

# Chilbolton and Wherwell Community Magazine

Long summer evenings, barbecues, fetes and holidays, summer is upon us. What better way to enjoy it than with another great month of contributions to your village magazine. We have a good selection of events to attend as well as our regular contributions. If you want to put pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard we would like to hear from you. Tell us about your events, your experience of village events you attended, and your local stories.

*Carole Marits*

Thank you to Victoria Ramsay, Jim and Maggie Duffy and Carole Marits who produced this month's magazine, to Ed Treadwell for Printing and Ray and Sue 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



---

## July Church Flowers



**Chilbolton**

Davina Bruce and Pat Lloyd

**Wherwell**

The flower rota for Wherwell is suspended while the Church roof is undergoing repairs and the building is out of action.



## St Mary the Less: Church Cleaning & Maintenance

First Monday of each month, 10.30 to 12 noon. Gardeners Welcome!

\*\*\*\*\* MAGAZINE – COPY DATE CHANGE \*\*\*\*\*

**Please note that the closing date for copy is changing, to the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month with immediate effect.**

This is to enable the magazine team to meet the printing timelines for our new printer. In order for our volunteers to produce the magazine to these deadlines we need some co-operation from our contributors.

From October a local printer will be printing the magazine and collating it as a single process. Our existing collation team have been fantastic and the magazine would not reach you without them.

We are changing the date now in order to ensure that the new system will work well and to give us time to iron out any potential wrinkles.

*Hilary Jennison*

## **Magazine Advertising for 2011-2012**

October marks the beginning of a new advertising year for the Magazine and I will be shortly contacting all our existing advertisers to invite them to renew for the coming year. If you would like to advertise or know of anyone who may be interested then please get in touch.

Up until the September Magazine we are able to include flyers for a charge of £25 – normally up to two per issue. If you would like to insert a flyer, we need 750 copies a couple of days before collation is scheduled and it's always better to reserve a space in advance by e-mailing or ringing me. From September 2011 this will change and we will accept a half page advert for £25 (up to a maximum of 2 adverts per issue)

The Magazine Committee would like to use this opportunity to thank all our Advertisers, as it is their contributions together with all our valuable volunteers, which enables us to continue to produce the Magazine and distribute it free of charge to all 750 households in the two villages.

If anyone has any questions or comments relating to advertising then please do get in touch.

*Sally Hawke, 01264 861363  
sally@hawke-consulting.co.uk*

**Church Services July 2011**

	St Mary the Less Chilbolton	St Mary's Crawley	St Catherine's Littleton	St Stephen's Sparsholt	St Peter & Holy Cross Wherwell
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July The Second Sunday after Trinity</b>					
Holy Communion	8.00am				
Family Communion			10.00am	10.00 am	
Morning Worship		10.00 am			
Evensong	6.00pm				
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July</b>					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Westholme			2.30 pm		
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July The Third Sunday after Trinity</b>					
Holy Communion				8.00 am	
Family Communion		10.00 am	10.00am		
Morning Prayer	10.00 am				
Welcome Worship				10.00 am	
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July</b>					
Holy Communion			9.30am		
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July The Fourth Sunday after Trinity</b>					
Holy Communion		8.00 am	8.00am		
Morning Worship			10.00 am		
CW Holy Communion	10.00 am				
Matins				10.00 am	
Benefice Evensong			6.00pm		
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July</b>					
Holy Communion	10.30 am		9.30 am		
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>					
Flowerdown HC			2.30 pm		
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>					
House Communion			10.00am		
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July The Fifth Sunday after Trinity</b>					
Family Service	10.00 am				
Family Communion			10.00 am	10.00 am	
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship with Sunday School		10.00 am			
Peace & Healing			6.00pm		
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July</b>					
Holy Communion			9.30 am		
Meditation			7.00 pm		
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July The Sixth Sunday after Trinity</b>					
Benefice Family Communion- celebration of Malcolm & Margaret's ministry		10.00am			
Songs of Praise at Lainston House followed by tea at 5pm				4.00pm	

## From the Church Records

<b>Chilbolton</b>		
Baptism	12th June	Felix Cresswell
Memorial Service	18th June	Mike Keys
<b>Wherwell</b>		
Baptism	18th June	Lottie Liddell

### **Rydal Hall - 28th May-4th June 2011**

Rydal Hall is the conference, retreat and holiday centre for the Diocese of Carlisle, situated between Ambleside and Grasmere in the beautiful Lake District. I attended the Downs Benefice bi-annual holiday there in 2009 and was delighted to take part in it again. I enjoyed it even more than two years ago, though the weather was less good!

The food and accommodation at Rydal Hall is excellent and the programme of events was varied and well-planned. Each day there were visits to local places of interest, such as historic houses and gardens or museums. There were also daily walks for all levels of ability, embracing less than three miles or over seven miles, some leisurely and some more undulating and challenging.

There were about 35 of us and each evening we made our choice of activity for the following day; packed lunches were provided every morning. After a delicious dinner optional evening activities included a murder mystery evening, a fun quiz, a poetry evening and "Call My Bluff" on the last day, after which most of us adjourned to the bar! There were also two lectures: an excellent one by two young men from the Ambleside Mountain Rescue team, with slides, entitled "De-mystifying Mountain Rescue" and it succeeded in doing just that and was most informative and interesting.

Those who wished could attend a very short service each morning before breakfast in the lovely little chapel, which is part of the main building.

My sincere thanks go to Errol and Clive Thompsett and Shirley and Mike Lupton for all the planning and organisation they put in so we were all able to enjoy another memorable week at Rydal.

*Dawn Rickatson*

## **Parish Visitors, a Caring and Supportive Community**

Living in a caring and supportive community is a real privilege and I'm sure it's one of the reasons many people enjoy village life. Chilbolton and Wherwell are certainly wonderful villages, both with their own identity and most importantly communities that know how important it is to be supportive of each other as life takes its varied and unexpected course.

Dealing with what life throws at us sometimes needs the support or experience of someone who can help us deal with the things that really 'take the wind out of our sails' and it's that supportive community spirit that will have helped many of us cope with difficult times and realise how important that care and support are.

The support people need when times are difficult is often provided by family, friends and the community, all of which are so important and I'm sure those providing that support will continue to 'be there' when they are needed.

As part of this support for all the communities within the Downs Benefice, our Parishes are building a team of people who can assist the clergy in offering support particularly to those who may be going through difficult times.

Parish Visitors are a team from the church community who help ensure someone is available when a member of the community needs support. So whether it's the loss of a job, bereavement, or having to cope with the pressures of caring for someone with an ongoing illness they are there to share and reflect God's love and to try and be the hands, the feet, the eyes, and the caring heart through the support they offer and sometimes to just 'be there' when that's what someone needs.

The training programme for Parish Visitors covers a comprehensive range of subjects and at the end of their training they are commissioned by the Bishop. There is a programme starting in September of this year when a new group will be taken through many of the challenges life may throw our way, aimed at helping them to better support those in need. They will be taken through training in areas such as listening skills, dealing with anger, loss, bereavement, terminal illness, relationship problems, separation and divorce all to help them offer support.

If you know of someone in the community who could benefit from the support offered by Parish Visitors please do speak to the Benefice office on 01962 880845.

*Colin Sheath*

# SPACE IN THE CITY

AUTUMN 2011

**400**

**THE KING JAMES BIBLE: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

**WEDNESDAYS FROM 12.30 – 1PM**

**28<sup>th</sup> September to 19<sup>th</sup> October &**

**2<sup>nd</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

**At THE UNITED CHURCH, JEWRY STREET, WINCHESTER.**

- 28<sup>th</sup> September - The Unmediated Voice of God? Who 'spoke' the King James Version? The Rev'd Dr David Holgate - Principal, Southern Theological Education and Training Scheme, Salisbury.
- 5<sup>th</sup> October - The Winchester College Bible - Dr Geoffrey Day, Fellows' & Eccles Librarian, Winchester College.
- 12<sup>th</sup> October - The King James Bible and the English Language - Dr Christopher Mulvey, Trustee, The English Project; Emeritus Professor of English, University of Winchester.
- 19<sup>th</sup> October - The Bible and Judaism – the Jewish approach to biblical literature. Dr Helen Spurling Ian Karten Outreach and Teaching Fellow, the Parkes Institute, University of Southampton.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Lectio Divina, + Giles Hill, O.S.B. Abbot of Alton Abbey
- 9<sup>th</sup> November - The Bible in translation today – Bible Society, James Catford Group Chief Executive of the Bible Society
- 16<sup>th</sup> November - 'What the Bible means to me....' - Debbie Thrower in conversation with... Debbie Thrower, Broadcaster; Reader & Simeon Chaplain to Older People, Alton.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> November - Fast Bible – accessing the Bible in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, The Rev'd Dr Stefan Collier, Assistant Curate, East Winchester Benefice.

**Sandwiches available ~ Admission Free**

**Donations welcome**

Space in the City is an ecumenical venture organised by lay, licensed, ordained and associate members of Winchester's city churches,  
St Bartholomew, St Lawrence & St Swithun, St Peter, and The United Church.

[www.spaceinthecity.org.uk](http://www.spaceinthecity.org.uk)

## Wherwell Primary School: PTA Summer Newsletter

### **SPRING FETE – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May**

This year we raised just over £3000 – a brilliant result. An enormous THANK YOU to everyone involved in the preparation and participation. Fortunately the weather was on our side again and there was a wonderful atmosphere as the school and local community came together to enjoy the entertainment.

The Central Arena hosted some wonderful performances including a lively dance by Years R and 1 (no escape for the parents!), maypole dancing by Years 2 and 3 (looking adorable in their traditional costumes) and a ferocious demonstration of the Haka by Year 4! Classes 4 and 5 then showcased the huge range of sporting activities the school participates in.

The newly refurbished children's kitchen was open for all to see and Class 5 had produced some very informative and colourful display work.

Judy Chalk was the lucky winner in our Prize Draw securing a voucher for dinner at Clos du Marquis. In the children's art competitions George Hallinger and Dicte and Milla Abildgaard won prizes for their imaginative creations.

The money we raised has enabled us to purchase lots of new items to benefit all the pupils including a laptop computer and data projector for the hall, a visualizer, microphones, Bee Bots, badminton sets and the remaining equipment for the children's kitchen.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

#### **Woodland Morning – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

A chance to try your hand at pond dipping and mini beast hunting. This will also be an opportunity to carry out some maintenance work – volunteers armed with secateurs or branch loppers will be pointed in the right direction!

#### **Summer BBQ – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

Our annual end of year celebration is a great opportunity to share food and drink with friends. As always the Year 6 leavers will take to the stage to provide the entertainment. Tickets will be available approximately two weeks before the event from the school office. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Forthcoming Meetings** Our next meeting will take place on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July at The White Lion, Wherwell and the first meeting of the new academic year will be the AGM on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

## A big 'Thank you' to Chilbolton

During the week of 15th-22nd May, thanks to the generosity of Chilbolton residents and the dedication of a brilliant team of collectors, the magnificent sum of £935.91 was raised for Christian Aid. With Gift Aid added, the total became £1,107.66 – the second year running that the amount exceeded £1,000.00.

My personal thanks go to Sylvia, Sue, Davina, Trish, Ed, Maggie, Peter and Sue, Ros, Debbie and Jane – you all did a wonderful job.

*Mick Batchelor: Christian Aid Week Co-ordinator*

---

## Refreshment/Tea Stall - Wherwell Church Fete

Thank you very much to all who donated delicious cakes and scones to the Refreshment/Tea Stall and to Lizzie Broadbent, Pam Wilson and Sue Blazdell for all their help.

*Gill and Peter Granger, Pam and Andrew Flanagan*

---



## Chilbolton Flower Show 27th August 2011



**Photo competition titles  
'Love Story' & 'Good enough to eat'.**

**Free** schedules will be available shortly  
from committee members.

**Sheila Evans: 860 697**

Waverley, Station Road

**Sue Batchelor: 860 307**

1, Room Cottages,  
Village Street

**Maggie Duffy: 860 267**

Charlcott, Branksome Avenue

**Mary Gilbert: 861 142**

Beech Cottage, Station  
Road

**Phillipa Munns 860 625**

Brinks Cottage,  
Newton Stacey cross-  
roads

**Sue Keen 860 571**

4, Durnford Close.



## Chilbolton Parish Council

The meeting opened with the Council offering their condolences to the family of Mike Keys who had participated in many aspects of village life and often attended the Parish Council meetings.

It has been decided to have a new look at the play area following the unsuccessful bid for funds from Veolia Trust. A smaller initial scheme will probably be prepared with greater use of local unpaid labour and materials. When matters are finalised the proposals will be presented to the village. In the mean-while discussions with Enterprise Inn are proceeding so that we can take a lease on the area of land involved.

The Village is exploring technological and environment issues to see if there are ways in which their potential influences can improve life in Chilbolton. We are lucky to have Martin Gossling on the Council who understands such matters. Martin has also overseen the regeneration of the allotments where derelict land has been recovered and we now have 11 allotment holders as against 2 when he started.

We are fortunate that councillors from the Test Valley and Hampshire County Councils regularly attend our meetings. They are eager listeners to our problems and through them we are able to accomplish much. In particular Andrew Gibson, who for many years was on the Parish Council now has a powerful position within HCC and gives us his advice and makes sure that the issues we raise are promptly dealt with. One of which is around the Mayfly Bridge where we are urging HCC to look at a better configuration to improve road safety.

Work to improve the Common continues with the Community Payback Team who have achieved much during the couple of years that they have been associated with the Village. The footpath between West Down and the Memorial Playing Fields near the Coronation Tree Green is to be substantially upgraded which might make it easier for people to park on West Down and walk to the Common. The old fence on the street side around the Coronation Tree Green may be removed and a new beech hedge planted to improve appearances as you drive into the Village.

One early idea to mark the Queens Jubilee next year is for the planting of a grove of trees on some unused part of the Playing Fields. The idea would be for each active organisation within the Village to have a tree planted within the grove. There might also be a bench and a plaque.

The football team were promoted last season so we are hoping that under new leadership of the squad improvements to the pavilion can be put in hand. The playing fields consume a substantial part of the free income of

*Continued on page 11*

the Parish Council and it would be good to see them actively used. The areas of grass on the playing fields which were left uncut have rewarded us with colourful wild flowers. If we can plant a meadow of wild flowers on parts of the playing field next season that should attract more wild life.

The Council gave thanks to P.C. John Viney and to inspector Ian Whyton who were at the meeting, for all the help and support we have had from John not only on the Neighbourhood Watch project but with the parking problems on the Common; the police have issued cautions to two motorists who were parking in a location which caused problems. We think the No B-B-Q signs have stemmed much of this activity which was damaging parts of the Common.

Finally grants were approved to those facilities within the Village which we have always supported such as the Village Hall, Pre-School and the Church.

*Alan Crisp, Chairman*



## **Chilbolton Neighbourhood Watch Report**

A short report this month. I received a number of phone calls when the ex-prisoners were cold calling on 31 May particularly as one of them was pushing a very hard sell and was also quite aggressive. I passed the information to our local police who checked them out. The other incident of note was the theft of a substantial quantity of goods from George Whitfield's yard in Drove Road. This happened around lunchtime on 11<sup>th</sup> May. Did anyone see anything? Still no news of a dark blue Mercedes. I will be at the Village Hall coffee morning on 16<sup>th</sup> July together with some of the area co-ordinators.

*Maria Watson, Co-ordinator. Tel. 860415  
mwatson.cottage@hotmail.co.uk*

---

## **MIDDAY MUMS COFFEE AND LUNCH**



This month we shall be meeting at the Village Hall in Wherwell on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July. Come along for coffee and biscuits from 10.30 -12 noon. Then from 12.30 we will have a bring and share lunch for those coming on from pre-school. Everyone has lots of fun playing, or chatting, or both, so we hope to see you.

**There will be no Midday Mums in August**

*Susan Ansell 860775*

## Wherwell Parish Council

The recent AGM was attended by C Cllr Andrew Gibson and D Cllr Jim Neal and 5 members of the public. I (Jane Andrews) was elected to continue as chairman with Sean Hutton as vice chairman.

During 2010/2011 there were 7 PC meetings. During this time all planning applications have been supported.

The PC was very pleased that the vehicles on the corner of Beech Grove had been removed. A solution is now being sought to remove the derelict mobile home.

This year the precept from TVBC to run the council remains at £7,500. This covers administration, meetings, audit costs, clerk's salary and insurance costs. Other costs include the bus shelter, war memorial, memorial green, general grass cutting and street lighting. There were no major repairs this year. Grants of £750 were given to the playing fields, the village hall and the church and £100 to the pre-school group. This leaves little money for other projects. However other Wherwell groups have been securing grants. The PCC has raised £330 with the help of donations and grants.

A £950 grant was received for producing map leaflets. The final amendments to the proofs of the maps and walks leaflet and 3 notice boards have been made.

Testway housing agreed to donate £4,000 towards the cost of the proposed footpath leading from Chant Close into the village. This was scheduled to start in March but there is now a legal problem with the transfer of land from the brewery to HCC. We are assured the funding is in place and this will finally happen.

C Cllr Gibson donated £500 from devolved funds to the PC. £2300 was received from section 106 payments and put as part payment to the new playground. HCC withdrew from the purchase of the old tennis courts at the last minute. Efforts are being made to reclaim the £3,000 legal fees from HCC.

Thanks were passed to Sparsholt College for repairs to the Longbridge and in April the damage to the A303 sign was finally repaired after much frustrating chasing.

C Cllr Gibson and MP Caroline Nokes have been asked to assist with a 20mph speed limit through the centre of the village. Although more common in urban areas, unless there is a serious accident the road is not considered dangerous by the police or HCC. We will be asking for the support of the parishioners for this initiative in the near future.

The condition of the verges along Fullerton Road and the danger caused by the parking of vehicles in close proximity to road junctions is also being investigated.

*Continued on page 13*

Tenants of Mill Court had expressed concern regarding rent increases over 10%. D Cllr Neal has taken up the case with Testway housing as unrealistic service charges have been levied. Service provision is now being reviewed and payments will be adjusted. The cockatrice weather vane is now adorning the roof of the village hall and a plaque denoting that it is the memory of Vic and Mary Pyke has been commissioned. In the future, if passed by Parliament, the implications of the Localism Bill will have to be considered very carefully as it could necessitate a total review of the way PC's operate. The relevance of the Village Design Statement (VDS) is to be reviewed once a decision has been received from TVBC on the acceptability of an on line rather than printed document. The Queens diamond jubilee will be celebrated by the planting of many spring bulbs throughout the parish.

The home guard club will shortly celebrate its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. With a full size snooker table and dart board and membership at £15 per annum it is hoped that more residents will become members. Opening hours are currently under review.

Time was taken at the end of the AGM to thank all of the unsung heroes of the parish who generously give their time and energy to do much for the parish. These include the Parochial Church Council, the playing fields and village hall committees. Sean Hutton works tirelessly as the chairman of the school governors and the playing fields committee as well as vice chair to the PC. Not only does he deal with the endless admin but often he is wielding a paintbrush in a classroom or in the playing fields pavilion. A big thank you to Sue Blazdell who is retiring as chair of the Village Hall committee. Sue has overseen the nearly completed refurbishment of the hall assisted by her hard working committee. Hilary and Phil Jennison will soon be leaving the village and will be missed for their many contributions over the years. Thanks are also owed to the organisers of the Church, School, Christmas Bazaar and Playing Fields Fetes.

Other volunteers produce the village magazine, run the junior football club, cricket team, choir, history group, book club, Church flowers and many more.

Richard Rowles was thanked for initiating the successful Last Night of the Proms and for chairing the reformed Neighbourhood Watch Committee. The PC very much appreciates the support James Hellier has given over the years for keeping a watch on the river and the village.

Cllrs Gibson and Neal were thanked for their ongoing support through the year. This year will prove to be just as busy. We hope more parishioners will attend the PC meetings. The next one is Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm at the Colonel Jenkins Hall.

*Jane Andrews*  
01264 860635

*The Chilbolton Players  
Present...*

*"Maurice Dancing"*

*A Comedy  
By Michael Snelgrove*



*And*

*"Costa Del Packet!"*

*A Farce  
By Anthony Booth*



*On Friday 9th and Saturday 10th September  
At 7:30pm*

*Box Office : 01264 861082*

## **CAN YOU HELP?!?!**

***Chilbolton Players are looking for a new  
Lighting Engineer***

***For future performances.***

***For more information, please contact  
Andrew Coombes on (01264) 860886***

LIVE BAND

DISCO

RAFFLE

REAL ALE

BAR

You, your family & friends  
are cordially invited to an:



## **Evening of Food, Music & Dancing**

Tasty BBQ – yummy sausages & burgers...

Fab Disco – courtesy of Ian Walker...

Live Music – courtesy of local band Faccombe'all...

Funky Dancing – courtesy of you!

BBQ

PUDDING

AUCTION

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011**  
**7.30pm – 12.00midnight**

Chilbolton Village Hall, Eastman's Field, Chilbolton

**Tickets £12.50 (includes BBQ food & salad)**

Tickets available now...

Clare Gibson 01264 860204

Ceri Lloyd-Davies 01264 860807

Sam Inglis 07732095814



www.chilboltonpreschool.com  
Registered Charity No: 1026433

Proceeds to Chilbolton Pre-School

## **Chilbolton Common - a big thank you to “pullers” Past and Present!**

Normally in June I would be asking you to help us pull up ragwort. This weed with its golden yellow flowers and dark green leaves, is toxic to cattle and horses if it is eaten when wilted and so is a “notifiable weed”. If you have it you have to get rid of it.

In some years in the 1970s and early 80s the ragwort stretched from end to end of the Common in a glorious golden but toxic carpet. We started to pull it off each year. Chemicals would have destroyed the biodiversity for ever. In some years the Conservation Volunteers came in force as well. There was so much of the stuff that they bunked up overnight in the old village hall to get at the weeds the next day! So after 30+ years of pulling there is barely any ragwort on the Common and yet you will see it on every roadside.

Well done, and thank you all the pullers and diggers who over the years have weakened the seed bank and brought about the decline of the weed. However, we may need you next year! The weed has airborne seeds and there are plenty of plants around.

There is something else you can do to help too. Did you know that the Common has a role as an educational resource? Our Higher Level Stewardship grant from DEFRA is essential in providing the income that we need to manage the Common sustainably. Part of our HLS grant is gained by hosting schools and colleges on the Common. If they come and they have contacted us first we can claim part of the grant. If they don't we can't. As a result we have written a teachers' information pack which lets teachers of all levels in education know the potential for geography, hydrology, botany, art and recreation studies. We offer talks in and out of the classroom and advice about topics and risks. We make the pavilion on the playing field available too. Sparsholt College visits regularly and their surveys of freshwater life give us vital information. Primary schools have studied the plants and secondary schools measure river characteristics for their Geography GCSE. Adults top up their botany and insect ID skills on WEA and WLT courses. What a glorious classroom!

If you see students busy there, do please ask the staff in charge which school they are from and whether they know about the provision. They do not always contact us before they come; it's a well-known site.

Let us know of the name of the staff and the school and we will contact them. If you are talking to schools as a parent or governor, do let them know as well. Apart from the essential grant help, the Management Committee is convinced that the better young people understand the Common, the more responsibly we will all use it and it will flourish.

*Contact Moya Grove on 01264 860411 or Liz Blakemore 01264 860385*

## Chilbolton WI meeting July 19<sup>th</sup>

Talk: 'Tart's Trotters' Speaker *Jean Johnson*.



Our former County President will come to speak about one of her passions .....shoes!! We are looking forward to hearing her talk as she is known to be an interesting and amusing speaker. The business part of our meeting starts at 7.30pm; the talk will start at about 8.00pm. Visitors are very welcome.

**Contact: Secretary Sue Keen 860571 or Sue Batchelor 860307 for more details.**

### Interested in assisting Climate Change research?

My name is David Hughes (Pip and Angela's son) and I live in Wherwell. I am collecting data for my dissertation on climate change and I would greatly appreciate if **YOU** could be a part of my experiment.

It is really easy and isn't time consuming. You will simply have to do a short questionnaire.

As a sign of my gratitude for your time I offer my own time, for one randomly chosen participant I will spend the day helping with any chores (e.g. gardening, cleaning etc.)

Thank you for reading, any enquires and offers to be involved please contact me at

*David.Hughes.877@gmail.com*

### **A Tip for You**

I expect you saw, with horror, the publicity from Scottish Power last month when they advised that they would be increasing their gas prices by 19% and their electricity prices by 10% from August 2011.

I am sure you are all aware of the 'comparison websites' for utilities, insurance etc, but I wonder if you are just as aware how easy it is to compare what you are being charged by your present utility supplier with other offers.

One of these websites (there are others) is called *www.uswitch.co.uk* which will give you a list of what most suppliers are offering starting with the cheapest. I think you will be amazed with the numbers of tariffs on offer and there are many 'fixed prices' on offer for 12 / 18 months which would help with the financial budgeting.

We compare our own each year to try to ensure we are on the best tariff for us.

*Chris Halliwell 860858*





## JULY DIARY DATES



2nd	Wherwell Coffee Morning	WVH	10.30am
3rd	Wherwell PTA Woodland Morning	School	
	Chilbolton Parish Council	CVH	
12th	Wherwell Parish Council	WVH	7.00pm
16th	Coffee Morning with Neighbourhood Watch	CVH	10.30am to 12 noon
18th	Midday Mums	WVH	10.30am
19th	Chilbolton WI	CVH	7.30
19th	Blooming Great Tea Party	Abbots Rest	3.00pm
22nd	Wherwell PTA BBQ	School	
23rd	Chilbolton Pre-school BBQ	CVH	7.30pm
23/24	Stockbridge Open Gardens		1.30pm
24th	Summer Butterflies Walk	West Down	2.00pm
28th	Magazine Collation	CVH	6.30pm

## AUGUST DIARY DATES

6th	Wherwell Coffee Morning	WVH	10.30am
27 <sup>th</sup>	Chilbolton Flower Show		

### THE CHILBOLTON COFFEE MORNING

The coffee morning will not take place in the month of August.

## WHAT'S ON IN THE AREA

### Theatres:

03/07/11: **Winchester Festival - A Celebration of Jane Austen.** Starring Robert Powell and Elizabeth Garvie with musical accompaniment at Theatre Royal, Winchester at 7.30pm. Tickets £18 & £15. Tel (01962) 840440  
[www.theatreroyalwinchester.co.uk](http://www.theatreroyalwinchester.co.uk)

05/07/11 to 09/07/11: **Humble Boy.** By Charlotte Jones. Presented by RAODS at Plaza Theatre, Romsey at 7.30pm. Tickets £9 (£7 on 05/07). Tel (01794) 512987  
[www.plazatheatre.co.uk](http://www.plazatheatre.co.uk)

08/07/11: **Zoe Lyons: Clownbusting.** At The Lights, Andover at 8pm. Tickets £12-13, concessions £10. Tel (01264) 368368  
[www.thelights.org.uk](http://www.thelights.org.uk).

10/07/11: **Winchester Festival – Barry Cryer in ‘Butterfly Brain’.** At Theatre Royal, Winchester at 7.30pm. Tickets £18 & £15. Details as 03/07.

22/07/11: **An Evening with Dom Joly.** At Theatre Royal, Winchester at 8pm. Tickets £22.50. Tel (01962) 840440  
[www.theatre-royal-winchester.co.uk](http://www.theatre-royal-winchester.co.uk)

### Music:

08/07/11: **Acoustic Triangle and The Choir of Royal Holloway College** Performing at Romsey Abbey at 7.30pm. Tel (01794) 512987.  
[www.romseynet.org.uk/musicromsey.htm](http://www.romseynet.org.uk/musicromsey.htm)

09/07/11: **An Evening of Russian Music with Fireworks.** Presented by Southampton Concert Orchestra at Hillier Gardens near Romsey at 7.30pm. Gates open 6pm for picnics. Tickets £15, children £8. Tel (01794) 369318  
[www.hilliergardens.org.uk](http://www.hilliergardens.org.uk)

### Other events:

02/07/11: **Macbeth** presented by Oddsock Theatre Company in Romsey War Memorial Park at 2pm. Tickets £11, concessions £10, Family ticket £40. Details from the Box Office at The Lights. Tel (01264) 368368  
[www.thelights.org.uk](http://www.thelights.org.uk)

30/07/11: **Family Theatre: Fantastic Mr Fox.** Outdoor Theatre at Mottisfont Abbey 7pm to 9.30pm. Tickets £12 adult, £8 child. Booking essential 0844 249 1895  
[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events)

### 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:

03 Jul 2011 – Romsey

10 Jul 2011 – Winchester

17 Jul 2011 – Andover

31 Jul 2011 – Winchester

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



## **Village Pub Gets New Lease of Life** **The Abbots Mitre has a New Landlord**



Over 50 pubs a week are closing, many in rural areas. In June the Abbots Mitre was given a new lease of life when it was taken over by the enterprising Tom Romita, bringing with him a new chef and an excellent menu. It's a tasty location that you won't want to miss in the summer months.

Public Houses come in all shapes and sizes and the aim for many is simple: sell popular beers, microwave the meals, be as cheap as possible and hold a few events. I was pleased to learn the new owners are looking to provide top quality service, excellent home-cooked food, a variety of choice beers and fine wines to provide all customers with the kind of experience they can share with their family, friends and colleagues.

We all like to feel we have value for money and with the economic situation it is more and more important for us as customers to go where we can get what we are looking for. The Abbots Mitre is adopting a 'you ask we serve' approach to customer service. This is our village pub and Tom wants to hear your feedback and suggestions on making it work for the village and for it to become more of a successful part of the community.

June has been a busy month. Tom has moved into the village, he has recruited a new and dynamic chef with an excellent track record. The menu has been reviewed and there are many new dishes to tempt the taste-buds. Some of the previous bar staff have been retained; new staff have been taken on. The bars have been stocked with a choice of good beers, fine wines, soft drinks, snacks, spirits and liquors. Work has commenced on the play facilities as agreed with the Chilbolton Parish Council. Refurbishments are under way for the Bed and Breakfast facilities which will be opening during July.

Tom is really keen to be part of our community and to create the kind of place we would like to use and bring our family and friends to. None of us wants to see our village pub close, who knows what will happen to the land then, so come along and give the new guys a try..... I am sure it will be worth it.

*Continued on page 21*

Regular events include Blues on the first Tuesday of the month, Jazz evenings on the second and last Friday of the month and of course the quiz on the second Tuesday of the month.

For more information on what's going on at the Abbots Mitre follow one of these links to their website ([abbotsmitrechilbolton.co.uk](http://abbotsmitrechilbolton.co.uk)), Facebook ([facebook.com/Abbotsmitre](https://facebook.com/Abbotsmitre)) or twitter ([twitter.com/abbotsmitre](https://twitter.com/abbotsmitre)).

I asked Tom how he would describe The Abbots Mitre. He replied, '*A great village pub with Romanesque ambiance set in the heart of Hampshire where everyone can feel at home*'.

*Carole Marits*

### **Mike Keys**

We would like to thank everybody for their good wishes and kind thoughts during Michael's illness and subsequent death. Michael was amazed and touched that so many people made the effort to visit him. He thoroughly enjoyed the sweet smelling roses and eating the chocolates! Your messages and care have been much appreciated by myself and family. Many thanks to the WI for their magnificent refreshments following the funeral and to the flower ladies for decorating the church.

A special thank you to everyone for (over) filling the church and giving Michael such a wonderful send-off. Thank you again for your support.

*Annette and family*

### ***'Thank you Mike'***



Mike Keys was a very active member of Chilbolton Players, working tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure every production was our best. There was not a job he would not turn his hand to. He encouraged each and every one of us to do our best and enjoy what we were doing. Dearest Mike you will be missed by one and all. Thank you from us all.

*Members of the Chilbolton Players*

## **A Tribute to Mike Keys**

Like many others in Chilbolton and Wherwell, the members of the magazine committee were greatly saddened at the passing of Mike Keys last month. Mike was involved in the magazine for many years. As well as being a valued member of the management team since 2006 when the magazine committee was set up, he personally took on the task of organising the monthly collation evenings in Chilbolton Village Hall, literally putting together all 740 copies of the magazine with his team of a dozen or so regular helpers. With Mike's good humour this important activity became an enjoyable monthly social event for those involved. Whilst being an absolute gentleman at all times, Mike also held strong views on the development of the magazine and the team will remember his passionate input to the many debates on content. His strong moral compass was always a reliable guide and his overall contribution will be sorely missed. Thank you Mike.

*Stephen MacDonald, Magazine Committee Chairman*

## **Chilbolton Village Hall**

The sad death of Mike Keys, after a short illness, has left a big gap both in the Village generally, and on the Village Hall Management Committee.

Mike and Annette came to Chilbolton in the early nineteen sixties and quickly immersed themselves in local activities making many friends whilst at the same time managing to raise a loving family.

Mike was a friendly, tactile straightforward gentleman who never hesitated to make a point and to recall useful relevant information about the subject we would be discussing in committee. He was so willing to undertake and assist with any activity making it sometimes difficult for younger colleagues to keep up! He had practical hands and skills that will be sorely missed, together with his enthusiasm for whatever was before us. This commitment to the Hall was, I know, repeated at the Parochial Church Council. Of course our sympathy and support will be ever available to Annette and the family.

As usual, we shall be continuing to draw 100's Club tickets mostly at the monthly coffee mornings. At the July gathering, on the 16<sup>th</sup>, we have arranged for the Fire Brigade to be in attendance to answer questions and suggest best practice for fire prevention. Entrance for the coffee morning is only £1 and this includes a free raffle ticket.

For more active residents we have arranged a walk on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July, starting from the Village Hall car park at 10.00 am. The walks usually last about 2 hours or so and somehow manage to include liquid refreshment at a local Hostelry. Dogs are welcome. We have resolved to relaunch the monthly film shows in the autumn and look forward to your vital support. Keep an eye open for the posters in due course.

*John Temple, Chairman, Village Hall Management Committee*

## **Thank you Hilary Jennison**

Hilary Jennison steps down from the magazine committee this month after five years. Hilary and her husband Phill are departing Wherwell for pastures new leaving a large gap in the organisational engine room of many village activities.

Hilary has been secretary to the magazine for all but one of the last five years and during this time was the driving force behind many significant changes. The most important of these has been the creation of the magazine rota, in other words the six teams of two or three people who now take it in turns to manage the six individual production stages of the magazine each month. This has made the whole thing a far less daunting prospect than when the entire process from gathering content and editing right through to printing and collation was the responsibility of the same one or two people every month.

As anybody who knows Hilary will tell you, she is a born organiser who will organise anything that moves. Her tireless enthusiasm for telephoning, making spreadsheets and generally cajoling people into action, not to mention ‘visiting’ other parish magazines to pick up ideas, has helped push the magazine to its current position as a free and highly valued service to our two communities.

Thank you, Hilary.

*Stephen MacDonald, Magazine Committee Chairman*

---

## **Naomi House Sponsored Walk**

The spire of Salisbury Cathedral beckoned as I strode along in the pouring rain to complete the challenge of the 26-mile Clarendon Way on Sunday 5th June, having left Winchester Cathedral at 8am with some 600 other participants in perfect walking conditions. Seven and a half hours later and soaked to the skin (without a single blister), I checked in outside Salisbury Cathedral and collected my medal.

Thank you so much to everyone who generously sponsored me in this event. I hope to send Naomi House a cheque for at least £250.

*Mary Gilbert*



We have a busy month and it started with a lovely sunny Sports Day. Lots of children, parents and grandparents joined in this event where the children took part in running, dressing up and pram races followed by parachute games. The morning finished off with a golden medal and an ice lolly for each child.

Who knows, we may have a budding Olympian in our midst!

As we are nearing the end of the school year, we have been lucky enough to have Lucy Riley ([www.lucyrileyphotography.co.uk](http://www.lucyrileyphotography.co.uk)) here to come and take a group photograph of the children. This will make a wonderful keepsake for all the children who are leaving to attend various local primary schools in September.

Proteus Theatre Company also paid us a visit and performed "Sophia and the Snail". We were joined by both Clatford and Wherwell Reception classes. This is the second year we have arranged this and it is lovely to see the children who left pre-school last year looking so grown up in their school uniforms. It is also part of the transition process for those children who are leaving us in July and a lovely way to bring the community together.

Many thanks for both Chilbolton and Wherwell Parish Councils for their ongoing support and their recent donation to Pre-School.

Please join us at our next fundraising event – a Disco and BBQ on Saturday 23 July in Chilbolton Village Hall. Tickets are £12.50 and are available from Claire Gibson (01264 860204). Please bring your family and friends and come along for an evening of food, music and dancing.

Sadly we are losing several Committee members as their children are leaving to go to Primary School. We are therefore looking to recruit new members ready for our AGM on 14 July at 7.45 pm in the Durnford Room. If your child is starting pre-school in September and you are interested in joining the Committee, please contact us for further information (details below).

Finally, if you would like your child (aged 2-5) 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](mailto:willrj@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.chilboltonpreschool.com](http://www.chilboltonpreschool.com)

## John Rowles's Story

During a recent chat on my way to the Common, John mentioned that he spent most of his childhood in New Barn, on the edge of Harewood Forest, then a tied cottage on Wherwell Estate owned by Colonel and Mrs Jenkins. I asked him what it was like living in Wherwell in those days (1930s and '40s) and in particular about his own family, and living without electricity and running water. It was only then that I discovered what a remarkable life and distinguished career John has led. I thought others would also be interested and asked him if he would mind if I wrote something about him for the magazine. Luckily, he was happy for me to go ahead, and the following is the first of four instalments.

### *Part One: On the move*

One evening at Michelmas 1904, Sidney Rowles arrived in Wherwell. With him in the horse-drawn cart were his wife, Louisa, and four children.

Sidney and Granny Loui, as she became known, would have six more children, many of whose descendants live nearby. We shall follow Fred, their third child born in 1900, and his son John, whose story this is.

At fourteen, the start of the Great War and the year Colonel and Mrs Jenkins acquired Wherwell Estate; Fred left school to begin work as a farm labourer.

In 1917, he joined the army but then caught pneumonia, and war was over before he recovered. He worked in Canada for two years, before returning to marry his sweetheart Ruth Townsend.

The couple were living in Yew Tree Cottage when John was born in 1932 and fifteen months later his brother Jeffrey. Soon afterwards Fred began working on Fullerton Estate and the family moved to one of the cottages on the lane by the Grange. John's first memory at three years old reveals the courage and determination that would forge his life's path.

'I was carrying a can of milk back from the farm when I heard the bus coming up the lane behind me. As it came nearer, I decided I wasn't going to let it beat me home and I lay down in the middle of the lane.'

After a brief period at Place Farm in Wallop where Jill was born four years were spent at Toyd Farm deep in the Wiltshire downland.

It was a world without cars, television, radio or newspapers. With John as their leader the children would go off by themselves exploring all day.

On Saturdays Fred would cycle the eight miles to Salisbury market with John clinging on behind. Sixpence could buy a whole pig's head to roast. Its cheeks, or 'chaps', tongue, nose and ears provided a feast.

*Continued on Page 26*



On Sundays Fred took them collecting food from the countryside. Being poor, it was a serious activity. The children learnt which leaves, berries and mushrooms were poisonous and which good to eat. A pheasant's nest was a real find, often providing enough eggs for the whole family. With vegetables from the garden, the occasional rabbit and (illicit!) pheasant, free milk and swedes from the farm, they never starved.

At nearly seven John had never opened a book but he was always asking questions and absorbed everything his father told him about the natural world. Today he sees this knowledge as the founding-stone for his understanding of complex electronic systems and the instrumentation needed for research in nuclear physics. This is why, as school governor, he helped secure a wild area for the children of Wherwell primary school to explore and study. It's also partly for this reason he devotes much of his time and energy on preserving footpaths, and the wildlife of the Common.

*Tessa Youell*

### **JANE'S KITCHEN - Picnic Time Again.**

**Rocky Road.** A favourite 'little something' to finish off a meal is generally chocolate in some form or another. The following is a firm favourite with my family and friends – especially at the Beach hut!

Soak 4 – 5 oz raisins/cherries in 2 tabs of Rum or Brandy

Melt 7 oz of good quality Chocolate

Stir in 2 good tablespoons of Golden Syrup and 5 oz butter

Stir till all is mixed well.

Add 9 oz of broken 'Marie' Biscuit and the soaked fruit adding a few nuts if liked

Press into a square baking tin

Cover with melted chocolate.

Chill well and cut into squares.

*Jane Spence*



Join us on **Tuesday 19th July** to get together with neighbours and raise funds to help provide care for terminally ill people

All welcome at *Abbots Rest, Chilbolton*  
(opposite pub) 3-5pm \*Donation: £3  
\*Bring & Buy (optional) \*Raffle



## Wherwell History Group

There was a good attendance at the AGM in May. The Committee for 2010/11 was re-elected for another year:-

Chairman: Andrew Flanagan

Treasurer: Judith Herridge

Program Secretary: Dave Walton (co-opted)

Secretary: Brenda Bryant

Archivist: Mike Gee



The AGM was also an opportunity to showcase 37 years of Wherwell Anthologies. Following an appeal in the March edition of the Parish Magazine, we now have two complete sets spanning 1974 to 2010. With grateful thanks to Richard Jukes, one complete set has been digitised into PDF files and placed on the Wherwell website at <http://www.wherwell.net/anthologies.htm>

After the formal AGM business, there was a mixed programme of poetry readings and short illustrated talks about legendary village personalities.

Mike Gee spoke about his mother, Sally Chetwyn, and how she came to live in Wherwell, which was the subject of the poem “We Wandered into Wherwell” – see Anthology IV (1977).

Richard Rowles spoke about Sid, Ernie and Alan Rowles and about the wider subject of “Sport in Wherwell” – see Anthology V (1978).

Andrew Flanagan & Judith Herridge read an appreciation of Tom Hutton, written by Marjorie, Countess of Brecknock in Anthology XIV (1987).

*Continued on page 28*

Pam Flanagan read an article written by Diana Dyer about her mother Lady Eileen Orde, which was inspired by an article about nonagenarians in Anthology XVI (1989).

The poetry readers were:

David Morgan	with “Moonlight on the River” - Anthology I (1974), and “Wherwell School : by Class 3” – Anthology V (1978)
Diane Newell	with “By the Test” – Anthology I (1974) – <b>see below</b> , and “Where Are You Going” – Anthology XXIV (1997)
Jill Rowles	with “Patchworkers Dilemma” – Anthology XX (1993)
Ray Blazdell	with “Pretty Wherwell” – Anthology I (1974)
Dave Walton	with “Old Lags Report” – Anthology XXII (1995)

**“BY THE TEST”** (*by Sally Chetwyn*)

Oh! I could lie here for hours and hours,  
On soft short grass interwoven with flowers.  
With trefoil clover, pale ladies smock,  
Toadflax, milkwort, hairbells and dock.  
A patterned carpet hot scented, sweet,  
Clouds barely moving; birds hushed by the heat.  
Whisper of water as it flows through the weed,  
Whistle of wind as it winds through the reed.  
For there is peace to be found where waters run,  
Where cattle knee deep, drink, warmed by the sun.  
Soon seasons alter, winds shriek through the trees,  
Blue skies will darken, rain drip from the eaves.  
As beneath the bridge the waters race,  
Tiny waves curl, foam-edged like lace.  
Bare branches beseech the threatening skies,  
Beneath whose dead leaves the new life lies.  
Clouds, low, rain filled, ominous, grey,  
Are a far far cry from that summer day.  
But there is peace unequalled where waters flow.  
Where speckled trout leap, and gold king cups grow.

*Andrew Flanagan*

## **‘The Government Inspector’ comes to Stockbridge this summer**

One of the most famous and well-loved comedies in world theatre is coming to Stockbridge this summer. ‘The Government Inspector’ by Russian playwright Nikolai Gogol translated and adapted by Alistair Beaton will be staged by the Stockbridge Amateur Dramatic Society on July 7, 8 and 9 in the Burrow at Longstock, Stockbridge.

This story of corrupt officials in a provincial Russian town who mistake a feckless young man for a government inspector in disguise is just as funny and relevant now as it was in 1836. Alistair Beaton’s imaginative and lively adaptation brings out the full potential of Gogol’s vivid characters and the extraordinary situations that their stupidity and greed get them into.

SADS has built a reputation for highly entertaining and ambitious summer productions staged in the beautiful garden of one of the members. With nearly 30 characters The Government Inspector is no exception and it promises another series of very special summer evenings.

SADS attracts a wide range of members and has been producing two or three shows every year since 1933. ‘The Government Inspector’ cast and crew range in age from 18 to over 80, and come not just from Stockbridge and the surrounding villages but also from further afield including Salisbury, Andover, Winchester and Southampton.

Tickets cost £7.50 and are on sale at Leckford Shop, John Robinson Butchers, The Garden Inn at Stockbridge, Kings Somborne Cross Stores or through the SADS website [www.stockbridgeamdrams.org.uk](http://www.stockbridgeamdrams.org.uk).

The government inspector (Tez Cook, second from left) in - ahem - diplomatic discussions with the Mayor’s wife (Sue Jackson) while the Mayor (Barry Webb) and his daughter (Harry Gandy) dance attendance.

*Leslie Gold*





## **GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY IN THE AREA JULY 2011**

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July**

Longstock Park Water Garden is open in aid of Romsey Carers Forum from 2pm to 5pm. Admission £5, children £1. Teas are available at Longstock Park Nursery. [www.longstockpark.co.uk](http://www.longstockpark.co.uk)

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

Little Court Gardens at Crawley open for The National Gardens Scheme from 2pm to 5pm (5.30pm on 4<sup>th</sup> July). Admission £3.50, children free. Home-made teas at Village Hall in aid of Crawley Village Hall Trust.

[www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)

### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

The Buildings, Broughton. Garden open for The National Gardens Scheme from 2pm to 5pm. Admission £3.50, children free (share to Friends of St Mary's Broughton and St James's Bossington). Home-made teas.

[www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)

### **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

Terstan, Longstock. Gardens open for The National Gardens Scheme from 2pm to 6pm. Admission £3, children free. Home-made teas.

[www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk):

### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

Longstock Park Water Garden is open in aid of 9<sup>th</sup> Andover Scouts Group from 2pm to 5pm. Admission £5, children £1. Teas are available at Longstock Park Nursery. [www.longstockpark.co.uk](http://www.longstockpark.co.uk)

### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July**

Crawley Gardens open for The National Gardens Scheme from 2pm to 6pm. Combined admission £6, children free. Home-made teas in the Village Hall in aid of Crawley Village Hall Trust. [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)

**Visit beautiful Stockbridge in the heart  
of the Test Valley for the annual . . .**

**GARDENS OPEN DAYS**

**Saturday 23<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011.**

*(Gardens open 1.30pm to 5.30 pm)*

Enjoy strolling around this popular village on the River Test and visit 10 attractive gardens. Have a delicious cream tea on the church lawn and enjoy listening to Amesbury Town Band. Plant stall and Bric-a-Brac also at the church.

Admission prices: £5.00 adults, £1 children 12-16, under 12's free.

Free off street parking

( dogs are not permitted in the gardens )

Tickets available from St Peter's Church, or from individual gardens,  
or from the parking area.

Proceeds in aid of St Peter's Church, Stockbridge

---

**HAMPSHIRE WOMAN EMBARKS ON AMBULANCE RIDE  
OF A LIFETIME FOR CHARITY**

Nikki Swulinska is taking on the greatest challenge of her life as she attempts to drive an ambulance from the green fields of England to the harsh deserts of Outer Mongolia with four of her closest friends. The amateur drivers will be taking on 11,000 miles of roads and dirt tracks in aid of charities Cancer UK and the Christina Noble Children's Foundation. They will be leaving on 23<sup>rd</sup> July with the aim of reaching Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 6 weeks later.

It's "Top Gear eat your heart out" as the team departs with minimal driving experience and no mechanical knowledge. They will battle through all manner of weather, road type, navigational issues and mental challenges to reach their goal. After passing through 17 countries during their journey, on reaching their destination the team will donate their ambulance, along with emergency kit including a stretcher and wheelchair, to Mongolia's national health service.

*Continued on page 32*



The team and their ambulance. Members from left to right are:

Alistair Williams, age 25, Stoke Newington

Wayne Smith, age 28, Stoke Newington

Nikki Swulinska, age 26, Chilbolton, Hampshire

Nick Corke, age 27, East Finchley

Natassia Swulinska, age 24, Stoke Newington

Leading up to the big departure the five are currently carrying out all manner of fund-raising efforts for the two charities, such as DJ nights, raffles, car boot sales and a rather less conventional live waxing session. Nikki, 26, of Chilbolton, says “We’re so excited to be taking on this massive challenge for Cancer UK and the Christina Noble Children’s Foundation.

We’re all a little nervous about driving such a long way without much prior knowledge, but I’m sure together we shall pull through! Thank you so much to anyone who donates. We can’t wait to reach Ulaanbaatar, donate our ambulance and finally meet the community around whom we’ve been planning our trip all this time.”

As well as traditional cash donations, the team needs equipment to help them through their journey such as mechanical tools, first aid supplies, camping utensils and gifts for the people they meet along with way. Anyone wishing to find out more or donate can visit <http://smokemeakipper.org.uk/>.

For more information, interviews and further pictures please call 07825238087.

*Nikki Swulinska*

## Chilbolton & Wherwell Wildlife



The months of May and June are a busy time for wildlife enthusiasts. It's a time when birds are singing and nesting, an abundance of wild flowers are blooming, and the spring-emerging moths and butterflies are all on the wing. So it's also a good time for "wildlife walks" where people can all share what they see. I led two such walks during May. The first was on 22nd May at West Down, on behalf of Butterfly Conservation's Hampshire Branch. A group of interested people from our villages were joined by some butterfly enthusiasts from further afield. Despite the dull windy weather, far from brilliant for butterflies, everyone was delighted to see ten species of butterflies (Large Skipper, Grizzled Skipper, Brown Argus, Small Copper, Common Blue, Green Hairstreak, Red Admiral, Brimstone, Small White, and Speckled Wood) and six species of the larger day-flying moths (Cistus Forester, Speckled Yellow, Cinnabar, Yellow Shell, Treble-bar, and Silver-ground Carpet). We also found several tiny micro-moths, and the best find of the day was made by one of the young children that came along. She pointed out a really titchy little moth, just 5mm long, that I didn't recognise. We managed to catch it in a pot, and when I identified it later, it turned out to be a very locally-distributed species called *Adela croesella* (unfortunately without an English name). Just goes to show that sharp eyes of any age can find interesting wildlife!

The second walk, a couple of days later, was on Chilbolton Common with the Horticultural Society. It was a bit early in the year for some of the more unusual wetland plants, but we did see many of the common spring-time species – Cowslip, Bugle, Ragged Robin, Water Avens, Yellow Flag, and Common Spotted Orchid. We also found a few Marsh Orchids in bud, and the rarest flower of the evening was a single specimen of the Early Marsh Orchid. But it wasn't just plants; several of the group saw a Kingfisher fly down the Purlygig stream, and during a brief pause at the Long Bridge we spotted a Water Vole.

We have more walks planned, so do come and see the summer butterflies on **West Down, 2.00pm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July**. Meet at top car-park. This is a good date for Chalkhill Blue butterflies, and we can also expect many interesting wild flowers.

*Glynne Evans* ([hantsbto@hotmail.com](mailto:hantsbto@hotmail.com))





## Bee Diary July 2011



With upwards of 40 new members this year Andover Beekeepers Association has had to go into overdrive to train the new recruits in practical beekeeping. Many of

them did a beginners course in the theory of beekeeping during the winter months but they all need to get practical experience in handling bees the right way. A system of mentoring has proved successful and each experienced beekeeper is tasked with mentoring two or more beginners. It is surprising how something that could be considered a chore – this training – is actually very stimulating and adds a new dimension to the art; it is time consuming however as everything has to be explained and beginners take three times as long to inspect a hive.

In the first part of June, the hot weather of May gave way to a cool period which coincided with the end of the spring flowering season and delayed the onset of the summer flowers. This caused a gap in the flow of nectar and most hives, in spite of having a large complement of bees, lost weight as stores were consumed. Reports came in from around the country of bees starving. When a bee hive runs low on stored honey, the bees go into survival mode, the queen stops laying eggs, the worker bees search everywhere for anything sweet. Weak hives are robbed of stores by clouds of robber bees and woe betide any unsuspecting beekeeper who opens up a hungry hive, the bees are not amused and can attack in their hundreds. It is against this background of somewhat lively bees that we have in June been educating our beginners. They have been thrown in at the deep end, but it is better for a beginner to go through a grumpy hive with a calm reassuring voice at their elbow, than to do it alone without advice. There is no doubt that bees are like dogs in that they can tell when the beekeeper is flustered or afraid. They say that you should always talk to your bees. Jennie talks to her bees as a matter of course and her bees are normally very calm and well behaved. So is the dog.

Another aspect which can consume a huge amount of time during the summer months is the dealing with swarms. Many calls for help come in from the general public, one lady even dialled 999 because she had bees burrowing into her lawn. For every call out which results in the collection of a nice swarm, the Association has ten callouts relating to bumble bee nests, wasp nests, and bees that have lived in buildings for years. With bumble bees being endangered, the advice is normally to leave them alone. Getting bees out of buildings is a difficult and time consuming job, and generally results in further building work to make good the damage caused in extracting the bees. Quite often bees will then re enter the building the following season.

We look forward to a July which combines high temperatures, hot sun and occasional rain, that way the hives will gain rapidly in weight in time for the summer honey harvest.

*Jolyon Pope*

## **Chilbolton FC - Monthly Report**

**Promotion to Division 2 of the Andover & District Sunday league has been confirmed to round off our excellent 2010/11 season.** Our main rivals, Chute Reserves were awarded 3 points when their opponents failed to field a team for the last match of the season thereby denying the top spot by just 1 point. This paved the way for the well-attended AGM and Awards evening at the Abbots Mitre on 4 June. Players, officials and sponsors gathered to celebrate and recap on last year, and look forward to next season.

**AGM :** An excellent performance on the pitch culminated in the club's well-deserved promotion to Division 2 of the Andover and District Sunday league. Despite reduced player fees the club finances are sound with a surplus carried forward to cover league and cup registration. Our main sponsors, HugoFox.com and the Abbots Mitre have confirmed their support for next season and we look forward to working closely with them. The Manager and Officials were all reappointed for the coming year. We will participate in three cup competitions in addition to the league programme. Training will commence on Thursday 7 July at the Memorial Playing Field at 6.00pm. We are investigating the availability of winter training facilities to extend our training into the winter evenings. It is hoped that repairs and changes to the changing rooms will improve the team's facilities and the match-day experience for supporters.

**Awards :** In addition to Runners Up medals for each player, Michael Thompson on behalf of HugoFox.com presented trophies for: Players' Player of the Year to Kevin Hide, who is the Club Captain Clubman of the Year to Steve Curtis. Chairman's Player of the Year, The Bill Bryant Trophy, to (Chilboltonian) Luke Donovan. Our match ball sponsors for last season, Steve and Diane Logan, presented the Golden Boot Trophy, for the top goal scorer to Pete Southworth. Thereafter we enjoyed a sumptuous selection of pizzas, delicious chips, which Tom and his excellent team provided from the Abbots Mitre menu, together with traditional refreshments.

My thanks go to all of the players and my support team. The atmosphere at the Awards evening reflected the strong team spirit and focus on enjoyment that has been evident throughout the season. In anticipation of details of next season's fixtures we look forward positively to getting the squad together to prepare. We will have a range of skills, tactics and fitness drills to make the sessions interesting and enjoyable. If you, or someone you know is interested in joining us to play next season please contact me or feel free to turn up to training on the night.

As always, supporters are welcome at our training and matches and you can read all our news and follow our progress on [www.chilboltonfc.co.uk](http://www.chilboltonfc.co.uk)

*Sam Horne, Manager (07869 055300)*