

# Quidhampton Village Newsletter

March 2018

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## What's On in Quidhampton

**Thursday 1:** monthly charity quiz at The White Horse

**Saturday 3:** help Pete and Gervase celebrate their birthdays at The White Horse  
19.30 onwards

**Sunday 4 :** Great British Spring Clean in Quidhampton 10.30 – 11.30

**Tuesday 6:** Poppies Project, cutting session, village hall 12.00-13.00

**Saturday 10:** Chris Payne, live music in the bar at The White Horse

**Sunday 11:** Mother's Day. 3 course menu £19.50 at The White Horse

**Monday 12:** cribbage club, The White Horse

**Friday 16:** Rock & Roll bingo at The White Horse

**Tuesday 20:** Poppies Project, cutting session, village hall 12.00-13.00

**Sunday 25:** fudge and chocolate making workshop Village Hall

drop in 14.00 - 16.00 £5

**Monday 26:** cribbage club The White Horse

**Thursday 29:** last day of term

**30 March:** Good Friday

**Sunday 1 April:** Easter Egg hunt at noon at The White Horse. Bookings for lunch are being taken now

**Every Tuesday:** 2Quidy Club. Village Hall 13.00 – 14.30. Home made cakes, tea, coffee, friendly chat

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## Birthday celebrations: 108 years

Gerv Clifton-Moore and Pete Rennie are celebrating 108 years between them on

**Saturday 3 March** in the White Horse. Everyone is welcome to join them in a birthday drink from 19.30. Later there will be music for dancing.

## The Great Wiltshire Clean Up in Quidhampton

**Sunday 4 March 10.30 – 11.30 Meet at the village hall**

Long handled litter pickers, bags and some hi viz vests will be available

Bring your own gloves

Refreshments after the litter pick include bacon sandwiches.

## What's going on at The White Horse?

**Special menus:** after the success of the three course menu for Valentine's Day (*the chocolate cheesecake was probably the best thing I have ever eaten: editor*) bookings are being taken for **Mother's Day on Sunday 11 March. Three courses for £19.50.** In the restaurant!!

Yes, shortly before the 11th Rachel and Martin will officially open the first ever restaurant in Quidhampton, in the Loft room upstairs at the back of the pub. We hope to have photos in the next newsletter - rumours of a large fish tank have already reached us. Good luck with this exciting new venture, Martin and Rachel.

**Easter Sunday:** there will be an Easter egg hunt for children at noon. Bookings are already being taken for lunch.

**What's On in Bemerton N.B. Quidhampton related event on Wednesday 21**

**Saturday 10: Chilli and Quiz Night St John's Place.**

18.45 doors open for food followed by quiz. Tickets £7, must be bought by Sunday 4 March. Bring a team (max 6) or join a table.

Vegetarian chilli available. Cash bar with real ale. Quizmaster Frogg Moody  
Tickets from Margaret Willmot 01722 321683 or Emma Curteis 07715 105209

**Wednesday 14: Bemerton Film Society: The Eagle Huntress.** This 2016 BAFTA nominated film tells the true story of a 13 year old girl trained to hunt on horseback with a golden eagle who shocks everyone by winning a prestigious eagle hunters competition in Mongolia. Critics say "really amazing and inspiring," "beautiful and inventively photographed".

St John's Place Doors open 19.15 Ends approx 21.15. £6

**Sunday 18: Bemerton Brunch** St John's Place 10.00 – 12.00

**Wednesday 21: Bemerton History Society: Simon Forman: a most notorious physician, the story of Quidhampton's most famous resident.** Hedley Davis Court, Cherry Orchard Lane. 19.30. Everyone welcome – no charge but donations for refreshments welcome.

*Bemerton History Society now meets on the third Wednesday of the month from March to November (no meeting in August)*

**Every Friday, except Good Friday: activity sessions for the over 55's at St John's Place 10.00 – 12.00**

Just drop in to try a new activity, make new friends, stay mobile

Two classes per session: zumba, pilates or yoga. £3 for one class, £5 for two  
16 March extra session: IT advice from Mike, the digital champion.

Refreshments included. Contact Sabine Dawson 07593 555083

**Holy Week in the Church Parish N.B. Easter service at St John's Place this year**

St Michaels on Bemerton Heath will be open every day from 09.00 to 20.30

**Maundy Thursday 29 March:** 19.30 St Michaels Holy Communion with foot washing  
20.30 – 24.00 Watch Night.

**Good Friday 30 March:** Service of reflection Methodist church Roman Road followed by walk to St Michael's for hot cross buns and building the Easter Garden at 11.00

**Good Friday at St John's Place:** Three hours by the cross 12.00 – 15.00

**Easter Day at St John's Place:** 09.00 – 10.00 Easter communion led by Simon Woodley

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**Nick and Zoe's gift website** - internet sales of beautiful things - is now up and running.

Go to [www.allaboutgrace.co.uk](http://www.allaboutgrace.co.uk)

**For sale:** virtually unused Gas Patio Heater (7ft tall ); all proceeds to be given to 'Combat Stress', part of the British Legion. Offers over £25, buyer collects. Contact editor with offers.

## **Poppies Project**

Thanks to everyone who is collecting plastic bottles for us. We are well on the way to 2000 poppies! There are two cutting sessions this month: **6th and 20th March**, 12.00 – 13.00 Village Hall. Why not come and join us? Bring your own scissors.

Please do not leave bottles outside the village hall except on Tuesday mornings. If you call 742456 (Bea and Ken) we can collect them from you.

*Bottles with long slender necks: the tops of these bottles cannot be used so you can cut them off for easier storage. Leave about 4 inches/10 cms from the bottom.*

## **Chocolate and Fudge workshop**

Clare Herring is running a chocolate and fudge workshop on **Sunday 25 March 14.00 to 16.00 in the village hall.**

All ages welcome.

No booking necessary, just drop in.

Cost £5.00 per head, you take home everything you make and 10% goes to Tearfund, South Africa.

*Clare's fudge would make a delicious Easter present if you were strong enough to leave it uneaten for a week.*



Last Tuesday at 2Quidy club. Great coffee and cakes Hannahs and helpers!

**2Quidy Club** is still the place to come for friendly chat and delicious cake. 13.00 – 14.30 **every Tuesday this month.**

The club was pleased to welcome Eamon McLelland from Wiltshire Council who dropped in in February and really liked the group and the cake. He said, "I am hoping to develop a network of active community groups I can direct people towards. Particularly individuals who have become isolated." Eamon works for the housing team, helping residents engage with their local

communities. He felt that the presence of the 2Quidy Club would strengthen any funding bids made by the village hall.

**Request from a 2Quidy Club member:** does anyone have a knitting pattern for an old fashioned baby's matinee jacket, preferably in 4 ply? Apparently they are not old fashioned anymore. Contact the editor.

**Bridie Clapham and Margaret Hutchings** are home again after being in hospital and both are now more restricted in what they can do. They would love to have visits from village friends. Being unable to get out and about as you used to can be very frustrating. Bridie managed to get to 2Quidy Club this week and said, "It makes me feel I am part of the world again."



## **Tom Cake 1898 – 1918** **Private 2/7th Battalion, Manchester Regiment**

Tom Cake of Bemerton, aged 19, was killed on 21 March 1918, the first day of a major German offensive in the Somme region. His body was never found and he is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial along with 14,000 others from the UK and 300 from South Africa who lost their lives there between 21 March and 7 August 1918. The memorial was unveiled in August 1930.

Tom Cake will be remembered at morning service in St Andrews Church on 18 March.

### **Family History**

Tom's brother, William, was the first serviceman from the parish to be killed in the First World War and full details of their family's history can be found in the August 2014 edition of the newsletter.

Henry Cake, their father, is another man of this era who moved house many times. He lived in both Dorset and Hampshire, where Tom was born, before settling in Wiltshire. He worked as a soldier (enlisting underage), a labourer, a gamekeeper, a town labourer on the roads and a jobbing gardener. He moved to Fisherton in 1900 and then to Bemerton where the family lived in Roseberry Terrace, Church Cottages, Church Lane and Hill Terrace. Tom started school at Fisherton Anger (St Paul's school) in 1904 and although the family moved to Bemerton in 1907 he stayed at the school until he was 12. It is not known what he did when he left school. His two brothers were professional soldiers. Both joined local infantry regiments before the war, William after working as a railway engine cleaner, then joining underage.

### **War service**

Tom was sixteen when war was declared. He was conscripted after his 18th birthday on 23 June 1916 and allocated to one of the two West Yorkshire battalions training on Salisbury Plain at the time. He could

not officially serve abroad until June 1917 when he was nineteen.

At some point Tom was transferred to the 2/7th battalion Manchester Regiment who fought in the trenches in northern France from March 1917.

Their battalion war diary shows reinforcements arriving in June and July that year and in late October after they had taken part in the battle of Passchendaele. Tom Cake's transfer was most likely to have happened then.

The British Army was suffering from a serious shortage of soldiers on the Western Front and morale was low. In August the war diary noted two men with self-inflicted wounds. The collapse of the Eastern front after the October Revolution, however, meant the German army could send increased numbers of men to France and Belgium.

In December 1917 there were many cases of trench fever and at the end of the month only 740 men were left in the 2/7th Manchester battalion. The usual strength was 1000. In mid-February 1918 they received 260 reinforcements, most from another Manchester battalion. After only six days training they were sent to the reserve and support trenches and on to the front line.

Then, dramatically, after "a quiet day today" on 20 March, the war diary records: "21 March 4.10 a.m.: violent enemy bombardment". At 6.10 a.m. the battalion marched out and "entered combat" at Brosse Wood. Twelve hours later "the remainder of the battalion fell back on redoubts" (temporary defensive positions) on the edges of their area which were directly attacked early the next day. Those words "the remainder" acknowledged a great loss though exact numbers for 21 March were not known. This was the beginning of Operation Michael, the first part of the Spring



Offensive. For a week the British army retreated and the Germans pushed towards Paris where they faltered through lack of supplies. On 2 April US troops joined French, British and Commonwealth troops to repulse the attack, the first major deployment of US troops in the war. The Manchester battalions fought on the old battleground of the Somme, an area devastated by war and weather. Between 21 March and 7 August more than 500 men of the regiment were killed but never found and four other units had similar losses. Tom Cake's battalion never recovered from that first violent attack and was reduced to a training cadre in April 1918.

Some might say that Tom Cake was lucky to be killed immediately but there is some doubt about exactly what happened. Although his date of death is 21 March 1917 his record states "officially accepted as POW". Perhaps he was captured and died soon afterwards. Records from this part of the war are often incomplete.

### **After the war**

Tom's oldest brother, Sidney, a regular soldier in the Hampshire Regiment, was in India from 1914 to September 1917 when his regiment left for Mesopotamia where they spent the rest of the war. He was promoted to captain, and left the army in 1922 to run a pub in Cheshire. Their sister Alice married Ernest Crockett, cousin of the Crockett brothers from Quidhampton who were killed in 1914 and 1915. Ernest became an engine driver. They lived locally but no descendants have been traced.

Their parents, Henry and Alice Cake, lived in Bemerton until they died, latterly at 3 Hillside Terrace. Both are buried in St John's.

*Research and writing by Wendy Lawrence and Bea Tilbrook  
This account is sponsored by Mike Moody of Bemerton*

The newsletter has been asked to publicise the free services offered by the **Wiltshire Bobby Van**. Anyone over 60 or over 18 and registered disabled can ask for help with home and computer security. The Bobby Van Trust works in partnership with the police to provide these services.



You can have a **home visit for an assessment** and have security equipment (e.g. new locks) fitted for free. They will also do a fire risk assessment and fit smoke detectors. All aspects of safety are discussed. Ring 01380 861155  
**New service from the Bobby Van: keeping safe while online.** Ring 01380 861191 to arrange a home visit or a group talk to learn about computer fraud and other aspects of online safety.

### **Could you be a volunteer river guardian?**

*Did you want to join the working parties clearing the Nadder last year but could not take time off work or felt you were not fit enough? If so then becoming a river guardian could be your chance to help look after Wiltshire's rivers.*

**Wiltshire Wildlife Trust** monitors invasive non-native species on river banks.

Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and others spread so quickly and densely that native species die away and the banks, left bare in winter, become eroded and water quality is affected .

River guardians are trained to recognise the different plants, and to monitor and record where they occur. WWT working parties then remove them. River guardians are expected to walk their allocated stretch of river once or twice a month from April to August.

An information and training workshop for river guardians is being held at Broadchalke Village Hall on Thursday 29 March at 19.30. Refreshments are provided. Booking is essential: 01380 736066 or email [water@wiltshirewildlife.org](mailto:water@wiltshirewildlife.org)

You do not have to sign up as a river guardian after the meeting if you feel it is not for you. More information at [www.wiltshirewildlife.org/riverguardian](http://www.wiltshirewildlife.org/riverguardian)



Photo by Jim Gale



**The editor writes: the Dementia Friends session** in the Village Hall on 31 January was attended by more than 30 people who listened most attentively to Steve Harris's talk. He challenged common perceptions of dementia and ran exercises that made everyone think. This made us all official dementia friends, part of a new initiative trying to change the way people think, talk and act about dementia.

To become a dementia friend you also had to write down an action you promised to do. Mine was to put the five key messages about dementia in the newsletter so here they are:

1. Dementia is not a natural part of ageing
2. Dementia is caused by diseases of the brain
3. Dementia is not just about losing your memory. It can affect thinking, communicating and doing everyday tasks.
4. It is possible to live well with dementia
5. Always remember there is more to a person than the dementia.

*There seemed to be a real interest in this disease among the people present which suggests that if you or a friend or family member had dementia there would be a lot of local support. Don't be afraid to ask for it.*

Steve Harris is the community engagement manager for South West Wiltshire.

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### **Looking for a holiday in France?**

Cilla and Rick Pickett moved to France in 2011 after nearly twenty years in Quidhampton and get the newsletter by email.

Cilla writes: thanks for the newsletter. I still read it with great interest and am so pleased the pub seems to be in good hands. Will definitely try out the restaurant when over next.

Still enjoying France very much. I am involved with a group called the Dreamcatchers, who organise fun events to raise money for charity and am about to become President of the Interesting Gardening Club of Dordogne.

We also started doing chambre d'hôte last year and it has really taken off.

Perhaps you could mention that in the next newsletter and ask people to look at our website. We are also on Booking.com and airbnb [www.lafermettevignas.com](http://www.lafermettevignas.com)

*If you knew Cilla and Rick you know they will be very good hosts.*

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**Sharon Mullett** will abseil over 100m down the Spinnaker tower on 25 March in aid of Homes for Veterans. Sharon said she agreed to do it "in a moment of madness. I am terrified of heights! If anyone wants to sponsor me for this go to the just giving website and search for 'Sharon Mullett' or do it in the good old way with hard cash! I am looking forward to it one minute and terrified the next. It is a once in a lifetime event for me."

*Homes for Veterans provides temporary accommodation for British Armed Forces Veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.*

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### **Thank You, Quidhampton!**

Elaine Phelps, friend of Susie Bale, wants to thank everyone who offered help while she waited nine hours for the RAC after her car broke down in the village on 13 February.

Elaine was driving home after coffee with Susie when her engine failed as she tried to turn from Lower Road into the Netherhampton Road. She rolled the car back into

Lower Road, called the RAC and waited ...and waited. It was an awkward place to be but Elaine says people were amazingly kind. It seemed as though everyone stopped to see she was OK, and people came out of their houses to offer tea, coffee, a loo break etc. One man even tried to restart the engine by charging the battery.

Her husband arrived in the early evening and they could then take it in turns to wait in the car. Elaine was overwhelmed by the kindness of Quidhampton people and said you don't hear much these days about such kindness being offered to strangers.

*It was the drive shaft that was faulty. Elaine made an official complaint about the delay and received an apology and some compensation.*

*It would be great to have more 'good news' stories in the newsletter and try to relieve some of the gloom that the national news seems to spread.*

### **Paying for the newsletter**

This month's newsletter has been paid for by Bridie Clapham as a thank you to all the wonderful people of the village who helped her in the four months after her accident with the automatic doors in Marks and Spencer and the severe flu infection that kept her in hospital for several weeks. She is so pleased to be home and grateful for the help she continues to get.

*Editor's note: some people give something every year towards the cost of the newsletter, others make one off donations ranging from £5 to £40 (the cost of an 8 page edition). The Parish Council gives £80 a year.*

*Could you make a contribution? Sometimes people do it in memory of a friend or relative or to celebrate a special event. Contact the editor if you can help.*

## **Contributors & Contacts**

**Police non emergency no.:** 101  
Nicola.Clark@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

**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, SP2 9AA

**Website:**

parishcouncil.quidhampton.org.uk/

**Wiltshire Council** 0300 456 0100

Area Councillor, Pauline Church.

pauline.church@wiltshire.gov.uk

07436 810350

**Rector of Bemerton**

Rev Simon Woodley 333750

Parish Office 328031

**Village Hall bookings:**

Sabine Dawson :

sabinedance@btinternet.com or

phone 07742 273984 (not Sundays)

**St John's Place Lower Rd**

Bemerton: contact Manager: Shelley

Wood Tel: 07814899151

shelley.wood@live.co.uk

**Community Emergency Volunteer**

John Cater 744079

**Floodwarden:**

Ken Taylor 742456

## **Waste and recycling dates March**

Garden waste Fri 2, 16 & 30

Household waste Mon 5 & 19

Recycling Mon 12 & 26

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