

# Quidhampton Village Newsletter

January 2021

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## What's On in January

### New faces at The White Horse

**Karen and Les Stanbrook** are very much looking forward to moving in and moving forward. Things have changed since they first made their plans but they are going to start straightaway with **the fish and chip takeaways** that were so popular.

**Thursday to Saturday: 16.30 – 20.00. Pre-orders only.** Phone 744448

*If things change they have great plans for Burns night but sadly being in tier 3 and the daily worsening news makes that unlikely. Check emails, pub website and facebook; there may be additions to the takeaway menu.*

**Editor: things are looking more serious every day. All we can do is keep taking care, watch out for each other and look forward to the vaccinations.**

### Tuesday 17 January: Bemerton talks online

#### **Graffiti in Salisbury Cathedral**

Steve Dunn, an experienced cathedral guide, has undertaken a survey of ancient graffiti in the cathedral. The graffiti dates from early medieval times and there is more than you think. This fascinating talk will be online via zoom.

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/Jan19Talk> to receive the link for the meeting.

Donations to support St John's Place are very welcome via justgiving. Search for bemerton-stjohnsplace

### Tuesday 26 January 19.30 **Quidhampton Parish Council virtual meeting**

#### **Zoom ID: 384 268 0725**

Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak if they wish – please advise the clerk of this beforehand. The agenda will be on the parish website and noticeboard. Before the official meeting begins there is a short period of time for statements or questions on any matter relating to the village.

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**GET CONNECTED! A project to help you be more confident in using the internet. This project is funded by Wiltshire Community Foundation and is aimed at people of all ages.**

Would you like to be more confident in using the internet? Or perhaps you don't use it at all.

These are a few of the things you could do:

Search for a job, keep up with your homework, stay in touch with family and friends

Have a consultation with your GP, order prescriptions and other items,

Read the news, sing in a choir, follow church services

#### **Join Get Connected for individual friendly help.**

*If you don't have an internet connection, you can borrow internet-connected small computers.*

To learn more please call Jane Ebel, leader of Get Connected at 07515 822479 or get someone to email her for you [musecic@gmail.com](mailto:musecic@gmail.com).

## Three items from Howard Rowley, chair of the parish council

### Have you made a new year resolution to be more involved in the community? Then how about becoming a Parish Councillor?

There are vacancies for co-opted councillors immediately.

Parish councillors are volunteers and non-political. They meet six times a year to allocate the small amount of funds we have to spend on local projects and discuss issues concerning the village. If you have lived here for at least year and want to help make it an even better place to live contact the parish clerk for information about applying. (details on back page)

The present councillors are from all walks of life so please don't feel you aren't the type of person who would make a good councillor. You will be made very welcome.

**Present councillors are:** Paul Cripps, Howard Rowley, Sandie Smith, Ken Taylor and Fiona West.

Recently resigned because of increased pressure of full time work, retirement or moving away: Mandy Whelan, Dani Rennie, Viv Bass and Zoe Hoare.

### Loss of the Parish Clerk

After many years of devoted service the clerk to Quidhampton Parish Council, Clare Churchill, is moving on to new pastures at the end of January. Clare worked tirelessly for the benefit of village life and was the formal contact between our parish and Salisbury Council, other parish councils and Wiltshire Council departments such as Highways, just some of the public bodies the parish council has to deal with. Clare has represented this village wonderfully well with honesty and integrity and will be a hard act to follow. We wish her well in her new job.

### Christmas lights



*Ed—This is the Kimmell family's window in Wylve Close. To complete it there was a star in the bedroom window above. Good as it is I'm not saying it was my favourite, it was the only photo I was sent!*

This year we asked people to decorate their gardens and the outside of their homes and it was as if a Christmas lights show came to Quidhampton! Coming into the village from either end there were bright spectacles to greet you. Lock's Lane was lit up like a fairy grotto, other cul-de-sacs did their bit and all along Netherhampton Road and Lower Road were class decorations and glorious bling. What a great symbol of looking outwards to our community and people working together.

Every house in the village was viewed and the best night-time decorations were judged to be those of Joyce Knight of the Coolins. (Joyce always decorates her garden and house front but this year it was extra special). The Christmas tree on the outside wall of Greenways Barn gave the Newman family the best daytime decoration. A bottle of bubbly was delivered to both on Christmas morning but there were many who were close seconds so well done to everyone in our village. Not forgetting the village hall committee who provided one of the best trees anywhere. Thank you.

## The White Horse

### Goodbye from Zoe and Nick

Well, Covid-19 certainly created a year which we will never forget, for so many reasons.

The run up to Christmas was very different in the pub this year. No parties, mummers or Christmas carols. Instead, we enjoyed the company of lots of couples, as well as some families and support bubbles which has been as enjoyable, giving us the chance to catch up with people and chat in a way that we're often not blessed with the time to afford.

As you know, the business changes hands on Monday 4 January and your new publicans, Karen and Les, are planning to re-open on Wednesday 6 January. I am sure they will keep you updated as their plans progress. *(see the beginning of the newsletter for the latest news)*

It is with a lot of sadness that we leave The White Horse and Quidhampton for the second time. We have many friends and 'family' in the village, so it will always be a very special place to us, full of some very special memories.

We're not that far away and I know we will continue to see many of you. We've been trying to arrange dinners, coffee, and drinks with some of you for months and months, but inevitably the pub eroded our time. Now we will be able to catch up, once Covid allows us to do so!

We would both like to thank everyone for their support over the years and we wish Karen and Les the best of luck for the future.

We will see you all soon, I'm sure but until then take care of yourselves and each other, Zoe & Nick xxx

**An additional note from Nick:** I usually leave Zoe to do the communications, but I'd really like to say thank you to everyone for the cards, letters, and messages following the death of my Dad in early December. He fought a hard battle, but in the end it was too much for him. I really am blown away by everyone's kindness, so thank you all very much.

*Editor: it is sad to have to say goodbye to Nick and Zoe again, and especially in such sad circumstances for them. There are others in the village too who have lost parents recently, including Clare Churchill, the departing parish clerk, whose father died in December. And many will remember Jo Penny who moved from Quidhampton to Wilton to run the Bay Window Gift Shop. Her father also died recently and Jo is now suffering from Covid-19 herself.*



One of the many ways Nick and Zoe helped keep spirits up in the village during the first lockdown.

## A winter update from Boris

*The story of Boris, the abandoned lamb, entertained many of us last year and Mark van Vogt has written an update* Well, what year it has been for Boris! After being cosseted in the relatively luxury of The Alders, his transition to the fields on the road to Lower Bemerton was largely uneventful. He is now better integrated into the flock, although he still thinks he's a dog... and comes over to the fence when you shout his name!

Liz and husband Mark still pop down to the fields to give Boris his breakfast. It's great that so many villagers stop and chat with them when they are down in the field, and many of the local children find Boris very funny and friendly.

The rest of the flock have become more accustomed to Liz and her breakfast delivery service, so much so that she has now started taking breakfast for the rest of the flock. This has been putting Boris' nose out of joint, as he likes to see himself as the sole object of Liz's affection and delivery service. Ever the big softy Liz keeps a secret stash of special treats in her pocket for him.

Liz's shepherding skills now include trimming the odd sheep's hoof and working with farmer Mark to give them their routine medication. Corraling the flock for their meds is a particularly interesting time, as Boris simply stands there perplexed, looking at the rest, while they run around like a bunch of confused sheep. He then looks at Liz, as if to say, "What the heck are they doing?"

Liz and husband Mark have also been doing a bit of pruning in the fields, trying to cut back the brambles, as sheep do have the uncanny knack of getting themselves entangled.

Thanks to social media Boris has developed local, national and international fans and followers. During lockdown, Liz's pictures and videos are a very welcome tonic to many who have been self-isolating.

As the winter draws in, rest assured that Boris has grown his winter coat and is quite content in the field although Liz still sometimes thinks that she should bring him back home into the warm. Husband Mark is less enamoured with this prospect!



**Trussell Trust collection:** Nick and Tat Tomalin, who organised a collection for the Trussell Trust during one week in December, said the response was even better than the summer collection that lasted for several weeks. "Everyone was very generous and there was a good mix of basic foods, cosmetics, toiletries and Christmas treats. I think we boxed up as much or more than we did in the summer collection! Hannah from Coronation Square who works for Trussell Trust collected the boxes from us and took them in. Big thanks to everyone for supporting and giving so generously." Here are the boxes with two year old Grace, Nick and Tat's daughter.

## **Watch the birdie!**

### **A monthly column about birds by Nick Tomalin**

Over one weekend last January nearly half a million people in the UK sat and counted birds – nearly eight million of them! They were taking part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch (BGBW), a survey that has been running for over 40 years and is now the largest citizen science survey of garden wildlife in the world.

By spending just one hour recording all the birds you see in the garden and sending in your results you can contribute to a huge set of data that shows how the fortunes of some of our commoner species have changed over a few decades.

In the 1980s, the song thrush was in the top ten, but it has since dropped to number 20. Starling numbers have declined by 80% over that period. Even the house sparrow, which has taken the number one spot for 17 consecutive years, has suffered a population decline of over 50% since the survey began. These results have led to research into the reasons for the declines, followed by conservation efforts to halt them.

But if science and research aren't your motivation, perhaps you will do it for the chance to take an hour out of your busy schedule to relax, to spend time with your children, or just for the sheer love of birds. Simple identification guides, hints and tips are available online. Which birds do you think would be in Quidhampton's top ten?

**What to look out for in January** Garden birds! Specifically on 29 – 31 January when BGBW takes place. You can also record the mammals you see in your garden and submit those with your bird records.

**What can you do this month?** Erm, how about the BGBW?! Visit the RSPB website for all the information you need. You can send in your results online or download a paper form to post them. If you are interested in what is found in Quidhampton, send your results to me at [nicotouch14@hotmail.com](mailto:nicotouch14@hotmail.com) and I will put together a summary for the village.

*The chance to have our own local survey! That's a great offer, Nick.*

*If you don't have a garden you can go to any green space such as the recreation ground, footpath or Boyes Wood.*

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**On Christmas day** Lily Newman and family cooked and delivered six Christmas meals for Quidhampton people who were spending Christmas day on their own. What a treat that must have been, especially for people whose plans had to change at the last minute. Lily said it went really well. "And we were so organised that we'd had our meal and cleared up by 13.45, giving us a nice long afternoon."

Reading the December newsletter, especially about Lily's generous offer, moved one (non-village) reader to tears. She said it was all such a wonderful example of community spirit.

**Christmas teas for Charity:** Jane Morgan and one of her fellow charity trekkers raised £350 in early December from the sale of home-made Christmas tea boxes. They are doing the Stars Appeal Desert Trek to Petra in April and thank everyone who supported them.

**Christmas Eve Jingle:** many people joined in the jingle of bells on Christmas Eve but the sound of the bells didn't carry very well and in some parts of the village people couldn't hear anyone else. Good to know you were taking part, though. If you were given jingle bells you are very welcome to keep them. Or return them, after sanitising the handles please, to Meadow Barn, Fisherman's Reach.

## **Church of England Parish services Arrangements for Sunday services since moving into Tier 3:**

08.00 holy communion at St Andrews and  
10.30 morning service (format varies) at  
St Michaels. These services are also  
available on zoom. (Note: no evensong at  
St Andrews in January or February)

All Sunday services will be 45 minutes  
long and there will be no singing.

Please do not come to a service if you are  
unwell or have recently arrived from a tier  
4 area.

### **You are asked to**

- arrive at church 5 -10 minutes before  
the service begins and keep a distance of  
2 metres from people not in your house-  
hold or support bubble

- wear a facemask covering mouth and  
nose while in the church building

- sanitise your hands when entering and  
leaving

- leave as soon as the service is over

"We have come through a lot recently and  
we do not want to fall at these last few  
hurdles. It is the Christian action to work  
for the common good".

### **Here's the letter from Kevin Martin, the new rector, held over from December:**

I am delighted to introduce myself as the  
new Rector of Bemerton Parish. I came  
here after serving a curacy in The  
Shaftesbury Team and then being part of  
the team at the Benefice of St  
Bartholomew in south west Wiltshire.  
Before entering the ministry I was a  
psychotherapist and set up a therapy  
centre in Wimborne. My wife, Liz, is also  
a psychotherapist and completed a PhD  
last year.

Liz has four adult children. One lives with  
us full time and works in a local  
supermarket. The youngest two are at  
university whilst the eldest is training as a  
midwife and lives in Southampton with her  
partner and two children.

I am looking forward to ministering to and

with you and would like to stress I am very  
happy to be called upon if you would like a  
visit for a chat or if you would like some  
prayer ministry (with or without anointing  
with oil) for a chronic or acute health  
condition.

I intend to be a visible presence around  
the parish so if you see me on a walk do  
feel free to stop me and say hello. I love  
hearing people's life stories and find it a  
privilege when I am asked to conduct a  
baptism, wedding or funeral and to be  
alongside people in moments of great joy  
as well as supporting you through  
moments of sadness and grief.

I shall hold the people of Bemerton Parish  
in my daily prayers and ask that you hold  
me in yours also.

God bless,  
Kevin

### **Dog poo: the perennial subject of every village newsletter.**

This clever sign  
made sure all  
walkers spotted  
the poo on the  
public footpath  
near Sovereign  
Close in Novem-  
ber. More was  
found further  
along the path.  
Everyone knows  
small children use  
that footpath to  
get to the play-  
ground, and they  
wander around as  
much as dogs.

One resident  
asks: is it too much to ask people to put  
their dogs on a lead along that path?  
Dog owners can then watch their dog  
and go into action with one of the many  
poop scoopers you can get today.



## Good news

**Congratulations to Anne Trevett of Lower Bemerton** who has been awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours list. The award is for 'services to the community in Salisbury during Covid-19', but Anne has worked tirelessly for the community for many years and deserves it in so many other ways.

**Congratulations to Sam Stokes and her partner Simon Downes** whose son Coby Richard Downes was born on 7 December at 21.02 weighing 6lb 13oz. Sam says his sisters love him and are being lovely little helpers. Welcome to the world, Coby. Let's hope it will be a freer and safer one by the time you are old enough to take notice.

**And congratulations to Sallie Phillips** of Sovereign Close who competed in the first round of TV's Mastermind recently. She got a very high score but was beaten by someone who seemed to have memorised an entire encyclopedia. *(the slight bitterness there is entirely the editor's! Sallie is very gracious about it and says we should keep on watching the programme)*



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## Climate change workgroup

The parish council appointed a workgroup at its November meeting with the long term goal of helping villagers achieve a net carbon neutral Quidhampton. Initiatives already started (the nature project, and planting in verges) are building awareness and encouraging insect life. The group wants to address the big picture (e.g. think before you fly!) as well as other steps people can take such as shopping locally.

Villagers who would like to join the workgroup or read the terms of reference would be very welcome. Please contact parish councillor Ken Taylor (01722 742456) or parish council chair Howard Rowley (via the parish clerk).

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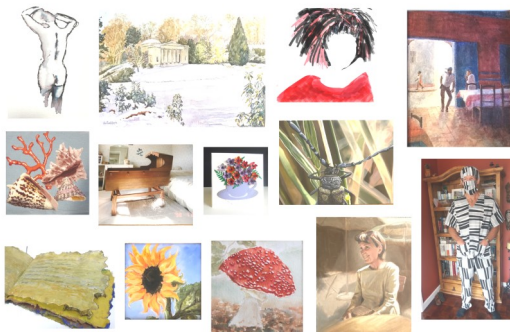
## Quidhampton online art exhibition

The 2<sup>nd</sup> village exhibition launched in November at

[www.quidhamptonwiltshire.com](http://www.quidhamptonwiltshire.com) and Ken Taylor has been using an analytical system to see who has been visiting it. It has been seen in 60 cities around the world! 85% are in the UK, (half of those were in the Salisbury area) and 10% from the US.

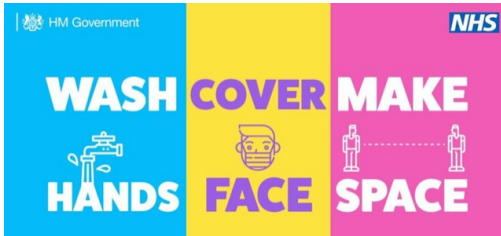
Eleven visitors were reported from the little town of Coffeyville Kansas. This was a complete mystery - no connections could be found between any artists and Coffeyville - and then Ken discovered that this small town is at the geographical centre of the US and is Google Analytics default US location.

So far £210 has been donated for the Salisbury Hospice, the artists' nominated charity. The exhibition will remain online for several weeks more.



## Contact details for support during the pandemic

- Ring Jane Taylor 744534 if you want someone to talk to.
- Ring John Cater 744079 or Jane Morgan 07880 550321 if you need shopping or prescriptions collected. There are plenty of volunteers wanting to help.
- For free counselling call Rachella Michaels 07778 102086



**Community email catch up:** everything in December's community emails has already been included in the newsletter or is now out of date.

## Waste and Recycling January

Recycling and garden waste

Mon 4, Friday 15, 29 & Feb 12

Household waste

Tues 5, Monday 18 & Feb 1st

This month's newsletter is paid for by an appreciative 'new' villager (resident since 2008). This is one of two households in the village who generously pay for one issue each of the newsletter every year.

*If you wish to make a contribution to the cost of printing the newsletter please contact the editor*

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**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:**

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quidhamptonpc@btinternet.com

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**Website:**

parishcouncil.quidhampton.org.uk

**Wiltshire Council** 0300 456 0100

Area Councillor, Pauline Church.

pauline.church@wiltshire.gov.uk

07436 810350

**Bemerton Church Parish**

Rev'd Kevin Martin, Rector

01722 679655 / 07821 943838

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.

Sandieandmartin@aol.com