



Mottisfont & Dunbridge

ACORN



The Village Newsletter

July 2017

Mottisfont Fete, 13th August, 1pm - 4.30pm



Mottisfont Village Hall



It's time to start getting prepared for this year's fete!

- Get your pooch in tip top condition ready for this year's Dog Show.
- Join in the scarecrow fun – to be made and displayed for 1st August.
- Practise your best baking for the **Great Mottisfont Bake-Off**, with entries in the following categories:
 - *Best of British* themed cake;
 - Kids Bake-off for children under 14: 6 cupcakes or 1 big cake;
 - Men's Challenge – the gloves were off last year, so this is one to watch!!
 - Best in Show – judge Jill-the-Cake-Maker's favourite

While you're in the mood for baking, any contributions to the cake stall and teas are always welcome. These sell literally like hot cakes, so the more the better!

As usual, any contributions towards the bric-a-brac, book stall, helping out on the day or with setting up before the fete, will all be gratefully received.

Full details will be in the August edition of the *Acorn*.

All proceeds will go to the Village Hall fund.

Contact Ali Mckay (341971) or Michael Horne (340105) for further information.

FISH AND CHIPS

Dawn and Keith came to the village again in June and will return on 5th July, the first Wednesday. As usual, they will be in Mill Rise from 5 - 6pm. Due to other commitments, they will come on a Monday in August. Please watch for the date in the August *Acorn*, and in notices on the village noticeboards.



Dave & Pat Francis

GRAND DRAW

I will be running the Grand Draw at the Village Fete once again this year, on Sunday, 13th August. In previous years we used to attach books of draw tickets to the *Acorn* for all households in the village, but this year I have again decided not to do this.

If you would like to sell books of draw tickets before the fete, please collect them from me at 1 Mill View, Barley Hill, Dunbridge, or telephone me on 340398.

This would be very much appreciated.

Tony Stemp

The deadline for inclusion of items in the August edition of the *Acorn* is 16th July. Please email items to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk. **Note: there will be no edition of the *Acorn* in September.**



**National
Trust**

event or to one of the other evening openings to drink in the perfume and enjoy the colours of the garden in that special evening light.

The overflow car park has been in operation, and we've had a great team of additional car parkers in to help us, so our busier rose season shouldn't have impacted on village life too much. Thank you for bearing with us when on occasion everyone arrives at once; things have however been flowing pretty smoothly so far. We are progressing with our plans to maximise the number of spaces in our main car park, and mark them out using a herringbone or diagonal parking pattern, which will make it a far more efficient space.

Emily Russell will be visiting once more from Chile, to speak at the Chalke Valley History Festival on Saturday 1st July about her grandmother Maud Russell's diaries, published by Emily earlier this year. This fascinating book will soon be out in paperback, and is really worth a read; several local residents helped Emily as she researched the diaries and put together her final text. Emily will be discussing the diaries at 3.15pm with John Julius Norwich, who visited Mottisfont and stayed with Mrs. Russell many times.

Hope you're enjoying the sunshine, and that we'll see you at the Abbey soon,

With all best wishes,

Louise
Louise Govier, General Manager, Mottisfont & SW
Hants Group

WHAT'S ON

Outdoor theatre...

Northanger Abbey

Wednesday 12 July 7pm (gates open at 6pm for picnics)

Adult £16 Child £8 Family of four £42

Pack a picnic and enjoy an outdoor performance from Heartbreak Productions.

Social commentary, sharp wit and biting satire alongside faux friendships and real romance - this brand-new adaptation of Jane Austen's timeless

classic provides the perfect recipe for a summer evening's entertainment. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

In the house and grounds...

Romsey Festival: afternoon recitals

Every weekday from 3 – 14 July

Enjoy free live music around the house and grounds courtesy of Romsey Festival.

- Monday 3 July: Nina Rideout, classical guitar
- Tuesday 4 July: Bryn Bridges Trio, jazz band
- Wednesday 5 July: Nina Rideout, classical guitar
- Thursday 6 July: Romsey Festival of Youth Music, steel band
- Friday 7 July: Romsey Festival of Youth Music, piano and classical guitar
- Monday 10 July: Cuckoo Pint and David Tarrant, folk music
- Tuesday 11 July: Gerda Wilcocks, flute/piano
- Wednesday 12 July: Stephen Godsall, jazz guitar
- Thursday 13 July: Matthew Shenton, solo jazz piano
- Friday 14 July: Bryn Bridges, harpsichord

For families...

The Gruffalo and Friends: the Art of Axel Scheffler

Saturday 15 July – Sunday 3 September 11am – 5pm

Discover colourful, characterful works by the much-loved children's illustrator Axel Scheffler in our gallery over the summer holidays. This family-friendly exhibition showcases illustrations from *The Gruffalo* and *The Gruffalo's Child*, as well as *Stick Man*, *The Snail and the Whale*, *Room on the Broom*, *Zog* and many more. A family activity trail will run alongside the exhibition.

In the gardens...

The peak of the rose season may be over, but there's still plenty of colour in the walled gardens throughout July. The herbaceous borders provide a wonderful floral colour palette right through until October, showcasing a huge variety of plants chosen for their structure, scent and eye-catching colours. Agapanthus, geraniums and peonies mingle with pinks, lilies and phlox. The centres of the borders are a mass of soft blues, pinks and whites, whilst stronger yellows, oranges and dark pinks draw your eye along the length of the border. Avenues of purple lavender give both the walled gardens and north lawn a distinctive fragrance.

Keep in touch...

Visit our website, nationaltrust.org.uk/mottisfont, to keep up to date with things to see and do. You can also find us on social media – look out for us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @MottisfontNT for regular updates.

The WI



At the June meeting we were given a talk by Tasha Ault, who gave us hints on how to live a stress-free life using meditation and breathing. Using a Wheel diagram, we were shown how to put our lives into segments, and how to deal with day to day problems. There were 22 members and guests present, who found the talk very informative and helpful.

We will be having a bric-a-brac stall at Mottisfont fete in August, and contributions of items will be gratefully received. If collection is required, please ring Cathie Wood on 340129.

The meeting in July will be a visit to Ordnance House Gardens in Dean, so there will be NO meeting at Mottisfont Village Hall in July.

Mary Batten

Test Valley Lectures

Test Valley Lectures is taking its summer break, and will be back in September.

When is a deadline not a deadline?

The answer seems to be, for some people at least, when the deadline is for submission of content to the *Acorn*.

We normally ask people to make sure their content gets to us by the 16th of the month, so that we have time to get everything done in order to deliver the *Acorn* to you close to the start of the month. Two weeks between sending material in and having it ready to distribute may seem like a long time, but there is much to be done. There's compiling the draft version, which is done by people trying also to run their two businesses. There's getting it to Helen to proof read, while she holds down a demanding job and keeps two small boys in order. There's co-ordinating with the printer, who is also heavily occupied with running his business. And finally, there's getting the prints back and passing them on to Gordon or Michael who co-ordinate with the team who distribute and deliver the copies to your homes.

We know that people who contribute content often have busy lives too, and sometimes it's difficult to meet the deadline that we ask for. If you think that you are not going to be able to make it, please speak to us, and we'll see what we can do. But please also be aware that if your content arrives any time after the deadline, we may not be able to handle it.

Julia and Peter

DUNBRIDGE AND MOTTISFONT DEFIBRILLATORS

As many of you already know, we have two defibrillators in the parish. One is at The Mill Arms, and the other at the Social Club. Thanks to grants from SSE, 2M Transport and donations from the Social Club, Art Group and Whist Drives, the launch and the quiz, all the costs for the equipment and maintenance for the first year have been covered, with around £70 carried forward for 2018.

There has been some misunderstanding about the running costs of the equipment. The actual cost is £356 per year, with the emergency phone costing £104, and annual membership costing £252. Membership covers insurance, public liability, replacement of equipment if it is out of service, counselling service, training, policies and procedures. At the end of four years we have the option to buy the equipment for £1, or ask Community Heartbeat Trust to continue with the existing arrangement.

We hope that this equipment will never be needed, but it is reassuring to have two defibrillators in the village, one each side of the level crossing.

A new bank account will be opened managed by Pat, Ali and Cathie, and the Village Hall Committee has agreed that the hall can be used free of charge for any activity to raise funds for the maintenance. We will hold another quiz next year, and there will be a stall at the village fete in August. If anyone would like to raise funds either at the hall or in your own home, or make a donation, please let us know.

Pat Francis, Ali McKay and Cathie Wood

STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY CINEMA

Wednesday 19 July 2017 at 4.30pm and 7.30pm

Hidden Figures (Cert PG) 2hrs 7mins

The story of a team of African-American women mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the US space program. In heartwarming fashion, *Hidden Figures* celebrates overlooked - but crucial - contributions from a pivotal moment in American history. Nominated for 3 Oscars in 2017 including Best Film, Best Supporting Actress and Best Adapted Screenplay.

Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall, SO20 6HE. Doors open 30 minutes before the start time. Tickets £5.00 from Garden Inn and John Robinson in Stockbridge, or online via our website www.stockbridgecinema.org.uk.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1.



Dear Friends,

We have seen so much trouble and disaster over the last few weeks, it can make us despair and wonder. Yet the Gospel of St. Matthew begins with the birth of Jesus as Emmanuel – “God with us” – and ends with the risen Christ telling his doubtful disciples to go forth and teach all nations, assuring them that “I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

The apostle shows how ours is not an absent God, sat in a faraway heaven. Instead he is a God impassioned with humanity, so tenderly in love that he is unable to stay away. Human beings are the ones who are really good at cutting off ties and destroying bridges, not God. If our hearts get cold, his remains incandescent. Our God always accompanies us even if, through misfortune, we were to forget about him. In fact, the decisive moment between scepticism and faith is the discovery of being loved and accompanied by our Father.

Life is a pilgrimage, a journey in which the seduction of the horizon is always calling the human wandering soul, pushing people to go and explore the unknown. You do not become a mature person if you cannot perceive the allure of the horizon – that people boundary between heaven and earth that

asks to be reached by those who are on the move. Christians never feel alone because Jesus assures us he not only waits for us at the end of our long journey, but accompanies us every day. Even through dark and troubled times God will always be concerned and take care of his children, even to the end of all time.

And why does he do this? Quite simply because he loves us. Our life is anchored in heaven, which means we move on because we are sure that our life has an anchor in heaven, and the rope is always there to grab onto. So if God has promised he will never abandon us, if the beginning of every vocation is a ‘Follow me,’ with which he assures us of always staying before us, why be afraid then? With this promise, Christians can walk everywhere, even in the worst, darkest places. It’s precisely where darkness has taken over that a light needs to stay lit. Those who believe only in themselves and their own powers will feel disappointed and defeated, because the world often proves itself to be resistant to the laws of love, and prefers the laws of selfishness.

Jesus promising “I am with you always” is what keeps the faithful standing tall with hope, believing that God is good and working to achieve what seems humanly impossible. There is no place in the world that can escape the victory of the risen Christ, the victory of love.

Ron

CHURCH SERVICES FOR JULY 2017

	2nd July TRINITY 3	9th July TRINITY 4 SEA SUNDAY	16th July Trinity 5	23rd July TRINITY 6	30th July TRINITY 7
8.00 am	BROUGHTON HC CW	-	BROUGHTON HC BCP	-	-
9.30 am	BOSSINGTON HC BCP BROUGHTON The Bible Uncovered	BROUGHTON HC CW HOUGHTON HC CW	BROUGHTON Family Service MOTTISFONT Holy Communion BCP	BROUGHTON Family Communion CW	BOSSINGTON HC CW for the Benefice
11.00 am	-	MOTTISFONT Messy Church Club	-	MOTTISFONT Family Communion CW	-
6.00 pm	MOTTISFONT Evensong	-	-	HOUGHTON Evensong	6.30pm BOSSINGTON Compline

Every Wednesday 9.30am St. Mary's Church, Broughton, HC BCP
HC = Holy Communion; BCP = Book of Common Prayer; CW = Common Worship

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

Events for July

6th July: Mr. Peter Ponting

13th July: TBA

20th July: Members' Meeting

27th July: Tea at Ann's

Everyone welcome, please come and join us.

Please note: there will not be any Bright Hour during August. We will meet again on 7th September.

Barbara Perry,
Booking Secretary, 301466

FREE RAIL-BUS LINK

A free rail-bus link connecting Mottisfont & Dunbridge Station with Test Valley tourist's destinations is back on the road again this summer.

The service operates on Sundays and bank holidays until 17th September, and it is run by Test Valley Community Services on behalf of the Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership.

The free rail-bus link service calls at Romsey Abbey and the town's station, Sir Harold Hillier Gardens at Ampfield, Mottisfont & Dunbridge station, Mottisfont Abbey, John O' Gaunt pub at Horsebridge, Houghton Lodge Gardens, Stockbridge, and Longstock Water Gardens and Nursery.

Three Rivers rail officer Mark Miller said he hoped that people will use the service.

"As usual, the service, operated by Test Valley Community Transport Services, links up with the trains at Romsey and Mottisfont & Dunbridge stations to allow access to the wonderful tourist attractions and beautiful countryside of the lower Test Valley.

"But this year the service has been enhanced by the provision of another bus from Stockbridge to Andover, via Danebury Hill Fort, The Museum of Army Flying, The Hawk Conservancy and Grateley Railway station, again funded by the Three Rivers Community Rail Partnership. This service 77 will be operated by Stagecoach Buses and will charge fares," said Mr Miller.

He added: "The idea is that the two services link up at Stockbridge to provide a through service from north and south, effectively recreating the old Sprat and Winkle Railway line that closed on a similar route in 1967 with the Beeching cuts! So, 50 years on the route is back, providing public transport links on a summer Sunday and bank holiday Monday to most of Test Valley's tourist attractions and rail stations."

Full details of the rail-bus link service can be found at Mottisfont & Dunbridge station, and some bus stops in the area.

Andy Simmonds

The Thomas Dowse's Charity What do we do? Can we help?

The Thomas Dowse's Charity is able to provide grants to individuals up to the age of 25, living in Broughton, Bossington, Mottisfont and Dunbridge.

The grants are for educational purposes, including such things as the cost of school trips, music tuition, overseas educational trips, uniform, swimming lessons, transport to educational establishments, laptops, and books.

Here are a few of the thank you messages we have received recently:

"I've recently returned from my rugby tour ... a massive thank you for your donation"

"... we are so thrilled, it will be such a help to us ..."

"Thank you very much for the donation. It is much needed and will help me so much over the next year."

"We are so pleased. He is going to have an amazing first trip. Thank you."

Applications are treated in strict confidence. Applicants must demonstrate need, but there is no means testing.

Applications for consideration at the next meeting should be received by the secretary by Sunday, 10th September.

Grant application forms are available from St. Mary's Church, Broughton, Mottisfont Church, Broughton Primary School, or by email from tinastuart1 at gmail dot com.

Parish Council

Parish Council meetings for the remainder of 2017 will be on:

Wednesday, 12th July
Wednesday, 20th September
Wednesday, 22nd November

Scarecrow Display and Competition at the Fete

Now, high on your agenda should be this year's scarecrow in readiness for showing locally and for the competition at the fete.



I think last year's show was fantastic and very well received.

Can we do better this year?

Persuade your friend or neighbour who admired yours so much to try their hand this year!

Gordon 340129

Maisie's Music for Mid-Summer

Building on current successes performing with the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain and YMTUK (Youth Music Theatre UK), local resident Maisie Lake, aged 17 years and attending Barton Peveril 6th Form College, will be performing locally in July.



On 9th July she will be the invited soloist with The Military Wives Choir, at Chilbolton Village Church, at 4pm (retiring collection only).

Then on 11th and 12th July she will be a soloist in *A Reimagined Dream*, a music and dance production based on Felix Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, at The Great Hall, Winchester, at 7 pm. See

<http://winchesterfestival.co.uk/programme/11-july/> for further information.

Jane Hunt, 340905

STOCKBRIDGE MUSIC

DELMEGE STRING QUARTET

Stockbridge Town Hall
Saturday 16th September, 7.30pm

"What a treat! Four young string players played major works by Haydn, Mendelssohn and Beethoven. Here was a performance of the highest quality. Chamber music is best heard live. How else could we experience Mendelssohn's expression of raw anger and melancholic despair at the



Tel: 01264 810 601
timlowden@gmail.com



Delmege Quartet

sudden loss of his cherished sister. This was truly fine instrumental interpretation. Menace, anguish, portent, discomfort; overt emotion was captured by these players, with superb playing."

Words by James Montgomery after their last visit to Stockbridge.

At that time they were students at the Royal Academy of Music, and we were all so impressed by their interpretation of the music and their total empathy towards each other, thus lifting the notes right from the pages and sending them floating over the audience.

Now, two years later, we are really looking forward to hearing them again in the Town Hall. James's words encapsulated their style and expertise then. We eagerly look forward to hearing how they have progressed, if that is possible.

Recycling Is Easy!

In Test Valley, we collect 5 types of recyclable materials from your brown bin, and we have a network of more than 100 Local Recycling Centres to collect even more items!



At home, you can put the following items in your brown recycling bin:

- « Paper
- « Cardboard
- « Plastic bottles
- « Tins and cans
- « Aerosol cans

and you can take the following items to your Local Recycling Centre:

- « Glass bottles and jars
- « Textiles
- « Aluminium foil
- « Cartons
- « Books and media

To find your nearest or most convenient Local Recycling Centre and to see what you can recycle there, use Recycle Now's Recycling Locator: www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling.

Brown Bin Recycling Tips

- « Ensure your recyclable items are clean and dry.
- « Don't bag your items – keep them loose or they won't be recycled!
- « Don't put other plastics (pots, tubs, trays) in your bin – we can only recycle plastic bottles.
- « If in doubt, have a look at our recycling guide at www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingguide.

The Acorn takes a break

There will as usual be no edition of the Acorn in September, so your editors can take a break in August.

If you have any events during August or September, make sure to get the information to us by 16th July!



Best wishes for a great summer,

Julia and Peter

Annie's Kitchen and Tea Room

See our web site for events during July.

www.annieskitchen.co.uk
enquiries@annieskitchen.co.uk
Kimbridge Lane, Timsbury
SO51 0LE

ROMDAG Romsey Dementia Action Group

The Romsey Dementia Action Group is a group of volunteers who are dedicated to promoting awareness and understanding of dementia across our local community of Romsey. Romsey was successfully launched as a Dementia Friendly town in May 2014. As part of our community, RomDAG is registered under Test Valley Community Services (charity no.1061655 Ref. RomDAG).

What do members of RomDAG do? They support anyone living with dementia in our local community, including people with a diagnosis of dementia and their family members. They support our local businesses and services in becoming dementia friendly. They also support many activity groups for people with dementia across Romsey.

More information about the charity is available at romdag.co.uk.

Lockerley Primary School Bizarre Bazaar



Friday 7th July, 5-7pm

**Bar, BBQ, Tombola, Raffle,
Family Games and
Bouncy Castle**

All welcome!

We look forward to seeing
you!



JUMBLE SALE

Thank you to everyone who donated bric-a-brac and clothes to the jumble sale in June.

We made a profit of £185.79 for village hall funds.

It was a boiling hot day, so we did pretty well.

