

Chilbolton and Wherwell Community Magazine

As I write this the sun is shining, it is a beautiful Easter weekend. From the sounds around me many of my neighbours are busy in their gardens. It really is like summer has arrived with the odours from barbecues and some time to enjoy the weather. It won't be long now till the village fetes take place, a highlight to our communities. A phenomenal amount of voluntary preparation, planning and work goes into making these events the success that they are. We also have the Auction of promises on 20th May. Do come along and make a bid, there looks to be a great selection of items to bid on.

Carole Marits

Thank you to Gail Budd, Sue Blazdell, Tessa Youell and Carole Marits who produced this month's magazine, to Michael Payne for Printing and Carole Marits, Ray Blazdell 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

Wherwell
21 & 28 May Mrs Rowles

Chilbolton
Jeanie Goodeve Docker
Julie Lloyd



St Mary the Less: Church Cleaning & Maintenance

This was postponed during April. As the first Monday in May is a Bank Holiday, we will start on Wednesday 4th May from 10.30 to 12.00, and thereafter on the first Monday of the month. Gardeners Welcome!

Church Services May 2011

	St Mary the Less Chilbolton	St Mary's Crawley	St Catherine's Littleton	St Stephen's Sparsholt	St Peter & Holy Cross Wherwell
Sunday 1st May The Second Sunday of Easter					
Holy Communion	8.00am				
Family Communion			10.00am	10.00 am	
Matins with HC					
Morning Worship		10.00 am			
Evensong	6.00pm				
Wednesday 4th May					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Westholme			2.30 pm		
Sunday 8th May The Third Sunday of Easter					
Holy Communion				8.00 am	
Family Communion		10.00 am	10.00am		
Morning Prayer with Thanksgiving for Marriage	10.00 am				
Welcome Worship				10.00 am	
Evensong					
Wednesday 11th May					
Holy Communion			9.30am		
Sunday 15th May The Fourth Sunday of Easter					
Holy Communion		8.00 am	8.00am		
Morning Worship			10.00 am		
Family Service					
CW Holy Communion	10.00 am				
Matins				10.00 am	
Benefice Evensong	6.00pm				
Wednesday 18th May					
Holy Communion	10.30 am		9.30 am		
Thursday 19th May					
Flowerdown HC			2.30 pm		
Saturday 21st May					
House Communion			10.00am		
Sunday 22nd May The Fifth Sunday of Easter					
Holy Communion					
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		
Wednesday 25th May					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Meditation			7.00 pm		
Sunday 29th May The Sixth Sunday of Easter					
Benefice Family Communion				10.00 am	

From the Church Records

Chilbolton		
Funeral	7 th March	Lionel Legard
Burial of Ashes	3 rd March	Leonard Rose
Funeral	18 th March	Patrick James Dunn
Funeral	4 th April	Patrick Piri-Gordon
Funeral	5 th April	Victor George Whitewick
Wedding	9 th April	David Stephens & Michelle Devereux
Wedding	30 th April	Scott Purver & Samantha Western
Wherwell		
Burial of Ashes	2 nd April	Eric James Eves



Breakfast at Chilbolton Rectory: 4th Sunday of the month (22nd May, 26th June and 24th July) from 8.45am followed by the 10am family service at St Mary-the-Less, Chilbolton

Family Bike Rides and tea: 2nd Sunday of the month (8th May, 12th June and 10th July) meet at Chilbolton Village hall at 3pm. Rides suitable for all for all ages and abilities. Short rides for little people and longer rides for bigger people followed by tea at the village hall. Please bring your bike, helmet and a drink for the ride. Tea is provided free of charge.

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)

St Peter and Holy Cross - Suspension of Services

Given concerns for the Health & Safety of our parishioners, the PCC of Wherwell has decided to suspend services in the church until further notice. As building works near completion in October/ November 2011, we will have a clearer picture as to when services will resume. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Wherwell PCC

***Wherwell Church (St Peter & Holy Cross) Restoration
Project Work has now well and truly started!
Have you seen the scaffolding yet?***



The major restoration project on our village church started in March, as planned. The first phase of the project is to repair the Nave roof and spire, in order to make them “safe and water tight”. The roof tiles and wooden shingles (tiles) are being replaced.

English Heritage has confirmed their total funding of c£153,000 towards the costs of this first phase. It was only this significant sum of money, which has enabled the Project to commence. Furthermore, the Restoration Project Team has also been able to raise additional monies, through generous donations from a good number of local individuals and businesses, which currently amounts to nearly £50,000. This, together with over £30,000 raised from grant-making trusts and events, £60,000 pledged by the PCC and additional monies from elsewhere, makes a grand total of over £330,000 found to date. This is truly amazing! More money will still have to be raised, but the Project work has now started and a real momentum is in place!

The fundraising focus for the first phase of the project has been through informal information events, which have been held throughout the Village. Four have been held, with another arranged for June. Everyone will be invited to an event during the forthcoming weeks and it is our plan to host a major event in the Village Hall, later in the year. We’ll let you all know! Our approach is to give everyone the opportunity to be included. We are determined that the Project should be seen as belonging to everyone with the Village – not just a few!

Please continue to support our efforts in saving the Village Church now and for future generations. To complete the full restoration of the Church, involving an upgrade of the current heating arrangements, means that we still have to raise more funds. But 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*

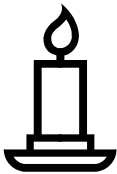


Chilbolton are hosting a special Thanksgiving for Marriage Service on Sunday 8th May at 10am. at St Mary-the-Less

Couples who have been married at the church over the last five years have been invited and the invitation is extended to everyone who would like to take this opportunity to give thanks for their marriage, regardless of where you were married or how long ago.

All are welcome to join this special service of celebration and thanksgiving, just turn up on the day! If you would like more details please contact a Churchwarden or the Benefice Office.

Kevin Lay Foundation



It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness

The Kevin Lay Foundation was set up in November 1999 in memory of Kevin, a church warden at St Catherine's, Littleton, who died tragically in a plane crash in Kosovo. He was on his way to work with Tear Fund, a Christian aid agency, rebuilding property for homeless refugees, as a member of their Disasters

Response Team.

At Kevin's funeral, Lynn asked that the collection should be used for helping young people to emulate Kevin's work in the Developing World and from this has sprung the Kevin Lay Foundation. Its aim is to provide money to help young people, of any denomination, from Littleton and the surrounding area, to travel abroad and work on short-term projects with a Christian mission or aid agency such as Tear Fund, Scripture Union etc.

Since its inception the foundation has made grants totalling 18,735 to 63 recipients, enabling local youngsters to take part in short term projects around the world. Ten young travellers were helped by the Kevin Lay Foundation during 2010. Their trips took them to Uganda, Kenya, India, Lesotho/Botswana, Tanzania and here in the UK.

Kevin cared passionately about the social injustices of this world and felt called by God to do something actively to help. He felt it was 'better to light a candle, than curse the darkness'.

We are now able to consider applications for 2011, and forms are available from Carol Ward 01962 883185, carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk or Clive Thompsett 01962 885039.

Donations to the Foundation are gratefully received at any time and will enable the work, which Kevin would have wished us to support, to continue.

The Ordination Trail

When Malc and I first came to the Benefice in 2002, I had just started on the ordination trail, but unfortunately the interviewing panel at my BAP did not think this was the right vocation for me. It had taken nearly two years to get to that point and I was devastated at the time, but after much encouragement and cajoling, embarked on training as a Reader. This time it was me who felt this was not my vocation although I did complete the course to gain a foundation degree (FDA) in Theology.

I was encouraged to try for ordination again, and after much soul searching, prayer, discussion and a definite sign from God, I tried again. This time someone switched on the roller coaster, and before I knew what was happening, I was successfully through the process and on a course which would not only result in ordination but also a Masters degree in Ministry. My training as Reader and the ultimate FDA, along with my first degree in education, were all taken into consideration to move me on to the next level of learning. The three years' Reader training also prepared me for the more academic course offered at Ripon College in Cuddesdon, near Oxford.

For the past two years I have spent term time in Cuddesdon from Sunday evening to Wednesday morning, then returned home to continue my salaried work with Hampshire County Council for the remainder of the week. It's been hard work but worth it. I've found having one foot in the clerical/academic and one foot in the secular has enabled me to put my thinking and learning into a holistic perspective, so much of it has made sense in the real world as well as the theological world.

I complete my course this year and will be ordained in Winchester Cathedral at 10.00 am on 3 July. I am thrilled to have been given a curacy in an Andover Benefice based at Knight's Enham. It is going to be interesting to work with both urban and rural districts and a lot going on to keep me busy.

I have really appreciated the support given to me during both the Reader training and Ordination training - spiritually, emotionally, creatively and financially. Without your love and support it would have been a much more difficult vocation to follow and Malc and I value the friendships and encouragement you have shown us.

God is a wonderful provider and we thank him for providing us with such a supportive community in which to worship and to thrive over the past few years. We will miss you.

With love and continued prayers to you all.

Margaret Rittman



Chilbolton Neighbourhood Watch Report

It is good to note that the Chilbolton Neighbourhood Watch scheme is taking off. There are now over 40 households on the register – roughly 10% of the village. If you would like to join (you do not have to take an active part unless you want to), please contact me on the phone or e-mail mentioned below.

Those of you already registered and on the internet, will know that a young lady, who recently moved to the village, had a very frightening experience while walking her dog one evening at the beginning of April. Two men in their 20s or 30s, smoking, followed her slowly along the road in their car, wound down the window and started to harass her before overtaking, turning round and coming back towards her. By this time she was so distraught that she ran into one of the houses nearby for help. Thank goodness there was someone at home who not only took her in but even drove off to try and find the car – sadly without success.

She did exactly the right thing and called the police, who came out to see her and also telephoned me. Unfortunately, the young lady was too upset to remember the number plate but it was an old-style, dark blue Mercedes. Over the past few months there have been three or four sightings of such a car behaving in a suspicious manner so we should all be aware and look out for the car and note down the registration number.

Maria Watson

Tel: 860415 mwatson.cottage@hotmail.co.uk



Wherwell Neighbourhood Watch Report

We now have coordinators covering the whole of Wherwell, they will be introducing themselves soon, and calling upon you to sign a petition for a no cold calling zone. The first meeting of our coordinators was on the 26th of April. It became obvious that there are many more incidents of dangerous driving than those that actually get reported. This may be because people often don't want to trouble the Police but if you feel something should be done then make sure you report any incidents to the Police, local Neighbourhood Watch coordinator or your local parish council whomever you feel more comfortable talking to. We will also soon have anti theft stickers for you heating oil tank. If you would like one do get in touch.

Richard Rowles



CHILBOLTON

AUCTION OF PROMISES

FRIDAY 20TH MAY
Chilbolton Village Hall

7.00p.m. Auction starts 7.30

All proceeds to St. Mary the Less Church

Come along and enjoy the excitement of the auction.
Make up a table and compete for a huge variety of
'Promises' ranging from a Villa in Spain for a week,
to a chocolate cake.

Complimentary food and cheap wine and drinks

Promises are also still needed. If you could offer
some of your time to do anything from cleaning a
car to lending your foreign property for a week,
please pick up a form from the Post Office or
contact: Jennie Pope on 860852

Jennie.pope@merityre.co.uk

CHILBOLTON

Coffee Morning

To be held in the Village Hall

Every third Saturday of the month
between 10.30 and 12pm
Our next meeting will be on May 21st

Everyone welcome

This includes all the family

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 and CD's will be on sale

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

Afternoon Tea
at
The White Lion Wherwell

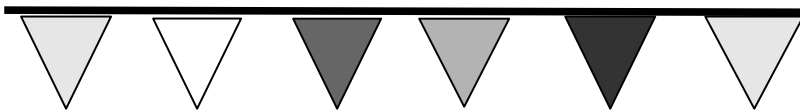


Monday 9 May 3pm
£2.00 tea and cake

Please come along. ALL welcome
(regardless of age or which Test Valley village you live in!)

Age UK Andover and District

**Our office at Town Mill, Andover is open weekday mornings for enquiries
in person or by phone 01264 354425**



Wherwell Primary School
Spring Fete

Saturday 21st May 2011
11am – 1.30pm

*Barbecue, Drinks Tent, Traditional Teas and Cakes, Produce
Pre-loved Toys, 2nd Hand Books, CD's & DVD's, Bouncy
Castle , Kids Games, Prize Draw and Much More ...*

Entertainment from the Children of the School

Advanced Prize draw tickets: Tel 860384

Entry 50p (children go free)

Free Car Parking

Wherwell Village Hall needs your help

As you all know, the current hall committee has worked hard over the last few years to make our village hall one of the best in the area – and we are delighted it is now being so well used.

Two long-standing members, Sue Blazdell and Hilary Jennison, are now standing down and we need to replace them. Lizzie Broadbent has kindly offered to join us and we would very much welcome any more volunteers.

If you are able please contact Pam Flanagan on 860560.

Sue Blazdell

CHARITY GARAGE SALE

A total of £150 was raised at the Charity Garage Sale held in Paddock Field on 9th April. This sum has been divided equally between the Parochial Church Council and Naomi House.

John and Vivien Shrimpton would like to thank all those who supported this fund raising sale.

Wherwell Church Fete

The Committee would be extremely grateful for the donation of any of the following objects for stalls. Please see directions for relevant contact / drop-off points. Of course, any voluntary help you would like to offer would be very gratefully received – we are always looking for new people!

<i>Stall</i>	<i>Items</i>	<i>Contact / drop-off</i>
<i>Pimms Tent</i>	<i>Bottles of Pimms</i>	<i>Anna Lipa, Chute Cottage, The Old Hill OR at the fete – please let me know beforehand on 860879</i>
<i>Teas</i>	<i>Cakes, sandwiches, etc</i>	<i>On the day to village hall please</i>
<i>Plants</i>	<i>Plants, trees & shrubs (all labelled please), gardening implements and books</i>	<i>On the day to stall OR deliver to Diane Newell on 720464 or Jo Baughen on 860319. Will collect if required</i>
<i>Toy Stall</i>	<i>Toys and games</i>	<i>Call Carmen Griffiths on 861321 to arrange drop-off</i>
<i>Book Stall</i>	<i>Books, CDs</i>	<i>Robert Lawrence & Sue Filmer, Flint Cottage, 30 High Street, tel: 07908 735757. Will also pick up.</i>
<i>Bottle Tombola</i>	<i>Bottles (full!)</i>	<i>Deliver to Ken Wilson 860461 or Bill Prince 860441. Will collect if necessary.</i>
<i>Bric-a-Brac</i>	<i>Unwanted treasures</i>	<i>Please deliver in advance to Brenda Headley, Bramshill, Fullerton Road, tel: 860253</i>
<i>Cakes</i>	<i>Cakes</i>	<i>On the day please to stall by lychgate</i>
<i>Chocolate Tombola</i>	<i>Chocolate</i>	<i>Please deliver to box outside 1 Greenwich Cottages, or contact Anne Clare Whiteside on 860530 to arrange collection</i>
<i>Produce</i>	<i>Garden produce and jars</i>	<i>On the day to stall or beforehand to Hilary Jennison on 861250</i>
<i>Gifts</i>	<i>New or nearly new items</i>	<i>Please deliver to Gail Starbuck at Winchester Lodge, tel: 860193</i>

Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets! There is a selection of wonderful prizes on offer, including a bicycle and a day's fishing.

WHERWELL

FETE

Saturday 11th June
12 noon
Raffle draw at 3pm

FREE PARKING

Children's Art Exhibition at the Church,
Hot Dogs, Pimm's Tent, Strawberries &
cream,
Picnic Area, Ice Cream, Teas, Tombola,
Donkey Derby, Bric-a-Brac, Raffles,
Face painting, Cakes, Plants, Produce,
Books, Gifts, Games,
Bouncy Castle, air Rifles,
Brass band and more

Lucky programme £1-00

In Aid of St Peter & Holy Cross Church,
Wherwell

**CHILBOLTON CHURCH FETE
&
VILLAGE BBQ**

**SATURDAY 25th JUNE
12.30 – 3.30 PM**

**AT
DOWN END
Drove Road**

**Beer & Pimms
Tent**

**Huge BBQ
of Local Produce**

**Stalls, raffles &
live music**

**FUN
DOG SHOW**

**Games &
entertainment
for all the family**



**Come and join in all the fun
Free Parking available**

GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY IN THE AREA



Sunday 1st May

Longstock Park Water Garden is open in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer Group from 2pm to 5pm. Admission £5, children £1. Teas are available at Longstock Park Nursery. www.longstockpark.co.uk

Sunday 15th and Tuesday 17th May

Crawley Gardens open for The National Gardens Scheme from 2pm to 5.30pm. Combined admission £5, children free. Home-made teas in the Village Hall in aid of Crawley Village Hall Trust. www.ngs.org.uk

Sunday 15th May

Longstock Park Water Garden is open in aid of HART Wildlife Rescue from 2pm to 5pm. Admission £5, children £1. Teas are available at Longstock Park Nursery. www.longstockpark.co.uk

Sunday 15th May

Ramridge Cottage, Weyhill, Andover. Garden open for The National Gardens Scheme from 2pm to 5pm. Admission £4, children free. www.ngs.org.uk

Sunday 29th and Monday 30th May

Gardens open for The National Gardens Scheme www.ngs.org.uk:
Bere Mill, London Road, Whitchurch open from 1.30pm to 5pm. Admission £5, children free (share to Smile Train). Home made teas available.
Monxton & Amport Gardens from 2pm to 5.30pm, parking in field next to Amport Village Green. Combined admission £5, children free. Cream teas at Village Hall in aid of Monxton Church
Romsey Gardens, town centre gardens within walking distance of Romsey Abbey. From 11am to 5.30pm. Combined admission £4.50, children free. Home made teas at King John's House in aid of King John's Garden.

Wherwell Parish Council Elections 2011

We can confirm that seven nominations for the seven available places have been received and those nominated will comprise the new Council after Elections on 5th May 2011. The Wherwell Parish Council AGM and Parish Assembly will be held on 17 May 2011. In addition to the Annual Parish Report, local organisations will be invited to present reports on their activities over the past year.

Wherwell Singers
Summer Concert
Anthems for the 21st century
Vivaldi's Gloria



Saturday 18th June 2011 at 7:30pm

Please note that the concert will be held at St. Peter's Church,
Stockbridge as Wherwell Church is likely to be closed

Tickets: £7 (£5 concession) Available from Dale
Webb (01264) 860074
And on the door

WHERWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL: PLACES STILL AVAILABLE

There are still a number of places at Wherwell Primary School for new pupils starting in September 2011. The school takes a healthy mix of pupils from both inside and outside of our catchment area. If you, family or friends are still thinking about school choices for September, please consider Wherwell. The school benefits from an attractive village location, unique outdoor facilities including its own woodland area, very dedicated teaching staff and an active PTA.

Wherwell has recently been awarded a 'GOOD' rating by its Hampshire County Council School Improvement Partner. This follows soon after a 'Satisfactory' rating by OFSTED in 2010, which the school felt was based on a potentially flawed external evaluation of SATS results. The 'GOOD' rating vindicates this view. Wherwell Primary School continues to invest in facilities to support the curriculum and continually strives to improve the learning environment. It has recently undertaken a complete overhaul of its IT facilities and is in the final stages of installing an entirely new suite of PC's, laptops, servers, wi-fi and other devices.

If you would like to apply for a place, please call the Head-teacher, Andy King, on 01264 860384, or email andy.king@wherwell.hants.sch.uk.

The school website can be found at www.wherwell.hants.sch.uk which, in addition to giving up-to-date information about the school and its activities, provides a full prospectus which can be downloaded.

Peter Collis

Chilbolton Parish Council

Chilbolton Parish Council met on 5th April for the last time for this administration. On 5th May a new Council will be voted into office. This report will therefore be something of an update on all the projects which the Council has in hand.

Two extra salt/grit bins have been ordered which will give Chilbolton greater capacity to handle adverse winter conditions. Still to be done is the earth bund planned for the corner by the allotments. Also we await the repositioning of the 'Give Way' sign at the foot of Martins Lane.

The Play Area project now awaits a board meeting of a principal sponsor on 3rd May. Assuming our bid is successful, this will enable the Project Team to brief local residents prior to work starting and, it is hoped, to be completed by mid-Summer.

The Council was asked to explain the three month's notice to leave the airfield which had been given to Chilbolton Flying Club. The land in question is an agricultural tenancy. It can only be used for agricultural purposes without the authority of the land owner, the Church Commissioners. This had previously been given and delegated to the Flying Club but in March of this year the agent of the Church Commissioners declined to issue another license. In spite of efforts to find an arrangement that suited both the farmer and agent, they were unsuccessful, leaving the tenant farmer no option but to give the Club notice.

The Technology Group met on 8th April. They discussed opportunities to improve broadband access in the village.

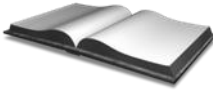
Work on the Common has now been completed and new signs installed. The Council is grateful to know it has public backing, as demonstrated in last September's briefing. The Commons Committee seek the assistance of villagers in policing the Common as it can be anticipated that it will be crowded on hot weekends, as last year. Of particular importance are those concerning BBQs and the need to keep clear of the wildlife area.

The Council has been alerted to the potential danger presented by the poplar tree at the North-West corner of Old Pond Green. The TVBC arboriculturist has recommended that it be removed. A tree application will be submitted to TVBC on behalf of the Council. Because of the prime site it occupies, the Council would like to see it replaced by a feature tree, perhaps marking Her Majesty the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012. Suggestions from the village for the replacement tree would be welcomed.

It has still not been possible to resolve the boundary issue on Grindstone Green, though the Council sustains its efforts to do so.

As the local elections are on 5th May, the next meeting of the Council will be the AGM and Parish Assembly on 10th May, at 7.30 pm in the Main Village Hall.

Jeremy Baines, Chairman, Chilbolton Parish Council



MAY DIARY DATES

2 May	Upper Clatford May Fayre	Playing field	2-4.30pm
4 May	Church cleaning	St Mary-the-Less	10.30-12
7 May	Coffee morning	WVH	10.30am
8 May	Marriage thanksgiving	St Mary-the-Less	10am
8 May	Simply Sunday family bike ride	CVH	3pm
9 May	Afternoon Tea (Age UK)	White Lion	3pm
10 May	Chilbolton PC AGM & Parish Assembly	CVH	7.30 pm
10 May	Red Garter Club	CVH	8pm
14 May	Chilbolton Observatory Open Day		10:30 -3pm
15 May	Pre-school garden party	CVH	3-5pm
15 May	Film Show – NGS Gardens	WVH	4.45-6.30
17 May	Wherwell PC AGM	WVH	7pm
17 May	Chilbolton WI	CVH	7.30pm
20 May	Wherwell History Group AGM	WVH	8pm
21 May	Wherwell School Spring Fete		11-1.30
21 May	Coffee morning & Neighbourhood Watch	CVH	10.30-12
21 May	Chris Walker's Jazz Evening	Upr Clatford VH	7.30 pm
22 May	Simply Sunday Breakfast	Rectory	8.45am
22 May	Butterfly hunt	West Down Top Car park	12pm
24 May	Wild Flower hunt	Cow Common cattle grid	7pm
26 May	Magazine Collation	CVH	6:30pm
31 May	Wherwell Wives	WVH	8pm

JUNE DIARY DATES

5 June	Wherwell Home Guard 65 th Anniversary		1pm
11 June	Wherwell Fete		12:00 noon
24 June	Glow-worm hunt	West Down Car Park	9pm
25 June	Chilbolton Fete	Down End	12.20 -3.30



WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA

Theatres:

28/04/11 to 21/05/11: **Guys and Dolls** a musical fable of Broadway.

Performances at 7.30pm (Mon-Wed), 2.30pm & 8pm (Thu & Sat, no matinee 28/04), 8pm (Fri) at Salisbury Playhouse. Tickets £14-£20. Tel (01722) 320333 www.salisburyplayhouse.com

04/05/11: **Ghosts**. By Henrik Ibsen. Presented by London Classic Theatre at The Lights, Andover at 7.30pm. Tickets £14-£15 (concessions £13, schools £9). Tel (01264) 368368 www.thelights.org.uk.

10/05/11 to 14/05/11: **Anything Goes**. Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter. Performed by Winchester Operatic Society at Theatre Royal, Winchester at 7.30pm & 2.30pm Sat matinee. Tickets £14.50, concessions and children £13.50. Tel (01962) 840440 www.theatre-royal-winchester.co.uk

17/05/11 to 21/05/11: **We Happy Few**. By Imogen Stubbs. Presented by RAODS at Plaza Theatre, Romsey at 7.30pm. Tickets £7 on 17/05, £9 for other performances. Occasional smoking and moderate bad language. Not suitable for under 10's . Tel (01794) 512987 www.plazatheatre.co.uk

25/05/11 to 28/05/11: **Boogie Nights – The 70's Musical**. Performed by Southampton Music Society at Theatre Royal, Winchester at 7.30pm & 2.30pm Sat matinee. Tickets £14, concessions £12.50.

Music:

05/05/11: **Alan Price Set** performing at The Lights, Andover at 7.45pm. Tickets £18.50-£19.50. Tel (01264) 368368 www.thelights.org.uk.

21/05/11: **City of Southampton Orchestra**: Performing at Romsey Abbey at 7.30pm. Tel (01794) 512987. www.romselynet.org.uk/musicromsey.htm

Other events:

01/05/11: **Dawn Chorus**. An early morning walk to enjoy the dawn chorus. Warm refreshments provided. At Mottisfont Abbey, near Romsey 5.30am to 7.30am. Tickets £12. Tel (01794) 340757. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events

21/05/11 to 30/10/11: **Art in the Garden**. Exhibition at Hillier Gardens near Romsey. Gardens open 10am to 6pm (or dusk, if earlier). Free with normal admission. 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:

01 May 2011 – Romsey
15 May 2011 – Andover

08 May 2011 – Winchester
29 May 2011 – Winchester

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

Chilbolton Village Hall

Despite doing our best to get popular films of wide-ranging appeal from Moviola for our regular monthly shows, the audience numbers do not warrant our continuing with this village attraction. Sometimes we are fortunate in getting a 'blockbuster', such as the King's Speech, which was very well supported. But on other occasions we are offered worthy films that are less well publicised in the daily press and consequently the take-up for tickets is only marginally sufficient for the Hall to break even. Against this background we are suspending the film shows until the autumn when, traditionally, our audiences are more buoyant. We do want to continue this facility, but it's up to you to support us and at the same time enjoy a pleasant social evening with a good film and a glass of wine or coffee. So, later in the year do please join us.

We have had two events recently. Firstly, the Jumble Sale yielded £440 and secondly, the General Knowledge Quiz evening produced £575. Both events were successful due to village support and the effective and committed assistance of the helpers. Thank you for your contribution to Village Hall Funds.

Our regular Coffee Mornings, on the third Saturday of each month, continue to be well supported. Why not come and join us? For an entry price of £1 per person, you get a nice cup of coffee (or tea) with a tasty biscuit. A raffle is also included and we generally draw the 100's Club tickets at the same time. If there are any residents who have still not joined the Club, but would like to do so, give me a call on 861334 for an application form and an explanation of how it works.

John Temple
Chairman, Village Hall Management Committee



MIDDAY MUMS

This month it'll be on Monday 16th May at the Village Hall in Wherwell.

In March, we welcomed quite a few Mums and little ones, and some without their children, so we are going to continue to run the **coffee morning** before the lunch.

Please come along for coffee and biscuits at 10.30-12 noon and you will be amazed to discover how many babies there are in the area!

For those with children at pre-school, from 12.30 we will be having our bring-and-share lunch so come and play in the lovely big space of the hall.

We have a real treat for 20th June, when Joyce Payne has invited us to her garden at Dancing Ledge in Wherwell (bring swimming things).



Science & Technology
Facilities Council



LOFAR

A Special Open Day designed for the Chilbolton & Wherwell Community to be held on Saturday 14th May 2011 10:30 to 3:00 PM

STFC –Chilbolton Observatory

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]

If you intend to join us, please notify the Observatory by post or email by Monday 9th May Numbers may be limited so please name likely attendees.

e-mail: Chilboltonopenday@stfc.ac.uk

Post: Chilbolton Observatory, Drove Road, SO20 6BJ

This will be an outdoor event that will require up to 2 km of walking.

Please dress for any weather

Secretary to the Parish Council

Liz Blakemore has been Clerk to the Parish Council for the past 4 years. She intends to retire once the new Council is established and in due course a full advertisement for her job will be published. It is a key post in the conduct of Parish Council business, ensuring that the Council conforms to legal and statutory provisions. The post is part-time and paid. Meanwhile, Liz would be pleased to explain what the post involves. If you might be interested and would like to know more, phone her on 01264 860385 for an informal chat.

Jim Dunne

I would like to thank our friends and neighbours for their great kindness shown to our family on Jim's death. The cards, letters and floral tributes were a reminder of the respect and affection Jim had in our village.

On behalf of my sister Marion, I want to thank everyone at St-Mary-the-Less who welcomed her, and showed her such courtesy and assistance.

You made a difficult occasion a pleasure and a privilege for her.

Thank you
Mary Dunne

King Edward VII Memorial Hall, Upper Clatford

CHRIS WALKER & HIS JAZZ BAND

including Dave Shepherd, Britain's No 1 Jazz Clarinettist
are returning to give us another fond look back at the glorious
music and song from the 1930's through the 'swing era'

SATURDAY 21st MAY 2011

at 7.30 pm in Upper Clatford Village Hall

Bring your own picnic and have a fabulous evening of classic jazz.

Cash Bar

Raffle

Tickets - £15.00

Available from Anna Valley Stores & Goodworth Clatford Post Office.

To reserve tickets call Geoff on 01264 363 361

Upper Clatford & Anna Valley May Fayre

Monday 2nd May

2.00 to 4.30 pm

Wild West theme

Balksbury Bridge Playing Field

including a re-enactment of the famous OK Corral shootout
of 1881 pitting the Earp brothers and Doc Holliday against the
McLaurys and Clantons - by the Wyoming Raiders.
Model Raft & Fancy Dress Competitions, Saloon Bar, Hog Roast,
Plant Stall, Grand Draw, Tombola and lots more fun and games.

If you could possibly spare a little time to help us set up in
the morning, man a stall or clear away afterwards, please call
Marian Heelas on 363 888 or e-mail marian@heelas.me.uk

Film Show – NGS Gardens

Wherwell Village Hall

Sunday 15th May - 4.45pm to 6.30pm

(Doors open 4.30pm)

To reserve a seat at the film show, please contact:

Sue on 01264 860 599, or Robert on 07908 735757

or via email on r.dlawrence@btopenworld.com

Proceeds to Village Hall

Wherwell History Group

The Group AGM will be take place on Friday 20th May, and I am confident that we can report on another successful and busy year. The formal part of the evening will take no more than 30 minutes, and should leave time for refreshments and ‘members’ miscellanea’ plus perhaps a showing of the Living Links Celebration DVD (5 minutes).

Later this year, we hope to publish a Calendar for 2012 of bygone photos which feature both villages (roughly half & half). In our archives, we have an extensive selection of Wherwell photos, but only two for Chilbolton.



Chilbolton School



Chilbolton Village hall

It is really important that the calendar covers both villages, and so we are appealing for the loan of attractive old photos of Chilbolton. What is old? Certainly pre-1950 and preferably pre-1930. Any photo will be considered. Even slightly damaged ones can be re-touched. Please contact Andrew on 860 560 or Mike on 860 592, or email wherwellhistory@gmail.com

Elsewhere in this magazine, there is a review of a new book, *Queen Elfrida's Cockatrice* by Judy Monckton. The review has been written by Group member and local author, Mary Grey. Thank you, Mary.

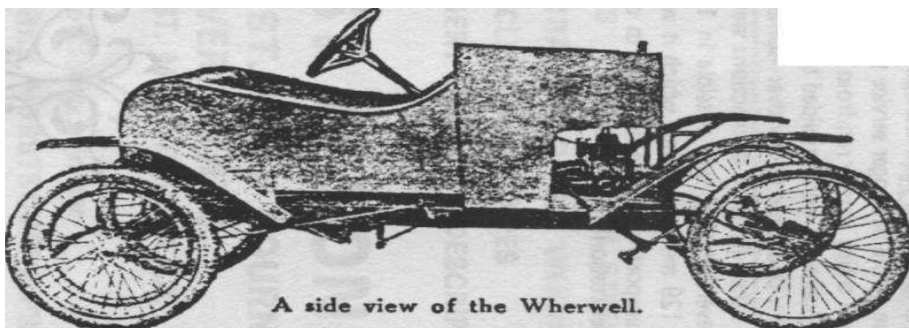
The article overleaf was first published in ‘THE LIGHT CAR AND CYCLECAR’, edition 30th October 1920, and reproduced in the Wherwell Anthology III (1976). Note (last paragraph) the manufacturers ‘guaranteed 75 mpg’!

Andrew Flanagan

WHERWELL CYCLECAR

A Simple Friction-driven Machine Selling for £130

MESSRS. THOMPSON AND SON, Wherwell, near Andover, Hants., are putting upon the market an extremely simple proposition, which is to be known as the Wherwell. The power unit, as will be seen, is carried in the orthodox position, and is a 5-7 h.p. air-cooled, horizontally-opposed Coventry-Victor, having a bore and stroke of 75 mm. by 78 mm., the cubic capacity being 688 c.c.



Ignition is by a Thomson-Bennett magneto, the mixture being supplied by a Capac carburettor. Lubrication of the engine is provided for by an ordinary hand pump, working in conjunction with a drip feed, fitted in such a position as to be seen by the driver.

Full advantage is taken of the oncoming air, as there is no dummy radiator, whilst the sides of the bonnet are also left open. Four speeds and a reverse are provided by a simple form of friction transmission, the final drive being by chain.

Suspension at the front is by long quarter-elliptic springs and at the rear by cantilever springs, the forward ends of which are anchored to helical springs. Braking is carried out by a foot-operated band brake bearing upon the counter-shaft, and a hand brake, also of the band type, operating on the rear wheels. The wheels are 26 ins. by $2\frac{1}{4}$ ins., motorcycle type, fitted with Dunlop tyres.

The manufacturers of this machine guarantee that 75 m.p.g. can be obtained with two passengers up, whilst the highest and lowest speeds on top gear are claimed to be 50 m.p.h. and 6 m.p.h. respectively. The Wherwell has a wheelbase of 7 ft. 6 ins. and a track of 3 ft. 10 ins., whilst its weight, unladen, is $4\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Without accessories, the price of the machine is £130. Delivery can be given, to order only, within one month from the date it is placed.

Andrew Flanagan



Jane's Kitchen

Most of our lamb comes from New Zealand, and since it is autumn there now a casserole is a popular meal at this time. The recipe says serve with crusty bread, but I think new potatoes would suit perfectly for an early spring meal.

6 lamb shanks

2-3 rashers of bacon, diced

1 onion or 6-8 shallots, chopped

4-5 garlic cloves, crushed

1 bottle of fruity white wine

1 tblspn fresh mixed herbs, or 1 tsp dried

A selection of vegetables of your choice: carrots, parsnips, celery and new potatoes if making a complete meal

Fry the shanks in oil till browned, then remove to a casserole. Fry the onion and bacon with the crushed garlic for a few minutes, and add to the casserole with all other ingredients. Pour over a bottle of fruity wine, two cups of water and a good tablespoon of mixed herbs (or one teaspoon of dried).

Cook slowly in the oven (or slow cooker) for three hours, or until the meat is really well done and almost falling off the bone.

Save the date ... Save the date ... Save the date ...



Come and Celebrate the Summer
BBQ & Disco

Saturday 23rd July 2011

7.30pm – midnight, Chilbolton Village Hall

All proceeds to Chilbolton Pre-School

Details to follow

Information from Clare Gibson – 860204

Everyone is invited to come
and join in the fun at our

GARDEN PARTY



Sunday 15th May 2011

3.00pm – 5.00pm

Village Hall, Eastman's Field, Chilbolton



Free ballet lesson for the children

Craft table – run by the local Brownies

See our fantastic facilities – let the children play

Football games – can you score against the goalie?

Free children's entertainment - Mr Bumble will be here!

Lots of outdoor toys & activities to keep the children busy

Free Zumba dance session – join in with Debbie Woodley

Refreshments – tea/coffee/beer/Pimms & homemade cakes

Children's yummy picnic boxes – the perfect treat for their tea

Ample, free parking – so please bring your friends & family

All proceeds will directly benefit the children at pre-school

Charity Number 1026433

Wherwell Home Guard Club 65th Anniversary party Sunday 5th June 1pm onwards

Open to everyone!

The club was set up after World War 2 as a social club for the local community. Loads of fun for all the family - come and help us celebrate.

Come dressed in clothes from the 1940's for the

Fancy Dress Competition

Bake a **wartime recipe Cake** and win a prize

Talk to an original **Home Guard** who helped protect

Wherwell and Chilbolton from enemy invasion

Barbecue - Face Painting - Music and more

Everyone welcome

Chilbolton Pre School



The children have enjoyed the recent sunny weather in the sensory garden getting it ready for planting our veg. They have had fun weeding, watering plants and planting bulbs and then watching them grow. They're all very excited and looking forward to celebrating the royal wedding. The children have begun to make a castle and enjoy playing kings, queens, princes and princesses. We held an Easter fun morning on the last day of term which went very well. The children invited their parents to spend the morning at Pre-school with them, as partnership with parents is an important part of the Early years Foundation stage, and we promote this in our Pre-school. Parents stayed for the session and joined in with arts and crafts, had their hair done in our hair salon and ate hot cross buns before the children finished the morning off with an egg hunt.

Just recently the children have enjoyed seeing a little wild rabbit that comes into the garden, reminding us how fortunate we are to be in such lovely surroundings.

Sessions are continuing with Dancing Clare and Merry Go Round which the children very much enjoy and gain huge benefit from. However these activities are funded by money raised from various fundraising activities and to ensure their continuation we are holding two events next term:

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

Patrick Pirie-Gordon

The family would like to say a very big 'thank you' to all those who sent cards, letters, messages and flowers after PG's death. We were very touched by all the support and we recognised how much he meant to so many in the village.

Also another 'thank you' to all those who helped in giving him such a splendid farewell, to the flower ladies for the lovely arrangements in the church, and to those who helped move the furniture around to provide enough seating.

Finally a thank you to Stuart Rason for his support to PG in his latter days, and for making it such a special service with a welcome return of Errol Williams, and Sue Williams who generously offered to play the organ for the wonderful choir which he loved so much.

Jeannie Goodeve-Docker

WHERWELL HISTORY GROUP



ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING &
MEMBERS
EVENING

At
Colonel Jenkins'
Memorial Hall
Wherwell SP11 7JJ

FRIDAY 20TH MAY
AT 8.00PM

All Welcome Admission Free
Tea/Coffee Biscuits included

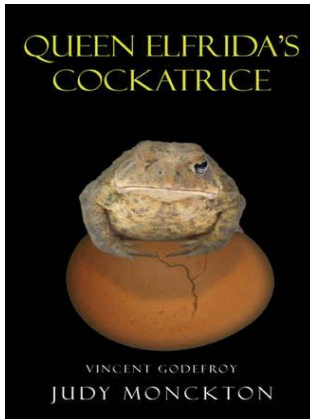
Friends of the Family

'Friends of the Family' are looking for more volunteers to expand the service they are able to offer to families through the '5s to 13s Project.'

Are you a friendly, caring person who can listen and empathise with others? Would you like to help a family to help themselves? Would you like to make a difference to a family's life? Can you make a regular commitment of two hours a week? Then you could help us to help vulnerable families and their children between the ages of 5 and 13 in the Winchester area.

Registered Charity No: 1068010
www.friendsofthefamilywinchester

Queen Elfrida's Cockatrice



ISBN 1843866889

It is a rare joy to discover a new book on Wherwell Abbey's dramatic history, and its very own "dragon" (cockatrice), so we are grateful to local historian, Judy Monckton. Living in Dorset, she has her own link to the story through the murder of 'Edward the Martyr' at Corfe Castle. The original author of this version of the story was Vincent Godefroy, a playwright of the 1930's.

Thrilling, this new book certainly is. Whether it is historically verifiable is another matter! Monckton's book shows the Queen near the end of her life, living peacefully at Wherwell (around 1001), when all monastic peace is shattered by the appearance of the cockatrice (lizard or dragon). It destroys the Abbey's ducks and moves on to members of the community and even to children.

The new and disturbing feature of this story is that it focuses on St Dunstan (Archbishop of Canterbury) and his extreme dislike of Elfrida for her part in violent events. The suggestion is made that this enmity is pursuing Elfrida beyond the grave in the shape of the cockatrice! Believe this or not, the bravery of the queen in pursuing the 'beast' to its death, through a version of the mirror story we know well, makes exciting reading.

Sadly, the tale raises the question as to whether Elfrida truly repented or not, since the story ends with her advising her son Ethelred in his struggle against the Danes to slaughter all the Danes in the country... Thus, another escalation of violence followed. And so she died, with rising horror of what she had done. The reader is left with many questions to ponder.

Mary Grey

Fun Run 2011



Another great day with about 118 competitors, including 20 thrashers in kit (Hampshire American football team) Once again it was a really nice atmosphere and I think everyone enjoyed themselves. We had a good mix of serious runners and also families enjoying a day out.

The fastest man for the 11k run this year was Mark Curtis from Andover who completed in an impressive 42.05 min. The fastest woman was Angela Brown from Eastleigh who finished in 59.30min.

For the 7.5k run, the fastest man was David Lacey from Chilbolton in 35.18min and the fastest woman was Marie Alexander from Aldershot in 37.49min.

It was really great to see lots of youngsters out on the course. In the 11k run, the fastest boy was Jamie Tedd, aged 9 years from Grateley school who, given his age, and that he'd never done something like this before, was incredibly fast. Some way behind the fastest girl was Hanneke Pigott-Rowles, from Westgate School.

Finally for the 7.5k run, the fastest boy was Ben Miles from Wherwell school and the fastest girl was Robyn Grace from King Sombourne school.

It was a great achievement for all the children who entered. Well done to them and let's get more involved next year.

Many thanks to the marshals, Leanna, Charlotte, Susan, and Julie. Jane and Patsey for doing the water stop, to Jane's daughter Edel, for keeping cool doing all the registration forms, as well as to Mary G, Mary Collins, and Lisa for marshalling the road.

Thanks must also go to Sean Hutton and his team at the Pavilion for helping with refreshments and registration. The event raised about £918 which will be split between the school and Wherwell Pavilion.

Go to www.wherwellfunrun.com to see the latest photos

Claire Pigott





Bee Diary May 2011



‘What made you start beekeeping?’ is a question frequently asked of me. The short answer is that my father kept bees and I believe my grandfather also kept bees, so it runs in the family.

My grandfather would have kept bees around 1909, the year in which the ‘Isle of Wight Disease’ struck the native English honey bee and virtually all colonies were wiped out in a single season. It is believed that the disease was caused by the acarine mite, which infested what passes for lungs in a bee.

Unfortunately our family records only go back to the early 1960’s. Merityre was incorporated in May 1961, so this month is our 50th anniversary. I was digging through the old filing cabinets in the office recently and came upon some of my brothers’ and sisters’ school reports. My memories of teachers from those days are mostly of bad-tempered individuals, all too ready to wield a cane or to set detention. However, reading these old school reports suggests that those same teachers had a hitherto undetected sense of humour which manifested itself in these terse handwritten summaries:

From the English Teacher: ‘The improvement in his handwriting has revealed an inability to spell’

From the Economics Teacher, at the time of the cold war: ‘If the workers of the world unite, it would be presumptuous of Pope to consider himself amongst their number’

From the Maths Teacher, on a returned sheet of homework: ‘Your father obviously didn’t understand the question.’

And at boarding school, even the house matron would write a report: ‘If Pope doesn’t learn to make his bed better, he and I will fall out.’

However, it was two Biology teachers, Tim Potts and Malcolm Thompson who inspired me to become interested in the science of bees and beekeeping.

This developed into an A level project on bees. I had to visit the headmaster for permission to site a hive at school. Friends flocked to help, little realizing the perils involved in beekeeping without adequate protective clothing. Fencing helmets were pressed into use, and even CCF camouflage webbing was tried, (and rapidly rejected when the bees flew straight through it) as a means of keeping the bees at bay. I learnt the advantages of wearing Wellington boots when I tried opening the hive in trainers, a dozen stings on each ankle is a powerful incentive to get the clothing right.

(Continued on Page 32)

(Continued from Page 31)

We cleared bees from a groundsman's hut, and thereby rendered a playing field unusable for a week until the bees settled down. On the last day of term a swarm of bees gathered on the window ledge of the dormitory. I was able to pick up the queen and put her in a matchbox in a cardboard box. The swarm entered the box and was taken home along with the trunk.

So ended my school days, and for a time, my bee-keeping career. I started keeping bees again when we moved to Chilbolton in 1988. Some time after that it was Patrick Pirie-Gordon who encouraged me to start writing an article on bees in the parish magazine . . .

Jolyon Pope



Chilbolton and Wherwell Wildlife



Several of you enjoyed a dawn chorus walk with me on 10th April. Everyone heard the songs of many woodland birds, including a Tree-creeper and several summer visitors – Blackcap, Chiffchaff, and Willow Warbler. We were also quite surprised to hear an early Cuckoo. Several migrant bird species seem to have arrived early as a result of warm weather and southerly winds over Africa and much of Europe. This has also brought a few migrant moths, and locally, our own warm weather has resulted in very early appearances of many moths that we don't normally see till mid-May or later.

Of course, as well as being warm, it's also been very dry. Apart from the obvious impact on gardens, crops, and water-levels in the river, the dry weather is beginning to have effects on wildlife. Just at the moment, as part a national survey, Sheila and I are trying to assess the local distribution of Woodcock. To see Woodcock, we have to go out in wooded areas just after sunset. This is the time that the male birds perform a strange breeding-season display flight, known as 'roding'. They fly along just above the tree-tops, often along the line of woodland paths or wood edges, alternately uttering a sharp 'tizick' sound and low-pitched croaking. The theory is that this entices the lady Woodcock out from under the trees and into the open so that they can mate! We've so far seen the roding birds in Longparish, Wherwell, and Leckford – but not quite as many, or as frequently as we expect in April. I'm pretty sure this is because of the very dry weather. The Woodcock is a bird that prefers wet woodlands, where it probes with its long bill in the mud

(Continued on Page 33)

and damp leaf litter for its food. As the ground dries out, so the feeding areas become limited, and I think Woodcock are at the moment having to spend rather more time finding food and a bit less time on their mating ritual.

Before I finish this month, here's a little request for some help. The Highland cattle will shortly be returning to West Down for their summer grazing. We are once again establishing a rota of people to take a daily look at them, and make sure they are in good health. It only takes about half-hour once per week (say), and you can easily combine it with a leisurely afternoon stroll or walking the dog. Please contact Sheila or myself (on 01264 860697) if you'd like to join the 'lookers' rota, and help keep an eye on them through the summer.



Wildlife Diary Dates

Looking ahead, here are some dates for your diary:

West Down Butterflies – mid-day, Sunday 22nd May

Meet at top car-park. This is a joint event with Butterfly Conservation's Hampshire Branch, and we expect to see some of our West Down spring-time butterfly specialities – Grizzled Skipper, Brown Argus, Green Hairstreak, and the relatively rare and day-flying Cistus Forester moth.

Chilbolton Common – 7.00pm, Tuesday 24th May

Meet at the cattle-grid on the Chilbolton side. Jointly with Chilbolton Horticultural Society, we'll look at the wild flowers on the Common and anything else we can see. For those who want to stay on, there's a chance of seeing a Woodcock – but not till after 9.30pm.

West Down Glow-worm hunt – 9.00pm, Friday 24th June

Meet at top car-park. We'll need to stay till after dark for this one, so at least till 11.00pm. Last time we did it, several years ago, we found quite a number of glow-worms in several different areas of the Down. If you've never seen a glow-worm, do come along - you'll be amazed !

Glynne Evans (hantsbto@hotmail.com)

Wherwell Cricket Club



I pleased to announce that Wherwell Cricket Club now have two sponsors. KJM Windows are now sponsors of our adult league teams, and Andover Garden Centre are now sponsors of our under 9, under 11 and under 13 Junior sides. The money we are raising is going towards our new nets that we so desperately need. We are hoping to raise the funds by the end of the season.

Our first game is on the 24th April, so we will have started playing before you read this, but if you fancy a game do get in touch. 861101. We also have a couple of locals interested in forming a ladies team, if you are interested too do get in touch.

Richard Rowles

Chilbolton WI Report

By the time you read this, the WI will have celebrated the Royal Wedding with a special tea. Cup-cakes with Royal Wedding motifs will have been consumed.

Two resolutions to be debated at the National Federation Annual General Meeting in June: (a) the impact of the development of ‘mega-farms’, and (b) the closure of local library services. Our members will be debating these two topics at our meeting on 17th May. This debate will be followed by a talk by Sue Waldron, on the ‘Crafts of the Inland Waterways’. Committee members heard a taster of her talk and were so fascinated they booked her before she becomes too popular.

Twelve members are looking forward 16th May when they will sampling taster courses at Denman College, near Abingdon, the WI’s own education college.

Members continue to knit jumpers for Zimbabwean orphans, the best of which will be entered for the Flower Show. A letter from Harare told us how gratefully these are received.

Members also contribute to the Food Bank with monthly donations of non-perishable food items, and there was a generous response to a special request for Easter Eggs.

Sue Batchelor

Mobile Library - 12th and 26th May

Wherwell	- White Lion	11.15-11.45	
Chilbolton	- Village Hall	12-12.45,	Bannuts Farm 2.10-2.30

Dr Evans' Retirement Collection

Dr Evans has asked me to thank everyone who kindly donated to his retirement collection. He was deeply touched by the generosity shown by patients in Wherwell and Chilbolton. As many of the donations were in cash and were left without the name of the donor he is sorry that he cannot thank everyone individually. He has just returned from a trip to Vietnam and Laos and hopes to be able to travel more in his retirement. As he would like to go on an African safari and to visit the gorillas in Rwanda he will put the money towards the cost of the trip.

He asked that I pass on his best wishes to everyone. After thirty years as a doctor in Stockbridge he said that he will miss his patients but certainly not the bureaucracy, which he feels will only get worse in the future!

Jane Andrews

WHERWELL WIVES

Please do come and join us. You don't have to be a wife or live in Wherwell to come. **NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 31st MAY AT 8pm** in the village hall. Posters will be put up confirming details of the speaker.

RRREFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED. FEE £2 for NON MEMBERS

**Any queries contact PAM FLANAGAN Tel: 860560
or JANE ANDREWS Tel: 860635**