

# Quidhampton Village Newsletter

March 2020

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## What's on in Quidhampton

**2 – 6 March** book week Bemerton St John school, dress as a character on Thurs 5th.

**Tuesday 3 and every Tuesday 2Quidy Club** meets in the village hall for home made cake, coffee, tea and friendly chat. 13.00 – 14.00 everyone welcome

**Thursday 5: Monthly charity quiz night at The White Horse from 20.00, food served from 18.00. Booking always advisable.**

**Saturday 7 and Sunday 8: 6 Nations Rugby at The White Horse** – check other media for confirmation of matches because of coronavirus precautions

**Saturday: Ireland v Italy 14.15; England v Wales 18.45**

**Sunday: Scotland v France 15.00 Rugby Roast available from 14.00 must be booked in advance. £20 for full roast and 3 pints.**

**Wednesday 11: Guy Halls Flamenco (evening) White Horse**

**Saturday 14: 6 Nations Super Saturday at The White Horse**

**14.15 Wales v Scotland**

**16.45 Italy v England**

**20.00 France v Ireland**

**Tuesday 17: St Patrick's Day**

**Sunday 22: Mothers Day: booking at the White Horse essential**

**Tuesday 24: Parish council meeting Village Hall 19.30**

*Reminder: Villagers are welcome to attend and can express their views about matters concerning the parish council at the beginning of the meeting but they cannot take part in the parish councillors' discussion once the meeting has begun. If possible please inform the clerk beforehand if you wish to speak at the beginning of the meeting.*

*Items for the agenda should be with the clerk before 09.00 on 12 March 2020. The agenda will be displayed on the parish council noticeboard and the website.*

**Wednesday 25: pilates class re-starts Village Hall 10.00 – 11.00**

Contact Sabine Dawson, details on back page

**Saturday 28: Rock & Roll bingo at The White Horse**

**Sunday 29 March Annual Village Litter Pick**

**Meet at 10.00 at the Village hall**

**Bring your own gloves, and litter pickers if you have them**

**Bacon sandwiches and hot drinks provided afterwards**

**Cakes and biscuits gratefully received**

**Advance notice: Easter weekend, 10-13 April, at The White Horse: normal opening hours except Good Friday when the pub will be open all day.**

**Recycling:** a letter from Wiltshire Council has been delivered to all households.

**Recycling: our collection day is changing to Fridays**

Household waste: collection day is still Mondays

All collections are fortnightly.

Recycling what goes where? see your letter and stickers for details

The same lorry will collect the bins and boxes which will save a lot of money.

There is a new facility at Calne where all the items can be separated for recycling

**Please wash all food containers so the cardboard and paper do not get soiled**

**See back page for recycling dates**

**What's on in Lower Bemerton: all at St John's Place** except Bemerton history society

**Wednesday 4: Bemerton Talks: A very expensive poison:** Russian murder and espionage from Litvineko to Skripal. Guardian journalist Luke Harding will be speaking about these two poisonings and more. His book "Shadow State" about the Salisbury poisonings is published in May.

**Doors open 19.00, talk begins 19.30. Free entry, retiring collection** (not a ticketed event this month)

**Wednesday 11: Bemerton Film Society A Private War USA 2018 15 certificate**

Doors open 19:00, film starts at 19:30, Entrance £6

Marie Colvin was a fearless war correspondent for the Sunday Times who risked her life to report from the front line. The film also gives a powerful voice to the innocent victims of war. Colvin's personal life starts to unravel when she takes on a perilous assignment in the besieged Syrian city of Homs

**Sunday 15: Bemerton brunch** 10.00 – 12.00 breakfast, the Sunday papers, and the chance to chat with Bemerton neighbours

**Wednesday 18: Bemerton Film Society with Salisbury Civic Society**

The Great White Silence

Doors open 18.00 film starts 18.30 entrance £6

The official record of Scott's 1910 Antarctic Expedition filmed by Salisbury born Herbert Ponting. Originally a silent film released in 1924 it was restored and re-released in 2011 by the British Film Institute with a musical soundtrack by Simon Fisher Turner.

**Tuesday 24 Bemerton History Society:** The Canals in Salisbury talk by Alistair Lack Hedley Davis Court 1930. Free but contributions to refreshments appreciated

**Wednesday 25: Salisbury Military History Society:** British Volunteers and the Spanish Civil War 19.30

Nearly 2,500 people left Britain to fight for the republican cause during the Spanish Civil War of 1936 – 1939. Find out why they fought in someone else's war and what happened to them. Members free, others £10 cash at the door.

Refreshments available.

**Every Friday morning:** social coffee morning and gentle exercise aimed at the over 55's 10.15 – 12.00

Note there will be no Bemerton brunch or Bemerton Talks in April

**Church services:**

Sundays St Andrew's 08.00 communion; 10.30 St Michaels family service

Thursdays: St John's fellowship 19.00 – 21.00 shared meal, bible study and prayer

## Death announcements

**Shirley Kershaw** of the Alders passed away peacefully at home on 3 February aged 83. Our thoughts are with her family, especially her husband Alan. All welcome to the crematorium on 3 March 11.30. Donations to Barnardo's in her memory can be made to Chris White Funerals, South Street, Wilton.

**Venetia Shrapnell** of Hastings, Lower Road, passed away peacefully at home on 19 February. Private family cremation. Donations to Naomi House in her memory can be made to Ian Newman Funeral Directors, 55 Winchester Street SP1 1HL. Venetia served on the parish council and was bookings secretary for the village hall. Sympathy is extended to her husband Tony and their children Stewart and Alison.

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**Dorothy Humphries nee Stokes:** 7 July 1915 - 18 Jan 2020 A celebration of her life will be held at St John's Church Lower Bemerton on **Wednesday 4 March 11.30** Everyone is very welcome. Please wear bright colours as she requested.

**Stella Garry** has returned home but her brother-in-law, John Gape is still in hospital.

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## **Lower Road traffic: Extraordinary meeting of the parish council 12 February**

The parish council listened to comments and opinions from the villagers who attended then considered the recommendations of the Lower Road working group.

The parish council supported all six of the recommendations with the following caveats:

**R2 clear footway of obstructions:** there should first be a review of the suggested re-positioning of bollards because different areas of the footway will require different solutions. Three factors will be taken into account:

1. residents access to their driveways and ease of getting out onto Lower Road
2. the ability of pedestrians to stay on the footway and not be forced into the road, especially wheelchair users and adults with children
3. the effect on traffic

**R12 and R13: speed tables at the White Horse and at the Lower Road/Nadder Lane intersection:** there should be further investigation into the details and various designs to understand the potential environmental impact on residents.

*Additional note (not from parish council) There are several examples of speed tables in Salisbury in addition to the one outside the Cosy Club in New Street. Less abrupt examples can be seen in Ashley Road and in Mill Road at the junctions with Harcourt Terrace and Fisherton Island.*

**Community Area Transport Group:** the Lower Road Safety working group presented their report to the South West Wiltshire Area Board CATG on 26 February.

The members of CATG decided that the traffic and pedestrian problems of Lower Road are best dealt with as a whole and that a piece by piece approach would not be effective. They therefore authorised a study of the practicalities of the whole scheme and requested a contribution from the parish council to the cost of the study. The meeting was very sympathetic to the situation in Quidhampton.

The six recommendations can be seen online in the agenda of the parish council meeting on 12 February. Contact the editor if you have difficulties in finding it.

**Come to the parish council meeting on 24 March to hear more.**

*First World War deaths did not end on 11 November 1918 and Bea Tilbrook and Wendy Lawrence continue to publish their research on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the victim's death. Sidney Gulliver will be remembered in St Andrew's church on 29 March.*



**Sidney Leonard Gulliver 1898 – 1920**  
**Private 7<sup>th</sup> battalion Somerset Light Infantry**

Private Sidney Leonard Gulliver of the 7<sup>th</sup> Somerset Light Infantry died of tuberculosis at home in Quidhampton on 26 March 2020, aged 21. He has a military grave in St John's churchyard and is also named on the Netherhampton war memorial.

**Family History**

Sidney Gulliver's family can be traced back to the middle of the 18<sup>th</sup> century when his great-great-grandparents married in Bowerchalke. Unusually for ordinary working people at that time both signed their names in the parish register. The Gullivers stayed in Bowerchalke as agricultural labourers for more than a hundred years. Sidney's grandfather was the first to move away and John Gulliver, Sidney's father, moved many times. Married in Durnford in 1894 he lived in Petersfinger, Old Sarum, Bishopsdown, Milford, Britford, Ford, Bemerton parish and Netherhampton, before settling in Quidhampton after the war. He worked as a labourer or waggoner until he came here when he became a gardener.

Thus Sidney Gulliver had at least nine homes in his short life. They were at Ford for the longest time so he and his two younger brothers would have gone to Laverstock school.

**During the war**

Sidney was 16 when war was declared and still living in Ford. The family then moved to Bemerton parish where they stayed long enough for Sidney, his mother and one brother to attend classes and be confirmed in 1916. It is not known what work he did as a young man.

By the end of 1916 Sidney was 18, old enough to be conscripted. He would have had the usual six months training but recruits had to be nineteen before they could go overseas so he would not have gone to the front until early 1918.

Sidney was allocated to the 7th battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry. Formed in 1914 it had been on the western front from 1916. It was at Ypres (Passchendaele) in the autumn of 1917 and then Cambrai.

January and February 1918 were spent training, in working parties (pumping out water, repairing trenches, wire etc) and in reserve with only a few short spells in the front line.



In mid-March the Germans staged a large scale offensive in the area of the Somme, hoping to take advantage of British exhaustion after the battles of 1917 and to break through before the US army arrived. They were ultimately unsuccessful but initially gained ground, inflicted significant numbers of casualties and took thousands of prisoners. After seven days the total battalion casualties (killed, wounded and missing) were nearly 500, half the full strength. Many of the missing, including Sidney Gulliver were prisoners of war.

### **Prisoner of war**

When he was back home Sidney would tell the family about his capture on 24 March. He saw the sun glinting on German bayonets and knew what was going to happen. It was a Sunday at four in the afternoon and he suddenly thought of the family at home at that very moment, having their Sunday tea. "I could almost see you", he said. He was unwounded and taken to Giessen in Westphalia, then to Munster further north. Life in the prison camps could be as bad as in the trenches with forced labour in the mines and very poor food. Some POWs in Munster camp were sent to work on local farms and realised many Germans were starving because the food they produced was sent to the army. After years of blockades, there were now serious shortages in Germany.

POWs could receive food and clothing parcels, not from the Red Cross as popularly believed but from the Central Prisoners of War Committee in Britain. If these arrived regularly the prisoners could be better fed than the guards. Sometimes personal parcels could be sent from friends or relatives.

### **Back home**

In many cases being a POW meant returning home before the rest of the regiment. There was bad feeling after the war about how long conscripted men and volunteers had to stay on. The only men from the 7<sup>th</sup> Somerset Light Infantry to leave before 1919 were coal miners. When he was released Sidney Gulliver was allocated to Z reserve, a newly created reserve of trained soldiers ready to return if the terms of the armistice were broken as many people thought they would be. It was disbanded in 1920.

Meanwhile Sidney worked as a carter for a corn merchant but not for long. He soon realised he had returned with TB which was rife in the trenches and the camps. He died in Old Bell Cottage on 26 March 1920 and was buried in a military grave in St John's churchyard. The grave is maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and the headstone was renewed in 2017.

### **Further family history**

After Sidney's death John and Kate, his father and mother, moved to one of the cottages at the top of Footshill where they lived until their deaths in the 1950s. They are buried in St John's. Sidney's brother William (1900 – 1982) lived with his parents and worked for Bemerton dairies. Frederick (1903 – 1971) married Alice Hawkins and moved to Netherhampton where they had eight children. The first, born 1926, was christened Sidney Leonard Gulliver. He is still alive today after working for Churchfield Dairies all of his life, many years of which were spent as milkman for Quidhampton. The researchers would like to thank his son John for his help with this article and the photograph.

## Tributes to two ex-villagers whose deaths were announced in the February newsletter

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### **Christopher John Bowden 1952 - 2020**

Christopher John Bowden, known as John, died in January after a long illness. He lived in Quidhampton for many years and is fondly remembered by many villagers.

John was born in Salisbury and joined the army at sixteen, something he had always wanted to do. Unfortunately he found it hard because he was left handed but still expected to hold his gun etc in the same way as right handed soldiers. In the end drills became too difficult and he left.

John married Debra Phillips in 1978 and they had two children, Jamie and Lisa. They lived first in number 1 and then in number 5 Temperance Cottages, houses owned by the Churchfields Dairy where John worked. When the dairies closed he worked at Salisbury hospital as a porter, in the kitchens and as a cleaner.

John and Debra divorced in the 1990s but the children remained with him and his neighbours have many happy memories of the family. He was a very private person but generous with his time and hospitality, and enjoyed going to The White Horse. He moved to a modern bungalow in Barford St Martin in 2015.

Vanessa, daughter of his next door neighbours Viv and Derek Thomas, writes:  
*I have only fond memories of John Bowden. Always such a friendly neighbour and a gentle man. I will never forget Sundays, when he would sing along for hours to his country songs collection playing at full volume.  
Can't believe he has died so young and my thoughts are with Lisa and Jamie at such a sad time.*

Viv says: *He was a great neighbour, always having a cheerful word despite health problems. He was very kind and used to take my youngest daughter Rebecca to the beach with his own children. They came home very happy with tales of ice creams and donkey rides.*

*John was determined to keep working as long as possible. His determination really showed a few years ago on completion of the London Marathon when he raised several thousand pounds for the hospital.*

*We shared a love of country music which is just as well as John was slightly deaf and used to sing at the top of his voice to Jim Reeves and Dolly Parton. We had to smile and join in.*

*So many good years. We will miss him.*

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### **Sandy Morris 3 August 1920 – 19 January 2020**

*Sandy Morris lived in Quidhampton from 1985 – 2014. As is often the way her grandson's loving tribute at her funeral revealed parts of her long life that many local friends did not know. Some are described here.*

Sandy was born Nora Hallet Sanderson, the nickname Sandy coming from her surname. She had six brothers and sisters and a happy childhood by the sea in Kent. When they moved to London she won a prestigious scholarship to the Royal School of Needlework but really longed to be a nurse and chose to train at St Bartholomew's Hospital instead.

There was sadness too: at nineteen she was engaged to William Wallace, also nineteen and a merchant seaman. He died when his ship was torpedoed in April 1940. Sandy nursed many wounded servicemen, including men from Dunkirk, and soon became a ward sister. Her sociable and fun loving personality meant she had a hectic social life, including membership of the Barts theatrical group. John Morris, a surgeon at the hospital, found her 'a bit scary' as a ward sister but plucked up courage to ask her out. They married in 1944 by which time he was a Royal Navy surgeon serving on minesweepers.

After the war John set up in general practice on his own in Neath, South Wales near his parents. This meant being on duty all the time with Sandy as receptionist, nurse, housewife and mother to two children, unimaginable today. She was only 4 feet 11 and a half inches tall but her ward sister



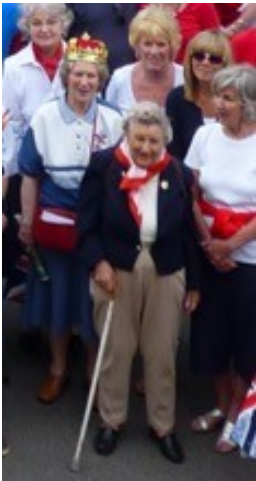
air of authority helped her deal with difficult patients when the doctor was out.

By the time their third child was born in 1954 the practice was a partnership so they could have some time off. One day Sandy's quick actions saved the life of a young motorcyclist in a traffic accident and she decided to join the British Red Cross. She became an examiner and lecturer and provided regular first aid cover at local events.

In 1978 John retired and they moved to Hampshire and then, in 1985, to Wyllye Close, Quidhampton to be near their daughter Diane. They had wide interests particularly gardening, the arts and antiques, and enjoyed village life. Sandy was a founder member of Quidhampton W.I.

John died in 2000 after a series of minor strokes through which Sandy nursed him at home. Later she took up cruising with her great friend Audrey Catford and others, even setting off for the Amazon when she was in her late eighties.

When her eyesight began to fail she continued undaunted, doing her shopping in Salisbury, using her bus pass to the full. She moved to Gracewell care home in 2014.



Sandie among the crowd Jubilee photo 2012

*Sandy had two sons and a daughter, six grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. One of her sons pre-deceased her after suffering with Parkinson's disease for many years. Her grandson Philip described her as a pint sized party goer, interested in everything with a wonderful sense of humour, 'who brought us all up to be honest, respectful and caring.'*

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**Doing your bit: junk mail** Half a million tons of junk mail are produced every year in the UK, an average of 220 pieces per household. You may put it out for recycling but that uses energy. Better that it wasn't produced. Register with the mailing preference service by calling 0845 703 4599 or online at [www.mpsonline.org.uk](http://www.mpsonline.org.uk) to remove your name from up to 95% of mailing lists. It won't happen immediately but you should notice a difference after a few weeks.



**Village Hall:** booking secretary Sabine Dawson reports that the worn fabric on the upholstered chairs has been replaced thanks to the skill and kindness of Elizabeth Heeley who has gradually recovered them all so the hall committee paid only the cost of the fabric. Tremendous thanks are due to Elizabeth who quietly does so much to help the village .

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**Congratulations to Henry Emmett** on his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday celebrated with a party at the village hall. *News of young people and their achievements is always welcome*

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**Bemerton St John school :** following recent advice from the Football Association pupils will not be allowed to head balls in future, neither in organised sessions nor at playtime.

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**Editor's comment. Early February:** great to see Bemerton St John pupils learning about real road safety and sensible cycling in Lower Road outside the White Horse.

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**Salisbury Jazz Club**  
Friday March 13th  
DOC HOULIND'S REVIVAL ALLSTARS from Denmark  
Michael Herbert Hall Wilton  
Bring your own drinks and glasses  
Doors open 19.00 Entry £10

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**Waste and recycling dates**  
**March 2020**  
Household waste            Mon 2, 16 & 30  
Recycling & Garden waste   Fri 13 & 27

This month's newsletter has been paid for by an anonymous resident of Lower Road and Barry Gasper.  
Barry's grandfather was another Quidhampton WW1 victim.

## **Contributors & Contacts**

**Police non emergency no.:** 101  
PCSO Matthew Smith  
CPTSouthWiltshire@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk  
**St John's Primary School:** 322848  
**The White Horse :** 01722 744448  
**Quidhampton Mill :** 741171  
Self catering apartments  
**Footshill House, Lower Road: 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

**Bemerton Church Parish**  
Parish Office 328031

**Village Hall bookings:**  
Sabine Dawson: 07742 273984  
sabinedance@btinternet.com

**Quidditch Club:** occasional activities by and for parents and children of all ages. Contact Abi by email for details :  
abi.kingston@talk21.com

**St John's Place :** contact Manager:  
Paula Johnson 07784 37220  
sjp.salisbury@gmail.com

**Community Emergency Volunteer**  
John Cater 744079

**Floodwarden:**  
Ken Taylor 742456

**Community Speedwatch**  
HGVs: please send the registration number and name of the company of any HGVs you see in the village to Sandie Smith, speedwatch team leader. A photo would be great  
cswquid@gmail.com

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