



**Housing Needs Survey**

Test Valley Borough Council will be undertaking a Housing Needs Survey of the parish, posting questionnaires to residents in May. The aim of the survey is to establish such things as whether there are people already living in the parish who need a different type of housing, or whether you have families who would like to live locally but are unable to find anywhere suitable.

The Parish Council is aware of the survey and expects TVBC to share some of the findings, so we would encourage everyone to complete the form. TVBC has given assurances that all the questionnaire responses will be treated as strictly confidential. A statement of their confidentiality policy will be placed on the Mottisfont website in due course.

**Where did your Christmas tree go?**

Please think carefully before depositing your unwanted plastic waste.

A three-section plastic Christmas tree complete with lights was left in the local woods.

This kind of fly tipping is very damaging to the environment and will be there forever.

*Cathie Wood*

**LOCKDOWN SUPPORT**

**Parish Support Telephone Line**

The Parish Support Line on **01794 236987** was set up in March 2020 by the Parish Council to help people in the parish get through the first lockdown.

The Support Line is still running, manned by a rota of local volunteers who are ready to take your call and help where they can. So if you have a problem you need help with, or simply want to talk to someone, it's there for you.

**Parish WhatsApp Group**

There's a thriving WhatsApp group with around 50 parish people signed up. It's a great resource for staying in touch or getting help. If you would like to join it, send an email with your mobile phone number to Jeff Channing at **jeffmottisfont-at-btinternet-dot-com** (use "@" and ".").

**VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

Hopefully, the village hall can open again before too long. However, everything depends on the easing of the lockdown progressing as planned and all bookings can only be provisional at this stage. Any hire will be subject to the Covid legislation in force at the time, so it is unlikely that anything can happen before 17th May.

Bookings have started to come in, so if you want to arrange something please contact Diane Roberts on 07488 358253.

Unfortunately the fete will not happen again this year, but we have been able to access government grants that have helped to cover the running expenses of the hall. We do hope there can be a village event later in the summer, so watch this space for more details.

*Village Hall Committee*

**Lockerley Primary School**

Lockerley Primary School is situated on the edge of the beautiful Test Valley. The school retains some of the original Victorian buildings, along with more modern extensions to create 4 full time classrooms, a music room, a well-stocked library, a multi-purpose hall and the latest addition to the building, the 'Monarch Room' used for small group work and the home of the Breakfast and After School clubs. All children have access to chromebooks, laptops and iPads. There is a well-equipped playground, a sports field and a beautiful garden. We offer our children a rich and meaningful learning experience that enables them to develop their self-esteem and maximise their potential as young people.

We have close links with St. John's Church in the village, and the Parish Vicar plays an active part in the life of the school. The school uses the church frequently for special assemblies.

If you are looking for a school place we do have some spaces for year R in September 2021 and currently a few places in years 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6.

There is a promotional video on our school website <https://www.lockerleyprimary.co.uk/admissions/>. For further information please call the school office on 340485 or email [adminoffice@lockerley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@lockerley.hants.sch.uk).



**National Trust**

### **News from Mottisfont**

Although Spring 2021 will feel very different to last year, we are still able to welcome a restricted number of visitors, slowly increasing but not exceeding the capacity of the car park.

As most of you can imagine, Mottisfont was and still is a very popular destination for National Trust members, but we are still working with restricted staffing resources and within government guidelines. The gardens are open for all to enjoy the seasonal displays, families can take part in the Easter trail (29th March till Sunday 18th April) and we are still able to offer a limited take-away service... so if you fancy a Jude's ice-cream, you know where we are!

If you haven't renewed your Parish Pass, please do get in touch, and we look forward to welcoming you in the near future.

### **Countryside Code**

Hampshire County Council's Access Teams are promoting their latest newsletter and video publicising the Countryside Code.

The link to it is a bit long to copy manually, so we've added it to the homepage at the parish website, [www.mottisfontpc.org.uk](http://www.mottisfontpc.org.uk).

### **BROUGHTON COMMUNITY SHOP**

Broughton Community Shop and Post Office is remaining open through this current lockdown, providing a valuable service in a Covid-secure environment.

The focus on local suppliers, 'eco' and essentials continues, not forgetting some lovely treats – just what we all need at the moment! Please take a look at the new website [www.broughton.shop](http://www.broughton.shop) for information and updates, including exciting new lines.

A warm welcome – and easy parking – await!

### **The Thomas Dowse's Trust What do we do? Can we help?**

The Thomas Dowse's Trust is able to provide grants to individuals, up to the age of 25, living in Broughton, Bossington, Mottisfont and Dunbridge, for educational purposes towards the cost of such things as uniform, school trips, music tuition, overseas educational trips, swimming lessons, transport to educational establishments, laptops and books. Applications are treated in strict confidence. Applicants must demonstrate need, but there is no means testing.

### **The Mill Arms**

It is hard to believe that it will be over six months from when we last called time to when we finally reopen our doors in May.

As we are all aware, certain dates have been set as "no earlier than" in the Government roadmap, and with regards to hospitality we have been advised that outside spaces may be used no earlier than 12th April, with the "Rule of 6" and "table service only" both being mandatory. The next unlocking step is effective no earlier than 17th May and will allow indoor use, still under the "Rule of 6" and "table service only", but with up to 30 people allowed outside.

While we have considerable outdoor space at the Mill Arms, given the vagaries of the English weather and the restrictive requirements still in place, we do not feel that opening under such tight restrictions on 12th April is of benefit to either our staff or customers. It is our desire for the pub experience to be as near to normal as possible when we welcome you back through our doors.

We have therefore decided that, provided the dates notified above are kept to,

### **WE WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY 18 MAY**

Keep an eye on our website and facebook page for further details and updated menus/offers. If you are planning to celebrate any of those big occasions you had to put on hold in the last twelve months do please get in touch. We already have two weddings, a society dinner and birthday celebrations booked for the function room later this year, once all restrictions are hopefully lifted on 21st June.

We cannot wait to see you in person again in an environment as close to normal as possible, and we are looking forward to a great summer and catching up on all your stories and news.

Gina & Lorna

In the current circumstances the Trustees are not able to meet, but are still able to consider any applications for grants. Please email the secretary for an application form or collect one from Broughton Primary School, St. Mary's Church (Broughton) or Mottisfont Church (if they are open).

Applications received will be circulated to Trustees for consideration, and applicants will be notified as soon as possible.

Email address: [tinastuart1atgmaildotcom](mailto:tinastuart1atgmaildotcom). (change "at" to "@" and "dot" to ".").

## From the Rector

### Happy Easter!

You may well be reading this in Holy Week. Happy Easter! At the beginning of April there is Good News in the life of the Church. Not only are we celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ once more, also here in the MidTest benefice we have reopened the churches for public worship. Distinct from 2020's on-line Easter celebration, this year we are able to worship together in church.

As you would expect, strict procedures will be in place to protect public health in church. In particular, it will be necessary to make a booking if you want to come to church on Easter Sunday – please contact one of your local churchwardens for more details, and of course, hand sanitiser and masks and distanced seating will be required.

The national public health situation gives us cause for hope, as the rollout of vaccinations continues at pace and prevalence of the virus continues to decline. It seems appropriate, as we celebrate Easter, to have such a cause for hope. However, we would do well to reflect on Jesus' followers' reaction to the news of the resurrection. At first, they were confused and unsure – some were disbelieving, and others responded by hiding indoors in fear. Our response to the good news on public health should be equally cautious.

This Easter, there is Good News. This Easter we have reason for hope. This Easter we can look forward to new future and a changed world. Yet we need to recognise the cost that has been paid for this Good News, the pain and suffering that that has brought it about, and the need to ensure that it is Good News for all people. Happy Easter.

<b>Sunday Services for April</b>				
	<b>4th April Easter Sunday</b>	<b>11th April Easter 2</b>	<b>18th April Easter 3</b>	<b>25th April Easter 4</b>
<b>Houghton</b>	9:30am Easter Communion	6pm Evensong	-	9.30am Parish Communion
<b>Broughton</b>	9.30am Parish Communion	11am Parish Communion	9.30am Bible Uncovered	8am Holy Communion CW or BCP ----- 9.30am Family Service
<b>Bossington</b>	9.30am Parish Communion, BCP	-	9.30am Parish Communion, BCP	6pm Meditation
<b>Mottisfont</b>	11am Parish Eucharist	11am Morning Worship	-	11am Family Communion

### Easter at St. Andrew's

We are delighted to be able to reopen the church for services in time for Easter after a lengthy period of lockdown due to Covid-19. There will be a Eucharist service on Easter Day at 11am. All necessary precautions to protect individuals will be in place, however those who are clinically very vulnerable will be aware that an element of risk cannot be ruled out. To allow safe distancing, the number of places will be limited. There is a booking system to avoid disappointment at the door. Please call Mrs. Clutterbuck on 340475 to book. Please wear a mask, and follow the safety guidelines.

We look forward to seeing as many as possible at this very special Easter morning service. May we wish everyone a very happy and peaceful Eastertide.

Trish and Sue

## The Social Club

The Club will open from 12th April for outside service only. This will be reviewed if conditions are not suitable.

From 17th May we will be open as usual, with bingo re-starting on Thursday 20 May.

### Opening hours:

Monday to Saturday: 7pm to 11pm

Sunday: 12pm to 2pm and 7pm to 10.30pm

Signing in will be required, and masks must still be worn when moving around the club. There will be table service only.

We are looking at other regular events; more details in the next Acorn.

Hope to see you soon!

## New Parish Council Clerk

Sue Holder, our Parish Council Clerk, is leaving her role after more than 10 years supporting the council. Parish councillors would all like to thank her for looking after the parish finances so well over the years and for the advice she has given us, and we wish her all the best for the future.

Our new Parish Council Clerk will be Heather Bournier, who already works with Broughton and some other mid-Test parishes, and we give a warm welcome to her. Heather can be contacted by email via the Parish Council page at [www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/pc/pc.php](http://www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/pc/pc.php).

## Stockbridge Music

To brighten your days leading up to the easing of restrictions at the end of June, and to put some welcome funds into our artists' pockets, we have put together an exclusive series of three filmed concerts by some of our past performers, for you to view.

Spread over three dates in April and May, our video series comes from these top artists:

- Roger Owens, piano
- Corran String Quartet (Royal Academy of Music)
- David Owen Norris on his 1828 Broadwood Concert Grand Piano

Stockbridge Music currently has 350 loyal members, and we have set a target to raise £1,500 to underwrite this series of concerts. We have set up the Stockbridge Music Artists Fund, which



Tel: 01264 810 601  
timlowden@gmail.com

## Fish and Chips

We are very lucky to have a fish and chip van come twice a month to our village. They come on the first and third Wednesday each month and park in Mill Rise, so easy parking for you. They cook between 5pm and 6.30pm.

If you would like to ring to book a slot to avoid queuing, their phone number is 07716 837147, and they ask you to ring on the day you are ordering for, between 11am and 2pm.

## Nightingale Lodge - Extra Care scheme in Romsey

New homes for older people in Romsey are nearing completion following a partnership between Hampshire County Council (HCC), Test Valley Borough Council TVBC) and Places for People.

Nightingale Lodge includes 54 new homes, including 34 for affordable rent and 17 for shared ownership, and are available for persons over 55 who have eligible care and support needs.

Anyone interested in the affordable rented homes can make enquiries to Test Valley Borough Council on 01264 368000 or via the website [www.testvalley.gov.uk/news/2021/feb/new-extra-care-homes-to-open-this-summer](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/news/2021/feb/new-extra-care-homes-to-open-this-summer). Applicants will need to be registered on Hampshire Home Choice at [www.hampshirehomechoice.org.uk/](http://www.hampshirehomechoice.org.uk/).

For interest in the shared ownership homes, please contact Places for People via [www.livingplus.co.uk/find-a-home/nightingale-lodge/](http://www.livingplus.co.uk/find-a-home/nightingale-lodge/).

Further information about extra care in Hampshire, eligibility criteria and how to apply can be found at [www.hants.gov.uk/extracarehousing](http://www.hants.gov.uk/extracarehousing).

Stockbridge Music has primed with over £250 to get us started. The committee felt it unwise to go ahead without first raising these funds, so in effect we are asking you to subscribe to the series in advance for a suggested minimum donation, covering the three concerts, of £45 per household.

We are hoping to start these concerts in early April, and would be grateful for your subscriptions by the end of March. As soon as we hit our target of £1,500, we will let you know that we are under starters orders, and the above artists will be performing for you in your homes.

Visit [www.stockbridgemusic.uk/spring-series](http://www.stockbridgemusic.uk/spring-series) to subscribe.