



# Mottisfont & Dunbridge

# ACORN



The Village Newsletter

Aug-Sept 2007

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## From the Editors

Tempting though it is to bang on about the weather (don't get us started...), we'd like instead to say how much we are looking forward to the Village Fete. Lots of work has already been done, but there's loads more to do. Isn't it amazing the energy and skills that can be found when there's a community event like the fete?

On page six you'll find a lot of information about the fete, especially how to make your contribution. And don't forget, able bodies are needed for setting it up in the morning, and taking it down at the end of the afternoon. Can you help?

This edition of the *Acorn* covers two months, and your editors, with some relief, are taking a break. The next edition will appear at the beginning of October, and the copy deadline for it is 16th September.

We wish you an excellent summer (oh no, not back to the weather...)!

Julia and Peter

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### Diamond Wedding

Congratulations to Betty and John Pragnell of New Cottages, Sperrywell, on their 60th wedding anniversary on 9th August. The couple are seen here on their wedding day in 1947.



### More success for Air Cadet Richard Chase

Congratulations to Richard Chase on his success with the Air Cadets: Richard has been awarded the prestigious "Cadet of the Year" by Romsey 1391 Squadron Air Cadets.



Deadline for the October *Acorn* is 16th September. E-mail to [acornnews@mandercom.co.uk](mailto:acornnews@mandercom.co.uk). We cannot guarantee that articles received after this date will be included in the next issue.

## Village Hall News

### People Wanted!

The Village Hall is run by a merry band of volunteers who take responsibility for the administration and day to day running of the hall and its grounds. We are very fortunate to receive the hall rent free, but we do have to pay the running costs like insurance, heating, decoration, enhancements and maintain the furniture, etc. We do this through the Village Hall Association, which is a registered charity, and as such requires a committee made up of Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and the members. We generate funds by hiring out the hall and running events like the Village Fete.

We are always looking for new members for the committee and if you can spare an hour or two a month, we would be very grateful for your help. In particular, we need a new Treasurer for 2008, when Edna steps down from the position after many years of keeping us in the black (Thank you, Edna!). We would welcome anyone with a flair for detail to take on this role, so if you think you can help please call Jon on 340740. If you can help on the committee in any other way then do please call. There is no upper or lower age limit to join the committee...

Aside from helping your village it is a great way to get to know people. If you are young enough to be sending out your CV, then having this type of voluntary work in your experiences speaks volumes to potential employers!

### Bookings Wanted!

The Village Hall serves Mottisfont and Dunbridge in providing a very pleasant venue for anything from parties and weddings to social events, clubs, art groups, pre-school groups and the WI to name but a few. It is available at very competitive rates and can be booked by anyone, whether they live in the area or not.

When you hire the hall you have full and exclusive use of all the facilities, which include a fully equipped kitchen with crockery and utensils, the large hall with sound system, tables & chairs, and the outside field & car park. It can be hired by the hour, or for several days at reduced rates. You can book for any time in the future, whether it be for a wedding next year or a same day booking if bad weather ruins your party plans. Just call the number at the back of the Acorn!

### Plants Wanted!

The Village Hall is undergoing repairs to the fence which will really enhance the appearance. The Scout Hut refurbishment is nearly completed and is already looking so much better than it has in recent years. Many thanks to Alan Lawrence and Fred Dowling for their time and efforts in this restoration.

To enhance the grounds further, it has been suggested that some perennial plants are introduced. We would be very grateful for any donations from your garden. If you can help, please contact me on 340740.

Jon Butler

### Mottisfont bridge is falling down?

You can't fail to have noticed the six red temporary barriers on the bridge over the Test on Mottisfont Lane.

The Parish Council recently asked Hampshire County Council to inspect the bridge, and their engineers have decided that a thorough overhaul of the parapet is required. The majority of the oak panels that line the bridge will be replaced. There's no date for the work yet, but it shouldn't be long.

Jeff Channing  
340555



### SNIPPETS FROM THE PAST

From the minutes of the Meeting of Mottisfont Parish Council dated 9 March 1983, Chairman, Mr A Sykes:  
"It was noted that the discussion on housing at Dunbridge, that took place in January, was encouraging. The Clerk was asked to check records for any housing restrictions in the parish, in particular any differences either side of Spearywell Road. It was decided that the work involved in repositioning the bus shelter could be carried out by voluntary labour, after a discussion with Michelmersh Parish Council, regarding ownership."

From the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Mottisfont Parish Council, 16 May 1983, Chairman, Mr A Sykes:  
"Dunbridge Housing: As nothing further had been heard, the Clerk was requested to write to the Hanover Housing Association (yet another new one!) to enquire what progress had been made. On the matter of housing restrictions, the Clerk was requested to write to the National Trust, as a majority of the property belonged to them."

John Millns



## MOTTISFONT AND DUNBRIDGE W.I.



### Lavender Farm visit

A visit to a Hampshire Lavender farm at Selborne on one of the few beautiful evenings this year was most interesting. Twenty-four acres of lavender is harvested in July and August, and produces 700 litres of pure lavender oil. It takes three years for the lavender plants to mature, each with a lifetime of ten to twelve years. After harvesting, the lavender oil is distilled at the farm and left to mature for several months before being made into body care products.

### Future meetings

Our next meeting at the village hall on 14th August is "A Lifetime of Music, Mimicry and Mirth" - sounds very jolly! On 11th September is "Eat Well Feel Well", a talk by Barbara Duff. All welcome.

Sunday 12th August is Fete Day. How about a mid-summer clear out? We are running a toys, books and bric-a-brac stall at the fete. We can collect any items - call Cathie (340129) or Frances (301614).

Cathie Wood



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Little to report this month - good news!

Watch out for a scam involving a spoof HM Revenue and Customs form P86. The fake form asks for a large amount of personal information - in short, everything that is needed to hijack your identity and empty your bank account. If you receive one, DO NOT RESPOND.

More details can be found at  
[www.hmrc.gov.uk/news/fraud-p86.htm](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/news/fraud-p86.htm)

### Mill Arms Market: A Successful Start



The Mill Arms held its first market on 14th July. Landlord Ian Bentall said "We had about forty customers for the market, and they bought a good cross-section of the goods on offer. We still need more support to make it viable, and still would like local producers to get in touch. If they wish to run their own stand, they are most welcome."

The market is planned to run fortnightly, with the exception of the August bank holiday weekend, when the Beer Festival takes place.

## AYIKO - Ghanaian Cultural Family Day

TO CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

And to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade  
SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2007, 11am to 4pm, in The Stable Yard at MOTTISFONT ABBEY.

A chance to experience the rich culture displayed in Ghanaian life



Lots of hands-on activities including:  
**DRUMMING AND PERCUSSION  
WORKSHOPS,  
DANCE WORKSHOPS,  
STORY-TELLING,  
GHANAIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS,  
FACE PAINTING, FOOD,  
EDUCATION AREA**

*(Activities may be subject to alteration)*

**FREE ENTRY TO ALL**

Supported by:  
Hampshire Development Education  
Centre, Hampshire County Council,  
Test Valley Borough Council,  
and The National Trust

For more information, contact Pat Francis



## St Andrew's Parish Church Mottisfont - Gift Day

Saturday, 22nd September, 10am – 1pm



Dear Parishioner,

I am sure that you will agree with me that we are so blessed having an open and functioning parish church here in Mottisfont. It is a holy place where anyone may come to offer prayer or just to sit and reflect on the things of God in a building which has seen countless parishioners pass through its ancient and beautiful doors. Besides the rhythm of weekly worship, there are many other important milestones when only our Parish Church will do. There are the happy times of Baptisms and Weddings and, inevitably, the sad occasions when the ministry of the Church is needed to bring hope and support at times of death and bereavement.

Keeping our church maintained, open and functioning costs some £14,000 per year. This is no easy sum to find among a small congregation. Could I ask if you would consider making an annual donation to St. Andrew's, which will help us to keep our beautiful church open and functioning?

We are holding a Gift Day on Saturday, 22nd September, from 10am until 1pm. I will be in church and would be delighted to meet you and receive any donation you may wish to make for the St. Andrew's Gift Day. Please place your donation in an envelope and include your name and address, although any anonymous donations would also be gratefully received. If you are unable to come to church please address it to "The Treasurer" and send it to me at The Rectory, Rectory Lane, Broughton, Hants, SO20 8AB. Cheques should be made payable to Mottisfont PCC.

I look forward to meeting you on our Gift Day.

With Blessings  
Revd. Ron Corne, Rector

### CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

	<b>5th August TRINITY 9</b>	<b>12th August TRINITY 10</b>	<b>19th August TRINITY 11</b>	<b>26th August TRINITY 12</b>	<b>2nd Sept. TRINITY 13</b>	<b>9th Sept. St. MARY</b>	<b>16th Sept. TRINITY 15</b>	<b>23rd Sept. TRINITY 16</b>	<b>30th Sept. St.M. &amp; A. E.</b>
8.00 am	Broughton HC CW	Broughton HC BCP			Broughton HC CW	Broughton HC BCP			
9.30 am	Bossington HC BCP	Houghton HC CW	Mottisfont HC BCP	Broughton Family Communion	Bossington HC BCP Broughton Sunday Club	Houghton HC CW	Mottisfont HC BCP	Broughton Family Communion with Sunday Club (Harvest)	Houghton HC CW Benefice Service
11.00 am			Broughton Matins	Mottisfont Family Communion	Mottisfont Matins	Mottisfont Family Service	Broughton HC CW with Sunday Club	Mottisfont Family Communion (Harvest)	
6.00 pm	Houghton Evensong	Broughton Choral Evensong	Houghton Evensong	Houghton HC BCP	Houghton Evensong	Broughton Patronal Service	Houghton Evensong	Houghton HC BCP	

**Note changes to the pattern of services and Sunday Club**

## Weddings at Mottisfont

In response to my request in the July issue of the *Acorn* and in the Romsey Advertizer, I have already received some bride and groom photos of people who married in St Andrew's. I would like more, so please ask your friends and family. Some older ones would be interesting, if only to compare the fashions! Contacting me any time after 7pm will be good.

I will let everyone know when the exhibition is ready for viewing. It should be mid-September.

Valda White (368346)

## Calling all Knitters, Stitchers and Craft Makers!

St Andrew's Church Mottisfont has been given the kind offer of having a stall at the Victorian Weekend at Mottisfont Abbey at the beginning of December. I am therefore hoping you will all get creating and, nearer the time, cooking so we can have as much as possible to sell, as we will not be having the annual Autumn Fayre. This is a very kind offer and we should all work hard to make this stall a real success.

Please get in touch with Rachel Fowler on 340877 if you would like to know more.

## I didn't quite mean that...

Thanks go to Jon Butler, who sent in a wonderful collection of howlers from various church publications. Here are the ones that gave us most pleasure:

The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5pm - prayer and medication to follow.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Next Thursday there will be try outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "Hell" to someone who doesn't care much about you.

## St. Nicholas Singers

Prior to their tour of County Cork in Ireland during the autumn, this choir has offered to come to sing choral evensong at St Mary's on 12th August.

Please come and support them, and experience something of the Anglican cathedral choral tradition. All are very welcome.

## BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

### No Meetings in August

Speakers for September:

6th, Mr. Malcolm Green 13th, Members Meeting.  
20th, Mrs. Ann Robinson 27th, Members Meeting.

All welcome, do come and join us.

Barbara Perry 301466

## 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 September 2007. Applications for grants must be handed in by the end of August 2007, in time for the September Trust meeting.

# MOTTISFONT VILLAGE FETE

**Free Admission  
and Parking**

**At the Village Hall  
Sunday 12th August  
2pm to 5pm**

**Lots of fun for all the family:**

**Stalls, Games, Competitions, Tombola, Grand Draw,  
Cakes - Teas - Ice Cream - Bar & BBQ**

**Dance Demonstration - then you join in!**

**Local History, Art, Photography**

**Children's Pet Competition**

**Prettiest Pet - Most Unusual Pet - Pet Most Like Its Owner  
Free to enter - just turn up on the day**

**Men's Cake Competition**

**Any variety, size and colour  
Just bring along your masterpiece on the day!**

**Wheelchair friendly venue**

## Village Fete

*From Gordon Wood*

**Grand Draw:** How are you doing with the book of Draw Tickets I enclosed with last month's *Acorn*? Can you sell more? If so, please just ask me, and I'll get them to you.

If you have any money, counterfoils or unused tickets, please return them to me BEFORE the fete. I can collect them if necessary.

**Tombola and Cake Stall:** We need bottles, tins, cans, etc., of all descriptions for the Tombola, and of course cakes and pastries for the Cake Stall. Then you can buy or win them back on the day!!!

This is the main money raising event of the year for running the Village Hall, so any support you can give is greatly appreciated!

Thank you.

Gordon Wood  
Tresilian, Barley Hill. 340129

## Lockerley Carnival Queen to open Fete

Lockerley Carnival Queen, Abby Fearon, will open the Mottisfont Village Fete.

Abby will be assisted by Catherine Ward, Rose van der Schee, Katie Biddlecombe and Alexander Stewart.



## Football Club



### ANNUAL GRUCK RACING

Previously, the Football Club's Annual Gruck Racing has taken place on an afternoon in September. This year, however, the event will be staged in the evening.

The National Trust has kindly made the Abbey available, and admission will again be free.

The racing will take place on Sunday, 19th August, and the Grucks will be out of the traps for the first race at 5.30pm sharp.

Gordon Collins

### NEW SEASON

The football season will soon be with us. On Saturday, 18th August, the Font will kick off their first league match. Fixtures still to be advised. The club will once again play in Hampshire League 2004, and in the following cup competitions: The Southampton Senior Cup, The Hampshire Intermediate Cup and the Hampshire League Trophyman Cup, which they won last year. They have completed the double for the last two years, and will be attempting to do the same this season.

All are welcome to support this very successful team.

Tony Stemp

### Recalling a decision that changed Mottisfont forever

By Andy Simmonds

MOTTISFONT has now been in the care of the National Trust for 50 years. It was in August 1957 the late Mrs. Maud Russell handed over the former Augustinian priory, the village and surrounding estate to the charity.

But can anyone remember the reasons why Mrs. Russell gave her beloved Mottisfont to the Trust? I can't, because I was just under four-years old and living at 1 Oakley Farm Cottages in the village at the time. My parents rented the house from the Whitfield family who rented Oakley Farm from Mrs. Russell.

However, looking back through newspaper archives I discovered the exact reasons behind Mrs. Russell's landmark decision that would ensure Mottisfont would retain its tranquil character forever.

"It is not only the burden of taxation which has prompted me to give my house to the National Trust. Southampton and all the suburban areas are expanding, and I want the Abbey and Mottisfont village to be protected against this encroachment," Mrs. Russell told the press when the announcement came five decades ago.

"I have been negotiating with the Trust for a long time. Now arrangements are settled but the Abbey will not be open to the public until 1958. My husband bought the Abbey in 1935. It has not been in one family long but the Barker Mill family from whom we bought it, owned the house and it's been in the family line, since Henry VII's time. During the last war the army occupied it. They had a hospital here, before that evacuees from Southampton and Gosport were here. Since then I've been getting it in order again," added Mrs. Russell at the time.

### Mottisfont and Dunbridge Gardening Club

#### *"Seasonal Impressions, Flora, Woodland and Birds"*

A talk and slide show  
by David Poynter

Tuesday, 18th September  
at 7.30 in the Village Hall

All very welcome

### LOCKERLEY SCHOOL

#### **Starting School?**

Was your child born between 1 September 2003 and 31 August 2004? If so, it is important that you apply for a school place by midday on Friday 16 November 2007.

To do this you will need to collect a brochure and an application form (CR2) which will be available at Lockerley Primary School from September 2007.

#### **Open Morning**

The staff at Lockerley School would like to invite you to their Open Morning on Tuesday, 9th October, from 9.30am to 12 noon.

If your child is pre-school age and you would like to come to see our school at work, then please call in.

You will have a chance to meet the staff, to tour the school, and to see the children in their learning environment: Reception children in Class R, and Years 1 and 2 in Class 1.

# VILLAGE DIARY

Monday 6th August - Friday 10th August	Summer Playscheme	Lockerley Memorial Hall
Saturday, 11th August	Mill Arms Market	10.30am to noon, Mill Arms
Sunday, 12th August	Mottisfont & Dunbridge Summer Fete	2.00pm, Village Hall
Tuesday, 14th August	WI: "A Lifetime of Music, Mimicry and Mirth"	8pm, Village Hall
Sunday, 19th August	Gruck Racing	5.30, Mottisfont Abbey
24-27th August	Beer Festival	Mill Arms
Tuesday, 11th September	WI: "Eat Well Feel Well"	8pm, Village Hall
Tuesday 18th September	Gardening Club: "Seasonal Impressions, Flora, Woodland and Birds"	7.30pm, Village Hall
Saturday, 6th October	Ghanaian Cultural Family Day	11am-4pm, The Stable Yard, Mottisfont Abbey

## Brain Teaser

Knights, knaves and liars always travel in groups of three, with one person of each type per group. Knights always tell the truth, liars always lie, and knaves alternate strictly between telling the truth and lying, although you can never be sure which they will do first.

You meet one group of three, Alice, Bob and Charlie, and ask them "Which of you is the knight?"

"I am," says Alice decisively.

"No, you're not, I am," says Bob.

"I'm not," says Charlie sadly.

Confused, because you know there is only one of each type, you say "Who's the liar, then?"

"It's Charlie", says Alice.

"No it's not. You're the liar," says Bob.

"Well," says Charlie, "the last thing I said was a lie."

You nod, knowingly. Who is the knight, after all?

*Answer to last month's Brain Teaser: Fred got up at 6.25am*

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

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