



Mottisfont & Dunbridge

ACORN



The Village Newsletter

April, 2007

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From the Editors

Thank you to all our budding young artists who entered the Easter picture competition. Your contributions have added a welcome Easter and spring feel to this month's edition.

April is, as we were often told in our childhood, a 'neither nowt nor summat' kind of month. It is too warm to be winter and too cold to be summer, yet we wax lyrical about it as if it is the start of something new. Poets, Robert Browning memorably amongst them, have extolled the virtues of England in April. We can see their point, to an extent, as we hear the drumming of the woodpecker in the garden or the sounds of the eager horticulturalists as they fire up their rotivators on the allotments.

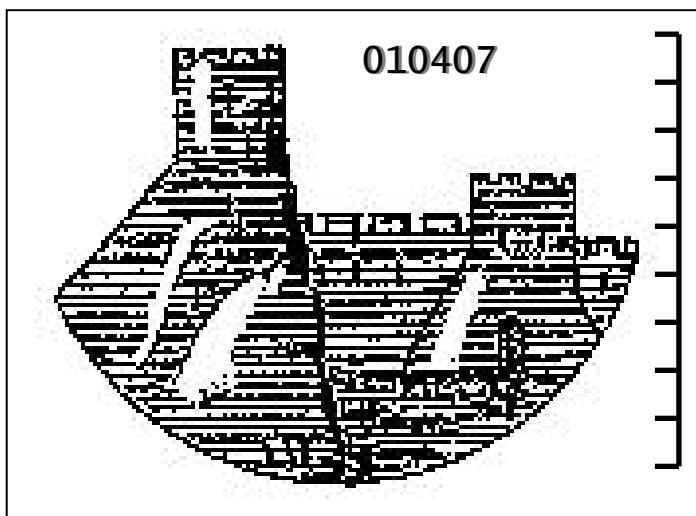
But, if like us you do not see yourself as a poet, perhaps Mark Twain's view of April is closer to your experience.

The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year.

Julia and Peter

Spanner in the works at The Mill

Engineers from Poke Spanner Research, testing revolutionary techniques in geothermal imaging, have uncovered what is believed to be evidence of an 11th century monastic building in the grounds of The Mill Arms. Early investigations have revealed the possible use of building techniques thought until now only to have been used in England since Grand Designs first appeared on Channel 4.

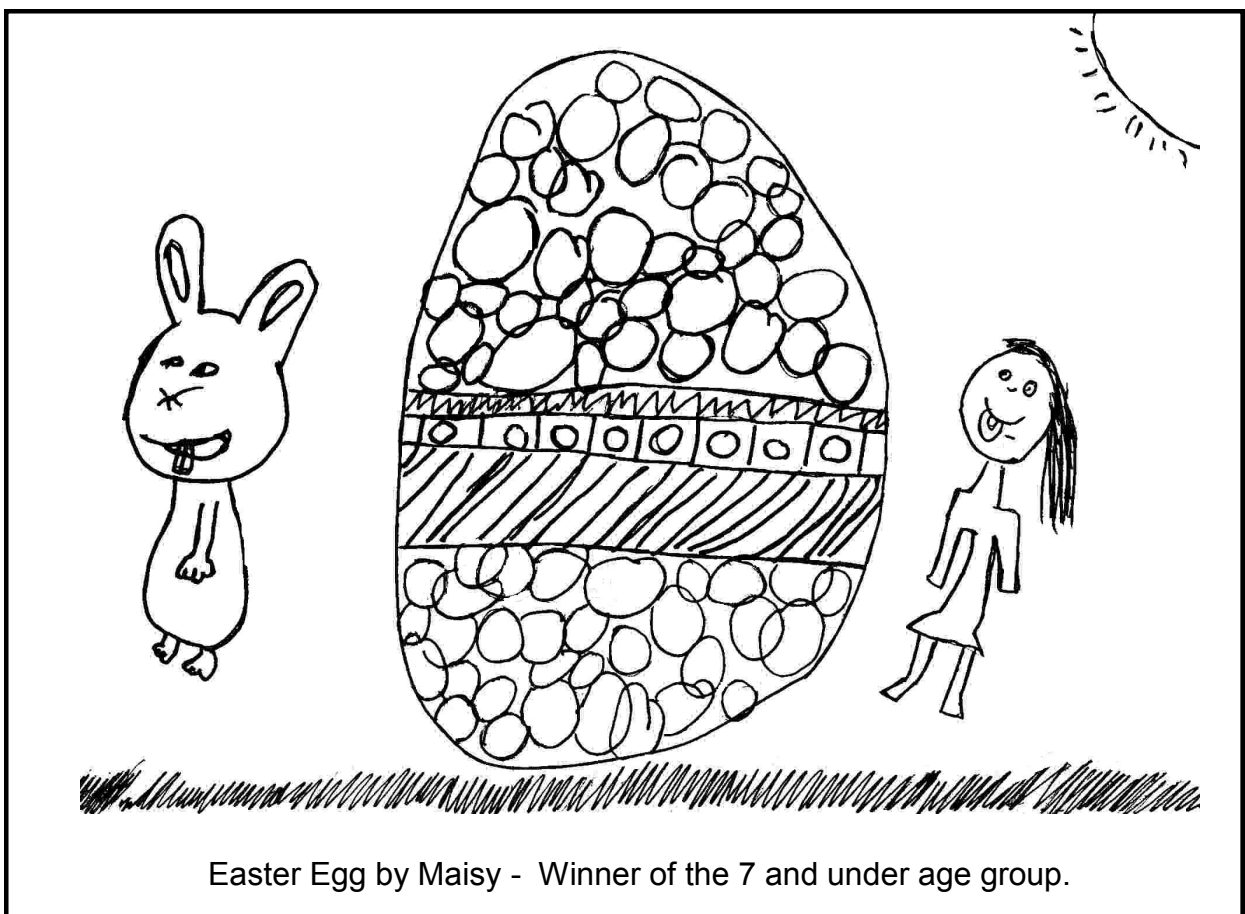
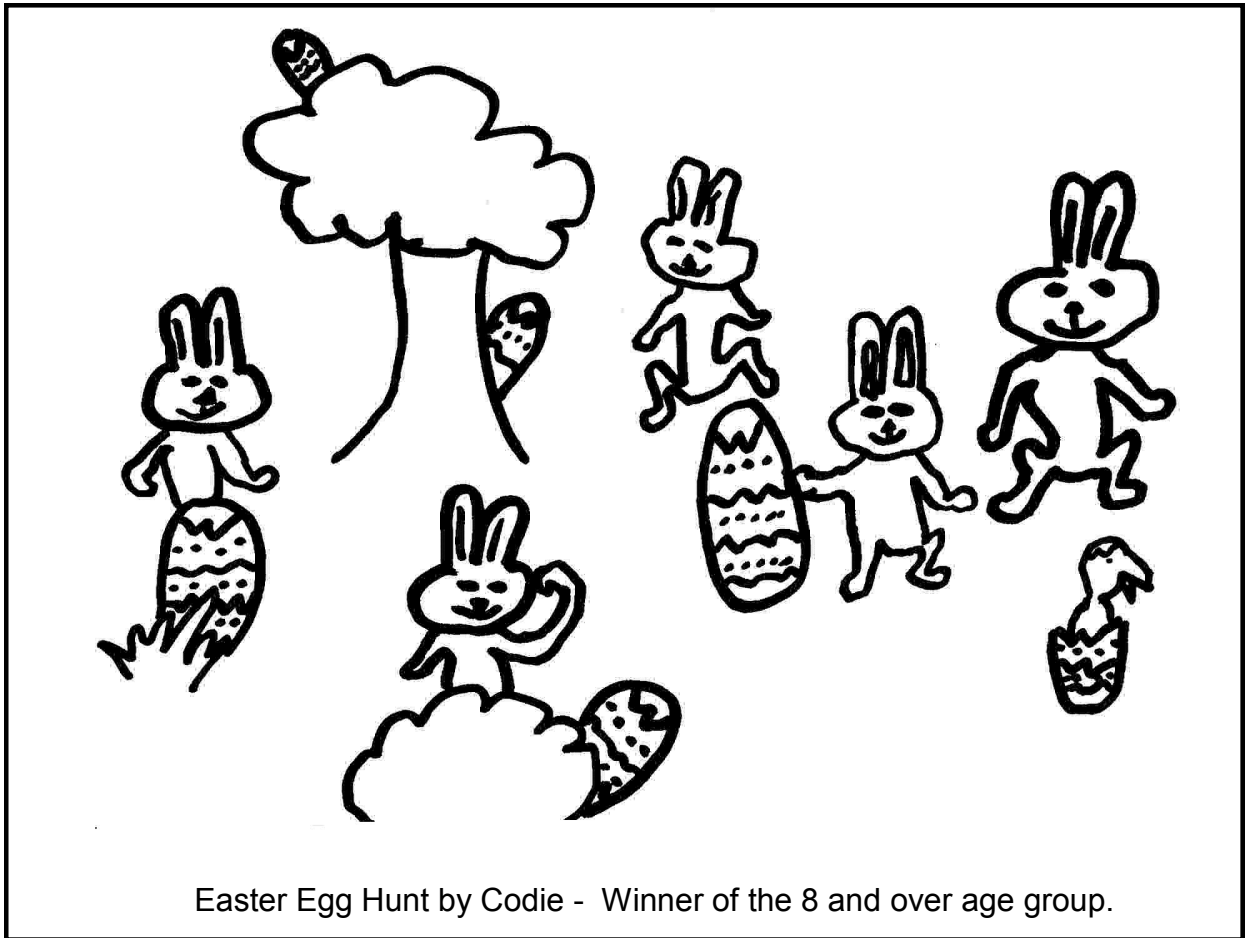


Mme Avril Feoul, a spokesperson for Poke Spanner, stated that "This early example of the Fawcliffe Trock construction technique rewrites all previous understanding of construction development in the UK". A full scale excavation of the rear car park of the pub will begin on 1st April.

Publicans Andrea and Ian said that this was an exciting and totally unexpected addition to the pub's attractions. They have plans to move the bottle banks to make way for a viewing podium, and will warmly welcome all locals wishing to view the car park whilst cradling a pint of Crudgington's Old Diabolical ale.

Deadline for the next Acorn is 12 noon on 16th April. E-mail to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk. We cannot guarantee that articles received after this date will be included in the next issue.

Easter Artwork Competition Winners





SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST



From the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Mottisfont Parish Council dated 18 Oct 1982, Chairman, Mr A Sykes: "The Clerk reported that the County Surveyor had arranged for improvements to the sight lines at the Bentley

Bends to be included in the work improvements for the current financial year.

"The National Trust felt that 'Residents Only' parking signs in Keepers Lane would not be as effective as one might hope in solving parking problems and hoped that the Parish Council could be persuaded to manage without them. It was decided to take no further action on the matter.

"British Rail would be installing the half barriers at Dunbridge level crossing early in November. The Parish Council had previously approved the work and there had been no objections from residents. Mr Chase requested that the Clerk ensure that the promised work to improve the junction at the Mill Arms would be carried out.

"Donations from the Mottisfont School Fund: At the close of the village school in July 1982, the residue of the School Activities Fund was donated to various organisations in Mottisfont. The Headmaster had kindly sent a cheque for £11-04 to the Parish Council, with the idea that it should form the basis of a fund to provide some kind of memorial to the late Mrs Russell. Mr Pragnell had offered to administer the fund and it was agreed to hand this over to him. It was recommended that the fund should close in three months, when it should be decided what form the memorial should take.

Mottisfont Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday, 18th April, 7-30pm

Everyone is welcome to attend.

This is your meeting. Come and find out what the Parish Council has done over the past year, and its plans for the coming one. It's also an opportunity to raise any issues or questions you may have.

"Village Hall: The Clerk reported that progress was good and the outline terms of the lease having been agreed with the Chairman and Mr Chase earlier in the year. The National Trust were willing for the hall to be used in the meantime, provided they were kept informed of all functions. The Village Hall Committee had applied for the £30,000 grant to provide additional toilet and kitchen facilities within the existing brick building."

John Millns

Awbridge School Newsletter – April 2007

Diary Dates:	30 th March	School closes for Easter holidays
	16 th April	Day closure
	17 th April	School opens for Summer Term
	7 th May	May Day – Day closure

What a Book Week!

Awbridge School celebrated book week (5th - 9th March) this year with a wide range of activities, and it was a great success. Its focus was 'Everyone has a story to tell', and there certainly was a rich mixture of stories related by the children, their families, staff and those who visited the school.

As some Year 5 pupils wrote :

"In class we have been doing great activities like puppet shows. We had a talk from Mr Hall, a Marwell zoo keeper; we got to see pictures of baby animals and he told us their names. It was very interesting. We also had some Year 9 and 10 Romsey School students come to show us some of their drama – they were really good and it was fun to watch. My favourite bit was when they were acting like adults and telling embarrassing stories. They also helped us act out our own real-life stories."

In addition, the school was visited by ex-Saints captain, Jason Dodd and top flight women's footballer, Shelly Cox. Also, a special evening bedtime story event was held where children and parents were invited to attend in pyjamas and slippers to hear stories and drink hot chocolate with marshmallows.



FROM THE RECTORY

Dear Friends,

Last month I mentioned my visit to the Holy Land at Easter, and the incredible variety of Christians from all over the world that were visiting and celebrating at that time. As Holy Week and Easter are almost upon us- (Easter Day is 8th April), I would like to convey something of the vitality that I found in Jerusalem and the Holy Land.

From all we see on television and in the papers we would imagine the land to be a war torn desert, but far from it, it is a vibrant place, fruitful to the brim with exotic fruits and peoples. More impressive still was the view of the old wall of the City of Jerusalem, and the closeness in proximity of places like the Garden of Gethsemane. There is the incredible variety of well known biblical sites such as the River Jordan, Lake Galilee, the Garden Tomb or the vibrant market places filled with colour and sound.

For me there was something of the Risen Lord in all of these places, indeed we celebrated the Eucharist at the Garden Tomb, (one of the places believed to be where Jesus rose from the dead), and this has stayed with me. Transpose that place of the celebration of the Eucharist from that sunny flower filled garden to the early Easter morning of the celebration of the Eucharist at Bossington at 6.30 am, and again there is something of the incredible mystery of Christ who is omnipresent, and whose unique personality touches something deeply in our souls. He is inimitably present with us as we celebrate the Eucharist and he transposes into us that life giving and enhancing spirit that does away with death, and proclaims life and life in all its fullness.

Please join us during Holy Week and Easter at our churches in the Benefice as we focus again upon the sacrifice, the love and resurrection power of the Risen Lord.

With Christian love,

Ron.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR APRIL

Time	1st April Palm Sunday	8th April Easter Day	15th April Easter 1	22nd April Easter 2	29th April Easter 3
8.00am	Broughton HC CW	See below			
9.30am	Bossington HC BCP		Mottisfont HC BCP	Broughton Family Communion + Sunday Club	Mottisfont HC CW for whole benefice
	Mottisfont Sunday Club				
11.00am	Mottisfont Matins		Broughton Matins with Sunday Club	Mottisfont Family Communion	
6.00pm	Houghton Prayer & Praise		Houghton Evensong	Houghton HC BCP	

Services during Holy Week and Easter throughout the Benefice

Maundy Thursday	7.30pm, St. Mary's, Broughton: Eucharist of the Last Supper, and foot washing
Good Friday	10.00am, All Saints, Houghton: Holy Week Trail 2.00pm, St. Mary's, Broughton: Meditation on the Cross
Easter Day	6.30am, Bossington Airfield: Holy Communion 9.30am, St. James, Bossington: HC BCP 9.30am, All Saints, Houghton: HC CW 11.00am, St. Mary's, Broughton: HC CW 11.00am, St. Andrew's, Mottisfont: HC CW followed by an Easter Egg hunt



BROUGHTON & MOTTISFONT COMMUNITY BUS

EXCURSIONS 2007

The Bus Committee plans to run a programme of excursions during 2007, similar to last year. The schedule is below, together with booking instructions. Fares have been held for the past two years.

Weymouth	16 th May	£11.00
Bournemouth	20 th June	£11.00
Swanage	18 th July	£11.00
Poole	15 th August	£11.00
Isle of Wight	19 th September	TBA
Chichester	17 th October	£11.00

Bookings are taken from 1st of each month. Please phone Elsie Croucher on 301428 between 5pm and 7pm.

Broughton and Mottisfont Village Bus Fares from 1st April 2007

From	To:	Romsey	Winchester	So'ton	Salisbury
Broughton	Adult	£3.15	£4.20	£4.45	£3.50
	Under 16	£1.60	£2.10	£2.20	£1.75
Mottisfont	Adult	£2.55	£3.30	£3.85	£4.35
	Under 16	£1.30	£1.65	£1.90	£2.20
Dunbridge	Adult	£2.55	£3.30	£3.85	£4.35
	Under 16	£1.30	£1.65	£1.90	£2.20
Timsbury	Adult	£2.25	£3.15	£3.75	
	Under 16	£1.10	£1.60	£1.90	

Fares shown are for return journeys.
Children under 5 travel free.

Ralph Collins

Whenever we gave directions to our house we just had to say "It's next door but one to Ralph Collins".

Everyone knew Ralph and he will be so sadly missed, not just by the folk around here, but by so many other local people from Southampton to Salisbury and beyond.

All too often we hear of people who don't know their neighbours. Ralph was the best neighbour you could ever have. He was never too busy to stop for a chat or to lend a helping hand.

Ralph had strong opinions on football and cricket, the river and the countryside in general. He loved everything to do with the country. He rarely went on holiday but used to say "What's the point of going abroad when we live in such a beautiful place as this".

We shall miss you Ralph. But if the Good Lord should need a bit of firewood, or his grass cut or his hedge trimmed, we're sure Ralph will soon be knocking on his door, offering to help him out!

With all our love to June and the family,

Dave & Pat Francis.

THE THOMAS DOWSE TRUST

The Thomas Dowse Trust was created to provide people up to the age of 25 years with financial assistance towards educational requirements. The Trust meets four times a year (March, June, September and November) to award grants to those who show a need for financial assistance towards their education, whether it be for Pre-School, School, College or University.

If you live in the Benefice of Bossington and Mottisfont and would like to apply for a grant, please contact Mrs. Gill Kilroy on 01794 301332 for an application form.

The next Trust meeting will be in June 2007. Applications for grants must be handed in by the end of May 2007, in time for the June Trust meeting.

Jazz by the River A date for your diary

We are planning to hold a fund-raising event during the weekend of 30th June and 1st July. On the Saturday evening, wine and canapés will be served while we stroll by the river listening to jazz. There will also be other attractions including an art exhibition. On the Sunday afternoon, the art exhibition will continue, and cream teas will be available. Proceeds from these events will be shared between the Nambikkai Foundation in South India and All Saints Church, Houghton.



All enquiries please to Gina Livermore on 388433.

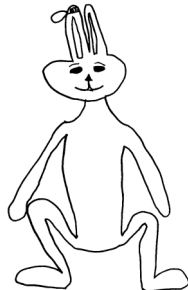


Runner up in the
7 and under group

*Whether you are
2 or 102 or any age in between,
tell us what your group is up to.*

*If you have connections to Mottisfont
or Dunbridge send us articles, news of
events, pictures (line drawings print better
than most photos), poetry or prose,
and we will try to include them
in future editions of the Acorn.*

The Editors



Runner up in the
8 and over group

Parish Lunch - another success!



The Parish Lunch on 25th February at Mottisfont Abbey was a most enjoyable occasion. Thanks for their contributions to the event go to Mr. Wilkins of Kimbridge Farm Shop for donating the sherry, and to Anne Edwards, the National Trust's Catering Manager - and of course to the National Trust itself for providing such magnificent surroundings!



Whist drives



Make sure the following date is in your diary:

Friday 27th April, at 7.30pm in the village hall

Mottisfont and Dunbridge Local History Group

A very enjoyable evening with over 20 people was held in February, when Matthew Tucker gave a very interesting talk on his research on the prehistoric artefacts of the Dunn Valley.

The next meeting will be held on 23rd May at 7.30 in the village hall, when we hope to have a speaker to talk on old mills in our area...watch this space!

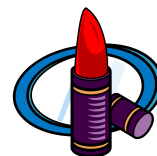
We are working on a display to put up in The Mill Arms, and may produce a calendar for 2008.

Michael Horn



Beauty Therapy Evening at Lockerley Primary School

Thursday, 3rd May, 6.30pm - 9.30pm. Tickets £3
to include refreshment and raffle ticket.



Enjoy a relaxing evening of beauty and therapy treatments ranging from £5, which can be booked in advance or on the night.

For further information, to purchase tickets or to book a treatment space or a table to sell products, please call: Carolyn 511489, Nala 340607 or Chris 340098



Tickets also available from Lockerley School or Lockerley Post Office.



Mottisfont and Dunbridge Gardening Club

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 17th April, when we have a slide show by Stephen Williams on "National Parks in Western America". It is at 7.30pm in the village hall.

All are welcome! Visitors £2.



MOTTISFONT AND DUNBRIDGE W.I.



"Climbing plants and wall shrubs", a talk with slides by Mike Lowe, was a welcome subject for March, as our thoughts turned to spring time and gardening.

The Test Valley Spring Group meeting will be on Tuesday, 17th April, at 2pm in Kings Somborne village hall. We will welcome Wendy Suart, who will talk about "Housekeeping in Borneo".

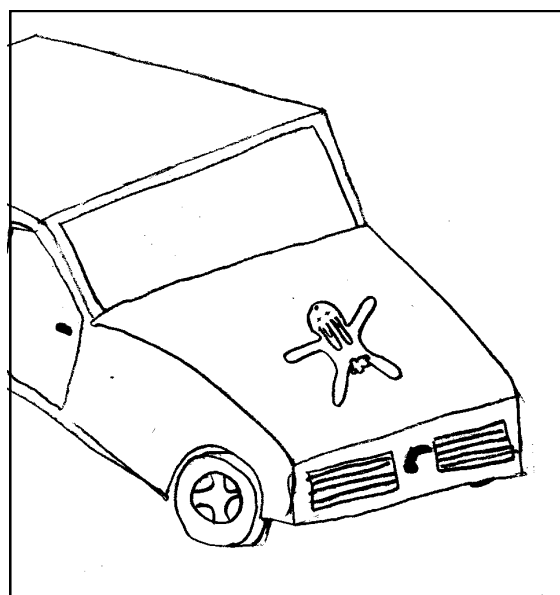
On Tuesday, 10th April, at 8.00pm in the village hall, David Hawkins will talk about the development of magnetic therapy. Sounds interesting! There will be a sales table.

The jumble sale was a great success. Many thanks to all who gave us items to sell, and supported us on the day.

Things to look forward to include "Colourful Saris and Indian Culture" and a visit to a lavender farm in July.

Everyone is very welcome to join any of the meetings.

Cathie Wood, 340129



This competition entry, entitled "Easter Bonnet", was disqualified. -Ed.

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

Due to St. Mary's Church being redecorated, the following Bright Hour meetings will be held in the Communal Lounge at Chapel Lane Flats.

Speakers for April:

5th: Mrs. Gina Livermore

12th: Members Meeting

19th: Mrs. Sheila Few

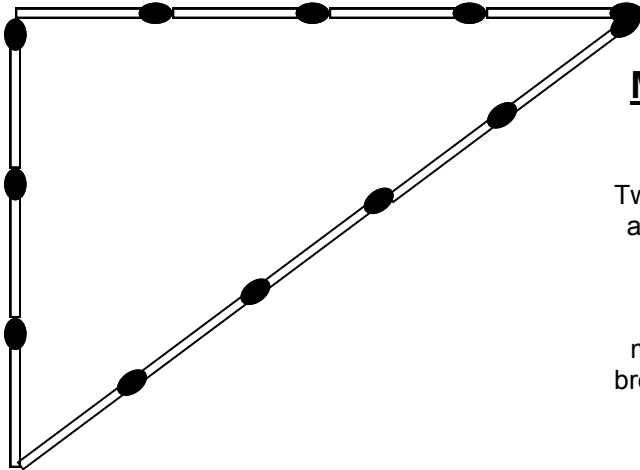
26th: Mrs. Linda Milburn

Meetings are held on Thursdays and commence at 2.30 pm. Everyone is welcome - do come and join us.

Barbara Perry (Booking Secretary).
01794 301466

VILLAGE DIARY

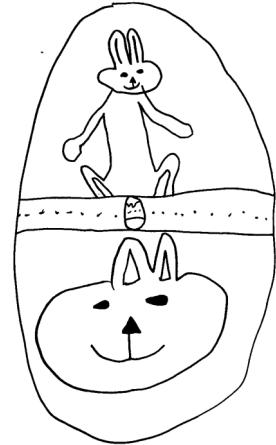
Tuesday, 10th April	WI: Magnetic Therapy talk	8pm, Village Hall
Tuesday, 17th April	WI Test Valley Spring Group meeting	2pm, King's Somborne Village Hall
Tuesday, 17th April	Gardening Club	7.30pm, Village Hall
Wednesday, 18th April	Mottisfont Annual Parish Meeting	7.30pm, Village Hall
Friday, 27th April	Whist Drive	7.30pm, Village Hall
Thursday, 3rd May	Beauty Therapy Evening	6.30-9.30, Lockerley Primary School
Wednesday, 23rd May	Local History Group meeting	7.30pm, Village Hall



MATCHSTICK MANIA

Twelve matchsticks are arranged in a triangle as shown.

Moving only four matchsticks (and not breaking any!), can you halve the area they enclose?



Solution to last month's brain teaser: The Accountant's Nightmare

The thirty pounds is irrelevant. The money spent is £27 (three lots of £9), which comprises £25 in the till and £2 in the salesman's pocket.

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

Acorn	Editors	Peter & Julia Barnett	340793	St. Andrew's Church	Rector	Revd. Ron Corne	301287
Acorn Pre School Group		Bella Thomas	342212		Reader	Gina Livermore	388433
Art Group		Gordon Wood	340129		Church	Susan Clutterbuck	340475
Community Spirit		Lesley Taylor	340942		Wardens	Lesley Taylor	340942
		Rachel Fowler	340877	Social Club	Chairman	Peter Simmonds	340891
County Councillor		Michael Woodhall	01264		Secretary	Lanita Begg	529631
			810500		Steward	Julie Lyne	340521
Cricket Club	Secretary	Tony Stemp	340398	Test Valley Councillor		Neville Whiteley	01264
History Group		Michael Horne	340105				811101
Horticultural Society		Michael Horne	340105	Village Bus	Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
First Responders	Coordinator	Kay Murrant	340289		Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
Football Club	Secretary	John Fryer	512695		Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
Member of Parliament	Constituency Office	Sandra Gidley	511900		Operations	Mike Howe	301723
Mill Arms		Andrea and Ian Bentall	340401	Village Hall	Chairman	Jon Butler	340740
Mottisfont Abbey	Est. Manager		340757	(Reg.Charity No 291629)	Village Hall	Jon &	
MPNTTA		Gillian Francis	340151		Entertainments	Heather Butler	340740
Neighbourhood Watch	Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799		Secretary	(Vacant)	
	Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922		Bookings	Cathie Wood	340129
Parish Council	Clerk	Frances Hanks	340541	W.I.	Secretary	Margaret Astur	341922
	Chairman	John Millns	340347	Police	Village	P.C. Dave Turpin	0845
	Councillors	Jeff Channing	340555				045 45 45
		Alan Earthrowl	341799		Romsey		0845
		Stuart Miller	340903				045 45 45
		Andrew Simmonds					

Mottisfont & Dunbridge Acorn is edited and published by: Peter & Julia Barnett, Dunelm House, Barley Hill, Dunbridge, Romsey, SO51 0LF, telephone: 01794 340793, fax: preferably not! e-mail: acornnews@mandercom.co.uk, with assistance from Mottisfont Parish Council and The National Trust. Opinions expressed in The Acorn are not necessarily those of the editorial team. We do our best to ensure the accuracy of items in The Acorn, but we will not be responsible for the consequences of errors or omissions. It is always wise to check with organisers of events in case there are last minute changes.

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