

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

May 2021

What's On in May

Monday 3: Bank Holiday

6 May: Local elections Village Hall 07.00 – 22.00

There is no election for the parish council because there were not enough candidates. All candidates who did stand are returned unopposed; the vacancies can be filled by co-option. Contact the parish clerk if interested.

To be elected:

- Wiltshire Council councillor for Wilton division (includes Quidhampton)
- Police and crime commissioner for Wiltshire



Please take your own pen or pencil to vote and a mask (unless you're exempt).

The hall will be professionally sanitised and everything will be in place to keep you as safe as possible while you vote.

Wednesday 12 May Bemerton Talks 19.30 Another online talk using zoom – joining details are given in the email with this newsletter. Local author and historian Sue Allenby talks about her first novel Elias, the story of the man who was exiled by the pope but returned in 1219 to take charge of the building works of Salisbury Cathedral.

Tuesday 18 Annual parish council meeting 19.30 **Zoom ID 384 268 0725**

This is the meeting when officers (chair and vice chair) are elected and councillors appointed to various roles and responsibilities (flood warden, playground etc). Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak to agenda items if they wish; please advise the clerk of this beforehand: see back page. The agenda will be on the parish noticeboard and website. Before the official meeting there is a short period of time for statements or questions on any matter relating to the village.

Wednesday 19 Bemerton Film Society: Jojo Rabbit. Screening starts at 19.30

The film society is back in St John's Place with covid precautions. Numbers are restricted and booking essential. Facemasks must be worn throughout. For other regulations and booking details (email only) see website for St John's Place.

The film: Jo jo Rabbit This unusual 2109 film is a satirical comedy with 'exuberantly absurd humour'. It tells the imaginary story of a young boy in Germany during the final months of WWII who has a buffoonish Adolf Hitler as his imaginary best friend. He discovers his mother is hiding a Jewish girl in their attic. It has been described as provocative, silly, tender and moving.

Sunday 23 outdoor brunch at St John's Place 10.00 – 12.00

This popular monthly event is also back. Sit outside (gazebos provided), catch up with friends, enjoy coffee and bacon sandwiches. This time the food is free and donations to St John's Place are encouraged. Irene will be there too, with her jams, chutneys and marmalades for sale.

Monday 31 Bank Holiday pupils return to school on Monday 7 June

The new parish clerk . Howard Rowley, chair of the parish council, writes:

Our parish clerk of 14 years, Clare Churchill, left Quidhampton Parish Council (and moved house) for the more complex role of clerk to Wilton Town Council, leaving a gap to be filled. After a recruitment drive I am pleased to announce that Anisa Doubell was successfully interviewed and will be our new parish clerk.

Anisa started on the 14th of April and is getting to grips with village life and how special Quidhampton is. She will be the focal point for all parish enquiries and the parish council link to Salisbury and Wiltshire councils. So a warm welcome to Anisa.



And now a few words from Anisa herself:

Hello! I am currently studying for a master's degree in psychology and recently moved from London to Wiltshire. I have an interest in helping the community which is why I applied for the role of parish clerk. I am brand new to the role and would love to meet members of the community via zoom meetings and hopefully in person one day soon.

I live about 20 minutes' drive away from Quidhampton but I have visited it a few times.

My first degree was in modern languages so I also speak French, Spanish and Italian.

Advance notice

Polly Cordell will be running yoga classes in the village hall on Mondays from 7 June 19.00 – 20.00

She has a wide experience and focusses on stretching and strengthening. It really is for people of any level of experience and fitness.

Contact Polly if you are interested – ring the number or email yogawithpc@gmail.com

There will be restrictions because of covid regulations and she will update you with the latest changes when they are known.

Cost: £8 per class, £6 when booked monthly.



Yoga with Polly

Hatha Yoga Classes
All Abilities Welcome

Starting at Quidhampton Village Hall in June

www.yogawithpolly.com 07500110620

The village hall is available for hire after 17 May subject to the regulations that are declared at the time. There is expected to be a limit of 15 people with social distancing rules applying as they do at the White Horse.

The death of **Mike Barwell of Nadder Lane** is reported with great sadness. He died peacefully in Salisbury hospice on Sunday 25 April. Our thoughts will be with his wife Anne and their sons Philip and Richard. Anne says she has been overwhelmed by people's kindness and wants to thank everyone for their flowers, letters, cards and general thoughtfulness: "Thank you seems inadequate; we appreciate everything more than I can say."

Dave Bowyer of 1 Temperance Cottages died in Salisbury Hospice on Friday 30 April. He had no immediate family and will have an unattended cremation as was his wish. Bridget Gill, his near neighbour, deserves thanks for all the friendship and help she gave to Dave in the later part of his life, especially in training and looking after his dog who has been left in her care so will still be seen on walks around the village.

The Duke of Edinburgh: stories from villagers

Rachella Michaels met Prince Philip in 1953 when she was 11 and he opened a sports stadium in Mill Hill, London. She was lining the running track with other pupils from her school and says she has never forgotten the way he walked round, very informal and friendly, stopping to chat and smiling a lot.

Ken Taylor's daughter Alexis remembers being presented with her gold D of E award in 2002. She says he spoke to every one of them after the official ceremony and was very friendly and interested.

Clare Herring remembers being sworn at by the duke in the 1970's. She and her sister were in Cirencester Park during carriage driving trials and accidentally wandered onto the cross country track. The next thing they heard was "Get out of my b****y way!" It wasn't until after the carriage had sped past that they saw who it was.

She also has a story from her son Sam whose schoolfriends did a three day expedition in Scotland for their award. They got lost and found themselves on a path on private land. Suddenly the duke popped up out of no-where and demanded to know where they thought they were going. One of the pupils replied, "We're doing our Duke of Edinburgh's award, sir." Clare doesn't know exactly what the duke said next but the group walked off happily, no doubt following his directions for leaving the grounds of Balmoral Castle.

Book swap: many thanks to Marcus of No Smudges for cleaning the telephone box. He said it hasn't come up as well as the windows he cleans but it is a lot better than it was! Thanks too to John Cater for tackling the inside. It's still a work in progress and we're working on getting some shelving.

No Smudges cleans fascias, gutters and solar panels as well as windows. Marcus lives in The Alders. Contact him on 07500 387633

Can you design a sign for "Quidhampton Book Swap"? We'd like to have something to cover the immovable plastic left on the door. Contact the editor if you can do this or have an idea.



Age ten, and already a budding birder, we went on holiday to a part of Wales with a chance of seeing a red kite. The UK population was about 100 pairs, entirely restricted to that part of Wales. On our final day, in pouring rain, I glanced out of the car window and saw a large bird skimming low over the horizon, its forked tail twisting and turning completely at odds with the rest of its body. It was unmistakably a kite, and the highlight of my week.

Thirty years later this enigmatic species has undergone the most incredible recovery. Helped by several reintroduction projects, kites have become established across most of the country. Rarely a day goes by when I don't see one – surveying on Salisbury Plain, shopping in Salisbury, or working from my home office in Quidhampton. If you haven't seen one yet, you need to start looking skyward. Kites are slightly larger than buzzards, and a good view shows deep reds, oranges and white and brown patches. The unique feature, however, is that forked tail. They tend to drift effortlessly on the breeze, with the tail acting as rudder for their aerobatics. Sunny days are especially good to see them as they use thermals to soar upwards. Unlike most birds of prey, they are actively inquisitive, and can drop low overhead to check out what you're up to.

Some people feed kites, but I do not recommend it. It makes them used to people, and can lead to conflict later when they come boldly looking for food. They don't need our scraps, there is plenty of natural food available, and handouts can artificially inflate the population. Instead, enjoy watching them gliding over the village, and marvel at the fact that they have come back from the brink in the space of just 30 years – a true conservation success story!

What to look for in May: the first young birds emerging from nests. Newly fledged birds still have a 'mouth gape' (typically yellow skin around the base of the bill) and look fluffy. If you see one and are worried for its safety, it is best not to pick it up. Usually the parents are nearby and know where it is so you would do more harm than good. If there is immediate danger, put it up in a tree or bush out of harm's way, or better still return it to its nest if you know where that is.

What can you do this month? Attend an online nature event. Many organisations are still running online events to replace their indoor programmes. I gave three talks in March, and some are recorded so you can watch later. Look up county bird groups, the wildlife trusts, RSPB local groups.

The reference for one of Nick's talks is given in the email

Lambing time

Regular readers will remember Boris from last year, the lamb abandoned by his mother and reared by Liz Van Vogt. Boris's photo is on many walls now as the April choice in the Quidhampton nature calendar, asleep beside Daphne the family dog. Liz and her husband Mark have become more involved with Mark Game's flock of sheep since then and here Mark tells us about lambing in 2021

Many of you will have seen the lambing pens assembled, occupied and now vacated in the fields between the village and the A36.

Unperturbed by hand-rearing Boris, Liz and Mark Van Vogt played an active part in supporting Farmer Mark with this year's lambing. Boris is still very much their favourite, but their attention was recently focused on the ewes and their lambs.



The lambing pens - new this year - were a great idea. Farmer Mark dropped off a load of hurdles and Liz and husband Mark got to work creating single parent sheep family units (with dedicated room service) for the new mums. Not only did the pens help the ewes and lambs to bond, but they also served as a deterrent to foxes. No lambs from these fields were lost to foxes this year, whereas at least 10 were lost last year.

Liz and the Marks did a great job looking after the ewes and ensuring the births went as smoothly as possible. Easter weekend saw lambs delivered in snow, rain and sunshine at all times of the day and night. Husband Mark stayed at the "shouty end", while Liz and farmer Mark gave more hands on (or should that be hands in?!) assistance to ewes in labour. Looking after the new-born lambs and their mums was a full-time role for Liz and the Marks: lots of feeding, mucking out pens and making sure the ewes and wider flock were in good form.

More than 40 lambs were successfully delivered and moved to the field between Quidhampton and Lower Bemerton. There were two still births, one died at less than a week old and another disappeared in the Lower Bemerton field, probably taken by a fox. There were roughly 14 sets of twins and 11 singles. All have been numbered. Liz thinks there are at least two ewes still to lamb; so, watch this space (or rather the field).

There was no orphaned lamb to hand rear this year and Daphne's probably happy about that! Liz is trying to be strong and less emotionally attached apart from naming all the lambs and having a distinct soft spot for Tuppence. Tuppence is number 4 – perhaps you will spot her when out for a walk.

Community email catch up

Information from April emails that is still relevant and not mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter. To join the village community email send your address to the editor

Book swap please do not put any more books in the bus shelter.

It is being transferred to the phone box.

Fancy earning money while sitting still doing nothing? Models are needed by Sarum Studio, the art studio in Wren Hall, Cathedral Close. You must be prepared to work a full week, either mornings for life modelling (no clothes) or afternoons for portrait painting. You will earn £125 for the week for life modelling, £100 for portrait. Contact alastairbarford@hotmail.com 07754467259

Garden sheds warning: make sure your shed or outside store are secure. Someone tried to break into one on Coronation Square recently and valuable bikes were inside. Shed alarms that make a loud noise were always recommended by PC Pete Jung and they would still seem to be a good idea.

More about Mabel, the rescue puppy from Romania introduced in the March newsletter. Hannah Chappell-Cary writes:

The brown bombshell that is Mabel has arrived. Certainly, our house resembles the aftermath of a mild explosion.

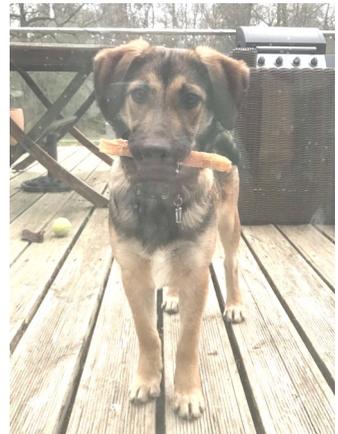
After a long and fairly torturous journey from Romania, with the van queued at the French border for 24hrs amid constant horn blowing from other vehicles, our dishevelled little lady was delivered to our doorstep on a bright Sunday morning 8 weeks ago. Not surprisingly, once in the house she made a beeline for her crate where she remained until the following morning.

Since then it's been a bit of a blur. Imagine being handed a small child who's had no parental guidance or experience of life outside a sheltered living space. Add in an impressive running speed and eye-wateringly sharp baby teeth and you have Mabel.

We've yelped with pain from the nips to the legs, we've argued pettily from sheer exhaustion, we've even cried on occasion over the enormity of what we've taken on but within 8 weeks Mabel has:

- learnt to wear a collar, lead and harness
- overcome her paralysing fear of traffic
- mastered sitting and lying down on command
- understood that toileting is for outdoors
- discovered dog toys, woods and stairs
- realised chews shouldn't be swallowed whole
- acknowledged that little noisy boys aren't a threat
- fallen in love with everyone at 5 The Alders
- adored the attention of many friendly schoolchildren & their mums

Most importantly our boisterous, clever, affectionate and still slightly wary Romanian pup has very quickly won over all of our hearts here at Groveley Dene. It is hard to imagine our lives without her now. Bring on the next 8 weeks!



An Easter bunny for the pandemic?

Lily Newman writes:

On Easter morning Rachael and I once again got up early to start cooking our dinners for the village. This time we had 6 villagers to cook for. Blessed with a lovely sunny day the whole family walked through the village delivering the meals with grandson Arthur dressed as the Easter bunny! Following the excitement, we spend the afternoon enjoying the sunshine in the garden. We hope everyone enjoy their meals as much as we enjoyed providing them.

Thanks, Lily, for looking out for people on their own who can feel very alone at times like Easter.

A delayed journey for Jane Morgan who writes:

When I was fundraising with cream teas and Christmas treats in 2020, I expected to be trekking to Petra in aid of Salisbury Hospital's Stars Appeal by now as we were due to leave at the end of April. Thanks to Covid-19, I have another year to get fit, as our trip has been postponed until 2022. The funds that the generous people of Quidhampton have helped to raise so far have already gone to the Stars Appeal to help staff and patients, both during the pandemic and as we tentatively come out of it. So a huge thank you to everyone who helped.

The fundraising continues, starting with a challenge on 1st May – a mid-night to midday walk with my fellow trekkers trying to cover 100 miles between us in 5 mile chunks – just to ease ourselves back into training! Visit <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/JaneLM> if you would like to donate.

Wendy Lawrence, local history and jazz enthusiast, writes:

Special birthdays? If celebrating 75 years on this planet is special then I have a special birthday on 20 May when I will have afternoon tea with the permitted five guests and on Sunday, a few days later, lunch at The White Horse with friends Bea Tilbrook and Ken Taylor. Not quite the big jazz event I was hoping to organise but that is a very small sacrifice to pay for staying safe during a pandemic!

Getting out and about again For the past two years I have been a regular visitor to Salisbury Hospital eye clinic. During 2020 there was very little traffic on the journey there and an empty car park when we arrived. My appointment in April this year gave me rather a shock. There was a tailback of cars and lorries on the Salisbury Ring Road and the waiting room had other people in it! A quick trip into M&S afterwards proved to me that I am really not ready for life to go back to what it was – it's too hectic and noisy.

Wendy recommends an online talk by John Chandler, well known Wiltshire historian on 19 May at 19.30 **"Trying to understand Wiltshire Townscapes"**

John will explain how the study of towns has changed since the 1950s and how this is helping us understand why Wiltshire towns have the shape and appearance they do today.

Booking essential £9 per screen. All proceeds to the Victoria County History Wiltshire trust which has researched local towns for nearly 70 years.

via <https://www.wiltshiremuseum.org.uk/events/>

Contact details during the coronavirus pandemic

If you need someone to talk to ring Jane Taylor 744534

If you need shopping or prescriptions collected or transport to medical appointments ring Jane Morgan 07880 550321 or Zoe Hoare 07747 717877.

For free counselling call or text Rachella Michaels 07778 102086

For other help call the Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub 0300 003 4576 who can refer you to a range of other services.

Opening hours 09.00 – 17.00 Monday to Friday, 10.00 – 16.00 Saturday.

Email: wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk

HGVs: can you do it?.

Villagers are encouraged to take photos of HGVs going through the village and send them to Sandie Smith who phones the company or emails them. The police are sadly too understaffed or busy to do this now. Sandie would like someone else to take it on and is happy to show them the kind of email she writes. You would need access to the internet to trace the company's contact details.

It's not a very time consuming job but is a great way of helping the village.

Contact Sandie if you'd be willing to help sandieandmartin@aol.com

It is no longer enough to get just the number plate of an over-sized vehicle.

Waste and Recycling May 2021

Recycling and garden waste

Friday May 7 & 21, June 4.

Household waste

Monday May 10 & 24, June 7

This newsletter is paid for by a village couple celebrating a special anniversary

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

Local Contacts

The White Horse

01722 744448

Police non emergency no.: 101

PCSO Matthew Smith CPTSouthWiltshire@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

St John's Primary School: 322848

Quidhampton Mill : 741171

Self catering apartments

Footshill House, Lower Road: B&B
743587

Wilton and District Link

Scheme :01722 741241

Parish Council :

Clerk Anisa Doubell 07398561772

anisa.doubell@quidhampton.org.uk

Website:

www.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

Quidhampton Nature Project

Mandy Wheelan

amandawhelan@me.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 Johnston 07784 372201

sjp.salisbury@gmail.com

Community Emergency Volunteer

John Cater 744079

Floodwarden:

Ken Taylor 742456

Community Speedwatch (CSW)

Sandieandmartin@aol.com