



SMALL ADS

Brittania range cooker, about ten years old, clean and serviceable. Six LPG burners (adaptable for mains gas), large oven and a smaller one, both with grill. Ovens are electric. £100. Tel. 340843.

Conditions

The editors will accept advertisements of up to 35 words for items for sale or exchange from individuals (no commercial ads, please) free of charge, subject to space. The editors may refuse to accept any advertisement at their sole discretion. The editors will accept no responsibility for the content of any advertisement, the items advertised, nor for any transaction that may result. It is your responsibility to ensure that the goods are as described.

LOCKERLEY BEAVERS & BROWNIES URGENTLY NEED HELP



Can you help our thriving local Beaver Colony or Brownie Pack?



Can YOU help us with a thriving Beaver Colony of boys and girls aged 6-8yrs? The current team of helpers are looking for ONE person, male or female, to lead them. Training will be given if necessary. Contact Sarah Harnett 01794 340282 or Jean Beauchamp 01722 712251 for more information.

Lockerley Brownies (girls aged 7-10yrs) urgently need a new Brown Owl to lead the existing experienced team. The Brownie Pack is in danger of closing if a female leader(s) aged 18-65 cannot be found to run the weekly term-time meetings. Training will be given if necessary. Contact Judith Houghton 01794 341500 for more information.

➡ **Watch out for Lockhits on 19th, 20th and 21st March!** ⬅

Plastic Bag-Free Day in Romsey

On Saturday, 28th February, Romsey town centre is set to become a plastic bag free zone, with the town's traders promoting reusable bags instead of handing out free plastic carriers.

The Town Hall will go green for the day, with the Fair Trade Coalition selling goods and serving refreshments. Test Valley Borough Council will provide a recycling display, and there will be bag-making demonstrations and the chance to decorate your own reusable carrier bag.

Volunteers out and about in the streets will give away hundreds of organic cotton carrier bags, and there will be a free raffle for anyone prepared to sign up to reducing their use of plastic bags in the future.

The idea is the brainchild of Better Bags for Romsey, a group formed last year by Romsey's Margaret Hobbs to persuade people in the town to think twice before taking plastic bags when shopping. Instead they are encouraged to try out the alternative bags available, because we all need to help reduce the number of plastic bags that end up in landfill sites, as litter, and in our rivers and seas.

Thanks to sponsorship from O2, the Romsey and District Society, Hilliers Garden Centres and Test Valley Borough Council, the group has acquired a supply of strong organic cotton carrier bags, which it has handed out in local primary schools and to various community groups, and which it will be handing out free in Romsey on the day.

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.

PARISH LUNCH, MOTTISFONT ABBEY

on

SUNDAY, 1st MARCH

Starters

Pea, Pear and Watercress Soup or
Trio of Poached Trout, Smoked Trout and Prawns on a bed of mixed leaves
with
Roll and Butter

~

Main Course

Honey Glazed Pork Steak or
Chicken and Mushroom Casserole or
Parsnip Roulade (v)
with
Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes

~

Pudding

Sticky Toffee Pudding or
Apple and Berry Crumble
with
Custard or Cream

~

Coffee

Sherry will be served in the Long Corridor from 12 noon
Lunch will be served in the Old Dining Room at 12.45pm

£16.85 per adult (over 14 years), £8.25 per child. Under 5 years free.

Please send your menu choice to John Jenkins (301614) or Gordon Wood (340129)
by Wednesday, 18th February, with your payment.

Cheques made payable to National Trust (Enterprises) Ltd.



Name _____

Name	Starter	Main	Pudding

Total payment enclosed: £ _____



MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE W.I.



Ruth King spoke about the History of Underwear at our first meeting this year. We laughed as we passed around items of underwear from the early 1920s, and were glad things had changed for the modern woman. Women did not wear knickers until the 19th century. Their only undergarment was a long linen garment called a chemise. Today we say a pair of knickers or panties. That is because in the early 19th century women's underwear consisted of two separate legs joined at the waist. They really were a pair.

Our Annual Jumble sale will take place at the Village Hall on Saturday, 28th February, at 2pm. We will be delighted to accept anything you would like to get rid of, and offer a collection service. Please call Cathie (340129), Margaret (341922), or Frances (301614). You may also leave items for the sale at the hall from 10am onwards of the same day.

There are lots of goodies in the pipeline for the coming year, including:

- January - New Year Dinner with a luxury buffet at Annie's, Kimbridge.
- A theatre trip to see "Little Women" at the Nuffield.
- February - Seniors Lunch at The Hatchet, Sherfield English.
- March - A theatre trip to see "Calendar Girls" at the Mayflower, Southampton.
- April - WI Fashion Show, Beales, Winchester.
- May/June - A day trip to Dublin.
- A day trip to Bath by train, with a Blue Badge Guide for two hours in the morning.

Our next meeting will be at the Village Hall on Tuesday, 10th February. Diana Warnock will talk about 'What the Bride Wore', myths and superstitions of that special day.

Why not make 2009 your year to give the WI a try? We would be delighted to see you at any of our meetings.

Cathie Wood

The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus Committee

Charity Number: 284910

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. The 29th AGM will be held in the Broughton Village Hall on Monday, 9th February, 2009, 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 is:

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Approval of minutes of 28th AGM
- 3 Matters arising from those minutes
- 4 Financial report given by George Pratley
- 5 Chairman's report given by Michael Howe
- 6 Resignations and Election of Officers
- 7 Any other business (including further ideas on excursions in the summer months)

George Vaughan

Dear Friends,



Ash Wednesday on 25th February will mark the beginning of Lent this year. On Ash Wednesday at the evening service in St Mary's Broughton we will use ash marked on the forehead in the sign of the cross. But why do we use ash? We find references to the practice in the Old Testament. Perhaps the best known example of repentance in the Old Testament also involves sackcloth and ashes. When the prophet Jonah finally obeyed God's command and preached in the great city of Nineveh, his preaching was amazingly effective. "When the news reached the King of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in the ashes" (Jon 3:6).

The Gospel for Ash Wednesday gives us good advice on how we are to act during Lent. Jesus speaks of the three main disciplines of the season: giving alms, praying and fasting. All of these are spiritual activities, Jesus teaches us, and they are to be done without any desire for recognition by others. The point is not that we should pray alone and not in community, but that we should not pray in order to be seen as holy. The same is true of fasting and works of charity; they do not need to be hidden, but they are to be done out of love of God and neighbour, not in order to be seen by others. There is a certain irony that we use this Gospel, which tells us to wash our faces so that we do not appear to be doing penance on the day that we go around with "dirt" on our foreheads. This is just another way Jesus is telling us not to perform religious acts for public recognition. We don't wear the ashes to proclaim our holiness but to acknowledge that we are a community of sinners in need of repentance and renewal. When we receive ashes on our foreheads, we remember who we are. We remember that we are creatures of the earth ("Remember that you are dust"). We remember that we are mortal beings ("and to dust you will return"). We remember that we are baptized. We remember that we are people on a journey of conversion ("Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel"). We remember that we are members of the body of Christ (and that smudge on our foreheads will proclaim that identity to others, too).

Renewing our sense of who we really are before God is the core of the Lenten experience. It is so easy to forget, and thus we fall into habits of sin, ways of thinking and living that are contrary to God's will. In this we are like the Ninevites in the story of Jonah. It was "their wickedness" that caused God to send Jonah to preach to them. Jonah resisted that mission and found himself in deep water. Rescued by a large fish, Jonah finally did God's bidding and began to preach in Nineveh. His preaching obviously fell on open ears and hearts, for in one day he prompted the conversion of the whole city.

From the very beginning of Lent, God's word calls us to conversion. If we open our ears and hearts to that word, we will be like the Ninevites not only in their sinfulness but also in their conversion to the Lord. That, simply put, is the point of Ash Wednesday!

Please join in on the journey, remember to pray, to read the scriptures, to practice goodness to others, to repent and to be renewed. Grow and change and be blessed ready for the incredible rejoicing of new life at Easter.

With blessings,

Ron.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

	1st February Epiphany 4	8th February Septuagesima	15th February Sexagesima	22nd February Quinquagesima
8.00 am	Broughton HC CW	Broughton HC BCP		
9.30 am	Bossington HC BCP Broughton Godly Play	Broughton Family Service Houghton HC CW	Mottisfont HC BCP Broughton Sunday Club	Broughton HC CW Broughton Sunday Club
11.00 am	Mottisfont Matins	Mottisfont Family Service	Broughton HC CW Broughton Coffee Club	Mottisfont Family Communion
6.00 pm	Houghton Evensong		Houghton Evensong	Houghton HC BCP

A thought for the New Year

We hear a lot of doom and gloom these days, but do we realise how lucky we are to live in such a lovely place?

Perhaps we need reminding occasionally! Just think of what we have in our Parish which we can all take advantage and be proud of:

- We have wonderful countryside, well stewarded by our local farmers and the N.T.
- An active Parish Council.
- Mottisfont Abbey with access to enjoy the beautiful gardens and grounds.
- The Mill Arms, The Social Club, Kimbridge Shop and Restaurant.
- St Andrew's Church for our spiritual needs.
- An excellent regular rail service to Romsey, Southampton and Salisbury, plus the community bus.
- The Village Hall offers many things including the Summer Fete, Village Suppers, B.B.Qs, entertainment, panto and children's party.
- Clubs & Societies include Football, Cricket, Gardening, Whist, History, Art, W.I., Walking, and a Fishing Syndicate.
- And not forgetting the *Acorn*, available free for us all to be aware of news and forthcoming events.

A Parishioner.

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

5th February, Members Meeting.
12th February, Mrs. Linda Milburn.
19th February, Mrs. Valerie Reid.
26th February, Mr. David Stone.

Everyone is welcome! Do come and join us.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

Service to note for February

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 25th February. At 7.30pm at St. Mary's, Broughton, there will be a service of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes.

Please join us for this special service.

CAROLS AT MEDINA

on 22nd December, 2008

Thank you everyone who participated or contributed to the evening of fellowship by the Nativity tableau just before Christmas. We had a lovely time singing carols and sharing festive food, and although cold, we had perfect weather. We have also been able to send the £260 collected to Naomi House Children's Hospice, which was a tremendous effort. Thank you.

Naomi House has the facility to use old foreign coins and used postage stamps, (with a full postmark attached). This year we intend to collect both coins and stamps. These can be given to any member of Bright Hour, or marked for Naomi House and left in the meeting room of St. Mary's Church.

Ann & Brian Ridout (01980 862232)

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 2009.

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.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The parish Children's Christmas Party on 15th December was a great success. Attended by 27 children, we enjoyed playing some brilliant traditional Christmas games organised by Katy, Dylan's mum. Thanks from us all Katy! And a big thank you to everyone else who helped out on the day with this really rewarding event.

If you could help us organise next years event, please do get in touch with Sarah Ritchie. We would really appreciate hearing from some new volunteers!

IF YOU LEFT PLATES BEHIND AT THE HALL, PLEASE CONTACT SARAH RITCHIE 341655

WALKING GROUP

Walks for the next two months:

- ◆ Friday, 13th February at 10am
- ◆ Friday, 13th March at 10am

We will meet outside the Mill Arms, and the walks will be about 2 - 3 hours in duration.

Gordon, 340129

ART GROUP

The Art Group meets every Thursday afternoon, 2 - 4pm.

All will be welcome - amateur, very amateur, or never having picked up a brush before! Just be creative!

Gordon, 340129

Whist Drives



The next Whist drives will be held on 30th January, 27th February, 27th March and 24th April, at 7.30pm in Mottisfont Village Hall. All are most welcome!

If you would like some practice or explanation, please contact either Gordon Wood on 340129, or John Jenkins on 301614.

Tools for Self Reliance

Do you have any spare tools that are rusty or perhaps worse for wear? **Tools for Self Reliance** at Eling, Totton, would be glad to receive them as a gift for refurbishment. They ship them to 3rd world countries where they are put to good use.

There are some leaflets in the Village Hall and in the Church about this, or phone 02380 869697. Volunteers, male or female, are welcome to help with the refurbishment - just a few hours a week would be useful. No particular expertise needed!

LOCKERLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

PTA Fundraising Event, Friday, 13th March:

Chocolate Factory Fair

including:

- Grand Chocolate Raffle
- Willy Wonka book stall
- Chocolate Tombola
- Chocolate Cake Stall

Mothers Day and Easter Chocolate Gifts

Lockerley Memorial Hall at 6.30pm

Advance Notice:

PTA Fundraising Event, Saturday, 16th May

Summer Masked Ball

Entertainment ~ Bar ~ Buffet ~ Dancing

Julie Black
Lockerley Primary School, 340485

What's on at The Mill Arms

Good ol' Valentines doesn't half come around quickly (chaps!!!). This will be a pre-ordered menu please. It is £25pp (same price as last year but a different menu) on Saturday, 14th February, but as we know, not everyone can escape on a weekend night due to kids or crazy shift patterns, etc., so we will also be offering the same menu at £22pp on Thursday, 12th February – again by advance order only, please.



There's another chance to come to one of our Live Theatre and Dinner evenings. Plenty of advance notice, as these are very popular! Two dates are available, both Sundays: 19th April and 17th May. This is a great little Black Comedy, called 'The Anniversary'....

Set in South London in 1966: The central character in 'The Anniversary' is dear old Mum who keeps a tight hold on her three sons, binding them to her with gifts, threats and ruthless exploitation of their weaknesses. But as the family is unwillingly brought together to celebrate Mum's wedding anniversary (regardless of deceased Dad), revolt is in the air. Middle son Terry gathers the courage to tell Mum he is emigrating with his family to Canada, and youngest son Tom breaks the news of his impending marriage. Mum fights back with every weapon in her formidable armoury...but will her long ascendancy be broken at last?

The cost is £27pp and includes a pre-ordered 2 course menu – please ring or e-mail for a copy of this menu. Dinner starts promptly at 7.00pm, and the evening usually concludes about 10-10.30pm. I guarantee you will enjoy yourself!

Loyalty Cards are now available for our diners – eat 9 times and get the 10th meal free (free 3 course meal excluding drinks). When you are next in, ask for yours!

Andrea and Ian

AWBRIDGE FIRST RESPONDERS

Our next meeting is on 12th February, at 7.30pm in Awbridge Village Hall.

Despite our numbers being depleted over the last year, we are still able to cover most evenings and thanks need to be given to those volunteers who give up even more of their free time. Our appeals for more volunteers have led to interest from two people, and we hope they will feel able to join us shortly. We do still need more volunteers to spread the load, so please come to one of our monthly meetings and discover what is involved.

South Central Ambulance Service introduced a new computer programme into their communications centre during October, and as a result there has been a significant drop in the number of calls that Responders have been asked to attend across the entire region. Please remember, Awbridge First Responders can only attend an incident on the instruction of the Ambulance Communications Centre. We have to wait for them. However, if you have had to make a 999 call for an ambulance since October and wondered why an Awbridge First Responder did not arrive, please let me know.

Finally, I feel that after three years in the role it is time to appoint a new co-ordinator. I intend to remain as a Responder, and will obviously be able to provide advice and support for whoever takes over the post. The co-ordinator is more of an administrative role, and would easily suit someone who is not a Responder. Please look at the job description and decide if you could fit the role.

Job Description for Co-ordinator

Duties:

1. Organise and chair monthly update and sign-up meetings with Awbridge First Responders.
2. Attend regular South Central Ambulance Services Trust meetings to discuss problems, and be updated as primary link between the Awbridge First Responders Scheme and the Trust.
3. Organise six-monthly re-qualification tests (practical & theory) in agreement with Community Responder Training Officers.
4. Provide induction advice to potential new recruits.
5. Act as point of contact/spokesperson and deal with queries.
6. Hold stock and consumables on an as-needed basis.
7. Check financial statements with treasurer and ensure audit is carried out.
8. Follow up call-outs as appropriate with First Responders.
9. Provide regular updates for Awbridge Village newsletter and website.
10. Assume responsibility for encouraging adequate rota cover.

Skills required:

Good communications skills, computer literacy (e-mail/Microsoft Office), access to PC/printer, car driver.

Kay Murrant

Mottisfont Social Club

The Friday night 'Find the Joker' rolling cash prize was finally won by Ricki Comport, who bought a round of drinks for all in the club that evening and took home £579.00. As promised, a percentage of the money raised from 'Find the Joker' will be donated to the Air Ambulance, and so far this is at £220.00. 'Find the Joker' has started again with a new pack of cards, and the cash prize has already grown to £124.00! So, come along on a Friday evening, and have a go!!

Forthcoming entertainment

14th Feb – Nite Fever, Valentines disco & Karaoke
28th Feb – Ruby Starr, singer
28th Feb – All renewal subs due for 2009 (£6, OAPs £3)
4th Mar – Proposed date for the AGM
21st Mar – Jimmy J, singer
25th Apr – Ian McKellar, Elvis impersonator
23rd May – Ian's Party Mix, songs of all ages with keyboard/guitar.

Tracy Holmes

Snowdrop Season at Mottisfont Abbey

Mottisfont is rapidly gaining a reputation for the stunning displays of spring bulbs and flowers which grace its gardens and grounds from February to May.

Delicate drifts of snowdrops, daffodils and fritillaries carpet the grassy areas between Mottisfont's famous ancient plane trees, and from early March until the end of May the Walled Garden is enhanced with an array of tulips and other spring flowers. Throughout February half term stroll around the Snowdrop trail, whilst little explorers can investigate 'Signs of Spring' around Mottisfont.

Opening times for the Garden/New Shop/Kitchen Café

- ◆ 31st January - 8th February: 11- 4, weekends only
- ◆ 14 February - 22nd February: 11-4, open every day during the half term

DIARY

Monday, 9th February	Community Bus Committee AGM	7.30pm, Broughton Village Hall
Tuesday, 10th February	WI meeting	8pm, Village Hall
Thursday, 12th February	Awbridge First Responders	7.30pm, Awbridge Village Hall
Friday, 13th February	Walking Group	10am, outside the Mill Arms
Friday, 27th February	Whist Drive	7.30pm Village Hall
Saturday, 28th February	WI Jumble Sale	2pm, Village Hall
Sunday, 1st March	Parish Lunch	12 noon, Mottisfont Abbey
Friday, 13th March	Walking Group	10am, outside the Mill Arms
19-21 March	Lockhits	Lockerley Village Hall

BRAIN TEASER

Space for sums!
↙

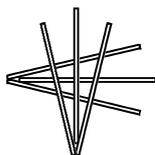
Find the number

Find a four digit number where:

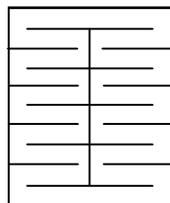
1. The last digit is twice the first digit
2. The third digit is twice the second digit
3. The sum of the first and last digits is twice the third digit

Answers to the previous edition's puzzles

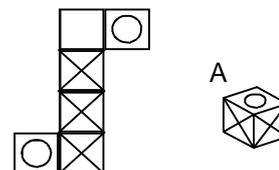
Each match touches all the others:



Cut along the lines to make a hole big enough to climb through:



Folds to make A:



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			Reader	Gina Livermore	388433
Art Group	Gordon Wood	340129	Wardens	Trish Armstrong	
County Councillor	Michael Woodhall	01264		Susan Clutterbuck	340475
		810500			
Cricket Club Secretary	Tony Stemp	340398	Social Club Chairman	Peter Simmonds	340891
History Group	Michael Horne	340105	Secretary	Lanita Begg	529631
Horticultural Society	Michael Horne	340105	Steward	Julie Lyne	340521
First Responders Coordinator	Kay Murrant	340289	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	Operations	Mike Howe	301723
Parish Council Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922	Village Hall Chairman	Jon Butler	340740
Clerk	Frances Hanks	340541	(Reg.Charity Village Hall	Jon &	
Chairman	John Millns	340347	No 291629)	Entertainments	Heather Butler
Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555		Secretary	Alan Groves
	Alan Earthrowl	341799		Bookings	Cathie Wood
	Jacquie Horne	340105	W.I. Secretary	Margaret Astur	341922
	Stuart Miller	340903	Police Village	PC John Viney	0845
	Andrew Simmonds				045 45 45
			Romsey		0845
					045 45 45

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.
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