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From the Editors

Are you keeping your New Year resolutions? Well, we are trying to keep ours, namely to involve more people from Mottisfont and Dunbridge with input to the Acorn. We really would like to hear (or should we say see?) if we have any more budding young artists in the area. If you remember, the December edition of the Acorn was adorned with wonderful images of Christmas as seen through the eyes of some very talented young people. Well this time we would like pictures with an Easter theme. Yes, we know Easter is nearly two months away, but an artist's talents need time to transfer the seeds of inspiration into the artwork of imagination (or to find a sharp pencil and some suitable paper!). To help the creative juices flow we are offering prizes for the best picture in each age group. See below for more details.

All this is not an invitation for the non-artists amongst you to sit back, contentedly assuming that you need do nothing. No, we want to hear what is going on and what you have been up to. Input from as many people as possible will make the Acorn more interesting (and our job easier!).

Julia and Peter

Thinking ahead

Young Artists Competition



Are you, or do you know, a budding young artist that lives in Mottisfont or Dunbridge?
 Could you or the young artist draw a picture that could be printed in the April edition of the Acorn?

If the answer to either of these questions is YES, then enter our artwork competition. A prize will be given to the winner of each age group: under 7's, and 8 to 12 year olds.

To enter, you should draw a black and white picture (sorry but colours don't photocopy very well) on anything you like on an Easter theme.

Please make sure that your picture is no bigger than half the size of an Acorn page, and write your name, age, address and telephone number clearly on the back of your picture.
 We do after all want to know who to congratulate!

All entries should be with the editors at Dunelm House, Barley Hill, Dunbridge by 16th March so the winners can be printed in the Easter/April issue.



HAPPY DRAWING!



Deadline for the next Acorn is 12 noon on 16th February. E-mail to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk. We cannot guarantee that articles received after this date will be included in the next issue.

MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Frances Hanks, Mayville, East Dean Road,
Lockerley, Romsey, Hants., SO51 0JQ.

Tel: 01794 340541, e-mail: franceshanks@btinternet.com

HELLO from your new clerk! I am very much looking forward to working in your parish. It has some very different, as well as some similar issues, from the parish of Lockerley (where I am also Parish Clerk) and from the parish of East Dean (where I live and am a councillor). I have met a few of you and hope to have the opportunity to meet a few more very soon. In the meantime please do contact me if you have any issues or concerns you want raised with the Parish Council.

TRAFFIC CALMING

The Highways Authority has placed an order for the white lining but is still not giving priority to alterations to the Hatt Lane/Mottisfont Lane junction. The Parish Council has continued to exert pressure and has now been told that it remains programmed for progression this financial year.

VILLAGE HALL CRACK!

The Parish Council is concerned that the crack in the wall of the village hall is worsening, and has expressed these concerns to The National Trust. The Trust informs us that following remedial work it had hoped that sufficient stability would be found within the structure to allow for repair and redecoration. Unfortunately, post works monitoring has proved this is not the case. The Trust is now in a dialogue with the engineers and insurers, and hopes to agree a new scheme of works to support the structure and allow the repair of the cracks. I will keep you updated!

UNMANNED CROSSING ON FOOTPATH 10

The stiles have now been replaced with kissing gates, making it much easier to cross here. For everyone's safety though please continue to use the crossing according to the signs present, i.e. Stop, Look, Listen, and put dogs on a lead whilst crossing the railway. Network Rail has undertaken the work at the request of the Parish Council who has funded it with the help of a 50% grant obtained from Hampshire County Council.

GATEWAY, SPERRYWELL ROAD

The Parish is hopeful that this will soon be in place, having just heard it has been successful in obtaining a grant for the majority of the costs under Hampshire County Council's Village Initiative scheme. This will provide a beige surface to the road to highlight the speed restriction.

NEW BUS SERVICE

The Cango service was replaced by a conventional bus (number 36) on 30/10/06. The full timetable is displayed on village notice boards. It operates Monday to Saturday, leaving Dunbridge at 09.19, Mottisfont 09.23, to reach Romsey Bus Station at 09.41. It returns from Romsey at 12.40, and arrives back to Mottisfont at 12.57, Dunbridge at 13.01.

DRAINAGE ISSUES

Drainage issues recently reported to Hampshire Highways for action include 4 blocked drains at Mottisfont Test Bridge, and a drain cover in Bengers Lane which was carried away by water recently. It has been put back, but obviously poses a danger in adverse weather conditions unless something is done to secure it more firmly.

WEBSITE

Visit www.ukvillages.co.uk to view information about Parish Council matters including Agendas and Minutes of meetings. (Enter "Mottisfont" in the search box, click on "Mottisfont-Hampshire" near the top left, then click on "Notice Board" on the menu on the left - Ed.)



MOTTISFONT AND DUNBRIDGE W.I.



The colours of Provence reminded us all, in the midst of this very wet dreary winter, of warm summer days, coloured flora and fauna, sunsets, gorges and rivers. Gerald Ponting gave us a wonderful slide show with music illustrating all this and much more.

At our next meeting on 13th February we will hear about The Selborne & Headley riots of 1830 in a talk by John Smith. There will be a sales table.

The jumble sale has been arranged for Saturday, 10th March, at 2pm. If anyone has any jumble or anything we could sell, please call Cathie (340129), Margaret (341922) or Frances (301614), and we will be happy to collect and store it.

All will be most welcome to any of our meetings. Why not come along and try our new chairs - very comfortable!

Cathie Wood
340129

MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL

Village Hall Scout Hut

The Village Hall has a wooden building affectionately known as the Scout Hut, but I'm not sure if it was ever used as one. I do know that it was once used as the kitchen and dining room for the school and as the HQ for the home guard back in the 40's when it was located in Mottisfont Village.

It is a very useful building for the Village Hall and has a lot of local history associated with it, but unfortunately time has not been kind and the structure now needs repairs. Help is at hand from Alan Lawrence, who has very kindly offered to run a renovation programme. **Additional help would be very welcome** so if you're game to help restore a little bit of local history then do please contact me on 340740.

Jon Butler



FOR SALE

36 Village Hall Chairs

Reasonable condition

Very comfortable

£1 each

Telephone: John Butler (340740),
Edna Dowling (340328),
or Margaret Astur (341922)



Village Hall AGM

The Village Hall Association AGM
will be held on

**Thursday 22nd March
at 7.30pm.**

The AGM is open to all, so if you would like to find out more about how the Village Hall operates, or offer to lend a hand, or if you would just like to meet a few new people, then do please come along.

Jon Butler

FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends,

It is February, which in the Church marks the month which takes us into Lent. It's a great time, because for Christians it gives us some time for the spring cleaning of the soul. You know what it's like when the sun lights up parts of the house which either need decorating or a good old clean, well Lent is like that for the soul. Lent says, "Hey, Easter is coming, a time to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ", which means we need to get ready to do that. You know the feeling when everything looks clean and fresh, and you feel a sense of achievement! So Lent is the time when we are called to examine our conscience, to give up something and use the money to help others, and to take up something, perhaps more time for prayer or helping a neighbour. We are also called to study scripture, and engage in some Bible study.

Please join us as we meet for a Benefice Lent Course which begins on 28th February 2007 in St Mary's Church, Broughton, in the new Church Room.

This year's Lent Course is entitled "Can we build a better world?".

It will last for 5 sessions, all on Wednesday evenings, all beginning at 8pm and finishing at 9pm.

Please do join us, and let's study the scriptures and explore together.

With blessings,

Ron Corne
Rector

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Time	4 February Septuagesima	11 February Sexagesima	18 February Quinquagesima	25 February Lent 1
8.00am	Broughton HC CW	Broughton HC BCP		
9.30am	Bossington HC BCP ----- Broughton Sunday Club	Broughton Family Service ----- Houghton HC CW	Mottisfont HC BCP	Broughton Family Communion with Sunday Club
11.00am	Mottisfont Matins	Mottisfont Family Service	Broughton Matins with Sunday Club	Mottisfont Family Communion
6.00pm	Houghton Evensong		Houghton Evensong	Houghton HC BCP

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday, 2nd March, 2.30pm

All Saints Church, Houghton

This year it is the turn of All Saints to host the service for all the churches in the Test Valley group. Everyone is very welcome to join us for this interdenominational act of worship, and we particularly hope to see friends from our sister churches within the Benefice, including Bright Hour.

The Christian Women of Paraguay have prepared the service for 2007, and the theme is "United under God's tent".

Our speaker will be Mrs. Mary Savage, and we look forward to a time of fellowship after the service, when refreshments will be provided.

Gina Livermore
01794 388433

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

Meets on Thursdays at 2.30pm in the New Room at St. Mary's Church, Broughton.

1st February: Mr. David Stone

8th February: Mrs. Linda Milburn

15th February: Members Meeting

22nd February: Mr. David Marke

Every one welcome. Do come and join us.
Barbara Perry 01794 301466

Mottisfont and Dunbridge Local History Group

Following some discussion locally and research into archives and through other history groups, we were very excited to have it confirmed by a remaining member of the Aylwards family that the pictures we have of a local mill are definitely Dunbridge Mill, and that the picture of three hammer mills are those which were used to grind the corn.

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, 28th February, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall** when we have Mathew Tucker (a local student) coming along to talk on the research he is doing on Prehistoric Artefacts of the Dunn Valley. There will also be a general sharing of pictures, articles and research undertaken by members. All are very welcome. Nominal charge. For more information please contact Michael Horne on 340105.

THE THOMAS DOWSE TRUST

The Thomas Dowse Trust was created to provide people up to the age of 25 years with financial assistance towards educational requirements. The Trust meets four times a year (March, June, September and November) to award grants to those who show a need for financial assistance towards their education, whether it be for Pre-School, School, College or University.

If you live in the Benefice of Bossington and Mottisfont and would like to apply for a grant, please contact Mrs. Gill Kilroy on 01794 301332 for an application form.

The next Trust meeting will be in March 2007. Applications for grants must be handed in by the end of February 2007.

The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus Committee

Charity Number: 284910

REMINDER: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An Annual General Meeting is held each year, to which members of the public are welcome. This year the 27th AGM will be held in the Broughton Village Hall on Friday 2nd February, 2007 starting at 7.30pm. The bus will collect people who wish to attend, starting from Dunbridge at 7pm, and circulating through the village from 7.15pm. It will be available to take people home after the meeting.

Fuller details were printed in last month's Acorn

Awbridge School Newsletter

Diary Dates:

5 th February	Netball & Football Matches
7 th February	Cross Country Competition
13 th & 15 th February	Parents Evening
19 th – 23 rd February	Half Term Holiday
2 nd March	Inset Day
5 th March	Book Week

At Awbridge School, children in classes 3, 4 and 5 are taught French every week, and have recently enjoyed La Fête des Rois in their lessons. This fête celebrates the visit of the Three Kings (Rois) to Jesus in Bethlehem. A galette cake is shared out in which a fève, a china charm, is hidden. The child that finds the fève in their portion then becomes a king or queen for the day, and gets to wear a golden crown, and can then appoint someone to become their queen or king. This year, the recipients of the fèves were all girls, so there were 3 reines instead of rois!

The theme for this year's book week is "Everybody Has a Story to Tell", and focuses on real life tales, told by the people who lived them. The children will be visited by local people from all walks of life and age groups, ranging from young sportsmen and women to experienced zoo keepers from Marwell. The children will have a chance to hear at first hand all about their experiences and adventures. The children will also be asking their relatives to pass on family stories to them, and will invite them to come in and share them with their classmates.

Mr. Barnes took up his post as the new Head Teacher of Awbridge School when the term started on the 4th January. There were two opportunities for parents to come to meet Mr. Barnes during January. Both sessions were well attended and the parents enjoyed the chance to hear him talk about his background, his views on education, and his vision for Awbridge School.

Mottisfont and Dunbridge Gardening Club

We have completed our programme for 2007 and have a variety of speakers on subjects such as "Things to do in your garden" and "Digital world of photos".

For a copy of the year's programme ring Michael Horne on 340105. New members are always welcome, as are visitors who just want to come along for a particular evening. Membership £12 or visitors £2 per evening.

The next evening talk, "Paris and Amsterdam: the floriade and bulb fields" by Shirley Lawson, is on **Tuesday, 20th February**, at 7.30pm in the village hall.

MOTTISFONT FOOTBALL CLUB



Saturday 16th December, 2006: So'ton Senior Cup 3rd Round

At the fourth attempt The Font entertained Otterborne in trying to get the right result. This they achieved with a comprehensive 4-goal victory, to reach the quarter final and a tough tie against VT FC Res.

Result: Mottisfont 4 (Alan Bundy (2), Mark Green, John Cook), Otterborne 0

Saturday 23rd December, 2006: Hampshire League 2004

Mottisfont played their first home league game since September when they played Ludgershall Sports. They were soon three goals up from their first three chances, though the visitors should also have scored a couple. The Font went into a clear 7-goal victory in a very open game of football.

Result: Mottisfont 7 (Robbie Abbott (2), Alan Bundy, Guy Bewick, John Cook, Andy Clarke, Dave Kemp), Ludgershall Sports 0



Saturday 30th December, 2006: Hampshire League 2004

Mottisfont entertained rivals Sporting BTC on a filthy day with rain falling as the game started. The visitors had early control of the game, with The Font relying on breakaways, but they then went in front with a massive clearance by goalkeeper Alan Smith. The Sporting defence failed to deal with it, and Alan Bundy finished coolly. Considering the conditions, both sides were playing good football, but in the second half the rain got heavier, and the referee had to abandon the game due to the waterlogged pitch.

Result: Mottisfont 1, Sporting BTC 0 (Match abandoned after 60 minutes)

Saturday 6th January, 2007: Hampshire League 2004

Mottisfont entertained 2nd placed Winchester Castle on a heavy pitch owing to recent rain, and produced an excellent performance to lead by two goals at half time. Although they did not play quite so well after the break, they added a third just before the end, for a very important victory.

Result: Mottisfont 3 (Guy Bewick (2), Alan Bundy), Winchester Castle 0

Tony Stemp

Parish Lunch, Sunday, 25th February, at Mottisfont Abbey

- Starters: Minted Pea Soup
Smoked Trout Pate*
- Main: Water Buffalo and Romsey Ale Casserole
Baked Ham with Watercress Sauce
Red Onion, Watercress and Alliyum Cheese Flan
Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes*
- Pudding: Bakewell Tart and Custard
Chocolate Mousse laced with Irish Cream Liqueur
Coffee/Chocolate Mints*

Guests to arrive from 12 noon. A pre-lunch sherry will be provided. Lunch will be served in the Old Dining Room at 12.45pm. Please bring your own wine.

Please send final numbers and choices of menu to John Jenkins or Gordon Wood by **14th February**, with payment (cash, or cheque payable to "National Trust").

John Jenkins,
The Forge, High Street,
Broughton,
Stockbridge,
SO20 8AE
Tel. 301614

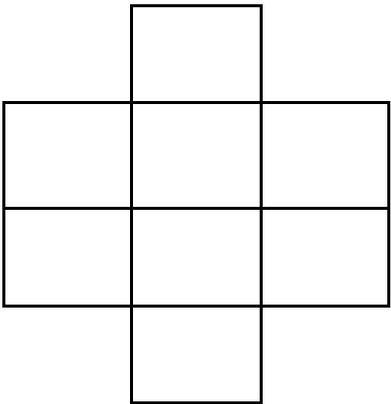
Gordon Wood
Tresillian, Barley Hill,
Dunbridge,
Romsey,
SO51 0LF
Tel. 340129

VILLAGE DIARY

Friday 2 Feb	Community Bus AGM	7.30, Broughton Village Hall
Tuesday 13 Feb	WI	Village Hall
Tuesday 20 Feb	Gardening Club	7.30pm, Village Hall
Friday 23 Feb	Whist Drive	7.30pm, Village Hall
Sunday 25 Feb	Parish Luncheon	Mottisfont Abbey
Wednesday 28 Feb.	History Group meeting	7.30pm, Village Hall
Saturday 10 Mar	WI Jumble Sale	2pm, Village Hall
Thursday 22 Mar	Village Hall Association AGM	7.30pm, Village Hall

BRAIN TEASERS (Answers next month)

Using all the digits from 1 to 8, put one in each box so that no consecutive numbers are in adjacent boxes.





What time is it now, if two hours later it will be half as long to midnight as it will be in an hour's time?

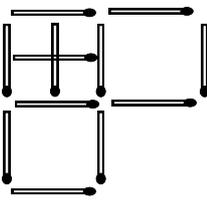


Answers to last month's brain teasers

Jeremy will be 16.

Sam received 1/4 bottle.

The matches are moved like this:



Who's Who, What's What and Where's Where in Mottisfont and Dunbridge

Acorn Editors	Peter & Julia Barnett	340793	St. Andrew's Church Rector	Revd. Ron Corne	301287
Acorn Pre School Group	Bella Thomas	342212	Reader	Gina Livermore	388433
Art Group	Gordon Wood	340129	Church	Susan Clutterbuck	340475
Community Spirit	Lesley Taylor	340942	Wardens	Lesley Taylor	340942
	Rachel Fowler	340877	Social Club Chairman	Peter Simmonds	340891
County Councillor	Michael Woodhall	01264 810500	Secretary	Lanita Begg	529631
			Steward	Julie Lyne	340521
Cricket Club Secretary	Tony Stemp	340398	Test Valley Councillor	Neville Whiteley	01264 811101
History Group	Michael Horne	340105			
Horticultural Society	Michael Horne	340105	Village Bus Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
First Responders Coordinator	Kay Murrant	340289	Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
Football Club Secretary	John Fryer	512695	Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
Member of Parliament Constituency Office	Sandra Gidley	511900	Operations	Mike Howe	301723
			Chairman	Jon Butler	340740
Mill Arms	Andrea and Ian Bentall	340401	Village Hall (Reg.Charity No 291629)	Village Hall	Jon & Heather Butler
Mottisfont Abbey Est. Manager		340757	Entertainments	Heather Butler	340740
MPNTTA	Gillian Francis	340151	Secretary	(Vacant)	
Neighbourhood Watch Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799	Bookings	Cathie Wood	340129
Parish Council Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922	Secretary	Cathie Wood	340129
Clerk	Frances Hanks	340541	Village	P.C. Dave Turpin	0845 045 45 45
Chairman	John Millns	340347			
Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555	Romsey		0845 045 45 45
	Alan Earthrowl	341799			
	Stuart Miller	340903			
	Andrew Simmonds				