

Chilbolton and Wherwell Community Magazine

There are plenty of chances to exercise both mind and body this month. You can join the annual fun run, provide volunteer labour on West Down, attend a Bridge evening or form a team at one of two quiz nights..... that's if you feel safe leaving your house having studied the police crime map of the area! What's for sure is that if David Cameron wants a model for the Big Society he could do a lot worse than pop down here to check out the combined community efforts of our villages, especially now he's kindly decided not to sell off the forest!

Stephen MacDonald

Thank you to Ken Churchill, Stephen MacDonald and Hilary Jennison who produced this month's magazine, to Terry Gilmour for Printing and Mike Keys 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



Church Flower Rota

Church Flower Rota	
St Mary the Less	St Peter and Holy Cross
Until 22 nd - April Leslie Boswell	5 th March - Mrs Headley No flowers during Lent

Church Services March 2011

	St Mary the Less Chilbolton	St Mary's Crawley	St Catherine's Littleton	St Stephen's Sparsholt	St Peter & Holy Cross Wherwell
Wednesday 2nd March					
Holy Communion			9.30am		
Westholme			2.30pm		
Sunday 6th March The Sunday Next before Lent					
Holy Communion	8.00am				
Family Communion			10.00am	10.00 am	
Matins with HC					10.00 am
Morning Worship		10.00 am			
Evensong	6.00pm				
Wednesday 9th March Ash Wednesday					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Communion with ashes			7.30pm		
Sunday 13th March The First Sunday of Lent					
Holy Communion				8.00 am	
Morning Prayer	10.00 am				
Family Communion Sunday School @ Crawley		10.00 am	10.00am		
Welcome Worship				10.00 am	
Wherwell Sunday School					4.00 pm
Evensong					6.00 pm
Wednesday 16th March					
Holy Communion	10.30am		9.30am		
Thursday 17th March					
Flowerdown HC			2.30pm		
Sunday 20th March The Second Sunday of Lent					
Holy Communion		8.00 am	8.00am		
Morning Worship			10.00 am		
Family Service					10.00 am
CW Holy Communion	10.00 am				
Matins				10.00 am	
Benefice Service with Commissioning of PVs		6.00pm			
Wednesday 23rd March					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Meditation			7.00pm		
Saturday 26th March					
House Communion			10.00am		
Sunday 27th March The Third Sunday of Lent					
Holy Communion					8.00 am
Family Service	10.00 am				
Family Communion			10.00 am	10.00 am	
4 th Sunday Worship with Sunday School		10.00 am			
Peace & Healing			6.00pm		

Pause for Thought

“We wuz Robbed!”

“We wuz robbed!” used to be (and may be still) the classic response when a New York baseball team lost but it can be applied much more widely. Let’s try the argument that the Christian Church is being eroded by the non-Christian pressures being put on the churches’ year, and mostly with the consent of the congregations. The time is near when if we do not take action, there will be nothing left to do except wail “we wuz robbed!”

Let’s look at Christmas. In the diary entry of Rev. Francis Kilvert for Dec. 25th 1870, he headed it ‘Sunday. Christmas Day’. He then goes on about the ice in his bath, and the ‘intense frost’ and makes no other mention of Christmas. Even with the enthusiasm of Prince Albert, and the encouragement of Queen Victoria to have Christmas trees and cards, they had as yet no general place. We know that giving presents goes back to Roman days, but only as a gesture of affection and remembrance – not creating bait for loan sharks!

We all know how much Christmas has become a commercial best seller, but this has only happened in the last 150 years, and the Christ Child has lost out. We don’t know when Jesus was born (7 BC is a good suggestion), and certainly not on Christmas Day, which was adopted to take over the Roman festival of the sun. Who ever heard of sheep and shepherds being out in the open on a cold winter’s night, unless by the necessity of early lambing?

We can indeed celebrate Christmas to give thanks that ‘God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whoever believes in him shall have eternal life’. But if we ask most children, and adults, why we celebrate Christmas, the answer varies between a family gathering and an opportunity to give presents. Santa Claus is now the master of Christmas and some local councils have even banned having a crib outside the Church! The Scots perhaps through the severity of the old Presbyterian Church have largely separated Christmas from New Year’s Day (Hogmanay). If we could do this perhaps by moving Christmas to Autumn, then Christmas could be an act of worship to celebrate “God With Us (Emmanuel)”, and New Year’s Day can carry all the knees-up and fireworks to usher in the hopes of the year before us.

Sadly in our preparation for Easter we can conclude that Lent has become more of a dietary discipline than a spiritual one. Jesus went into the wilderness for forty days to prepare for his ministry, and Lent is intended as a spiritual preparation (of forty days) for Easter. And Easter makes little sense if Good Friday is not involved. This used to be offered in the Three

Hour Service, but that seems now to be asking too much, so we settle for a One Hour Service – perhaps. Easter is the main Christian festival, not Christmas!

Another great loss is the substitution of Halloween for the ancient remembrance of All Saints and All Souls. The custom of uniting the living and the dead, as one in Christ, is edged out by a totally unworthy pastiche of imitation ghouls, bringing incitement to anti-godly and anti-social behaviour. It teaches all the wrong lessons.

And what has happened to Ascension Day? It was a holiday not many years ago, but now slips by almost unnoticed. Nor is that the end, for Mothering Sunday in the middle of Lent celebrates “The Church, the mother of us all”, but now gives way to Mother’s Day the clarion call to buy her presents and cards grounded by the commercial interests that demand we ‘show her you love her’.

If the Church cannot reverse these secular trends, and restore the festivals and remembrances of the Prayer Book, one may wonder what will be central to its witness and worship in 3011. “We wuz robbed” perhaps.

Piers Warburton

Meeting to discuss welfare facilities at St Mary the Less

Saturday 25th March at 10.30am in the church

The Church wardens and PCC of St Mary the Less Church are considering ways in which we might make your church more welcoming and hospitable to all who come into the building.

The provision of toilet facilities and the ability to provide simple refreshments are basic requirements for a church in the 21st century not only for our regular congregation but also for occasional visitors, i.e. weddings, funerals and baptisms. We are also very conscious that our village hall with its excellent facilities is not only at the other end of the village, it is also very heavily used. The church could offer an additional venue for a wide variety of events from coffee mornings to concerts if we can adequately provide for people’s comfort. There will be no alteration to the exterior of the building; we have sufficient space to achieve our needs inside.

We know that many of you hold St Mary’s in great affection as your parish church, and we would value your views, experience, concerns and advice, at this stage. We are therefore inviting you to meet with us for a short presentation over a cup of coffee, with the opportunity for discussion, on Saturday 26th March 2011 at 10.30 am in the church.



Wherwell Church (St Peter & Holy Cross) Restoration Project

Great news!

You will have heard about the **major restoration project concerning our Village Church**. The plans are to:

- repair the Nave roof and spire to make them “safe and water tight”
- upgrade the heating to make the Church “more comfortable to visit”
- strengthen the bell frames and re-hang the bells, so the bells are again “ring-able”
- redecorate the church interior so it’s “more presentable”

The great news is that English Heritage has formally confirmed that they will release the second stage of their funding of c£128,000. This means they are providing c£153,000 in total towards the costs. The Project has already raised additional monies through donations from local individuals and businesses, amounting to over £40,000. This, together with over £23,000 raised from grant-making trusts and events, monies pledged by the PCC and from elsewhere, makes a grand total of over £320,000 found to date. More has still to be raised, but the Project now has real momentum, and we have made significant progress towards our goals.

The current fundraising focus is through informal information events, which are being held throughout the Village. Three have been held, with more arranged. Everyone will be invited to an event during the forthcoming weeks. The approach gives everyone the opportunity to be included. *Watch your post or email or await a phone call for your invitation!*

We are hoping to commence Phase 1 – the repair of the Nave roof and spire - during the early Spring, with the first visible evidence being the erection of scaffolding over the roof and spire. We have to secure a license from Natural England, as there are “bats in the belfry” – this is in hand and should be received towards the end of February.

Please support our efforts in saving the village church now and for future generations. To complete the full restoration we still need to raise significant funds. Nothing is impossible!

Phill Jennison (on behalf of the Restoration Project Committee - David Ball, David Etchells, Phill Jennison and Anna Lipa)

Contact details: 861250 or phill@phill-jennison.com

Daffodil Sunday

17th April 2011

2pm – 5pm

in Binley near St Mary Bourne



*Two glorious gardens with woodland walks,
homemade teas, plant stall, cakes, & raffle*

Entrance £2.00 - dogs 50p (to be kept on leads)

*The gardens will be well sign-posted
from Stoke and St Mary Bourne*

In aid of Andover Riding for the Disabled

charity no 1073578



Mothering Sunday

‘Going a Mothering’

Last year we restarted the old Chilbolton tradition of making 'Chilbolton Wafers' for Mothering Sunday.

The Waferers have been hard at work, literally over a hot stove, making this year's wafers.

We will take the opportunity within the service to honour our mothers.

So please join us for our Mothering Sunday service this year at Chilbolton Church at 10am on 3rd April.

Rev'd Stuart Rason



ADVANCE NOTICE

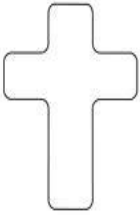
CHILBOLTON AUCTION OF PROMISES 2011

Friday 20th May

CHILBOLTON VILLAGE HALL 7.00pm

Simply Sunday

Fun, food and friendship for families



Tea @ Wherwell village hall Sunday, 13th March 4–5.30 pm

Breakfast @ Chilbolton Rectory on Sunday 27th March at 8.45am followed by the family service at St Mary-the-Less,

Chilbolton

Family bike rides for all ages and abilities, dates to be confirmed so watch this space

If you would like any further information, please contact:

Rev'd Stuart and Ros Rason, tel 860258 (parents of Tim, class 4) or Gaynor and Max Childs, tel 860044 (parents of Tim, class 3 and Susannah, class 1)

Chilbolton Quiz Night

Friday 25th March
Chilbolton Village Hall
7.00pm
(for 7.30pm prompt start)

Tickets £7.50 (including hot supper) from:

John Temple 861334

A bar will be available for the purchase of drinks

Enter either individually and join a team on the night or as a member of a team of eight.

Get together with your friends and/or neighbours and join in – we would love to see entrants from over the water (Wherwell - that is!!!)

If you haven't booked already, don't delay. We only have a few places left.

There will also be a raffle and all proceeds will go towards improvements to the hall



Bowl over poverty – Christian Aid Super Soup lunch, Friday 25 March

Could you and/or your church join others across the UK in eating soup to raise money to end poverty on this day? With no programme of Lent Lunches in Winchester this year it is a particularly good opportunity to take part. You might organise an event in your church hall or other venue. But another way would be for individual church members to invite a few friends to their home for a soup lunch, with donations for Christian Aid at the end.

You can find further details on www.christianaid.org.uk/super-soup-lunch, and if you register there you will be sent a free fund-raising pack to help organise the event, with suggested recipes etc. But if you prefer you can just go ahead. And if 25 March is not suitable for you, just do it on another day.

Winchester and District Christian Aid Group is promoting take-up in our area, so please let Rosemary Dunhill (01962 869007, rcdunhill@gmail.com) know if you are taking part, or if you have any questions.

And just to show that it doesn't have to be on 25 March, **The United Church, Winchester is hosting a Super Soup lunch on Monday 21 March from 12 noon – 2pm.** Come and join us there, and get into the mood for your own lunch later in the week!

GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY IN THE AREA MARCH 2011



Sunday 27th March

Little Court, Crawley, nr Winchester from 2pm - 5.30pm. Admission £3.50, children free. Teas in Village Hall.

Sunday & Monday 27th & 28th March

Boscombe Village Gardens from 2pm – 5pm. 2 Gardens open. Admission £4.50 for both. Teas available

Sunday 27th March

Bere Mill, Whitchurch from 1.30pm – 5pm. Admission £5, children free. Teas available

All gardens open for The National Gardens Scheme (NGS)

www.ngs.org.uk

Wherwell and Chilbolton Community Conversation

Wherwell and Chilbolton Parish Councils together with local residents were invited to attend the recent 'community conversation' organised by the Test Valley Partnership with representatives from TVBC, HCC, Age Concern, Testway and the fire service.

The purpose of the event was to hear from some of the older people within the two villages what it is like to live in Wherwell and Chilbolton and for members of the TV Partnership to understand where organisations and communities can work closer together in taking forward some of the issues and ideas identified as important to residents.

One of the suggestions was that it would be better if the weekly Joyrides bus service drop off/pick up point in Andover could be in the High Street. Possible new initiatives were that there could be more provision of social events and possibly 'arm chair' exercise classes could be arranged.

If any residents wish to pass on further comments and suggestions please contact me **Jane Andrews tel: 860635** or **James Moody Test Valley Partnership Manager tel: 368130**



YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!

Have you recently moved into Wherwell? Could you lend a hand?

One of the highlights of the year is always the Village Church Fete, held on the 2nd Saturday of June. This year it is 11th June so put it in your diaries! This event is a joyful celebration of community spirit.

We are seeking newcomers to assist with manning the stalls, setting up and clearing away on the day or a general enthusiast to help plan the event.

If you have skills in any of these areas or if you are strong and willing to provide manpower, please call:-

Claire Henderson 720231 lucashenderson@btinternet.com

Susanne Horne 860741

Anna Lipa 860879



Roadworks on A3057 near Andover

Several people in Wherwell and Chilbolton have asked me about the works on A3057 near Andover. After liaising with TVBC you may be interested to know that the lay-bys and the cameras are 100% developer

funded, and are part of an automated HGV monitoring scheme for the co-op super-shed near Andover. Specifically to stop their lorries using the A3057 which is already a busy and hazardous road.

Are they Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) or speed cameras?

These installations are for ANPR cameras and are associated with the Andover Business Park Development on the Old Andover Airfield site, off the A303 at Hundred Acre Roundabout. The Development includes a regional distribution centre which has been taken by Co-Operative.

Under the conditions of the planning permission issued by Test Valley Borough Council to the Developer, Goodman, in March 2010 Hampshire County Council negotiated and entered into a legal agreement with Goodman which secured a substantial package of highway improvements, financial contributions and the implementation of an automatically monitored and enforced routing regime for all HCV (Heavy Commercial Vehicle) traffic and some car traffic using the site. All HCV traffic, and some car traffic, serving the site is required to use the primary road network i.e the A303 to access it. Local suppliers/delivery vehicles and public service vehicles may use the local road network as usual.

Who will they be used by?

They will be used by Hampshire County Council to ensure that the planning condition is observed. The Developer prepared an acceptable routing regime known as the Vehicle Identification System which utilises ANPR to monitor the site entrance/exit, the local road network and key points within the site (for the purposes of identifying the origin/destination of the journey). The central ANPR Instation (control) is located at the Business Park and is a secure stand-alone system (no links to any other system). The vehicle registration number data within the system is encrypted and cannot be viewed by an Operator. As an example: as an HCV passes an ANPR camera on a 'barred route' its registration number is captured together with a still image of the vehicle. The registration number is passed to the central Instation to be available for the matching process. The HCV then continues its journey to the Business Park where its registration number is captured again (together with its still image). The registration number is forwarded to the Central Instation for matching. In this case, the match would be made and the Instation will then 'request' the vehicle images from the ANPR cameras and compile a Violation Record which is forwarded to the Developer. The Developer will then have a short period to investigate the circumstances of the Violation and, if no extenuating circumstances are found, will pay to the County Council a Barred Route Contribution. Any

registration number with has not been matched within one hour of capture will be permanently deleted from the system together with the associated still images.

Who will collect and manage the data?

The data from the public highway is collected and managed by Hampshire County Council. The data from within the Business Park is collected and managed by Goodman. The use of the data is governed by Data Sharing Agreements drawn up by both parties.

Richard Rowles

Wherwell Parish Council

Please note that the next meeting of Wherwell Parish Council will be on Tuesday 15th March at 7 pm in the Colonel Jenkins' Hall. Please note this is a temporary change of date from the normal meetings held on the second Tuesday of alternate months.

Jane Andrews, Chairman Wherwell Parish Council

Retirement of Dr Gareth Evans of the Stockbridge Surgery

I am sure that many local residents appreciate how fortunate we are to be patients of the Stockbridge practice. No doubt many of you, over the years, will have been treated by Dr Evans and will appreciate his kindness, care and professional expertise as a GP.

Sadly, Dr Evans is retiring at the end of March, after 30 years as a GP in Stockbridge. If you would like to contribute to a retirement present for him you can make a donation of either cash or by a cheque made out to me J. Andrews and post it to The Old Railway Cottages, Fullerton, Andover SP11 7JZ or alternatively drop it off at the White Lion Pub Wherwell or at Chilbolton Post Office.

Jane Andrews

Fun Run 2011: Sunday 3rd April

This will be the 5th annual Fun Run through Harewood forest. This year we will have the usual 11k, but for those who are less confident there will be a shorter 7.5k. Registration form 9.30am at the Wherwell Pavilion. All proceeds are split between the Wherwell Playing Fields and Wherwell Primary School. For further information contact Claire Pigott.



Tel: 01264 860522. Pre-register www.wherwellfunrun.com

Chilbolton Stores NEW Weekly Delivery Service



Are you elderly, housebound or find it difficult to carry your shopping home on the bus? Could you benefit from a **weekly grocery delivery** from your **local village shop**? Or do you know of someone who would find this service useful?

Why not give us a try? Call us on **860231** to place your order.

Orders received by **Wednesday** will be delivered on **Friday** of the same week.

Orders **over £20** will be delivered **free of charge**, orders under this amount may incur a small delivery charge.



Afternoon Tea at The White Lion, Wherwell

Monday 14 March, 3pm
£2.00 tea, cake and raffle

Do come along. ALL welcome (regardless of age!)

Can't get there? Give us a call & we'll try and help

AGE
Concern

Age Concern Andover and District

We'll bring along some useful information for those who are "50 plus" but don't forget: our office in Andover is open every weekday morning for enquiries in person or by phone 01264 354425

Chilbolton Parish Council

The first item on the agenda at the meeting of the Parish Council on 1st February was to note the death of Mrs Honor Manley, a former Chairman of the Council and a long-time resident of Chilbolton.

The Common Committee has been strengthened by the addition of Cllr Griffiths and resident Mrs Jenny Hamilton, just in time for the very busy period of work explained in the open meeting held on 14th September. By the time you read this, the work should be complete and parking on the Common will be restricted to

the hard standing by the cattle grid. Included in the work is the repair of the Test Way path on its approaches to the Purlygig bridge to allow invalid vehicles to cross safely. The willows along the right hand side of the path just after the Purlygig Bridge are being pollarded. The local community are welcome to the wood but are asked to be careful to keep the piles of wood neatly stacked and not scattered around.

The Community Payback Team will be back clearing paths, having completed the repair to the rabbit fence around the sports field. To complement the work on the paths, Andover Ramblers have done an excellent job enhancing the signs which mark them. Meanwhile a build-up of silt in the river at the south western end of the Common is a cause for concern for the Common Committee. To get to the root of the problem, a tight controlled experiment is planned. Finally in respect of the Common, the Committee are considering a second otter holt on the Common.

The Common Committee would like, once again, to thank all those members of the community who diligently clear the Common of rubbish. Dog poo is still not being picked up by some thoughtless dog walkers so if any of you considerate walkers see the rules being broken, please remind those at fault of their responsibilities.

We are rather short of water, though not alarmingly so. The best way to monitor this is via the Environment Agency website: <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Research/TestFlow.pdf> Click on Rivers Test and Itchen. There you will see a graph showing the river flow (left axis) in cubic metres per second and rainfall (right axis) in millimetres. The river flow is the best source of information about the state of water levels, and thus the danger of flooding. The Flood Advisory Group keeps a watch on this.

Finally, the Localism Bill, carrying the Government's intention to delegate responsibilities to (undefined) local level, has reached the secondary stage in Parliament. A number of circulars and summaries have been produced but at this stage they are not specific.

The Council will next meet on Tuesday March 1st in the Durnford Room of the Village Hall at 8pm.

Jeremy Baines - Chairman, Chilbolton Parish Council



Andover Riding for the Disabled (Charity No 1073578)

Andover RDA continues to be the largest RDA group in the South Region. Over eighty riders come to our various venues around Andover to have lessons, fun days, picnics and many other activities. We also have a Driving Group at Binley. The aim is to give our riders & drivers whose ages range from 4 to 94yrs, a sense of achievement, enjoyment, therapy, self-esteem and independence. Many proudly gain Proficiency Grade certificates.

Have you got a couple of hours to spare? Make a difference to someone's life and come and be a RDA Volunteer Helper and be part of something special. Our venues range from Binley, St Mary Bourne, Little London, Abbots Ann, Monxton, Braishfield & Whitchurch, with lessons ranging from mornings, midday & evenings roughly from April to October. Some experience with horses and to be able to run at the trot! (often the highlight of the lesson) would be a real help. Should you have a suitable horse or pony to bring along once a week, please, do let us know. **We Need Your Help.**

To see what RDA does nationwide: www.rda.org.uk

If you would like to come & help

Contact the Organiser:

Elizabeth Maclay: 01264 738229

Or the Secretary:

Mercedes Leonard: 01264 735246

Throughout the year we must raise funds for our ever increasing running costs and this year is more important than ever. Last year we were so fortunate to be one of the charities to be chosen by TVBC Mayor Chris Lynn. If fundraising is your skill - Call us!

MB Leonard

Chilbolton WI

We enjoyed a bring-and-share supper at our February meeting. It's always a treat to enjoy food that other people have prepared and we had a huge variety of home-cooked, marvellous food to choose from. It was a relaxing and enjoyable opportunity to enjoy each other's company.

We meet again on Tuesday March 15th. Our topic that evening will be the New Forest Angora Goats. The Danebury WI Group, of which Chilbolton is a member, meets the week before at the Wallops WI for our spring Group meeting entitled "Visual Illusions".

At our meetings we frequently have visitors, female and male, and they are most welcome. If you would like to join us one evening please come along. For more information ring me or take a look on our website for details of our programme for the year: www.hampshirewi.org.uk and look up the Chilbolton details.

Sue Keen Tel: 860571



Midday Mums

Something **DIFFERENT** for all carers and Mums

Monday 21st March

We will be having our usual bring and share lunch in Wherwell Village Hall from 12.30 so please come along and have fun!

BUT AS WELL..... we are having a **Coffee Morning** from 10.30am - 12.00 for all those who find coming out at 12.30 more difficult with small children.

Really hope to see you at one or the other!

Susan Ansell 860775

What WE get up to at the weekend...

Many of you will have seen the long white trailers as we tow them through the village en route to the gliding club or a gliding competition, and some probably know they contain gliders. However, most non-gliding people don't really have much idea exactly what we are able to do with them – any more than I used to know about bees until Jolyon started writing his compulsive and eagerly-awaited column in the Parish mag. So I thought I'd take this opportunity to let you in on what WE get up to at the weekends (... and on decent days in the summer whenever there are no unmissable meetings in my work diary!)

The basics of flying an aeroplane are relatively simple – and we normally teach people to glide to solo standard in between 40 – 100 winch launches, where you are pinged over 1000' into the air at the end of a steel cable, giving you a flight of 10 minutes or so if there's no lift. Your other choice is to aerotow, where you are towed up behind a plane generally to 2000' or higher; longer flights, so less are needed for me to send you solo. And that's where the fun starts.

When the sun is shining and causing convection or 'thermals', you can find rising air, climb and extend your flight. Most people think glider flights are short and just at the airfield you take off from, but it's not so – in the UK flights of over 1000km have been flown, from Land's End to John O'Groats and all points between – and even some beyond. From time to time people cross the channel and go down through France into Europe. Typically on a nice summer's day there are hundreds of gliders flying cross-country routes of 200-400 miles – all without an engine.

Alan and I both enjoy cross-country flying, and since 2003 I've been a member of the British Gliding Team flying in national and international competitions. We are often asked how we compete in gliding. Simple: we race!

Over a one or two week competition, pilots race each other every day at speeds of up to 100mph over courses that can be as long as 400 miles, often flying for 6 or 7 hours per day. The overall winner is decided by the cumulative points scored over the contest period. Each day is an intense physical and mental experience, demanding high levels of skill, guile, tactics and concentration, as well as superb flying.

Each day you are set a 'task' which is the course you have to fly, defined by specific points at each corner which are features easily visible from the air – the Chilbolton radio aerial is one. Other typical points might be motorway junctions, power stations, cathedrals, and so on. So if I'm flying from Lasham where we base our gliders, we might fly up to Northampton West M1 junction, across to Hereford Cathedral and back – that's 382km. Each day what is possible depends on the weather conditions, so we need to learn quite a lot about meteorology.

I take a launch, and then find myself a thermal – a bubble or column of rising air - to climb in. In a competition the start line is officially opened once everyone has been launched. Then we can start whenever we like - the time from when you start to when you finish is the basis for your score, so you aim to leave when the day is at its peak for the time you'll be flying. I glide out across the start line and fly to the next source of lift, circle to climb in that, and glide out again. In order to win the race, it's a matter of finding the strongest climbs, slowing down or circling in the rising air and avoiding the sinking air in between so that I spend the minimum time climbing and the maximum time making progress along the course.

Cumulus clouds are caused when rising air cools to its condensation point, so when there are clouds around we use these as markers of lift; as you can imagine when there are no clouds it's not so easy! A typical modern glider will glide around 8-10 miles for every 1000' of height lost; so on a normal UK summer's day we can glide up to 15 or so miles before we need to find the next thermal. Of course if you can't find the next thermal, then you descend gradually and may have to land – and as there isn't always an airfield to hand, one of the skills we need is in selecting appropriate fields that we can land in without damaging ourselves, the glider or the farmer's crop. Some gliders have a tiny pop-up engine that has just enough power to keep them aloft to reduce the need to land out. But hopefully it doesn't come to that and we eventually get to a point close enough and high enough to get back to the airfield with no further climbs, and race back for the landing.

So, next time you're sat sunning yourself on the patio, look up under that nice puffy white cloud overhead and see if you can spot a glider up there – it might just be me or Alan. As a weekend activity, it beats washing the car!

Liz Sparrow

Liz is one of Team GB flying in the Women's World Championships in Arboga Sweden in June 2011



Diary Dates

March

1st/8th/15 th & 22nd March	Wherwell Fitness	WVH	9 30am
1 st March	Chilbolton Parish Council	CVH	8pm
4 th March	Film – ‘The Kings Speech’	CVH	7 30pm
5 th March	Coffee Morning	WVH	10 30am
8 th March	West Down Volunteers	Top Car Park	10am
8 th March	Red Garter Club	CVH	8pm
13 th March	Bridge Tournament	Romsey	2pm
14 th March	Age Concern Afternoon Tea	White Lion	3pm
15 th March	Wherwell Parish Council	WVH	7pm
15 th March	Chilbolton WI	CVH	7 30pm
18 th March	Wherwell History Group – Medieval Romsey Abbey	WVH	8pm
19 th March	Coffee Morning	CVH	10 30am
19 th March	Jumble Sale	CVH	2pm
21 st March	Midday Mums Coffee Morning and Lunch	WVH	10 30am & 12 30pm
22 nd March	Chilbolton Horticultural Society Talk and Show	CVH	7 45pm
24 th March	Magazine Collation	CVH	6 30pm
25 th March	Test Valley School Quiz Night	Stockbridge	
25 th March	Chilbolton Quiz Night	CVH	7pm
26 th March	St Mary the Less Facilities Meeting	St Mary the Less	10 30am

April

1 st April	Film - ‘Red’	CVH	6 45pm
3 rd April	Mothering Sunday Service	St Mary the Less	10 00am
3 rd April	Wherwell Fun Run	Wherwell Sports Pavilion	9 30am
17 th April	Daffodil Sunday	Binley	2pm

WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA

Theatres:

17/03/11: **After Miss Julie** At The Lights, Andover at 7.30pm. Tickets £14-15 (£13 concessions) *Tel (01264) 368368 www.thelights.org.uk*

17/03 – 19/03/11: **Ghosts**. At Theatre Royal, Winchester at 8pm (2pm Sat matinee £14) Tickets £17 (£15 concession).

28/03-30/03/11: **Hamlet: Prince of Denmark** At Theatre Royal, Winchester at 7.30pm (1.30pm Wed matinee £14) Tickets £17 (£15 concessions)

Tel (01962) 840440 www.theatre-royal-winchester.co.uk

15/03-19/03/11: **Blithe Spirit**. At Plaza Theatre, Romsey at 7.30pm. Tickets £7-£9. *Tel (01794) 512987 www.plazatheatre.co.uk*

Music:

03/03/11: **Julian Lloyd Webber: Travels With My Cello** At Theatre Royal, Winchester at 8pm. Tickets £22 (£19.50 concession).

09/03-11/03/11: **High School Musical: On Stage** At Theatre Royal, Winchester at 7.30pm (2.30pm Wed matinee). Tickets £10 (£7 concession)

19/03/11: **Especially for You** Concert in aid of Naomi House, performed by Romsey Male Voice Choir at United Church, Winchester at 7.30pm. Tickets £12 (£10 concession) from Theatre Royal, Winchester

25/03-26/03/11: **The Barber of Seville** At Theatre Royal, Winchester at 7.30pm. Tickets £20 (£18 concession)

Tel (01962) 840440 www.theatre-royal-winchester.co.uk

Other events:

19/03/11 **Falconry Experience Day**. At Hillier Gardens near Romsey. From 10am to 4pm. £85 including lunch.

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 by the Guildhall every Friday, 7.30am – 1pm

www.country-markets.co.uk

Farmers' Market Dates:

13 March 2011 – Winchester 20 Mar 2011 – Andover

27 Mar 2011 – Winchester

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

Village Hall Management Committee

Are holding a
JUMBLE SALE



On

Saturday, 19th March, 2011

DOOR OPEN 2PM

Village Hall, Eastman's Field, Chilbolton

All donations of jumble to the hall after 10am please

Enquiries: Beryl Lawrence 01264 860618

Registered Charity No: 301781



Science & Technology
Facilities Council

STFC – Chilbolton Observatory



A Special Open Day designed for the Chilbolton & Wherwell Community

**To be held on Saturday 14th May 2011
10:30 AM to 3:00 PM**

Join us to learn about two new research programmes at the Observatory
(1) The LOFAR-UK, low frequency radio astronomy system, and
(2) The Met Office upper air compound, remotely profiling the atmosphere
[Unfortunately there will be no big dish tours]

This will be an outdoor event that will require up to 2 km of walking.
Please dress for any weather

**Please notify the Observatory by post or e-mail if you intend to
join us on the 14th May. To avoid disappointment apply by 1st April**

Numbers may be limited so please name likely attendees.

e-mail: Chilboltonopenday@stfc.ac.uk

Post: Chilbolton Observatory, Drove Road, SO20 6BJ



LOFAR

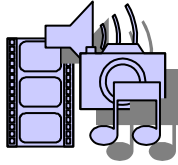
**A note for your diaries
WHERWELL CHURCH FETE**

will be held on
SATURDAY 11th JUNE
at 12 noon
Raffle draw at 3 pm



Attractions will include BBQ, Pimms Tent,
Teas, Face Painting, Bouncy Castle, Tombola, Donkey Derby, Raffle,
Cakes, Plants, Produce, Books, Air Rifles, Gifts, Music
Free Parking Lucky programme £1.00

Come to the Movies!!!



CHILBOLTON VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Proudly Present
The King's Speech ^(12A)

Starring Colin Firth, Helena Bonham Carter and Geoffrey Rush
Forced into becoming King by his brother's abdication and with England on the brink of war, George VI struggles to overcome his disabling stammer with the help of an unorthodox speech therapist.

In Chilbolton Village Hall
on
Friday, 4th March, 2011, 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 Sheila Laughton on 01264
860460,
Maureen Treadwell on 01264 860380
or Beryl Lawrence on 01264 860618

Chilbolton Horticultural Society

Tuesday 22/03/2011 start 7:45pm
Chilbolton Village Hall

A talk by Rosina Brandham

“Joseph Paxton – Gardener to Grandee”

Paxton was an English gardener, designer, writer and creator of one of most famous buildings of Victoria's reign, the Crystal Palace

Spring Mini Show...to be judged by Rosina Brandham

- Container grown bulbs,
- Container grown flowers (not bulbs)
- 3 tall cut daffodils/narcissi (same variety)
- 3 small cut daffodils/narcissi (same variety)
- Bunch of spring flowers in a jam jar

Non-members welcome £3.00 or why not join our society on the night for £7.50 valid until April 2012.

Further details Sheila Evans 860697



The spring term has seen many new children starting pre-school from the surrounding villages and it has been an exciting time for all.

The theme for this term so far has been “Houses”, chosen by observing the children and seeing what their interests were. All the children have brought in a photo of their

house for a display and have been really engaged in imaginative play and making different homes.

They continue to benefit from Merry Go Round on Mondays (a mixture of stories and songs) and Dancing with Clare on Tuesdays. Both activities are paid for from pre-school funds so we are busy raising money in a variety of ways.

The children continue to enjoy our lottery funded Sensory Garden and we are looking forward to the spring and all the new growth that will bring.

If you would like your child, aged 2-5, to have the opportunity to attend this unique and beautifully situated learning environment, then please do contact us for more information or to arrange a visit.

*Call 07732 095814 or 07919 130777 or email willrj@hotmail.co.uk
www.chilboltonpreschool.com*

CHILBOLTON VILLAGE HALL

DANCE CLASSES

New dance classes are available at the
Chilbolton Village Hall, taught by Claire Simpson
RAD RTS

Timetable:

Children's RAD Ballet- Monday 5 – 5.30pm
(5 – 7 year olds)

Junior RAD Ballet- Monday 5.30 -6.00pm
(8-10 year olds)

Junior ISTD Modern- Monday 6 – 6.30pm
(8 – 10 year olds)

Senior Jazz Ballet- Monday 6.30 – 7.15pm
(11 – 14 year olds)

Pricing –

£4.50 for a half an hour class

£5.00 for a 45 minute class

£6.00 for an hour class (2 half an hour lessons)

All classes should lead to performances and
examinations. Also a chance to enter a Choreography
Competition held at Basingstoke Academy of Dancing.

Contact Tanya Schipelbaum: 07768 124 062

Email: tanya@basingstokeacademy.co.uk

FREE TRIAL CLASS

These classes are administered by Basingstoke Academy of dancing
RAD centre + ISTD approved centre



Test Valley School celebrates 50 years!

This year marks a very special occasion for the school with our fiftieth anniversary fast approaching. The school opened in April 1961 with less than 220 pupils arriving for that first day. Mr Cavill, one of the founding members of staff in 1961, tells me that the school was due to open in the January but not all of the building work was completed on time. More pupils arrived for the Autumn Term in September.

We are enjoying finding out more about the school's history and searching out photographs or other 'evidence' from our own archives. The school has been through a number of changes over the last fifty years, not least sharing its anniversary with the year the Beatles first played together!

I am proud to be the school's fourth headteacher but previous pupils will no doubt remember Mr Nick Holtham, Mr Elwin Richards, Mr Peter Clarkson and Miss Wendy Morrish. The school has gone from strength to strength over the years with a strong commitment to ensuring our pupils enjoy coming to school and achieve success. Yet as a small secondary school it is important to us that our staff and pupils feel they belong to a community where they are valued as individuals.

Many of our current pupils have parents, grandparents and other relatives who also attended our school as pupils. On many occasions I have shown around parents who reminisce about the school they remember and the changes, not least the new buildings over the years as the school has grown in size with up to 780 pupils now on roll. Did you attend Test Valley School? We are looking for the family who has had most family members attend over the fifty years to join us as VIPs for our special events coming up. If you think this could be your family please contact Miss Davies at school to tell us more.

As part of our celebrations to mark this year we have a number of events coming up. The first is a **Grand Challenge Quiz on Friday March 25th starting at 7.30pm. Teams of up to eight can enter for only £12 a team.** We look forward to welcoming as many as possible for what will be an enjoyable evening. **On Saturday July 9th** we are planning a big reunion evening and hope as many ex-members of staff, pupils and friends of the school will be able to join us. You can also go to our new Facebook page from our link on the school website to catch up with old friends and we will post more details here about our events.

We look forward to the next fifty years!

Louisa Hiscock, Headteacher

Wanted – Test Valley School former pupils!

Did you attend the school? Many of the school's current pupils have parents, grandparents and other relatives who also attended the school as pupils. The school is looking for the family who has had the most family members attend over the last fifty years to join them as VIPs for the special events noted in the previous article. If you think this could be you please contact Miss Davies at the school.



‘We are looking forward to welcoming back as many ex-pupils, staff and friends of the school as possible to our special events. Test Valley School has gone from strength over the years and remains committed to serving its pupils well. Being part of a community where all are valued is as important to us today as when the school first opened.’

Louisa Hiscock. Headteacher

Should you require any further information please contact:

Lynne Archer at the school: Phone: 01264 810555
Email archerl@testvalley.hants.sch.uk

Jane's kitchen



‘Tis the season for Marmalade. I don't expect you will have any windfalls left lying around your garden, but I bet you have some left-over fruits lying in the fruit bowl! Here thanks to Peg Beasley is a simple recipe which could be made anytime of the year!

Windfall Marmalade

2 Grapefruit
4 lemons
2lb (900 g) ‘windfall’ apples peeled and cored
5pts Water
5lb Sugar

Wash the citrus fruit and peel off the coloured part of the skin, (a sharp potato peeler is good for this) shred finely.

Peel away the pith and chop flesh roughly. Chop the apples and place with the water peel and flesh in large heavy pan. Tie the citrus pith, pips apple peel and cores in a piece of muslin and add to the pan.

Simmer gently until the citrus peel is tender and the quantity reduced by half. Remove muslin bag, squeezing well. Add the sugar, stir until dissolved then boil rapidly until setting point is reached. Allow to stand for 15 minutes before potting and covering in the usual way

Makes about 9 lb)

NB The grapefruit can be replaced by oranges if preferred.



Chilbolton Neighbourhood Watch Report

The latest Safer Neighbourhoods Police Report for this area mentions that a new Neighbourhood Watch scheme has been set up in Chilbolton. This is important because it means that many household insurance premiums can be reduced. The report also mentions the meeting held on 19th February at the Village Hall coffee morning. I will report on that next month. It seems that much of the crime in Chilbolton is carried out by non-villagers who come here to “case the joint” and return later to break into several premises. Therefore, we should all be aware of what is going on around us and if we see any suspicious behaviour or vehicles, call the police on 101 or 0800 555 111 and in a dire emergency, 999.

*Maria Watson, Co-ordinator (tel: 860415)
e-mail: mwatson.cottage@hotmail.co.uk*

News from West Down

10.00 on Tuesday 8th Feb saw thick, dank fog, but obviously not having been put off by the weather, I was soon joined by 6 volunteers all ready and willing to get stuck in and remove the next block of sycamore regrowth. We made a good start and by coffee time the fog was lifting and we could begin to see the progress we were making. By lunch time the fog had cleared and we were treated to the most glorious afternoon, the highlight of which was the first sighting of the year of a Brimstone butterfly which fluttered across the Test Way in front of us. Mind you, we were also lucky enough to see the dramatic swooping dives of the buzzard courtship display later in the afternoon. So having started in the gloom we finished a really good day's work in the beautiful sunshine with the feeling that perhaps spring is on its way.

Next month we will be continuing work on Tuesday 8th March. It was great to welcome 3 new volunteers this month. We enjoyed their company and they made a real contribution to the amount of work we completed. If you would like to come and join us please do come along. You would also be most welcome.

Tuesday 8th March

10.00 - 15.00

**Meet at the top car park at 10.00am
If you have them please bring loppers and bow saws.
Please wear stout foot wear and gloves**

*For more information ring Lesley Key at the Countryside Service on
01962 860948 or Glynne Evans on 01264 860697*

Wherwell History Group

Living Links is a three year community archives project largely funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. This project is supported by Hampshire Archives and Local Studies and the Isle of Wight Record Office. Community Archives Officer Bryony Hatton explains:

Living Links aims to help community groups collect and embrace their local heritage. The project is now in its last few months as it comes to an end in March 2011. During the last three years Living Links has had contact with nearly two hundred groups across Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. These include a wide variety of groups from the more traditional local history societies to yacht clubs and steam railways.

A large part of the project has involved encouraging groups unfamiliar with archives, such as youth groups, to become involved in their heritage through creative means; for example art, film, theatre and poetry. The project has also supported existing community heritage groups to develop their archives. For all groups the aim has been to inspire a better understanding of their community, and through this a greater sense of community identity and pride.

One of the central parts of the project is the Archive Ambassadors training which includes preservation techniques and cataloguing guidelines amongst other things. Through this training community group members can learn the skills required to build their own archive. There are now eighty-five Ambassadors across the two counties and a waiting list for the training.

The importance of preserving a community's heritage as well as that of individuals and families should not be underestimated, and as a result of the work of Living Links we hope this message will continue to be promoted and supported across Hampshire

Wherwell History Group was 'founded' about the same time as 'Living Links' started. We have received excellent encouragement and assistance from the staff at the Hampshire Record Office, including an enjoyable 'Behind the Scenes' tour in August 2010. On Wednesday 2nd February 2011 we staged an exhibition of our activities, and some of our archive acquisitions. This exhibition was filmed for inclusion in a video about the Living Links project, and a second showing of the exhibition was given at the February Coffee Morning in Wherwell Village Hall.



We had some welcome contact regarding our ‘**Can You Help**’ from last month’s magazine. Three people are still in touch with Marianne Frost, and Marianne has agreed to write an article about the Chilbolton Dance Group in next month’s magazine. We are still looking for the missing names in the school children photograph.

Since October 2009, the parish magazine has been archived on the village website. We would like to extend this archive backwards into the 1900’s. We would like to acquire or borrow any edition of the magazine prior to December 2008. We also need June 2009, April 2010 and September 2010 (the 2010 editions are for cover pictures only). Please email wherwellhistory@gmail.com or telephone Andrew on 860 560. Thank You.

Andrew Flanagan



Can you use Microsoft Word?

Are you comfortable using Microsoft Word? If so, we are looking for another SETTING EDITOR for the magazine.

The commitment is about a half to one day three or four times a year. In the initial stages you will be able to ‘shadow’ one of our current editors and full training will be given.

If you feel you would be prepared to give it a go, without any commitment, please call **Hilary Jennison on 01264 861250**

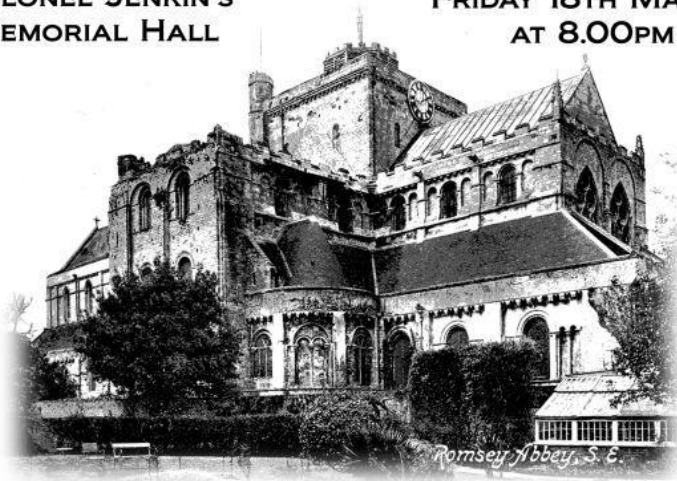
WHERWELL HISTORY GROUP



**AN ILLUSTRATED TALK BY
PHOEBE MERRICK
MEDIEVAL
ROMSEY ABBEY**

**AT
COLONEL JENKIN'S
MEMORIAL HALL**

**WHERWELL SP11 7JJ
FRIDAY 18TH MARCH
AT 8.00PM**



**ALL WELCOME ADMISSION £3.00
TEA/COFFEE AND BISCUITS INCLUDED**

From the Past - Wherwell Anthology

The **Wherwell Anthology** is the name given to the programme for the Annual Sports Fete. The first edition was in 1974 and it has continued unbroken through to 2010 (Number 37). Here are some extracts from the first edition:

INTRODUCTION

Wherwell, stretching along the western bank of the beautiful River Test, presents a picture of almost perfect rural scenery. The quiet atmosphere giving no hint of the turbulent past. This brief anthology does not set out to give readers a history of Wherwell, but simply to draw from the rich vein of history and legend surrounding the valley.

How fascinating it is to think that 1000 years ago Wherwell was the centre of a macabre intrigue with King Edgar, the Earl Athelwold, and his wife Elfrida being the trio involved. This sordid story is well covered in the article "A brief history of Wherwell Priory", written by Lady Brecknock and included in this programme. From this unsavoury episode, and subsequent events came the founding of Wherwell Abbey, later to be called Wherwell Priory. It was then, as it is now, the centre of all vintage activities.

The Wherwell Estates passed into the possession of Colonel and Mrs Jenkins in 1913, and the present Lady of the Manor is their daughter, Marjorie, Countess of Brecknock. Their tremendous contributions to the community makes it difficult to believe that historically their association has been so short.

The Sports Field and Pavilion and Col. Jenkins' Memorial Hall are but two examples of their love of village life. This estate has also made the much maligned tied-house system really work. Retired estate workers enjoy peace and security in beautiful cottages around the village.

Harewood Forest, so steeped in history and folk lore, offers the Naturalist flora and fauna in a setting difficult to match. The love of this village has inspired many of its sons and daughters through the ages, to sing its praises in one form or another. Today, like all other villages, Wherwell has had to move with the times, and sadly the rule scenes of great horses hauling



THE DEATH OF THE ELM

Do you remember?
I do, the friendly Elm tree.
You do! Then we are fortunate,
you and me.
The chaffinch still sings on the
orchard bough,
Alas! There's no green leaves
around the old Elm now.

Once there were so many
to be commonplace,
Almost every village, bank and
hedgerow to grace.
Everywhere I see another
leafless dead and twisted frame,
It's my inability to help which
gives me such pain.

Oh! What a cruel and disastrous
blow mother nature's dealt.
Is there any chance that for once
man can help?
With all our knowledge of the
environment and chemistry,
There's perhaps a little hope we
may yet save this tree.

loads of corn from the fields would seem to have gone for ever.

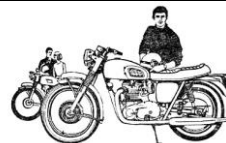
The village crafts are also on the decline. However, we are fortunate to have in Wherwell quite a few senior citizens capable of teaching the young the art of basket-making and corn-dollies, etc. It would be unforgivable if this generation allowed these ancient skills to die.

We welcome you to the "Wherwell Sports Day", 1974 - and hope you have a most enjoyable afternoon.

It would indeed a credit be, to usually destructive man, To save this giant who's stood for centuries in this land. I pray to God, for that's all I know how to do. It's the very least, I think, I shall expect of you.

Jeffrey Rowles.

SOUTHAMPTON VIKINGS MOTOR CYCLE RODEO, run under regulations of the A.C.U. National Trials. Each competitor will be riding 250-325 c.c. Spanish Bultaco Montesa, or Ossa Motor-cycles. Each competitor will cover the obstacles with the object of not stopping or putting a foot down. The scoring being if you stop on an obstacle the rider will lose five points, or if he puts his foot down will lose three points.



MOTOR RODEO, 3.30 p.m.

The 1st Anthology included articles about the:

**Histories of The Priory, the Church, the Cockatrice,
Histories of the Football and Cricket Clubs,
and four pieces of poetry by Sally Chetwyn 'By The Test',
Jeffrey Rowles 'The Death of the Elm' & 'Moonlight on the River'
and Private A J Parker 'Pretty Wherwell'.**

CONCLUSION

This brief glimpse into the past of historically remarkable Wherwell is by no means exhausted. Next year we will try to bring more of its past to the surface and possibly explore the strange feminine domination of the village life which seems to have existed from Elfrida with occasional breaks until the present day.

Playing Field Committee:

Major T. Palmer, Chairman

D. Nolder, Treasurer,

Mrs Mary Makin, Hon. Sec.

SALLY CHETWYN Wherwell nr. Andover

S. C. STOKES

"Greengrocer"

Delivered weekly to your door

HIGHFIELD DROVE ROAD,
CHILBOLTON 403



water colours, scraper boards, china etc.

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5A UNION STREET, ANDOVER - TEL: 3460



EVERYTHING FOR YOUR
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Wherwell History Group would like to create an archive of a complete set of Anthology programmes. We are missing years 1975, 1982, 1988 and 2007. If you have a copy to loan or donate, please contact Mike Gee on 01264 860 592.

Andrew Flanagan



Jane Scarth House
Bridge Swiss Teams Event



welcomes you to a
Six 6-Board Matches

Directed by Keith Bennett. No Master Points Awarded

Crosfield Hall, Romsey
Sunday 13th March 2011

2pm - 7.45pm

Prizes for 'Expert' and 'Non-Expert' Categories

Buffet Supper

Please bring your own drinks, glasses are provided

All players welcome

Rubber Bridge in 'Fours' also available.

Entries: £44 per table

For more information or to book your
table, please contact Jill or Anne at
Jane Scarth House on 01794 830374

-0-



Wessex Cancer Trust Jane Scarth House

39 The Hundred, Romsey, SO51 8GE

t: 01794 830374

e: janescarthhouse@btconnect.com

Registered Charity No 1110216



Thank You David Wright

David joined the new magazine committee at its inception in 2006 and took on the role of publishing the magazine every month in tandem with Victoria Ramsay. This was before the magazine duties were spread more evenly amongst the present day production teams and David would spend the best part of a weekend working on the magazine as well as writing some of the articles himself. David has now decided to 'retire' from the magazine in order to focus on other interests and the committee would like to thank him warmly for his enthusiasm and good humour over the last four years. Thanks David.

Stephen MacDonald, Magazine Committee Chairman



Chilbolton FC – monthly update February 2011

Results:

16.01.11	Chute Reserves	2 v 3	Chilbolton FC
23.01.11	Chilbolton FC	2 v 4	Enham FC (Cup)
30.01.11	Chilbolton FC	5 v 3	Kings Arms FC
06.02.11	Test Valley Lions	0 v 2	Chilbolton FC
13.02.11	Enham FC	3 v 4	Chilbolton FC

We had our first away game of the New Year at Chute on 16 January. On what is traditionally our bogie pitch we started well. Robert Floyd cut in from the right and fired home to give us the lead and the confidence to press forward and dominate the remainder of the half. When Chute did attack keeper Micky Clark was more than equal to the shots, making two excellent saves. The second half was more mixed. Playing with the wind at our backs we struggled to create chances until Pete Southworth latched onto a long ball and lobbed the keeper perfectly to double the lead. Chute then came back scoring twice before Pete Southworth again ran at the defence and beat the keeper at the near post with a powerful shot.

We faced Enham next in the Martin Turner Cup quarter finals at home with a reduced team on a bitterly cold morning. Enham took the lead capitalising on some poor defending and beating the keeper at the near post. The score stayed 0-1 until the second half when Chilbolton came out with some belief and started creating chances. Alec Mitchell finished off a fine move beating the Enham keeper and Chilbolton grabbed a second, Steve Jenkins scoring with a great header. This proved to be the end of the fight-back, however, as the reduced Chilbolton side were caught on the break three times in the final 15 minutes.

With cup competitions now over we faced Kings Arms at home and in a game of two halves ran out 5-3 winners, thanks mostly to Pete and Ollie Southworth who between them scored all five goals. After a poor first half display that left us 2-1 down the lads showed why we are fighting for the top spot this season as Pete Southworth scored four times and Ollie once, supported excellently by the rest of the team. A great result to lift spirits after being knocked out of the cup the week before.

Moving into the final five games we faced Test Valley Lions away and delivered a performance worthy of the league leaders, running out 0-2 winners. Pete Southworth continued his excellent goal scoring from his brother Ollie's cross. David Baker made it 2 with a powerful header in the second half. The result put Chilbolton top of the league.

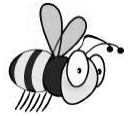
Another away game against Enham in a rain soaked encounter proved to be a tough test. Despite dominating parts of the game the conditions made it difficult to capitalise on the chances created. Pete Southworth grabbed goals either side of half time, the second a perfect lob after some great support play from Robbie Floyd. Captain Kevin Hide scored from just inside the box and Ollie Southworth completed the scoring with a fine flick past the keeper from Robbie Floyd's cross.

Only 3 games remain in the season and we need to win them all to retain the top spot and win the league!!

Sam Horne, Manager (07969 055300)



Bee Diary March 2011



Two warm sunny days in mid-February saw the bees pouring out of the hives for cleansing flights and also to re-orientate themselves for the coming season. During the cold days of winter, when they are cooped up in the hive by the cold, the flying bees tend to forget their hive's location in relation to surrounding landmarks and when they emerge on an early warm February day, they must fly around the hive and locality to re-memorize their position. It is during the long winter months that beekeepers can move their hives within the apiary without losing the bees. Normally the rule during the rest of the year is that you should never move a hive more than three feet, or less than 3 miles, otherwise the bees fly back to the hive's original position and die of exposure.

In those few warm February days, as the bees re-entered the hive, some pollen from the catkins, and possibly from snowdrops, was visible on their hind legs. It is warm early spring days like this that increase the tempo within the hive. The new pollen coming in encourages the queen to speed up her laying and the first batch of the young brood is started. The flying bees are old bees now, possibly over six months old and their days are numbered, particularly if the weather remains warm and they continue to leave the hive to forage. Within two months the colony will double its numbers, and then swiftly double them again, going from 10,000 bees in February to 20,000 by the end of April and 40,000 by the end of June.

Whilst it is very encouraging for the beekeeper to see the bees flooding out of the hive on warm days in February and March, it doesn't ensure that the colony will survive the winter. It is March when crunch time comes. If the colony of surviving bees is not large enough to maintain the brood area at 35 degrees C, the colony will dwindle away. Similarly if the queen has started

to fail, if she starts to lay drone brood only, the colony is doomed. It is only when a really warm day in late March comes along that the beekeeper can risk opening up the hive and do a visual inspection of the brood nest. It is then that he can form an accurate idea of how many colonies will survive into summer.

Jolyon Pope

Chilbolton & Wherwell Wildlife



During the last month, a number of you may have counted birds in your garden for the RSPB's Big Garden BirdWatch.

This is an annual event that inspires huge numbers of people to spend an hour looking at birds in their garden or local park. The typical comments I hear every year after BGBW are "... but I didn't see such-and-such bird, and it's always in my garden", and "...if only BGBW was today – because today I saw". My response is always to suggest the BTO's weekly Garden BirdWatch survey – see <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/gbw/about> for full information.

Weekly counting is great fun, and over time you can see subtle long-term changes in the numbers of each species. I mentioned a month or so ago the huge decline in Greenfinch numbers that has occurred in Chilbolton. And many people have seen the amazing increase in the number of Goldfinches that visit garden feeders since the introduction of nyger seed. In our villages, we also see Redpoll regularly visiting nyger, and in some years Siskins.

It's always particularly interesting to see changes in bird behaviour and numbers in response to different types of food. This year, at first as an experiment, I tried loading two of my feeders with millet. This proved to be a huge attraction to Reed Buntings. Instead of just the one or two Reed Buntings that I've seen in previous years, there are now up to 20 birds coming to the millet every day. I've also tried filling old wire peanut feeders with a home-made fat-mix of lard, oats, and chopped sunflower kernels. This was an instant favourite with the Great-spotted Woodpeckers and the tits, but it's also turned out to be irresistible to our wintering Blackcaps. There have been three on one feeder at times, and eight different birds present in the garden at the same time! So much for my long-held view that the Blackcap's favourite was apple.

By the time you read this, it will of course be March and time to look out for all those welcome signs of spring. If we have mild days, many of our resident birds will be singing, and why not take a walk and look for some of the early spring flowers – lesser celandines, sweet violets, coltsfoot, and perhaps marsh marigold on the Common. If the sun comes out you might also see hibernating butterflies emerging – Brimstone, Peacock, Comma, and Small Tortoiseshell.

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