

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

February 2021

What's On in February

Tuesday 15 Pancake day

Wednesday 17: First day of Lent and Bemerton Talks Online 19.30

Celebrating 800 years since the founding of Salisbury Cathedral

An illustrated talk by Hazel Docherty showing how moving the Cathedral from Old Sarum led to the Salisbury city we know today. Details of how to join will be sent by village email.

Tuesday 23 first meeting of the parish monthly **Spirituality Book Club at 19.30**. *The first book, "Naked Spirituality" by Brian D McLaren, will be read in four parts over the next four months.*

Thursday 25 Lent course begins 19.30: Living in Love and Faith.

This course is available free online from the Church of England website. It will also be run later in the year.

It is hoped that people who have felt rejected by the church would like to join these groups. Bemerton Parish welcomes all people for who they are. Email the rector for the Zoom link for both events (see back page).

Village 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

**For help in getting to your
vaccination appointment ring John Cater or Jane Morgan**

Vaccinations Salisbury City Hall is an NHS vaccination hub for south Wiltshire. You must be contacted by the NHS before you can go there. You may also be contacted by your GP. Some Salisbury surgeries (e.g. Harcourt and Salisbury Medical Practice) prefer to vaccinate their own patients at the GP led clinics in Salisbury Cathedral. You can choose which to go to. Villagers have given excellent reports of both locations.

Welcome to two new villagers who say: we've moved here at the worst time but at least we have the newsletter to show us how much normally is going on in the village! Here's a bit about us.

Helen Smith and Wendy Oliver finally moved into Meadow View in October. You may see them in Lower Road being walked by their two Sussex Spaniels. Wendy teaches part time at Andover College. She has officially retired on three occasions, going back to work each time. Helen has a rather different attitude to retirement... Both musicians, they run the Salisbury Royal British Legion Band. They're delighted with their warm welcome and look forward to normality in the village.

A serious message from schools

This is taken from the Bemerton St John Primary school website but comes from Wiltshire Council and applies to all parents

Parents who are critical workers should follow government guidance on whether they send their children to school. If they can keep them at home using remote learning they should do so. The more pupils there are in school the less safe it is.

If the number of pupils in school continues to rise places will be prioritised, with children of NHS, health care and school staff coming first. Vulnerable children will always have a place.

The headteacher thanks all critical worker parents who send their children to school only on days when both parents are working away from home. Absences are not penalised during lockdown.

At the time of writing his letter to parents (15 January) Bemerton had the highest infection rate in Wiltshire.

Pupils at home and school do the same work, and all get feedback from teachers.

Remote learning at Bemerton includes live lessons and the staff are delighted that over 90% of pupils 'attended' them in the first week. The website has some lovely examples of children's work.

There is no doubt that we are living in exceptionally challenging time. Another school has identified some websites with helpful advice and suggestions for parents with children at home. These will be sent round on the village email.

The last words about Christmas

- Special thanks should have gone to Duncan Witt who really stepped up to the mark in helping the village hall committee with the Christmas tree. He found the best tree to buy, made the star etc and was the person up the stepladder. There are plans for another tree next year.
- Wilton facebook had comments about how festive Quidhampton looked
- As well as the Newman family's Christmas lunch offer several villagers made lunch for individual neighbours they have been helping.

And finally: thanks to all the people who have left some Christmas lights up in trees and round windows. It does help raise our spirits at this dark time of year.

Great British Birdwatch: did you spend a quiet hour watching birds at the weekend? If so be sure to send your findings to Nick Tomalin so he can build up a picture of birdlife in Quidhampton. nicotouch14@hotmail.com

Nick writes: what to look out for in February? This is the month when signs of spring start appearing. Listen out especially, as woodpeckers can be heard drumming in the woods and great tits call 'teacher, teacher, teacher' to proclaim their territory. Frogs may spawn, and snowdrops and primroses flower. *You may also see red kites flying over the village, birds of prey with a distinctive forked tail. More about them next month.*

What can you do this month? February is the month of preparation. Work in the garden can begin, planting shrubs and pruning after the frosts have gone. Put up bird boxes and create those hedgehog highways before the prickly little beasts emerge from hibernation. Gaps in fences, gates and hedges encourage them to move from garden to garden.

PARKING in Coronation Square car park: please remember access should be left for a vehicle to get through to the playground in case of emergency.

It is easy to feel gloomy in our limited lives at the moment and then you find something that radiates optimism.

Holly Angel of Melrose is about to leave Quidhampton for some very brave volunteering abroad.

Here is what she says about herself.

I'm Holly, 27 years old and a Junior Doctor.

I studied at St George's University in London and worked for two years in Plymouth before coming to Salisbury just over a year ago. I'm thinking about training in Emergency Medicine or General Practice but haven't made up my mind which yet.

Last Autumn I studied for the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, a course that focuses on the practice of medicine in low resource settings, where there may be no established health service and a shortage of supplies.

While there I heard about the opportunity to volunteer as a doctor in the refugee camps in Greece. I contacted a charity called Kitrinos which is a non governmental organisation (NGO) providing medical care and mental health support to refugees and vulnerable migrants. They agreed to have me as part of their team and I'm heading out in February for three months.

I've always wanted to work abroad in a humanitarian role but this is the first time I've done anything like this. I will be based either in Athens, where many refugees are living on the streets, or in a camp on the islands of Chios or Lesbos. (It is sometimes called Lesbos but the charity says Lesvos)

On Lesvos I would be in Moria 2.0 camp which was set up as a temporary shelter after the original Moria camp was burned to the ground in September 2020, destroying the charity's clinic and leaving 13,000 people destitute. It remains their only home for the foreseeable future. Movements in and out of the camps are restricted due to Covid-19; hundreds tested positive following the fire. In December there was an outbreak of scabies but it has been successfully controlled.

It is going to be very challenging to work in a setting where resources are limited, even running water. In the NHS we are used to having access to any tests and treatments we feel are needed but this won't be the case in the refugee camps. I've also been told to expect a high number of patients needing mental health support; many have had traumatic experiences and are uncertain about their future.

Holly hopes people will donate to the charity she will be working for.

Go to Total Fundraising and search for Holly Angel.



Parish Council: at their recent meeting two villagers were co-opted as members: Pauline Donne of Lock's Lane and Tim Duncafe of Haviland Cottages. Thanks to both for volunteering for such a responsible role. There is another vacancy – contact the council if you want to know more.

It was the last meeting for the parish clerk, Clare Churchill, who has served the council for over a decade and has always been a great supporter of the newsletter. Thank you, Clare, and good luck in your new home and with your new position as Wilton Town Clerk. Please note the new email contact for the parish council on the back page.

Dave Robson said he wanted to write a children's book during lockdown – and he has! And it has been published.

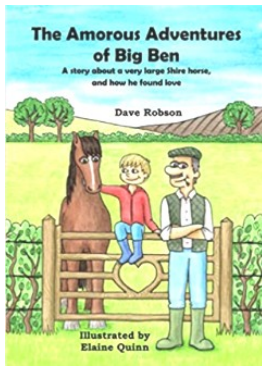
The Amorous Adventures of Big Ben is available from Dave at £6.60.

Email sales only.

[info@dave-](mailto:info@dave-robson.com)

robson.com for more information.

There will be an interview with Dave in the next newsletter and yes, he did base his story on Ben the carthorse who lives next door to him.



Congratulations to Keith Singleton on his 80th birthday in January. Keith would like to thank all the villagers who sent him cards, with a special mention for Joyce Harvey who made him some of her lovely meringues. You all helped make his day very special.

Message from the Parish Council:

please remember

NO dogs are permitted in the recreation ground

That's it. Obvious reasons and no exceptions.

Waste and Recycling February

Household waste

Monday 1 & 15, March 1

Recycling and garden waste

Friday 12 & 26

This month's newsletter is paid for by Keith and Mavis Singleton to commemorate his 80th birthday

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Local 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 :

parishclerk@quidhampton.org.uk

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

rector.bemerton@protonmail.com

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