

Chilbolton and Wherwell Community Magazine

Another bumper issue of the magazine goes to press and finds its way into the letterboxes of some 700 households in Chilbolton, Wherwell and beyond. If you have the January blues, this is just the tonic to get the blood coursing through your veins, with a huge range of events, activities and people to meet across the community – take in a movie (Julie and Julia at Chilbolton Village Hall), go to one of various talks by the Wherwell History Group, exercise your brain at the Wherwell PTA quiz night, pick up some bargains at the Chilbolton Village Hall jumble sale, see the Chilbolton Players perform the Wizard of Oz, explore the woodlands of Test Valley with Susan Simmonds or take a walk on the Downs, find some peace and tranquillity at your local church service, explore Chinese history at the Willis Museum or get your greenhouse in shape with the Chilbolton Horticultural Society. And there's more - all the details are here in the magazine. We are lucky to have such a healthy and vibrant community, and we hope the magazine is your ticket to a lively 2010. A happy new year to you all. *Euan Ramsay*

Thank you to Jim and Maggie Duffy, Euan Ramsay and Ed Treadwell who produced this month's magazine.

Church Matters

The Downs Benefice

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

Curate: The Rev'd Stuart Rason, The Rectory, Chilbolton Tel: 860258

Benefice Administrators: Vanessa Denham & Maggie Hobbs

From the Parish Registers:

Wherwell

Wedding	20 Dec	Peter Edmunds & Melanie Green
Baptism	17 Jan	Joshua Lee Mitchener
Baptism	24 Jan	George Gower
Baptism	31 Jan	Frederick Martyn



PLEASE SPARE A LITTLE OF YOUR TIME TO HELP WITH CHILBOLTON CHURCH CLEANING

Our 'rota members' have been helping with church cleaning for many years and one or two now need a break. Could you help to fill a gap? It is nothing too strenuous or time consuming, but is very necessary to keep our lovely church in good condition. If you would like to help our team, please phone Deb. Richardson (861082) for a chat – we would all be most grateful.

Church Services October 2009					
	St Mary the Less Chilbolton	St Mary's Crawley	St Catherine's Littleton	St Stephen's Sparsholt	St Peter & Holy Cross Wherwell
Sunday 7th February The Second Sunday before Lent					
Holy Communion	8.00am		8.00am		
Family Communion				10.00am	
All Age Worship			10.00am		
Morning Worship		10.00am			
Common Worship					10.00am
Evensong	6.00pm				
Service of Peace & Healing			6.00pm		
Wednesday 10 February					
Holy Communion			9:30am		
Sunday 14 February The Sunday Next before Lent					
Holy Communion				8.00am	
Family Communion		10.00am	10.00am		
Welcome Worship				10.00am	
Morning Prayer	10.00a				
Evening Communion					6.00pm
Wednesday 17 February					
Holy Communion			9.30am		
Holy Communion	10.30am				
Benefice Service – HC with Ashing			7.30pm		
Sunday 21 February The First Sunday of Lent					
Holy Communion		8.00am			
Family Communion			10.00am		
Family Service					10.00am
CW Holy Communion	10.00am				
Matins				10.00am	
Wednesday 24 February					
Holy Communion			9.30am		
Sunday 28 February The Second Sunday of Lent					
Holy Communion					8:00 am
Family Service	10.00am				
Family Communion			10:00 am	10:00 am	
Special Service – Thanksgiving for Marriage		10:00 am			
Sunday 7th March The Third Sunday of Lent					
Holy Communion	8.00am		8.00am		
Family Communion				10.00am	
All Age Worship			10.00am		
Morning Worship		10.00am			
Matins with HC					10.00am
Evensong	6.00pm				
Service of Peace & Healing			6.00pm		

Dear Friends,

Last December we welcomed Jennifer Brown back to the Benefice when she was ordained by Bishop Trevor in his final week as Bishop of Basingstoke. Although Jennifer is well known to some of the parishes, there are others who do not yet know her, so I have asked her to greet you all, she writes:

“It is with great joy and not a little apprehension that I have come back to Littleton after fifteen months at Cuddesdon Theological College. There I relished living, worshipping, studying, and relaxing in Community and I hope to continue that here with such wonderful congregations and Lay support. My Ministry will be predominantly Pastoral and Liturgical with special interest in the Pastoral visitors, young families and carers of all ages. It is especially lovely to be living in Littleton and be able to walk to everyone here and St. Catherine’s where, carrying on the tradition at Cuddesdon I am saying Morning Prayer every weekday at 7:30 a.m. It would be good to have company when the mornings get lighter but know that you are all held in prayer then and if you have any special concerns please let me know. I shall be in the Benefice every day except Friday when I will be an honorary Chaplain at Southampton General Hospital as a member of the Team there. I will have a great deal to learn but could not wish for a finer teacher than Juliet, and I hope this New Year will be one of worship, work and fun in the whole Benefice based on love and compassion as embodied in Christ.”

We are so fortunate to have curates in their 1st, 2nd and 3rd years of training, they bring not only the freshness of their recent training, but a wealth of experience and wisdom from their previous professions.

As I write this it is early January, but it will be February by the time you read it, time seems, as always, to be flying by, and the season of Lent is just around the corner. In the last two years we have been innovative in our approach to Lent, so this year we are offering something more traditional. The recent film of ‘The Passion’, has been prepared for a six session viewing with pauses for reflection, questions and discussion. Having seen part of it I am excited by the fresh insight it offers into some of the characters who played a part in the final stages of Christ’s journey to the cross. I am confident that it will help us as we prepare ourselves to follow the drama of Holy Week. The length of the film means that we will need six sessions, rather than the usual five, so the last one will fall in Holy week itself. To gain the greatest benefit you really need to attend all six, but the film is very compelling so I hope you will find it a joy rather than an obligation.

With love in Christ

Juliet Montague



Test Valley Woodlands in Winter

Join us to explore our local woodlands in winter. We will discover woodland wildlife, including identifying winter trees. We will look at ancient woodland features and learn about woodland management.

Led by Susan Simmonds

Saturdays, 10-12noon, January 23rd, 30th & February 6th

First session – Chilbolton Village Hall, Durnford Room
Second and Third sessions – Harewood Forest. Meet at Car Park at junction of A3057 and B3420. Grid ref: SU372421.

The course costs £25 and must be booked at least 2 weeks in advance to secure your place. Bookings can be made by phoning Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust on 01489 774 400 between 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri or by completing a booking form online at www.hwt.org.uk.

Village Memorial

This village is one of the few that does not have a memorial on public land for those men who died in the two wars and subsequent actions. There is a plaque in the church recording those lost in the First World War and one on the wall of the Sports Pavilion for those killed in the Second World War. But there is nothing to honour the fallen of the Gulf war.

Most of the families of those killed in the two great wars are no longer living in the village but I wonder if there is any ground swell of feeling about erecting a monument on Stocks Green. What I have in mind is a small plinth in Portland Stone, about the size of a modest suitcase, facing west, and looking up Village Street. The cost would be met by public subscription.

I would be pleased to receive any comments.

ALAN CRISP 860641 aai@lineone.net

The Memoirs of Piers Warburton

I am absolutely NOT making a sales pitch! However I have enjoyed doing the memoirs and think some others may also get a sense of déjà vu and we need to know how many to provide. The main chapters are: Growing Up 1930-49 in UK, USA and Canada; The Army 1949-61 in UK, Hong Kong and Germany; Training for the Church, and five parishes 1961-98; The Healing Ministry; Guyana; Sandy Duncombe and George Waller; The Armourers and Brasiers; Family History; Today's Humour and a few more.

The system: If you would like a copy of the memoirs, please write to me, Piers Warburton, at Rowan Cottage, Station Road, Chilbolton SO20 6AL. Send your name, address, and phone number and state how you would like to receive your copy:

Booklet (£10 inc postage)

CD (about £2)

Email (although this is a rather tedious method)

Liz is seeing to the editing and printing in Australia – with renewed thanks from me! Once we have names in, we will be sending out copies. Arrival will probably be by Easter. Donations will be welcome when you have seen it but remain optional. I cannot guarantee you are mentioned but I could have doubled the number who are. If you are not included by name, please get revenge by writing your memoirs – and leaving me out!

Piers Warburton

LENT SERIES 2010 – THE PASSION

Date	Venue	Time
Monday 22 February 2010	Colonel Jenkins Memorial Hall, Wherwell	7:10 pm – 9:00 pm
Tuesday 2 nd March 2010	Sparsholt Memorial Hall	7:10 pm – 9:00 pm
Wednesday 10 th March 2010	Crawley Church Room	7:10 pm – 9:00 pm
Thursday 18 th March 2010	Littleton Church Room	7:10 pm – 9:00 pm
Friday 26 th March 2010	Chilbolton Village Hall	7:10 pm – 9:00 pm
Monday 29 th March 2010	Littleton Church Room	7:10 pm – 9:00 pm

Chilbolton Players

Present



The Wizard of Oz

By Adrian Barradell

At Chilbolton Village Hall

Thursday 18th February, Friday 19th February
Saturday 20th February (Plus matinee on Saturday 20th).

at 7.30pm

Licensed bar from 7.00pm



Tickets:

Thursday 18th - £5.00

Friday 19th and Saturday 20th

Adults £7.50, Children under 16 £5.00

Tickets available from the box office:

Richard Richardson,

Digby Croft Cottage, Winchester Street,

Chilbolton.

Tel: 01264 861082

Or

The Chilbolton Village Stores & PO

For further details about this performance and
Forthcoming events please visit our website:

www.chilboltonplayers.org.uk

Who am I thinking of?

- ❖ Works 24/7
- ❖ Has saved a total population 95 times greater than Chilbolton and Wherwell put together
- ❖ Requires £380,000 to run every day?

If you guessed the RNLI then you were correct!

You may ask why I am writing about the RNLI. Well, it is that I am currently partaking in my Citizenship G.C.S.E. It requires me to advocate the aims of a charitable organisation to a population of people. Therefore I have chosen to publish my work in your local parish magazine. I hope that this short article is both informative and eye opening.

The *National Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck* was founded on the 4th March 1824 by Sir William Hillary with one station on the Isle of Man along the Manx coast. It later became known as the *Royal National Lifeboat Institution* in 1854 when the organisation became an international service to the people of the U.K and Ireland. It now operates an incredible 236 craft at 235 stations.

The organisation's motto and primary aim is to 'Train one, save many.' Thankfully, the RNLI does this successfully. On average, the RNLI saves 22 lives at sea every day with no government funding. Its legal status stands as a charity in both its operating countries with its only source of income from voluntary donations and legacies.

Ultimately the RNLI would like to educate the population of the U.K and Ireland to stop disaster caused by inexperience at sea. For more information on safety at sea, or how you can help, log onto the RNLI website at www.rnli.org.uk.

To contact the RNLI in an emergency:

- ❖ Telephone 999 or 112
- ❖ 2182 kHz (Medium frequency)
- ❖ Channel 16 (VHF radio)



Jan Walukiewicz, Head Boy, Test Valley School, Stockbridge, SO20 6HA



“Use it or lose it”

Applies to brains as well as bodies. So for a chance to develop your mind with like-minded people why not join us at

Stockbridge Town Hall

On Saturday 6th March from 10.15 - 4pm

For an adult learners day for

Lectures and mini-workshops

For more information and to book a place

Call Helen on 01794 323578 or

Email: helen.overton@hants.gov.uk or sally@sallymilligan.co.uk



TEST VALLEY
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Hampshire
County Council



Illustrated Talk on

The History of Two Local Railways

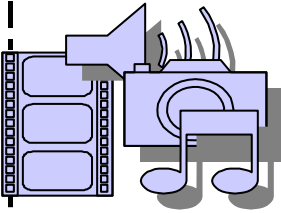
Romsey to Andover & Romsey to Salisbury

at **Mottisfont Village Hall**

Tuesday 23rd February at 7.30 pm

Admission £2.00 ... *with local people adding their own stories about working and living in the Stations and Signal Boxes.*

The Movies are back !!!



CHILBOLTON VILLAGE HALL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Proudly Present

Julie & Julia (12A)

Starring Meryl Streep as a celebrity chef and Amy Adams as a bored office worker who spends a year working her way through the chef's recipes, with all the obvious trials and errors. A delicious comedy - not to be watched on an empty stomach!

In Chilbolton Village Hall
on Friday, 5th February, 2010 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
Wince and choc ices will be on sale

To book your ticket, please ring Maria Watson on 01264 860415, Sheila Laughton on 01264 860460, Maureen Treadwell on 01264 860380 or Beryl Lawrence on 01264 860618



WHERWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA NEWSLETTER - FEB 2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to the first PTA Newsletter of 2010. What a snowy start we have had to this Term! Hopefully, by the time you read this, the 'Big Thaw' will have arrived and we can look forward to lots of fun and fund raising at our up and coming events this Spring Term. And it looks like we ended the year having fun too! Since our last Newsletter we have been out and about enjoying each other's company and raising money for our School and children too!! In November we had two great social nights out - **Ladies at the (White) Lion** and **Mums at the Mitre**. Thank you to the Class Reps for organising – and yes, we are looking forward to the next one!

Class 2 Cake Sale A fantastic **£121** was raised at Cake Sale in mid-December. The money will buy 1 or 2 sit-on vehicles for the Class outdoor area. Well done Class 2, and to everyone who purchased the lovely treats!

Wherwell's Got Talent! This year's Christmas event for the Juniors was themed 'Wherwell's Got Talent!'. And what a great evening!! The children took centre stage and showed the audience what talent they had! We had a wide range of acts, from comedy (yeh I know....), dancing, singing groups and solos. A fantastic evening - the eventual winners were Hanneke, Rachel & Izzy, with "7 Moons" a close second. Well done to all the acts – see you next year.

Christmas Hamper The Hamper Raffle was a great success and raised a fabulous **£554**. Your generosity made it possible for us to provide three delicious hampers and two additional prizes. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets - the lucky winners were:

- 1st Prize - Sue Cox
- 2nd Prize - Vicky Trentham
- 3rd Prize - Nicolai Abildgaard
- 4th Prize - Debbie Collis
- 5th Prize - Derek Clifton

Infants Christmas Party The Infants had great fun at their party, held on Wednesday 16th December. Loud music, games, cake and pressies from Father Christmas – what more could they ask for?! Thanks to all who volunteered their help.

Christmas Coffee Morning Clare Gibson kindly hosted a Coffee Morning on 25th November and raised **£135**. Thank you Clare, and all your stall holders, for your support.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY....

QUIZ & CURRY Night – FRIDAY 26th February Grab a group of mates and join us at Wherwell Cricket Pavilion for a night of delicious food whilst pitting your wits against our Quiz Master. Tickets are £8 per person which includes your food, and entry into the Quiz. More details to follow in Book Bags but hurry – Quiz teams are limited and we are already registering interest so contact Sally Hawke for more

details.

Continued on page

Wherwell PTA Newsletter (Continued from page

Swishing - FRIDAY 12th MARCH At least you have a few more weeks to clear out your wardrobe!! Get ready to bag yourself some Spring bargains and donate good quality unwanted clothes. Tickets will be on sale after Half Term - only £5 each. Contact Nina Carey-Hodges.

OTHER NEWS....

Wherwell School Supporters' Club

Congratulations to **Mr Deverill** who won the Grand Prize (£250) and **Mr Hallinger** who won the Half Term Draw (£25). The Wherwell Supporters Club currently has 45 members – the next Draw is due before Spring half term (£25 prize). It's never too late to join! Contact Edel Dratwa, mother of Alice in Class 3, for more information or e-mail us on the address below.

10k/1k Fun Run – end March TBC Dust off your trainers and help raise ££'s (and maybe lose a few lbs) by joining the annual Wherwell Primary School Fun Run. More details to follow.

Easyfundraising Another great way to help raise funds. Use easyfundraising to visit your favourite websites when shopping online and the School will benefit. If you have not yet registered then contact Debra Armstrong for more details.

French Lessons Contact Jacqueline on 07849 517107.

Babysitter Available Lizzie Lord, available for babysitting. Please phone 860667 or see Lizzie's mother (Mrs Lord, Class 3) after school.

If you would like to join the PTA, please get in touch with a member of the Committee. You can contact us via the PTA tray in the School Office on our email address: pta@wherwell.hants.sch.uk

WHERWELL SCHOOL PTA

invite you to our

Quiz and Curry Night

on FRIDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2010 at 7.30pm

WHERWELL PLAYING FIELDS PAVILION

TICKETS £8.00

includes curry & rice

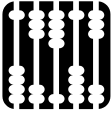
BYO wine, beer and glasses!

ALL WELCOME

Individuals, Couples or as a Team (8 – 10 members).

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT YOUR VILLAGE SCHOOL

Tickets available from Sally Hawke (PTA Secretary) on 01264 861363 or pta@wherwell.hants.sch.uk



WILLIS MUSEUM BASINGSTOKE 3000 Years of Chinese History



There is currently an exhibition in the new Sainsbury Gallery at the Willis Museum in Basingstoke where visitors can explore 3,000 years of Chinese history. The exhibition gives visitors the chance to experience one of the world's most important and influential civilisations, through the largest UK loan of Chinese material the British Museum has yet undertaken.

The exhibition presents the key enduring Chinese inventions such as the abacus, the compass and silk and porcelain manufacturing. Objects provide insight into the three main Chinese belief systems: Daoism, Buddhism and Confucianism and shed light on the Spring Festival (Chinese New Year) and the important Mid-Autumn festival. Visitors can have fun learning about 2,000 years of play in China from the Han Dynasty (206 BC – AD221) models of figures playing board games to shadow puppets from the 20th century.

Other displays explore the traditions of eating and drinking and provisions for the afterlife and the development of China's writing system. Further details are available on www.hants.gov.uk/willis-museum or telephone: 0845 603 5635.



Chilbolton Horticultural Society

Illustrated talk

At Chilbolton Village Hall
Tuesday **February 2nd 2010 at 7.45pm**
Chris Bird from Sparsholt College

“The small unheated greenhouse, including Hygiene”

Visitors welcome £3.00



The children at Chilbolton Pre –school had a great time leading up to Christmas. We took the children to see Peter Pan at the Lights in Andover, we had read the story to the children many times, so there were no scary bits. The children enjoyed the coach journey there and back. Many thanks to all the parent helpers.

The Ansell’s put on another fantastic Christmas story at St Mary the Less. This involved lots of singing and some very confused animals in the stable. The children played pass the parcel and had a cake and a drink before returning to pre-school.

We finished the term with our own Christmas songs and indoor picnic with the children’s parents. The children had been very busy making table decorations, crowns for their parents and printing their own table cloths. The highlight of the morning was the arrival of our special guest Father Christmas.

We said a big goodbye to Tina a long standing member of staff, she will be dearly missed but we wish her every success. Kim our new member of staff has started now and we wish her a big warm welcome to our pre-school .

The children have loved our recent snow, in the Village Hall garden we have made an assortment of snowmen and also a one eyed alien!

A big welcome to our four new starters this term. Hope you have all enjoyed reading about all the fun things that go on, and look forward to keeping you up to date with all our activities.



A relaxed, happy learning environment for children aged 2 years 9 months to school age.

Come and see our beautiful rural setting.

For more information, please contact Sam Inglis (07732095814).

In Aid of
CHILBOLTON
Village Hall

Registered Charity No. 301781

The Management

ARE HOLDING

JUMBLE SALE

On SATURDAY, 27th FEBRUARY 2010

Doors open 2 p.m.
Village Hall
Eastman's Field, Chilbolton

All donations of jumble to the Hall after
10 a.m. please

Enquiries: Call B. Lawrence on 01264 860618

*The Management Committee of the Chilbolton Village Hall apologises
for postponing the previous Jumble Sale, but it was considered
inadvisable to go ahead because of the weather at the time.*



Mrs Hilma Alaine Thomas
25th December 1918 to 21st September 2009

The family of Hilma Thomas would like to thank all the friends and neighbours in Wherwell for their kindness and support towards her in the last, not very easy years. She always loved Wherwell and was known for her twice-daily walks around the village, attendance at St Peter and Holy Cross and the Village Hall, often being the first to arrive and the last to go! She told me in her last year that three things kept her going, "the love of her family, her religion and keeping busy." She lies in peace beside her beloved husband in Wherwell Churchyard. The collection for the Red Cross in her memory raised £300.

Rosemary Molony.

Wherwell History Group



An Illustrated talk by

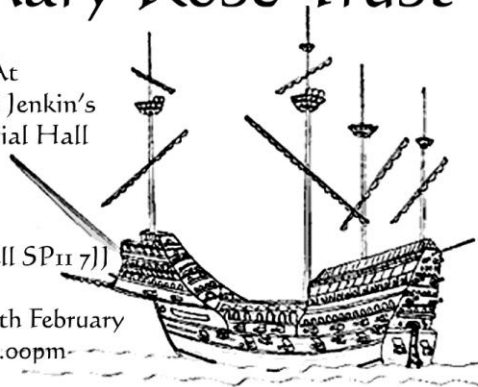
Bill Moore

The Mary Rose Trust

At
Colonel Jenkin's
Memorial Hall

Wherwell SP11 7JJ

Friday 19th February
at 8.00pm



All Welcome Admission £3.00
Tea/Coffee/Biscuits available

Au Revoir and thank you



By the time you read this we are sure that many of you will know that Robin and I have retired to Stockbridge. We were really lucky to sell Newton House very quickly and find a newly refurbished home situated just behind the Grosvenor Hotel and Scout Hut off the High Street.

We would like to thank everyone in Chilbolton for making us feel very welcome during the 23 years we were there and are sure you will do the same to Gail and Chris Nichols and their family who are the new owners of Newton House.

The Magazine team have agreed that I should continue to look after the advertising for the magazine for a few months and probably phase myself out gradually before the end of the year. E-mail address is the same but the new phone number is 01264 810732.

Look forward to still seeing many of you around and keeping up with all the news!

Barbara and Robin North.

St Peter and Holy Cross, Wherwell Sunday Evening Services

The Wherwell PCC would like your feedback regarding our Evening Service. We are interested in knowing whether you prefer an Evening Communion Service, or Evensong. *Kindly tick the appropriate box.*

I prefer an **Evening Communion Service**

I prefer an **Evensong Service**

----- (Please Print Your Name)

Please return this survey form to any of the following:

- Mrs Anna Lipa
- The 'Evening Service Survey Box' at the back of the Church
- Email your preference to John Conte at WherwellBiz@aol.com

Thank You. Wherwell PCC

WHERWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Much of the work of the PC depends on the funding that is available to us. At our recent meeting it was agreed to set the precept for 2010/11 at £7500. This figure has remained unchanged for the last two years. We trust that the PC will be able to supplement this amount by continuing to apply whenever possible for grant funding for projects. Our Parochial Church Council, the Playing Fields' and Village Hall's committees should be congratulated for all the grants they have procured in recent months.

The construction of the new play area at the Playing Fields will commence shortly. The total cost, in the region of £30000, is covered by a grant. Consideration was given to the email received with 47 signatories about the design of the proposed area. Further consultation then took place with HCC and subsequently amendments have been made to the plans.

We are pleased to report that planning permission has been given to build the new implement shed and to relocate the tennis courts at the Playing Fields. Funding from TVBC section 106 monies cannot be given for the rabbit proof fencing but should be available to help with the costs involved in moving the tennis courts.

Thanks to the hard work of the Playing Fields' Committee and all the Santas and elves, Santa's Grotto made £1500. Congratulations to everyone involved for once again running this project which was very much enjoyed by the children and parents who came to see Father Christmas.

The planning application for an extension at Westover Farm has been approved. The council had no objections to the applications for tree works at Springfield and Riverside House both in Fullerton Road.

It is proposed to site an additional grit bin at the top of Church Street. Subject to HCC approval further bins will also be placed at the junction of Coreys Lane and the A3057 at Fullerton, at the junction of the B3420 (Winchester Road) and the A3057 by the golf course and by the old railway bridge in Fullerton Road.

Damage to the road sign at Winchester Corner is still unrepaired but the bollard on the cobbled corner opposite the White Lion has been replaced.

Subject to funding it is hoped that the construction of the new footpath down from Chant Close in front of the pub, will now take place.

We were delighted to hear that the PCC had obtained a substantial grant towards the cost of repairing the roof and spire of the church.

'Village Hall' is to be added to the finger post 'to the Church' currently on the Memorial Green which is to be re-sited on the bank outside Manor Farmhouse.

Continued on page 19

A reply is still awaited from Testway Housing as to whether they will allow a cockatrice to be mounted on the roof of the Old Chapel in the High Street.

Work is continuing to obtain grants to help with the costs of producing leaflets and wall maps of local footpaths.

As funding may be available the possibility of improving the informal footpath from Blacksmith's Lane to the school is being investigated. Repair to the footbridge over the river in the vicinity of the Sewerage Treatment Farm will take place as soon as weather permits.

A very informative presentation for owners of thatched properties was given by the Fire Service in Chilbolton. It was attended by several Wherwell residents. We are hoping that copies of the information packs distributed at the meeting can be obtained and distributed to the residents of all thatched properties in the parish. Members of the fire service are available on request to visit properties and advise on fire safety.

The PC is to request that the Wherwell website is updated regularly.

Confirmation has yet to be given by BT regarding the adoption of the telephone box in the centre of the village.

We are still awaiting responses from Vodaphone and O2 regarding the poor service coverage in the area.

Next PC meeting Tues 9th March at 7pm in the Colonel Jenkins' Hall.
Jane Andrews Chairman Tel: 860635 Email: flyjohnandrews@aol.com



THANK YOU...

... to all those wonderful helpers who made cakes, pies, chutneys, etc., for the Wherwell Christmas Fayre. Thanks to all your generous donations of tasty, tempting delights the CAKE STALL was a big successearning £171 (+30% vs Last Year!!!)

Thank you so very much !! Judy & John Conte



Chilbolton Parish Council News

As I write this it is the big freeze which is uppermost in people's minds. As you read it, the freeze will probably be a distant memory and flood protection will be the main concern! Well, your Parish Council has been active and is planning an article for the March edition to cover both of these and road safety. The Council is looking to provide grit boxes as a back up to Hampshire Highways (HH) if it proves impossible to extend HH's coverage, is seeking to improve drainage and is taking active steps with our local Police to calm traffic throughout the village. The cold weather has caused a number of potholes to appear in village roads. HH have included their repair in the coming months.

On Cow Common, the fences on the SE and SW boundaries are to be renewed and this year it is hoped to build an otter holt. New fences are also planned for the Observatory, where two new permissive paths will be created. Meanwhile councillors have met with David Ball (HCC) to discuss West Down issues. The debris rising to the surface from the old landfill site has been noted and HCC has agreed that shrub and tree felling will now cease in order to retain the 'avenue effect' of Coley Lane.

The local Fire Brigade hosted a meeting in December of owners of thatched cottages. This was quite well attended, but if any reader requires the Information Pack which was handed out at the meeting, the Parish Clerk has copies.

On the playing fields, the moles are back and Cllr Crisp is treating the affected areas. The war memorial and the wall on which it is fitted has been cleaned and white granite chipping placed in the area below. A drain has been cut to allow water to run away as currently it collects and stains the concrete. The wreaths have been fixed to the wall and the over-all effect is more dignified than before.

The Council has been approached by the Local History Group of the Andover Branch of the University of the Third Age. They would like to visit Chilbolton on Tuesday 2 August 2010 for about 2 hours, finishing at the Abbots Mitre. The visit would cover the Church, the Common, the Airfield and Observatory and the village itself. The Council would be pleased to hear from anyone with knowledge of local history, who would like to be associated with this; names please to the Parish Clerk.

Perhaps the most important matter addressed by your Council in January has been the setting of the Precept for 2010 – 2011. I am pleased to say that it has recommended that it remains the same as in the current year, at £10,000.

On which happy note, the Council wishes all residents of Chilbolton a Happy New Year. The Council will next meet on Tuesday 2 February in the Durnford Room at 8 pm.

Jeremy Baines

The Wherwell History Group

We are pleased to present our programme of illustrated talks for 2010

January 15th	Tony Raper	The Weyhill Fair
February 19th	Bill Moore	The Mary Rose Trust
March 19th	Sarah Lynes	River Anton Conservation Project
April 16th	John Price	Researching Your Family History
May 21st		AGM
June 18 th	Don Bryan	Guided Tour of Stockbridge
July & August		No meeting
September 17 th	Gerald Ponting	Hampshire's Living History
October 15 th	t.b.a.	
November 19 th	Frank Green	The Heritage of the New Forest National Park

Scrapbook 2010 is taking shape. It is being presented on the Web as a series of Picasa photo albums. There are two albums per month; a public album of general interest photos and material already in the public domain (eg: Press cuttings, extracts from our Community magazine, web downloads) and a restricted album with detailed calendar of events and supporting photos. The restricted album is available to Scrapbook members & contributors. The public album can be viewed at :-

<http://picasaweb.google.com/wherwellscrapbook>

or by searching Google Photos with 'wherwell scrapbook' (make sure you search in the 'Community Photos' category).

Geograph British Isles is a project sponsored by Ordnance Survey which aims to collect geographically representative photographs and information for every square kilometre of Great Britain and Ireland. It is a true open online community project for all, and anyone can contribute; including Wherwell History Group. Latest figures show there are over 9,500 users and over 1.65 million images covering 75% of the British Isles. Grid Reference SU3940 spans across Wherwell & Chilbolton, and in mid-Jan contained 33 photographs. You can take a look at :-

<http://www.geograph.org.uk/gridref/SU3940>

Pause for Thought

So Christmas is over and we have all started our new diaries of 2010, often with the entry 'postponed due to snow'. I wonder what this New Year holds for us all? We all know this New Year will bring new challenges and opportunities for us all, both as individuals and as communities.

The news reports of events of 2009 were often not designed to inspire much hope in anyone, from near panic over swine flu to outrage and despair over M.P.'s expenses to name just two cases. I suppose the nature of news reporting is often to focus on the bad, the extreme, to get people's attention and generate sales. Yet in so doing this often seems to create and maintain a fearful attitude towards life, where cynicism and self-interest can be seen to be prevalent. We know that the news doesn't always show the full picture of our society or what happens in a year.

The other side to that is the often unseen act of kindness, charity (which in the full Greek sense of the word means loving kindness, not just monetary giving, important though that is) and love. As we look closer at those small acts of kindness which we all witness in our lives, from people helping each other in the snow to those times when the nation responds to events like the flooding in Cockermouth we find that we are living out a hopeful and caring attitude to others and ourselves.

It has been said 'you are what you eat', I think it is more accurate to say 'you are what you believe and act out'. A wise man once said that he had two opposing sides to his nature, a good and hopeful side and a negative and despairing side. When asked which was the stronger, he replied 'the one I feed the most'.

I said earlier that Christmas is over, yet for the Christian church Christmas is the beginning of hope. The Christian church lives its whole year in the light of that event when God became man. It gives us roots, in the first century Palestine, and it gives substance to the man who was later crucified on that first Good Friday and who rose to life on Easter Sunday. The church's understanding of life is then lived in the light of that hope that Christ's birth brings, it should among other things give an attitude of hope, as we live through the vagaries of life. That hopeful attitude is in some ways picked up by the idea of New Year's resolutions, when we make 'hopeful' resolutions for the following year.

This attitude of hopefulness, is not a mindless optimism or naive belief in 'it will be alright' but is embedded within the Christian story and rooted in God's humanity. Hope for the future is I believe intrinsic to our humanity and an antidote to the cynicism and a fearful attitude often seen in society. So my hope and prayer is that we can all go forward to the challenges that this year will bring, with hope.

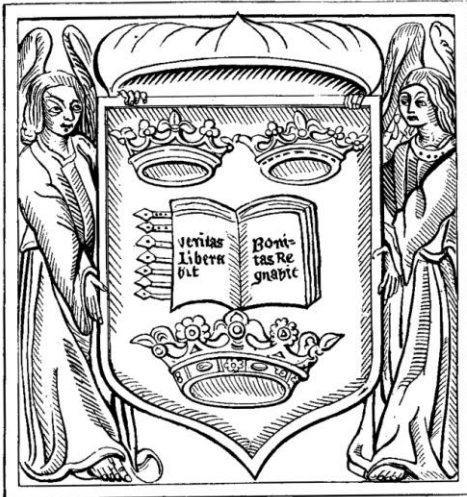
Rev'd Stuart Rason, The Rectory, Chilbolton

Wherwell History Group



An illustrated talk by
Dr. Frances Hurd

The Churches Conservation Trust in Hampshire



© JEROTT 2012

At
Colonel Jenkin's
Memorial Hall

Wherwell SP11 7JJ
Friday 16th October
at 8.00pm

All Welcome
Admission £3.00
Tea/Coffee/Biscuits
available



Did You Enjoy Christmas?

Rev. Piers Warburton shares his reflections on the Festive Season just past.

Assuming most people would answer “yes” to the above, the next question is “Just what was it about Christmas that you enjoyed?” A few might say “I enjoyed celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ!” For others the answer will vary, but will mostly be on the lines of “I enjoy the good old British celebration of Christmas and everything that goes into this ancient time of Peace and Goodwill.” But let’s take a look at some of these traditions:

The Christmas Dinner – the turkey is an American bird, and little known here until about 1900. The traditional English centrepiece used to be the goose, until they got too expensive! Mince pies were popular in the 18th C. but Christmas Pudding only arrived a century later. And who invented brandy butter? I have no idea, but hope he or she got a knighthood!

The Christmas Tree – this was a German tradition, brought to us by Prince Albert in the 1840s. It used to be lit by candles and the presents were stacked around but ‘Elf and Safety’ got in and many trees are now imitation, with lights.

The Family Gatherings – the Americans manage these very well at Thanksgiving at the end of November. That celebration recalls the Pilgrim Fathers surviving their first winter in Massachusetts in 1620, but that aspect hardly survives under the pressure of the family arriving. Thanksgiving only became an official holiday in about 1920!

The Presents and Decorations – these are both inherited from pre-Christian Rome. The Romans celebrated the Sun at this time, to encourage it to come back in the spring. Christians adapted this to celebrate the Son. In the same way, early churches were built on places where heathen gods had been worshipped, to show Christ victorious.

Before Albert and Victoria, the Church of England paid scant attention to Christmas. In 1870, Parson Kilvert’s diary was headed “Sunday, Christmas Day”, but he makes no other mention of it, being more concerned with how he dealt with the ice in his bath! According to the 1662 Book of Common Prayer (which we still use), you are a member in good standing if you receive Communion three times a year, one of which must be EASTER!

The teaching of the Bible tends to be poetic rather than prosaic, which is why it remains so interesting and relevant. Jesus Christ was such an important character that one would expect early traditions to gather round him, of which Matthew and Luke are the main sources.

Therefore perhaps it is time to relieve Christmas of all the “baggage” that now surrounds it. Why not follow the Scots in a purely religious Christmas, followed by Hogmanay as a full-hearted New Year’s celebration? We can then make Easter the real Christian observance.

Piers Warburton



Chilbolton & Wherwell Wildlife



By the time you read this, we'll probably have forgotten all about snow and frosts, and be enjoying lots of warm spring sunshine. I wish! But it will be February, and there may be some cold spells still to come.

During the Christmas period, several people asked what birds do in the face of hard weather? Well, broadly speaking there are two camps: those that move, and those that don't. When normal feeding areas are completely frozen and covered by snow, the movers go on their way – sometimes travelling hundreds of miles in search of frost-free areas. Our usual migrant visitors, such as the Redwing and Fieldfare, will do this – but also birds like Skylark and Lapwing. During early-January, numbers of Fieldfare and Redwing were seen in suburban gardens along the coast, and a flock of over 1,000 Skylark were in the Avon valley near Christchurch.

The less mobile species of course search out food sources in their local patch, and that's where we can help. Most people enjoy feeding the birds, but several of you have commented that some foods are left untouched. How come? I think the answer is that every garden is different. Food preferences depend on the surrounding habitats (houses, fields, or woodland) and therefore the species that are in the vicinity, and also on what foods and feeder-types the birds in the area have already adapted to. I recall a friend in South London who told me some years ago, that his birds always fed exclusively on rice!

Looking forward to the spring, it will be fascinating to see how the wildlife of West Down develops, now that so much of the birch and sycamore scrub has been cleared. I suspect that much of the ground previously under trees, will be relatively sterile in the short-term (it has been shaded for too long). But the open wood-pasture landscape now looks really good, and the increased amounts of sunshine on the remnant downland west slope, will be a saviour to our chalk flora and butterflies. With Natural England's financial support, the County Council have greatly improved the wildlife habitat. If you haven't done so already, it's well worth taking a walk on the Down.

Glynne Evans (hantsbto@hotmail.com)

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

The service this year will be in Chilbolton on Friday 5th March at 2.00p.m, followed by refreshments. Each year a different country is chosen to write the service and choose the hymns. This year it is the turn of Cameroon and it has been compiled by the Christian women of that country. It is the one time Christian women of the world unite in prayer. The services will start in the Antipodes and traverse the world, all churches using their format. If anyone would like to help make cakes or serve the refreshments, please contact Annette Keys on 860377. Many thanks.

Dates for your diary

February

2nd	Chilbolton Horticultural Soc.	7.45pm	CVH
2nd	Chilbolton Parish Council	8.00pm	CVH
5th	Film "Julie and Julia" (12A)	6.45 for 7.30	CVH
6th	Wherwell Coffee Morning	10.30-12.30	WVH
6th	Test Valley Woodlands in Winter	10-12 noon	Harewood Forest
15th	Midday Mums	12.30pm	WVH
18-20th	Wizard of Oz	7 for 7.30	CVH
20th	Wizard of Oz	2 for 2.30	CVH
19th	Mary Rose Talk	8.00pm	WVH
19th	WI	7.30pm	Wherwell VH
23rd	Wherwell Wives Group	8.00pm	WVH
26th	PTA Quiz & Curry Night	7.30pm	Wherwell Pavilion
27th	Jumble Sale	2.00 pm	CVH

March

2nd	Chilbolton Horticultural Soc.	7.45pm	CVH
2nd	Chilbolton Parish Council	8.00pm	CVH
5th	Women's World Day of Prayer	2.00pm	Chilbolton
6th	"Use it or lose it"	10.15-4.00	Stockbridge
9th	Wherwell Parish Council	7.00pm	WVH
12th	PTA Swishing Evening		
16th	WI	7.30pm	CVH

Wherwell Church Roof

As I sit here and write this, looking out at the deep snow and ice of January, I am extremely grateful that the Wherwell church roof seems to have survived this latest batch of bad weather. In the last quinquennial survey we were told by our architect that the roof was in a parlous condition and that it was possible that one heavy fall of snow could bring it down! The roof tiles hang on battens that are in turn attached to the rafters by nails. These nails are now so rusted that some of the battens have slipped down the slope of the roof. The whole effect is a sort of rippling motion in the tiles which with a little extra pressure could become a landslide. Not only that, but the tower and spire need serious attention to combat the attack of the green woodpeckers: these birds have punched holes in the wooden shingles, allowing water ingress which has begun to rot the wooden structure. You might have noticed the elegant plastic bag tied on with rope, adorning the top of the spire!

This was clearly such a huge and expensive problem that the PCC decided to apply for a grant from English Heritage who fund high-level urgent repair work through their 'Repair Grants for Places of Worship in England' scheme. However, their funds are limited and not every application is successful. A lot of work was required to put together an application of the required standard, but a team effort by the PCC produced a submission which was signed off (just in time for the deadline of 30 June!) by Reverend Juliet Montague and our Archdeacon, The Venerable Michael Harley. There was a long wait before we heard whether we were successful.

In the autumn, a team from English Heritage visited the church to undertake their own survey and meet the PCC. A good turnout from members impressed the visitors who were pleased to see a supportive group behind the project. Just before Christmas, I received a letter from English Heritage bearing the good news that we had been successful. But not only had we achieved the £135k we had requested, but we had been allocated a total of £153k!

The work is divided into two phases: this year will see further surveys, audits and preparations taking place under Phase 1. Once we have completed these studies to English Heritage's satisfaction during 2010, then Phase 2, which involves the actual building works, will likely commence in early 2011.

The whole project is estimated to cost somewhere in the region of £1/4 million, and so further money will be required. The PCC already has some money set aside in a restricted fund for building maintenance, but we will need to start raising funds for the balance this year now that we have a definite target in view. So don't be surprised if you hear of some extra fundraising functions this year – please come and support us in trying to achieve our goal. Between us all we can keep the church up and running as part of the community for generations to come. *Anna Lipa, Churchwarden, St Peter & Holy Cross*

WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA

Theatres:

To 20/02/10: **Noel Coward's Private Lives.** Performances at 7.30pm (Mon-Wed), 2.30pm & 8pm (Thu & Sat), 8pm (Fri) at Salisbury Playhouse. Tickets £12-£19. Tel (01722) 320333 www.salisburyplayhouse.com

09/02/10 to 13/02/10: **The Lady Vanishes.** Performances at 7.30pm (matinees Thu & Sat at 2.30pm) at Theatre Royal, Winchester. Tickets £16 (concessions £14) evenings, £12 (concessions £10) matinees. Tel (01962) 840440 www.theatreroyalwinchester.co.uk

11/02/10: **The Hot Dots.** Presented by the So & So Circus Theatre at 7.30pm at The Lights, Andover. Tickets £10-£11 (concessions £9). Tel (01264) 368368 www.thelights.org.uk

15/02/10 to 19/02/10: **Andover Children's Festival Week.** Various events and workshops at The Lights. www.thelights.org.uk

22/02/10 to 27/02/10: **William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet *four days of hatred, passion and death.*** Presented by RAODS at Plaza Theatre, Romsey at 7.30pm. Tickets £9 (first night £7). Tel (01794) 512987 www.plazatheatre.com

Music:

05/02/10: **An evening of Swing & Jive with The New Antonians.** An Arena event at The Lights, Andover at 7.45pm. Tickets £10 (£9 concession) Tel (01264) 368368 www.thelights.org.uk

06/02/10: **Courtney Pine** at Theatre Royal, Winchester at 8pm. Tickets £25 (concessions £23). Tel (01962) 840440 www.theatreroyalwinchester.co.uk

25/02/10: **Andover Music Club – Pianist Duncan Honeybourne** at The Lights at 7.30pm. Tickets £10. (01264) 368368 www.thelights.org.uk

Other events:

13/02/10 to 21/02/10: **Valentine Trail.** Fun activity trail for all ages at Hillier Gardens, near Romsey. Open from 10am to dusk. Free with normal admission. www.hilliergardens.org.uk

Country Markets:

Country Markets are held weekly in Andover and Stockbridge selling homemade and local produce. The Stockbridge market is held in the Town Hall every Thursday, 10.00am - 12.00 noon. The Andover market is held by the Guildhall and in Rendezvous, Union St. every Friday, 8.00am – 12.15pm

Farmers' Market Dates:

07 Feb 2010 – Romsey – now at Alma Road car park 14 Feb 2010 – Winchester

21 Feb 2010 – Andover 28 Feb 2010 – Winchester

For more information, please ring (01420) 588671, or visit the website at www.hampshirefarmersmarkets.co.uk.



Bee Diary February 2010



The cold weather over Christmas and the New Year saw the bees confined to the hive, too cold to venture out and clustered together inside to maintain a warm core to the cluster. The main problem was green woodpeckers that attacked the hives because their normal food sources were buried under 6 inches of snow. To my knowledge this is the first time in 18 years that beehives in Chilbolton have been molested by woodpeckers.

We managed to put some preventative measures in place, a whirling bird scarer seemed to be effective initially and prevented the birds boring right into the hives and consuming the bees. The tapping on the hives however definitely disturbed the bees and in some cases they poured out to confront the marauder. The problem for the bees with snow on the ground is that the snow is whiter than the sky and this confuses them into thinking they are flying upside down. A bit like a pilot with a faulty artificial horizon, the bees are apt to do a half roll and dive into the snow, to perish from the cold. Around one hive several hundred bees had succumbed and it would appear that here the combat air patrol had been ineffective at seeing off the woodpecker.

If the cold conditions persist we will invest in an artificial falcon bird scarer to sit on the hive and see off the woodpeckers. If that doesn't work it will be a laborious job to cover the hives in chicken wire.

Prolonged cold weather is a problem for the colonies of bees that came back from the New Forest heather. If the bees are confined for a long period in the hive, they cannot relieve themselves in flight and can make quite a mess inside the hive. Heather honey stores are full of pollen and protein and this aggravates the problem. We always hope that the periods of cold weather are interspersed with some warm days so the bees can uncross their legs and get out on a cleansing flight.

As February progresses the queen bees will start to lay an increasing number of eggs within the warm cluster and soon the young bees will start to emerge and help to maintain the colony numbers as older bees die. The number of bees in the colony will continue to decline during February as more old bees die than young ones emerge. However the tempo of the hive, the rate of the queen's laying will increase as the month progresses and stores will be rapidly consumed as they are converted into young bees. It is this ability of the honey bee to maintain a warm cluster and to produce new bees in the cold spring that enables it to build up to such huge numbers in late spring when the first honey flow occurs.

Jolyon Pope



Bee Competition



In our December Magazine Jolyon Pope set a challenge to bring the following 'Cargoes' poem by John Masefield into the 21st century

Cargoes, by John Masefield

Quinquireme of Nineveh from distant Ophir,
Rowing home to haven in sunny Palestine,
With a cargo of ivory, And apes and peacocks,
Sandalwood, cedar wood, and sweet white wine.

Stately Spanish galleon coming from the Isthmus,
Dipping through the tropics by the palm-green shores,
With a cargo of diamonds, Emeralds, amethysts,
Topazes, and cinnamon, and gold moidores.

Dirty British coaster with a salt-caked smoke stack,
Butting through the channel in the mad March days,
With a cargo of Tyne coal, Road-rails, pig-lead,
Firewood, iron-ware, and cheap tin trays.

We are pleased to announce the top three entries

First Prize - Anon

Vast container reefer bound Felixstowe for orders,
Steaming through the doldrums from the Argentine
With a cargo of burger beef, Fresh salmon for the sushi
Chicken for Pret's sandwiches, and honey labelled fine.

Boeing cargo freighter, flying through the darkness,
Chartered every week from Kenya by Waitrose
With a cargo of roses, Mange tout, fresh peas,
Paw paws, mangoes and sweet potatoes.

Space shuttle Endeavour, lifting off the launch pad,
Solid boosters roaring, high orbit to access,
With a cargo of satellites,
Mirrors for the Hubble,
Plus a new draft of Astronauts for the I.S.S.

Continued on page 31

Second Prize - Dawn Rickatson

Luxury cruise liner sailing from her home port
Bound for far off oceans east and west
With a cargo of pensioners, And excellent cuisine,
For those on board it's nothing but the best.

Modern British jetplane leaving from the runway
Taking off for some far sunny clime,
With a cargo of passengers, Flying off on holiday,
All hoping for a very happy time.

Third Prize - Malcolm Leatherdale

Grimy clad container ship towering aloft,
Slipping through the sea from sources everywhere,
With a cargo of white goods, And oranges and limes,
Flat pack furniture, toys, and computer ware.

Thank you to all who entered and to Jolyon Pope who provided the prizes.

Carole Marits



MIDDAY MUMS.....

This month Midday Mums falls on the first Monday of half term, 15th February 12.30 at Wherwell Village Hall. Your older children will be welcome to come along too, and could you bring a little something to share for lunch. Hope to see you there. *Susan Ansell 860775*

District and County Councillors

Wherwell: Cllr Jim Neal

Chilbolton: Cllr Peter Boulton

County: Cllr Andrew Gibson