

Chilbolton and Wherwell Community Magazine

Welcome to this festive edition of the Magazine – as usual a bumper crop of news, reviews, what's on and more. This December / January edition marks a particular milestone for me for, after four years, I have decided to retire from the Magazine. No more fitting of articles onto the requisite number of pages or pawing over apposite clip art images late into the night for me!

Whether by chance or as a gift from the Magazine Committee, I have had the pleasure of bowing out by putting together this Christmas edition. I must admit to having never lost my boyish enthusiasm for Christmas. All the constituents of a perfect Christmas are here: the midnight service, the carols (page 7), fine food (page 23), fine wine (page 14), the odd bit of disco dancing (page 20), and a visit from Santa Claus himself (page 12). This is also a time to reflect on those less fortunate than ourselves, and in these pages, you can see what people have been up to raising money for others, whether it is knitting for Tanzania or Zimbabwe (page 11), or Nina Carey-Hodges's mammoth cycle trip across China for the Wolfson and Weston Research Centre for Family Health (page 28).

And so, for the last time on these pages, it is my pleasure to wish you all on behalf of the Magazine Committee a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. *David Wright*

Thank you to Victoria Ramsay, Tessa Youell, David Wright and Euan Ramsay who produced this month's magazine and to Ed Treadwell for Printing and Alan Crisp and helpers for collation and distribution.



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:

Chilbolton		
Funeral	9 Nov	Tom Snelgar
Baptism	21 Nov	David Stephens
Wherwell		
Baptism	7 Nov	Lily Selvey



CHURCH FLOWER ROTA



Wherwell

11 Dec

Mrs Lloyd

8, 15 Jan

Mrs Gee

18 Dec

Festival Flowers

22, 29 Jan

Mrs James

Chilbolton

Dec

Festival Flowers - Gail Bailey

Jan

Jane Spence

Church Services December 2010

	St Mary the Less Chilbolton	St Mary's Crawley	St Catherine's Littleton	St Stephen's Sparsholt	St Peter & Holy Cross Wherwell
Sunday 5th December					
Holy Communion	8.00 am				
Family Communion				10.00 am	
Morning Worship		10.00 am			
Common Worship with HC					10.00 am
Evensong	6.00 pm				
Wednesday 8th December					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Sunday 12th December					
Holy Communion				8.00 am	
Family Communion		10.00 am	10.00 am		
Family Nativity	10.00 am				
Welcome Worship				10.00 am	
Evensong					6.00 pm
Wherwell Sunday School in village hall					4.00 pm
Wednesday 15th December					
Holy Communion	10.30 am				
Sunday 19th December					
Holy Communion		8.00 am	8.00 am		
Morning Worship			10.00 am		
Family Carol Service					10.00 am
Carol Service	4.00 pm	6.00 pm	6.00 pm	6.00 pm	
Friday 24th December					
Crib Service	4.30 pm	4.00 pm	4.00 pm	4.00 pm	3.00 pm
Midnight Service	With Wherwell		11.15 pm	11.30 pm	11.15 pm
Saturday 25th December					
Holy Communion	8.30 am	8.00 am		8.45 am	
Family Communion			10.00 am		10.00 am
Family Service	10.00 am			10.00 am	
Morning Worship		10.00 am			
Sunday 26th December					
Benefice Service – BCP Eucharist			10.00 am		

Changes to Church Services at Chilbolton in January and February

8am BCP Holy Communion and Evensong

During the cold and dark months of January and February Chilbolton PCC, with the approval of Revd Juliet Montague, has decided not to hold the 8am Holy Communion service.

The BCP Holy Communion service will continue to be held on the third Wednesday of the month at 10:30. The first one of the new year will be on Wednesday 19th January. We have also decided to bring our Evensong forward to the new time of 4pm during January and February. We hope this will not cause any inconvenience and we look forward to welcoming you to our services.

Church Services January 2011

	St Mary the Less Chilbolton	St Mary's Crawley	St Catherine's Littleton	St Stephen's Sparsholt	St Peter & Holy Cross Wherwell
Sunday 2nd January The Epiphany					
Family Communion			10.00 am	10.00 am	
Morning Worship		10.00 am			
Matins with HC					10.00 am
Evensong	4.00 pm				
Wednesday 5th January					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Westholme			2.30 pm		
Sunday 9th January					
Holy Communion				8.00 am	
Family Communion		10.00 am	10.00 am		
Welcome Worship				10.00 am	
Morning Prayer	10.00 am				
Evening Communion					6.00 pm
Wednesday 12th January					
Holy Communion			9.30am		
Sunday 16th January Second Sunday of Epiphany					
Holy Communion		8.00 am	8.00 am		
Morning Worship			10.00 am		
Family Service					10.00 am
CW Holy Communion	10.00 am				
Matins				10.00 am	
Benefice Evensong		6.00 pm			
Wednesday 19th January					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
BCP HC	10.30 am				
Thursday 20th January					
Flowerdown			2.30 pm		
Saturday 22nd January					
House Communion			10.00 am		
Sunday 23rd January The 3rd Sunday of Epiphany					
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			
Service of Peace & Healing			6.00 pm		
Wednesday 26th January					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Meditation			7.00 pm		
Sunday 30th January Presentation of Christ					
5 th Sunday Benefice Service CW Holy Communion	10.00 am				

Pause for Thought

THE RECTORY, LITTLETON

December 2010

Dear Friends,

It is all change among the leadership of the Winchester diocese. In 2009 the Bishop of Southampton was promoted to be Bishop of Southwell in Nottinghamshire, and the Rev'd Michael Harley became the Archdeacon of Winchester. This year Bishop Trevor left us to become Bishop of Canterbury, and Archdeacon Adrian Harbidge retired recently leaving Bishop Michael and Archdeacon Michael to lead our Diocese. Thankfully Bishop Peter Hancock took up his role as Bishop of Basingstoke in early October, and we look forward to Canon Jonathan Frost being welcomed as Bishop of Southampton at a service on 4th December. Having regained two suffragan bishops, Bishop Michael then announced that he will retire in 2011, and a special service will be held for him on 7th May in the Cathedral.

So we can expect the wind of change to blow through the Diocese as our new leaders find their way among us and grow into their new roles. Having met Bishop Peter I think we are fortunate, he is very enthusiastic about his new Diocese and I believe he is a man who truly listens. As we move forward into 2011 we may be anxious about what the future will bring, not only for our diocese but for the economy of our country, and for some that will also mean their employment may be less secure. We do tend to find comfort in what is known and familiar, but change can also bring new inspiration, and renewed hope as well as fresh challenges.

It is my hope for all of you that this Christmas brings the assurance that God is with us wherever our journey may take us, and through all the challenges we face. As we marvel once again at the mystery of the incarnation - God come to dwell among us as one of us – may we find renewed confidence and hope to enter into the new year with courage and optimism.

Wishing you peace, joy and every blessing for Christmas and the New Year.

With love in Christ,

Juliet Montague, Stuart Rason and Jennifer Brown

Chilbolton Church clean-up

A big thank-you to everyone who came to help in the church clean-up on Saturday 13th November. It looks lovely. Inside is sparkling and the leaves have all been cleared from the churchyard.

Sue Batchelor

Boxing Day Service in St Stephen's Sparsholt



Join us for a traditional Book of Common Prayer service of
Benefice Holy Communion



10am, Sunday 26th December
Saint Stephen's Church, Sparsholt

**Time-honoured Carols, Communion Service Setting by John Merbecke
led by the Benefice Choir, your favourite anthems**

This year Boxing Day falls on a Sunday, and is the feast day of St Stephen. It is our tradition to have a Benefice service on the Sunday after Christmas to celebrate the feast of Stephen in St Stephen's, Sparsholt, but we are well aware that some people will undoubtedly feel that they have had their fill of worship over Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We therefore have the opportunity to do something a little different. I know that there are some of you who look back with nostalgia at the days of the traditional sung Book of Common Prayer Communion Service, so this seemed the perfect opportunity to provide one.

It is my hope that Book of Common Prayer enthusiasts from the wider Winchester area will come and join us, as well as younger folk who have never experienced it and who would like to discover how their parents/ grandparents worshipped. However, I can assure you that I will preach a modern sermon of modern length!

Revd. Juliet Montague

THE CHURCHES OF TEST VALLEY

by Bryan and Diana Beggs



A new edition of *The Churches of Test Valley* is expected to be available during this month of December in bookshops and Tourist Information Centres in Test Valley. The first edition (now sold out) raised £3000 for The Countess of Brecknock Hospice and Countess Mountbatten House. This new edition is being sold to raise funds for another local charity, the Test Valley Arts Foundation. The retail price is £15.00.

It is of the same quality as the original with over 120 colour photographs, but new emphasis has been placed, in the introductory pages, on the book's potential to encourage tourism with its associated benefits, to our area of Hampshire and to our churches in particular. A special page is devoted to the 'Churches of the Test Way Footpath'.

The Bishop of Winchester, the Rt. Rev'd. Michael Scott-Joynt, has again written the Foreword and the authors have recorded their own tribute to all the sponsors who helped them with the first edition. Tributes to the second edition have been written by the Chairman of the Test Valley Arts Foundation, Cllr. Roy Perry, who is also Deputy Leader of Hampshire County Council; by The Chief Executive of Test Valley Borough Council, Roger Tetstall, and by Andrew Bateman, Hampshire Tourism Manager. '... This is a book where the joint authors' keen interest in the Test Valley churches and local history, encourages all readers to follow in their footsteps'.



The Twelve Days of Christmas

**'On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me
a partridge in a pear tree'**

I have often wondered about the words of this song. Are they just random or is there some meaning behind them? According to some sources the original version came from a time when Roman Catholics in England weren't allowed to practise their faith openly and it was a kind of secret catechism that could be sung in public without the risk of persecution. Each element in the song is a coded word of faith. The 'true love' represents God and the 'me' who receives the presents represents Christians. The hidden meanings are:

The Partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ (Isaiah 11:1)

The 2 Turtledoves are the Old and New Testaments

The 3 French Hens stand for faith, hope and love (1Corinthians 13)

The 4 Calling Birds are the four gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

The 5 Gold Rings recall the first five books of the Old Testament known as the Pentateuch

The 6 Geese a-laying stand for the six days of creation.

The 7 Swans a-swimming represent the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit (1Corinthians 12:8-11, Romans 12:6-8)

The 8 Maids a-milking are the eight beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10)

The 9 Ladies dancing are the nine fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)


The 10 Lords a-leaping are the Ten Commandments

The 11 Pipers piping stand for the eleven faithful disciples


And the 12 Drummers drumming? Well they represent the 12 points of belief in the Apostles' Creed!

And here we were just thinking it was a song! As we celebrate Christmas let us be thankful that we have the freedom to speak about our faith and may we not be ashamed to do so.

Charlotte Nash



Wherwell
Singers
Christmas
Concert



Highlights from Messiah
British and Russian Carols
& Congregational favourites

Saturday 11th December 2010 at 7:30pm,
St. Peter & Holy Cross Church, Wherwell

WHERWELL PARISH COUNCIL

In the open session at the recent PC meeting Phill Jennison gave an update on the estimated £40K to be raised to cover the cost of repairs to the church roof, tower and spire and for the provision of funds for the ongoing maintenance programme. It is hoped that all parishioners will support the initiatives. The church is such an important feature of the village and used by the community for events other than church services.

Phill also reported on the progress he has made with compiling the descriptions of three walks in and around the parish that will feature on the leaflet of local walks and the map boards that are currently being designed. We are extremely grateful to Phill for undertaking to help with both of these projects.

Cllr Neal reported that parish consultation will take place in the New Year regarding the review of the TVBC Planning Infill Policy demanded by the Planning Inspectorate

Planning applications for a two storey extension at Wayside, Hillside Cottages, Wherwell and the erection of a conservatory at 1 Manor Cottages, Fullerton have been supported, and permission has been given for the alterations to the outbuildings at the Old Rectory, Wherwell.

Cllr Gibson reported that HCC has planned 8% budget cutbacks but any reduction in front line services is not anticipated.

He also reported that HCC will oppose any proposal to close the Stockbridge Police Station. He informed the PC that there is now more than enough salt and grit in stock, for both the primary and secondary routes, should the need arise this winter. More grit boxes have been requested and should be delivered soon. He also confirmed that the proposed Chant Close footpath is on the current schedule of works and he is chasing up the drawings of the path.

Cllr Gibson is also to investigate whether HCC will fund the legal fees of £3K incurred by the Playing Fields Committee, resulting from the aborted proposal by HCC to purchase part of the tennis courts, as a site for a new school hall.

It has been requested that the Longparish Road sign at the Wherwell turn off the A303, be re-erected.

Cllr Gibson is reporting to the Highways Department that the conifer trees on the bank alongside the A3057, above the Old Station Yard at Fullerton, need to be cut back before they overhang and obstruct the highway. He is also to pass on the PC's concerns to HCC that they were not informed that a tract of land, adjacent to the footpath leading down to the Test Way in Fullerton, had been sold without any prior consultation.

Cllr Hutton, as chair of the school governors, reported that the school currently has 123 pupils and is fully funded. It is very commendable to hear that some internal refurbishments and other works are being undertaken by parents, staff and governors.

Having recently succeeded in recruiting more volunteer drivers to take residents from Wherwell and Chilbolton to local GP surgeries and hospitals, the Care Group has been informed that all volunteers must now undertake CRB checks. HCC have

been told that these checks are felt to be unnecessary, a waste of government resources which are already overstretched and could result in this invaluable service being withdrawn.

The cockatrice weather vane donated in memory of Vic and Mary Pyke has been erected but it was felt that the fixing needed to be redesigned. A commemorative wall plaque is also being sourced.

Within the parish, volunteers to help with fundraising and various other activities are always needed. So often it is a small number of the same residents, who give up a lot of their time and energy to organise and support the various organisations and activities within the parish. The magazine, the school, the playing fields, the youth football and cricket teams, the church, the village hall, the history group and the Parish Council all would welcome enthusiastic helpers even if you have only a few hours to offer occasionally. Could you help with refreshments, manning a stall, giving out leaflets, undertaking an IT problem, checking a footpath or maybe even being an elf helping Father Christmas? If you have recently moved here please do not hesitate to volunteer. It is a good way for residents old and new to meet more people and to help preserve and enhance all that makes Wherwell such a special place to live.

Next PC meeting on Tuesday 11th January commencing at 7.00pm in the Colonel Jenkins' Hall.

Jane Andrews

Tel: 860635 email: flyjohnandrews@aol.com

WHERWELL ANNUAL QUIZ

The hall was filled to overflowing and I am sure everyone there would agree that, as usual, it was a very enjoyable evening. On behalf of us all to Sue Blazdell and her team on the Village Hall committee a big thank you for all their hard work organising the quiz evening and for providing a delicious supper and thanks of course to Brian and Lydia, one-time owners of the Wherwell Shop, who come back every year to be the question masters. After all those questions on road signs our knowledge of the Highway Code is, without doubt, much improved and hopefully we are all now much better informed drivers!

Jane Andrews



MOBILE LIBRARY

A survey has been circulated to parish councils to see if changing visiting times would be beneficial. One suggestion is visits be organised to coincide with the villages' monthly Saturday coffee mornings. If you have other suggestions please pass them on to the Library service.

Currently the library visits:

WHERWELL - alternate Thursdays at Cottonworth on the Fullerton Road at 10.50 - 11.10 and the White Lion car park from 11.15 - 11.45.

CHILBOLTON - alternate Fridays at the village hall 10.10 – 11.30 and at the Cart Lane turning on the High Street from 11.35 – 12.00.

CHILBOLTON PARISH COUNCIL

At the Parish Council meeting for November we reluctantly accepted the resignation of Cllr Gwen Picco. She has been a long-serving member of Council whose commitment and wisdom we are going to miss. She leaves with our very best wishes and gratitude. At the same meeting we welcomed David Griffiths who has been co-opted to cover one of our vacancies.

The project to provide a Children's Play Area has reached a critical point as we seek funds. It will not surprise you to know that sources which seemed possible only a few months ago are now reluctant, but the project team remain optimistic that they will have something encouraging to report by the time you read this article.

We have negotiated more Community Payback days with the Probation Service. This has enabled us to tidy up areas of the Common, footpaths and allotments. A team from Sparsholt College will be starting work shortly on pruning the willows beyond the Purlygig bridge. On a sadder note, the Common in particular is still fouled by dog mess and owners are reminded of their responsibilities in this respect.

The Council has been busy on the allotments. Rabbits have found a way through our current defences so an upgrade is planned and a good quantity of sub and topsoil has been spread to create another allotment.

Because Chilbolton is, fortunately, a low-crime area, the Neighbourhood Watch scheme has lost its effectiveness, but it is valuable as a means of communication, so Maria Watson, with the help of the Parish Council, has agreed to breathe life into it again. There is a piece elsewhere in this magazine calling for expressions of interest and villagers are encouraged to join the scheme before the severe weather hits us.

On the subject of preparation for winter, I and Cllr Andrew Gibson attended a seminar in November on Hampshire County Council's Winter Service Arrangements. The seminar itself was evidence that HCC are taking the matter seriously and this is borne out by a number of specific initiatives. They have increased their reserves of salt from 12000 tons to 18000, housed at Barton Stacey pending completion of a new facility at Micheldever; they are extending the routes which will be kept clear to include several feeder routes to the Priority 1 and 2 routes; they have started distributing the promised grit bins to enable local self-help; and they intend to refresh the Farmers' Help Scheme. HCC believe the key is communication and will publish a regular update in Hampshire Now. They have launched a new computer system which will enable Parishes to report and progress problems on the roads, which we will make good use of. All in all, this was an encouraging report in which we should all have confidence.

On which happy note, your Parish Council wish all villagers the compliments of the season. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 7 December at 8pm in the Durnford Room of the Village Hall.

Jeremy Baines, Chairman, Chilbolton Parish Council

Chilbolton Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

The Chairman and Committee of the Parish Council have asked me to raise the profile of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and to act as co-ordinator. I believe that at present there is a scattering of separate groups operating small units in the village. If anyone would like to extend the scheme to their area or would like to join their group up with others, please telephone me on 860415 or email mwatson.cottage@hotmail.co.uk. In due course the objective is to operate a scheme that is less fragmented and more effective.

Maria Watson

Wherwell Shoe Boxes



Operation Christmas Child is the collection of decorated shoe boxes, full of presents, for children overseas. This year the local organisers were Phyllis Harding and Revd Stuart Rason.

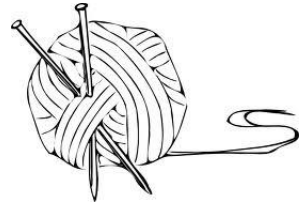
Phyllis would like to thank her team of twenty-nine friends and neighbours and Stuart would like to thank the people of Chilbolton and the parents of Wherwell School. The children enjoyed making up boxes to send to other children across the globe. Well done everybody, your generosity is bound to put a smile on the face of many, many children this Christmas.

More details at: www.samaritanspurse.uk.com

Thank You

I would like to thank the Senior Knitting Group for all their help in making garments for the children of Tanzania. It was a wonderful effort and two boxes of jumpers, hats and vests were delivered by Ken Morgan this week (early October). The group has knitted steadily for many months and dozens of teddies, vests and socks have already helped other similar projects. On going parcels of mufflers, hats and gloves will soon be sent to The Mission for Seamen. It's amazing how the efforts of a few are a great help to many, many people far and wide. Do you have any remnant balls of wool or surplus hand-knitted garments? If so, we would happily recycle these into new garments.

Phyllis Harding,
Tel: 860723



Chilbolton WI - Calling all Knitters

In response to a Hampshire WI request, the call went out in March 2009 via the magazine: 'Please knit a jumper for an Aids orphan in Zimbabwe'. This appeal resulted in 84 jumpers being knitted. These were received with gratitude by orphanages in Zimbabwe, but there is still a need for more, so the WI is again asking people to get knitting to while away the winter evenings. The pattern is available from Sue Batchelor. Tel: 860307.

Santa is Coming



COME TO SANTA'S GROTTTO



AT ANDOVER GARDEN CENTRE

SATURDAYS 4th, 11th & 18th

9.30AM TO 4.30PM

SUNDAYS 5th, 11th & 19th

10.00AM TO 4.00PM

MONDAY 20th –THURSDAY 23rd

9.30AM TO 4.30PM

FRIDAY 24th 9.30AM –1.00PM

ORGANISED BY

WHERWELL PLAYING FIELD'S COMMITTEE

Chilbolton Village Hall

As 2010 closes, the Management Committee has been thinking about and planning events for next year, and you might like to mark your diaries with a New Year resolution to join in our functions.

The first film show will be the 4th February. As yet we have not been advised what films will be on offer from Moviola, so watch for notifications around the village. It is very important that we receive your support as this year's audiences were on occasions rather disappointing and some films were loss leaders!

After a long break, the Jumble Sale returned in 2010 and very successful it was. Next year the event will take place on Saturday afternoon 19th March. No doubt there will be lots of bargains and choices to select.

The Spring General Knowledge quiz, under the stewardship of David Waghorn, is set for the 25th March and bookings can be made in the New Year by phoning 861334. This really is an enjoyable, fun evening, so arrange your teams soon.

The monthly coffee mornings have proved entertaining and established a pattern for the 3rd Saturday of each month. All are welcome; it's only £1 for a cup of coffee or tea and biscuit, plus free entry to a raffle.

The 100's Club is now in full swing with regular monthly draws. The October winners were Doris Pannell and David Lawrence. It is still possible to join the Club, if interested, please contact any Committee Member for an application form.

In closing, may I thank all the Committee Members who have worked so hard in 2010 and also those villagers who have attended our functions – hope you enjoyed them and will continue your support next year.

A happy and healthful New Year to all readers.

John Temple, Chairman

Emmaus Hampshire

Appeal for volunteers and awareness-raising for our shops

With our Community for formerly homeless people now at full capacity and both our shops in Bar End, Winchester and Eastleigh trading well, we are now looking at ways to continue to develop and improve what we do.

Firstly, we need more volunteers to help us sort donations of bric-a-brac and clothes – ideally on a weekly basis for a morning or afternoon.

In addition, while our shops are trading fairly well, we know we could be doing better. We believe there are still a lot of people in Hampshire who still don't know about us and what we do. We are again asking for your assistance in spreading the word about our two shops that sell a range of good quality, second-hand goods and household furniture.

If you are interested in volunteering please call Julia Herron on 01962 868300 (option 3) or Email: info@emmaushampshire.org.uk

For more information about Emmaus Hampshire please visit our website: www.emmaushampshire.org.uk

Maternity services – your views matter

Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust wants to find out people's views on birthplace choices. The birth centre in Andover is popular for antenatal and postnatal services but is less well used for deliveries. On average, just four babies have been born there each week.

The Trusts wants to understand why so few mothers have their babies at Andover and find out what kind of midwife-led service women would like and would use. A 'midwife-led' birth means supporting a woman through a 'natural' labour – one that does not require surgical intervention or the assistance of consultants. It is important that any new proposals about different ways of providing this service are based on as much feedback as possible.

Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust wants to provide a midlife-led birthing service that is accessible to women across the area we serve. (The map on the link below shows the area we cover).

Please help by going to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GR5GHXZ>, completing the survey, sharing it with your friends and family and getting in touch if you would like Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust to give a presentation to a group or local club on maternity services. You can also email the Trust with your views on its maternity services at yoursay@wehct.nhs.uk

Jane Gordon, Communications Manager, Winchester and Eastleigh Healthcare NHS Trust 01962 824720 jane.gordon@wehct.nhs.uk

Cottonworth Vineyard



On 15 October 2010,

2.5 tonnes of Chardonnay grapes were picked from the vines at Cottonworth. This picture shows Bob Warwick helping to stack the crates - being careful not to crush any of the succulent grapes.

The grapes are immediately crushed and the juice is fermented in old *grand cru* barrels from Burgundy, so they do not pick up too much of

the oaky flavour. Then the base wine is given a second ferment in the bottle, producing the fizz. Finally, the wine is aged in bottles at 8-9 degrees for 3-6 years. The grapes are the same as those in Champagne; white Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, & black Pinot Meunier. When the Cottonworth Winery is in full production the vines should be producing, *méthode champenoise*, between 50-70 thousand bottles of sparkling wine each year.

The original idea to plant vines was suggested by my Great Uncle Andrew Liddell to my Grandfather. After careful consideration the climate was not thought to be hot enough. Later, my Grandmother Jean De Pree, had the same idea choosing a very good site – ironically where the vines are now. Again, she was dismissed, it was not quite hot enough. The idea continued to float around until climate change allowed the champagne grapes to ripen well enough every year, solid evidence for climate change in the UK today.

Hugh Liddell worked in Beaune, Burgundy for 2 years and studied wine out there. After a short spell in England as a wine broker, he did vintages in NZ, South Africa and Australia. In 2005, the family at Cottonworth decided to plant locally and have increased plantings every year. 2010 is a great vintage for them, because the grapes came off at exactly the right ripeness. Release of their first sparkling rosé will be in spring or summer 2011.

Andrew Flanagan & Hugh Liddell



Chilbolton Annual Quiz - Thank you



We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came to participate in the Annual Village Quiz in October. In particular we would like to thank all those who helped us prepare the hall before the event and to the ladies who helped in the kitchen before and during the quiz. We are very grateful to them all for their help and support.

After expenses the amount raised on the night was £730 and with the matching funding from Barclay's charity and community fund the final amount was £1460 for Cruse Bereavement Care, Andover and District Branch.

The number of people taking part in the quiz this year was a record 103 and indeed some people left it a little late to book and so were disappointed. Advance notice that next year's quiz will again be in October and the charity to benefit from the proceeds of the quiz will be Boaz.

Andrew, Lesley, Graham and Mary

A New NHS Dentist



A new NHS Dental Practice recently opened in Winchester and they have a mobile unit which visits areas around Winchester – Bishop Waltham, East Meon, Wickham and Stockbridge.

The website is <http://www.iosisclinic.co.uk/> where you can register and also book appointments. Ray and I registered on-line with no problems at all and we were called back to arrange appointments for each of us. Stockbridge is listed on the right-hand side of the Home Page, so a click will give you all the details. If you need to be seen as an emergency there is a contact telephone number for help with an appointment.

The mobile unit is in Stockbridge (there is a map on-line showing exactly where) every Monday and Wednesday from 9:30 to 16:30, and the dates up until 4th April 2011 are on the website. It is extremely well kitted out and the two attending young ladies, Heather (the Dentist) and Maria (the Dental Nurse) are very courteous, kind and helpful. When you attend you will need to complete a small form where they require to know if/what medication you are taking – we found a repeat prescription slip from the doctor ideal for them to keep, it saved any issues with spelling and dosage!

I have suggested twice now that the Mobile Unit uses our village hall car park, as it is so difficult to park in Stockbridge, but the driver tells me the unit has to go precisely where the PCT decides it is to go. If anyone has any personal contacts which might add more weight to the idea of using our village hall car park, please try, as I think it would be so much easier, and safer, for all concerned.

Chris Halliwell, 860858

Tom Snelgar

Marian, Sue and Brian would like to thank everyone for their kind words of sympathy and offers of help after the sad loss of their beloved Husband and Dad.

Poppy Appeal – Thank You

The money collected in Wherwell for the poppy appeal this year is £918.59. Grateful thanks to all the collectors, and to all who so generously contributed to such a wonderful total.
Pam Prince

Merry Christmas to Shaun/Deb/Kev and the team at the White Lion

This is totally unsolicited after talking to a number of locals, I know I speak for us all when I say thank you for all your hard work in the last 18 months.

Truth be told, they took over the pub with no experience in the trade (well on that side of the bar in any case) and they have worked so incredibly hard to keep our village pub going when so many others are closing.

They have showed real determination and I'm reliably informed they have something the Finnish people call 'Sisu' - or an inner strength, the literal meaning is equivalent in English to "having guts".

Happy Christmas to all the good people who look after us at the White Lion and good fortune for the years ahead.
Richard Rowles

Wherwell History Group



An Illustrated talk by
Heather Sheeley

ENGLISH FOLKLORE



Friday
21st January
2011
At
Colonel Jenkin's
Memorial Hall
Wherwell SP11 7JJ
at 8.00pm

All Welcome Admission £3.00
Tea/Coffee Biscuits included

University of the Third Age

The new Test Villages U3A was officially opened at the Grosvenor Hotel in Stockbridge on Wednesday 3rd November. The steering committee was delighted and surprised at the interest shown, with approximately 80 people turning up for the launch and to hear the first Guest Speaker. His Honour David Griffiths entertained and informed us with his experiences under the title 'Tales from the Circuit Bench'. This was followed by registration for membership and special interest groups for those brave enough to cope with the mêlée!

Meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month, initially at Longstock Village Hall, although the committee plans to rotate the meeting to different venues around the villages. The next general meeting will be held at Longstock Village Hall on Wednesday 1st December from 2 to 4pm.

Anyone who is interested in joining or would like to know more please contact Ed Farrand (01264 860492), Kim Candler (01264 811776) or Tony Hales (01264 810565).

WHERWELL SCHOOL PTA AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Changes to the PTA Sadly we have accepted the resignation of Vicky Trentham who moved to West Berkshire at the end of October. Her enthusiasm, relentless determination and imagination will be sorely missed. We wish Vicky, Lexi and Nick well in their new home and school.

Film Club – Friday 15th October We kicked off a new fund raising venture this year with the start of the Film Club. The children enjoyed the movies and were treated to popcorn and juice (and the odd carrot!). Ticket sales were not as high as hoped, but we raised just over £100 and are looking to attract more movie goers to our next Film Club on 10th Dec.

Andover Market Cake Sale – Saturday 16th October A huge thank you to everyone who donated cakes but especially to Julie Dinkele and Jo Hancock for a monumental effort in preparation and selling on the day. They were joined by current pupils Izzy Dean, Joshua Armstrong and Lucas Gardner plus ex-pupil Hanneke Piggot Rowles - thank you! Our aim was to help promote the school in advance of Open Morning and in the process we raised £177 which will go towards this year's new fund raising initiative (see below for more details).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Infants Christmas Party – Wednesday 15th December Father Christmas will be visiting the Infants Party where the children will enjoy games, music and treats.

Juniors Christmas Disco - 15th December 6 - 8pm This year the Juniors will be treated to a Christmas Karaoke Disco. A list of karaoke songs will be circulated before the event so those children who wish to perform have the opportunity to practice. The PTA will also provide soft drinks and crisps.

Christmas Hamper Raffle – Preparations have begun for our very popular Christmas Hamper Raffle. Tickets on sale in late November.

Website Thank you to Mrs Salazar-Lewis and Mrs Kennett for volunteering to help administer the school's new website. Keep an eye out for the changes taking place over this term.

Wherwell School Supporters' Club Congratulations to Mr Hallinger who won the Half Term Draw. The next Draw will take place the week before end of Term and it's the ***BIG ONE*** - a fantastic **£250 prize**.

HELP NEEDED - Major Fund Raising Initiative for 2010-11

This year's major fund raising initiative will be the rejuvenation of the children's' kitchen area. Currently the facilities are very limited and in order to provide a workable area for all the children to access and enjoy, major refurbishment is required. The plan is to officially 'open' the new kitchen by May 2011 so work needs to start promptly. The School is looking for a **VOLUNTEER** to help define requirements and budget. If you have some project management experience and would be interested in organising this worthwhile project, then please contact Mr King.



Dates for your Diary December and January



December

1 st Dec	Test Villages U3A meeting	Longstock VH	2-4pm
4 Dec	Caroline Noakes Surgery	CVH	9.30am
4 Dec	Wherwell Coffee Morning	WVH	10.30am
7 Dec	Wherwell Wives	WVH	7.15pm
7 Dec	Chilbolton PC	Durnford Room CVH	8pm
8 Dec	Christmas Lunch	Chilbolton Rectory	12.30pm
10 Dec	Wherwell History Group	WVH	8.00pm
10 Dec	Pre School disco	CVH	7.30-12
11 Dec	Wherwell Singers Christmas Concert, Wherwell Church		7:30pm
14 Dec	Westdown Clear up	West Down top car park	10am
14 Dec	Longstock Garden Club	Longstock VH	7pm
18 Dec	Chilbolton coffee morning	CVH	10.30-12
13 Dec	Midday Mums Christmas Curry Lunch	WVH	12.30
21 Dec	WI Talk on 'Self-Awareness'	CVH	7.30pm
26 Dec	St Stephens Day Service	Sparsholt Church	10am

January

11 Jan	Westdown Clear up	West Down top car park	10am
11 Jan	Wherwell PC	WVH	7pm
11 Jan	Longstock Gardening Club	Longstock VH	7pm
15 Jan	Chilbolton coffee morning	CVH	10.30-12
15 Jan	Day of Prayer	St Michael's Church, Andover	10-4pm
17 Jan	Midday Mums Lunch	WVH	12.30
21 Jan	Wherwell History Group	WVH	8pm
22 Jan	TV Woodlands Course	CVH	10-12
25 Jan	Chilbolton Horticultural Soc	CVH	7.45pm
29 Jan	TV Woodlands Course	Harewood Forest	10-12
11 Feb	Wherwell PTA Quiz & Curry night	CVH	7.30pm

February

4 Feb	Moviola Film tba	CVH	7.30pm
5 Feb	TV Woodlands Course	Harewood Forest	10-12
19 Feb	Chilbolton coffee morning	CVH	10.30-12

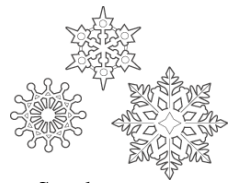


MIDDAY MUMS

Anyone is welcome to our Christmas Curry lunch, which will be held a week earlier than normal on Monday 13th December. Please come along to Wherwell Village Hall, from 12.30. Bring along something with a Christmas flavour to share, or an accompaniment to curry. If you have children at the pre-school, come along after the show. Please note that our first lunch in the New Year will be on **Monday 17th January**, same time, same place!

If you have any queries, ring me on 860775 or 861076, *Susan Ansell*

WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA



Pantomimes and Family Christmas Shows:

For ticket prices, times of performances and booking details
Please see websites or phone the theatres.

25/11/10 to 08/01/11: **A Christmas Carol** – The Nuffield Theatre, Southampton.

Tel (02380) 671771 www.nuffieldtheatre.co.uk

25/11/10 to 02/01/11: **Treasure Island** – The Watermill, near Newbury. Tel

(01635) 46044 www.watermill.org.uk

03/12/10 to 02/01/11: **The Wind in the Willows** – The Haymarket, Basingstoke.

Tel (01256) 844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

08/12/10 to 08/01/11: **Aladdin** - Salisbury Playhouse. Tel (01722) 320333

www.salisburyplayhouse.com

08/12/10 to 03/01/11: **Peter Pan** - Theatre Royal, Winchester. Tel (01962) 840440

www.theatre-royal-winchester.co.uk

09/12/10 to 02/01/11: **Sleeping Beauty** – The Anvil, Basingstoke. Tel (01256)

844244 www.anvilarts.org.uk

10/12/10 to 08/01/11: **Aladdin** – The Mayflower, Southampton. Tel (02380) 711811

www.mayflower.org.uk

17/12/10: **Hamlet The Panto** - The Lights, Andover. www.thelights.org.uk.

08/01/11: **Cinderella**. Presented by Ballet Theatre UK at The Lights, Andover at
2.30pm and 7.30pm. Tickets £16-£17, Concessions £14, Children £11. Tel (01264)

368368 www.thelights.org.uk

14/01/11 to 29/01/11: **The Pied Piper** - Plaza Theatre, Romsey. Tel (01794) 512987

www.plazatheatre.co.uk

Music:

19/12/10: **Christmas with Cantabile**. At 6pm at Salisbury Playhouse. Tickets £16.

Tel (01722) 320333 www.salisburyplayhouse.com

Other events:

01/01/11: **New Year's Day Tour**. Tour of Hillier Gardens, near Romsey at
2 pm. Gardens open 10am to 5pm. Free with normal admission. Book in person on
the day. Tel (01794) 369318 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 outside the Guildhall every
Friday, 7.30am – 1pm

Farmers' Market Dates:

05 Dec 2010 – Romsey

09 Jan 2011 – Winchester

12 Dec 2010 – Winchester

16 Jan 2011 – Andover

19 Dec 2010 – Andover

30 Jan 2011 – Winchester

For more information, please ring (01420) 588671, or visit the website at

www.hampshirefarmersmarkets.co.uk.

Wherwell School PTA present

The Big QUIZ & CURRY Night

Chilbolton Village Hall

7.30pm Friday 11th February

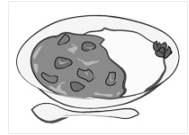
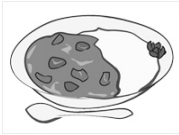
TICKETS £9.00 – Curry SUPPER included
PBYO nibbles, refreshments and glasses!

ALL WELCOME

Individuals, Couples or Teams (8-10)

Tickets available from Mrs J Hancocks 01264 810743 (evenings)

e-mail: longstockfield@btinternet.com



Christmas Disco

Friday 10th December 2010

7.30pm – 12.00 midnight

Chilbolton Village Hall, Eastman's Field, Chilbolton

Everyone welcome...Cash Bar...Music to suit all...

Light Buffet Style Supper...Adults only please...Drink & Nibbles on Arrival...

Raffle...Dust off your dancing shoes...

Tickets £12.50 each

Includes Arrival Drink & Nibbles

Light Buffet Style Supper

Tickets are available from pre-school staff/committee

or contact Clarey on: 01264 860204/0797 078 0716

Profits will be used to buy new climbing equipment



Chilbolton Coffee Morning

To be held in the Village Hall

Every third Saturday of the month, between 10.30 and 12.pm.

Everyone welcome. This includes all the family

Every month we have something new such as cakes, handbags, cards, produce etc. Come for a chat and to meet other villagers. Have a coffee or tea with biscuits for just £1. This also includes a raffle

Books, CDs, DVDs etc. will be on sale

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



A relaxed, happy learning environment for children aged 2 years 9 months to school age. Come and see our beautiful rural setting.

We have had such a busy term at Pre-school preparing for our recent Sensory Garden opening. We were lucky enough to get a grant from the Big Lottery Fund and the village hall kindly agreed to let us use the piece of land outside the kitchen. What a transformation! With lots of help from a fantastic group of mums and some local businesses, we now have a secret garden plus bird, vegetable, fruit, meadow, gnome and bog areas. The Mayfly pub made a very generous donation enabling us to buy some fantastic wooden mushrooms for our story area. The children will really benefit from this area and the Brownies have a planter to grow items of their choice too. Lots of friendly faces came along to support us and it really brought the community together.

It's all systems go now for the lead up to Christmas. The children will be concentrating on Personal, Social and Emotional Development in Making Relationships which will therefore be based around the Christmas theme. It will involve decorating a tree and turning our garden into a winter wonder-land. The children will be visiting St Mary the Less for our Christmas service which is kindly organised by the Ansell's. There is also a Christmas show on Monday 13th December with carol singing around our tree (all welcome), and we finish with a Christmas party on the last day of term when hopefully a very special guest will visit the children (ho ho ho!).

There is also a Christmas Disco on Friday 10th December, tickets are now on sale (£12.50) so come and join the fun and bring all your friends. All money raised will go towards the much needed replacement of some pre-school equipment.

Sam Inglis, Tel: 0773 2095 814. www.chilboltonpreschool.com

CHILBOLTON W.I.

A well attended monthly meeting on the evening of Tuesday, 19th October in the village hall. Speaker, Roger Savage gave a lively, good-humoured talk on his life as a nurseryman. Spurning an office job, he trained as a horticulturalist and has been running Choice Plants in Timsbury for the last 20 years. They sell a huge amount of hanging baskets and he deftly demonstrated how to plant our own, generously donating the finished product as a raffle prize. Not surprisingly there was a late flurry of ticket buying.

Major plant sales occur between March and June so many nurseries have to diversify to support the business, Roger providing a café, with home made produce, and providing pottery and mosaic work.

Nice to see a couple of visitors; always welcome. Just arrive at 8 pm, clutching £3 and you'll get a speaker, tea, cake and a chat.

Monthly box of grocery rations collected to be taken to Andover Food Bank, supporting local folk in crisis. Also a box provided in the church if you'd like to contribute.



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.



Saturdays, 10-12noon
January 22nd, 29th & February 5th
Led by Susan Simmonds



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 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. Cost - £25.

When The Antiques Roadshow came to the City

When we heard that the Antiques Roadshow was coming to Winchester on September 23rd, we debated whether to take along the wafering-tongs, which had been gifted to the church by the Baverstock family back in March. We had no real idea of who was likely to have made them or when, and thought their story might be of interest to the public. We obtained the necessary agreements from all interested parties in advance and Ros Rason contacted the Show organisers. We were sent an invitation and asked to choose an appointment time.

On the day, this proved invaluable: we were able to walk straight in while the rain teemed down outside. A mass of hopefuls had to wait their turn with their treasures under umbrellas in a queue that ran all the way round Cathedral Green. Once inside, we were penned in the south aisle to await the visit of the experts, and watched as the queue snaked up the length of the north aisle and back down the nave to get to the Reception Desk, where people were either assigned to a specific expert and given a ticket, or rejected. A number of well-known 'faces' came and went past us, and all seemed very relaxed and friendly, but from where we were sitting we could not really see what was going on. Luckily Liz Cooper was on hand to take photos for us.

We were interviewed by Adam Schoon, who took lots of notes about the tongs, and told us we would be filmed at about 1.00pm. At 12.30 we went for make-up! Once we were 'presentable', a large team collected around us: the director, the camera-crew, the sound recordist and Adam himself. Fiona Bruce looked on as we explained the story of the wafering tongs and what we knew of their history. Adam took a bite out of a wafer, which then had to be trimmed with scissors because they wanted some close-ups of it! He was of the opinion that the tongs had been made in about 1630, by a local blacksmith, and that the initials I.S. were likely to be the initials of the lord of the manor. We feel we still have research to do on this. The programmes will go out in January. We have not heard back from the production team, as others have, so our part may well have hit the cutting-room floor, but it was nevertheless an interesting and exciting experience.

Sue Batchelor



Jane's kitchen



I am all for getting ahead to avoid panic setting in and spoiling the fun! Victoria's recipe for mincemeat below is an item to get you started with the necessary preparations. So much can be done in advance - most households having a deep freezer.

Roast potatoes are a good standby also mashed potatoes – add an egg and a dash of sherry for a festive variation, top with flaked almonds and freeze in the serving dish, just reheating when required. Roast or creamed parsnips, mashed swede, and of course the sprouts can all be done in advance. No need to freeze the pudding or the cake . . . HAPPY CHRISTMAS

Home-made mincemeat (makes 6lbs)

According to the November Waitrose magazine, when it comes to giving Christmas gifts, 'home-made preserves are the new scented candles'. In other words, they are the latest thing. This recipe makes it impossible ever to buy shop mincemeat again and a jar makes a much appreciated present – if you can bear to part with it!

1lb cooking apples, peeled, cored and finely chopped	Grated rind and juice of two oranges
8oz shredded suet	Grated rind and juice of two lemons
12oz raisins	2oz whole almonds, skinned and cut into slivers
12oz sultanas	4 teaspoons mixed spice
4 oz currants	½ teaspoon cinnamon
8oz finely chopped mixed peel	Half a nutmeg, grated
12oz soft dark brown sugar	6 generous tablespoons brandy

In a large bowl, mix together all the ingredients, except for the brandy. Stir very thoroughly after each addition. Cover with a cloth and leave in a cool place for 12 hours. To prevent fermentation, place the bowl in a cool oven, gas mark ¼, 225⁰F, 120⁰C for 3 hours. (The warming oven of an Aga or Rayburn is ideal.) Allow it to get quite cold, then stir in the brandy and put into clean dry jars. Cover with waxed disks and seal.

Jane Spence and Victoria Ramsay

Village Shop Gossip – News from your local shop and Post Office

Me, competitive? Well maybe a bit. So when David mentioned the Telegraph Best Small Shops competition, I didn't take much persuading.

We could win a Mary Portas Masterclass and voters could win a luxury break for two... what's to lose? Get on line and vote for us. You'll find a link to the voting form on the front page of our website at www.chilboltonstores.co.uk and whilst you're there, why don't you check out the rest of our site and blog.

We've been pretty busy in the village shop just recently. The eagle eyed amongst

Continued on Page 24

Continued from Page 23

you will have noticed the new Post Office computer system, which I think we have just about come to terms with now, although one of the reasons for the new system was that it would be easier to update. So that will keep us all guessing.

At the beginning of the summer we also installed our new Bean-to-Cup coffee machine, so we can now serve cappuccinos, lattés and espressos as well as teas and hot chocolate. These proved popular especially with the addition of the table and chairs outside (don't worry, these have been moved inside next to the radiator for the winter months)!

Also new, Steve Burbidge from Burbidge's Bakery in Andover popped in to get some fish, we got chatting, one thing led to another and our first weekend of selling Burbidge's bread has been such a great success we are planning to collect loaves, rolls, speciality breads, doughnuts and more on a Friday and Saturday morning each week.

Christmas will soon be upon us and as usual we will be doing turkey deliveries around the village in the days running up to the big day. Our order form seems to be getting bigger and bigger each year and this time we have the addition of Hampshire Free Range Turkeys from Noah's Ark Farm, on the edge of the New Forest and Christmas Pies from Cottage Savouries right here in Chilbolton. Along with the usual fresh Turkeys from Randall Parker, Greenfields sausages, streaky and sausage meat, Christmas cakes and puds from Emma Way at Taste and your tree of course.

All that's left to say is have a great Christmas and New Year and we're looking forward to our fifth year in Chilbolton (Yes I did say FIFTH Year). *Jo (and David)*



Longstock Garden Club



Members and guests were entertained by Paul Templeton on 'Herbs and Herb growing, their use and history'. Having startled us by saying he couldn't possibly tell us the whole story in his allotted one and a quarter hours, he set off at a cracking pace keeping us all enthralled with anecdotes ranging from the ancient Greeks to modern day. There were a few slides towards the end, but the verbal pictures painted, the questions posed and titbits of almost incongruous information – did we know for instance that only Roman Emperors could wear a wreath made from laurel, that Poets were then the heroes of the day and that is why we now have a Poet Laureate? – made his talk in my opinion probably one of the best we've had for at least a season. I am glad to report that the previous problems with our audio system appear to have been solved.

A large show of hands has made the proposed extra day trips for 2011 much more certain. Watch this space for more news on that front; meanwhile numbers are filling up the Ramster trip on 10th May next. If interested, but you can't get to one of our forthcoming meetings, please give either Clare Bramley (810 432) or Ada Rogers (810 794) a call.

Many thanks to all those who not only bought a raffle ticket, but also donated interesting items from their gardens to be raffled. Speakers travel expenses continue to rise, and our raffle proceeds help defray these costs.

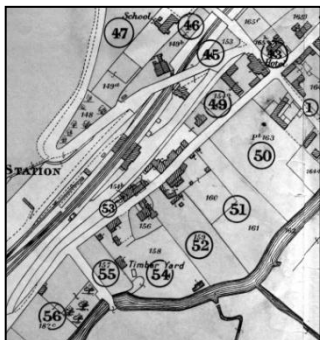
The next meeting on 14th December will be a talk on 'The Peaceful Beauty of Madeira' by Roger Grier. As this is our last before the coming festive season, hot mince pies will be available later, and we hope to see you there.

Richard Richardson for the Longstock Garden Club

Wherwell History Group

Acquisitions – over the past 18 months, the History group has received 26 bundles of archive material from 23 individuals; mostly village residents but also including six people from nearby villages or who have contacted us via the Internet. The most recent material has been a photo album of the garden at Testside (Peter & Deborah Lewis) showing changes spanning 20 years, five photographs of village people (Dennis Harding) and five family photographs plus two postcards in the vicinity of May Cottage (Mrs Jean Musselwhite).

May Cottage – the two postcards are difficult to date accurately. The earlier one (shown right) is 1900 – 1920, and clearly shows the Timber Yard adjacent, complete with uncut logs and roof truss. The later one is ‘pre-1945’ and has a brick boundary wall across the whole frontage. Both photos show a thatched cottage with entrance door facing west and a taller house with tiled roof and ornate chimney stack.



The Map shown left has been extracted from a catalogue produced when the whole Wherwell Estate was sold by Auction in 1913. Details are:

- 50 – Enclosure of Grassland
- 51 – House, Bakers Shop & Stable
- 52 – House, Garden & Field
- 53 – Two Cottages & Carpenters Shop & premises
- 54 – Timber Yard with Shedding & Meadow
- 55 – Garden Ground & Orchard
- 56 – Thatched Cottage
(occupied by Village Nurse)

Lot 52 – A House, with pleasing exterior, Garden & Grass Field. The House has been added to, the Modern Portion containing: On the Upper Floor – Two Bedrooms and W.C.; and on the Ground Floor – Capital Large Sitting Room; the Old Portion consists of Three Bedrooms, Living Room, Kitchen, Pantry, Wash-house with pump, and another Wash-house adjoining. There is a small garden and also a meadow, in which is a timber and thatch shed.

The total area of this Lot is 1 acre 0 rood 11 perch or thereabouts, and is let to Col. The Hon. Wenham Coke at £20 per annum (inflated to about £1700 today). The meadow is let to Mrs Carter at £3 per annum.

Lot 53 – The Northern cottage contains Three Bedrooms, Sitting Room, Kitchen, Pantry, with sink and pump. The adjoining cottage contains somewhat similar Accommodation, but is used as Offices. Adjoining is a Spacious Carpenters Shop and Nail House, with Paint House adjoining. The Drainage is by Cesspool in Lot 52. Let with certain premises in Lot 54 to Mr Albert Spratt at £20 per annum.

Continued from Page 25

The **1901 Census** has the following entries for this part of Fullerton Road:

68 "The Cottage"	Harriet Carter NB: See note below John Stanbrook	71, head (widow) 74, servant	Laundress Laundrey	Employer (at house) Labourer
69	John Horne Alice Horne May Harding Elizabeth Horne Ellen Horne	33, head 30, wife 7, step-child 4, daughter 9 mo. daughter	Agricultural	Labourer
70	William S Holdway Mary Holdway William R Holdway Archibald Holdway	41, head 41, wife 17, son 11, son	Carpenter Carpenter	Worker Worker
71	William B Spratt Minnie E Spratt	28, head 27, wife	Carpenter	Worker
72	Annie Rennison Arthur Rennison	56, head (widow) 34, son	Carter (farm)	Worker
73	William Rennison Lillie Rennison	28, head 21, wife	Baker	Worker

Jean Musselwhite's parents were William Frank Stanbrook Holdway and Hilda Holdway (nee Kitcher) who were married in 1936; Archibald Holdway was Jean's grandfather. NB: Jean is fairly certain that Harriet Carter should be Harriet Holdway, her Gt. Gt. Grandmother; mistakes are quite common in Census forms.

Jean was christened in Wherwell and attended the village school, until the family moved to Shirley Park Road, Southampton in 1941/42. After moving, Jean still spent most holidays and weekends in Wherwell; travelling by train to Fullerton Junction. Jean's family photographs show the two cottages and the carpenters workshop described in Lot 53 above. There is a splendid photograph dated 1926 showing Great Grandparents William & Mary as passengers in an open-top motor car parked outside May Cottage which is complete with boundary wall (very distinctive with its slanting-tile capping). Another photo shows Jean posing with a Prisoner of War; one of a group of three POWs who lived in the outbuilding tucked behind the Bakery - at the southern end of the building known as Bevis's General Store (now known as Dancing Ledge).

Scrapbook 2010 – since we started the project in November 2009, we have accumulated over 2100 photographs. We underestimated the work involved in processing these photos into an attractive subset (cropping, adjusting brightness/contrast, writing captions & linking with calendar events). In the remaining couple of months in 2010, we will concentrate on covering events, and aim to have the Internet version of the Scrapbook completed before our AGM in May 2011.

Open Access Websites – earlier this year I featured the **Geograph British Isles** website – <http://www.geograph.org.uk/gridref/SU3940> - a project sponsored by Ordnance Survey which aims to collect geographically representative photographs and information for every square kilometre of Great Britain and Ireland.

This month, I have two more sites to share with readers:

Continued on Page 27

historypin – showing ‘then and now’ images - <http://www.historypin.com/>

A Google partnership site which invites you to upload an old photo of a street or building and ‘pin it’ to a current view of the same location. Try “Explore the map” from the home page and search for photos near “Wherwell Andover”. Note, this is a ‘beta’ site; which means it is still under development. The street view is provided by Google’s roving camera. The main disadvantages appear to be that not every (village) street is covered, navigation is in fixed distance hops and the final destination cannot be fine tuned to get an exact overlay of your old photograph. Even so, a smart site which has given the History Group an idea for a potential project in 2011.

iSpot – your place to share nature - <http://ispot.org.uk/>

An Open University site which invites you to upload photographs of something you cannot recognise and let other people identify it for you. *Andrew Flanagan*

Andover Rural Safer Neighbourhoods Team New credit card scam – BEWARE!

A new credit card scam has been brought to our attention which we would like to warn you about so that you can be prepared and protect yourself if this happens to you. Telephone calls have been received from individuals who are claiming to be from the Security and Fraud Department at well known credit card companies, like VISA and MasterCard. They then claim that your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern and that they are calling to verify these payments. They ask you to confirm you have purchased something which they know you haven’t, for example an anti-telemarketing device for £497.99 from a marketing company based in London. When you say ‘no’ they will then tell you that they will be issuing a credit to your account and that they will be starting a fraud investigation.

They will read you your address and ask you to confirm it – they already have this information. They will also reassure you that you can call the 0800 number on the back of your card should you have any further questions. They will give you a six digit number to quote when you call. The caller will then say that they need to verify that you are in possession of your card. They will ask you to turn your card over and look for some numbers. There are seven numbers; the first four are part of your card number, the next three are the security numbers that verify you are the possessor of the card. These are the numbers you sometimes use to make internet purchases to prove you have the card and this is what the people behind the scam are after. The caller will ask you to read the three numbers to them.

VISA and MasterCard have confirmed that this is a scam and people who have given the caller their three digit security number found that new purchases, for large amounts of money, had been charged to their cards shortly after the phone call. Credit card companies already have the information on your card, since they were the ones who issued it to you, so they will **NEVER** ask you to read them information from your card.

If you receive a telephone call like this then either hang up or tell the caller you will telephone your credit card company directly to verify the call. Please report all suspicious calls to the police.

CYCLE CHINA 2010

In October 2010 I joined my second women-only challenge to cycle 450kms across the Beijing Province of China. The event was run to raise funds for the Wolfson and Weston Research Centre for Family Health at Imperial College, London, which brings together the a world-class team of doctors and scientists all working to improve the health of women and babies by developing improvements for the **treatment of infertility and pregnancy related disorders**.



I want to thank everyone that supported and sponsored me for this event and, having been asked by so many of you about the experience, I have written this short diary to relate my experiences...

Day 1 (Saturday 16th October)

The sun was shining and my bags packed. I was feeling quite nervous, uncertain what everyone will be like, and worried about the weather and the terrain. At Heathrow I arrived in good time for my flight and immediately bumped into Fern Britton, who is joining the group. She was very friendly. Everyone was smiling with nervous excitement. We had a couple of hours wait before our flight to Vienna, where we joined our 13-hour flight to Beijing. The flight was very full and uncomfortable. I tried to sleep, but failed miserably, so watched movies instead. I managed about 2 hours sleep.

Total distance travelled today: 9,000km!

Day 2 (Sunday 17 October)

We landed in Beijing at 11am local time (4am Sunday at home!) feeling very rough. Beijing Airport is very new and very large – it was built specifically for the Olympics and is apparently the largest building in the world. It took AGES for the luggage to arrive; we eventually got on the coach and transferred in an hour to the ‘Paradise Hotel’. It looked good on the outside, not so great on the inside! Once we got our key and I found my room ‘buddy’ (Vicki, a funeral director from Skipton), we eventually found our room on the top floor, so we had a lot of carrying bags up the stairs. We had a hot buffet lunch of rice, noodles, pork and pak choi. The food was pretty good and we all felt a lot better for it. I felt extremely tired and jetlagged. Then it was time for the bike fitting, which took almost 2 hours of waiting around in the cold. Eventually I got my bike fitted with my seat and pedals, a Trek 800 like everyone else’s, old and clanky, but it will do the job. Then back to the room to sort out my cycle kit for tomorrow before dinner and the briefing. There are 93 of us undertaking the challenge and the majority have been on a ‘Women for Women’ cycle challenge before, so the group is experienced and fit.

Continued on Page 29

Continued from Page 28

Day 3 (Monday 18 October)

After a 6am wakeup call we were dressed, repacked and had our bags back on the bus before 7am. Breakfast was rice and noodles (which I couldn't face) or cold eggs and spam, which I forced myself to eat. Yuck! Then we all had to find our bikes and we set off at 8am. Because of the size of the group keeping on time was proving difficult. It was grey and dreary, very industrial and a huge amount of traffic and pollution. From what I saw the buildings are either in progress or decrepit. For most of the morning we were in cycle lanes alongside the motorways. We had two snack stops before lunch, which was at the base of a mountain with a huge Buddha on the top. It was extremely cold (6 deg) and seems to be getting colder throughout the day. I wished I'd worn my thermals! After lunch we took a chairlift up to the Buddha. It would have been scenic, but by then it was raining and much colder, so not much to see. No one wanted to ride, but we managed the last leg before arriving at the hotel cold, wet and muddy. The level of ability of the group is high, so the pace was fast. The Pingu Hotel was much nicer and more comfortable, plus the showers were hot, which was a blessing! We stuffed old newspaper in our shoes to dry them out before the next day, then dinner, briefing and bed by 9pm.

Total distance travelled today: 80km, mostly flat, rain.

Day 4 (Tuesday 19 October)

Another 6am wakeup, repacked, bags on coach, breakfast and cycling by 8am. I managed warm eggs for breakfast, but the savoury dumplings were a step too far. Although the roads were wet, we were lucky and had no rain today. The morning cycle was through industrial areas alongside 3-lane highways. Very depressing scenery. It was always cloudy and we hadn't seen the sun yet. Everyone we saw was very poor and many buildings were derelict. After lunch (sandwiches by the side of the road) we finally got off the highway and started heading up into the hills, past a dried-up reservoir. It felt good to get off the flat and into the hills, it also warmed us up. That night we stayed in the Xin Yiang Lodge, which were dormitory style, so I shared with Debbie and Elaine. The hotel was family run; they all greeted us in cowboy hats when we arrived! Maybe they thought that we were American. The rooms were basic, the cockroaches weren't popular, but the food was great!

Total distance travelled today: 100km, hills for the last 20km, cloudy and cold.

Day 5 (Wednesday 20 October)

They've been nice to us – now we really have to start working. Wakeup call at 5.15am this morning and usual breakfast buffet before we set off. The morning was mostly flat until the last leg, when we had a long hill climb up to the Great Wall where we stopped for lunch. We had an hour to catch the cable car up to the wall and take photos. Unfortunately the fog hadn't lifted so visibility was extremely poor. The wall itself was much narrower and steeper than I expected. Then we went back down, through the small souvenir market, which was like running the gauntlet! I bought a panda, dressing gown and T-shirts. We then had the luxury of a proper

Continued on Page 30

Continued from Page 29

cappuccino before remounting our bikes and starting the steep descent. Extremely cold, so feet and hands going numb, especially on the descents. Wished I'd brought more warm layers with me, we didn't anticipate sub-zero temperatures! Once down the mountain we then had another hill climb up a mountain pass and regrouped before going through a tunnel and down another steep descent on the other side. Very cloudy, cold and wet. The scenery is supposed to be stunning – pity we couldn't see it! We then cycled through small villages before hitting a cobbled stretch (close encounter with an oncoming lorry) and cycling past the Ming Tombs. Everyone frozen and exhausted. We then had a final climb up to the 'Oil Workers Sanatorium', our hotel for the night! It was a really, really hard day. We were exhausted and frozen. We had an hour to wait for our bags to arrive, the bus had also had punctures, so a very quick shower before dinner, briefing and bed. Rooms lovely and warm, but another infestation of bugs.

Total distance travelled today: 101km, mostly uphill, cold, freezing fog.

Day 6 (Thursday 21st October)

A 5.30am start and up before dawn. There is a pattern emerging! I convinced myself that we had a poltergeist in the room last night because I was woken up repeatedly by a lamp mysteriously turning itself on again and again. In the cold light of day, I realised that it was probably the Chinese electricians. Not much sleep. After breakfast the tour leader, Claude, asked the faster riders (of which I was one) to hold off starting for an hour because the first 13km was a steep hill climb up to 2,500ft and was likely to take the slower riders some time. It was slow, cold and very hard cycling. Unfortunately there were no views to be had due to the freezing fog, which got denser as we climbed. We were getting nervous about our visibility for the oncoming granite lorries. I tried to place myself between other cyclists in high-vis jackets. After a snack stop we had a cold, steep descent before the next climb up to 2,600ft. We regrouped and descended again and cycled on to a small 'tourist' town with a lovely pagoda in the main square. We had a fantastic hot lunch of rice and soup and a chance to have a quick look around. I bought sweets and balloons for the children before remounting and cycling the remaining 35km to the hotel. A cold, cold cycle. Everyone was tired out. We were finishing in the dark, so it was quite dangerous without lights or reflectors. Vicky had a near-miss with an oncoming coach. The rooms at the 'Happy Holiday Hotel' are like student digs, not great!

Total distance travelled today: 80km, steep hills, cold and freezing fog. Seen no sun yet!

Day 7 (Friday 22nd October)

Yippee our last cycling day! Another early morning call at 5.30am. What a surprise – cold and grey again! Pretty grim breakfast today, managed some coffee and sweet bread. I had cold sores all over my lips – not a good look! We set off at 8am and almost immediately I had to stop because of a puncture. Mostly flat today and steady cycling. We stopped after 22kms and continued on to Badaling. I had another near-

Continued on Page 31

Continued from Page 30

miss with an oncoming coach. My left knee was strained, so I was glad we were only cycling a half-day, and thankfully no hills. When we reached Badaling we had a group photo followed by lunch, removed our kits from our bikes and then a 2 hour coach trip back to Beijing centre. The city is nothing like the surrounding areas – it is huge, new and bustling. The Rainbow Hotel seemed very nice. We had a lovely buffet dinner. Lord Robert Winston joined us all for dinner and gave a speech thanking us for our efforts. After dinner we went for a Chinese foot massage. It was fantastic, just what we needed after all our efforts.

Total distance travelled today: only 46km, mostly flat, cold and freezing fog.

Day 8 (Saturday 23rd October)

A day of 'rest'. We had a tour of the Forbidden City in the morning, a rickshaw ride and lunch in a traditional family home in the Hutongs. After lunch we visited a silk factory and had an hour in the local market before heading back to the hotel and getting ready for our celebratory dinner. Lord Winston again made a speech and some of the girls put on a cabaret show. We visited the local karaoke bar before heading to our beds. An early flight home tomorrow . . .

In the last 10 years the women-only challenges have raised £2.5 million for this cause. Having cycled both Cuba and China, I have personally raised over £6,500, and by taking part in next year's Cycle to Cambodia and Vietnam, I hope to reach my personal goal of £10,000. I am organising a **Spring Ball on 12 March 2011** and hope that you can come! Please put the date in your diary – more details will follow soon. Please support this charity and me by sponsoring me online at www.justgiving.com/nina-carey-hodges if you would like further information about the charity, the challenge or the ball please call me on 861281. *Nina Carey-Hodges*

An amazing year of growth at Wherwell Cricket Club

This year has been quite amazing to say the least. Our league team promoted again to Hampshire Regional North West One, and we have entered two league teams into the Hampshire league 2011 for the first time in our 150 year history.



Another milestone has been reached with our youth section; we now have two UKCC Level 2 Coaches in Paul and me, a UKCC Level 1 coach in Scott, and parents Geoffry and Carmen as coaching assistants. Our annual charity match in August in memory of my late Uncle Sid raised a total of £1700 (more than at any occasion in the last 10 years). A massive thank you to all those who attended, and helped organise.

We have found a new secretary in Shirley Osbourne, but we are still looking for anyone with a serious interest in gardening to help our experienced team prepare the wicket for what will be a busy 2011 season. Anyone interested? The club would be more than happy to pay for a grounds-man course for the right person. Please let me know. Also, if you are interested in the odd game of indoor cricket at Winchester over the winter and/or would be interested to play in the squad for summer 2011 drop me a line and I'll make sure you are on the list.

Richard Rowles, Wherwell CC Chairman, 01264 861101/ richard@rowles.co.uk



Local girl heads for the Olympics

Tuula Aer, from Wherwell, is heading for the top! After many years of difficulties her dream of competing in the Olympics now finally looks as if it may become a reality – and judging by recent successes she looks unstoppable.

Tuula, and her beautiful and talented horse, Rivaldo, are hoping to compete in the Equestrian, Dressage section of the Games. They have already overcome many obstacles...most of them financial as Tuula worked full time and has been having to fund this expensive sport herself. But they have also had their fair share of luck, having been trained initially by Vicky Thompson (herself 13 times English champion and British team member at the Atlanta Olympics) and Jennifer Loriston-Clarke (herself British Team member at Munchen, Montreal, Los Angeles and Seoul Olympics).

Rivaldo is not just an outstanding horse technically, but, as Tuula explains, ‘he’s a lovely character, he loves doing tricks and tries hard to please his rider. He loves kisses and cuddles. He’s a really big-hearted horse.’ Her partnership with Rivaldo began seven years ago when both were beginners. This summer they have been competing at both Hartpury and Hickstead International Dressage Competitions representing Finland.



Tuula and Rivaldo are now lucky enough to be training with two of the best British dressage trainers – Nicky Barrett and Gareth Hughes. But, the higher up the competition ladder they get the more difficulties are presented by the time and financial constraints – most contestants at Grand Prix level are professional. Luckily she is able to keep her horses at The Priory Stables, just yards away from her home. She has an additional advantage of coming from a frequently-frozen Finland, ‘The English riders often complain about the weather, but I am delighted that I can ride out throughout the winter and the horses can graze all year round.’ She acknowledges that last year’s winter was worse than most, ‘I had to sweep the snow away from the arena in order to be able to ride, and during that time the other riders did not ride for over ten days...they must have thought I was a completely mad Finn,’ she laughs.

*Further information contact Clare Hogg: 01264 860186
clare@thepriorystables.co.uk; www.thepriorystables.co.uk*

The Priory Stables

The Priory Stables is based on the site of a Saxon royal house bequeath to the church in 986 by Queen Elfrida. It is likely that horses have been stabled here for nearly two thousand years. Today the stables have a new floodlit manège, a lunging ring, summer grass dressage arena and a show jumping area. Based in a 100-acre estate at Wherwell, owners of horses at the stables have access to hours of off-road hacking in the beautiful Test Valley countryside.



Results:

17.10.10	Chilbolton FC	- 3	v	Test Valley Lions	- 1 (Cup)
24.10.10	Hurstbourne Tarrant	- 5	v	Chilbolton FC	- 2 (Cup)
31.10.10	Chilbolton FC	- 2	v	Test Valley Lions	- 2
07.11.10	Abbotts Ann	- 0	v	Chilbolton FC	- 4
14.11.10	Chilbolton FC	- 1	v	Enham Vision	- 2

This month has seen Chilbolton FC make their first foray into cup football this season with mixed of results. The first game in the North Hants Cup pitted us against Test Valley Lions and the team produced arguably their best display of the season so far. Ollie Southworth was both provider and scorer delivering the corner and long throw that put Chilbolton 2-0 up and then following a brief resurgence from Test Valley Lions finishing the game with a goal of his own.

The second cup game, in the Junior Cup, was an away fixture to the high flying division two side Hurstbourne Tarrant and whilst the score does not read well the performance was on a par with the previous game. We dominated large parts of the game and despite going behind initially a bullet free kick from Chris Logan levelled the game and then in the second half Robbie Floyd gave us the lead. The last 25 minutes saw Hurstbourne capitalise on two fast and skilful forwards and they scored 4 quick goals ending our chances in the Junior Cup.

Focus then returned to the league with a repeat fixture against Test Valley Lions but this time with points at stake and the opposition looking to turn the tables on Chilbolton and the game lived up to expectation with a hard fought contest that ended 2–2. Steve Jenkins scored twice from set pieces taking his season tally to 3 and earning a man of the match reward for his solid performance in defence and the 2 goals scored.

Abbotts Ann, who were top of the league before the game, were the next league opponents and following the 0-4 defeat we suffered at home a big performance was needed and the team didn't disappoint. The tables were turned with a 0-4 win for Chilbolton with goals from Robbie Floyd and a hat-trick from Derek Potter. At the other end Micky Clark saved a penalty and the work rate of the team was exceptional showing a real desire from front to back to win the game.

The game against Enham Vision was a game when we never really got going and an own goal and some poor shooting saw us lose the game 1-2 and lose the top of the table position, something we will aim to get back after next week's North Hants Cup game. Perhaps there is something about playing in the rain as it rained the last time we lost in the league!!

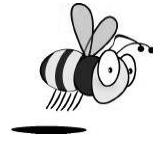
Tea and coffee was served to all at half time, very welcome in the cold wet weather for both players and supporters – come on down and grab a cup and cheer the team on – fixtures on the website www.chilboltonfc.co.uk.

With the weather getting colder it's been great to be able to head to the Abbots Mitre for pizza and chips kindly put on by Sam and his team and discuss the game over a nice pint, supporters and amateur pundits are always welcome!

Thanks and hope to see you soon. *Sam Horne, Manager (07969 055300)*



Bee Diary



In recent months there has been a view expressed that the honeybee is exploited by mankind, that in developed countries beekeeping has become almost akin to factory farming. Even hobbyist beekeepers with a single hive are accused of putting honey production before the best interests of their bees. It is claimed that the health problems of the bees and severe colony losses are a result of over intensive beekeeping practices and modern chemical agriculture.

These views are mainly expressed by an increasing number of “natural beekeepers”, who keep bees primarily for the benefit of the bees themselves. Natural beekeepers attempt to keep bees in hives that most resemble a bee colony’s natural nest, a hollow tree trunk. Natural beekeepers prefer not to treat their bees with any form of chemicals, preferring to rely upon the bees own natural methods of combating diseases and pests. Using Warre and other natural hives, these beekeepers minimise the interference of their hives, keeping manipulations to a minimum of perhaps once a year when the honey is harvested. Additional boxes are added to the hive throughout the summer, but the brood nest remains essentially undisturbed.

Natural beekeepers point to the apparent success of some feral colonies which in recent years have managed to survive the depredations of the Varroa mite without any form of chemical treatment. Their long term aim is to raise a strain of bee that can exist in harmony and balance with the Varroa mite parasite.

There is no doubt that in some parts of the world, in particular in the USA, beekeeping practices have contributed to the massive colony losses that have been suffered by commercial and hobbyist beekeepers. The long distance movement of thousands of beehives across the American continent for pollination has been a factor, along with virus and parasitic pests, in the loss of colonies. Natural beekeepers would accuse even European hobbyist beekeepers of contributing to the decline of their colonies by over intensive beekeeping manipulations, excessive harvesting of honey, and the use of chemical treatments “to keep the bees healthy”.

The art of beekeeping is undergoing considerable change at present, with established practice having to be adapted to changing circumstances. Treatments that worked very well in combating the Varroa mite in past years are no longer effective and integrated pest management has been adopted instead.

If the natural beekeeping fraternity can produce a strain of honeybee that can live in balance and harmony with the Varroa mite parasite, it will be a major advance for all beekeepers. My guess, however, is that it will be the established bee breeders, closely linked to commercial beekeepers that will produce this magic bullet.

In the meantime we will continue to do everything we can to maintain our colonies strong and healthy using traditional beekeeping practice, because only then can one ensure a successful honey harvest and colonies that will survive the winter.

Jolyon Pope

Chilbolton and Wherwell Wildlife

After three years of fieldwork, an ambitious project to map all of Britain's birds has just started its final winter. Bird Atlas 2007-11, organised by the British Trust for Ornithology, has so far amassed over 5 million records and 145,000 timed counts from over 14,000 birdwatchers. Nationally, the results so far show a huge expansion in range of birds such as Buzzard and Cetti's Warbler, and major contractions in the areas occupied by summer visitors such as Turtle Dove, Nightingale, and Whinchat.



I organise the survey in Hampshire, and one of the big surprises emerging at the county scale, is that there are now very big gaps in the distribution of Yellowhammer. More locally, in Chilbolton and Wherwell, we're very lucky that Yellowhammers are still fairly numerous. But Corn Buntings have now almost disappeared, and Hawfinches can no longer be found in either of our villages. The other big differences locally, are that we now of course regularly see Little Egrets and we quite often see Red Kites. Twenty years ago, at the time of the last similar survey, these species were not recorded in the area.

For those of you that are interested, there is a wealth of additional information available on the website www.birdatlas.net, and it's easy to contribute your own records. We would particularly welcome any records of relatively scarce species - such as Lesser-spotted Woodpecker and Hawfinch this winter, or Spotted Flycatcher and Turtle Dove during next summer.

West Down Volunteers: Heavy rain and gales unfortunately forced the cancellation of our November working party. However, weather permitting, we will be resuming in December on the second Tuesday of each month for the remainder of the winter. The next sessions will be **14th December** and **11th January**, meeting **10:00am** at the top car-park.

If you're free, do come along and help remove small scrub from the parts of the downland slope that are too difficult for machinery. Many hands make light work, so would be good to have lots of you there. For the December session, we expect to have a bonfire that'll need tending, and we've even been promised some festive mince pies!

Glynne Evans (hantsbto@hotmail.com)

Chilbolton Horticultural Society

January 25th 2011



Climbers and Buddleias



Speaker: Peter Moore from Longstock

7.45pm Chilbolton Village Hall

Visitors welcome: £3.00