

# Quidhampton Village Newsletter

July 2020

Because of the ever changing situation with regard to community life and the Covid-19 virus there will be an August newsletter this year.

## What's On in July

**Saturday 4 July: The White Horse opens again – see centre pages for details.**

**Saturday 11 July: Quidhampton's annual flower and garden competition**

**Entry forms** will be outside Withy House from 1 July. Entries must be outside your home by 10.00 on 11 July. Only one judge this year so social distancing can be observed. List of classes is on the village noticeboard for reference. More details will be on the village email and on the noticeboard, or from Clare Herring, Withy House.

**Wednesday 15 July Quidhampton virtual Art Exhibition 2020 opens online**

Twelve artists from the village are working on the exhibition they couldn't hold in our historic village hall. Ken Taylor says "There is a wide variety of content and styles, and artists have been busy and inspired since the mid-March lockdown began.

A village email will be sent on the day to launch the show".

**Tuesday 28 July: 6.30pm Quidhampton Parish Council meeting.** This will be a virtual meeting. Members of the public may access the meeting but need to contact the clerk beforehand. The agenda will be displayed on the parish council notice board and parish council website. Agenda items required by 9am 15th July.

**Coming out of lockdown confusion...**are you confused about exactly what is happening when and what you can and can't do? Ian Day, who advises the Covid -19 steering group about all aspects of infection, has generously offered to talk to anyone who is not sure what is allowed and what is safest for them. Ring: 07799 523694 or email ianday194@gmail.com for the best advice for you and your circumstances.

## **... and don't forget the support group's contacts for help**

John Cater 744079 or Jane Morgan 07880 550321 - shopping or prescriptions  
Jane Taylor, 744534 - if you need to talk to someone.

## **Local history in the making**

As we live through this pandemic we are making history, and future historians will want to know from 'ordinary people' what life was really like in these days.

What has been different? What was difficult? What surprised you? Was anything good about it? (there's controversy about the effect on wildlife - see Nick Tomalin's article).

It would be wonderful to have your lockdown story perhaps for the newsletter, perhaps just to keep for posterity. Salisbury Museum and Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre are asking for contributions for their records.

Written accounts would be great, long or short, or just answer the questions above. If you'd rather be interviewed ring the editor (details on back page).

*Kate Lush has already written "Trapped in New Zealand", an account of her first weeks of lockdown for the next newsletter.*

**Community email catch up** *A summary of the relevant community emails from June.*  
**Household recycling centres:** you must now book a slot before you visit. This can only be done online. Salisbury is open from 09.00 – 16.00 except Thursdays.  
**Facemasks are compulsory on public transport**  
**Wiltshire Wellbeing hub** is no longer open at weekends. Phone 0300 0034576 Mondays to Fridays if you cannot get the help you need from the village.  
**Wiltshire Council** has produced a guide for parents called Returning to School. Contact the editor if you'd like a copy.  
**AgeUK Wiltshire** are now taking new customers for their community hot meal service: a hot freshly prepared two course midday meal delivered to your door £6.50 a day. Call 0808 196 2424 for details. Special diets catered for. They can also provide weekly reassurance calls.

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## **Appreciations**

### **From Carlton and Rosemary Brown of 2 Rogers Close**

We want to thank all those who offered their help to us during the lock-down especially Zoe and her helpers at the pub, when nothing was too much trouble, Pat at 5 Rogers Close who would do any last minute shopping for us, and to Duncan's wife who knocked on our door to offer help with shopping as well as thanks to Jane Taylor who knocked our door for a chat. Then there are Mandy and Nikki, our soon-to-leave neighbours, who kept us in touch with events by getting us the Salisbury Journal and Pete Dawson, an ex-sapper like myself, who saved my aged laptop.

### **From Viv Thomas**

We would like to thank everyone concerned for organising the book/seed and plant swap. The Chinese Red Bud trees that we left in pots will lose their leaves soon and look like little sticks. Next year they will be a few inches taller. They are slow growing but will grow to 20-30 feet. Gorgeous pink blossom comes before the leaves, and covers the branches. *The box is still in the bus shelter with a good selection of books and sometimes jigsaws. Plants still appear now and then but are taken very quickly.*

### **Chalk Valley Roofers** .....an unsolicited recommendation.

**Mary and Simon Crowther of Wylve House** would like to tell everyone what a great job the above company did in refurbishing our tiles and slates, the chimney, gutters and valley. They were quiet, efficient and tidy. Great guys!

### **Bridge in Boyes Wood**

Thanks again to the anonymous builder who repaired the bridge they built across the stream. The newsletter has heard it may be someone from Bemerton Heath. If you know who it is please pass along these grateful thanks.

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## **The Quidhampton Covid-19 support group: editor's comment**

*Jane Taylor has been busy with calls about vulnerable villagers but John Cater and Jane Morgan have had very few requests for prescriptions or shopping. Some groups are proudly publicising the hundreds of calls they receive and shopping trips they have made but isn't it a stronger community where people are supportive of each other in a natural neighbourly way and there is little need for officialdom? And that definitely is the way it is in Quidhampton. You cannot underestimate the work put in by village heroes Nick and Zoe with the village shop and takeaway and other heroes are emerging. One villager in particular, who wants to remain anonymous, has shopped since the beginning of lockdown for SIX households and has sent some observations for the newsletter:*

### **Random observations from shopping.**

**The hardest thing** was separating up to six households' shopping at the checkout, making sure that all items went to the right people.

**The funniest thing:** seeing people with face masks with holes cut out of them for mouth and nose (not in the village).

**The most frustrating thing:** missing an item and having to go around the one way system to get back.

**The most annoying thing:** people not following one way systems and not practising social distancing.

**The biggest queue** was at the chemist right at the beginning of lockdown, 3 ½ hours, and they didn't have half of the medication needed!!

**The hardest thing to find:** coconut milk.

**The scarcest items** (apart from the obvious like hand sanitiser etc): eggs, yeast, baking parchment and flour

**The worst part:** wondering if you were going to catch covid, or even worse pass it on.

**The best part:** being able to help people within our wonderful community, and seeing their gratitude and smiles when you managed to get what they needed.

**Skills gained:** I am now a Tesco ninja, and know more of where things are than some of the staff.

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### **Quidtips in the July Garden by Duncan Witt**

What a scorcher this week has been, so when you read this it will probably be dull and rainy.

Our feathered friends have had a great time over the past months.

We have had successful broods of blackbirds, dunnocks, green-finch, goldfinches, robins and wrens in our garden in spite of the jackdaws and magpies patrolling the nesting areas looking for a tasty snack of a chick or two or a clutch of eggs. Bea saw this in her own garden when a jackdaw raided a nest of blackbird chicks, the father trying his best, (unsuccessfully) to fight the brute off by hanging onto its back and pecking at its neck.

The four peregrine chicks from the cathedral have now fledged and I have seen them passing overhead as well as our resident buzzard family and the charismatic red kites which can be seen quartering the skies now.

July should be the month to sit back, relax and reap the benefit of all your hard work.

It isn't always like that though, as there are many things to keep on top of in order to enjoy your garden in late summer and autumn. You also need to be preparing for the **'Special'**

**Village Flower Show**, on 11 July.

Tomato plants are romping away and must be fed every 10 or 14 days. Don't forget to take out side shoots and tie them in to a cane unless you have bush varieties.

Remember the tip: liquid feeding with tomato food is ideal for anything that you want to produce lots of fruit, flowers or seed (like peas and beans). A general purpose feed like phostrogen or Miracle Grow is fine, and for long term use you can't go wrong with an application of blood, fish and bonemeal, forked into the soil.

Early and mid-season potatoes should have flowered by now so you can start digging those succulent little beauties to enjoy with mint and butter. You need to water them, so the tubers swell if the weather stays dry.

Deadhead bedding flowers like cosmos and sweet peas on a regular basis, and don't forget those hanging baskets and pots need liquid feed for a continuous display.

Remember! Keep calm, stay safe ... carry on growing.



## From the horse's mouth

**Zoe Hoare, landlady at the White Horse writes:**

At last! We can open again, providing we trade within some pretty rigid parameters. We're explaining some of the changes here, so you'll know what to expect if you decide to visit.

**CV-19 is still a risk.** We are doing all we can to make the pub a safe place for everyone, but we need our guests to be sensible too.



## Things you need to know before you arrive

1. **We recommend booking.** We've lost some tables to accommodate the distance requirements, so please book early. Due to the lower maximum capacity there is a risk that we may not be able to seat you if you haven't booked.
2. **Basic contact details of all visitors.** We have an obligation to take these to share with the 'Track & Trace Service', if requested. Your details will be stored securely, destroyed after 28 days and not used for any other purpose.
3. **No cash.** We're still only taking payment by card, or by our app, but more about that later.
4. **It's in at the front door and out of the back door** . We have implemented a one-way system inside the building.
5. **When you arrive** you will be asked to wait at the door to be shown to your table. You'll also be asked to use the hand sanitiser provided as you come in.

## Tables and Spaces

- **It's table service only, both inside and outside. We cannot serve you at the bar and there is no standing allowed inside the premises.**
- **Inside the pub, it's a maximum of 2 households per table.** We're sorry if this isn't what you want to hear, but it's the guidance we are obliged to adhere to.
- **In the garden** 'household rules' are relaxed, allowing groups of people from more than two households, as long as physical distancing is maintained.
- Outside we have introduced our new '**Garden Gazebos**' so you can still dine or drink al fresco, with a guarantee of being sheltered from the weather / shaded from the sun if you want to catch up with friends from more than one other household.
- The space on the deck, some tables in the garden (when the weather allows) and the covered patio area will be available on a 'first come, first served' basis, although physical distancing means there will be maximum capacities in these areas.

## The White Horse app

At the beginning of the year we started having an app written for us. It was finalised in March and we planned to launch it at the end of that month... little did we know!

For those of you who'd like to use it, this bespoke app allows you to order and pay from your table. The order gets transmitted straight to the bar, so saves you waiting time for your pint. The app isn't to replace table service, it's there in addition to our team members. If you prefer to deal with a real person to order your G&T, that's fine with us.

Details of how to find the app will be on your table and throughout the pub, as well as on our social media pages and website.

## Opening hours

### Our hours are changing for the time being.

We know some people enjoy coming with friends and neighbours for a social drink. Because of our restricted seating capacity, we've created **further time for the drinkers – but you still need to book!** Our hours will be continuously assessed and amended where necessary.

#### OPENING HOURS

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>14:30</b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>22:30</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>14:30</b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>22:30</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>12:00</b>			<b>22:30</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12:00</b>			<b>20:00</b>

#### FOOD SERVICE

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>14:00</b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>21:00</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>14:00</b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>21:00</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>15:00</b>	<b>17:00</b>	<b>21:00</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12:00</b>	<b>16:00</b>		

Finally, we're learning as we go, so please be patient with us and our team. Many of the measures we have had to adopt are far from ideal, but our hands are tied. Please, respect the distancing guidelines.

We're pleased to welcome you all back, but we need to stay on the right side of the law, and we all need to stay safe.

## Birds in July by Nick Tomalin

I returned to my bird survey work in June; no bad thing, as I've been wondering how the stone-curlews have been getting on without me. My first job was to contact the farmers and landowners whose land I need to access.

The news tells us that wildlife is flourishing during lockdown but almost all the people I contacted said the disturbance from people and leisure activities has been far worse than normal. During lockdown many people have enjoyed getting out into their local countryside, perhaps for the first time, and have come to appreciate it more but there can be a downside to this.

Recreational disturbance is a big issue, particularly for ground nesting birds like the stone-curlew. For example, dogs can seriously disrupt their breeding cycle. An incubating stone-curlew will often leave its eggs unattended when a dog is nearby – within 500m in some cases! This means eggs will chill and are more likely to be taken by other animals.

Most people act responsibly and understand the countryside code, but even they may not be aware of vulnerable wildlife nearby or the impact that their activities can have. (see photo of the young faun I nearly stepped on!)

The effects of the pandemic on wildlife will be the subject of new research. I imagine there will be evidence for wildlife coming under increasing threat during the Covid outbreak as well as some positive points.



**What to look out for in July?** On hot days look out for birds of prey on the thermals. These rising columns of hot air allow larger birds to soar upwards with less effort. Watch for red kites (the ones with forked tails) and buzzards. Kestrels, sparrowhawks and peregrine falcons also use thermals from time to time, and all can be seen around the village.

**What can you do this month?** Check the level of your pond and keep it topped up with rainwater. There are more and more young birds around now so keep your feeders topped up – mine are empty within 48 hours! If you provide fat balls try to avoid using net holders as they can trap small feet and tongues. And of course follow the countryside code and

keep your dog under close control or on a lead when going for a walk in the countryside!

*We very nearly stepped on this tiny deer faun in the New Forest recently. It was so well hidden we had no idea it was there until I spotted it only a metre from where we were walking. We moved away quickly and never saw the adult.*

If you are reading this on your computer you can click on the links below for more information

[Wildlife flourishing:](#)

[New research:](#)

[Countryside Code:](#)



## THE RETURN OF THE LAMB or the re-wilding of Boris by Mark Van Vogt

You know your lamb has become a little too domesticated when he starts helping you with the washing up! So Boris is now back in the flock in the field beside Boyes Wood.

As with all things Boris, his return was not without incident. Liz and Mark consulted farmer Mark: "Just pop him in and walk away; he might be a bit noisy at first, but he'll settle down". What could possibly go wrong...?

On the first attempt Boris escaped by crawling through the culvert underneath the track between his field and the next one. Husband Mark tried to assure Liz that Boris couldn't possibly be in the second field and the bleating was merely bouncing off the trees giving the impression of coming from there. No sooner was that said than Boris' head was bobbing up above the long grass as he made his way to the gate (*"I'm sorry, you want me to stay where?"*). Thus a very wet and muddy Boris returned to The Alders for a temporary respite from his first night under the stars!

Liz and Mark did some security work to the fence - there were small gaps that "*Houdini Boris*" would have managed to squeeze through - and then the time came for his second reintroduction to life in the field.

When the flock came close to the road, he was deposited into the field with a small tub of his dried food but he had, however, no intention of going quietly. He followed Liz and Mark along the fence as they walked back to the village trying desperately not to react to his bleating. Hidden in the woods, they could see him following pedestrians on the path - clearly, he was homesick. On the other hand, Daphne, the spaniel, loves having the garden, the house and Liz and Mark all to herself again! After a few days, Boris did indeed settle down and began to enjoy the lush grass.



him through the fence she always gives him a little sniff and a lick. She does miss him, really - as do Liz and Mark who have had to help his digestive system adjust to the grass based diet by dosing him with olive oil and washing his rear end.

As there are still lambs in the flock, Boris hasn't been fully accepted yet but they will go to market this month, so hopefully Boris will then truly become one of the flock.

If you are passing the field and you see him, do stop and say hello, as he's always happy to see and be fussed by his human friends.



## **Birthdays**

**Arthur Hope-Jones** was born to proud parents Rachael and Chris on 22 June weighing 7 lbs 15 ozs (3.5 kilos). Grandma Lilian and great grandma Margaret of Greenway Barn are pretty proud too. Congratulations to everyone. Lilian also thanks people for the help they offered and their good wishes when Margaret was so ill recently. She says, 'we are so lucky to live in such a lovely community.'

**1 July: Wendy and John Lawrence**  
20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

**2 July: Florence Cripps** of Temperance Cottages will be seven. With love from Mummy (Becky), Daddy (Paul) and big sister Amelia.

**7 July: Andrew Lewin**

**15 July: Amy Lewin**

**17 July: Alex Smith is 50** Mum and dad Ron and Sylvia say: That's amazing! Not sure how we are going to celebrate but we will, when things have settled down.

**20 July: Liz Van Vogt**

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**Have you been missing Irene's jams?** (sold at Bemerton Brunch). Contact the editor who can get some for you.

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**St Andrew's Church Bemerton** is now open for private prayer. Wednesday to Saturday mornings only.

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**Latest news:** The mask tree at the White Horse raised £600!! To be split between MacMillan Cancer Charity and the Village Hall. Big thanks to everyone.

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## **Waste and recycling dates July 2020**

Recycling & Garden waste    Fri 3, 17 & 31  
Household waste                      Mon 6 & 20

The newsletter is paid for this month by two residents who wish to remain anonymous

## **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

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