



Mottisfont & Dunbridge

# ACORN



The Village Newsletter

June - July 2022



## Job Vacancies at Lockerley Primary School

We have the following vacancies:

- School cook 23.75 hours per week
- Catering assistant 10 hours per week

Please contact Norma England on 07718 146849 for further details.

We also have vacancies for lunchtime supervisory assistants at school, 1 hour per day 12-1, any day would be much appreciated.

Please call the school office on 340485 for more details.

## VILLAGE FETE SUNDAY 14TH AUGUST

As reported in the last Acorn, the Village Fete will make a return to the Village Hall after three years. We have lots of ideas for stalls and activities, but now we need people to help set up gazebos on the day before and run stalls at the fete.

Ideas so far include: Tombola, Children's Tombola, Beat the Goalie, Splat the Rat, Coconut Shy, Chicken Splat, Bric-a-brac, Refreshments, Barbecue, Bar, Cakes, Art Exhibition, Plant Sales, Skittles, Raffle, Ice Creams, Car Parking, Guess the Weight of the Cake, Longest Runner Bean and Heaviest Marrow.

If you can run one of these stalls or help in any way, please contact Lynn Young on 340134 or send an email to [lynnhenmatt1234@aol.com](mailto:lynnhenmatt1234@aol.com) (remove the 1234 when you use this email address. We put it in to help reduce spam - Eds.).

## PCSO report

Police Community Support Officer Marie Stubbington has sent us this report:

There have been some recent reports of 'door knocking' taking place in the village, where some youths have been banging on doors and running away. On a couple of occasions several incidents had been reported on the same day.

In partnership with the community, some youths were identified and words of advice have been given. Hopefully this will stop any future problems, but please do call 101 or report online should these incidents continue or start up again.

## Did you know...

...that the web site at [www.mottisfontpc.org.uk](http://www.mottisfontpc.org.uk) has all the Acorns for the last 15 years?

It's interesting to see what has changed, and what hasn't!



**National  
Trust**

Hi all,

It's finally THAT time of year again at Mottisfont, as Rose Season gets underway!! Our roses are budding, and starting to come out already, so please do read on below for details of the best time to come and see us at this very popular time. It really is

spectacular as you know in the walled gardens in June, with the scents, colours and wide variety of our beautiful old fashioned roses. We're open late in June to make sure that as many people as possible can come and visit us, so do dig out your parish and tenant passes and we look forward to seeing you, particularly in the evenings or on foot or bike!

We have a great programme throughout the summer as well to plan for. For those of you with younger children, as well as our amazing Little People, BIG DREAMS exhibition of the really popular children's books, we're also planning a revamp of our wild play area in June, so you should also be able to try out our new play offer during the summer holidays this year. Across the estate the countryside team are busy on summer tasks, as well as still being busy clearing all of the tree damage from February's epic storm Eustice. They are back to running some volunteering events too for those of you who volunteer with us too.

### **In the gardens...**

We're managing Rose Season a little differently this year, to try to minimise the impact on the local community, and help people make the most of their visit with our limited parking capacity. We're opening from 10am-8pm (last entry 7pm) on Mondays-Saturdays from Monday 30 May – Saturday 2 July (closing at 5pm as normal on Sundays). To guarantee entry, we're asking visitors to book a parking space if they're visiting before 3.30pm during this time. Parking remains free.

We know that visitors (particularly our most local visitors) like to retain some spontaneity in their visits, which is why we're not asking people to book for late afternoon/early evening. This is a lovely time to visit, avoiding the busiest part of the day, and when the scent of the roses rises into the early evening air.

You also only need to book if you require a parking space, as our current booking system isn't to limit numbers within the property itself. So, if you're walking or cycling to us, you're welcome to turn up during any of our opening hours.

Visit our website, [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mottisfont](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mottisfont), for more information about visiting in

Rose Season, and to make a booking if required.

### **In the house...**

The house and gallery are closed from Monday 30 May - Sunday 3 July inclusive for conservation cleaning, and will re-open refreshed for the summer months, with a new exhibition beginning on Saturday 23 July.

### **For families...**

**Little People, BIG DREAMS exhibition and trail, Saturday 23 July – Sunday 4 September, 10am-5pm**

artworks from the Little People, BIG DREAMS picture book biography series will help create an immersive experience inside the gallery and out in the grounds, inviting you to discover the lives of little artists, activists, sports stars and scientists from all over the world.

Each room in Mottisfont's gallery will be dedicated to a different personality, with interactive elements alongside artworks. Meet Malala Yousafzai and Martin Luther King Jr., step into the studio of Frida Kahlo, and discover the natural world with David Attenborough. An outdoor activity trail inspires creativity and courage, with even more little people to meet as you explore.

### **Keep in touch...**

Visit our website, [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mottisfont](http://www.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, Instagram and follow us on Twitter @MottisfontNT for regular updates.

### **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, 12th June 2022.

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

## From the Rector

### Inspiring!

This June will kick off with an extended bank holiday weekend to give as many people as possible some space to celebrate the 70 years (and counting) reign of Her Majesty the Queen. Those years have seen the transformation of both a commonwealth of nations as well as an inexperienced young woman who has become one of the longest serving and seasoned heads of state that has ever walked the earth. There is literally no other person alive who has been privy to as many international events and state secrets as our Sovereign.

Throughout her reign she has always sought to be an inspiration to the people of this nation by her example of dedicated, unflinching and uncomplaining service. Not only has she set an example that other political and community leaders have failed to equal, but across her reign she has sought to modernise the institution of the monarchy to enable it to reach out to and relate to the hundreds of thousands of ordinary people who also serve their community and nation.

Last month, at the first garden party held at

Buckingham Palace since before the start of the Covid pandemic, there was a full range of society to be seen – from General Officers in dress uniform to low ranking airman; from diplomats to local civic leaders; from the Minister for Brexit Opportunities in morning dress to many ordinary people wearing borrowed lounge suits, and even a handful of clergy. All parts of British society were graciously hosted at the home of the head of state.

The word inspiring has been carefully selected. It is a word that describes the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and it is through the gift of the Holy Spirit that Christians are transformed. At her coronation the most sacred and intimate part of the ceremony, the anointing, was preceded by the singing of the Veni Creator Spiritus – an ancient hymn imploring the coming of the Holy Spirit “Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire, and lighten with celestial fire...”. It is by being filled with the Holy Spirit that Christians have been inspired and empowered in service across centuries.

We too should pray that God will fill us with His Holy Spirit and use us in His service.

### CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE AND JULY

	Bossington	Broughton	Houghton	Mottisfont
<b>5th June Pentecost</b>	-	9.30am Parish Eucharist	-	6pm Evensong
<b>12th June Trinity Sunday</b>	-	11am Parish Eucharist	6pm Evensong	11am Morning Worship
<b>19th June</b>	9.30am Parish Eucharist	9.30am Bible Uncovered	-	-
<b>26th June</b>	6pm Meditation	8am Holy Communion CW or BCP ~~~~~ 11am Family Service	9.30am Parish Eucharist	11am Parish Eucharist
<b>3rd July Trinity 3</b>	-	9.30am Parish Eucharist	-	6pm Evensong
<b>10th July Trinity 4</b>	-	11am Parish Eucharist	6pm Evensong	11am Morning Worship
<b>17th July Trinity 5</b>	9.30am Parish Eucharist	9.30am Bible Uncovered	-	-
<b>24th July Trinity 6</b>	6pm Meditation	8am Holy Communion (CW or BCP) ~~~~~ 11am Family Service with baptism	9.30am Parish Eucharist with baptism	11am Parish Eucharist
<b>31st July Trinity 7</b>	10am United Benefice Eucharist at Longstock			



## The WI

In April, the WI was visited by Bronda, who talked about her passion for dance. A most engaging person, she had started ballet classes at the age of three and eventually ran her own school of dance for thirty years. She was a great fan of Anna Pavlova and had studied at the same school where Anna began her career.

She then spoke of another great, Fred Astaire, who starred and danced in 41 films. Bronda brought along a large photograph of him which hangs in her home. We then split into groups, clapping in different rhythms, and, once we had mastered the technique, Bronda donned tap shoes, a top hat and cane and danced for us. Great fun!

She finished by emphasising the health benefits to be gained for dancing, both physical and mental - so maybe there will be some kitchen dancers among our members in the future!

May was AGM month, but members arrived to find tables heaped with flowers and greenery and a buzz of anticipation in the air! The business side of things was quickly dealt with. There were reports from the Secretary, President and Treasurer, the committee agreed to re-election en bloc, and there were no objections to that. Marj Donohoe kindly agreed to remain in post as President for another year.

Then the fun began. Mary Batten, past President, had prepared containers, and members had brought flowers, secateurs and greenery to share. Mary gave a demonstration of a simple, all-round arrangement and gave an explanation of the basic principles involved. Then members set to work, amid much hilarity (and some singing) to make their individual arrangements. Everyone was well pleased with their efforts, and although the clearing up took a while, the table with 15 or so arrangements at the end looked spectacular.

After coffee and biscuits, we were reminded to bring our decorated Jubilee hats to the next meeting, which will be judged by the speaker, Neil Gwynne from RAODS, who will talk about *Wilder Romsey*. Why not come along to the Village Hall on 10th June at 7.30pm and join in the fun?

Also in June, on 28th, Mrs. Clutterbuck has kindly invited us to enjoy a Social Evening in her beautiful garden, so we're hoping for a fine evening then.

Members were also reminded to start saving previously loved items for their stall at the Village Fete in August. This has not taken place for two years due to Covid, so there's been plenty of time to amass a good sized collection of suitable items to fill the table. Start looking!



# 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](http://www.broughton.shop).

Email [news@broughton.shop](mailto: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 CINEMA

**Friday 17 June, 7.30pm**  
**Petite Maman (U)**



Following the death of her beloved grandmother, 8-year-old Nelly accompanies her parents to her mother's childhood home to begin the difficult process of cleaning out its contents. As Nelly explores the house and nearby woods, she is



immediately drawn to a neighbour her own age building a treehouse. What follows is a tender tale of childhood grief, memory and connection. (In French with English subtitles)

**Wednesday 22 June**  
**4.15pm and 7.30pm**  
**King Richard (12A)**

Armed with a clear vision and a brazen 78-page plan, Richard Williams (Best Actor Oscar winner Will Smith) is determined to write his daughters, Venus and Serena, into history. Training on California's neglected tennis courts - rain or shine - the girls are



shaped by their father's unyielding commitment and their mother's balanced perspective and keen intuition, defying the seemingly insurmountable odds and prevailing expectations laid before them. Based on the true story that will inspire the world, "King

Richard" follows the uplifting journey of a family whose unwavering resolve and unconditional belief ultimately delivers two of the world's greatest sports legends.

**Friday 15 July, 7.30pm**  
**Parallel Mothers (15)**

Two women, Janis and Ana, coincide in a hospital room where they are going to give birth. Both are single and became pregnant by accident. Janis, middle-aged, doesn't regret it and she is exultant. The other, Ana, an adolescent, is scared, repentant and traumatized. Janis tries to encourage her while they move like sleepwalkers along the hospital corridors. The few words they exchange in these hours will create a very close link between the two, which by chance develops and complicates, and changes their lives in a decisive way. (In Spanish with English subtitles)

**Wednesday 20 July**  
**5.00pm and 7.30pm**  
**The Duke (12A)**

In 1961, Kempton Bunton, a 60 year old taxi driver, stole Goya's portrait of the Duke of Wellington from the National Gallery in London. He sent ransom notes saying that he would return the painting on condition that the government invested more in care for the elderly. What happened next became the stuff of legend. An uplifting true story about a good man who set out to change the world and managed to save his marriage.

### Information common to all films:

Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall, SO20 6HE. Tickets can be purchased online (£6 incl. 50p booking fee per ticket) via [www.stockbridgecinema.org.uk](http://www.stockbridgecinema.org.uk) or by telephone from TicketSource 0333 666 3366 (£1.80 charge per telephone booking in addition to the online ticket price). Visit our website for more details. Drinks and ices will be on sale with payment by debit or credit card. *Please wear a face covering, unless exempt, when not seated.*

## THE SOCIAL CLUB

### Events at the Social Club

**Saturday 4th June:**  
**Mike Hughes playing hits**  
**from the 60s and 70s.**

**Fancy dress optional!**

## WHIST

Whist is carrying on during the summer  
at Mottisfont Village Hall:

- Friday 17th June, 7pm start
- Friday 15th July, 7pm start



## HEDGE TRIMMING

Now that hedges are growing it is tempting to trim them back. However, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds recommend avoiding hedge cutting during the main breeding season for nesting birds, which normally runs throughout March to August each year. This can depend on the weather, but it is vital to check garden hedges before getting the trimmer out.

Although trimming the hedge might not cause damage or destroy a nest, it is possible that the parent birds will abandon the nest because of the disturbance, leaving eggs or young chicks to die. So unless your hedge is causing access problems, leave the hedge trimmer in your shed until the bird breeding season is over.

## Stockbridge Music's Founder and Director to step down after 10 years at the helm



Tim Lowden, the indomitable founder of Stockbridge Music, is to step down as Music Director of the much-loved Stockbridge institution, with effect from 30th April 2022.

On hearing the news, Stockbridge Music

committee member, Karen Malim, said: "We will all miss Tim's energetic leadership enormously. However, we are delighted – as well as relieved! - that he has agreed to continue sharing his immense knowledge and wisdom as an invaluable member of the committee."

For the past 10 years Tim has shown an uncanny knack for having his finger on the pulse of contemporary tastes in classical music. On 18th March, Tim's flair was plain for all to see, when Stockbridge Music's 2022 Spring season opened in triumphant style with a sell-out concert in St. Peter's Church by top-flight international artists, Adrian Brendel, cello and Charles Owen, piano. Their beautiful and imaginative programme, from Bach and Fauré, to Liszt, Kurtag and Beethoven, showcased their versatility and emotional range, and held the audience in thrall. It was a joy to hear such high-calibre music-making, and the occasion marked a fitting pinnacle to Tim's illustrious journey at the helm of Stockbridge Music.

The Stockbridge Music committee is immensely proud of Tim's achievements and, with Tim's continued help and support, looks forward to nurturing and developing his legacy.

*continued from page 7*

increase their share later if they choose to. This is known as staircasing (in some rural areas the staircasing is restricted to a maximum 80% to ensure that the home remains an affordable home in perpetuity). In many rural areas where open market values are very high, a shared ownership product is the most likely route for local first time buyers to access home ownership.

### Discounted Market Homes

The Discount Market scheme enables a purchaser to buy a specific property at no more than 80% of market value. Unlike shared ownership, there is no rent payable. The discount remains in perpetuity, so when the property is sold the same level of discount is passed onto the next purchaser.

### First Homes

First Homes is a new affordable housing product like Discount Market homes. First Homes will be sold at no more than 70% of open market value to qualifying buyers. First Homes are not applicable on rural exception sites, or on any site which is delivering 100% affordable housing.

The main eligibility criteria for all low-cost home ownership products are:

- First time buyer
- Household income of less than £80,000
- Local connection

*Cllrs. Alison Johnston, Ian Jeffrey, and Tony Ward*

## Heating Oil Theft Prevention

Hampshire Constabulary Country Watch has supplied some useful information about reducing the risk of loss of heating oil to theft:

### Oil Level Gauges

Remote electronic oil level gauges are available, which will set off an audible alarm if the oil level in the tank suddenly drops or falls below quarter full. The alarm receiver can be placed in the house to warn the residents. There are also similar alarms that can notify the residents by text.

### Access

Fences and walls can make it difficult for the thief to access the tank, but remember that the oil tanker driver will need access to fill it. Use good quality closed shackle padlocks which have very little of the metal hoop exposed.

### Defensive planting

Thieves will be reluctant to force their way through or over prickly vegetation. The smallest trace of blood or shred of ripped clothing could help police to identify the offender.

*continued from back page*

We are also represented on the Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus Committee and on the Rail Partnership which covers Mottisfont and Dunbridge Station.

MPC's income last year was £6,500, raised through the Council Tax. We employ a Clerk/Financial Officer, which is a legal requirement for all parish and town councils. We have saved up around £15,000 over the years to invest in parish projects, and we very much welcome your views about what you think our priorities for spending should be.

### **Who we are**

The Parish Council has six elected, unpaid members. Andy Simmonds coordinates work on transport and traffic; Julia and Peter Barnett manage the parish website and have walked every inch of registered footpaths in the parish; Jeff Channing deals with planning and housing; Gareth Jenkins covers police liaison; and John Millns is our link to the Village Hall committee. We welcomed our new Clerk, Heather Bourner, last year.

Our meetings are normally attended by our Test Valley and Hampshire councillors, which gives both the Parish Council and those attending our meetings an opportunity to raise local issues with them. Vicky Fletcher, General Manager of the National Trust's Mottisfont & South West Hampshire Group, normally also attends and we regularly liaise with the Trust, especially about traffic and visitor parking.

We also work with our new PCSO, Marie Stubbington, who updates the Parish Council about local crime and crime-prevention measures and arranges beat surgeries in the various local parishes she looks after.

Mottisfont Parish Council's main web page is at [www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/pc/pc.php](http://www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/pc/pc.php) which includes our contact details. We meet in public at the Village Hall on Thursday evenings four times a year, and the next meeting is on 21st July. Parish residents are welcome to attend, and will have the opportunity to raise any matters of concern. It would be nice to see you.

## **PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2022**

**Thursday, 21st July**  
**Thursday, 22nd September**  
**Thursday, 17th November**

**All at the Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm and ending around 9pm.**

## **TYPES OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, AND WHO PROVIDES IT** **Part 2 of a series from our Borough Councillors**

In our first article on this topic, we showed how affordability was defined and how difficult it was to buy or rent. Now we look at the different types of homes available for people who are unable to meet their housing needs through the general housing market. This includes homes for rent and purchase.

### **Social Rented Housing**

This is subsidised rented housing owned and managed by an Affordable Housing Provider (AHP, also known as a Registered Provider or Housing Association) and allocated through Hampshire Home Choice to eligible households. Rents are typically charged at no more than approximately 60% of market rents.

### **Affordable Rented**

Affordable rented housing is also subsidised housing owned and managed by an AHP and allocated through Hampshire Home Choice to eligible households. Rents are typically up to 80% of open market rent. A large proportion of the new affordable homes being built are let at an Affordable Rent.

### **Shared Ownership (also known as part buy/part rent)**

Shared ownership enables a purchaser to access home ownership through buying an initial share (usually 25% to 75%, however new regulations allow for some shared ownership homes to be sold at a share of as little as 10% of the open market value.) and paying rent on the remaining share. Purchasers can then

*continued on page 6*



# MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

## Annual Report 2022



This report summarises what Mottisfont Parish Council (MPC) has been doing in the past couple of years, and how it is spending your money. We also want to seek your views about what you would like us to do over the coming year.

### Our priorities

Like most of us, Mottisfont Parish Council's main concern has been the Covid pandemic. We have acted as the coordination point for Borough and County initiatives, and our aim has been to ensure that, as far as possible, everyone in our community has had access to support through the period of lockdown and since. We set up a parish emergency helpline which was manned throughout the day and into the late evening by a group of local residents, and we also set up a WhatsApp group. The helpline has now closed, and we should like to thank all those who volunteered to help. The WhatsApp group continues and any parish resident is welcome to join.

When we ask local residents about their main concerns, the issue that usually comes up first is traffic: there is simply too much of it, drivers are speeding and HGVs are just too big for our country roads. Potholes are a never-ending problem. MPC regularly asks Hampshire County Council to extend the 30 and 40 mph speed limits on the B3084 to the whole of the residential area and to downgrade the status of the road. Hampshire takes little notice because, they say, they don't have a record of people being killed or seriously injured on this stretch of road! Our very firm view is that action is needed *before* there are any serious accidents.

MPC has therefore tried to think of steps that we can take ourselves to address the problem. We commissioned and paid for the installation of the gateway on Barley Hill to slow traffic entering the main residential area of Dunbridge. In the coming year, we have organised for speed limits to be painted in roundels on the road (as in the New Forest) and we will be looking at investing in a speed monitoring device. We are trying to get HGVs redirected onto the A3057. Unfortunately we can't solve the problem of trucks using local roads to access development sites, although we do contact HGV operators on behalf of residents to try to resolve or reduce problems.

MPC is consulted on all planning applications in the parish, and that includes the plan to develop Mottisfont and Dunbridge Station goods yard for housing. We have largely supported this proposal because we think that the site has become an eyesore and we oppose its continued use for unsightly open storage. The owners have submitted several planning applications to Test Valley over the years (the last one in August 2019) but without success. To try to get things moving, MPC co-operated with Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) to undertake a local Housing Needs Assessment last year, but when MPC representatives met the site owners in January to discuss progress – or lack of it - they said that, after 30 years of ownership, they had decided to sell the site. MPC unfortunately doesn't have the power to determine its future, but we are in touch with TVBC to see what action they might take.

We are fortunate to live in beautiful countryside criss-crossed by footpaths, but not all of these are accessible to elderly people or those with reduced mobility because of stiles or broken gates. MPC has undertaken a full survey of all of our registered footpaths and identified 19 locations where accessibility and other improvements might be made. Have a look at the illustrated report on the parish website (go to [www.mottisfontpc.org.uk](http://www.mottisfontpc.org.uk) and click on "2022 report on the state of stiles on parish footpaths" to download the 8MByte PDF) and let us have your comments.

MPC leases the Village Hall from the National Trust on behalf of the community, for which we pay an annual rent. It is managed by the Village Hall Committee, who also organise events. The Committee and the Parish Council always welcome ideas about how the facilities at the Hall could be enhanced and better utilised.

*continued on page 7*