



Stuart Miller

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death of Stuart (Mac) Miller in early January.

Over 80 friends and family attended the funeral on 21st January.

Stuart and his wife Joan were married for 56

years. He worked at Borden Chemicals in North Baddesley for 37 years, was a Scout Leader for 33 years, and was on the Parish Council for 19 years, until last November. He certainly stuck at whatever he did!

Mac's characteristic laugh echoing round this end of the village, and his consistently cheerful good humour, will be much missed.



*Stuart Miller at the Village Fete
(photograph by Andy Simmonds)*

Mottisfont Village Hall Friday, 4th March

'All in a Day'

in aid of Southampton Hospital Charity
The Red & White Appeal – beating blood cancer.
(To create a transplant centre for patients with leukaemia & other blood disorders)

Friday, 4th March, 10am – noon
Coffee Morning and get-together
with guest speaker from Southampton Hospital
(a short address about developments and the appeal)

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Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2pm – 4pm  
**A Portrait Demonstration**  
in pastels  
by Robert Sharpe

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Friday, 4th March, 7.30pm
A Gardening Extravaganza
bringing together three well known and respected gardeners:

- David Stone, Head Gardener at N.T. Mottisfont Abbey
- John Wood, Head Gardener at N.T. Hinton Ampner
- Peter Moore, Plant Breeder at John Lewis's Longstock Gardens

Tickets £5 for the afternoon and also the evening events
in advance from Gordon Wood, 340129

Please do not arrive at the latter two without prior reservation and risk being disappointed.

Grand Raffle with a plant theme

**The deadline for inclusion of items in the March edition of the Acorn is 16th February.
E-mail to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk.**

PARISH COUNCIL

Police Sergeant Christine Plascott has reported a spate of burglaries within the local area, which usually tend to occur at this time of the year. Due to an improvement in police engagement with the public, detection rates have been high. Garden tools are being used to break into houses, and the police would remind the public to keep tools and sheds locked. Tagged oil is proving useful in detecting stolen oil and the crime prevention officer is available to advise any members of the public with concerns.

Speeding is still a priority for all parishes. Hatt Hill has recently been monitored for speeding with the information still to be analysed.

For anyone interested in Farm Watch they should contact PS Plascott on 0845 045 45 45.

Following the parish consultation day on 2nd October, the National Trust is seeking a formal pre-application opinion on the possibility of locating visitor facilities adjacent to the existing National Trust car park. Once informal guidance has been received from the Test Valley Planning Team, the National Trust will come back to the Parish Council to speak more formally about the

project. They are also looking at a solution to the parking problems that occur in June each year in the rose season, and will report back. The parish council are concerned about a large increase to the number of visitors to the abbey. A vehicle and speed of traffic count will be requested to provide up to date information.

The Parish Council has decided to wait until the May 2011 elections in order to fill the current councillor vacancy. If you are interested in joining the Parish Council, please get in touch for more information on what is involved.

We have requested two salt bins, one for the village centre and one at the junction of Bengers Lane.

A number of incidents have been reported to the council where damage has occurred from Chinese Lanterns. We would ask that you consider the impact of Chinese Lanterns to properties especially thatched houses, animals and forests should you decide to use them.

Sue Holder
Clerk

MOTTISFONT ABBEY

New Visitor Facilities proposals

Following the very helpful and informative feedback in the autumn from local residents, we are investigating the possibility of moving the proposed new facilities to an alternative location to the Abbey Farmyard - possibly next to the visitor car park, subject to agreement from the Planning authorities, Natural England and the Environment Agency. Meanwhile, we have noted the strong concern expressed by people living around the Abbey Farmyard about the possibility that visitors might park on the road in the centre of the village instead of using the visitor car park. So we'd like to reassure residents that if the alternative location is not feasible and the Abbey Farmyard has to be reconsidered as a location, that we would modify the plans to ensure there is no pedestrian access to the Farmyard from the village. We hope to have news regarding the alternative location by March 2011.

New features at the Abbey for 2011

Visitors are enjoying a new fitness trail around the grounds, which was opened by the Mayors of Romsey and Test Valley and by children from Lockerley Primary School just before Christmas.

We are hard at work taking out the modern counter from our cafe so people can see the Victorian kitchen, and enjoy sitting at the vast wooden table originally designed for this room.

We are also planning exhibitions for a new art gallery space on our top floor, in rooms that have never been open to the public before. The first show will allow us to display pieces from the Derek Hill collection of early 20th-century art with new loans from a London gallery. The summer exhibition explores our enchanted landscape, with original Flower Fairy illustrations and contemporary artists' visions of fairy land.

Can you help with our research?

We're looking for names, stories and photographs of people who worked at Mottisfont and farmed its lands in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, so that we can tell our visitors more about the people who created this beautiful estate. If you have any details to share, please write to Louise Govier at Mottisfont, or email her at louise.govier@nationaltrust.org.uk. Thank you for any help you can give.

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.



The 30th AGM will be held in the Broughton Village Hall on Monday, 14th 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.

Agenda The agenda to be discussed is;

- ITEM 1 Apologies
- ITEM 2 Approval of minutes of 29th 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 Officers
- ITEM 7 Any other business (including suggestions for excursions in the summer months)

Anyone wishing to come onto the Committee, or nominating someone else, should contact either the Chairman, Michael Howe, on 301723 or the Secretary, George Vaughan, on 301045.

Charity Number: 284910

DRIVERS WANTED

The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus runs regular services to Romsey, Salisbury, Winchester, and Southampton. In addition there are one-off outings during the summer months.

We have recently bought a new bus which is driven by volunteers, a few of whom come from Dunbridge.

There is a need for more volunteer drivers to help out. There is a rota of drivers with volunteers undertaking to drive about once a month. You do not need a special licence, and training is given so that people are confident before they go out. If you feel able to help or would simply like to know more, contact Jacquie Home on 340105 or George Vaughan on 301045

MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE W.I.



At our January meeting, members welcomed Margaret Down, who keeps her own sheep, and then spins, dyes and weaves the fleece. She demonstrated how easy it is to pull apart the fleece, but once spun, creates a strong thread. Evidently knitting originated in Arabia about 200 AD, and men did the knitting, with a six year apprenticeship. Woven cloaks have also been found in Peru, dating back 2000 years.

Margaret also dyes her fleece, using natural plants such as nettle, rhubarb leaves, grey lichen, red onion leaves, etc. She demonstrated her hand spindle, spinning wheel and loom, and showed us many items that she had knitted with her own wool. Altogether, a very interesting evening.

Members are looking forward to their annual Dinner at the end of January, and at our February meeting, we welcome Julie Horton and "All That Jazz".

Our annual Jumble Sale is on Saturday, 5th March at 2pm in Mottisfont Village Hall. Collections can be arranged through Cathie (340129) or Frances (301614). Proceeds from the event will go to Southampton General Hospital's Red and White Appeal to build a leukaemia treatment centre.

Audrey Atchison, 301156

Dear Friends,



Lent this year begins on the 9th March, which is just five weeks away. I wanted to point this out as this year we will be running a Lent Course based on exploring our faith. This Lent Course will be held at Philip and Janet Mutton's home at Yew Tree House in Broughton. We are hoping that we can get a good group together to study faith for the four Wednesdays of Lent starting on Wednesday, 16th March at 7.30pm (finish by 9.00pm). Coffee and nice biscuits are provided, and we hope to feed our souls and our minds as well as look at and ponder God's gift of faith to his people.

Just to remind us, what is Lent? Lent is a forty-day season that initiates the most sacred part of the Christian year. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on the Great Vigil of Easter. Sundays are not included in the forty-day count because every Sunday is a joyful celebration of our Lord's resurrection. During Lent, Christians meditate on the great paschal mystery -- the salvation God won for us sinners by the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The word Lent is derived from the Old English lencten, which means "lengthen." It refers to the lengthening of the daylight hours that occurs in the northern hemisphere as spring approaches. It is in this period of transition from late winter to early spring that the season of Lent falls. Or we could say that life on this earth, by the breath of the Creator, is renewing and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

The duration of the season of Lent is based on the ancient church custom of lencten, and fasting before being baptized on the evening before Easter. This probationary period was called the quarantine (from the Latin word for forty). The

number forty occurs frequently in both testaments of the Bible. It signifies the time that is required for discipline, testing, and separation prior to achieving a goal or new beginning. For example, we read in the Old Testament that it rained forty days and nights during the Great Flood. Moses communed with God on Mount Sinai for forty days before receiving the Ten Commandments. The people of Israel were forced to wander in the wilderness for forty years. Elijah journeyed for forty days before he reached Mount Horeb and had a vision of God, and the inhabitants of Nineveh fasted and repented for forty days in response to the preaching of Jonah. The most outstanding instances of the number forty in the New Testament are the account of Christ's ordeal in the desert fasting, praying, and being tempted by the devil, and His various appearances to the apostles and others between His resurrection and ascension during which He strengthened their faith and prepared them for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Next month I will explain how worship changes during Lent and what is the meaning of Ash Wednesday.

Please remember to book in to the Benefice Lent Course. There will be limited numbers so please phone Philip and Janet Mutton to reserve your place (301227).

With Blessings,

Ron Corne
Rector

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

Time	6 February Epiphany 5	13 February Epiphany 6	20 February Septuagesima	27 February Sexagesima
8.00	Broughton Holy Communion (CW)	Broughton Holy Communion (BCP)	-	-
9.30	Bossington Holy Communion (BCP)	Broughton Family Service	Mottisfont Holy Communion (BCP)	Broughton Holy Communion (CW)
		Houghton Holy Communion (CW)	Broughton Sunday Club	Broughton Sunday Club
11.00	Mottisfont Matins	Mottisfont Family Service	Broughton Holy Communion and Coffee Club	Mottisfont Family Communion
6.00	Houghton Christingle	-	Houghton Evensong	Houghton Holy Communion (BCP)

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

Speakers for February:

3rd: Philip Mutton

10th: Rev'd. Jill Bentall

17th: Members Meeting

24th: Peter Beadle

Please come and join us.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

THANK YOU

A big thank you to all who attended our Carols round the Crib in December, and gave so generously.

A cheque has been sent to Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance for £155.

Ann Saunders

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY of PRAYER

2.30pm, 4th March, 2011
Speaker: Mrs. Margaret Pickett

The service this year has been prepared by the Women of Chile and the theme is 'How many loaves have you?'

This Service welcomes men and women of all ages to share in a Worldwide Fellowship prepared each year by different countries.

Everyone is welcome to our Service at St. Mary's Church, Broughton. If you would like to take a part in this special time of sharing faith across the world then please ring me and I can include you. Otherwise just come on Friday, 4th March at 2.30pm.

Tea, coffee and biscuits, and fellowship are provided following the Service.

For more information please 'phone Ann on 01980 862232.

THE CHURCHES OF TEST VALLEY by BRYAN and DIANA BEGGS

A new edition of 'The Churches of Test Valley' is available in bookshops and Tourist Information Centres in Test Valley (*we also found it on Amazon.co.uk - Eds.*).

The first edition (now sold out) raised £3,000 for The Countess of Brecknock Hospice and Countess Mountbatten House. This new edition is being sold to raise funds for another local charity, the Test Valley Arts Foundation. The retail price is £15.00.

It is of the same quality as the original with over 120 colour photographs, but in the introductory pages new emphasis has been placed on the book's potential to encourage tourism with its associated benefits, in our area of Hampshire and to our churches in particular.

A special page is devoted to the 'Churches of the Test Way Footpath'.

The Bishop of Winchester, the Rt. Rev'd. Michael Scott-Joynt, has again written the foreword, and the authors have recorded their own tribute to all the sponsors who helped them with the first edition.

(From a press release by the authors)

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 2011.

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.

Village Hall Committee

The AGM of the Village Hall Committee will be on 16th March at 7.30pm.

Everyone will be welcome, and following the meeting there will be cheese & wine.

Margaret Astur

Ian Wooldridge, Head Chef at Kimbridge Farm, brings this recipe for

PANCAKES WITH RHUBARB & GINGER COMPOTE

Pancake Day isn't until 8th March this year, so there's enough time to get your taste buds ready for something a little different from the usual sugar and lemony treat. This recipe makes about 8-10 pancakes, so plenty for all!

Ingredients:

100gm of plain flour, sifted
Pinch of salt
2 eggs
225ml of milk (with 50ml of water)
Butter or oil for frying
500gm of rhubarb (about 5 stalks), topped & tailed, chopped into small chunks
100gm of caster sugar
50ml red wine
1 tsp ground ginger
Crème fraiche or ice cream & icing sugar to serve

How to make it:

Sift the flour and salt into a large bowl. Mix the milk and water together in a jug. Make a well in the flour and break the eggs into it. With a whisk, gradually beat the eggs whilst taking in the flour from the sides of the well. Then add a little at a time the milk and water mixture. Keep whisking until you have a smooth batter. Set aside.

Put the rhubarb chunks into a pan with the caster sugar and add the red wine. Heat until the sugar has been dissolved and then simmer with lid on until the rhubarb softens, adding little water if required. Stir in the ginger and simmer for 1 minute. Remove from the heat and replace the lid to keep the rhubarb compote warm.

To make the pancakes, heat a little butter or oil in a 18cm (7 inch) frying pan. When hot, ladle in some of the batter (about 2-3 tablespoons) and tip the pan from side to side to spread the mixture. Cook for about 30 seconds until the frill at the edges becomes brown. Flip the pancake over and cook on the other side, which should only take a few seconds. Put the pancake on a plate which should be placed on top of a saucepan of gently simmering water to keep warm. Repeat until you have used all the batter and have stack of pancakes.

Place a pancake on a serving plate and spoon some compote into the centre, then fold the pancake into quarters to make a parcel. You can put a couple of pancake parcels on each plate if you wish. Top with a crème fraiche or your favourite ice cream, and dust with icing sugar.

Happy Pancake Day!



What's on at the Mill Arms

Elvis is coming to The Mill Arms!

Friday, 11th February, 7.00pm



Enjoy all the classics from award-winning Elvis impersonator JC Aron. For a really super night out bring your special someone or a big ol' fun loving bunch of friends along to enjoy a 2 course dinner and coffee and be thoroughly entertained by Elvis. Dancing in the aisles is highly likely!

£23.50pp

Menu for tonight (please order in advance):

Game and Guinness pie with
bubble 'n' squeak mash
Crab and Atlantic prawn linguine in a chilli,
ginger and garlic cream
Roasted butternut squash with cherry tomatoes,
goats cheese and basil

Chocolate & nut fudge brownie,
chocolate sauce and cream
Warm poached pear, brandy snap and
honeycomb ice cream
Glazed lemon and black pepper tart
Tea or Coffee

Live Theatre – Sunday, 17th April

£30pp supper and live theatre at The Mill Arms

John Osborne - 'Look back in Anger'

Menu being written now – if interested contact Andrea on 340401 or millarms@btconnect.com.

FOR SALE

Hedstrom see-saw, suitable for toddler
up to 5-6 years. £15. Pat Francis 340609.

JUNK MAIL, FAXES AND TELEPHONE CALLS

If you are fed up with receiving junk mail, faxes and unsolicited telephone calls, you can significantly reduce them by registering with one or more of the following services:

JUNK FAXES Register with the Fax Preference Service on 0845 0700702 (automated registration), or on their web site:

<http://www.mpsonline.org.uk/fps>

JUNK TELEPHONE CALLS Register with the 'Telephone Preference Service' on 0845 0700707 (automated registration), or on their web site:

<http://www.mpsonline.org.uk/tps/>

Making a Complaint: It is illegal for a company to call anyone registered with the above services. With junk faxes you will already have the printed evidence, but with unsolicited telephone calls, it is

important to record the following information:

- ◆ The date and time you received the call
- ◆ The name of the company
- ◆ The name of the person who spoke to you
- ◆ The address of the company (and, if possible, their telephone number)
- ◆ What they were calling about

JUNK MAIL Register with the Mailing Preference Service on 0845 703 4599 (automated registration) or on their web site: www.mpsonline.org.uk/mpsr/

The location of all above is at: DMA House, 70 Margaret Street, London, W1W 8SS. Note that it takes some months for your registration to have an effect.

I would strongly advise anyone with vulnerable and/or elderly relatives to make sure they are registered, particularly with the Telephone Preference Service. Unfortunately, being registered does not deter some companies from flouting the rules and cold calling you illegally, because they know that few people will make an official complaint which could result in a prosecution. Therefore, it is very important for registered people to make a complaint. This can be done on-line, or via a complaints form. I have copies of the TPS and MPS complaints forms and I am also happy to assist in completing them.

WALKING GROUP

Friday, 11th February, 10.00 am
Friday, 11th March, 10.00 am

Meet outside the Mill Arms.
Friendly chat - always wonderful weather!



You are welcome to join us - nothing too strenuous.

Gordon, 340129

The Broughton Amateur Dramatic Group

presents

The Wind In The Willows

by John Morley
based on the book by Kenneth Grahame

Directed by Lyn Woods

BROUGHTON VILLAGE HALL
7:30pm on Thursday, 24th February,
Friday, 25th February, and
Saturday, 26th February.
Also 2:30pm on Saturday, 26th February

TICKETS £7.50
CONCESSIONS £4.50*
*OAPS: 24th February only
*Under 14s: Saturday matinee and
Thursday, 24 February

BOX OFFICE OPEN
9:30am - 11am on
Saturday, 29th January and
Saturday, 5th February
Thereafter from Peta Watson (01794 301810)

Information Request

There is one particular pest, 'Enterprise Cleaning Services UK Ltd' (mentioned in the December Acorn) that I know has been illegally telephoning TPS registered people locally. Since last June, they have called me three times (*they have called us three times since mid-December! -Eds*)* and their last call in December resulted in them having a wasted trip to take back a TPS leaflet and suitable message for their boss!!

I am concerned that vulnerable people could be targeted by this company, so I would be very interested to know of anyone else (registered with the TPS) who has received a carpet cleaning sales call from them and if you have been called more than once. This would greatly assist in terminating their illegal activities.

I also have TPS and MPS leaflets and all Parish Councillors have copies of the MPS and TPS registration forms, if anyone requires one.

John Millns, 340347

** This company is undeterred even by being the subject of BBC Watchdog's Rogue Traders. Apparently the scam is to offer a very cheap deal on the phone, and then sell you a very expensive one when they come round. -Eds.*

Mottisfont Social Club

We are delighted to be able to part-sponsor *The Acorn* this year. This village magazine really binds the area together and gives everyone a chance to see what's happening and where.

Over the past year we have welcomed a number of new members and we are really happy that the social club is starting to be used by people within the village again. Mottisfont Social Club welcomes families and offers a friendly face and reasonably priced bar. We have a range of giant games for children, and for the adults there is a choice of a snooker table, pool table, five dart boards, skittle alley, adequate car parking and a garden for the warmer weather. The club is very well situated in the heart of the village and members can take advantage of the premises for their birthday parties and family celebrations - come in and ask for details.

Club opening hours

Monday - Saturday: 7pm till 11pm
 Sunday lunchtime: Noon till 2pm
 Sunday evening: 7pm till 10.30pm

Do you know that over the past year we have donated hundreds of pounds to charities such as The Air Ambulance and Help for Heroes? All the money has been raised by our members by various fund raising events such as the walk around the Isle of Wight and by taking part in the Saturday game draw.

What's On

Mondays: Ladies Darts, Snooker
 Tuesdays: Billiards
 Wednesdays: Airborne Darts (mixed)
 Thursdays: Bingo, Crib
 Fridays: Men's Darts, Thrift Club
 Saturdays: Meat draw
 Sundays: Chase the Aces, Skittles

On 12th February we have Stardust playing at the club. They are a band that recreate the sound of the 60's!

On 16th April we have a 60s/70s theme disco.

The Children's Christmas Party went very well again and all the children (and the adults) left with smiles on their faces.

Thanks go to the parents who came along early to help set up, and to those who stayed behind to help clear up afterwards.

I would especially like to thank Catherine Jenkins for all her assistance with this event. The build up to this day starts early in the year and is sometimes an arduous task. The hours that Catherine puts in do not go unappreciated. I certainly wouldn't be able to organize the party without her assistance.

Tracy

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
Cricket Club	Secretary	Tony Stemp	340398		Wardens	Trish Armstrong	
History Group		Michael Horne	340105	Social Club	Chairman	Susan Clutterbuck	340475
Horticultural Society		Michael Horne	340105		Secretary	Peter Simmonds	340891
First Responders	Coordinator	Marion Gray	341370		Secretary	Tracy Holmes	341939
Football Club	Secretary	John Fryer	512695		Steward	Linda Holmes	340521
Hampshire County Councillor				Test Valley Councillor		Neville Whiteley	01264
		Andrew Gibson	01264				811101
			861138	Village Bus	Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
Member of Parliament		Caroline Nokes	512132		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	Lynn Young	340134
	Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922	(Reg.Charity	Village Hall	Jon &	
Parish Council	Clerk	Sue Holder	340130	No. 291629)	Entertainments	Heather Butler	340740
	Chairman	John Millns	340347		Secretary	Alan Groves	341301
	Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555		Bookings	Cathie Wood	340129
		Alan Earthrowl	341799	W.I.	Secretary	Cathie Wood	340129
		Jacquie Horne	340105		Press reporter	Audrey Aitchison	301156
		Andrew Simmonds		Police	Village	PC John Viney	0845
							045 45 45
					Romsey		0845
							045 45 45