



TRAIN SERVICES AFFECTED BY WORKS AT SOUTHAMPTON

TRAIN services from Mottisfont & Dunbridge Station will remain unchanged for at least another year. South West Trains' new timetable comes into force on December 13, but there will be no alterations on this line in the foreseeable future.

However, whilst Network Rail is carrying out major engineering work on the Southampton Tunnel between 5th December and 10th January, some delays and re-timing of services between Southampton and Salisbury can be expected. A special timetable will be issued for this period. This will affect services calling at Mottisfont & Dunbridge Station. Buses will replace trains between Southampton Central and Eastleigh stations on 5, 6, 12, 13, 19 and 20 December, when the tunnel will be closed completely. Trains will be restricted from using the tunnel at other times too, and there will be no train services on the rail network at all on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

Next year, new passenger information help points are due to be installed at Mottisfont & Dunbridge Station, and dot matrix signage at Romsey Station, as part of a parcel of planned improvements along the Salisbury-Romsey-Southampton line.

Andy Simmonds
Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership volunteer.

Thank you for the flowers!

A big thank you to Roger Savage of Choice Plants for donating eight boxes of winter pansies and two bags of compost for the station planters.

They brighten the platforms at this time of the year. Very much appreciated Roger, thank you.

Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership.



From the Editors

Bah, Humbug? Not likely! Another packed edition leaves us with just enough room to wish you a wonderful Christmas and New Year, and to remind you that the next edition of the Acorn will appear at the beginning for February. All hangovers are expected to be cured by then.

Julia and Peter

UNWANTED BIKES...er...WANTED!!

Do you have an unwanted bike you could donate? In Britain, many bicycles are thrown away or lie unused in sheds, whilst many people in Africa have no access to transport of any kind. Lack of transport can cripple families, hampering work and education opportunities.



If you have an adult or youth bicycle that you no longer need, and you could see it being used by a midwife, or a health worker, or child to get to school in Uganda and other parts of Africa, please give me a call.

You don't even need to dust it or pump the tyres up!

Gordon
340129



SMALL ADS

We have a dark wood upright piano looking for a home. If anyone is interested please ring Rachel Fowler on 340877.



PLEASE NOTE: The next edition of the *Acorn* will be in February. Information for the February edition must be submitted by 16th January. Our e-mail is acornnews@mandercom.co.uk.

NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO JANUARY EDITION

PARISH COUNCIL

At the November Parish Council meeting, Cllr. Simmonds reported that under the Traffic Management Programme Update 2009/10 for the Test Valley, the review of the 40mph speed limit on the B3084 was mentioned, and the initial preparatory work had been completed. The review of the speed limits on A and B class roads, in accordance with Department for Transport Circular 01/2006 was complete, and the prioritising of roads was commencing. It was also reported that the Kimbridge Lane bridge repairs were complete, and the road resurfacing is scheduled for December 2009. Regarding Bengers Lane, the drainage and resurfacing work has been rescheduled for January 2010.

The Parish Council has resolved to offer a contract for the village hall external lighting to Coastline Electrical. The cost quoted to supply and wire the external

lighting is £880.00 plus VAT, and the cost quoted to remove the old, and supply a new consumer unit is £747 plus VAT. In addition, the Parish Council resolved to place an order with Barker and Geary for a replacement gate.

It was reported that the replacement notice board at the village hall was ready, and the National Trust has agreed to a second notice board on the wall of The Old Forge, which will replace an existing map board.

The Parish Council would also like to remind landowners of their responsibility to keep footpaths clear.

The date of the next meeting is 13th January, 2010. Everyone is welcome.

FROM OUR HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

I have now been your Hampshire County Councillor for 4 months, and I have really enjoyed working with you all. My area is 133 square miles and includes 23 Parish Councils, one of which is Mottisfont. For myself, I am also a Parish Councillor in Chilbolton, and I am very sensitive to Parish Council and village issues.

We are really privileged to live in Hampshire, and Mottisfont is a shining example of all that is good in the Test Valley. My Hampshire County Council colleagues and I are working very hard to maintain our quality of life, despite the increasing financial pressures, and to ensure that our local community services are not sacrificed.

Our pledges are to:

- ◆ Ensure that the County Council, as Highways Authority, maintains our roads and the safety of us

all;

- ◆ Improve our schools and our residential homes, and extend our nursing homes initiative;
- ◆ Improve the local bus services, especially the links from the Test Valley Central villages to Salisbury, Winchester and Andover;
- ◆ Support our Parish Councils and their hard working Councillors

I would welcome your comments and ideas. Please do not hesitate to call me or send an email.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas

Andrew Gibson

Hampshire County Councillor, Test Valley Central

Telephone: 01264 861138

Email address: andrew.ga.gibson@btinternet.com

MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE W.I.



At the AGM in November VCO Marion Gough spoke about 'The Associated Women of the World'. This valuable organisation, financially supported by national contributions (pennies for friendship), helps women's organisations overseas less fortunate than we in Britain are.

After the appointment of officers, wine and nibbles were enjoyed, and then the highlight of the evening: a Beetle Drive which caused much hilarity.

Notes for Diaries

- ◆ Tuesday, 8th December – 8.00 pm. at Mottisfont Village Hall. Chester House Productions present "Florence Nightingale" a new presentation of her story adapted and performed by professional actors Vera Hughes and David Weller. Visitors most welcome. Cost to include refreshments £2
- ◆ Monday, 14th December - Christmas outing to The



Studio at the Salisbury Playhouse: "The Way You Look Tonight" – an evening of the work of Jerome Kern, with a cabaret of song and dance. Starts 8.00 pm – Tickets £15. Optional supper at The Strada, Salisbury, prior to the theatre. 5.30 - 6.00pm.

- ◆ Friday, 8th January - New Year Dinner at Berties, Romsey, at 7.30pm. £20 per person.
- ◆ Tuesday, 12th January – The Art of Sculptures in Wire, with Mandy Flynn.
- ◆ Saturday, 27th February at 2pm, annual Jumble Sale. If you are having a clear out, please save any unwanted items for us.

To all members and those just thinking they might join us, Happy Christmas, and we hope to see you in the New Year.

Cathie Wood

THE VILLAGE PANTO

A review by Maisie Lake, aged 9 and 3 quarters.



On Friday the 13th of November the Forest Forge company went up to Mottisfont village hall to do a play of Ashputtel: The Cinderella story. It was about Cinderella and her two ugly sisters but it had lots of twists. For example, at the end the two ugly stepsisters had their eyes pecked out by birds. The evening was extremely fun and at the end of the play I got to meet the actors. I really liked the way that they played instruments and acted at the same time. When Cinderella went to the dances she wore really pretty dresses my favourite one was the autumn one which was brown and had lots of pretty leaf patterns sewn on top. I also liked the winter one. It showed me that you have to trust yourself.

QUARTER PEAL AT ST. ANDREW'S

On Saturday, 7th November, a Quarter Peal was rung on St Andrew's bells.



Those taking part were:

1. Paul Myers,
2. Ben Waller,
3. Ken Waller, (Conductor)
4. Joanne A Pocock,
5. Carol Waller.

They rang 1260 changes in Doubles in 42 minutes.

The Wallers are a well known family of ringers, who used to live in Nether Wallop, and many of us (including myself) have reason to be grateful to them for their help and encouragement when we were learning to ring.

I hope you enjoyed it.

Susan Clutterbuck.

Discounted National Trust Membership



THE NATIONAL TRUST

3 Months FREE, only on Saturday, 5th December, from 12 till 3pm.

Join up at Mottisfont Village Hall, pay by Direct Debit and get 3 months free!

<u>Category</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Direct Debit*</u>	<u>Standard price</u>
Individual	One card admits the named member.	£35.63	£47.50
Joint	Two adults living at the same address. Two cards admit the named members.	£59.63	£79.50
Family	Two adults and their children or grandchildren under 18. Two cards cover the family. Children under 5 go FREE.	£61.50	£82.00
Family one adult	One adult and their children or grandchildren under 18. One card covers the family. Children under 5 go FREE.	£46.50	£62.00
Child	Child under 13 years. Children under 5 go FREE.	£16.13	£21.50
Young person	Young person aged 13 to 25 years.	£16.13	£21.50

If you are unable to make it on 5th December, please call Helen on 344017, who will be happy to process your details over the telephone.

MOTTISFONT AT CHRISTMAS

A delightful location for a winter outing, the grounds, Kitchen Café and National Trust Gift Shop are open at weekends in November and December.

From 11am to 5pm on the 12th, 13th and 19th, 20th December, enjoy the elegance and glamour of a 1930s house party, with festive music, puppet shows and a chance to see Father Christmas in his grotto.

Children admitted FREE.

See www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mottisfont for further information, including prices and dates of specific activities.

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

- ◆ 3rd December: Carol Service at St. James, Bossington, 2.30pm.
- ◆ 10th December, Members Meeting.

There will not be any more meetings until February 2010.

Everyone is welcome. Do come and join us.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466



Dear Friends,

Christmas is almost upon us, and we shall be bombarded with piped carols and Christmas number one's for weeks on end. But where in all of this is the truth behind this great festival of Christmas? Well, perhaps it is in the wonderful words of Mary in the Magnificat, "My soul tells out the greatness of the Lord" Or as the angels declare, "Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy." (Lk 2:8-10)

To put the two together is to say "My soul tells out the greatness of the Lord, for he brings glad tidings of great joy". This is the true Christmas message: do not fear, but imbibe his love and recognise his eternal truth and presence.

The wonder, the overwhelming wonder of Christmas, its enduring magic and mystery, is this astounding reaching out of the love of God to the world and to each one of us. To enter the Church of the Nativity at Bethlehem, the doorway is so low that you have to stoop to enter. The baggage which

all of us carry, of status, pride and possessions, must be left behind if we are to come and adore the child in the manger. Our God is not an autocrat, a powerful tyrant, like a Roman emperor or a Victorian headmaster, though sadly the Church (and for some people their own families), have distorted God in this way, Our God is a God who, as St. Paul says, "empties himself", "makes himself nothing", stoops down to the lowest part of our need. He comes into the world in a filthy, dung-ridden cave for cattle. His family flee from massacre and terror to be asylum seekers in Egypt. He is among the outcast and the marginalized, and at the end he dies an excruciating death between two thieves outside the holy city, condemned by religious leaders and political power brokers alike. "He humbled himself", made himself nothing, and of him we dare to say, yes, here is God. We call it 'incarnation', the enfleshing of God, God taking our nature upon himself. The Creator in a free outpouring of re-creating love for a

world gone wrong, for human beings who think themselves little gods, for men and women enslaved to greed or drugs or distorted desire, comes down to the lowest part of our need. And why? That we may find in that love "so amazing, so divine" the very thing for which we were made, that which reaches out to change and transform us, to draw us to share in that love, to become Christlike, to be even, as St Peter tells us, "partakers of the divine nature"?

Please join us, bring all that you are, all your concerns, and all your thanksgivings to our Christmas services, and join with us as we celebrate the casting out of fear and the gift of faith in the new Born King!

With Christmas Blessings

Ron Corne,
Rector.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

	31 Jan Epiphany 4	24 Jan Epiphany 3	17 Jan Epiphany 2	10 Jan Epiphany 1	3 Jan Christmas 2	27 Dec Christmas 1	25 Dec Christmas Day	24 Dec Christmas Eve	20 Dec Advent 4	13 Dec Advent 3	6 Dec Advent 2
8am or as shown				Broughton HC BCP	Broughton HC CW		9.30am St. James Bossington HC BCP			Broughton HC BCP	Broughton HC CW
9.30am or as shown	Broughton HC CW for the whole benefice	Broughton HC CW Broughton Sunday Club	Mottisfont HC BCP Broughton Sunday Club	Broughton Christingle Houghton HC CW	Bossington HC BCP Broughton Godly Play	Broughton HC CW	10am St. Mary's, Broughton, Family Service. All Saints, Houghton HC CW			Broughton Family Service Houghton HC CW	Bossington HC BCP Broughton Godly Play
11am or as shown		Mottisfont Family Communion	Broughton HC CW and Coffee Club	Mottisfont Christingle	Mottisfont Matsins		5.30pm Family Crib Service, St. Mary's, Broughton	3pm St. Andrew's, Mottisfont Carol Service		Mottisfont Family Service	Mottisfont Matsins
6pm or as shown		Houghton HC BCP	Houghton Evensong		Houghton Evensong (Patronal Service)		11.30pm Midnight Eucharist St. Mary's, Broughton	6.30pm Broughton Carol Service			Houghton Evensong

Saturday, 19th December: Carol Service, Bossington
 Wednesday 23rd December, 7pm: Carol Service, Houghton
 Wednesdays: 9.30am Broughton HC BCP

Action for Youth in Romsey Deanery

Schools work. There are significantly improved relationships with some secondaries. Ongoing at Test Valley is the chance to help run a Christian Union with a Year 11, all of which happened after being invited in to talk on adoption and abortion to a Year 10 class. This was spontaneous and scary, with no preparation, but led to a good result that is now awaiting follow up.

Even more exciting, after a prayer breakfast, is a games, food and ideas afternoon to be held near Mountbatten school on the last day of term in December. The purpose of this will be to ask the young people who come whether they would like a Christian Union and how they want to go about setting it up. Obviously, I would be there to advise and instruct. There are possibilities about getting in to Romsey school via the primary school, and getting into the private schools I think will be about contacts and networking. I am getting there, and well on the way to being a visible presence.

I have visited most churches/parishes/benefices and discovered people, locations and names. It is a huge deanery, but what a wealth of opportunity. I have been to Romsey youth groups regularly, and I have led successful sessions on God as Father and as Shepherd, have been present at Rownhams youth groups, open and cell (Pizza Lovers for Christ), and have met with their leaders. I will be visiting the church

on a Sunday soon. I have visited North Baddesley to see their Youth Alpha group (with an excellent young leader) and Sunday service, and will be going to their coffee shop next year. I have spoken on 'Highs and Lows' at the Kings Somborne 'Alive' service, and seen (and spoken or been introduced at) Awbridge, Bossington, Broughton, Mottisfont, Longstock, Stockbridge, Timsbury, Michelmersh, Lockerley, Sheffield English, and many other places since I started. I am finishing off my visiting rounds possibly by the end of January, and then the task of tying up these connections will truly begin!

It is an amazing area, with so many diverse styles – from Matins at some, to family worship at others! An idea for some future plans for next year that Pete Maidment (Diocesan Youth Officer for Winchester Diocese) and myself have had is to focus on training more. He has some course materials in mind that would benefit inexperienced and new youth workers, but also the more experienced ones, who either may be running out of ideas or time or even both! There is one course, Growing Leaders, which I have done training in myself. That was very useful. There is a youth version of it that will be great for a younger audience.

Plus, very simply, I am starting to meet youth workers and helpers to discuss their vision and see where they feel God is taking them, their

youth and the churches within their ministry. I believe that part of my role will indeed be encouraging smaller churches to network with larger ones, and vice versa, and to link up with activities and events. I also think that visiting communities and people where they are, seeing the context they work in and with, is vital too, because not everyone is able to travel, and we all need help and ideas for our individual locations. This is starting to happen now with paid and unpaid volunteers, and I feel so comfortable doing it. This is what my job is about, and completely what I am here for. As you should feel part of my role, I hope you will see how potentially useful this could be.

I guess another side of my role is to discover what happens in churches, and to make them aware of what goes on in the rest of the deanery. Then, training will be useful for all, and I can advertise, particularly for training and big events like 10-10-10 (see notes to follow!), increased provision and better opportunities, linking and meeting up so that young people can find church communities they want to belong to and are comfortable with. Then they may just start inviting their friends to experience the same! Please pray for me, the deanery and the young people we work for and with.

Jon Kitching,
Romsey Deanery Youth Minister

Friday, 4th December at 8pm in
St. Andrew's Church

THE MADDING CROWD

present a programme of

SEASONAL MUSIC AND READINGS

IN MEDIEVAL STYLE

Free entry, but generous donations will be requested for a named charity.

Light refreshments during interval

ALL ARE WELCOME – ANY AGE

Directions for parking on the night

BRING A TORCH!

ROMSEY SINGERS

Romsey Singers' usual sell-out Christmas Concert will be on Friday, 18th December at 7.30pm in Romsey Abbey. They will perform Benjamin Britten's "Rejoice in the Lamb", followed by a variety of Christmas music and carols, with an opportunity for everyone to sing. Tickets from St John's Heritage Centre, Romsey, or local choir members. More information at www.romseysingers.org.uk.

The Last Service of the Decade...

On Sunday, 27th December, we are holding one service where the entire benefice can worship together for the last time this decade, at 9.30am at St. Mary's, Broughton. There will be a Sunday Club for children aged 10 and younger, so we look forward to seeing all of you there.

Whist Drives

The following are our dates for monthly Whist Drives in Mottisfont Village Hall: **2009**: 18th December. **2010**: 29th January, 26th February, 26th March, 30th April.

We had good support for the Whist Drives last winter, but would welcome some new players. We play to the rules, but without taking things too seriously. We like to think we play social whist with the emphasis on good company, good prizes and good refreshments. If anyone knows of a better value evening out for £2.50 (Including £1 of raffle tickets), we would like to hear about it!

If you would like a little tuition or practice, please phone Gordon Wood on 340129, or John Jenkins on 301614.

BROUGHTON AMATEUR DRAMATIC GROUP

presents

Snow White and the SEVERAL DWARVES

on 28, 29, 30 January 2010
at Broughton village hall

Performances start at 7.30pm (Sat. matinee 2.30pm)

Tickets available from Broughton Village Hall on Saturday, 9th January. Box office open from 9-11am, or telephone Nick Jones on 301136
Tickets cost £7.50 (concessions £4.50*)

*Applies to OAPs on 28th January and under 14yrs on 30th January, matinee only.

HISTORY GROUP

The History Group is arranging an evening in February on the two local railway lines that were in our area: Romsey to Andover, and Romsey to Salisbury.

If you know anyone who used to work on the railways, please contact me, so I can collect any stories from them. If you have any photos we could use, I would like very much to see them.

Contact Michael Horne on 340105 or by e-mail at hornes@btinternet.com

Gardening Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 15th December, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, when we will have Dennis Bright with his "Digital World". He has some amazing photos, and we will see a new set he has put together for the evening.

This will be followed by our Christmas Buffet. Please bring some food and drink to share. All are very welcome. £2.00 entrance.

There will be no meeting in January.



LOCKERLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Fashion Show

at Lockerley Primary School
7.30pm on Friday, 4th December

Tickets £10 each, available from Lockerley School or Lockerley Green Stores

Bar and Raffle

This is a Lockerley School PTA Fundraising Event

WALKING GROUP

Our next scheduled walks are:

Friday, 4th December, meet at The Mill Arms at 10am.

Friday, 8th January, meet at The Mill Arms at 10am.

Friday, 12th February (details in the next *Acorn*)

Gordon, 340129



ART GROUP

Meets every Thursday afternoon, 2pm - 4pm.
at the Village Hall.

No experience necessary.

If anyone fancies sitting for us - just for the fun of it! - or even just to come for a cup of tea and see what we get up to, you are most welcome.

Gordon 340129



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.

The next Trust meeting will be held in March. All applications for the March meeting must be submitted to the Secretary, Mrs Christine Hoskins, The Old Thatch, High Street, Broughton, no later than the end of February. Any application received after this date will be carried forward to the next meeting in June 2010.

If you live in the Benefice of Bossington and Mottisfont and would like to apply for a grant, application forms can be obtained from the church, the village hall or the Secretary.

Awbridge Primary School News

The school has been busy in many different ways in the past month.

The school was delighted to be able to host Awbridge Church's Remembrance Service in the school hall on Sunday 8th November. The service was very well attended and being at the school it enabled the congregation to gather easily at the memorial where a two minute silence was observed. On Armistice Day, two of the school's year 6 pupils laid a wreath at the memorial on behalf of the Parish Council at 11.00am, where again a two minute silence was observed, as it was by all the school at a special Remembrance assembly. The two children then read poems from World War I. Thank you to both the Church Parishioners and the Parish Council.

The children have been bringing some history projects to life through going on school visits. Class 2 visited Manor Farm dressed as Victorians, to experience what

it was like to attend a Victorian School and grow up on a Victorian farm. Class 3 visited Fishbourne Roman Palace to discover how the Romans made changes to the way people lived compared to life in Iron Age times.

The school's environmental area is taking a step forward in the next week with a decking area being built beside the large pond; this will provide a seating area and a dipping platform. The PTA has been busy fund-raising for this, and we very much look forward to using it with the children. We are also about to embark on a vegetable growing project, having built five large raised beds. Although we are in the very early stages, we are looking forward to seeing what this produces.

The school's Advent Fayre is on Friday, 4th December, from 5.30pm – 7.30pm. Please come and join in with the festive fun.

THE MILL ARMS

Opening Hours over Christmas:

- ◆ Fri 25th Dec. (Christmas day): 12 - 4pm food (pre ordered before 1st Dec.) and drink
- ◆ Sat 26th Dec. (Boxing day): 12 - 4pm drink only
- ◆ Sun 27th: Lunch and dinner as normal
- ◆ Mon 28th: 12 - 3pm food and drink
- ◆ Tues 29th: Lunch and dinner as normal
- ◆ Wed 30th: Lunch and dinner as normal
- ◆ Thurs 31st (New Year's Eve): 12 - 3pm food and drink
- ◆ Fri 1st Jan (New Year's Day): 11 - 3 Breakfast Brunch, 2 sittings at 11am and 1pm, but no other menu served today. Bar open from 11am.
- ◆ Sat 2nd Jan: All as normal for the rest of the year!



We have decided to close on New Year's Eve here at The Mill as so many of you have house parties and we know we are in for a very busy time at The GreyHound. It will be a treat for our staff here at The Mill to have New Year's Eve off for a change – must be 20+ years since I did not work New Year's Eve, so I know that they will all be really pleased, with us as Bosses!! If you are still looking to go out, why not come and join us at The GreyHound – promises to be great fun.

On **Monday, 14th December** we will be holding a **locals 'thank you' Christmas Dinner** at The Mill Arms. If you would like to attend, please phone and make a reservation between 6pm and 8.15pm, as only those with reservations will be catered for. The cost is £12pp for a 3 course menu – see below. We will ask you in advance for your main course and dessert preference. As some of you will probably realise, it is a bit more than last year, but sadly nothing has gone down in price from the government or our supplier's point of view! If you have kids who want something different, there is a second menu for under 12 years ONLY. All drinks will be charged as taken.

We hope to see as many of you as possible - lots of you thoroughly enjoyed it last year – so book soon and we look forward to seeing you!

Locals' Christmas Dinner - £12pp

Bubble n Squeak soup, crunchy croutons (v)

Roast turkey, sage & onion stuffing with seasonal trimmings

Pithivier of Mediterranean vegetables, red pepper coulis (v)

Christmas pudding, brandy sauce
Apple & Blackberry crumble & custard

Kids Menu for under 12 yrs ONLY - £9.00pp

Bubble n Squeak soup, crunchy croutons (v)

Kids fish and chips and peas
Or

Kids sausage and mash an gravy

Chocolate and vanilla ice cream
Or

Apple and blackberry crumble and custard



MOTTISFONT SOCIAL CLUB - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Don't forget the Social Club's Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, 5th December at the Mottisfont Social Club. We have had a tremendous response, and some more generous donations from local businesses:

Smiths Electricals - Stuart Smith is a member of Mottisfont Social Club and says that he has been taking his son to the Village Christmas party for the past couple of years.

Hatt Farm - A local business whose proprietors have decided to not only make a donation but also to help with the organising of this year's party.

Hamptons Tree Care – A fully qualified and insured arboricultural company based in Winchester. Local man, Neil Sheppard, has worked for Hamptons for the past four years, and told them of our need for assistance. Proprietors Bob and Aimee Hampton

immediately offered to fund the cost of all the children's Christmas gifts to be given at the party.

Growing Hand – A garden maintenance company run by local villager Thomas Stone of Hatt Hill, Mottisfont. Tom regularly contributes to local charities and has very kindly donated money towards the funding of this year's children's party.

Now the even better news!

We were going to start with a little grumble that this wasn't the usual long chatty story from Tracy, but we have absolutely forgiven her, because she has been "a little busy having a beautiful baby girl" as she so delightfully puts it! Little Emmie was born on 13th November. We're just amazed Tracy could think about the Acorn at all!

Our heartiest congratulations to you and the baby.
-Eds.

Glints of Glory

Christmas sheds a glint of glory over the familiar scene. Christmas with its lovely story breaks the commonplace routine - and bids us pause, rememberingreflecting upon wondrous things - and through the mists of unbelief we catch the flash of angel wings.

Christmas hallows all it touches, sanctifying things mundane. Faith is quickened into life. The heart once dead is stirred again but the light's too bright for us and quickly do we turn away. The vision fades - and we forget the glory glimpsed on Christmas Day.

Helen Steiner Rice.

With our thanks to Valda. - Eds.

Awbridge Primary School Advent Fayre

Awbridge School will be holding their Advent Fayre on Friday, 4th December from 5:30pm until 7:30pm. Santa's Grotto, stalls, mince pie & tea, games, mulled wine, BBQ, Choir and Raffle. Everyone is welcome (please bring a torch!)

If you would like to take a stall at the fayre, please contact Julie Bundy, tel, 342457

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
Art Group		Gordon Wood	340129		Reader	Gina Livermore	388433
County Councillor		Michael Woodhall	01264		Wardens	Trish Armstrong	340475
			810500			Susan Clutterbuck	
Cricket Club	Secretary	Tony Stemp	340398	Social Club	Chairman	Peter Simmonds	340891
History Group		Michael Horne	340105		Secretary	Jackie Appleby	
Horticultural Society		Michael Horne	340105		Steward	Linda Taggart	340521
First Responders	Coordinator	Marion Gray	341370	Test Valley Councillor		Neville Whiteley	01264
Football Club	Secretary	John Fryer	512695				811101
Member of Parliament	Constituency Office	Sandra Gidley	511900	Village Bus	Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
Mill Arms		Andrea and Ian Bentall	340401		Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
Mottisfont Abbey	Est. Manager		340757		Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
Neighbourhood Watch	Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799	Village Hall	Operations	Mike Howe	301723
	Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922	(Reg.Charity	Chairman	Lynn Young	340134
Parish Council	Clerk	Sue Holder	340130	No 291629)	Village Hall	Jon &	
	Chairman	John Millns	340347		Entertainments	Heather Butler	340740
	Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555		Secretary	Alan Groves	341301
		Alan Earthrowl	341799	W.I.	Bookings	Cathie Wood	340129
		Jacquie Horne	340105	Police	Secretary	Margaret Astur	341922
		Stuart Miller	340903		Village	PC John Viney	0845
		Andrew Simmonds					045 45 45
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