



The Village Newsletter

Mottisfont & Dunbridge ACORN



December 2013

Mottisfont FC: support your local team!

After a slow start to the season, Mottisfont FC have begun a strong run of form, and currently sit 2nd in the Southampton Sunday League Division 7 table. Wins against New Bridge and Testwood have put them on 12 points after 7 games, only 7 points behind leaders Bitterne. Several teams below have games in hand but a top 4 finish is expected. There are 5 games left in the league this season.

In the League Cup we have progressed to the quarter-finals, after beating teams from divisions above us. We played Bitterne, the only other division 7 team left in the competition, on 24th November, but lost 4-3 on this occasion. However, we will be playing Bitterne again in the league on 1st December, a top of the table clash!

Fixtures are pinned on the notice boards in Mottisfont, by the village hall and in Dunbridge. All are welcome to **come and support the team**, as we push for promotion.

Anyone interested in getting involved (playing, helping or anything else we can think of!) can contact Alan Stewart, Secretary, on 340492 or 07808 825941.

Distraction Burglary: Antique buyer

Hampshire Police have had a report of a white male with grey hair approximately 6ft in height and possibly in his late 50s, driving a black car. He drives around scouting properties, then knocks on doors hoping the owners have antiques to sell.

He will come in to your property and walk around offering cash for items such as clocks, walking sticks, books, jewellery, furniture, ivory, pictures, etc., all well below market value.

He will offer a leaflet with an East Sussex address and contact details.

Please call 101 on any sightings, or if a crime is taking place call 999.

The Acorn is taking a winter holiday

The *Acorn* will be taking its usual winter holiday shortly, so **our next edition will be published at the beginning of February.**



We'd like to thank our readers for their support during 2013, but a special word of thanks must go to the Social Club and to Allan Gray at Kimbridge Restaurant for covering the *Acorn's* printing costs.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

Julia and Peter

A Feast of Christmas Music...

...will be served in Romsey Abbey on Friday, 20th December at 7.30pm, by the Romsey Singers. This regular Christmas date is always popular, with all reserved seats being sold out at the start of November.



However, there are **plenty of tickets for unreserved seats** at £10, from Romsey Tourist Information or online at www.romseysingers.org, where you can also find details of the programme.

Benjamin Britten's St. Nicolas, for which the Romsey Singers are joined by the boys of the Abbey choir, will be followed by a varied programme of carols for the choir and audience.

SMALL ADS

► Blue swivel office chair, free to a good home. Contact Alan on 341301.

The deadline for inclusion of items in the FEBRUARY edition of the Acorn is 16th January. Please email items to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk.

Toilet Design and Your New Water Metering Bill: A Timely Warning!

While researching dual low flush toilets that are currently available, I became somewhat alarmed at the reliability issues with the majority of these products, as with very recent few exceptions, nearly all use dual flush valves, controlled via a button press, or sensor.

These can save water until the valves become faulty, when they don't fail-safe, leaking water continually down through the pan, resulting in a rather high water bill after 6 months. It appears that this has only become a real issue since 1999, when valve operated systems were legalised.

Prior to that (from 1863) the only toilet design that was legal in the UK used the great British siphon (identified by a lever to operate it), which has two key advantages: consistency and reliability over the long-term, because siphons, unlike valves, are inherently leak-free and normally fail-safe. They are also more familiar to UK plumbers and are cheaper and easier to repair.

John Millns

MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE W.I.



At the November meeting attended by 30 ladies including 10 visitors from other W.I.'s, we were given a talk about the life of ferrets and the fun that they can bring to their owners. A chance was given for all to handle these little creatures, who often unfairly have a bad reputation, but who were quite delightful on the night.

We also welcomed one new member to the branch and trust that she will enjoy her time with us.

Future events planned are a visit to the Salberg Theatre in Salisbury in January to see 'London Calling', and a meal beforehand at The Strada.

The December meeting will take place on Tuesday, 10th December, at 7.30pm in Mottisfont Village Hall, when there will be a flower demonstration given by Shelley Harrison-Morgan. There will also be a competition for 'An Unusual Christmas Cracker'. Guests will be very welcome at this evening so please come along and enjoy a mince pie and a glass of mulled wine.

The January meeting will be on Tuesday, 14th January, at 7.30pm in Mottisfont Village Hall. The speaker will be Ron Taylor talking about 'Spices and Herbs'. Guests will be very welcome at this meeting.

Mary Batten

Christmas is coming...



Christmas is well under way at Mottisfont and, if you haven't visited yet, we have transformed into a magical winter wonderland of beautifully decorated trees.

We have a beautiful feathered fashion

exhibition in the art gallery, and lots of festive fun throughout the property.

Don't forget that we are open every day apart from Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, so if you are looking to burn off a few calories around this festive season, you can escape the sofa by coming to Mottisfont for a walk and then put the calories back on by treating yourself with some delicious festive food.

The Swan Queen's Ball closes on 5 January but Kate Plumtree's 'Talons & Tiaras' exhibition is with us until 26 January.

From Forest to Fire...

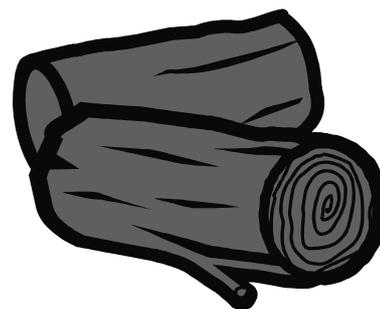
Why not heat your home with firewood and kindling sourced from our Mottisfont estate?

This clean, low carbon, renewable energy source is grown, felled, seasoned, and processed on site.

All sales profits go directly back to the Mottisfont estate, helping to protect and



preserve this beautiful landscape and its wildlife for everyone to enjoy.



A variety of hardwood, softwood and mixed loads is available, either processed or as cordwood.

Delivery is free within Mottisfont Parish. For more info or for how to order, just call 344020.

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

Events for December

5th December: Carol Service

12th December: Christmas Lunch

- o o o -

No more meetings until February, 2014.

Everyone welcome. Please come and join us.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

New Year – New Pattern of Benefice Services

From 1st January, we are making some changes to service times and patterns across the Benefice churches.

We are introducing some family services at Houghton and a new Evensong service at Mottisfont. In Broughton, we will be starting up a new Sunday Club for children and we are changing some of the service times.

The new pattern is in the table below.

On fifth Sundays, we will continue to hold a Benefice service as at present.

Whilst maintaining a blend of traditional and modern services, it is our priority to ensure that we cater for families and children in at least one of our Benefice churches each Sunday.

We look forward to welcoming you to services in our Benefice churches.

EVENSONG REVISITED

To commence 5th January 2014 at 6pm

In consultation with the other member parishes of our Benefice, some reorganisation of Sunday services has been agreed to facilitate the individual needs of each parish. There is little change to the service pattern at St Andrews, Mottisfont, with the exception of the first Sunday each month. Instead of the 11am Matins service we are reintroducing the very lovely service of Evensong. This 6pm service at the closing of the day is a calming and peaceful way to reflect on the weekend, and to collect ourselves in preparation for the week ahead thoughtfully, prayerfully and with thankfulness. It will be a regular monthly event on the first Sunday of the month.

I hope many will be glad to see the rekindling of this much loved service, a service that perhaps many of us recollect from years gone by, or from our childhood. Evensong is especially wonderful in the summertime with the light evenings, and it is unfortunate that its re-launching just happens to be in midwinter. Who knows, we may be snow bound by then! Lets hope not.

The good news, however, is that if you would like to attend but need help with transport, we will do our best to organise lifts door to door. All you need to do is call me on the number below.

Refreshments will be offered at the end of the service, and on 5th January there will be a seasonal glass of mulled wine.

Everybody will be warmly welcomed.

Trish Armstrong
Church Warden, tel: 341120 or 07879 055040

	First Sunday	Second Sunday	Third Sunday	Fourth Sunday
8.00 am	Broughton Holy Communion (CW)	-	Broughton Holy Communion (BCP)	-
9.30 am	Bossington Holy Communion (BCP)	Broughton Holy Communion (CW) ----- Broughton Sunday Club (new)	Broughton Family Service ----- Mottisfont Holy Communion (BCP)	Broughton Family Communion (CW)
11.00 am	Houghton Family Service	Mottisfont Family Service	Houghton Family Communion (CW)	Mottisfont Family Communion (CW)
6.00 pm	Mottisfont Evensong	Houghton Evensong	-	Houghton Evensong

Christmas Message from the Rector

Dear Friends,

Do you like Christmas? I must admit to enjoying both its trivia with its tinsel and twinkling lights as well as the deep and profound meaning of the Word made Flesh, our Lord Jesus being born as one of us.



The incredible mystery of the Son of God becoming human and knowing what it is like to feel all that we feel, to breathe the air, to taste the wine, to break the bread, and to be fully human and yet carrying within his heart our new life our resurrection as Christians.

Christmas gives us a chance to give gifts to others and also to have the grace to receive gifts. Christmas is for priest and people a hectic but wonderful time of the year.

It is always so special to be able to worship again with our well known carols and be reminded of Christ's humble but spectacular beginnings as he was born into a modest dwelling but with fanfares of angels - wow, what a way to arrive from a place in heaven to humility on earth. An arrival which meant that he could encompass everyone, and no one would be excluded from the invitation to come to him.

The angel has brought a really important message for us throughout all ages: "and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy." (Lk 2:8-10)

Fear not! Joy is coming into the world. This is the message of the angels, and that joy is available to all of us today, and we can hold that Christ child in our hearts and know that God is with us no matter what the circumstances we find ourselves in.

Jesus said, "fear not little flock for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom." (Lk 12:32) When we are linked to Him in faith we are renewed as his children, and as his people, and then as such we receive the reassurance that we are God's, and no matter what happens to us in the world, God will be with us even to the end of time. We are His forever!

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

With Christmas Blessings,

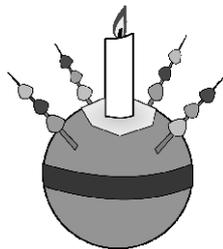
Ron Corne
Rector.

What's on at St. Andrew's in December?

There's quite a lot going on this month as we look ahead towards Christmas...

We begin on **Sunday, 8th December** with our **MESSY CHRISTINGLE:**

Christingle making from 11am followed by a short family service. We will then walk across to the Abbey (by courtesy of the National Trust) with our lit Christingles. (I wonder how many will go out as we walk?!) We will gather at the Abbey, where we will light the Advent Wreath Candle and will finish with Christmas biscuits and a hot or cold drink.



Saturday, 21st December, 10.30am to 12 noon: Let's Do Christmas! Come and join us as we 'do Christmas'. Lots of creative craft fun for all the family on a Christmas theme, led by Shelly.

Sunday, 22nd December, 11am: Village Carol Service. We look forward to welcoming you to our

annual Village Carol Service. We will be singing some of our favourite Christmas carols, finding out a little more about one or two of them and hearing some of the Christmas story.

Tuesday, 24th December, 3.00pm – Christmas Eve Crib Service. Especially for the children, but people of all ages are welcome to this very simple retelling of the Christmas story.

Children are encouraged to come dressed as angels, shepherds, kings, Mary, Joseph and join in as we unfold the story.



Wednesday, 25th December, 11.00am: Family Communion for Christmas Day Bring the children, bring their toys, as we celebrate the gift of Jesus at our special family communion for Christmas Day.

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	SERVICE
Sunday, 1st December Advent 1	8am	Broughton	HC CW
	9.30am	Bossington	HC BCP
	11am	Mottisfont	Service of Light
	6pm	Houghton	Evensong
Sunday, 8th December Advent 2	8am	Broughton	HC BCP
	9.30am	Broughton	Christingle Family Service
		Houghton	HC CW
	11am	Mottisfont	Christingle Family Service
Sunday, 15th December Advent 3	9.30am	Mottisfont	HC BCP
	11am	Broughton	HC CW and Coffee Club
	3pm	Houghton	Christingle Family Service
Sunday, 22nd December Advent 4	11am	Mottisfont	Family Carol Service
	6pm	Broughton	Carol Service
Monday, 23rd December	7pm	Houghton	Carols by Candlelight
Tuesday, 24th December Christmas Eve	3pm	Mottisfont	Crib Service
	5pm	Broughton	Crib Service
	11.30pm	Broughton	Midnight Mass
Wednesday, 25th December Christmas Day	9.30am	Houghton	Family Communion
		Bossington	HC BCP
	10am	Broughton	Family Service
	11am	Mottisfont	Family Communion
Sunday, 29th December Christmas 1	9.30am	Broughton	HC CW for the Benefice
Sunday, 5th January Epiphany	8am	Broughton	HC CW
	9.30am	Bossington	HC BCP
	11am	Houghton	Family Service for Epiphany
	6pm	Mottisfont	Evensong
Sunday, 12th January Baptism of Christ	9.30am	Broughton	HC CW and Sunday Club
	11am	Mottisfont	Family Service
	6pm	Houghton	Evensong
Sunday, 19th January Epiphany 2	8am	Broughton	HC BCP
	9.30am	Broughton	Family Service
		Mottisfont	HC BCP
11am	Houghton	Family Communion CW	
Sunday, 26th January Epiphany 3	9.30am	Broughton	Family Communion CW
	11am	Mottisfont	Family Communion CW
	6pm	Houghton	Evensong

Wednesdays, 9.30am at St. Mary's Church, Broughton: HC BCP

HC = Holy Communion, CW = Common Worship, BCP = Book of Common Prayer

WALKING GROUP

Our next walks follow the usual general pattern, mostly the second Friday of each month:

► Friday, 13th December: Car share, depart 9.30am to Hinton Ampner area, and the Flowerpots for a pub lunch.

► Friday, 10th January: depart 10.14am train. Winchester and the Itchen River, pub lunch.

► Friday, 13th February: depart 9.56am train to Dean. Walk on the other side of Dean Hill. Pub lunch.



Extra walks for the Three Rivers Rail Partnership. Anyone is welcome to come along. Saturday & Monday, 28th & 30th December. Depart 11.04am train to Dean (or from West Dean station at 11.15am). Walk 1 (Saturday) West Dean-Frenchmoor-East Tytherley, Spearywell Woods-Mottisfont-Dunbridge.

Walk 2 (Monday) West Dean-Dean Hill-Gambledown-Carter's Clay-Dunbridge.

Gordon & Cathie, 340129

MOTTISFONT CRAFT CLUB

We're a lively and fun group who meet every Wednesday in the Village Hall from 1-3.30pm.

Whether you are new or experienced, everyone is welcome. If you're new to crafting and need supplies provided, it's £4, or £2 if you bring your own supplies. Refreshments are included.



Contact Shelly on 341519, or email me at shellyhm@btinternet.com

Awbridge Primary School Christmas Fayre

6th December, 5.30 – 7.30pm

Bring the family for an evening of fun, games, prizes and activities. Come and listen to our choir, meet Santa in his magical grotto and help decorate our Christmas tree!!

Mince Pies, Phoenix Cards, Carols, Tea/coffee, Jewellery, Chocolate, Tombola, Pampered Chef, Raffle, Christmas Wreaths, and much, much more....

Entry is FREE. Please remember to bring a torch.

If you would like to take a stall, please contact Kerry Loon on 07824 905168.

What's on at the Mill Arms

Thursday nights are Curry nights

Every Thursday, 6-9pm, eat in or take away. Give the cook in your house the night off! Each week 3 different authentic and homemade curries to choose from (£5) *No jars used here!*

And then add your extras as you like - Basmati rice, poppadums, Bombay potatoes, onion salad, pickles and chutneys, naan bread and vegetable samosa (£1-2).



Christmas Cracker Quiz!

It's all about the taking part...ok maybe not, the winning part is crucial! **Friday, 20th December 7.30pm** Whether you are keen quiz players or just fancy a bit of fun with your friends in December, please get your team names registered for this year's Christmas Cracker Quiz!

£10 per team, maximum of 5 people per team. All money returned in prizes!

Christmas jumpers a must....prize for the best/worst!

Call or pop in to register your team(s) with Lee on 340 401.

Mottisfont Sunday Walking Group

Clarendon Way Sunday, 19th January. Broughton to Salisbury. Return via train. Pub lunch at Winsterslow.

Sunday, 23rd February. Broughton to Winchester. Return by train. Bring a packed lunch.

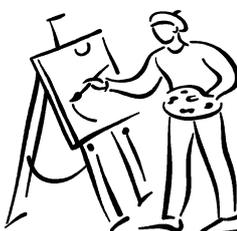


New Forest Sunday, 16th March. Route in planning. Walking time approximately 6 hours.

Wear walking boots and layers of clothes to keep warm, and waterproofs if looks like rain. Meet at the Village Hall at 9:30am. Car share to Broughton for January and February walks.

Alan Groves, 341301, Gordon Wood, 340129

Art Group at the Village Hall



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

A very friendly group - Why not give us a try ?

Gordon 340129

KIMBRIDGE RESTAURANT

Dark Chocolate and Amaretto Cheesecake

This recipe serves 8 people.

Ingredients

200g melted dark chocolate
400g full fat soft cheese
50g amaretto
1 packet of amaretto biscuits (150g)
50g melted butter
100g double cream



*Kate Buchan,
Sous Chef
at Kimbridge
Restaurant*

How to make it

Grease the edges of an 8 inch loose bottomed tin and line with baking paper. Put the amaretto biscuits in a blender and blitz until all broken up. Alternatively, put the biscuits in a sealed bag and hit with a rolling pin until all broken up.

Melt the butter and mix the crushed biscuits and butter together, placing evenly in the bottom of the tin. Then put the tin in the fridge to chill whilst making the filling.

Put the cream cheese in a mixer and mix until soft. Add the cream and the amaretto to loosen the cheese. Once thoroughly mixed, melt the dark chocolate and leave to cool slightly. When cool, pour it into the cheese mix and gently combine the two. Taste, and if not sweet enough, you can add a little icing sugar.

Retrieve the base from the fridge and place the cheesecake mix on top of the biscuit base. Knock the tin gently on the table top so that any air at the bottom is removed.

Once the mix is spread evenly, put the cheesecake back into the fridge and chill overnight for best results. Then remove the cheesecake from the tin, discard the paper lining and using a hot clean knife, cut the cheesecake into portions, wiping the knife each time so you get a clean cut.

Serve!

Whist Drives at the Village Hall

Friday, 20th December: "Christmas Whist", followed by Friday, 31st January and Friday, 28th February.

Commences at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Always nice and warm - never too serious!

Only £1.50, including refreshments.

John Jenkins, 301614, Gordon Wood, 340129.

What's on In December

- ▶ Wednesday, 4th: tables available for our hot Christmas buffet, £7.95
- ▶ Friday, 6th: Fish Fryday, home battered cod and chips, £8.95.
- ▶ Friday, 6th: a la carte Hampshire Fayre dining experience.
- ▶ Monday, 9th: open 7pm till 11pm for our 1st over 18s wine bar. Tapas available.
- ▶ Friday, 13th: Fish Fryday, home battered cod and chips, £8.95.
- ▶ Friday, 13th: tables available for Christmas evening party.
- ▶ Monday, 16th: tables available for Christmas evening party.
- ▶ Wednesday, 18th: Christmas quiz plus hot buffet, £8.95.
- ▶ Friday, 20th: Fish Fryday, home battered cod and chips, £8.95.
- ▶ Saturday 21st tables available for Christmas evening party.
- ▶ Friday, 27th: let's extend the Christmas festivities! Tables available for our post-Christmas evening. Parties welcome.

Opening days for Christmas and New Year

24th open till 3pm. 25th closed. 26th closed. 27th open till 5pm, then evening from 6pm till 10pm. 28th open till 5pm. 29th open till 5pm. 30th open till 5pm. 31st open till 3pm. 1st January closed. Open as normal from 2nd January.

Sale starts now till 31st January 2 for the price of 1 for full English breakfast, main lunch meal and afternoon teas.

If you would like to be added to our mailing service, send your email address to kimbridgerestaurant@gmail.com or phone 340777 or 340556

Ho, ho, ho... very nearly!

At an auction a man announced that he had lost his wallet containing £5,000, and he would give a reward of £50 to the person who found it. From the back of the hall a voice shouted, "I'll give £100!"

- o o o -

Father: "Your English teacher says you are using too many Americanisms".

Son: "Well, like, duh! He's like so blah, blah, blah, dude!"

- o o o -

Is a onesie a posh selfie?

- o o o -

Why do we leave valuable cars on the drive, and put our junk in the garage?

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 as a free venue for their birthday parties and family celebrations - come in and ask for details.



What's On

Mondays	Ladies Darts, Snooker
Tuesdays	Billiards
Wednesdays	Closed
Thursdays	Bingo, Crib
Fridays	Men's Darts, Thrift Club
Saturdays	Occasional entertainment
Sundays	Skittles

7th December - Christmas Meat Draw Tickets will be on sale soon.

14th December 1.30pm - 3.30pm - Children's Christmas Party for all children up to the age of 12 yrs associated with Mottisfont Social Club's members or children who live in the village. Please ensure that you have registered your children's

names with Tracy on 341939 or Catherine on 340922.

14th December - Eve - Grand Christmas Draw.

Tickets on sale soon.

31st December - New Year's Eve Party. Invites to all members (non members entrance fee £2)
Theme - Black Tie and Ball Gowns.

Club Opening Hours

M/T/T/F/S	7pm till 11pm
Wednesdays	Closed
Sunday Lunchtime	Noon till 2pm
Sunday Evening	7pm till 10.30pm

ARE YOU UNDER 25 YEARS OF AGE?

If you are, and you live within the ancient parishes of Broughton, Bossington and Mottisfont, you can apply for help with something needed for your education from The Dowse Trust. This could be: a musical instrument, school/college/university study material, a school trip or music lessons.

Grants are normally in the region of £50 to £200. The Trust meets every three months, but applications can be sent in at any time.

To get an application form you need to contact the secretary: Mrs. Christine Hoskins, Fripps, High Street, Broughton, SO20 8AD, or by email to: hoskins12@btinternet.com

Who's Who, What's What and Where's Where in Mottisfont and Dunbridge

Acorn	Editors	Peter & Julia Barnett	340793				
Acorn Community Pre-School	Supervisor	Danae Matthews	342441	St. Andrew's Church	Rector	Revd. Ron Corne	301287
			07860		Curate	Revd Gill Nobes	341010
			662685		Reader	Gina Livermore	388433
Art Group		Gordon Wood	340129		Wardens	Susan Clutterbuck	340475
Cricknet Club	Secretary	Edwin Moody	514197	Social Club	Chairman	Trish Armstrong	341120
History Group		Michael Horne	340105		Secretary	Peter Simmonds	340891
First Responders	Coordinator	Marion Gray	341370		Steward	Tracy Holmes	341939
Football Club	Secretary	Alan Stewart	340492	Test Valley Councillor		Linda Holmes	340521
Hampshire County Councillor		Andrew Gibson	01264			Neville Whiteley	01264
			861138	Village Bus	Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
Member of Parliament		Caroline Nokes	512132		Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
Mill Arms		Andrea & Ian Bentall	340401		Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
Mottisfont Abbey	Est. Manager	Paul Cook	340757		Operations	Mike Howe	301723
Neighbourhood Watch	Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799	Village Hall	Chairman	Lynn Young	340134
	Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922	(Reg.Charity	Secretary	Margaret Astur	341922
Parish Council	Clerk	Sue Holder	340130	No. 291629)	Bookings	Tony Stemp	340398
	Chairman	John Millns	340347	W.I.	Secretary	Cathie Wood	340129
	Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555		Press reporter	Mary Batten	341262
		Jacquie Horne	340105	Police	Village	PC John Viney	0845
		Andrew Simmonds					0454545
		(mottisfont2@gmail.com)			Romsey		0845
		Gareth Jenkins	340922				0454545
		Joyce Southwell					

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.