



Roi Wilson

It is with sadness that we have learnt of the death of former Mottisfont Parish Council chairman Roi Wilson. Roi, who moved from Mottisfont to Cheshire in 1997, was in his eighty-eighth year. He passed away at Iddenshall Hall in Tarporley on 18th March. His two daughters, Faith and Juliet, survive him. Roi was Parish Council chairman between 1993 and 1997. He was a retired Royal Naval Captain and was awarded a CBE for his services.

Present Parish Council chairman John Millns said Roi was "one of life's great characters", and there had been some amusing moments when Roi and his late wife Christine lived in the village. "One incident that is particularly memorable was the day Roi decided to cut down a large tree. I was out at the time and on returning he called me across to see something 'interesting'. Well it was certainly interesting and most unusual. I have never seen a tree growing out of a summerhouse before. The U-shaped groove in the roof and the bowed sides gave it a distinctive architectural style and was very decorative, but unfortunately not very waterproof," recalled John, who was Roi and Christine's neighbour at Mottisfont for 25 years.

During the 1960s, while in the Royal Navy, Roi often passed over Mottisfont in a helicopter, and he would wave to his daughter Juliet and other pupils as the chopper swooped low over the village school – much to the excitement of everyone including the headmistress Mrs. Nancy Cockrill.

Andy Simmonds

SMALL ADS

◆For sale: King size mattress, almost new. Offers around £30. Buyer collects. Contact Helen Charlton on 340911.

◆For sale: 2 Test Valley School Uniform Polo Shirts - Bottle Green - Size 34" - VGC - £4 each. Telephone Tina Groves on 341301

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.

ACORN BY E-MAIL

Do you know any one outside Mottisfont and Dunbridge who would like to receive a copy of the *Acorn* by e-mail? Maybe former villagers who have moved away, but would enjoy hearing about our activities? If so, just get them to send an e-mail to

acornnews@mandercom.co.uk

and we will put them onto our distribution list, free of charge.

You can also find the current edition of the *Acorn* at

www.theacorn.org.uk

Our thanks to Jon Butler for setting up and maintaining this site!

By the way, we intend to continue delivering paper copies to everyone in Mottisfont and Dunbridge, rather than offering the option of e-mail delivery. Otherwise, life would get very complicated for our much-valued volunteer deliverers!

The deadline for the June *Acorn* is 16th May.

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

At the parish council meeting on the 31st March, a minute's silence was observed at the beginning of the meeting in respect of Roi Wilson, who sadly passed away on the 18th March. Roi was Chairman of Mottisfont Parish Council from 1993 to 1997. The block and gavel he made and donated to the Parish Council is still in use today.

VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall has a new bunded oil tank to comply with regulations. This, plus the cost of decorating the inside and outside of the hall, have largely been covered by a lottery grant obtained by Cllr. Jacquie Horne.

VILLAGE CENTRE TRAFFIC CALMING

After lengthy discussions with HCC to agree a plan to improve the junction at Hatt Lane, the Parish Council has decided not to go ahead with the plan at the moment. Although some grant aid was offered, the Parish Council was required to fund the scheme by a further £1000, and the plan HCC offered did little towards calming the traffic.

CHANGE OF CLERK

The new parish clerk, Sue Holder thanked everyone for their warm welcome to the parish. Sue can be contacted on Mottisfont.clerk@tesco.net, telephone number 01794 340130.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Thanks were given to all those who attended the Annual Parish Meeting on 15th April in the Village Hall.

NEW TRAIN SERVICE

The South West Trains service continues to improve with an hourly service throughout the day, and the summer bus link-up with trips to the Abbey and Hillier's seems to be working well.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual General Meeting: Wednesday, 27th May, in the village hall.

Sue Holder



MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE W.I.



At the April meeting we welcomed Lynne Jenkins, who has recently come to live in the village.

of his able-bodied counterparts, except that he has had to use his mouth, foot or chin to carry out every-day tasks.

Local 'Green Man' Brian Raines spoke with a passion about the Nature Reserve he has established at Awbridge. The Reserve, which is a haven for wildlife, is home for Arthur the goat, rare breeds of sheep, deer, grass snakes, geese and ducks. Woodcock and Redstarts are some of the birds frequently spotted. Brian is responsible for the brushwood figures which adorn the hedges in the area.

The day trip to Dublin on Wednesday, 20th May, is rapidly approaching. Check in at Southampton Airport is 6.15am at the latest. Passports and Euros will be required.

Houghton was the host for the Spring Group meeting in April. Mouth and Foot artist Tom Yendell, a victim of the drug Thalidomide and sadly born without arms, gave an inspirational and often amusing talk with slides. Tom, an accomplished artist who drives, skis, travels and rides horses, was born with some things possibly more useful than arms: a cheerful disposition, a positive attitude, a warm family life and a sense of trust in the Lord. He says that his life has been no different from any

The next meeting is on Tuesday, 12th May, at 8pm in Mottisfont Village Hall. At this meeting we will discuss S.O.S. for Honey Bees. This is the National resolution. Honey Bees play a vital role in the pollination of food crops and in our environment. At the AGM in London we will urge H.M. Government to increase funding for research into bee health. The Guest speaker will be John Hanks, a local bee keeper.

Everyone is most welcome to join any of our meetings. Why not come along and see what we do?

Cathie Wood



The National Trust needs you!

Four volunteer roles available:

- ◆ Co-ordinator Volunteer
- ◆ Outreach Volunteer
- ◆ Recruitment Volunteer
- ◆ Training Volunteer

Are you up to the challenge?

Exciting new developments at your local National Trust-owned Mottisfont Abbey have created opportunities for more volunteers in a range of interesting roles. Mottisfont is known internationally for its rose garden, but how many people know the handsome old Abbey houses an outstanding collection of early 20th century art, with the world-famous River Test flowing through the tranquil, green grounds?

Volunteers already steward the house as well as the gorgeous gardens. Further projects at Mottisfont have created exciting new roles for volunteers. Examples of this are the Garden Information Room, which a group of volunteers are developing under the experienced eye of the Head Gardener. Another initiative is the volunteer coordinated Guided Tours Project. Volunteers are developing a number of different tours of the house, estate and gardens, that will appeal to different sorts of visitors. It is hoped that these will be trialled with the visitors in August.

To delight the visitors further, Mottisfont is forming a new team of volunteers who will help the Visitor Reception team welcome visitors at weekends. Mottisfont is looking for a select band of around 12 volunteers who are friendly and engaging, and would like to work on a rota basis with the fantastic

Visitor Reception team at weekends. There is full support and training provided for these roles, so if you would like to find out more about these great opportunities and can spare four hours every other weekend please send an email to: Helping.Mottisfont@nationaltrust.org.uk, or call 07977 060750.

All this additional activity has led to the development of a groundbreaking new initiative at Mottisfont, the formation of a Central Volunteering Team that will work with the Property Manager and her team to manage and coordinate the full range of volunteer activity at Mottisfont. The National Trust is a conservation charity, and is committed to conserving special places for ever, for everyone. These four volunteer roles are each an excellent opportunity to make a real contribution to their work and learn how a historic property operates behind the scenes. It is also a chance for the lucky people selected to use their skills in a friendly and supportive environment.

The staff at Mottisfont would love to hear from you if you are interested in any one of the four roles available. One role will concentrate on coordination and administration and would suit someone with a flair for organisation; this will be supported by a role that leads the recruitment of new volunteers, perhaps someone with an HR background? The third role will focus on outreach activities and provide a link to volunteer centres. The last role will support the training needs of volunteers, so may appeal to someone with a training background. More than anything, each role requires a flexible and friendly approach. If this has sparked an interest, please contact Mike Hudson for further information on mike.hudson@nationaltrust.org.uk or call him on 07977 060750. The deadline for applications to be received for these four roles is 29th May 2009.

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

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful Holy Week and Easter we all celebrated in the Benefice. We had some really special times of worship, and the worship on Easter Day was uplifting and Holy Spirit filled. Thank you to all who helped within the services and those who came to worship - and mostly to God for being present with us for these celebrations.



As we move into May we are considering the gift of the Holy Spirit to God's people. Pentecost falls on 31st May this year, and we will hear again the wonderful account of the giving of the Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts.

"When the day of Pentecost was being celebrated, all of them were together in one place. Suddenly, a sound like the roar of a mighty windstorm came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw tongues like flames of fire that separated, and one rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them that ability." Acts Chapter 2:1-4

The Holy Spirit is a truly dynamic force without which the Church would not exist, for at Pentecost or Whitsun we are reminded that the giving of the Holy Spirit is an immediate consequence of the Resurrection. Following Jesus' Ascension, the Spirit virtually exploded onto the scene. The story is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles as above. It has been said that a more appropriate title for this book of the New Testament would be the Acts of the Holy Spirit. No other book speaks so much about the work of the Holy Spirit. Each baptised and confirmed Christian has a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit. The Father sent His Son, Jesus Christ, into the world so that through the Son He could gather the whole world back to Himself. The Father also sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts. Since (as St. Gregory of Nyssa taught) "there is no distance between the Son and the Spirit", the presence of the Spirit in our hearts brings us directly into communion with Christ.

This much is certain from a close reading of 'the Acts'. The actions of the Apostles and the work of the Holy Spirit are intimately connected. Whether in baptism, in the laying on of hands, in healing, in preaching, in praying, in fasting, in speaking in tongues, in appointing leaders and pastors of the Church, or in making decisions for the future teaching and ordering of the Church – whatever the apostles do, they do it in the Spirit. If one wishes to see evidence of the work of the Spirit in the early Church, one must look to the work of the apostles.

Our prayers are that we may all be filled with God's Holy Spirit, and that our lives will be fruitful in Christ's service and especially in love, peace and joy.

With Blessings

Ron Corne. (Rector)

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR MAY

	3rd May EASTER 3	10th May EASTER 4	17th May ROGATION	24th May Sunday after Ascension	31st May PENTECOST
8.00 am	Broughton HC CW	Broughton HC BCP			
9.30 am	Bossington HC BCP ----- Broughton Godly Play	Broughton Family Service ----- Houghton HC CW		Broughton HC CW ----- Broughton Sunday Club	Houghton HC CW for whole benefice
11.00 am	Mottisfont Matins	Mottisfont Family Service	Bossington HC CW	Mottisfont Family Communion	
6.00 pm	Houghton Evensong			Houghton HC BCP	

To Note for May

Rogation Sunday , 17th May 11.00am, St. James', Bossington

Please join us for this service which we hope to hold out of doors. It is suitable for all ages, with particular activities prepared for children.

You are invited to bring picnics to eat following the service. There will be an opportunity for children to enjoy games as in previous years.

- o o o -

Ascension Day, 21st May 6pm at St. Mary's, Broughton

Hymn singing from the tower (weather permitting).

- o o o -

Rose Garden Evening at Mottisfont Abbey, 29th May, 6.30 - 8.30pm (last entry 8pm)

A chance to enjoy the roses at their best!

Tickets: £6 adults
£4 under 15
Under 3 free

Please park in the main Abbey car park this year.

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

7th May: Members Meeting
14th May: Mrs. Vida Reynolds (Feed the Children)
21st May: Mrs. Ann Ridout (Visit to the Holy Land)
28th May: Rev'd. Sue Percey

Everyone welcome. Do come and join us.
Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

St. Andrew's Church

We are having a Bluebell Walk in aid of St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 3rd May at 2.30pm, starting at Mottisfont Village Hall.

Charges are:
£3 per adult
£1.50 per child
or £8 for family (2 adults + 2 children).

The price includes refreshment and cake served at end of walk.

There will be a guided walk through Mottisfont woods by kind permission of The National Trust. Dogs are welcome on leads.

Hope to see you there!

Ann Saunders
Treasurer

MOTTISFONT RE-VISITED - Saturday, 16th May

St. Andrew's Church members are planning an event for the whole village in the Village Hall on Saturday, 16th May, between 2pm and 6pm. The objectives are:

- ◆ To reinforce the fact that there are lots of worthwhile activities already going on in the village and to recruit new members
- ◆ To invite Mottisfont and Dunbridge residents both present and past to come along, share memories, anecdotes, photos or anything they think might be of interest, or just to chat and reminisce over a 'cuppa'.

My hope is that each Group will be prepared to make and bring a poster about what they do and give the name/phone number of a contact person. Exhibits will be welcome e.g. programmes, art work, plants and flowers, photos from the past, etc., and any relevant items to be offered for sale.

Tea/coffee/cold drinks will be available throughout and visitors will be asked to bring enough cake for 2 (as some may forget!). Charging £1 a head should, hopefully, produce enough for the hall hire and the drinks.

Invitations by word of mouth are always the best, so please tell anyone you think might be interested. There will also be details in the village Newsletter and perhaps in the Romsey Advertiser.

Please contact Valda White on 368346 for any more information.

The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus Committee

Registered Charity Number: 284910

Excursions 2009

Last year's programme was very successful, with the exception of the trip to Poole which was cancelled due to the appalling August weather. Surely we must be in for a good summer this year! The Windsor trip proved a welcome addition to the programme, and is to be repeated in 2009. The Isle of Wight is back by popular demand.

The Committee plan to run the following excursions during 2009:

20th May	Weymouth
17th June	Swanage
22nd July	Poole
26th August	Lymington
23rd September	Isle of Wight
21st October	Windsor

The price has been held to last year's rates, and represents good value at £12.50 for a day out. As before, there will be a supplement to cover the ferry costs on the Isle of Wight trip. Bookings, as normal, with Elsie Croucher on 301428. Please do not contact her before the first day of the month in which you wish to travel.

Driver wanted

The Broughton and Mottisfont Village Bus Committee runs as a charity to provide a service to the community. It takes about 30 volunteers to keep it going. With this number, the task for any one person is not too onerous. For example, a volunteer driver will be asked to make one trip a month. If someone is away or unwell, that obviously can be accommodated. So in a year the likelihood is that an individual might make, say, ten journeys. We have been operating with this arrangement since 1982.

At the moment we are experiencing a slight shortage of volunteer drivers and would like anyone interested in making this particular contribution to the excellent spirit of community in Broughton and



Mottisfont to come forward. Please note that this opportunity is open to people from Mottisfont and Dunbridge as well as Broughton. We are strictly volunteers and no payments are made to drivers, but it is perfectly legitimate to pay a mileage expense for anyone coming from Mottisfont in their own car to collect the bus and start a trip from Broughton.

The bus is easy to drive, with power steering, synchromesh gears and large mirrors. It is larger than a normal car, but we find that people readily adapt to the extra length. Drivers should be under the age of 70, preferably with a clean licence (normal car licence), although we may be able to accept someone with three points. No special training is required, but each volunteer undertakes a check drive with our Technical Manager. Once accepted, a route familiarisation trip is made, and then the new driver is ready to roll.

So....do come forward and let us know that you are interested. The contacts are Michael Howe on 301723 or George Vaughan on 301045, or speak to any of your friends who are already driving.

GARDENING CLUB

Our next meeting, "The Dorset Coast and its Wildlife", which was planned for Tuesday, 19th May, has had to be postponed, and will now be on Tuesday, 15th September.



We have a trip on Sunday, 21st June, by coach to Bramdean House Garden, then a pub lunch or picnic at The Flowerpot, Cheriton, and on to Hinton Ampner. The cost will be £20.80 each, or for National Trust members it will be £15.80. The cost includes the coach and entry to both gardens. The coach will leave Broughton at around 9am, calling at Mottisfont and Dunbridge.

We have some spare seats, so if you are interested, ring Michael Horne on 340105.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT IN THE EVENING

AWBRIDGE SCHOOL FETE

Friday, 5th June

6-8pm

**All the usual stalls,
fun and games,
BBQ**

All welcome!

Mottisfont Village Social Club

Spring is here and the sound of leather on willow will soon be heard from the village sports field. There's nothing more enjoyable than coming home from work, grabbing a glass of chilled wine and popping over the cricket field to watch the match. The first home game for Mottisfont is on the evening of 5th May. As always, the start of the cricket season signifies the re-opening of Mottisfont Social Club on Tuesday evenings, so why not walk down for a pint after you've watched the match? There will also be a selection of traditional pub games to play, such as bar skittles. Take a walk down memory lane and rekindle the child inside you.

Some news that will appeal to many of our customers is our decision make the pool table free to use on Sunday lunchtimes and Tuesday evenings.



Our 'Find the Joker' cash prize is over £300 and rising as the cash prize goes up week by week, until someone picks out the Joker from the pack. The draw has been moved from Friday to Sunday evenings, and tickets are £1 each.

The skittle alley will be laid out on Sunday evenings for a friendly game or two. Just come along and tag onto a team.

Everybody loves a game of bingo, and that's exactly what you'll get if you come along on a Thursday evening. If you're a little more competitive, we also have men's and ladies' darts teams, cribbage teams, billiards and snooker teams – please come along to the club if you would like to take part.

Put on your dancing shoes, as there will be musical entertainment on Saturday, 25th April, and Saturday, 2nd May. Don't forget that the Social Club is big enough to accommodate most parties, and is a fantastic local venue. It's also free to use if you are a member. All you need to do is write to the committee to ensure that the date can be accommodated in the diary.

Mottisfont Social Club is only a short walk from wherever you live in the village. For more information or for membership enquires, please drop in to see Linda or one of the committee members. Alternatively call 340521.

MOTTISFONT VILLAGE FETE

Note the date: **Sunday, 16th August**, at the Village Hall, from 2pm. Not to be missed - no holidays to be booked!

This year there will be live music with The Birnie Boozie Band.

Do you have any nice raffle prizes to offer? (E.g. a trip to Outer Mongolia, swimming with sharks, etc.) Anything a little unusual and appealing to put on the front of the raffle tickets!

Any suggestions about the fete and adding more spice to it would be most welcome!

Gordon, 340129

WALKING GROUP

The next two walks will be:

Friday, 8th May

We aim to catch the 09.57 train to Dean, then walk to Salisbury.

This will be a bit longer than our usual walks, probably about four and half hours, but then in May it's light a lot longer so there isn't really a problem...

Friday, 5th June

I will probably have got everyone lost walking to Salisbury in May, so expect that I've been sacked and there will be a new leader! We will be departing from the Mill Arms as usual at 10am, but the route is yet to be decided.



Gordon, 340129

NEWS FROM FORMER VILLAGERS

We recently heard from Gillian Francis, formerly of Church Lane, Mottisfont, and now living in Shetland. She contacted *The Acorn* because Georgina Francis, a nurse at a frontline military hospital in Afghanistan, was featured in an article in *The Sun* on 4th April.

Georgina was promoting the charity Help for Heroes, which provides support for wounded servicemen returning from Afghanistan and Iraq, and has so far raised over £17m.

Gillian sent an extract from Georgina's blog describing various aspects of life in Afghanistan, and also from her own blog about life in Shetland - two very different worlds, both sounding fascinating!

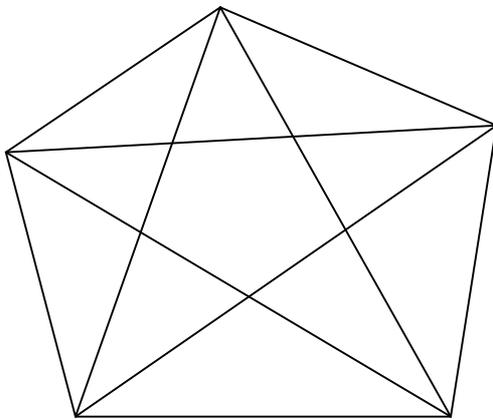
If there is space in a future edition, we'll try to print extracts from both blogs.

Julia and Peter

DIARY

Friday, 8th May	Walking Group	0957 train from Dunbridge
Tuesday, 12th May	WI	8pm, Village Hall
Saturday, 16th May	Mottisfont re-visited	2pm, Village Hall
Wednesday, 20th May	WI Dublin trip	
Wednesday, 27th May	Parish Council AGM	Village Hall
Friday, 29th May	Rose Garden Evening	Rose Garden
Friday, 5th June	Walking Group	10am, outside the Mill Arms
Sunday, 21st June	Garden Club trip	
Sunday, 16th August	Village Fete	Village Hall

BRAIN TEASER



How many triangles can you find in this figure?

Answers to last month's teasers:

1. Jack and Jill are two of three triplets.
2. The boy is the son of the man's sister.
3. The father is 80.

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 810500		Susan Clutterbuck	340475
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	Linda Taggart	340521
First Responders Coordinator	Kay Murrant	340289	Test Valley Councillor	Neville Whiteley	01264 811101
Football Club Secretary	John Fryer	512695	Village Bus Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
Member of Parliament Constituency Office	Sandra Gidley	511900	Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
Mill Arms	Andrea and Ian Bentall	340401	Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
Mottisfont Abbey Est. Manager		340757	Operations	Mike Howe	301723
Neighbourhood Watch Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799	Village Hall Chairman	Jon Butler	340740
Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922	(Reg.Charity Village Hall	Jon &	
Parish Council Clerk	Sue Holder	340130	No 291629)	Entertainments	Heather Butler
Chairman	John Millns	340347	Secretary	Alan Groves	341301
Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555	Bookings	Cathie Wood	340129
	Alan Earthrowl	341799	Secretary	Margaret Astur	341922
	Jacquie Horne	340105	W.I. Police Village	PC John Viney	0845 045 45 45
	Stuart Miller	340903	Romsey		0845 045 45 45
	Andrew Simmonds				

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