

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

January 2017

What's On in January Quidhampton Events in bold

Tuesday 3 and every Tuesday: **Steak Night is back at The White Horse - see separate box, p2**

Wednesday 4 : Bemerton St John pupils back in school

Thursday 5: Charity Quiz Night at The White Horse food from 18.30, quiz from 20.15

Wednesday 11 January: Bemerton Film Society: To Kill a Mockingbird, 19.15 for 19.45, St Johns Place

Friday 13: Bemerton Live activities for older people resumes in St John's Place

Saturday 14: January Halfway Point Special Menu, White Horse

Tuesday 17: fun exercise session Quidhampton Village Hall 19.00 – 20.00

Saturday 21: Rock and Roll Bingo from 20.00 at The White Horse

Tuesday 24 : Quidhampton Parish Council Meeting, 19.30 Village Hall

Saturday 28: Burns Night Supper at The White Horse

Advance notice of White Horse events in February:

Charity quiz Thursday 2 February

Sea food night Saturday 11 February: booking essential with deposit

Six Nations Rugby: all matches will be shown in the loft

Change of opening hours: from 9 January until the spring The White Horse will be closed at lunchtime on Mondays. Open in the evening as usual.

Deaths Sadly there have been four deaths of people connected with the village since publication of the December newsletter.

Brian Bass passed away peacefully on 9 December in Milford Manor where he had been lovingly cared for since Alzheimer's disease meant he could no longer stay in his Nadder Lane home. He was always active in the community life of the village and our thoughts are with Viv, especially on 4 January, the day of his funeral.

Mark Walter, husband of Maureen, died suddenly of a heart attack at home in Downton on 21 December. Maureen and Mark lived in Quidhampton for many years and Maureen who works as a mobile hairdresser, still visits many people in the village.

Doreen Heath, 81, of Coronation Square died on Christmas morning after being in hospital for a month. She lived in the village for over thirty years. Her husband died about seven years ago.

Our thoughts go out to Doreen's two sons and to Maureen, her children and grandchildren at this particularly difficult time of year for the bereaved.

Jim Goddard, 86, of Edgam Place, died suddenly at the end of last week on holiday in Tenerife. He played a very active part in village life for many years but also loved travelling. Rest in peace, Jim. Quidhampton is the poorer without you. Funeral arrangements will be circulated by email once they are known

The newsletter in 2017

Because of the editor's other commitments the next newsletter will cover **February and March.**

All contributions to the editor by 4 February please.

The one after that will be published in mid April and will cover **April and May.**

All other editions will then be monthly as usual.

EVENTS AT THE WHITE HORSE

STEAK NIGHT IS BACK... 2 STEAKS & A BOTTLE OF WINE JUST £25!

Available from Tuesday 3 January and every Tuesday thereafter.

Choose either a 10 oz. rump steak (with all the trimmings)
or a hand cut gammon steak (topped with a free-range egg, pineapple or both)
and a bottle of either Sauvignon Blanc or Merlot.
Limited availability so booking advised.

CELEBRATE THE JANUARY HALFWAY POINT on SATURDAY 14th!

Homemade Pie & Mash or Moules Mariniere & Frites
accompanied by a pint or a glass of Prosecco. £12.50 per head.

ROCK & ROLL BINGO: SATURDAY 21

If you haven't been to one of our Rock & Roll Bingo Nights yet, you're missing out!
It's great fun and as entertaining to watch as it is to take part.
Just £1 per go, prizes to be won plus Cash Prizes on the Bonus Charity Round!

SATURDAY 28TH JANUARY - BURNS NIGHT SUPPER COMPLETE WITH PIPER, HAGGIS & DANCING!

Kilts and tartan are entirely optional. Tickets available from 5 January.

More from The Horse's Mouth, Zoe writes:

Gosh! December was pretty much packed throughout the month; thank you all for your support, and at times your patience and understanding! It was lovely to have so many locals encourage their colleagues and friends to join us for Christmas parties and get-togethers. We really appreciate it.

Thanks to all who came and supported the Carols night - huge fun was had by all.

Sloe Gin - 2016 winner was Mike Brookbanks, Nick came second and Pete Rennie third. Sloes were scarce this year, although they were about if you hunted in the right place. We'll do it again next year!

Boxing Day: we managed to get Bonzo to the pub for a few hours. Lovely for him to be able to catch up with people and have a change of scenery.

Pete and Dani Rennie won the Skittles for a Turkey - thanks to all who came and had a go, we raised about £30.00 for the hospice.

Editor's note: *Zoe thanks us for supporting the pub. It occurs to me that we should also be thanking her and Nick. I believe the difference they have made to the pub and the village is remarkable. They have created a friendly atmosphere where everyone, including singles, can walk in and feel welcome. They are superb organisers and run many events for the village, working harder than most of us can imagine.*

The Carol Service was transformed this year. Between each carol was the narration of The Quidhampton Nativity complete with local names, bringing the whole event together with much laughter and some lovely thoughts from Rev Simon Woodley at the end. He described the evening as "everything community should be." The same could be said of the pub raffle evening and drinks on Christmas Day – friendly locals enjoying being together.

It's not easy running a pub these days and let's hope Nick and Zoe don't work too hard for their own health. Surely no-one can begrudge them some time off on Mondays. We are very lucky to have them here.

BEAT THE WINTER BLUES WITH A FUN EXERCISE SESSION

Quidhampton Village Hall Tuesday 17 January 19.00 – 20.00

Zumba Gold led by Kirstie Pugh

Entry £5 Tea and coffee available afterwards

It's right on your doorstep, no need to get in the car

Kirstie Pugh runs Zumba Gold low impact dance fitness sessions. Perfect for mature adults, beginners and those looking for low impact exercise. She says: The focus is on having fun while exercising. No dance experience is needed and there are no wrong moves - as long as you're moving, you're doing it right!

Go on, join in the fun and get moving. You know it's good for you!

Information and booking: Sabine Dawson 742843 / sabinedance@btinternet.com

If there is enough interest Sabine will organise more classes with guest instructors to provide fun exercise and to increase the use of the village hall by villagers.



Christmas compendium



Photos by Graham Heeley, Zoe Hoare, Sandie Smith, Ken Taylor



Reginald Harry Hibberd 1896-1917 **Private 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment**

Private Reginald Hibberd, age 21, was killed in action in Mesopotamia on 25 January 1917, another casualty in the war against the Turks. His is one of 4621 graves in Amara War Cemetery, Iraq.

Family history: three generations

Reginald Hibberd was born in Burcombe where Hibberds had lived since the 18th century. His name comes from his maternal line as his grandmother, Caroline Hibberd, did not marry. She had two children who were baptised James Bailey Hibberd and George Bailey Hibberd, the oldest conceived in 1862 when she was only fourteen. James Bailey, the presumed father, left Burcombe and married someone else before the younger boy was two. He settled with his new family in the Ringwood/West Moors area. Although he died in Salisbury Infirmary in 1901 he was buried in West Moors.

Caroline could not take her responsibilities so lightly. Forced to work to support her children, she left them with her parents and became a live-in servant in London, the only servant in a household of four - often the hardest of all servant positions. James Bailey's parents, like Caroline's, were farm labourers and continued to live in Burcombe but what relationship they had with their grandsons is unknown. Caroline's parents, Elias and Susan Hibberd, had their own problems. Elias was in the Salisbury Infirmary when the 1871 census was taken and Susan was described as an agricultural labourer which raises the question: did she have to do Elias's work while he was ill in order to get any money?

Elias was working again by 1875 when he was noted as receiver* in the Post Office directory but more misfortunes were to come: Caroline returned to Burcombe with TB and died in 1878. Elias died the next year.

The widowed Susan Hibberd seems to have been a resourceful woman and by 1881 she was the postmistress. Her second daughter, who had been working at a hotel in Bournemouth, was out of work and at home again but grandsons James and George, aged 18 and 15, were working as farm labourers. Susan died in 1889, aged sixty.

Childhood

James Bailey Hibberd (Susan's grandson and Reginald's father) married a few months after Susan's death. His wife was Caroline Hazzard, also from Burcombe and they had two other children as well as Reginald: Percy and Alice.

James's brother, George, became a shepherd, then married and moved away to Calne to be a gamekeeper. Contact has been made with one of his great grandsons.

Reginald and Percy appear to have done well at Burcombe school, winning prizes presented by the Countess of Pembroke for attendance and good conduct. Family life was disrupted, however, in October 1909 when Reginald was thirteen: their father, James, was admitted to the Wiltshire County asylum at Devizes. Three months later 'pauper' was written beside his name in the asylum register. James remained there until he died of a brain haemorrhage and heart disease in 1928.

Back in Burcombe Reginald's mother, Caroline, now on her own with three children, showed the same resourcefulness as his great-grandmother and became the sub postmistress.

1911 census returns show Reginald as a farm labourer in Burcombe living with his brother, sister and mother. The next record is that of his death hundreds of miles away in Mesopotamia.

Army service

It is not known whether Reginald

volunteered or was conscripted into the 5th Battalion, Wiltshire regiment. His medal card shows he was not on active service until 1916, the year conscription was introduced. A conscript could not have gone abroad until May 1916 but a volunteer could have gone earlier in the year.

In January 1916 the 5th battalion rested in Egypt after the retreat from the Dardanelles. 750 reinforcements arrived to replace men who had died, been wounded or who were ill.

In February 1916 they sailed for Basra, then went by river to Amara. After the unsuccessful attempt to relieve the siege of Kut the battalion was left with only 413 men and returned to Amara in May. More reinforcements were sent, some fresh recruits with only three months training, others men collected from hospitals in Egypt. Within 10 days 40% of the latter were back in hospital.

In December plans for an assault on the Turkish front line were drawn up. The battalion marched through torrential rain and mud to within shelling distance, then worked at digging and improving defensive trenches. One trench was called Swindon Street.

The war diary says that on Christmas Day the men "had their Christmas dinner in their trenches, in addition to gifts a very good ration (rum) was issued and all were in splendid spirits." There was no truce but the day was fine and dry; a Turkish shell wounded one man.

It got colder with 'pouring rain and biting wind' but work continued, day and night. The battalion was specially commended for 'excellent work in trying circumstances', the ground being 'an absolute network of liquorice root'. There were casualties from Turkish shells every day.

Everyone knew a big attack was coming and on 24 January 1917 "all was ready". The commander recorded: "the spirits of all Ranks were particularly buoyant, all appearing quite confident."

The attack on 25 January was successful and a series of enemy positions was captured. The men were surprised to find the Turkish trenches sturdy and very well made. Thirty eight from the 5th battalion were killed, one of them being Reginald Hibberd.

Commemoration

Reginald's commemorative record says he was the son of James Bailey and Caroline Louisa Hibberd, of 2 Roman Place, Gorrington Road, Salisbury in the parish of Bemerton, meaning his name could go on St John's memorial. In the Commonwealth War Graves Commission memorial book his entry begins: "Born in Burcombe". Even though his mother had moved away and his father was in Devizes it was important to the family to record Burcombe as his birthplace.

Reginald's name is also on the roll of honour that was displayed in Burcombe church. When the church fell out of use and was sold the roll of honour was removed and is kept in the village hall, previously the school.

Caroline Hibberd and Percy lived in Salisbury for the rest of their lives. Percy served in the Hampshire regiment, almost certainly as a conscripted man and was later a fitter's assistant on the railways. He never married and died of heart problems in The Old Manor Psychiatric Hospital in 1955, two years after his mother's death. Alice, sister of Reginald and Percy, has not been traced after 1911.

* **Receivers** were licenced by the Post Office to receive mail from carriers, which people would then collect individually. Mail could also be left with them to be passed on to the carrier. Receivers operated in small communities, usually from their homes.

Clare Churchill, our parish clerk, has sponsored this biography of a soldier who, like her, was born and brought up in Burcombe.

Research and writing by Wendy Lawrence and Bea Tilbrook

Joan Watson, a life long villager, died in November. This is an adapted version of the tribute written by her daughter Anne Gale and read at her funeral.

Gwendoline Joan Watson 1924 – 2016



Joan, as she was always known, was born in Quidhampton in 1924, the only child of William and Winifred Rowe of The Coolins and later 1 Haviland Cottages. She went to St John's school at Bemerton, ("Happy days" she said). Hers was one of the first year groups to go to Highbury Avenue School, extended in 1933 to include laboratories and workshops for secondary pupils. The school leaving age was fourteen.

Joan started work at Frisby's shoe shop in Fisherton Street, her love of shoes staying with her throughout her life.

She was only fifteen when she met Jack Watson, from the Lake District. He had joined the army and was billeted in The Stables. Many soldiers were billeted in Quidhampton during the Second World War.

They married when she was nineteen and had sixty wonderful years together.

She often spoke about their honeymoon in the Lake District and standing in the corridor for hours because the train was tightly packed with wartime travellers.

Joan and Jack started their married life in The Huts behind the White Horse Inn. These were the Nissen huts that remained after the war and provided accommodation for young families. Their only child, their much loved daughter Anne, was born in 1949, and in 1953 they moved to one of the brand new council houses in Coronation Square.

Joan never really settled to her new house despite its mod cons so Jack took on 3 Haviland Cottages and worked very hard to make it into a welcoming home for the rest of their married life together. He worked for a short time at the felt mill in

Wilton but it is as a bus driver for Wilts and Dorset that many locals remember him. At the same time he worked for Hardings in Quidhampton (they made wooden sheds etc where Hampton Court is now.) Money was tight in those days and anything extra helped.

Joan was primarily a housewife, houseproud, always neat and tidy, in their home and outside in their beautiful garden. She did some domestic part-time work in The Pembroke Arms, Wilton and at the army headquarters on the Bulbridge estate, sometimes with her mother. They thought nothing of walking to work around

Netherhampton Park Wall and back. How times have changed!

Joan also enjoyed helping with the preparations of the jockey's accommodation at Salisbury Racecourse, one of her favourite places.

She loved horse racing but watching was enough. She also enjoyed football.



Joan and Jack had a very happy marriage and enjoyed every aspect of family life. After Anne's marriage in 1968 Emma and Jim came along, two special grandchildren who meant the world to them. Later came the bonus of four great grandchildren bringing so much joy and laughter to her life.

Joan always liked the company of her lovely neighbours in Quidhampton and welcomed them with coffee, sherry or – her favourite tipple – ginger wine. She enjoyed all that village life gave her and Jack, and she was not a great traveller though she loved their holidays in Holland, Northern France, Scotland and the Lakes.

Her special times were with her family. Many family birthdays and most memorably her and Jack's diamond wedding anniversary celebrations were held in The White Horse, her favourite place.

Sadly Jack passed away in 2004. Joan continued living in the cottage until 2009 when

failing health meant she went into residential care at Braemar Lodge, Salisbury. She was delighted that her grandson Jim and his wife Charley were able to buy her house and live in Quidhampton.* The special care and support of the Braemar staff meant Joan and her family had much more time together than they expected, giving them many happy days and even new friendships for her made late in her life.

Joan was a quiet gentle lady who loved and enjoyed her simple but complete life. How lucky we all were to have her.

(*Jim, Charley, Polly and Frank moved to a bigger house in Salisbury in 2015)

The Alpha Course in Quidhampton and Bemerton

Rev Simon Woodley writes:

From September to December a group of about 20 met on Thursday evenings in St Johns Place to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed but structured way using the world famous Alpha Course (about 27 million people have tried it in 169 countries).

Each evening began with a fantastic meal, cooked by volunteers, then a talk, followed by discussions in small groups. Topics included healing, was Jesus real, who is the holy spirit, and more.

Discussions were highly animated as everyone had a chance to say what they thought. There was no pressure to agree or come to a firm decision; it was good simply to explore topics fully. It was run by a group of Christians who live in Lower Bemerton and Quidhampton and who go to various churches.

They have been so enthused by it they are starting a new group:

Thursday night Christian group: St Johns Place. 19.00 – 21.00

First meeting Thursday 12 January.

A chance to share a meal, talk freely about God and the Bible, to pray etc.

Everyone is welcome!

It helps with catering if we know you are coming but it's not essential.

Contact Andrew and Susie Farley 326518 or Nick and Elspeth Saint 324880

Further comments on the Alpha Course from Eve Wharton of Quidhampton

The Alpha classes turned out to be not only interesting and inspiring but great fun. After learning in a deeper way an interpretation of what the Bible tells us, we held discussions about our own understanding of it. This often caused a great deal of leg pulling and humour. We realised some of those who attended the talks were struggling with past problems and deep hurts and were looking for peace of mind and needing help.

As a lovely sense of extended family grew amongst us, each of us, with laughter and love, put out a hand to comfort and help them by sharing our own trials and tribulations and experiences, and how our better understanding of God through the teaching of Jesus Christ had helped overcome them.

It was a very rewarding experience, and if there are to be more classes next year I shall look forward to going. A big thank you to all who took the classes and those who spoilt us with a delicious hot meal when we arrived. We left feeling blessed.

Here endeth the sermon for today! Eve

Quidhampton's 20mph limit Between printing and distribution of December's newsletter the 20mph signs appeared in the village, the end result of hard work by the Parish council, especially Paul Cripps and Ken Taylor.

The Parish council will doubtless discuss this at their January 24th meeting. There is time for members of the public to make their views known before the council meeting begins. Or write to the Parish Clerk, details on back page.

Bemerton Film Society: To Kill a Mockingbird

St John's Place Lower Road
Wednesday 11 January
Doors open 19.15, start 19.45
Entrance £5

A classic and riveting film. If you've never seen it you are in for a treat. Watch carefully for the screen debut of Robert Duvall.

Welcome to the village:

Rachel Leaman has moved into The Coolins and says: Could you mention that I really appreciate the very warm welcome I've had since moving here and my neighbours have been fantastic in proving humour, great conversation and putting up with a good deal of noise while I have been refurbishing the house. Hopefully it will be finished soon!

I work for Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance as Head of Income Generation, and absolutely love my job. I think the saying goes...' Love your job and you'll never work another day in your life.'

Henry Emmett of Bell House is now in the Scottish hockey team, qualifying because of his Scottish bloodline on his father's side—and his talented play. He is "looking to part of the squad that goes to the Europeans in Russia this summer"

100 Club winners November

1st O Valjak
2nd Mrs Green
3rd M Goff

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

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Community Emergency Volunteer

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Floodwarden:

Ken Taylor 742456

Waste and recycling dates

January

Recycling Mon 2, 16 & 30

Household waste Mon 9 & 23

Paid for garden waste Fri 20

February

Recycling Mon 13 & 27

Household waste Mon 6 & 20

Paid for garden waste Fri 3 & 17