone was feeling good. We had different fitness and ability levels and though not everyone got to the summit, everyone tried their absolute best and the safety team made us all feel good about our individual achievement.

**What stood out was the camaraderie** that quickly developed from walking together or just talking to our neighbours on the coach. Stories like Mandi, scattering her husband's ashes (he died aged 30 from bacterial meningitis) on all three peaks in honour of his love of mountains, and the several Mums and Dads whose children had had meningitis. Some fully recovered, some recovered with life changing results, and some were not that lucky. And Clare, whose sister aged 16 did a GCSE exam in the morning, got sick in the afternoon, and died that evening. All these people came together with one aim - to raise awareness and support for Meningitis Now so that research continues and people can recognise the symptoms and get help at the earliest possible moment. It was a very humbling and emotional experience and one I am very glad I was part of, but not something I will be volunteering for again in a hurry! My final total was an amazing £1830.

**Thanks to everyone** who sponsored and supported me. Special thanks to Bill for putting up with me being away so many weekends and Zoe who promoted my sponsorship form at the pub.

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### **Bemerton St John Primary School : the headteacher writes**

From September we will have a pupil with a severe nut allergy requiring us to hold an epi-pen on site. Can I remind you that we are a nut free school: no lunchboxes should contain any nuts.

## Ray retires : an interview with the editor

Ray Sparrow delivered post to Quidhampton for nearly twenty years. He was a very important part of our village life but most of us probably didn't even know his surname. He knew all of us and his cheery smile and greeting often brightened the day, even when he had only junk mail to hand over. Many villagers are grateful for his untiring efforts with parcels - leaving them with neighbours or even coming back later when he thought we would be in. How much local knowledge has left the village with him! (and with P C Jung but that's a story for another newsletter)

Born in Alderbury in 1951 Ray went to the private St Probus School for boys in Manor Road (now closed). He was not keen on schoolwork and left in 1967 with 3 O levels. In spite of his parents' encouragement to get more qualifications he was serious only about his real passion: becoming a professional pop musician.

Ray was the drummer in a heavy rock group called Jerusalem, and whatever job he had came second to that. He first played the drums in the school band and was 'totally hooked.' Despite their noise his father generously bought him a complete drum kit. Ray remembers Jerusalem's first booking which was at Salisbury College. He went there by bus from Estcourt Road (no dual carriageway then) and says he will never forget the driver's face as he drew up at the stop and saw Ray and his drum kit waiting to get on.



Ray is on the left, back row

They had gigs all over the country so he often got sacked for lateness and absenteeism and would go the Labour Exchange to be greeted by name and offered another selection of jobs to choose from. For, as Ray said, he was lucky: it was a time of full employment. Churchfields was buzzing, and there was always a job somewhere. Among the places he worked were Wilton Carpets, Wellworthy Pistons, ATS tyres and numerous offices.

In 1972 Jerusalem released a single and an LP 'Jerusalem' on the Decca label (selections are on YouTube) but they were not hits and their contract was not renewed. The band had had their expectations managed by the sound engineer who said: "Boys, I shouldn't be saying this, but you're not going to make it. Listen to this song from the group I recorded before you." And he played them "Seven Seas of Rhye" from the first album of a group called Queen.

Ray's passion for playing continued and his life didn't really change until he met the woman he knew immediately he wanted to marry: Belinda Lebborn from Totton. They married in 1981 and had four children: David, twins Duncan and Michael, and Harriet. Ray began to think he ought to be more responsible and joined the Post Office in February 1987. In this he was influenced by his father who had been the manager of the Wilts and Dorset bus company but finished his working life running Estcourt Road Post Office. Ray remembers him adding up columns of figures more quickly than you could put them in a calculator. He knew he couldn't do that so he became a postman.

It was a job he enjoyed although he preferred the old way of working six shorter days a week. The days worked now are longer with more pressure. It has not been a job without mishaps including falling off his bike on ice in the winter, narrow misses with speeding vehicles, and of course the dogs. He had only one serious bite at a house where he was instructed to wait in the car, wind the window down and let the dog owner reach in for the post. One day he forgot and put his hand out of the window to hand her the post. He said the dog was on his hand before he could blink.

The job is physically demanding; driving a van every day for years, stopping and getting out so often is not good for the joints.

Ray still has his passion for music and is now in a band called Never Too Late playing covers of hits from the sixties onwards. They performed at the St John's Place celebration evening in June and are available for bookings. (phone 07584066080)

He has a new passion too: he has become a very keen but fair weather golfer.

Ray describes his life as fragmented but to me it seems to be the life of someone who truly followed his dream. Many of us will wish we'd had the courage to do that.

Good luck in the future, Ray. May you go on playing those drums and enjoying golf for many years to come. You will not be forgotten in Quidhampton.



### Have you looked at the Parish Council website recently?

( [parishcouncil.quidhampton.org.uk/](http://parishcouncil.quidhampton.org.uk/) )

Parish Councillor Paul Cripps needs help in keeping it up to date. If you think you can help with this contact Paul via the Parish Clerk



You may not recognise Paul, because his famously long dreadlocks have gone after seventeen years growing. He made the decision when he had an interview to go to.

Wig charities won't accept dreadlocks but he raised nearly £500 for cancer research.



## **Walter William Smart 1895 – 1916** **Private 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment**

Private Walter Smart was killed in action on 2 September 1916 as part of the on going Battle of the Somme. He was 21 and is buried in an extension of Forceville Communal cemetery created for men killed in that battle.

### **War Service**

Walter Smart was a farmworker who joined the army before 1914 so he was among the first to land in France and he fought there for two years before he was killed. In the first few months 1000 men from his battalion were killed or wounded, a loss equivalent to their full strength. From late 1914 they fought mainly from the trenches, the only relief being some extended periods in reserve.

In June 1916 they moved towards the Somme but did not take part in the first catastrophic attack on 1 July. On 3 July they took over some captured enemy trenches and launched an attack from there on 5 July. They were relieved two days later by which time 400 men and 26 officers had been killed or wounded.

Further fierce fighting was interspersed with periods out of the front line.

On 2 September they were returning to the front from one of those periods, a journey that was always risky, but although the war diary describes the men staying in 'dugouts under a bank from 3pm to 11pm' before moving to the front it does not mention a death. Nevertheless Walter Smart was killed in action on that day. (This is not the first time a man's death has not been mentioned in the battalion war diary. See Trubridge Newsletter October 2014)

### **Family background**

Walter Smart is another serviceman whose name is on St John's memorial because of his family's connection with the parish, not because he lived here himself.

Tom Smart, Walter's father, was the youngest of seven children from a family of agricultural labourers at Kilmington, a small village that was transferred from east Somerset to west Wiltshire in 1896. The agricultural depression of the 1870s had hit it hard. One of his brothers emigrated to the US, another became a coal miner at Paulton, Somerset, two sisters died in the workhouse, and others moved away to become servants.

Tom was a gardener all his life and lived in Gillingham after his marriage to Elizabeth Hiscock in 1884. Her parents lived there and the young couple needed help because their first child, Charles Tom Smart, was severely disabled. He died in 1896, aged twelve, from "deformity and imbecility, epilepsy and coma."

Tom and Elizabeth had seven other children, Walter being the third youngest. Before he was six years old, perhaps even from birth, Walter and his older brother Henry lived with their maternal grandparents, Robert, a shoemaker, and Charlotte Hiscock. It would have been very difficult for Tom and Elizabeth to cope with a disabled child and an increasing number of other children. After their brother's death, however, Henry and Walter did not return to live with their parents, even when they moved to Sherborne and then Bemerton for work. Perhaps the grandparents, by then in their sixties, needed help, or perhaps Elizabeth's health was too poor. She was in Salisbury Infirmary when the 1911 census was taken.

Whatever the reason, Walter and Henry stayed in Gillingham even after their grandparents died in 1912. It appears that Henry joined the navy and Walter the army in 1913, both giving Gillingham as the contact address for next of kin.

Tom and Elizabeth Smart lived at 7 Church Lane, Bemerton, from at least 1911 until their deaths in the 1920s. They were buried at St John's.

### Later Family History

Walter's three surviving brothers all served in the First World War. **Henry** survived the war but was killed in a naval training accident in 1922 when the submarine he was serving on was rammed by a cruiser.

**Arthur**, who moved to Bemerton with his parents, joined the mercantile marines (merchant navy). He died in 1921 and his name was added to the St John's memorial. An account of his life will be written later.

**Charles Albert Smart**, the youngest brother, joined the Dragoon Guards and survived the war. He'd been a pageboy for a Salisbury solicitor in 1911 and returned to domestic service in the household of Colonel John Gibbs of the Coldstream Guards and his wife Lady Helena, a niece of Queen Mary. He was the butler at their home in Tetbury, Gloucestershire and died unmarried in 1981.

Walter's three sisters all married. **Elizabeth**, the oldest, was a domestic servant in London in 1901. She married Stanley Edgar, a hotel porter, and lived in London for the rest of her life. Her only grandchild did not have children. **Agnes**, born in 1893, married a Church Lane neighbour: George Cossons, a private enquiry agent. They

moved to Kent. **Fanny**, the youngest of Tom and Elizabeth's children, married George Blackman in 1928 and died locally in 1933. Agnes is the only one of the eight siblings who had great grandchildren and thanks go Paul Cossens, her grandson, for the family photos published here, and to Jason Ambers who enhanced them for printing.

### Earlier Family History

In 1810 at the age of fifteen Walter Smart's great grandfather, Stephen Hiscock, left his life as a labourer in Gillingham, travelled to Reading and joined the 66th Regiment of Infantry. He served for 27 years until his discharge in 1837, by which time he had an Irish wife and two young sons born in Canada. He had spent eight of those years on St Helena as part of the contingent guarding Napoleon.

Stephen settled back into life in Gillingham with his army pension, and was a labourer at the brewery. It is interesting to imagine the tales he had to tell to local

people who may not even have been outside their home town. Although he died before his great grandsons were born family stories of his life as a soldier perhaps influenced them to join the armed services.

Walter is also commemorated on Gillingham war memorial and will be remembered in St Andrews on Sunday 4 September..

*Written and researched by Bea Tilbrook and Wendy Lawrence*



Henry Smart , d 1922



Agnes Smart, middle sister of Walter, with (presumably) her first child and her mother, Elizabeth, outside 7 Church Lane.



## **Sidney Cousins (1882 – 1916)** **Private, 5th Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment**

Private Sidney Cousins, of the 5th Battalion Dorset regiment, was killed on 26 September 1916 at the battle of the Somme. He was 34. His body was not found and his name is one of 72,000 on the Thiepval memorial in France.

### **War Service**

In 1911 Sidney Cousins was a groom at Edmondsham House, near Cranborne, Dorset. This position and his relationship with Bessie Rimon, a domestic servant from Wimborne St Giles, probably led him to join the Dorset regiment rather than the Wiltshires.

It is not known exactly when Sidney enlisted but others from his family and a fellow servant volunteered at the beginning of the war so he probably did too, and spent the autumn and winter training in Lincolnshire. The 5th was one of the “Kitchener Battalions” of new recruits and, like the 5th Wiltshires, sailed for Gallipoli in July 1915. More men were lost to disease than warfare in that horrific campaign and all troops were evacuated by January 1916. The 5th Dorsets spent what must have been a welcome calmer six months in Egypt digging defences for the Suez Canal but in July they embarked for France and the Somme.

The 5th battalion was in a relatively quiet sector of the battle until orders came in September to relieve troops at Mouquet Farm. The war diary simply reported: “Position found to be not as was thought.” Mouquet Farm (inevitably known as Mucky Farm) was not deserted but partly held by the German army with huge numbers in a vast dugout beneath it.

The British attacked on 26 September and faced a continuous barrage of shells, bombs, machine guns and snipers. “Could not get any messages back. All Company Commanders and Company Sgt Majors were knocked out early in the advance”. Two officers who had re-joined the battalion became casualties of shell shock.

It is not difficult to feel momentary despair behind the words: “Decided to send out bombing party but no bombs available”. Neither rations nor ammunition could get through either but water was brought up by Company HQ staff. When orders came on the afternoon of 28 September to start relief (other troops took over) it took three hours to reach the comparative safety of dugouts and assess casualties. Fifteen of 45 officers and 410 of 924 ‘other ranks’ were killed or wounded. One of the dead was Sidney Cousins.

### **Family History**

Sidney’s nephew, Stan Cousins, wrote The Quidhampton Story, first printed in 1994, and there cannot be any family more qualified by ancestry to know about Quidhampton. There are parish records of Cousins from the early 17th century and descendants lived in the village until well into the 20th.

Through all those generations the Cousins of Quidhampton were farm labourers. They married local women, had large healthy families (most of the children survived) and played their part in village and even national life, volunteering for military service when required.



Thiepval memorial

Sidney's father, John, however, first followed a different path. When he was 18 he enlisted in the Royal Navy. That was in 1860, not a time of war. It should have been binding for ten years but he was back in the village in 1867 when he married 20 year old Jane Pulman at the newly built St John's church. Jane had a two year old son, Henry William Pulman. The young couple fell on hard times and in 1871 were in the workhouse at Wilton. It seems their second and third children were born there and died in infancy.

In 1881 however they were back in Quidhampton where they lived for the rest of their lives. John's older brother Charles, married to the unusually named Turtle Kite, and their eight children lived close by.

### **Life in Sidney's time**

Sidney was born in 1882 to a more settled life with his seven surviving siblings in Nadder Lane. His grandparents died before he was born but his uncle, aunt and cousins were in the village as he grew up. His father had attended Quidhampton village school (now the Old Schoolhouse,) but Sidney went to the new St John's school at Bemerton. Money was always tight and the log book records that in December 1892 his mother asked whether his brother Reginald could "go out as a half timer." In 1893 Sidney was "seen at work though much underage."

From 1895 – 1907 the three Cousins families (brothers John and Charles, and George, son of Charles) appear regularly on Lady Pembroke's Christmas Charity list. Each year she gave twelve families from the parish a blanket or a coat.

The Cousins families nevertheless played a part in community life. They were always included in the list of donors of harvest festival gifts published in the parish magazine, and in 1900 Sidney's mother gave one penny to the fund for the extension to the churchyard. The rector was very keen for everyone to give what they could afford, even if it was just a penny or two. Four parishioners gave a penny each, all from Quidhampton, by far the poorest part of the parish.

In July 1906 a Mrs Cousins is mentioned in connection with the Bemerton Village Mat Industry, set up by one of the rector's daughters to provide employment. The sanctuary carpet made by Mrs Cousins won a first class certificate in a Wiltshire competition. The carpet was intended for a church in Mashonaland (northern Zimbabwe), a country the church supported through its charity work.

In 1901 Sidney was a general labourer and it was perhaps after his parents' deaths in 1905 and 1906 that he moved away to become a groom. That move to Edmondsham had other consequences too and his story doesn't end with his death in France. In 1914 his girlfriend Bessie Rimon gave birth to his daughter, Frances Emily Cousins Riman. Frances married and had a son, Denis R Bannister, to whom we are indebted for the photograph of him and his mother.

The story of the other members of the Cousins family who served in the war will be published in a future newsletter. Sydney will be remembered in St Andrews on Sunday 25 September.



Sidney Cousins' daughter, Frances Emily Cousins Riman, b1914, and her son Dennis R Bannister, circa 1949

## Other Parish Council Matters from the July meeting

**Parish Steward** Andy Roper, begins work in October. The parish steward scheme is returning as a result of new highways contracts. It means regular visits from Andy Roper who can do 'minor works' on the spot as requested by the parish clerk. Examples are pathways, verge maintenance and even minor pothole repairs. Contact the clerk if you think there is something needing attention. It was agreed that the path between Quidhampton and Bemerton Farm can be maintained by the parish steward (some of it is officially in Salisbury)

**20mph speed limit** Going forward to the next meeting of the Community Area Transport Group in September.

**Faded yellow lines** Reported and being chased up.

**Quidhampton Fireworks** To be run again on 5 November along the lines of last year.

**Congratulations to parish clerk, Clare Churchill**, who has gained the Certificate in Local Administration, a qualification in law and procedures for local councils that ensures competent management of their activities, finances and community engagement.

**Planning for dwelling in the grounds of Pennard:** the application changed from a house to a bungalow which was supported with no additional comments.

**Planning for Quidhampton Quarry site:** Wiltshire Councillor Peter Edge reported it was important the footpath from the A36 to Bemerton Heath should be retained and he raised an objection because this was not clear on the plans.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday 27 September**  
19.30 Village Hall

This month's newsletter was paid for by two anonymous villagers and two who donate via Oscar and Rosie. Salisbury History Society paid for printing the biographies of the soldiers. Thank you all very much.

## Contributors & Contacts

**Police non emergency no.:** 101  
Wilton Police Station: 01722 438981

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

**The White Horse :** 744448

**Quidhampton Mill :** 741171

Self catering apartments

**Footshill B&B:** 743587

**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

**Village Hall bookings:**

Sabine Dawson :

email sabinedance@btinternet.com

or phone 742843 (not weekends)

**Community Emergency Volunteer:**

John Cater 744079

**Floodwarden:**

Ken Taylor 742456

## Waste and recycling dates

Paid for garden waste:

Fri Aug 19

Sept 2, 16, 30

Household waste:

Mon 22 Aug

Sept 5, 19

Recycling:

Mon 29 Aug

Sept 12, 26

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