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From the editors:

We are delighted to announce that the Mill Arms has kindly agreed to sponsor the entire printing costs of the *Acorn* for 2008, thereby helping reduce the pressure on Mottisfont Parish Council's budget. Other costs will be met by the Parish Council. Our grateful thanks go to Andrea and Ian, and to the Parish Council for their continued support of the *Acorn* and other projects.



We are also glad to see that the new rail services to Mottisfont & Dunbridge Station are now in place with more regular trains in both the Salisbury and Southampton directions. We hope that more people will now be encouraged to use the train service locally in an effort to cut down the number of short car trips. A copy of the new train timetable has been included with this edition of the *Acorn*. If you need further copies or information contact Andy Simmons.

Please keep the articles and information about local events and news coming our way. For our part, we will try to include as much as we can in your *Acorn* newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Julia and Peter

A BETTER BAG FOR ROMSEY



Did you know that in Britain we use nearly 17 billion plastic carrier bags a year? That amounts to 300 for every man, woman and child. On average a plastic carrier bag is used for approximately twelve minutes before it is discarded. It can then last in the environment for decades, where it is a hazard to wildlife and causes aesthetic, landfill and litter problems.

In Romsey, a group of local residents have got together to work towards making the town "plastic bag free". There are plans to design a new Fair Trade/eco-friendly re-usable shopping bag for Romsey, and it is hoped to launch this during the summer.

There are now four plastic bag free towns in Britain, with a further ninety in the planning stage.

You may think "What has this got to do with our village?". Well, many of us shop in Romsey, and if not Romsey, another local town. We can all do our bit to reduce the plastic mountain by refusing plastic carrier bags in local shops and remembering to take re-usable bags when we go shopping.

We are so lucky to live in an incomparable environmentally sensitive area. Everyone has a responsibility to act as guardians of this historic and beautiful place, using it sustainably for future generations to be able to enjoy and appreciate.

Now is the time of year that many people make a New Year Resolution. Let's all make a commitment to rid Romsey and the surrounding area of plastic bags.

To support the campaign email plasticbagfreeromsey@googlemail.com for further information.

Pat Francis, 340609

**The deadline for the March *Acorn* is 16th February.
Please e-mail contributions to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk.**

We cannot guarantee that articles received after this date will be included in the next issue.

MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

Website www.ukvillages.co.uk/Mottisfont-Hampshire
for information about the Parish Council, meetings and events

Station Parking: With the new greatly improved timetable now in force hopefully more people will find it convenient to use the trains again. Just a reminder: there is limited car parking provision in front of Station House for the use of train commuters.

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) changes: From 14th February, HWRCs are licenced to accept household waste only. This means anyone who has received any payment for carrying waste or produces waste from their work cannot take their waste to an HWRC. This will result in restrictions on commercial type vehicles such as vans entering HWRCs, **so if you use a commercial type vehicle for domestic use you will need to apply for a free permit to continue using HWRCs to dispose of household waste.** Applications for permits will open on 9th January, and can be applied for online from www.hants.gov.uk/recycling or via Hantsdirect on 0845 603 5634.

Precept: The precept has been set for next financial year at £6,820. This 10% increase (£620) is necessary as the budget costs now exceed the precept, and the Parish Council's carried forward balance is dwindling each year, despite increases in the precept. Administration costs are around £3,500, which covers public liability and other essential insurance, audit costs, subscriptions (e.g. to Hampshire Association of Local Councils) as well as the clerk's wages and general office expenses (stationery, postage, photocopying, etc). The next biggest item in the budget is the village hall which relies on the Parish Council's help to survive (£3,115 p.a. which covers the rent, building insurance, external painting and other maintenance). It also helps other local organisations, e.g. it gives an annual grant to help with the burial ground maintenance (£370 next year) and contributes £75 towards the Lockerley School Summer Playscheme, which benefits our local children. Extra funds are required to enable the Parish Council to continue to contribute to capital schemes, e.g. the planned village centre traffic calming measures. Although most funds for capital schemes are obtained through grant aid, this is normally conditional on the parish providing a portion of the cost (in this case £1,500 of the total £10,000 cost). I hope this gives you a good idea of how your money is spent, and you agree that the Parish Council provides good value.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 12th March 2008

Clerk: Mrs Frances Hanks,
Tel: 01794 340541, e-mail: franceshanks@btinternet.com



THE NATIONAL TRUST

Summer season 2008 events programme

We have completely revised our events programme for 2008. There will be many more events which link into the special features of the Mottisfont Estate: its history, gardens, associations with the arts and nature conservation. You will find more events for families and children, such as workshops and trails through the gardens during the school holidays. We also intend to run the popular 'Mottisfont Musings' community exhibition during October – more details to follow later in the year.

We have also changed our emphasis on the big summer events, due to the pressure on our limited resources. There will not be any firework and outdoor film evenings, and we will have just one-night stands by touring theatre companies. The Maskers have decided not to take us up on the proposal to offer them a 3-night performance run (their production of *The Comedy of Errors*, from 16-26 July will be at Hamptworth Lodge, Landford, near Romsey. If you want tickets, phone 02380 772012 or via their website on www.maskers.org.uk). We will be having outdoor theatre 'The Hound of the Baskervilles' on Thursday, 31st July, and for children, 'Peter Pan' on Saturday, 30th August.

Further details can be found in our events leaflet (to be published in February) or on our website www.nationaltrust.co.uk/mottisfontabbey

Alison Evans
Property Manager

PLEASE NOTE: *Free admission tickets to Mottisfont Abbey and gardens are available to residents of Mottisfont and Dunbridge, but to qualify, you must complete the registration form on page 6.*

Can the Emergency Services find your address, particularly if you live in Spearywell?

As a result of the addressing problems previously highlighted in the Acorn (November 2007), Test Valley Borough Council has been cross checking every address in the parish. This has revealed a number of anomalies (mainly in the Spearywell area) that could seriously impede the response times for the emergency services.

Spearywell Road: The Spearywell area is particularly at risk, as there is only one postcode (SO51 0LS) covering over a mile of road, and the control rooms for the emergency services rely on the postcode as the first step in directing a response vehicle to the general location. On arrival, they will easily find the road name (Spearywell Road); however, at present this will not assist them to locate a property, as the road name is not part of the official address, which just has "Spearywell" in it.

I am aware that Test Valley has written to Spearywell residents, requesting the inclusion of "Spearywell Road" in the official address. Please, if you have not already done so, write to Test Valley in support of this change.

Cadbury Drove: The addresses of the two properties here can add to the confusion, as they are not on Spearywell Road. So, I have suggested that the best solution is for Cadbury Drove to have a unique postcode, to clearly identify the location.

If the letter from Test Valley has been mislaid, the address for comments is:

Test Valley Borough Council
For the attention of Ian Moodie
Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road
ANDOVER
Hants., SP10 3AJ

New Cottages: I have always been somewhat bemused by the number of 'New Cottages' in the parish (they must have been very unimaginative in the past!). Unfortunately, in a modern world this seriously compounds the difficulties of property location and the parish council has unsuccessfully tried to resolve this in the past.

This issue was also raised by Test Valley, and I now understand (by complete coincidence), the National Trust is contacting the residents in those properties about this problem.

Again, please give this your support, not least because address confusion could cause problems with other things, particularly with credit card applications, as happened with some Barley Hill residents.

I know that some people may not be happy about changing part of their address, but we had to do this here a few years ago at Jerrems Hill. This was because we were originally tacked on the end of the SO51 0LS postcode, even though we are not in Spearywell, and we suffered more than one near critical delay in fire and ambulance response times. We also had considerable problems with deliveries being delayed, because they were unable to find us.

It is also worth thinking about the problems of trying to locate a rural property at night, with no street lighting and even the house name/numbers all too frequently not in a visible location on the gate. So any help we can give them could be vital in saving a life.

John Millns

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 2008. Applications for grants must be handed in by the end of February 2008, in time for the March Trust meeting.

Dear Friends,

It is good to be able to stop and think and pray quite early in the year as not all our resolutions have to be taken on New Year's Day, that is, if you made any! Indeed, some are best left until after the New Year, when we can consider things more clearly, without all the celebrations affecting our judgements.



Lent this year is very early and it is a wonderful time set aside by the Church for us to focus on our lives and on the eternal things of life. Lent is a time, as the Liturgy for Lent says for, "a rigorous preparation of Christians for the celebration of the death and resurrection of Christ in Holy Week and at Easter".

Ash Wednesday falls on 6th February and there will be an Ash Wednesday Service at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Broughton. In the Ash Wednesday Service we will celebrate the Eucharist and have the Imposition of Ash on the forehead, a powerful moment when we are reminded of our mortality and our need to turn to Christ for forgiveness and new life.

The great prayer which Jesus gave to us is the Lord's Prayer - the perfect prayer, and by reflecting on this perfect prayer we can explore some of the great teachings of Christ, and reflect on some of the depths which that prayer can take us to.

During Lent we will be focusing on the Lord's Prayer in a series of meditations throughout the benefice. Each meditation will focus on a differing part of the Lord's Prayer. These meditations will take place on each Wednesday evening, starting at 7.30 pm, and the first will be at All Saints Church, Houghton, on 13th February. The second will be at St Andrew's, Mottisfont, on 20th February, the third at St James', Bossington, on the 27th February, and the fourth at St Mary's, Broughton, on the 5th March.

Please join us in these prayerful meditations.

Ron Corne

Rector.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

	3rd February Sunday next before Lent	10th February Lent 1	17th February Lent 2	24th February Lent 3
8.00 am	Broughton HC CW	Broughton HC BCP		
9.30 am	Bossington HC BCP ----- Broughton Godly Play	Houghton HC CW ----- Broughton Family Service	Mottisfont HC BCP	Broughton Family Communion with Sunday Club
10.00 am	Broughton Open Doors			
11.00 am	Mottisfont Matins	Mottisfont Family Service	Broughton HC CW with Coffee Club	Mottisfont Family Communion
6.00 pm	Houghton Evensong		Houghton Evensong	Houghton HC BCP

Services in the Benefice during Lent

On 6th February, Ash Wednesday, at St. Mary's, 7.30pm, there will be a service to mark the beginning of Lent, with the imposition of ashes. On each of the four subsequent Wednesdays we shall be holding a short service of meditation on the theme of the Lord's Prayer. These will be held in our different churches (at 7.30pm) as follows:

13th February, All Saints, Houghton.
27th February, St. James's, Bossington.

20th February, St. Andrew's, Mottisfont.
5th March, St. Mary's, Broughton.



1st Lockerley Guides

GRAND LEAP YEAR QUIZ

Friday, 29th February 2008, 7.30pm, Lockerley Village Hall

In aid of an INTOPS Summer Camp

Please support the Guides by joining us for an evening of fun, food and not too taxing questions!

Tickets are available individually or in teams of up to six.
£8 per person, including two course supper, with vegetarian option
Tickets available from Diana Ayles (340236) or Julia Barnett (340793)



MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE W.I.



At our last meeting on 8th January, Adrian Harbridge, Archdeacon for Winchester, gave an amusing account with slides of his young life as a purser in the merchant navy many years ago, aboard ships bringing home cargoes of copper, cotton and timber from Africa and elsewhere around the world.

On Saturday, 1st March, at 2pm, we are holding a **JUMBLE SALE**. We will be pleased to accept toys, books, bric-a-brac and clothing - in fact anything you no longer require. We can arrange collection and storage. Please call Cathie on 340129, Margaret on 341922 or Frances on 301614.

Plans for the future include in May a flight from Bournemouth to Jersey, including a tour of the island, a visit to a pearl factory, and lunch.

On Friday, 7th March, we will celebrate 10 years of the W.I. in our village with a special dinner at the Lamb Inn, Nomansland,

For the summer outing in July, we hope to take a cruise up the Beaulieu river.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 12th February, starting at 8pm. Stuart Wineberg will talk about the Jubilee Sailing Trust.

Anyone wishing to join any of our meetings, why not come along to our village hall and see what we do.

Cathie Wood
340129

Women's World Day of Prayer

Friday, 7th March, 2.30pm, St. Mary's, Broughton

Our service this year has been prepared by the Christian Women of Guyana on the theme: God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding. Please come and join us.

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

- ▶ 7th February, Mrs. Linda Milburn.
- ▶ 14th February, David Stone.
- ▶ 21st February, Mrs. Valerie Reid.
- ▶ 28th February, Members Meeting.

Everyone welcome, do come and join us.

Barbara Perry,
Booking Secretary, 301466

LOCKERLEY SCHOOL

Saturday 1 March 2008
at
Lockerley Memorial Hall

Quiz Night

Doors open at 7.30pm. Supper included.
Bar and Raffle

To book tickets contact 342212 or
Lockerley School 340485

This is a fund raising event for
Acorn Pre-school and Lockerley Primary School

Forthcoming Event
LOCKERLEY PTA SUMMER PLAYScheme
Monday 4th to Friday 8th August, 2008
9.30am to 12.30pm
at Lockerley Memorial Hall

CAROLS ROUND THE CRIB

A big thank you as always to all those who attended or donated to our carols evening. The weather was fine which always helps.

We are delighted to send £160 to Wessex Heartbeat, our chosen charity.

Betty & John Pragnell & family.

THE BROUGHTON AND MOTTISFONT COMMUNITY BUS COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus is run as a charity under the provisions of the law and the Charity Commission. An Annual General Meeting is held each year, to which members of the public are welcome. This year the 28th AGM will be held in the Broughton Village Hall on **Friday, 1st February**, 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.

The agenda to be discussed is;

- ITEM 1 Apologies.
- ITEM 2 Approval of minutes of 27th AGM.
- ITEM 3 Matters arising from those minutes.
- ITEM 4 Financial report given by George Pratley.
- ITEM 5 Chairman's report given by Michael Howe.
- ITEM 6 Resignations and Election of New Officers.
- ITEM 7 Any other business (including further ideas on excursions in the summer months).

WHIST DRIVES



The monthly Whist Drives will be taking place in Mottisfont Village Hall on 22nd February, 28th March and 25th April, all at 7.30pm.

We would be pleased to welcome any new players, and if anyone would like an evening's practice, please contact Gordon Wood (340129) or John Jenkins (301614).

We play social whist, and do not take it too seriously. We enjoy good company, refreshments and prizes.



SIZE REALLY MATTERS!



On 25th March,
the Forest Forge Theatre Company presents:

TO THE MARROW

In the world of competitive vegetable growing,
size really does matter!

Written by Sean Aita, directed by David Haworth

"It's a war alright, gardening, and this is the front line. To win it you've got to understand how the whole thing works.



How the cycle comes around. It's all a matter of life and death. And like in any war, you have to be prepared to crush your enemy completely."

Tickets from Jon and Heather (340740)

Mottisfont Abbey & Gardens



Following last year's successful project of supplying free admission tickets to residents of Mottisfont & Dunbridge, we ask that you once again register by completing the form below by 31st March. The form can be left at our visitor entrance kiosk, or dropped into our letter box in the wall to the left of the main gates, or posted to us at Mottisfont Abbey, Mottisfont, Romsey, SO51 0LP. This list will not be used for any purpose other than as a record of local people.



I wish to register for free admission to Mottisfont Abbey and gardens.

Name(s) of resident (of Mottisfont/Dunbridge only)

.....

.....

Address

.....Post Code

PARISH LUNCH

**Mottisfont Abbey
Sunday, 24th February,
2008**

Starter

Home made paté
Twice baked cheese soufflé

Main

Lamb Cobbler
Chicken & Leek Pie
Spinach & Cheese Strudel
Seasonal vegetables & potatoes

Pudding

Apple Pie
Lemon Meringue Pie

Coffee

Guests to arrive from 12.00 noon
Sherry (kindly donated by
Kimbridge Estate) will be served
in the Long Corridor.
Lunch will be served at 12.45pm.

Please bring your own wine.

Adults & over 14 years: £16.50
Children: £8.00 (under 5 years
free)

Send your menu choice and
payment to John Jenkins
(301614) or Gordon Wood
(340129)
not later than 13th February.
Cheques should be made
payable to National Trust
(Enterprises) Ltd. Please use the
form at the bottom of the page to
return your menu choices - and
please keep a note of what your
choices were!

What's on at The Mill Arms



Changed to Last Sunday night of each month- 'Bryan's Quiz' – a really great quiz with something for everyone, what ever your age or knowledge, includes Spot the difference and a music round. Teams of 2-6. £1.00pp.
From 8.45pm - why not have a meal first and stay and have a few drinks and try for the rolling £100 jackpot!
27th January, 24th February, 30th March, 27th April, 25th May.

4th February – All you can eat curry buffet, £8.95pp, 6.30-8.30pm. 4-5 different curries of varying strengths. Why not get a big table together! We only cater for the number of reservations that we have booked, & please note, this is the only menu served tonight. Monday night.

14th February – Valentines 3 course dinner, £25pp, or really treat yourself and your partner and stay the night: Valentines Dinner, en suite room and full English breakfast - £55pp. Please ask for a copy of the menu. Thursday night.

5th March - All you can eat curry buffet, £8.95pp, 6.30-8.30pm. 4-5 different curries of varying strengths. Why not get a big table together! We only cater for the number of reservations that we have booked, & please note, this is the only menu served tonight.

9th March - Theatre & Supper Night – Following the massive success of our first theatre night in November, the Creative Cow Theatre Production Company are back. We are offering a 2 course menu and a one hour play, held in the function room. The evening will begin at 7.00 for 7.30pm; the play will start at approx. 8.30-8.45pm. The evening will conclude at approx. 10-10.30pm. There is a maximum capacity for 60 guests, and last November we sold out within 3 weeks. £25pp. Sunday night.

16th March - Sarah Saville Sings – With a fantastic 4 octave range, Sarah is a powerfully strong soloist, and will sing Nina Simone, Billie Holliday, and other more contemporary artists. £16 to include light hot buffet. Like all our events, we need to guarantee a certain number of guests to make these events viable for both us and the artist. If you would like to come, we need you to book by the last week in February. If there is not sufficient support, the event will have to be cancelled.

**Email your interest to millarms@btconnect.com,
telephone 340401,
or give your details to the bar staff
for any event.**

Please return this form with your payment for the Parish Lunch

Name.....Phone.....Total payment enclosed £.....

Name	Starter	Main	Pudding

VILLAGE DIARY

Friday, 1st February	Community Bus Committee AGM	7.30pm, Broughton Village Hall
Tuesday 12th February	WI meeting	8pm, Village Hall
Sunday 24th February	Parish Lunch	12.00pm, Mottisfont Abbey
Friday, 29th February	Guides Quiz	7.30pm, Lockerley Memorial Hall
Saturday, 1st March	WI Jumble Sale	Village Hall
Saturday, 1st March	Lockerley School Quiz	7.30pm, Lockerley Memorial Hall
Friday, 7th March	WI Anniversary Dinner	8.00 for 8.30, Lamb Inn, Nomansland
Wednesday, 12th March	Mottisfont Parish Council meeting	

BRAIN TEASERS

Three brain teasers this month, to get those little grey cells churning:

1. What is 3/7 chicken, 2/3 cat and 1/2 goat?
2. Bob was having a big party. He decided on a technique to get lots of people to come. He invited his five closest friends and said that they could each invite 4 people.
Each of those could invite 3.
Each of those could invite 2.
Each of those could invite 1.
How many people did Bob invite to his party?
3. Tragically, an aircraft crashed directly on the border between two countries. Where should the survivors be buried?

*Answers to December's Brain Teasers: Eric's age was 37, and his father's 73.
The missing number was 29.*

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	Warden	Susan Clutterbuck	340475
County Councillor	Michael Woodhall	01264	Social Club Chairman	Peter Simmonds	340891
		810500	Secretary	Lanita Begg	529631
Cricket Club Secretary	Tony Stemp	340398	Steward	Julie Lyne	340521
History Group	Michael Horne	340105	Test Valley Councillor	Neville Whiteley	01264
Horticultural Society	Michael Horne	340105			811101
First Responders Coordinator	Kay Murrant	340289	Village Bus Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
Football Club Secretary	John Fryer	512695	Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
Member of Parliament Constituency Office	Sandra Gidley	511900	Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
Mill Arms	Andrea and Ian Bentall	340401	Operations	Mike Howe	301723
Mottisfont Abbey Est. Manager		340757	Chairman	Jon Butler	340740
MPNTTA	Gillian Francis	340151	Village Hall (Reg.Charity No 291629)	Jon & Heather Butler	340740
Neighbourhood Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799	Entertainments	(Vacant)	
Watch Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922	Secretary	Cathie Wood	340129
Parish Council Clerk	Frances Hanks	340541	Bookings	Margaret Astur	341922
Chairman	John Millns	340347	Secretary	P.C. Dave Turpin	0845
Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555	Village		045 45 45
	Alan Earthrowl	341799	Romsey		0845
	Jacquie Horne	340105			045 45 45
	Stuart Miller	340903			
	Andrew Simmonds				

Mottisfont & Dunbridge Acorn is edited and published by Peter & Julia Barnett, Dunelm House, Barley Hill, Dunbridge, Romsey, SO51 0LF, telephone: 01794 340793, acornnews@mandercom.co.uk, with assistance from The Mill Arms, Dunbridge, and Mottisfont Parish Council. Opinions expressed in The Acorn are not necessarily those of the editorial team. We do our best to ensure the accuracy of items in The Acorn, but we will not be responsible for the consequences of errors or omissions. You should check with organisers of events in case there are last minute changes. © Mottisfont & Dunbridge Acorn 2007.