

Chilbolton and Wherwell Community Magazine

As I write, snow has tranquillised the countryside and transformed the brown January landscape into a scene of startling beauty - a brief if chilly respite from the ubiquitous mud of the last few weeks. At this time of year, when our energy levels, and our spirits, may be at a low ebb, it's uplifting to read good news, in particular about the amazing feats of other human beings. This issue features a number of inspiring stories, revealing what remarkable people there are in our two villages. Among other goings-on which should help warm the cockles, Moviola is back, kicking off with a couple of great movies.

Tessa Youell and the Magazine Committee

MAGAZINE COMMITTEE

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Thank you to Sue and Ray Blazdell and Tessa Youell for producing this month's magazine, and Terry Gilmour and helpers for distribution.

CLOSING DATE FOR COPY is the 10th of the month

For all enquiries, our contact email is: **cw.magazine@hotmail.co.uk**

Please submit your copy to the email address above. It is important your articles are submitted in MS Word using an A5 template and font Times New Roman size 11. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact the magazine secretary on the phone number above to arrange for your article to be typed by one of the team.

The editors reserve the right to omit, amend or condense any item submitted for publication. The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily shared by the editors or the magazine team. Any article printed in this magazine may be reproduced on the Chilbolton or Wherwell websites.

Contributors who do not wish their material to be published on the websites must specify this at the time they submit their article.



Church Matters

The Downs Benefice

The Revd Juliet Montague, BTh (normal day off: Monday)

Benefice Administrators: Caroline Horrill & Caroline McAulay
'The Downs Benefice' Office, The Rectory, Church Lane, Littleton, Winchester
SO22 6QY Tel: 01962 880845 email: office@downsbenefice.org.uk
The Benefice Office is open Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm

ST PETER AND HOLY CROSS, WHERWELL

Churchwardens	Pam Prince	4 Manor Cottages, Fullerton	860441 w.prince04@tiscali.co.uk
	Anna Lipa	Chute Cottage, The Old Hill	860879 anna@stefanlipa.co.uk
PCC Treasurer	David Eтчells	The Old Malt House, Fullerton Road	860575

ST MARY THE LESS, CHILBOLTON

PCC Treasurer	Michael Payne	Dancing Ledge, Fullerton Road, Wherwell, SP11 7JS	860296 michael@mipayne.f9.co.uk
Gift Aid Sec	Philip Harrison	Four Winds, Drove Road	860201
Choir Leader	Sue Batchelor	1 Room Cottages	860307

From the Church Records

Chilbolton

Funeral	29th November	Ronald Tiller
Funeral	4th December	Peter Ward
Funeral	3rd January	Brian Shaw

Church Flowers

Chilbolton	Jill Maynard and Betty Geary
Wherwell	Sarah Tall

Dear Friends,

I am writing this in January, knowing you will read it when I have left the Benefice. It is a strange sensation, one of many I have had to wrestle with as I face the end of my full-time working life, my last pay slip, and the challenge of finding a new way of being in a different place. This is not unique, endings and new beginnings come to us all, but it offers me the particular opportunity to give you my 'last thoughts'.

Firstly I do want to say a heartfelt thank you to all those who have already written or spoken so many generous words of appreciation for my time among you. It is such a strong reminder of the enormous privilege that comes with being a priest, which is the opportunity to come alongside people in times of great sorrow or joy, especially at times of birth, marriage and death, to bring the love and compassion of God into those situations and, to the best of one's ability, make the rituals surrounding those occasions as meaningful and good as they can be for each family. Where I have been able to do that, it is only because week by week I have been engaged in regular worship with those who participate in worship across the Benefice, being both resourced, challenged, loved, cared for and prayed for by so many of you. Thank you is such a simple thing to say, but it is truly and deeply meant.

One of the lasting memories that I will take with me is Rydal Hall. Our Benefice holidays in the Lake District Mountains are significant in both the Old and New Testaments. Many important spiritual events, eg Moses receiving the ten commandments, or Jesus being 'transfigured', happened on mountains. Hill-walking is like life, near the top of the hill, looking back at all that lies below you, you have the sense of achievement that comes with having worked hard and puffed (in my case) your way to the top. I feel a bit like that now, pausing for a moment to rejoice in all that lies behind me: so many wonderful people who give such commitment and dedication, and bring so many skills in the service of God and his church in this place. You are a truly wonderful Benefice, from Church wardens and PCC members, to Parish Visitors and administrators, from musicians to treasurers, from those who have so recently launched Messy church to those who prepare food and drink or do laundry, and so many of you who may not be regular worshippers but who value the church being there in your midst – the list goes on and on. It is all of you who are the church which will go on faithfully serving here, and is in good hands.

It is hard to turn away from that view and head on into unknown territory. You hope it will be a gentle stroll downhill for a while, but those of us who have done the 'contour walks' at Rydal know that what lies over the brow of the hill is usually another hill! In the end that is what God wants for us, to go on being challenged and learning so that we grow more into the likeness of Christ as we progress through life.

I will not be far away, my new address is The Vicarage, 52 Brooklynn Close, Waltham Chase, Southampton, SO32 2RZ. I do not yet have a definite phone number but will leave that with the Benefice office. One of the things I look forward to is having more time for friends so I will always be happy to see you if you are passing my way. God bless you all.

With love in Christ,
Juliet

Church Services February 2013

	St Mary the Less Chilbolton	St Mary's Crawley	St Catherine's Littleton	St Stephen's Sparsholt	St Peter & Holy Cross Wherwell
Sunday 3rd February The Presentation of Christ in the Temple					
Family Communion			10.00 am	10.00 am	
Common Worship with HC					10.00 am
Morning Worship		10.00 am			
Benefice Evensong	4.00 pm				
Wednesday 6th February					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Westholme			2.30 pm		
Sunday 10th February The Sunday Next before Lent					
Holy Communion				8.00 am	
Morning Prayer	10.00 am				
Family Communion		10.00 am	10.00 am		
Worship 2013				10.00 am	
Benefice Evensong					6.00 pm
Wednesday 13th February Ash Wednesday					
Communion with ashes			7.30 pm		
Sunday 17th February The First Sunday of Lent					
Holy Communion		8.00 am			
Morning Worship			10.00 am		
Family Service					10.00 am
CW Holy Communion	10.00 am				
Matins				10.00 am	
Wednesday 20th February					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Thursday 21st February					
Flowerdown HC			2.30 pm		
Saturday 23rd February					
House Communion			10.00 am		
Sunday 24th February The Second Sunday of Lent					
Holy Communion					8.00 am
Family Service	10.00 am				
Family Communion			10.00 am	10.00 am	
4 th Sunday Worship		10.00 am			
Peace & Healing			6.00 pm		
Wednesday 27th February					
Meditation			7.00 pm		

Peter Ward 1936 -2012

Norma Ward would like to thank everyone who attended Peter's funeral on 4th December, and for all the cards and flowers.

Chilbolton Village Hall

2013 looks like a busy and exciting year at the Village Hall. The Management Committee have tried to ensure that a variety of functions and activities will continue, and be developed as part of their responsibility to provide a social hub for the residents. So against this background, I am very pleased to confirm that the regular coffee mornings will continue, on the third Saturday each month, when we also hold the 100's Club draw. It's a relaxed and comfortable gathering to meet friends and neighbours and it only costs £1 for entrance and includes a coffee or tea with biscuit and a free raffle.

Film nights are on the first Friday of each month, when we endeavour to book a good quality and up to date film. Pre-booked tickets are excellent value at £5 per head and this includes a coffee and biscuit. Wine is available for purchase.

On 23rd March, we have booked a real treat in the form of a retrospective show based upon a tribute to Morecambe & Wise and the music of that period. Tickets must be pre-booked at £15 each, but this includes a glass of wine and a ploughman's and I can guarantee an excellent evening's enjoyable entertainment.

In the past we have organised a monthly Sunday walk, but weekends can be rather busy with social commitments, so we are going to try mid-week walks which hopefully will appeal to the active retired residents, or at least those not at work!

We do look forward to your support and of course we will do our best to provide any activity for which there is a demand. And do remember that the Hall now has capacity for regular morning bookings for you to develop your own group activity.

John Temple, Chairman



THANK YOU...



... to all those wonderful helpers who made cakes, biscuits, jams, etc., for the **Wherwell**

Christmas Fayre. Thanks for all your generous donations of tasty, tempting delights... the CAKE STALL was a big success, earning £150!!! Thank you so very much !!

Judy & John Conte

CARE GROUP

Please note that overall running of the Care Group and the primary contact for residents requiring transport to medical appointments is now Christopher Bruce telephone 860321.

I will continue to act as treasurer and cover for Christopher when he is on holiday and drivers can continue to pay in donations to me for forwarding to the Countess of Brecknock Hospice. Anyone wishing to help with this valuable community service should contact one of these numbers.

Mike Davis 860594, 2 Joys Lane

Chilbolton Horticultural Society

Plants and Pandas in Sichuan

An illustrated talk by Jim Love

**Tuesday 26th February at 7.45pm
Chilbolton Village Hall**

Non members welcome £3.00, but why not consider joining this local society. Annual subscription £7.50.

Further details Sheila Evans 860697, Sue Batchelor 860307, Mary Gilbert 861142, Jenny Seddon 861164

CHILBOLTON WI CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE ABBOTS MITRE

On Tuesday, 18th December 2012, twenty members sat at three round tables in the restaurant and enjoyed a festive lunch. While eating we pondered over the answers to a ten question quiz with pictorial clues. The committee members moved around the tables between courses and tried not to give any answers away. While enjoying coffee and mince pies the answers were given out and the winning table, by one point was duly clapped. We all left feeling replete and ready to start our own festivities.

Sylvia Baker

Chilbolton WI

Tuesday, 19th February, 2013

Chilbolton Village Hall

Business meeting 7.30pm - Talk starts at 8.00pm

Help for Heroes

Speakers: Neil and Jane Bowen

Refreshments Raffle Trading stall

Visitors: open to all, £3.00 donation requested



Chilbolton Neighbourhood Watch Report

A quiet Christmas and the start of a New Year so I thought I would remind you of relevant phone numbers and web addresses:

- (1) to report unpleasant doorstep selling: call the Quick Response Team, Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm on 01962 833666.
 - (2) for complaints about unsolicited offers of work or phone calls (assuming you are registered with the Telephone Preference Service on 0845 0700707; 24 hours): call Trading Standards during office hours as above on 01962 833620.
 - (3) as an alternative to Trading Standards: call Consumer Direct on 0845 040506 during office hours.
 - (4) nuisance-call advisers 0800 661 700; 24 hours.
 - (5) to check suspected scams and hoaxes go to www.snopes.com or www.hoax-slayer.com
 - (6) to report suspected scams or fraud go to www.actionfraud.org.uk.
- For everything else, ring 101 or in desperate circumstances, 999.

None of the above provides the complete answer but they are a help.

A very happy and peaceful 2013 to you all.

Maria Watson

Tel: 860415 e-mail: mwatson.cottage@hotmail.co.uk

HELP FOR HEROES COLOSSAL CAKE SALE
WINCHESTER

On SATURDAY, 9 MARCH

At THE BROOKS SHOPPING CENTRE and ST MAURICE'S COVERT

HELP US TO RAISE MONEY FOR OUR WOUNDED HEROES

If you love baking and would like to bake a cake for a Hero or help out on the day, please contact Sarah Walker on 07771 990403 or

sarah.walker@h4hcounty.org.uk Jams and chutneys also most welcome.

Sarah Tall

Rain, rain go away

We are lucky to be in a country where there are people who like to keep records be they train spotters or those with rain gauges. Living, as we do, in a river valley it is always useful to know more about rain than about trains. There are statistics dating from 1766 showing monthly rainfall figures in England and Wales and other figures for Britain and its constituent counties but all of these date from 1910. For a true historical perspective we need to refer to the data from 1766.

The amount of rain that has fallen so far in 2012/2013 has been 47.24 inches, which is about 126% of the long-term average. The only years which were wetter than 2012 in the 250 year long record were 2000 with 48.33 inches and 1872 with 50.59 inches and 1852 with 47.76 inches and 1768 with 49.11 inches. So, therefore we can say that on average a year as wet as 2012 has roughly a One-in-60 chance of recurring. As you will remember the first few months of 2012 were exceptionally dry so that the aquifers were very low, this has helped to absorb the huge amount of rain that has fallen and so far, in our area, the springs are not yet running as they did in 2000. However, for those of us who holidayed in England the summer months were the wettest since 1912 - exactly a century. A decade ago the first three months of 2001 were also exceptionally wet and the year March to April 2001 had a total rainfall of 51.15 inches.

2012 was also exceptional in that February and March were the driest months since 1993 and June was the dullest since 1987 and the summer quarter was the gloomiest since the bad summer of 1954. Unfortunately our grandchildren still want us to take them to Sandbanks again this year for their summer holidays, they are happy to play on the beach in their ski-clothes.

Alan Crisp

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Wherwell Primary School PTA

Our aim for last years fundraising was to raise enough to extend the play trail in the school playing field. The children were asked which items they would like & listed them in order of preference. The PTA allocated further sums to allow a boat, a log roll, a high A-frame and a wobble bridge to be bought. The scheme should be in place by the spring when the children are back playing on the school field.

Running up to Christmas the infants enjoyed a visit from Father Christmas who delivered some early presents and the Juniors enjoyed their disco and karaoke party. There were also trips to the theatre for all of the children.

The PTA Christmas raffle was very successful, and along with the cards produced by the children raised money which helped to fund the Christmas activities.

The PTA has also set up its own Facebook page so please like us, & keep up to date with upcoming events.

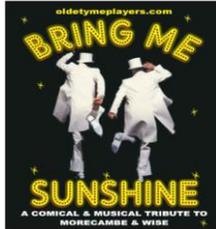
Upcoming Fund Raising event: Quiz & Curry Night - Friday 8th March. Put the date in your diary and start organising your teams.

BRING ME SUNSHINE!

“The Morecambe & Wise Years”

Saturday 23rd March in Chilbolton Village Hall

Doors open at 6.45 pm for 7.30 pm start



A comical and musical tribute to the legendary duo packed full of comedy sketches, music and dance. Sandy Sinclair and Tony Edwards uncannily bring to life the unique comedy that was Eric and Ernie. They will have you singing along to those well loved popular songs of the period. “Your best show yet!”

Tickets £15 (including wine and ploughman's) from
John Temple: 01264 861334 Beryl Lawrence: 01264 860618
Maureen Treadwell: 01264 860380

For more information: www.chilboltonvillagehall.co.uk

Chilbolton Coffee Morning

**Saturday 16th February at Chilbolton Village Hall
10.30 to 12 noon**

All the family and friends welcome. Come for a chat and to meet other villagers. Have a coffee or tea, with biscuits for just £1. This also includes a raffle.

The 100+ Club draw will also take place today

We wish to replenish our Book Store so please bring along your used books to exchange with others.

Books CD's, DVD's, cards etc. will be on sale.

For more information contact Sheila Laughton 860460, Lesley Brown 860127 and Debbie Richardson 861082

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Jane's Kitchen

Carrot and Tomato Soup

Winter is the time for warming soups, and the following is not only warming but the bright colour means it looks inviting too.

2 lb of ripe tomatoes or 1 large can of Italian tomatoes
1 onion sliced
2 -3 large carrots diced
1 strip of lemon rind and 1 bay leaf
Salt and pepper to taste
2 pts of stock (home-made chicken or bouillon cube)
1½oz butter
2-3 tabs plain flour
½ tspn granulated sugar, or to taste
¼ pt single cream



Method

Melt the butter in a saucepan and add the onion, and carrots cook till soft but not browned. Sprinkle over the flour and stir into the vegetables until absorbed. (If using potato as a thickening agent rather than flour, add peeled and chopped at same time as cooking the onion and carrots.) Add tinned or sliced tomatoes, stock, bayleaf, lemon rind, and seasoning. Simmer gently until vegetables are cooked. Remove from the heat and purée. Adjust seasoning, and if necessary add more stock before adding the single cream.

Recipe adapted from 'Winter Soups', booklet produced by Chilbolton WI, 1993.

Jane Brown

CHILBOLTON
Village Hall Management
are holding a
Jumble Sale
on
Saturday, 9 March
Chilbolton Village Hall
Doors open 2pm

All donation of jumble to the Hall after 10am please
Enquiries: Beryl Lawrence on 01264 860618
Registered charity No. 301781



News from Wherwell School

We would like to share with you a letter that we recently received from the Rt Hon David Laws, MP, Minister of State for Schools.

“...Dear Mr King,

2012 PRIMARY SCHOOL (KS2) PERFORMANCE TABLES

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on the excellent performance of your pupils in the 2012 national Key Stage 2 tests published on the 13th December 2012.

The overall percentage of your pupils achieving Level 4+ combined with excellent rates of progress in both English and mathematics place you amongst the top performing primary schools this year.

Mastery of English and mathematics is critical to the success at secondary school and beyond, so these pupils now have a really good start for the next stage of their education.

I would like to congratulate your staff, governors and pupils for their hard work and success, and to thank you for your leadership in continuing the drive towards the highest standards of educational achievement...”

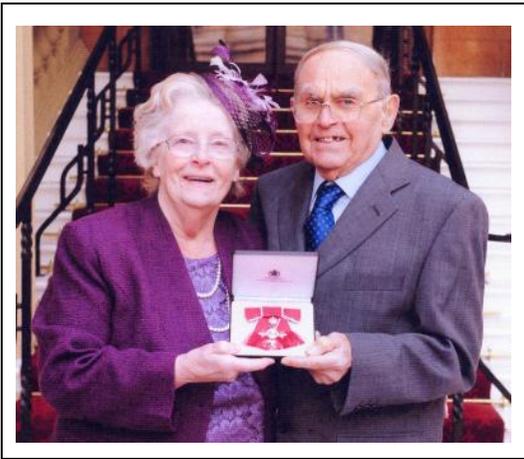
We are so pleased with this endorsement of the hard work going on in our school and that the pupils, staff, Governors, parents and many others have received the recognition that they all deserve. That this has been achieved in the context of a rich and varied curriculum, including commitment to a full programme of sporting activities and a level of musical participation that is second to none is a credit to all involved.

Needless to say, we are incredibly proud of our school and would like you to share in our success. Should you require any further information or would like to come and visit then please do contact us on 01264 860384 and talk to Mr King (Head Teacher) or Mrs Pritchard (Administration Officer). You can also look at the school website for further information, calendar events and newsletters.

www.wherwell.hants.sch.uk.

Phillip Plambeck

Phyllis Harding MBE



Mrs Phyllis Harding, of Chant Close, Wherwell, was awarded an MBE in the Queen's Birthday 2012 Honours List for services to the community in Wherwell. Accompanied by husband Denis, Mrs Gill Morgan and Mrs Denise Brackston, she was invested as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, by The Prince of Wales at Buckingham Palace on 13th December 2012.

Phyllis Daubney was born at Spurshot, near Romsey, the second eldest child with six siblings. The family moved briefly to Bere Hill Farm, before settling in Old Greenwich Cottages (originally a pair) in 1941. When Phyllis left school in 1949; she worked as a 'Mother's Help', which her headmistress deemed to be a dead-end job. To the contrary, Phyllis had many fulfilling roles in Wherwell – School Governor, Sunday School, Youth Club, Junior Choir, Mothers Union **and** 60 years of loyal service as housekeeper to Cllr. John and Mrs Morgan, until the death of Grace Morgan in January 2009. You can read about Phyllis's childhood days and her success with village groups in the Wherwell Anthologies for 1988 & 1998.

Phyllis and Denis moved to Chant Close in 1993. Each year they host an activity day for 'Chernobyl Children' at the Wherwell Sports Field, and they co-ordinate participation of friends and villagers with shoeboxes for 'Operation Christmas Child'. In 2010 they helped with a tea party for 'Naomi House' and in 2011 they hosted a William & Kate Royal Wedding tea party in their garden. Phyllis also runs the local Knitting Group, making knitted garments for children in Africa and hats, gloves & scarves for 'Mission for Seamen'.

Phyllis's own hobbies include flower arranging, gardening and knitting; but she also spends a lot of time being a good neighbour. Phyllis says ***"I feel my MBE is a community award, because without friends who have helped over the years I couldn't have run the clubs, the discos, the jumble sales, etc. I would like to say a big thank you to all of these helpers and a special thank you to Denis"***.

If anyone would like to contribute wool to the Knitting Group, please contact Phyllis on 01264 860723.

Andrew Flanagan

Hilary Thrupp (1925 – 2012)

Hilary Margaret Cookson was born at Swiss Cottage, London on the 10 May 1925 and educated at St. Margaret's, Hampstead and Holy Cross Convent, Woking. In 1942, aged 17, she joined the Royal Artillery 628 Squadron 'Heavy Mixed AA Battery' Isle of Sheppey. After the war, training as a stenographer led to appointment as Personal Assistant to the Director of Studies at Sandhurst.

She met and married Caspar Thrupp in 1955 and they worked together on their fruit farm in Suffolk. Due to an influx of foreign fruit their farm business collapsed. They sold up and bought a derelict property in London Street, Andover and set up Andover's first ever launderette. It was a tremendous success, though it took them both a while to get used to being 'in trade' - a side of life unknown to them.



They moved to Wherwell in 1958; first to 'Uplands' (now 'The Well House'), 12 years later to 'The Old Malt House', and in 1982 to Hilary's last home at 'Gavel Barn'. All these house moves were lovingly recorded on a magnificent patchwork bed spread.

Hilary and Caspar took part in village life saying it was a privilege to live in such a lovely place. They both loved the country and animals and they both rode. Though Caspar was a brilliant horseman, Hilary said her horse had "no brakes".

They also bred Abyssinian cats and Border Terriers. This photo of Hilary was taken in 2000 with Billy on her lap as an 8-week old puppy and Sukey. Billy features in the article about the Cinnamon Trust.

Hilary loved music. She always said she played the piano for her own amazement. Her chief love was singing and she possessed a Soprano which closely resembled a boy's voice. She trained in Winchester and London and appeared in many local concerts and recitals and was once referred to as the 'Hampshire nightingale'. In the early 60's she trained the church choir at Longparish; later helping Lady Orde with the choir in Wherwell. Her last big 'do' was at the 1983 Proms in the Royal Albert Hall, singing Bach's Magnificat with the Waynflete Singers and the Winchester Cathedral Choir.

Hilary was Secretary of the Wherwell Playing Fields Association for 14 years and was elected onto the Parochial Church Council, the Parish Council and the

(continued on p.16)

(continued from p.15) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Another major interest was patchwork and quilting and some of her work won prizes in National Competitions or has been featured in publications. In 1982, after she had studied for about 15 years, she was asked to form a teaching group in the village hall. When numbers dwindled, she ran the group at Gavel Barn. That she was able to produce a hand sewn quilt or wall hanging amazed her - since her sewing teacher at school had said that she "was passed praying for". Hilary loved cars and driving and any excuse to get her car out and drive was greeted with great enthusiasm. She often said she made many unnecessary journeys.

In her mid-70s Hilary was taken to her first rugby match at Twickenham. She had discovered rugby 'by mistake' on television, but was hooked from then on.

Caspar Thrupp died in February 1990. A memorial service for Hilary was held at Wherwell Church on 23rd November 2012. She had lived in the village for 54 years. Throughout this time, she maintained a strong interest in people and events and was an avid reader of the Parish Magazine and the Andover Advertiser.

Hilary was a beautiful, charming and graceful lady. Despite experiencing much pain in later years, she always displayed her warm personality and sense of humour. She will be remembered with great affection by her family and friends.

Debbie Archer & Andrew Flanagan

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The Cinnamon Trust

The Cinnamon Trust is the only national charity which seeks to relieve the anxieties, problems and sometimes injustices, faced by elderly and terminally ill people and their pets, thereby saving a great deal of human sadness and animal suffering. The Trust was founded in 1985 by Mrs Averil Jarvis MBE. The primary objective of the Trust is to respect and preserve the treasured relationship between owners and their pets.

A national network of over 15,000 community service volunteers has been established to provide practical help when any aspect of day to day care poses a problem – for example, walking the dog for a housebound owner, short term fostering, whilst owners face a spell in hospital or long term care for pets whose owners have passed away. When a pet is in the Trust's care, either short or long term, the owner is kept in touch with visits, regular photos and letters.



It was through the Cinnamon Trust that I was introduced to Mrs Hilary Thrupp and her beloved border terrier Billy. At first I walked Billy twice a week on Chilbolton Common but as Mrs Thrupp had to spend more time in hospital Billy came to live with me and my family until she was able to have him back home with her again. Billy was always so excited to be reunited with Mrs Thrupp and she was always overjoyed to see him. The day that Mrs Thrupp asked if I could look after Billy full time was very hard for her but she knew he was greatly loved by us.

Billy often had visits with “his mum” and we always sent photos and letters letting Mrs Thrupp know exactly what Billy had been doing and all the different places he had been visiting on our family outings. Sadly Billy passed away early in 2012 and even today is greatly missed by us all. I was very lucky and honoured to meet Mrs Thrupp, an inspirational lady, and I am so grateful that she entrusted her beloved Billy to me and my family with whom we had many a happy day. Both Mrs Thrupp and Billy will always be very fondly remembered by us all.

Diane Compton

To contact the Cinnamon Trust, you can call 01736 757900 or visit their website at: <http://www.cinnamon.org.uk/>

You can follow the Trust on:

<http://www.facebook.com/TheCinnamonTrust>

Diary Dates

February

1 st	Film show 'Gambit'	CVH	6.45 for 7.30pm
2 nd	Wherwell coffee morning	WVH	10.30 - 12 noon
2 nd	Pre-School Valentine party	WPF Pavilion	7.30pm
4 th	Wherwell PTA meeting	School Hall	7.30pm
5 th	Aviation Club	WPF pavilion	7.30pm
5 th	Chilbolton PC	CVH	8.00pm
7 th	Silver Surfers, every Thursday	Home Guard Club	7.00pm
9 th	Bingo	Home Guard Club	8.00pm
10 th	MAGAZINE COPY DATE		
11 th	Midday Mums	WVH	10.30 - 12 noon
15 th	Wherwell History Group	WVH	8.00pm
16 th	Chilbolton coffee morning	CVH	10.30 - 12 noon
16 th	Quiz evening	Home Guard Club	8.00pm
19 th	Chilbolton WI	CVH business meeting	7.30pm
19 th	Chilbolton WI: Help the Heroes	CVH	8.00pm
24 th	Work party	West Down	10.00am
26 th	Chilbolton Horticultural Talk	CVH	7.45pm

March

1 st	Film show 'The Quartet'	CVH	6.45 for 7.30pm
2 nd	Wherwell coffee morning	WVH	10.30 - 12 noon
8 th	PTA Quiz and curry night	Wherwell School	
9 th	Jumble Sale	CVH	2.00pm
9 th	Bingo	Home Guard Club	8.00pm
12 th	Wherwell Parish Council	WVH	7.30pm
18 th	Midday Mums	WVH	10.30 - 12noon
23 rd	Morecambe and Wise	CVH	6.45 for 7.30pm

MIDDAY MUMS

This month, because of half term, we are meeting a week early on **Monday 11th February**. Hope to see you from 10.30-12.00 at Wherwell Village Hall for coffee, biscuits, toys and fun. Next month's date is Monday March 18th.

Susan Ansell 860775

WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA

Theatre & Music:

There is a full programme at The Lights, Andover including **Dr. Faustus** on February 13th, **Pete Firman – Hoodwinker** (comedy magic) on February 16th, **Shazia Mirza – Cuckooland** on March 1st and **Antonio Forcione** (acoustic guitar, music instrumentalist and composer) on March 2nd. Half-term sees a wonderful selection of shows for younger audiences such as **James & the Giant Peach** on February 18th, **Matilda & Fantastic Mr. Fox** on February 19th (01264 368368). Beaulieu Abbey Church hosts **Arco Strings** performing Vivaldi & Corelli on February 2nd (SO24 7YG 7.00pm £10 01590 611404).

February 8th & 9th there are performances in Winchester Cathedral of **Mozart's Requiem** (7.30pm £35 to £15) and **Rossini Petite Messe Solennelle** rehearsed & performed in a day. (Audience tickets £50.00 with champagne reception, £20.00 & £10.00 with proceeds to the Blue Lamp Trust). Book online for both concerts or call 01962 857 275. On February 6th **Choral Evensong** will be broadcast live on Radio 3 in Salisbury Cathedral. Please be seated by 3.10pm. On Feb 16th there is a performance of J.S. Bach's **St. John Passion** in Douai Abbey with the Reading Bach Choir (RG75 5TQ; 7.45pm £16 0118 947 8097 or tickets@readingbachchoir.org.uk). **Kaiser Chiefs** are performing at the Southampton Guildhall on February 26th (7.30pm see website for details).

Other Activities

On February 9th Larkhill hosts **Combined Services Point to Point** (be sure to check the weather reports for the day). **The Chinese State Circus “Ying Yang”** at the Basingstoke Anvil on February 23/24 (anvilarts.org.uk 01256 844244). **Half-term Wildlife Week** at Mottisfont House & Gardens from February 16th to 24th (10.00am to 5.00pm with National Trust admission). For something completely different there is a new **Toy & Model Railway Collector's Fair** in the Jubilee Hall, Bishop's Waltham on February 5th (SO32 1ED. 10.30am to 2.00pm £1.50/£1.00). Sir Harold Hillier Gardens also has a full programme including: February 5th **Creating a Winter Garden** (9.30am to 1.00pm £25), February 12th **Falconry Experience Day** (10.00am to 4.00pm with lunch & refreshment £85 – 16 years & over), February 23rd **Titanic Inheritance Lecture lunch** (11.00am £19.95 includes admission), February 26th **An Eye for Winter Photography** course (10.00am to 4.00pm £45 with lunch & refreshments). Booking essential 01794 369317 or online.

Farmer's Markets Dates (www.hampshirefarmersmarkets.co.uk)

10/02 Winchester
03/02; 03/03 Romsey

17/02 Andover
24/02 Winchester

The Amazon – An Environmental Crisis for us all (including Hampshire)

15th March 2013 in Littleton Village Hall

Reception at 6.45 pm – guests seated at 7.30 pm



Professor Sir Ghilleen Prance, a former Director of The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, is a world renowned authority on the Amazon (and frequent leader of expeditions thereto).

He is also, among other



posts, a visiting Professor at Reading University and the Scientific Director of the Eden Project in Cornwall.

Before taking up the role of Director

at Kew he spent a significant time at the prestigious New York Botanical Garden where he began as a post doctoral research student and ended as the highly influential Research Director and Senior Vice-President. In the course of a many expeditions and projects to the Amazon and its basin, mainly under the sponsorship of the New York Botanical Garden, he saw for himself at first hand that the rainforests were irreplaceable and that man's intrusion was causing wholesale destruction of an ecological system involving both humans and plants.

He has lived with at least 16 tribes in the Amazon region and in 1995 a biography of his life was published by Clive Langmead entitled:

“A Passion for Plants: From the Rainforests of Brazil to Kew Gardens”.

During the lecture Professor Prance will be describing the changes which have taken place over recent years to the Amazonian forests and their effects upon the world's environment. Such changes have implications for us all. **Tickets cost £15 per person and include drinks and small-eats on arrival.** All welcome to attend.

To book tickets or for further information, please contact CPRE offices on 01962 779185 or email info@cprehampshire.org.uk

Chilbolton & Wherwell Wildlife

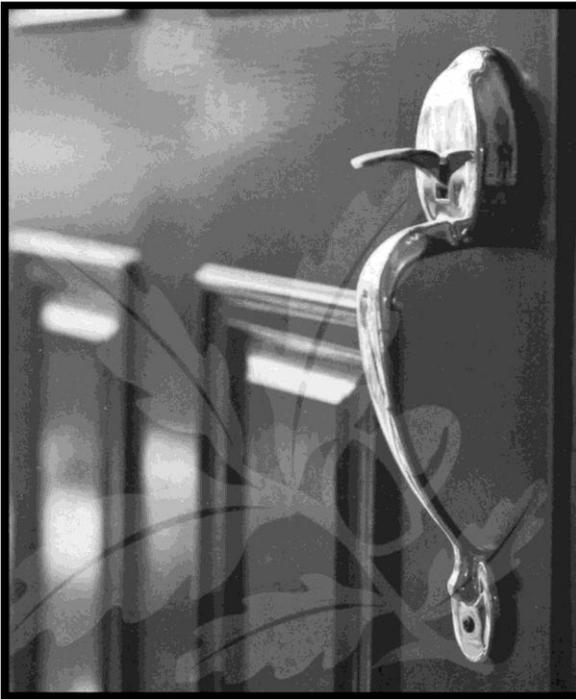
I promised I'd report some more this time on local results from this winter's national survey of thrushes. Well every winter is a little bit different. And for the thrushes, the big difference this winter has been the relative scarcity of berries. In November we saw quite reasonable numbers of Redwing and Fieldfare feeding on hawthorn berries in local hedgerows. But the berries were few, and the food supply was quickly exhausted. The birds moved on, and by December it was quite difficult to find more than a handful of either species. The same story has been reported from the New Forest, where normally at Christmas time there are huge numbers of Redwing feeding on the holly berries. This year, there were no berries left, and all the birds had gone. Where do the birds go? Well, our wintering thrushes are nomadic and opportunistic. As the hawthorn berries ran out in the hedgerows, we saw more and more Fieldfares congregating to feed on fallen apples in the Leckford Estate orchards. On 4th Dec we counted over 3,000 birds there! But in turn, this food source was exhausted. And by the New Year the birds had moved on again – this time presumably much further afield, quite possibly into France. Our resident thrushes, Blackbirds and Song Thrushes, of course simply resort to feeding on worms and other invertebrates in hedge bottoms and pastures. This can be a problem for them when the ground is frozen for long periods, and sometimes leads to high mortality. But no such difficulty so far this winter!

I also mentioned that we hadn't yet seen our wintering Blackcaps. The first of these in fact arrived in our garden on 25th Nov – pretty much the usual time. But unusually for that date, most of the garden and hedgerow berries had already gone, and food was maybe in short supply. And on 7th Dec, there were no less than seven Blackcaps, presumably newly arrived and hungry after their journey, feeding on apple slices and fat-balls at our garden feeders. As I've mentioned before, these wintering Blackcaps come mainly from Eastern Europe, and demonstrate a significant change in the species migration pattern during the last fifty years. The change may be partly accounted for by generally milder winters, but the huge increase in garden bird feeding is thought to also have been a contributory factor.

West Down working parties

Our December party was rewarded with decent weather and we made good progress along the chalk slope. There'll be at least one more session this winter; date for your diary is **24th February**. We'll be removing small thorny scrub, so wear stout footwear, and bring loppers and gloves if you can. Meet **10am** at the top car-park.

Glynne Evans (hantsbto@hotmail.com)



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SILVER SURFERS GROUP

Would you like to start using a computer or to develop your skills to:

Email your friends, surf the internet, talk with your family in Australia for free, pay your bills electronically, create lovely documents or photographs

We are now running a weekly Silver Surfers group, for anyone over 50, as a joint venture between Age UK Andover and the Home Guard Club, Wherwell.

The sessions are at the Home Guard Club on Thursdays from 7-9 pm, starting on 10th January. £2 per session (tea/coffee included). Learn from friendly and informal local instructors. Beginners and improvers welcomed. Computers will be provided, but please bring your laptop along if you have one.

For further information telephone Diane Newell 01264720464.

Wherwell Home Guard Club

All our events in December, under the banner “Christmas at the Club”, were well attended and proved very popular. The Xmas Fayre on Sunday 2nd was packed out and raised over £1000 for Wherwell Church. On Saturday 8th, the Fancy Dress Disco sponsored by Julian West, saw nearly everybody turn up in an amazing variety of colourful costumes. On Saturday 15th, Paula Smith’s Big-Five-Zero charity night raised £1240 for Blind Veterans UK (formerly St. Dunstons) – a rewarding (but exhausting) way to celebrate a big birthday, which attracted good publicity for the club and the BV-UK. Saturday 22nd was Grand Draw Night, where members enjoyed carol singing by the Test Villages U3A Ladies Choir, accompanied by Ray Blazdell on keyboard. On New Year’s Eve, the member’s party and ‘American Buffet’ went well, along with the Bingo Session on New Year’s Day evening. By ‘popular request’ there was a repeat Bingo Session on 5th January and Bingo will now be a regular event on the second Saturday of each month (at least until May).

WHERWELL
HOME GUARD CLUB
The Old Hall, Wherwell, SP11 7JB tel: 01264 860 314

**QUIZ
EVENING**

(Teams of up to 6 people)

Saturday 16th February 2013
8.00 pm

Cash Prize & Light Refreshments
£2.50

Non-members welcome (£3.50)

Tickets available at the door
To reserve a table, contact Cliff Goodall - 01264 860 445

Diary Dates in February & March

- * Thursday 7th Feb – **Silver Surfers**
7pm – 9pm, every Thursday
- * Saturday 9th Feb – **Bingo Night**
8pm start, cash prizes
- * Saturday 16th Feb – **Quiz Evening**
8pm start, cash prize
- * Thursday 7th Mar – **Silver Surfers**
7pm – 9pm, every Thursday
- * Saturday 9th Mar – **Bingo Night**
8pm start, cash prizes
- * Saturday 16th Mar – **Food & Music**
plus, **Knit & Natter** every Wednesday
& another **BARN DANCE** on 18th May

Club support and trading results for the first 6 months have been amazing. For those who did not know the Club existed, or those who ‘haven’t set foot for years’, visiting the Club has been a pleasant ‘eye-opener’. Two other items of news are the Club has a **WiFi connection** and **Ramsbury Gold** beer is now served on hand pump.

Andrew Flanagan

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(seasoned hardwood)
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An Evening with Dickens

There was an air of expectancy on a crisp, moonlit evening in early December as villagers awaited a special evening with Dickens.

As the Church doors opened we were transported into Victorian England. Children handed out flowers, followed by mince pies and mulled wine all accompanied by music we associate with Dickens. We were entertained by a scene from Victorian England as children stole a wallet and ran about the streets pursued by an angry gentleman who threatened a good whipping for their misdemeanours. Cleverly, the audience were transported into the Victorian era and prepared for events from Dickens' life and literature.

Scenes from Dickens' books were acted out and drawn together by careful narration of his life and literary works. It was good to see actors of all ages taking part and the children performed exceptionally well. There was a part for everyone and how they managed with such limited space was quite amazing. The sound was clear, the costumes realistic of the time, the acting excellent. It was evident that their hearts were in it. The church made a fitting backdrop for such an evening which we hope will be the first of many!

The Players have very generously donated all the money raised from this event to the Church towards the new toilet and kitchen facilities and the Church is most grateful for this very kind contribution. Many thanks to all the Players, especially Maggie and Mandy who researched and wrote the material for the evening.

Charlotte Nash

CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the meeting in November the Chilbolton Football team made a presentation and said they hoped that they could assist the Parish Council in meeting some of the costs involved in maintaining the Memorial Playing Fields and the pavilion which amount to circa £1,700 per annum. The Trustees of the Chilbolton Boys Football Club which folded some long time ago are winding up their affairs and has given the Parish £750 which will be put towards the new play area to be sited on the playing fields, a suitable plaque will be erected marking the gift. David Griffiths is getting together a working party in the summer to tackle the problem of thistles on the Common. If anyone has a petrol trimmer and could help then please contact David on 860313.

Pat Coates is going to handle the spring clean of the village this year which will deal with cutting back foliage around street signs, cleaning road and street signs and painting Village benches and BT exchange boxes. If there are any particular items, which you might feel require attention, please contact me.

(continued on p.26)

We are progressing our discussions with HCC in respect of taking a long lease on the land at West Down. We also have had discussions with a professional fundraiser, as I would like to start matters with a bang and raise in the order of £50,000 for projects to start immediately. I would also like to employ a part-time ranger to manage the land and to take some of the administrative pressure from the Parish Council. It is hoped to conclude matters so that we could take control from April or May of this year. With a view to explaining matters to the Village, at the next Parish Council meeting on the 5th February we will have a session starting at 7.00pm to go through just what our plans are. We would hope that having control of West Down would mean we conserve and preserve West Down and continue to make improvements, which will, we hope, take pressure off the Common, which is being used, on occasions more than is acceptable. The control of ragwort needs serious attention, as do other pernicious weeds, which we have eradicated, almost on the Common. Under our firm and hands-on management matters such as the lighting of fires and B-B-Q's, camping and the control of dog waste have been very successful controlled on the Common but needs attention at West Down.

Contractors, local volunteers and the Community Pay-Back team with whom we have been working, to great effect for several years, carry out work on the Common. A Ranger manages West Down occasionally without the use of power tools, helped by a small volunteer group from the Village. That needs to be changed so as to improve the facilities there.

Acquiring the long leasehold interest in West Down makes sense for the Parish Council, as we would link the land up to the Common via the newly improved footpath down from Coronation Green. With the help of the new warden we would set up a working party of various local residents who are active in the field of wild life management and countryside recreation. We would aim to diversify the nature of people using the land and increase the range of plants and wild life. Close involvement with local schools, U3A, colleges and universities would be encouraged to make West Down a learning centre with possibly the erection of a temporary classroom to facilitate learning. We would also like to carry out a dig to find out more about the ancient history of the land. For a site on a hill by the ancient Mark Way must have been used in the distant past and it would be useful to know more.

There are no facilities on West Down for disabled people. It should be possible to arrange for wheelchair-friendly trails and for those with limited vision. This would be a priority. Access for the elderly would be encouraged with evenings of story-telling by the elderly for the young around a bonfire. The old gravel pits would make great areas for BMX trails and adventure play areas for older children. The scouts, guides cubs and brownies would be encouraged to use the land and it might be possible to isolate certain parts for summer camps.

The scope is as endless as our imagination but we need the support of the village and I hope that you will attend the meeting and voice your opinions.

Alan Crisp

The Movies are back!!!

CHILBOLTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Proudly Present

GAMBIT (12A)

**STARRING COLIN FIRTH, CAMERON DIAZ, ALAN RICKMAN
AND TOM COURTENAY**

To get the better of his nasty millionaire employer, downtrodden art curator enlists the help of an expert forger and a Texas cowgirl.

Lions, Ming vases and missing trousers all play a part in this delightful crime caper.

In Chilbolton Village Hall
on Friday, 1st February, 2013, at 7.30 pm
Doors open 6.45 pm

Tickets £5.00 - In advance
Or £5.50 - On the door (subject to availability)
Price includes tea/coffee and biscuits
Wine and choc ices will be on sale

**To book your ticket, please ring Maureen Treadwell on
01264 860380,
Beryl Lawrence on 01264 860618 or
Sheila Laughton on 01264 860460**

The **Britain from Above** website features images from the Aerofilms collection, a unique aerial photographic archive of international importance. The collection includes 1.26 million negatives and more than 2000 photograph albums. Dating from 1919 to 2006, this collection presents an unparalleled picture of the changing face of Britain in the 20th century. It includes the largest and most significant number of air photographs of Britain taken before 1939. The collection is varied and includes urban, suburban, rural, coastal and industrial scenes. The collection was created by Aerofilms Ltd, a pioneering air survey company set up in 1919 by First World War veterans Francis Lewis Wills and Claude Grahame-White.

1919 - 1953



[Britain from Above](#) is a four year project aimed at conserving 95,000 of the oldest and most valuable photographs in the Aerofilms collection, those dating from 1919 to 1953. Once conserved, they are scanned into digital format and made available for the public to see. Anyone can register and zoom into these amazing pictures, identify unlocated images or share memories. This website now has 20,000 registered users, who have uploaded 43,000 images spread across 130 groups. These groups are either location based (eg: Wherwell, Oxford, Bath, Wiltshire) or subject based (eg: Railways, Canals, Tennis, Football, Buildings, Agriculture, Weather).

WHERWELL HISTORY GROUP

The Life of a Steeplejack

An illustrated talk by Peter Harknett

The oldest Working Steeplejack in England

FRIDAY 15TH FEBRUARY AT 8.00PM

AT COLONEL JENKINS' MEMORIAL HALL WHERWELL SP11 7JJ



ALL WELCOME ADMISSION £3.00 TEA/COFFEE AND BISCUITS INCLUDED

Those who came to the ‘Topping Out’ ceremony in November 2011 – to celebrate completion of Phase 1 of the restoration work on Wherwell church – will recognize this picture. Peter Harknett, who followed in his father’s footsteps and has been climbing church steeples for over 60 years, is sure to have plenty to say. Our programme of illustrated talks for the Spring months is:

- March 15th** - Portable Antiquities & Treasure
- April 19th** - Maps : a source for local history
- May 17th** - AGM & talk by Phoebe Merrick

Andrew Flanagan



Twenty-year-old Jade is one of Enham's youngest volunteers. Having studied for her level 2 National Diploma in sport and fitness, she is currently an Optical Assistant at Specsavers in Andover but spends her spare time volunteering at Enham Trust.

People come to Enham to volunteer for all sorts of reasons. Initially Jade helped run the weekly keep fit sessions, hoping to gain experience towards her career in health and fitness at a time when she was unemployed. "It's something really worthwhile and an area that I am interested in" says Jade. "We've done parachutes, ball throwing and skittles. They are a lovely group of people, it's not intimidating at all and you're always with trained staff and not expected to do any personal care."

Jade gets involved in many activities assisting Occupational Therapists and doing admin in the Property office. She also spends time on a one to one basis with our resident Alex watching films and going for walks. Could you spare some time like Jade? If you're interested in volunteering at Enham Trust we'd love to hear from you!

Please call Jo Young our Volunteer Programme Manager on 01264 345836

Report on Wherwell Parish Council Meeting on 8th January

During the open session attention was drawn to the fact that the meadow opposite Greenwich Cottages has been flooded as had part of the road. The Clerk advised that work has been scheduled to resurface the length of this road and this should improve the situation.

Concern was again expressed at the thoughtless parking of vehicles in the vicinity of the bus stop which restricts visibility and presents an unreasonable hazard for passengers trying to board or alight from the bus. The bank outside Manor House Farm came under some scrutiny following presentation of photos by the History Group. It was agreed the owner will endeavour to undertake measures to trim the shrubs and tree.

Under planning the PC agreed unanimously not to object to the applications for change of use to Units 1 & 2 Dublin Farm for repair and maintenance of garden machinery and motor vehicles. *(continued on p.30)*

(continued from p.29)

Under finance it was agreed to retain the same level of precept as last year, £7,500.

Under HCC and District Council Matters, HCC Cllr Gibson had circulated a Village Review newsletter. He is particularly keen that residents register their Broadband needs with HCC website so as not to be excluded from the priority list being drawn up in mid February to roll out Super Fast Broadband to the villages.

Under Village Repairs and Maintenance Cllrs Hutton and Hampson agreed to replace the Street lamp bulb at top of Church Street.

The problem of a trapped horse and its rider at the Longbridge entrance to the Common by the disabled access gate was discussed. Countryside Officer Peter Watson has advised that the gate should remain locked as disabled people who need to use it can apply for a universal key. However, he will arrange for repair and provide keys for the Clerks to Chilbolton and Wherwell. Clerk to write to the Priory advising them of the damage to the gate and to ensure that riders are made fully aware of bridle paths. Robert Little was thanked for all his efforts in ensuring that HCC are dealing with the structural repairs of the bridge in Church Street. The damaged bollard at the top of the High Street on the cobbled area has been reported and repair may take some weeks before it replaced.

The Wherwell Playing Fields now have the Chilbolton Pre- School in situ and it is going very well. Christmas Grotto at the Garden Centre raised £5,333 and this was thanks to the sterling work of those volunteers who gave so generously of their time to make it so successful, in particular, John Andrew, Bill Picket and John Andrews.

The Village Hall reported that their plans to build the extension to facilitate additional storage are progressing and funding is in place. The church reported that their Christmas Fayre went off very well and the Home Guard venue proved to be excellent for the event. The Home Guard Club continues to operate very well under the new management and enjoys increased membership and a variety of events and activities.

Under Special Projects it was reported that the completion of the Chant Close footpath and additional work on bricked embankment opposite continues to attract positive comment. The erection of the new map boards will be considered as soon as is practicable.

The PC noted that Cllr Jane Andrews was indisposed and good wishes were sent for a speedy recovery. In addition the PC thanked Jane for all her hard and determined work in ensuring, among other things the Cobbled Area, Chant Close Footpath and Map Boards and leaflets were finally achieved. The date of next meeting 12th March 2013.

Liz Blakemore

My charity cycle across Central America

I recently returned from a 450km cycle challenge across Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua to raise funds for Genesis Research Trust. Genesis Research Trust raises funds to research the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of a range of devastating conditions which affect childbirth, including genetic disease, miscarriage, still birth, pre-eclampsia, infertility, cancer and brain damage.

Here is my diary from the trip (a daily text message to my nearest and dearest). I hope that you enjoy reading it! If you'd like to sponsor me you still can! Please visit www.justgiving.com/Nina-Carey-Hodges2013

We arrived in Panama City after two long haul flights and after a short sleep we set off on a LONG 7 hour trip on the coach from Panama City to David. It's been hot and humid, some rain, so we're packing raincoats for tomorrow. Alarm is set for 5am, for another 3 hour coach journey before the start of our hilly (mountain) 55km ride. We're bored silly of coach travel - can't wait to get on the bike!

Day 1 of cycling accomplished! We had a very early start at 4.45am, after being kept awake from 2am by festival drumming. Hoping for a better night's sleep tonight! We had a very hilly 55km through jungle and banana plantations. It was overcast, but very hot and humid, which made the uphill sections really hard. Panama is very friendly and all the children wave as we cycle past. We're staying in a hotel which reminds me of prisoner cellblock H, apparently the accommodation gets steadily worse...

Day 2 of cycling complete; a really long, tough day covering 105km, mostly hill climbs through the rainforest. We're loving the early starts (4.45am again)! We left Panama and after 2hrs queuing crossed a rickety bridge and we entered Costa Rica. We had a torrential tropical rainstorm at lunchtime, but it thankfully had almost finished by the time we resumed cycling. I had a tyre explode today and I've lost count of how often I've put the chain back on, I end up covered in oil every day. We're now in Cahuite, on the Caribbean coast. We had a quick dip in the sea before dinner and we're going to sleep to the sound of crashing waves. Lovely! Oh and we saw monkeys, a talking parrot and we have a bat sleeping in the shower. A good day!

Day 3 of cycling complete. Another really early start, woken at 4am by the howler monkeys. After a quick breakfast we cycled off road for a few miles along the Caribbean coast, to the sound of the waves crashing on the beach, amongst palm trees. Then we had a gentle 38km cycle along the coast road and through banana plantations to Limon. We boarded mini buses for a 5 hour transfer to Fortuna, at the base of the Arenal volcano. We stopped for lunch amongst palm trees and I saw a humming bird. One of the coaches had a puncture, which took 4 men to fix, so we finally arrived at Fortuna at 5pm. We've been to the hot volcanic springs and we're now in the Lava Lounge having pina colodas! After dinner we're off to bed for another 5am start tomorrow.

(continued on p32)

(continued from p31)

Day 4 of cycling has been really tough. We started with a 50km ride through banana plantations, some lovely flats and quite a few long hills. After stopping at the roadside for lunch we then had a 25km off road section, which was really hard - hilly and terrible surfaces. It started off 42 degrees and extremely humid, then a black cloud came over and the tropical storm started, turning the track to a mudbath. We were all completely covered in mud, the worse that I have ever been. We arrived at our destination, which is our first night of 'camping' on the stone floor of the village hall. Thank goodness there are 2 basic showers, so all 80 women are having communal showers. We had to get in whilst dressed, to get some of the mud off. We're really looking forward to sleeping on the floor (NOT)! No pina colodas tonight. ☹

Day 5 about to start... Honestly I had the worse night's sleep of my life! We were packed onto the concrete floor of the village grain store - it's open air, so birds flying in and out, rain and more rain, women switching on the toilet light all night, blocking the 2 toilets that exist by putting toilet paper down and some starting chatting at 4am. Feeling a little grumpy and not looking forward to putting on my muddy shoes, gloves and hat. Will let you know how we get on... Surely the day can only get better?!

Day 5 of cycling over. Sitting having a rum and coke in the bar by Lake Nicaragua. It's been a long day. Initially it started pretty well - 50km on good tarmac roads with nice hills to the border, the last section on the pan american highway. So lots more traffic, particularly huge lorries taking bananas and pineapples to the US. We then had a nightmarish border crossing into Nicaragua, taking 4.5hrs, which really held us up. So we had to hammer along the final 25km to our 'camp'. Because everything had been going so well, a storm started as we arrived, incredibly strong winds and heavy rain, we even had a tornado out on the lake. We got soaked putting up the tent and our tent was swimming with water. We managed to dry it as best we could and we're set up now, but since dinner another storm has come in, so we're sitting in the bar hoping that the tent is still there... It didn't stay standing, so we had to squeeze into a room with 6 other ladies to ride out the storm!

Day 6 of cycling, another 75km under our belts and the end of our journey across Central America. It's been a long hot day and we're now recovering in our lovely hotel and about to go out for a couple of pina colodas and dinner. Granada is a beautiful city, lovely painted houses, cobbles and horse-drawn carriages. It's been a voyage of highs and lows, but it's been amazing and I hope that you've enjoyed it with me!

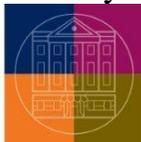
Every day in the UK 550 women experience a miscarriage. With up to 250 babies dying each week in the UK due to complications during pregnancy, this work has never been more essential for women and babies nationwide.

Nina Carey-Hodges

ANOTHER
SPECIAL CHARITY
ANTIQUES VALUATION EVENT
IN ST MARY'S CHURCH. ANDOVER

By

Dreweatts¹⁷⁵⁹



BLOOMSBURY AUCTIONS

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ASSISTED BY

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ARCHIE PARKER [Paintings]

GEOFFREY CHARLES [Ceramics, glass, sport items]

IN AID OF... ST.MARY'S ANDOVER

[S.M.A.R.T. Appeal]

THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

10 a.m. – 2.30. p.m.

!! NEW OPTION FOR BUSY PEOPLE 10AM – 11AM !!

Ring 366373 to book your appointment for **10** minutes with the expert of your choice [no restriction on items] for **£10.**

Otherwise... FROM 11a.m. or earlier if available

£5 for **MAXIMUM** of **THREE** ITEMS

Refreshments available



Thank you!

We would like to thank all the villagers who have supported the Pre-School during our tenure at the Village Hall. We really enjoyed our time in Chilbolton, and we will continue to provide high quality childcare to both Wherwell and Chilbolton.

Our move to the Wherwell Pavilion is now complete and the children are already making the most of our new environment by using the play park and Wherwell Primary School's woodland. Our thanks go to the Wherwell Playing Fields team for their help and support during our move, and in particular Sean Hutton.

The eagle eyed among you may have noticed that the awning at Chilbolton Village Hall is still in situ. Although the sun awning at the rear of the premises was fitted by Pre-School at great cost, it was purpose built for the Hall. We are also well aware that many users of the Hall have come to rely on the sun awning during the summer months and a decision was taken to donate this to the committee of Chilbolton Village Hall so that the community may continue to enjoy its benefits.

The children really enjoyed all the Christmas activities, and once again we came together for our annual Christmas service at St Mary the Less. The Ansells, as usual, did an amazing job of re-telling the Christmas story and all the children helped celebrate Jesus' birthday with pass the parcel, cakes and balloons. It is always a lovely morning something parents, children and staff all look forward to. Many thanks to Susan and Anthony.

There are very few places remaining and we do have a waiting list, so if you are interested in your child attending our fantastic Pre-School please contact us on email enquiries@chilboltonpreschool.com.

Caroline Plambeck

‘Wherwell and Chilbolton:

Personal Memories and a Little History’

Due for launch this spring, the above is set to be a book of considerable local interest written by one of the area's 'longest serving' residents, Percy Trodd. Percy was brought up in both Wherwell and Chilbolton in the 1920s and 1930s when the horse and cart were the norm. He is the oldest surviving pupil of Wherwell Primary School and has spent the last few years organising literally hundreds of reminiscences and photographs depicting village life into a publishable format.

It is hoped that the book will be introduced at a special launch evening in the spring – more details to follow next month.

Stephen MacDonald

Chilbolton Football Club – Monthly Report - January 2013

11/11/2012	Chilbolton	3	v	0	George Royals	-	League
18/11/2012	Eastrop Eagles	3	v	0	Chilbolton	-	Cup
02/12/2012	Chilbolton	1	v	5	Thruyton	-	Cup
09/12/2012	Chilbolton	4	v	9	Broughton	-	Cup
16/12/2012	George Royals	1	v	2	Chilbolton	-	League

Chilbolton got back to league action against second in the table George Royals. Both sides played well in the first half with Royals having the majority of the possession but it was Chilbolton who took the lead when Pete Southworth tucked away a loose ball into the net. The second half was a bad tempered affair with the referee being kept very busy. Chilbolton capitalised on the oppositions poor temper with Tom Blackwell and Hiro Nidaira both netting to earn us three well deserved points.

Back to cup action against Basingstoke side Eastrop Eagles for our next game in second round of the North Hants Cup. With a depleted squad we and on a heavy pitch we found ourselves under pressure from the start as Eastrop dominated the game physically and took the lead mid way through the first half and two more in the second

Chilbolton faced first division side Thruyton in the Junior Cup and despite losing 1 – 5. Thruyton are a young side and their quality showed as they passed the ball well and created plenty of chances. Pete Southworth pulled off a string of fine saves to restrict the opposition to 5 when it could have been a lot more. Chilbolton continued on the cup trail this time in the Junior Cup against Broughton losing 4-9 in extra time.

A return to league action against George Royals for the second time in a month and completing the double with a well deserved 1 – 2 victory. Tom Blackwell scored two excellent headed goals to give us the lead and we were able to see the game out comfortably.

You can also keep in touch with the team at www.chilboltonfc.co.uk and we look forward to seeing you at one of our future games, supporters are always welcome.

Sam Horne (07969 055300) Manager

Village Contacts – Parish Councillors

Wherwell Councillors

Jane Andrews (Chair)	860635
Sean Hutton (Vice Chair)	860443
Liz Blakemore (Clerk)	860385
Peter Bryant (Tree Warden)	860541
Susanne Horne	860741
Steve Sheen	860249
Lizzie Broadbent	860434
George Hampson	860721

Chilbolton Councillors

Alan Crisp (Chairman)	860641
David Griffiths (V/Chair)	860313
Mandy Amor (Clerk)	860566
George Marits	860293
Patrick Coates	860069
Tony Ewer	860486
John Irish	860526
Martin Gossling	861375
John Rowles	860308

Village Contacts - District & County Councillors

Wherwell District Councillor

Jim Neal 362456

County Councillor

Andrew Gibson 861138

Chilbolton District Councillors

Daniel Busk 01794 388389

Peter Boulton 01794 301212

Village Contacts – Clubs & Organisations

Clubs and organisations

Badminton	Jill Lord	860667
Beavers/Cub scouts	Leigh Dance	811074
Bridge Club	Gee Parry	861136
Brownies	Julie Shone	01962 761269
Care Group	Christopher Bruce	860321
	Mike Davis	860594
Chilbolton Players	Carole Marits	860293
Chilbolton Church Flowers	Jane Brown	860726
Chilbolton Coffee Morning	Sheila Laughton	860460
	Lesley Boswell	860217
	Debbie Richardson	861082
Chilbolton Football Club	Sam Horne	07969 055300
Chilbolton Neighbourhood Watch	Maria Watson	860415
Flood Advisory Group	Jeremy Baines	860448
	Terry Gilmour	860507
Horticultural Society	Sheila Evans	860697
Joyrides Community Bus	Mary Dunne	860398
	John Musters	810459
Pre-School	Sam Inglis	07732 095814
Short Mat Bowls	Deb & Richard Richardson	861082
Village Hall (Chil) - Booking Only	Mandy Amor	860566
Village Hall (Chil) - All other matters	John Temple	861334
Village Hall (Wher) - Bookings	Julie Dickenson	861494
Village Websites	<u>www.chilbolton.com & www.wherwell.net</u>	
Wherwell Church Flowers	Jo Baughen	860319
Wherwell Cricket Club	Richard Rowles (Chair)	861101
	Jo Baughen (Juniors)	860319
Wherwell History Group	Andrew Flanagan	860560
Wherwell Home Guard Club	Cliff Goodall (Chair)	860445
Wherwell Playing Fields	Sean Hutton (Chair)	860443
Wherwell Primary School	Mary Gee	860592
Community Governors	Sandy Farrand	860492
	Sean Hutton	860443
Wherwell Neighbourhood Watch	Richard Rowles	861101
Wherwell Singers	Dale Webb	860074
Women's Institute	Sue Batchelor	860307
Test Villages U3A (www.testvillagesu3a.org.uk)	Ed Farrand	860492