



The Village Newsletter

Mottisfont & Dunbridge

ACORN



November 2011

Proposed new visitor facilities in Mottisfont Abbey visitor car park – update

The summer has been spent on undertaking the specialist environmental surveys of the river area adjacent to where we propose to locate the new facilities.

This is essential work prior to submitting a planning application, and we're now in a position to proceed with the finer details of our application.

Just in case you may not remember, the new site for the facilities is now next to the visitor car park, on the space currently occupied by the visitor reception thatched hut.

Because it is on a floodplain, legislation requires the buildings to be raised and the final decision we need from the Environment Agency is the exact height above ground level. So we intend to submit the formal planning application to Test Valley Borough Council in December but meanwhile, we'd like the opportunity to show you our plans once they are finalised.

We intend to book the village hall, and myself and the project manager will be available with the drawings to talk to anyone who wishes to come and look at them.

At the time of writing, I don't know when date this will be, but we will advertise it in the December issue of the Acorn, so do look out for it.

I look forward to seeing you.

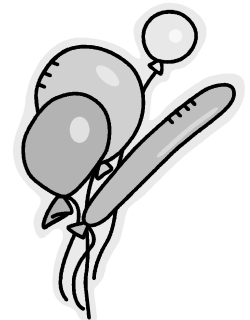
Alison Evans
General Manager

Children's Christmas Party: Don't forget to contact Tracy or Catherine!

The Children's Christmas Party is held every year for all children (birth to 12yrs) who live in Mottisfont and Dunbridge. Mottisfont Social Club kindly donate the venue and the entertainment and we fundraise during the year so that monies raised can go towards the gifts for the children.

All that we ask of you is to bring along some sort of food offering for the table (*and your children, of course...Eds*).

If you would like to add your children's names to the list please call Tracy on 341939 or Catherine 340922. We really need names and numbers as soon as possible so that we can get the day organized and ensure that all the children receive a gift.



VACANCY

In the new year, the Village Hall Association will have a vacancy for a paid caretaker/bookings secretary. If you are interested in applying or would like more information, please contact the Chairman, Lynn Young, on 340134 or email lynnhenmatt@aol.com.

**The deadline for inclusion of items in the December edition of the Acorn is 16th November.
Please e-mail to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk.**

Parish Council News

Police Report

PCSO Jo Cole attended our September meeting with the good news that there have been no reported dwelling or non-dwelling break ins in the last 30 days. Crime rates have been low in general, which is felt to be due to an increase in intelligence gathering.

Vehicle speed checks will continue to be carried out on Hatt Hill, and night-time operations are being planned to catch poaching, which is evident in the area.

The police are still keen to encourage farms to join the Farm Watch scheme.

Highways

The potholes in Back Lane and on Spearywell Road have now been repaired.

A number of potholes between Pugs Bunny and the National Trust car park may need to be reported again.

Additional drainage work has been agreed along Hatt Hill, and will commence soon. The drain at the bottom of the hill has now been cleared

Dog fouling

Dog fouling at the village hall seems to be an increasing problem. The council has asked that the dog warden patrol the area. Please remember to clear up after your dogs!

Travellers

The council has discussed the increase in travellers to the area over the summer months and have agreed to support Lockerley Parish Council by writing to our local MP. Councils are lobbying the Prime Minister to make the act of trespass with a vehicle or mobile home a criminal offence, giving police the power to remove travellers from public and private property immediately.

Date of the next meeting

[Not available, but...] everyone welcome.

Clerk: Sue Holder, 340130

National Trust

Private drainage works in Mottisfont

The drainage systems at some National Trust cottages within Mottisfont are being renewed and improved over a period of 6 weeks until the end of November.

The only disruption will be to footpath users at Cadbury Farm track and Church Lane, but provision will be made for the footpaths to remain open at all times.

The National Trust has employed contractor Pipefix Ltd to undertake this work.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at liz.dean@nationaltrust.org.uk or on 344020.

Liz Dean, Estate Office Manager

What's on at Mottisfont Abbey

We have had a bumper Halloween week and it was great to see so many families from the village enjoying the creepy trail and spooky zoo!

The open exhibition was a great success, with works by The Mottisfont Art Group featured. One piece of work by Gordon Wood was sold to a very happy visitor who thought Gordon "captured the walled garden wonderfully".

Don't miss the following exhibitions:

Cutting Edge: Contemporary Paper Art 12 November – 29 January

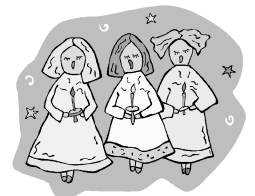
From paper flowers and butterflies to love stories and celebrations of what makes us all unique. Work by Rob Ryan and Ed Kluz will be exhibited alongside local Salisbury artist Eileen White.

The Angel Garden 2 - 19 December

Angel sculptures come to earth around our gardens this Christmas.

Christmas songs by little angels

In the weekends leading up to Christmas (3rd, 4th, 10th, 11th and 17th December, 12 – 1pm) visitors to Mottisfont are in for a choral treat, as local schools and choirs sing traditional and popular carols in the grounds.



This will be free after the normal admission charge.

The grounds will be open from 26th December, 7 days a week for the rest of the year. The House will re-open 1 March.

Broughton Learning

More learning opportunities for adults

Balancing the family budget No, we're not doing handouts or tax rebates, but we might be able to help you work things out a bit better if you need some help. There will be two introductory sessions in Broughton Village Hall on Thursday afternoons, December 1st and 8th, from 1.15pm to 2.45pm. These will be run by a tutor from Hampshire Learning. Babies welcome, and you can get away in time for the school run. If you find these helpful, there will then be a course running every Thursday afternoon after Christmas. To help you with the budgeting, these sessions are **FREE**. Just come along on 1st or 8th December - no need to book.

Beginners/Revisers Bridge Another cheap night out! Ian Mackay, who is an experienced bridge tutor, is available to run a course after Christmas for those who are either complete beginners at bridge, or played so long ago they've almost forgotten it all. The course will be on Thursday evenings, either in Broughton or Stockbridge, 7-9pm, and there will be six classes, with a possible continuation of another four. We need a minimum of 8 people, in which case it will be £50 for 6 two-hour lessons, and a maximum of 12, in which case it will be £40. Twist the arms of your friends and come along. If you are interested, please email learners@broughton-hants.net as soon as possible with your details, but send no money yet.

Ian Mackay will be running his usual course for INTERMEDIATE players (i.e. those who have done at least 10 lessons) at Mountbatten School on Tuesday evenings. Please see the Hampshire Learning course listings on their website.

Drawing The drawing class this term filled up very quickly. We are expecting to continue in the new year with a life drawing class, also at Wallop Parish Hall, so look out for further details.

As before, **small grants are available** to any local organisations who want to try something new, or run an event to attract new members.

MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE W.I.

We were pleased to welcome two guests at our October meeting when Mrs. McMonnies demonstrated Christmas Table Decorations.



Four tables, laid with white table cloths, were used to show traditional, contemporary, natural and dramatic themes.

Many original ideas using candles, T-lites, coloured glasses, table mats and greenery were shown, and members took away many new ideas.

Members are looking forward to a pre-Christmas lunch, a Vintage Jazz Evening, and a coach trip to Bath in November, with other activities being planned.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 8th November, at 8pm when we welcome Mrs. M. Braddock who will be giving a talk "The Sinking of the Mary Rose, Henry VIII's Flagship". Guests are very welcome.

Audrey Atchison 301156

HOUGHTON VILLAGE HALL

Auction of Promises

To raise funds for the refurbishment of the Village Hall cloakrooms, we are pleased to announce an Auction of Promises at the Hall on

**Thursday, 10th November,
starting at 7.30pm**



Please add the date to your diary – an ideal opportunity to start your Christmas Shopping!!!

We are also looking for promises or items to auction, so we would really appreciate it if you could donate something. Be creative - promises needn't cost you any money! Some ideas.....

*Bake a cake ~ Half a day 'Handy Man'
Half a day's Gardening ~ Taxi driver for the evening
A weekend/week in your holiday home
Ride in a classic car ~ Etc.*

If you would like to donate a promise or an item for us to auction, please contact Clare Stephens on 0781 4094029 (mobile) or houghtonvillagehall@yahoo.co.uk

Dear Friends,

The 27th November marks Advent Sunday, the fourth Sunday before Christmas, but what is Advent?



The word "advent", from the Latin adventus (Greek parousia), means "coming" or "arrival." The season of Advent is focused on the "coming" of Jesus as Messiah (Christ or King). Our worship, scripture readings and prayers not only prepare us spiritually for Christmas (his first coming), but also for his eventual second coming. This is why the Scripture readings during Advent include both Old Testament passages related to the expected Messiah, and New Testament passages concerning Jesus' second coming as judge of all people. Also, passages about John the Baptist, the precursor who prepared the way for the Messiah, are read. All of these themes are present in our worship during Advent.

The liturgical colour for Advent is purple and the season is somewhat penitential, similar to Lent, although not so explicit and emphatic. The character of worship during Advent is more solemn, quiet, and less festive than during other times of the year. In Church, for example, the Gloria in Excelsis is not used. The use of purple reflects the general themes of Advent: penitence (generally expressed more in terms of expectant hope) and royalty.

On Advent Sunday, 27th November, we will be holding a service for the entire Benefice at St. Andrew's Church, Mottisfont, at 11.00am. The Bishop of Southampton will be preaching and presiding, and at the end of the service we will have a short procession to Mottisfont Abbey where the Bishop will be lighting the Advent Candle. We are all invited for refreshments at the kind invitation of the National Trust.

During Advent we will be holding an Advent Bible Study Course on Thursdays 1st, 8th, and 15th December at Yew Tree House, Broughton (almost next to St Mary's Church) starting at 8.00pm.

We will be finished by 9.15pm each night so please do come and explore the meaning of Advent, whether you are unfamiliar with the Bible or very knowledgeable, as this Bible study is for everyone.

With Blessings

Revd. Ron Corne
Rector.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

Time	6 November TRINITY 20	13 November Remembrance	20 November Christ the King	27 November Advent Sunday
8.00	Broughton HC (CW)	Broughton HC (BCP)	-	-
9.30	Bossington HC (BCP)	-	Mottisfont HC (BCP) Broughton Sunday Club	-
11.00	Mottisfont Matins	10.45 am Services of Remembrance at Broughton Houghton and Mottisfont	Broughton HC (CW) and Coffee Club	Mottisfont Family Communion For the whole Benefice - to mark the beginning of Advent and celebrate St. Andrew's tide. The Bishop of Southampton will be with us.
6.00	Houghton Evensong	-	Houghton Evensong	-

Every Wednesday: 9.30am - Broughton - Holy Communion (BCP)
BCP - Book of Common Prayer CW - Common Worship

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

All Soul's Day – Wednesday, 2nd November at All Saints' Church, Houghton - 7.30pm

Everyone is welcome to join this service of quiet reflection as we remember our loved ones who have died. There will be an opportunity for lighting a candle in their memory, if you so wish.

Advent Sunday, 27th November at St. Andrew's, Mottisfont - 11.00am

This will be *the only service in the Benefice on this Sunday* as the beginning of Advent and celebration of St. Andrew's tide is marked. The Bishop of Southampton will be with us and everyone is very welcome to attend.

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

Events and speakers for November

- 3rd November: Trip to Fairground Craft & Design Centre, Weyhill
10th November: David English
17th November: Mrs. Mary Savage (Samaritans Purse)
24th November: Members Meeting

Please come and join us.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

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 November 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.

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.

HISTORY GROUP

We will be holding another meeting on Wednesday, 30th November at 2.30pm at Mottisfont Abbey to continue the sessions on reflections on the past in our area. All are very welcome.

For more details ring Michael Horne. 01794 340105

Michael Horne, 340105.

Lockerley Primary School

Christmas Fayre

Friday 25th November 6 - 8pm

£1 entrance to include a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie

Craft stalls, games, tombola, raffle

All are invited to come and join in the festive fun!

If you would like to book a craft table please contact Julie an 340485

ART GROUP



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

All standards, from beginners to professional, catered for.

A few members of our group had artwork accepted at the recent open art exhibition at the Abbey. We must be doing something right! Well done to those who submitted work.

Produce a masterpiece, enjoy tea & biscuits.

Friendly atmosphere. Everybody welcome.

Gordon

Extracts from officer fitness reports

"His men would follow him anywhere, but only out of curiosity."

"He has the wisdom of youth, and the energy of old age."

"This man is depriving a village somewhere of an idiot."

"He has delusions of adequacy."

"The only ship I would recommend this man for is citizenship."

"Works well when under constant supervision and cornered like a rat in a trap."

The Mill Arms "Thank you!" Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, 6th December, 6-8.30pm & Tuesday, 21st December, 6-8.30pm

This specially priced meal is available only to Dunbridge & Mottisfont residents, recipients of the Mill Arms Email Newsletter (email millarms@btconnect.com & sign up today if you'd like to receive it) and our regulars at the pub for all their support throughout the year.



MENU

Roasted butternut squash & sweet potato soup (v) or Honey braised pork & pigeon breast terrine

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*Roast turkey & all the trimmings or Moroccan style vegetable tagine with harissa cous cous (v)*

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Christmas pudding with brandy sauce or Selection of ice creams

Only £12.75 pp for 3 courses

Kiddies under 10yrs (£7.95): Garlic bread, Macaroni cheese with peas or roast turkey & veggies, ice cream

If you would like to come, we do ask you to reserve and pre-order please, as only those who have pre-ordered will be catered for on these evenings.

We look forward to seeing you on one of these evenings!

The Mill Arms, phone 340401 or e-mail millarms@btconnect.com

Live Comedy @ The Mill Arms...

Thursday 24th November



The perfect way to brighten up a dull, cold November night! Enjoy 3 rising stars, all with theatre and TV credits to their name. Come and have a laugh with Scott Charlton, Andre King & Vikki Stone.

Comedy Show - £13pp (7.45pm)

Dinner + Show - £30pp

Dinner, Show, Accommodation + 2 Full English breakfasts - £130.00 per couple (£65pp)

Dinner Menu (6.30pm)

Mains:

'Jacobs Ladder' full rack of tender BBQ ribs with skinny chips and BBQ sauce

Chicken, leek and ham pie with buttered greens

Vegetable curry with rice (mild or hot curry - you choose)

Creamy seafood risotto with salad

Desserts:

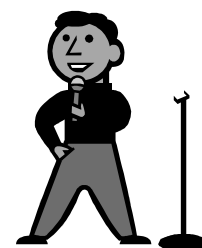
Sticky toffee pudding, toffee sauce and vanilla ice cream

Eton mess with winter berries

Lemon cheesecake

Cheese board

Followed by tea or coffee



Our last comedy night saw over 200 people Laugh Aloud!

Please note: Tickets must be pre-paid in cash and picked up in advance.

Want to know more? Please ask at the bar, or email Andrea or Josh.

millarms@btconnect.com or phone 340401

WHAT'S ON AT KIMBRIDGE

Specials for October and November

- ◆ Monday to Friday lunch: ½ sandwich and soup: £5.95
- ◆ Saturday lunch: Shopper special, meal and drink: £8.50

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▶ Tuesday, 1st November: Creative Art Workshop, Oil Pastels plus buffet, 10am till 1pm, £15.00

▶ Wednesday, 2nd November: Theatre-Supper (2 course meal plus coffee with murder mystery), £16.95 Please book in advance.

▶ Friday, 4th November: It's Fish Fryday. Starts at 12.30, till 8pm. Advance bookings for 5pm onwards, please.

▶ Saturday 26th November: Theme evening 40s night with the sound of the big band. Period dress optional, £18.95 (please book in advance)

▶ Tuesday, 6th December: Creative Art Workshop, Painting on ceramic tiles plus buffet, 10am till 1pm £15.00

▶ Date to be advised: 5.30pm singing from the Scouts plus Xmas hot buffet at 6.30pm, £9.95 including a donation to the Scouts.

▶ Date to be advised 5.30pm singing from the Brownies plus hot buffet at 6.30pm £9.95 including a donation to the Brownies.

▶ Wednesday, 7th December: Xmas party, hot buffet with fun and games, £8.95.

▶ Wednesday, 14th December: Xmas party hot buffet with fun and games, £8.95.

Dates still available for your own Christmas evening function. Special deals available. Min. 15 people, up to 60. Please speak to Allan.

Bookings for Christmas lunch (1st to 22nd December) now being taken.

To book, telephone 340777 or 340556.

WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be on Friday, 11th November at 10am - meet by Dunbridge station

Join us for a leisurely social walk - usually about 3-4 hours.

Gordon, 340129



Recipe of the month:

BEEF & CHESTNUT CASSEROLE

Great for those cold, dark evenings. A warming dish with one of the quintessential flavours of winter, the chestnut. This ingredient adds a delicate and sweet flavour to the dish.

This recipe makes four servings.

Ingredients

50g of butter
100g of smoked streaky bacon, cut into strips
4 tbsps of plain flour
1 tsp of salt
½ tsp of black pepper
2 tsp of ground nutmeg
800g of stewing steak (diced)
3 large onions, peeled & sliced
2 cloves of garlic, minced or finely diced
4 large carrots, peeled & sliced
2 sticks of celery, chopped
250ml of red wine
500ml of beef stock
2 tbsps of tomato puree
1 tsp of dried thyme
2 bay leaves
200g packet of cooked chestnuts (such as Merchant Gourmet)

How to make it

Heat the butter in a pan and add the bacon. Fry until golden, then remove the bacon with a slotted spoon and set aside, keeping the fat in the pan. Mix the flour, salt, pepper and nutmeg together and place in a large plastic bag. Add the diced beef to the bag and shake lightly. Now add the floured beef to the pan and brown on all sides. Remove the beef and set aside with the bacon. Fry the onions and garlic for a few minutes until the onions start to soften. Add the carrots and celery, and return the beef and bacon to the pan along with the wine and stock. Bring to a simmer and add the tomato puree, thyme and bay leaves. Cover and either simmer on very low or place in the oven at 150C (140C fan) Gas Mark 2 for 2-2½ hours until the beef is tender. After 1 hour add the chestnuts and add more liquid if required. Check the seasoning before serving.

If you have fresh chestnuts rather than the pre-cooked vacuum-packed ones, visit www.taste.com.au/how+to/articles/1233/roast+chestnuts to find out how to prepare them.

Great for a Bonfire Night Supper!!



Ian
Wooldridge,
Head Chef
at Kimbridge
Farm

Mottisfont Social Club

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, 5 dart boards, skittle alley, adequate 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.

Forthcoming Entertainment

- ▶ Saturday, 12th November: Scotty
- ▶ Saturday, 17th December: Mottisfont Children's Christmas Party with Silly Scott

Regular events

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

Club Opening Hours

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



Quiz Night

Mottisfont Cricket Club & Mottisfont Football Club

are hosting a joint

Winter Quiz

on

Saturday, 19th November

@ Mottisfont Social Club

at 8:00pm

Round up a team
or
come along on the night
and we'll find a team for you to join.

Please come and support your local teams
and enjoy a fun and relaxed evening.

Steve Godwin 07801 522979
(StephenPGodwin@hotmail.co.uk)
Tony Stemp 340398

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 Community Pre-School	Supervisor	Danae Matthews	342441		Reader	Gina Livermore	388433
			07860		Wardens	Trish Armstrong	
Art Group		Gordon Wood	340129	Social Club	Chairman	Susan Clutterbuck	340475
Cricket Club	Secretary	Tony Stemp	340398		Secretary	Peter Simmonds	340891
History Group		Michael Horne	340105		Steward	Tracy Holmes	341939
Horticultural Society		Michael Horne	340105	Test Valley Councillor		Linda Holmes	340521
First Responders	Coordinator	Marion Gray	341370			Neville Whiteley	01264
Football Club	Secretary	John Fryer	512695	Village Bus	Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
Hampshire County Councillor		Andrew Gibson	01264		Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
			861138		Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
Member of Parliament		Caroline Nokes	512132	Village Hall	Operations	Mike Howe	301723
Mill Arms		Andrea & Ian Bentall	340401	(Reg.Charity	Chairman	Lynn Young	340134
Mottisfont Abbey	Est. Manager		340757	No. 291629)	Secretary	Alan Groves	341301
Neighbourhood Watch	Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799	W.I.	Bookings	Cathie Wood	340129
	Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922		Secretary	Cathie Wood	340129
Parish Council	Clerk	Sue Holder	340130		Press reporter	Audrey Aitchison	301156
	Chairman	John Millns	340347	Police	Village	PC John Viney	0845
	Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555				0454545
		Jacque Horne	340105		Romsey		0845
		Andrew Simmonds					0454545
		Gareth Jenkins	340922				

The Acorn is also available at www.theacorn.org.uk where you will also find links to local schools, pubs, trains, council, church, WI and more.