



Mottisfont & Dunbridge

ACORN



The Village Newsletter

February 2022

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

We have all been encouraged to plant more trees and hedges to support wildlife, and we have been successful with our bid to The Woodland Trust for 60 hedging plants for the village hall. A mix of plants will arrive in early March and we have set aside the weekend of 19/20th March for the planting, with the following weekend 26/27th March as a reserve date if it pours with rain.

We now need plenty of volunteers to help with the planting. Everyone is welcome, and we would particularly like to involve whole families. The village hall committee will provide free tea, coffee and juice. If we get enough people to help we can probably complete the planting in a morning. Please contact us if you can help and we will give more details nearer the time.

Dave and Pat Francis
Tel. 340609
pandafrancis*at*btinternet*dot*com
(replace *at* with "@", and *dot* with ".")

QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATINUM JUBILEE

The village hall has been booked for the weekend of 2nd to 5th June for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

For the Queen's coronation in 1953 we remember our parents planting red, white and blue flowers in our front gardens, and decorating the house inside and out with bunting.

After two years of restrictions this weekend will be a great opportunity to come together to celebrate this unique occasion.

Groups in the village have been contacted and asked to contribute their ideas, but we need more. Please put the dates in your diary and let us have any suggestions.

Dave & Pat Francis
340609
pandafrancis*at*btinternet*dot*com
(replace *at* with "@", and *dot* with ".")

PCSO report

PCSO (Police Community Support Officer) Marie Stubbington has been in contact and asks us to mention the following:

"There have been a couple of incidents of criminal damage around 10th January to a network rail van parked in the station car park and a resident of Mill Rise had a ball bearing flung into a UPVC door causing a large hole within the door frame.

"We completed a letter drop to nearby houses and have been out and about in the area at night time, but can you please ask residents to remain vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour. Unfortunately there is little that can be done when persons are shooting catapults with ball bearings from a passing car when it's dark! It is extremely frustrating all round and causes such upset and worry. We are patrolling every evening that we are on duty and just ask that if anyone has seen or heard anything to report it to us with the crime reference number 44220014173."

Marie also wants to point out some advice for improving car security, which can be found at www.hampshire.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/car-protection-damage/.

Introducing Rick Coleman, new Ranger for the National Trust Countryside Team

I started at the National Trust in April 2021 as the Retail Manager at Mottisfont.

Prior to that I was in leadership roles in national and international retail, and I have been a volunteer Ranger for the Forestry Commission for 8 years.



No, not that sort of ranger! - Eds

My first month with the Countryside Team has exceeded my expectations. The team have made me feel very welcome, and have shared their encyclopaedic knowledge of all things relating to nature, forestry, rivers, wildlife, farming, mechanics and so much more!!

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**National
Trust**

Hello from Mottisfont. We're looking forward to seeing you all in 2022, so do renew those parish passes and come and visit us! More information about the parish pass scheme below, and our What's On programme.

In wider works going on in the parish, our ranger team reports that we have several contractors working across the estate this winter with a focus on tree safety management. This includes the felling of diseased ash trees close to roads, properties and busy footpaths. In some cases we are managing the potential risk by removing the crown of the trees but retaining a standing stem (monolith). This helps to reduce the risk of the tree failing, but retains a valuable habitat. Where conditions allow, we will protect natural regeneration, or plant suitable species to encourage the next generation of trees.

This winter will also see a continuation of our woodland restoration works in Spearywell Wood, focusing on thinning several soft wood areas to improve conditions for native broadleaf species. We anticipate that during these works our tracks and rides will sustain some damage; once works are complete will look to reinstate any tracks and assess opportunities for improving access.

Nature news

We have again spotted salmon redds on several of our chalk streams. A redd is the name given to the nest in which a salmon lays its eggs. Wild salmon in the UK are in rapid decline, so any sign of potential breeding is a positive, although exact numbers are unknown. With increased awareness and improvements to river management, hopefully the rivers across Mottisfont will continue to play their important part in this delicate life cycle.

What's On At Mottisfont

In the gallery

Comedy & Commentary: The Best of British Cartoons, 24th January – 24th April

Discover witty works from some of Britain's best cartoonists commenting on current affairs. Humour is at the heart of this show, with funny, beautifully drawn works from the likes of Matt of the Telegraph, Mike Williams of Private Eye, and EH Shepherd.

In the house

Treasured Mottisfont, Monday 24th January – end of May

Visitors can pick up a map from the Welcome Centre not only to discover the treasures in the house, but throughout the gardens too. The house team have selected several intriguing objects that reveal the history of this fascinating place. From

personal photographs and iconic art, to a backgammon set that was often played on the front lawn by the family and Ian Fleming!

Family Fun

February Half Term trail: Art & Seek, Saturday 19th – Sunday 27th February

Head off on the Art & Seek creative activity trail, full of sketching activities, whilst uncovering hidden art in the gardens. A family trail inspired by the exhibition in the gallery.

In the gardens

Winter Garden: a garden of scent & colour, 3rd January – 28th February

Frost sparkles in the morning sunlight, coating the trees, shrubs and flowers with a magical layer of white. Winter flowers dot the grounds, with the promise of spring flowers poking through from February into spring. Discover the garden team's highlights within the wonderfully scented and calming winter garden.

Mottisfont Parish Pass Renewals 2022/23

Current parish passes expire on 28th February so now is the time to request an application form for our 2022/23 pass expiring 28th February 2023.

The Parish Pass is for everybody who lives in the parish of Mottisfont & Dunbridge, so you can enjoy Mottisfont mansion, gardens and estate whenever you want, for free, all year round.

Mottisfont tenants do not need to apply for a parish pass as they have free admission through the custodial system.

There are some terms and conditions to point out:

1. The pass is only for Mottisfont and cannot be used on any other National Trust property. For that, you will need to purchase National Trust Membership.
2. You will need one pass for each member of the family who are five years and older during that year.
3. The pass is not transferable and only residents of Mottisfont & Dunbridge can use it.
4. Our Visitor Reception staff might ask for proof you are a resident in the parish.
5. You will need to re-apply each year and prove you are a resident.
6. The pass cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer and is subject to National Trust terms and conditions.

Please email mottisfont@nationaltrust.org.uk or call 344001 for an application form.

You can see what's going on at Mottisfont through the year at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mottisfont.

The Thomas Dowse's Trust

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, 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.

Please email the secretary, Tina Stuart, for an application form or collect one from Broughton Primary School, St. Mary's Church (Broughton) or Mottisfont Church.

Applications received will be considered at the next meeting of the Trustees. The closing date for applications in time for the next meeting is: Sunday, 6th March 2022.

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

From the Rector

Dark times

February can be a dark time. Although the days are starting to draw out, the weather often gives little reason for cheer, and there are few signs of life in the world. The celebrations of Christmas and New Year seem long past, and yet the credit card bills now need to be paid.

In the life of the Church, our Christmas and Epiphany celebrations come to an end on the 2nd February on the feast of Candlemas, when we give thanks for the idea that Jesus Christ came, a light to brighten the whole world – that means all people.

Yet, for many people, this time of year can be particularly difficult, and is each year. Seasonal Affective Disorder affects many of us, and all sorts of people struggle with low mood at this time of year. I would like to be able to say that I could suggest a solution, but I cannot. Religion is not a means of addressing medical problems.

Our faith does however provide a framework in which we can understand joy and sorrow, hope and despair. It tells us of a God who created a world that was good, and created us to dwell in it. It tells us of a God who seeks us out when we fall, and who redeems us to overcome our failings. It tells us of a God who has shared in our humanity, who knows our pains and sorrows and who is alongside us in our despair.

CHURCH SERVICES

	Bossington	Broughton	Houghton	Mottisfont
6th February	-	9.30am Parish Eucharist	-	6pm Evensong
13th February	-	11am Parish Eucharist	6pm Evensong	11am Morning Worship
20th February 2nd before Lent	9.30am Parish Eucharist BCP	9.30am Bible Uncovered	-	-
27th February Sunday before Lent	6pm Meditation	8am Holy Communion CW or BCP ~~~~~ 11am Family Service	9.30am Parish Eucharist	11am Parish Eucharist

The WI

Our Christmas festivities took the form of an hilarious game of bingo, followed by a delicious buffet supper, and a draw where everyone received a prize.

In January we were visited by Mandy Flynn - the wirework artist who made the magnificent horse which stands in the stable yard at Mottisfont. She told us how she uses offcuts of wire used by her husband in his work as a thatcher, and specially made tools to construct her lifelike animals and birds.

Mandy brought examples of her work including a lifelike heron, a prickly hedgehog, and a friendly thrush perched on the handle of a garden spade. All very desirable!

Next month we are to be visited by a saxophonist, Simon Morgan - so be prepared for a melodious evening.

We always welcome visitors, so why not come along on 8th February at 7.30pm and join in the fun?

Yvonne Goodridge



Broughton & Mottisfont Community Bus

Since July 2021 the bus has once more been providing a normal service, with regular scheduled journeys from Mottisfont to Romsey, Salisbury, Andover, Winchester and Southampton. No booking is required.

Covid precautions are being followed, and passengers are requested to wear face-masks.

For further details, see:

www.broughtonvillage.net/village-bus

or telephone 234794.

KINDLING WOOD FOR SALE

£5 a bag

Contact David on
07967 657003

Can deliver locally



BROUGHTON COMMUNITY SHOP

Village Hall, High Street, Broughton SO20 8AX. Tel. number: 01794 502495

Broughton Community Shop

Weekdays: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Saturdays: 9.00am - 12.30pm Sundays: 9.30am - 12.30pm

Broughton Post Office

Weekdays: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Saturdays: 9.00am - 12.00pm Sundays: Closed

Coffee Shop

Indoor and Outdoor seating and takeaway drinks

(Closes 30 minutes before Shop closure)

Follow on FB at BroughtonVillageShop or check on our website www.broughton.shop.

Email news@broughton.shop to be included in the shop's mailing list for updates, promos and more.

Local produce, essentials and treats, fresh and frozen goods, wine and spirits, cigarettes, newspapers, magazines and much more plus, centre stage, a great range of dry and liquid refillables – just bring your own container!

Broughton Community Shop (Hampshire) Limited is a Community Benefit Society registered under the Co-operative and Community Benefits Societies Act 2014
Registration no: RS007762. VAT Reg no: 302 2080 69. Registered Office: Ford Springs, The Hollow, Broughton, Stockbridge SO20 8BB

STOCKBRIDGE MUSIC



**One of the most versatile and original
cellists of his generation to open
Stockbridge Music's 2022 season**

**Adrian Brendel, cello
and
Charles Owen, piano**

**Friday 18th March 2022, 7:30pm
St. Peter's Church, Stockbridge SO20 6HE**

This concert is kindly sponsored by Mr. & Mrs. Guy Boney

Performing a dynamic and varied programme of music by Bach, Beethoven, Liszt, Kurtág and Fauré, Stockbridge Music is delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed musicians Adrian Brendel and Charles Owen to open its Spring 2022 programme.

One of the most versatile and original cellists of his generation, Adrian Brendel has travelled the world as soloist, collaborator and teacher. His early immersion in the core classical repertoire inspired an enduring fascination that has led to encounters with many fine musicians at the world's most prestigious festivals and concert halls.

Charles Owen enjoys an extensive international career performing a wide-ranging repertoire to outstanding critical acclaim. Charles is also a Professor of Piano at the Guildhall School, of Music & Drama, London and Guest Professor at RWCMD, Cardiff. He was appointed Steinway & Sons UK Ambassador in 2016 and is also an Ambassador for the Help Musicians Charity.

For booking information and to join our mailing list, go to www.stockbridgemusic.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Tim Lowden, Musical Director

Parish Council Meetings

Thursday 17th February: 7.30 Ordinary Meeting

Thursday 19th May: 7pm AGM, 7.30pm Annual Parish Meeting - your chance to hear what your councillors have been up to in the last year.

Thursday 21st July: 7.30 Ordinary Meeting

All at the Village Hall.

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I thought I had a good understanding of things relating to NT Mottisfont and the New Forest, but I had no idea how much the Countryside Team look after and manage, and how varied it is.

From the crystal clear river Test, through the Mottisfont wider estate including farms, the New Forest 4000 Acres, Stockbridge Marsh and Down, to the river Hamble, the team are responsible for ecology, conservation, restoration, wildlife such as trout, salmon, butterflies and sheep....!!!

Yes, that's right, we have 15 Wiltshire Horn sheep that graze our land to help keep scrub in check, maintain and improve grass which is hugely beneficial for the habitat and diversity of the Down and its wildlife.

We have a team of volunteers who twice a day check on the sheep's welfare 365 days a year, and update the team by email.

Having the pleasure of being given a guided tour of the greater Mottisfont estate by Dylan Everett, NT Countryside Manager (7 hour walk), having the history, demographics, environment and wildlife explained, along with the strategy, I started to get an understanding of the complexities, responsibility and privilege it is to help look after such a beautiful and special place.

My first official task started on Tuesday 18th January when we welcomed back our fantastic Countryside Volunteers who unfortunately have been away for the last 18 months due to the pandemic.

Mike (NT Countryside Ranger) and I, along with volunteers, have started working at Mottisfont to enhance the wetland biodiversity potential of the duck grounds, through initiating scrub control to provide increased light levels and secure the historic geo-profile of the area, through the removal of deep rooted vegetation on the concentric spiral.

This work is essential to ensure we deliver the vegetative outcomes expected through the Mottisfont HLS (Higher Level Stewardship) agri-environment scheme.

We will also be deconstructing the boardwalk in that area, and where possible we will reuse the material to repair, improve and support the signage, gates, boardwalks and furniture of the greater Mottisfont estate.

I look forward to meeting you when I am out and about. Please do stop me and say hello.

Rick Coleman

THE SOCIAL CLUB

Mottisfont Social Club subscriptions are now due, the cost being £15 for ordinary members and £8 for concessions (which are over 65, or under the age of 21 and in full time education). New membership cost is £20. To vote at the AGM, subscriptions must be paid before the end of February.

The AGM is on Wednesday 16th March at 8.15pm. Should any member wish to raise an item for discussion at the AGM, it must be submitted in writing to the secretary at least seven days prior to the meeting. Matters arising at the AGM will be deferred until the next full committee meeting.

WHIST IS BACK!

Whist is starting up again at Mottisfont Village Hall in February, with some changes. There will not be any refreshments, and we are going to have cash prizes and a lucky whist card draw. Cost will be £3 each.

Whist dates and times are 7.30pm on the following Fridays: 18th February, 18th March, 22nd April, and 20th May.

Do you know where to report scam messages?

From Action Fraud, via Neighbourhood Alert

Fake emails and text messages are a common tactic used by cyber criminals, whose goal is often to convince you to click a link. Once clicked, you may be sent to a dodgy website which could download viruses onto your computer, or steal your passwords and personal information.

In order to try to convince you that their messages are legitimate, criminals will pretend to be someone you trust, or from some organisation you trust. This could be your Internet Service Provider (ISP), local council, even a friend in need, and they may contact you by phone call, email or text message.

Reporting suspicious emails

If you have received an email which you're not quite sure about, you can report it by forwarding the email to the Suspicious Email Reporting Service at: report@phishing.gov.uk.

As of 31st October 2021, the number of suspicious email reports stands at more than 8,100,000, with the removal of more than 67,000 scams and 124,000 URLs.

In a small number of cases, an email may not reach our service due to it already being widely recognised by spam detection services. The vast majority of reports do reach our system, so please keep reporting any suspicious emails you receive.

Reporting suspicious text messages

You can report suspicious text messages to your mobile network provider, free, by forwarding the text to 7726 (*on a keypad with both numbers and letters*,

this spells out "spam" - Eds).

If you forward a text, your provider can investigate the origin of the text and take action, if found to be malicious. If 7726 doesn't work, you can find out how to report a text message by contacting your provider.

(On many Android devices and iPhones, pressing and holding on the message bubble should present the option to forward the message.)

For more of the government's latest advice on how to stay secure online, visit the Cyber Aware website: nsc.gov.uk/cyberaware.

Southern Water Support

A reminder that Southern Water can help and support their customers, whether they may be struggling financially and need help with their water bills, or any other additional support, such as bottled water delivery in the event of a water interruption.



There's more information in the previous edition of the Acorn, for December and January, which can be found at www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/acorn/acorn.php.

You can also go directly to Southern Water by calling their freephone helpline on 0800 027 0800 from 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday, or alternatively you can apply online at

[www.southernwater.co.uk/
account/help-paying-your-bill](http://www.southernwater.co.uk/account/help-paying-your-bill).