

Christmas Get-Together

Please bring family, friends and neighbours along to the village hall on Sunday, 17th December from 12 noon for a Christmas get-together.



This has been very popular in past years. All you need to bring is a plate of food to share and something to drink.

Tea and coffee will be available. There is no charge for this, just a chance to meet up for a chat and pre-Christmas celebration. We hope anyone new to the village will join us.

Don't confuse this with the Meet-the-Neighbours evenings at the Mill Arms, the next of which will be at 7pm on Friday 19th January!

Village Beetle Drive with Pie and Mash Supper

We are arranging a beetle drive with pie and mash supper on Saturday, 3rd March 2018.

There will be a choice from: cheese and onion pasty, chicken and mushroom pie or steak and kidney pie, served with mashed potato, peas and gravy. The pies will come from Plested's Pies in Shirley High Street. Cost will be £10 a head and a £5 cash deposit will be needed, as we have to order the pies in advance.

We will also hold a raffle, so donations of prizes will be welcome.

All profits from the evening will go towards funding the annual maintenance cost of the two defibrillators in the village.

Early booking is advised, as numbers will have to be limited to 40.

Bookings to Dave & Pat Francis at Hawthorn Cottage in Lockerley Road, Dunbridge. Tel. 340609 or email patfrancis.romsey@gmail.com

PARISH WEB SITE COMING SOON

The Parish Council has just agreed to fund the provision of a web site for the parish.

It will of course give access to Parish Council minutes and notices, but we hope that it will also be able to provide other information, such as a calendar of events, the timetable of the Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus, previous issues of the Acorn (paper copies will continue to be delivered!), and links to web sites of nearby villages and organisations of interest.

The main purpose of the web site is to provide useful information to people who live here, rather than to tell the world about our parish. We also don't want it to become a commercial site.

So, what would you like to see? If you run a local activity, regular or one-off, would you like a web page to inform the rest of the community? If so, please send your suggestions to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk, or talk to any of your Parish Councillors.

Join us for late night shopping on Friday 8th December, from 5.30pm to 9pm.

Books, CDs, cards, gifts, and so much more.

Helping to keep High Street shopping alive!

Charity no: 295266

Vacancy for a Caretaker/Bookings Clerk

Required for Mottisfont Village Hall. Varied duties will include light cleaning, managing bookings, collecting hiring charges, and opening and closing the hall as required. Flexible hours will be needed, including some evening and weekend working.

For further information, please contact Lynn Young on 01794 340134.

The deadline for inclusion of items in the February Acorn is 16th January. Please email items to acornnews@mandercom.co.uk.



Trust

Hello everyone,

At the time of writing, we're deep in Christmas decoration prep, so we'll be all ready to burst forth with twinkle and ational sparkle at the end of November. By the time you read this, we'll have

beautiful decorations inspired by the colours of nature outside around the

grounds, with a great kids' trail, and gorgeous flower displays and decorated trees in the house, again full of colour. We're taking our 'colourful' theme from the Kaffe Fasset exhibition, which runs over Christmas until mid-January. As ever, there will be lots of festive things to eat and drink in the café, and of course, all sorts of present ideas in the shop!

If you're feeling like celebrating and enjoy a sing-along, we're looking forward to getting together on Friday 15th December at 6pm for carols, mince pies and warming drinks around the nativity scene that we'll be helping the village to set up in Spearywell Orchard. We're really happy to be supporting this lovely local tradition, and hope we'll see you there.

We've started early works on replacing the boundary fence that runs through the village, and are now just waiting for the dates of the temporary road closures from the council. Hopefully by the time of the next issue of Acorn, it will all have been done.

Elsewhere, work is beginning in earnest on our new waste water treatment system in the farmyard, and the creative 'take' on a kitchen garden in the framevard, which will also start to introduce visitors to the beautiful roses that they will find in the central walled garden. We've now received planning permission for both projects, and after the conditions have been met for this, we'll be moving forwards.

Please may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas, and hope that you'll have a happy and healthy year ahead. Here at the Abbey, we're open every day except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, from 10am to 4pm, so if you feel like a stroll or want to come and see the decorations. we'd love to see you. We've got plenty of new life to look forward to in the garden as well, both in the Winter Garden and also the snowdrop walk by the river - our wonderful gardeners, along with lots of extra volunteers, have planted 16,000 more snowdrops this autumn, so we should have lots of fresh green and white blooms to welcome in the first signs of spring.

With all best wishes,

Louise Govier General Manager, Mottisfont & SW Hants Group All the Colours of Christmas Until Tuesday 2 January 2018 10am-4pm

Inspired by textile artist Kaffe Fassett's vibrant exhibition in our gallery, we're celebrating Christmas with colour and sparkle. Discover festive decorations in the house and grounds, both traditional and with some modern twists. Our house will be dressed with statement trees, piles of presents, dramatic flower arrangements and handmade decorations crafted by talented volunteers. Outside, installations created by artists and craft volunteers will emphasise the natural winter colours found around the grounds and estate. Families can discover the grounds with an interactive activity trail, and there'll also be a guide for adults to discover more about each installation and the artists who created them.

In the grounds...

The winter garden glows with brilliantly coloured winter bark from dogwood and ornamental bramble, while berries, fruit and late- and early-flowering perennials such as bergenia and hellebores also provide colour during the shortest days of the year. Sweet-scented daphnes and winter-flowering honevsuckles, wintersweet and witch hazel all contribute to a subtle fragrance in the crisp cold air.

Delicate drifts of snowdrops will begin to appear beside our waterways in January. To complement our existing displays we've planted around 16,000 new bulbs, mainly galanthus naivalis. A new path will meander around the areas of these newlyplanted snowdrops, an ancient buxus plantation and along the banks of the stream.

In the gallery... Kaffe Fassett's Colour at Mottisfont Until Sunday 14 January 2018 11am-4pm

Celebrating the dazzling work of world-renowned artist Kaffe Fassett, this vibrant exhibition showcases a wide range of textiles from a career spanning over 50 years. Our gallery has been transformed with pools of colour, providing the perfect backdrop for Kaffe's distinctive knitwear, tapestry, quilts and more.

Heath Robinson: Dreams and Machines 20 January – 14 April 2018 11am-4pm (5pm from 5 February)

From quirky machinery to exquisite watercolours, this exhibition showcases the wit and talent of this household name. In the 1930s, Heath Robinson became known as "The Gadget King", and he is still most widely remembered for his detailed drawings of eccentric, over-complicated contraptions. But he was also a talented painter, trained at the Royal Academy. Our exhibition features over 60 works covering the extraordinary breadth of his work, from humorous magazine illustrations to dream-like watercolour landscapes and scenes from

Festive fun...

Test Valley Villages Lecture: Wednesday, 17th January at 8pm, Broughton Village Hall

Plastic pollution in the oceans: should we be worried?

It is estimated that between four and 12m metric tonnes of plastic makes its way into the ocean each year. This figure is only likely to rise, and a 2016 report predicted that by 2050 the amount of plastic in the sea will outweigh the amount of fish. Sir David Attenborough has recently recounted his distressing experience of watching an albatross feeding its young when, instead of regurgitating sand eels and fish, it regurgitated plastic.

These are just two headlines from the many articles in the press in recent months about plastics in the oceans. This talk by Dr. Malcolm Hudson will bring us right up to date. How big a problem is pollution in the oceans? Where is it coming from? Is this a direct threat to humans as well as to wildlife? And what can we do about it?

Dr. Malcolm Hudson is Associate Professor in the Centre for Environmental Science at Southampton University. He is an applied ecologist working on interdisciplinary projects with a focus on the interactions between humans and natural systems, working with ecologists, environmental modellers, chemists and social scientists. He has worked around the world on some of the big problems facing our environment, including marine pollution and its possible threats to wildlife and human health.

Doors open at 7.30pm. £5 entry includes a glass of wine.

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

> **Speaker for December** 7th December: Mr. Brian Sacree (Mission Aviation Fellowship)

PLEASE NOTE: there will not be any more meetings until February 2018.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

continued from previous page Shakespeare.

Keep in touch...

Visit our website, 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 and follow us on Twitter @MottisfontNT for regular updates.

The WI

A jolly evening was spent playing Bingo because, unfortunately, the

booked speaker was unable to attend due to flu. At the last minute, two members organised a Bingo evening, which was enjoyed by all present.

The December meeting will be held on 12th December at Mottisfont Village Hall at 7.30pm. This is to be a Christmas party for members and food will be organised by the committee.

The January meeting will be held on 9th January at 7.30 and the speaker will be Marianne Temperley with the Chantrelle Singers. Visitors and guests will be very welcome on this evening to join us for a cup of coffee or tea and a biscuit.

Mary Batten

LOCKERLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Job Vacancy: After School Club Supervisor

Hours of work: 3 - 6pm Monday - Friday (term time only). Job share would be considered

Salary: to be agreed dependant upon gualifications and experience

We are looking for someone reliable, hardworking, friendly and committed to join our team. You will need to be prepared to undertake activities inside and out providing a range of stimulating play activities for our children.

For further details please contact Jamie Dodson 01794 340485

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AROUND THE CRIB **AT SPEARYWELL ORCHARD**



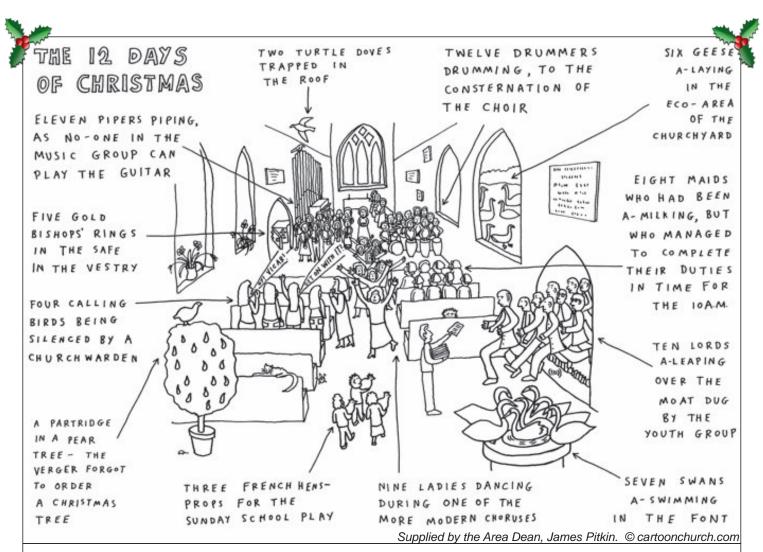
Please join us at 6pm on Friday 15th December

for this traditional event, started many years ago by the late John and Betty Pragnell in their garden, and maintained since with the support of the NT.

Mince pies, mulled wine, and hot chocolate will be served.

Wrap up warm, bring a torch and your vocal cords!

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY							
Date	Time	Location	Service				
Sunday, 3rd December Advent 1	8am	Broughton	HC, CW				
	9.30am	Bossington	HC BCP				
	10am	Mottisfont	HC CW with Bishop John Dennis, and afterwards a procession to Mottisfont Abbe				
Sunday,10th December Advent 2	9.30am	Broughton	HC CW				
	9.30am	Houghton	HC CW				
	11am	Mottisfont	Messy Church Club				
Thursday 14th December	2.30pm	Broughton	Broughton Primary School Carol Service				
	5.30pm	Broughton Water Buffalo Farm	Walkabout Nativity for all ages in aid of Shelter				
Friday, 15th December	6pm	Spearywell Orchard	Carols around the Crib				
	6.30pm	Bossington	Carol Service				
	8am	Broughton	HC BCP				
Sunday, 17th December Advent 3	11am	Mottisfont	Carol Service				
<i>Natolico</i>	6pm	Broughton	Carol Service with children's Tableau and Broughton choirs				
Sunday, 24th December Christmas Eve Advent 4	5pm	Broughton	Crib Service for all ages				
	11.30pm	Broughton	Midnight Service HC CW				
Monday, 25th December	9.30am	Bossington	Christmas Day HC BCP				
Christmas Day	10am	Broughton	Christmas Day Family Communion for all ag				
Sunday, 31st December	9.30am	Broughton	HC CW for the Benefice				
	8am	Broughton	HC CW				
Sunday, 7th January	9.30am	Bossington	HC BCP				
Christmas 2	9.30am	Broughton	The Bible uncovered				
	6pm	Mottisfont	Evensong				
	9.30am	Broughton	HC CW				
Sunday, 14th January Epiphany	9.30am	Houghton	Family Christingle Service				
	11am	Mottisfont	Messy Church Club				
	8am	Broughton	HC BCP				
Sunday, 21st January Epiphany 2	9.30am	Broughton	Family Christingle Service				
	9.30am	Mottisfont	HC BCP				
	9.30am	Broughton	Family Communion CW				
Sunday, 28th January Epiphany 3	11am	Mottisfont	Family Communion CW				
	6pm	Houghton	Evensong				
HC - Hol	y Communion	CW - Common Worship	BCP - Book of Common Prayer				



Ron's Farewell Letter

Dear Friends,

I write this letter from my little house in Winchester after officially retiring to a church house not too far away from you all and our lovely parishes.

Well I have made the move, which is, as everyone knows no fun, especially to someone like me who has a strong affinity to people and place!

To be writing the Christmas letter is therefore rather correct, as Jesus seemed always to be on the move always seeking us, whether through his birth at Bethlehem or in his adult ministry he was seeking the lost sheep, healing the sick, or teaching of his Heavenly Father. Jesus is the pastor par excellence constantly in search calling us to him.

At a small Church in Somerset at St John's Hinton there is a remarkable stained glass window depicting the Christ Child in a brilliant red tunic a shock of golden hair with grey piercing eyes. He is held by his Mother Mary looking down as if in deep reflection on this remarkable birth. This is the skill and the art of the master glassmaker who is trying to proclaim in glass the child of God, whose purpose appears to be embracing the whole of humanity in his tiny vulnerable healing hands and arms, which in themselves emit a profoundly glorious life giving presence.

In our own churches at Broughton we have some most magnificent stained glass nativity windows, well worth a quiet time of reflection in Advent and Christmas. Please remember to go along at Christmas to worship in our outstandingly holy places of worship, and meet and join in with each other as we seek the life-giving embrace of Christ.

Finally Although my time as Rector of our very special parishes is now over, I often pop through and I know all the bumps in the roads and I think of my parishioners and say a prayer for you all, as I hope you do for me.

May God bless you all richly and may his love and presence be especially present in these days leading up to and in the celebration of Christmas Day.

I cannot better the words of scripture:

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with Thee; Blessed art thou among women, And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

With Christian love and affection. Ron

Parish Council

The next three Parish Council meetings will be on 17th January, 14th March, and 25th April, 2018 (Annual Parish Meeting).

ART GROUP

Meets at the Village Hall every Thursday afternoon between 2 & 4 pm.

Self-led, but advice always available.

Come and enjoy splashing paint about!

Question – Did Vincent Van Gogh actually visit Mottisfont & Dunbridge?

Gordon 340129

STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY CINEMA

Sunday 3rd December at 3pm Despicable Me 3 (Cert U) 1hr 30mins

Gru meets his long-lost charming, cheerful, and more successful twin brother Dru, who wants to team up with him for one last criminal heist.

A fund-raising family film on behalf of Stockbridge Primary School

Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall SO20 6HE. Doors open at 2.30pm

Wednesday 13th December at 5pm and 7.30pm

Interlude in Prague (Cert 15) 1hr 43mins The incredible tale of Mozart's Prague years. The events that unfold are not a biographical retelling but a captivating fictitious story, a turbulent tragedy that inspires one of Mozart's most famous of pieces Don Giovanni through his heartbreak.

Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall SO20 6HE. Doors open 30 minutes before the start time.

Friday 19th January 2017 Annual Report 7.30pm - Film at 8pm The Red Turtle (Cert PG) 1hr 20mins

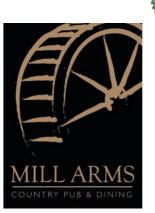
A thoughtful and moving animated story of a man, shipwrecked on a deserted island, who encounters a red turtle, which changes his life.

Wednesday 24th January TBD!

Tickets £5.00 from Garden Inn and John Robinson in Stockbridge or online via our website www.stockbridgecinema.org.uk.

The Mill Arms

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas... or so the Johnny Mathis song goes and we're looking forward to our first Christmas at the Mill Arms. November was another busy month with our first overnight guests in the newly refurbished bedrooms and we're delighted with the feedback so far. We have a number of room bookings already in December and dates around Christmas



and New Year are filling up fast, so if you have friends or family visiting and don't have enough bedroom space then contact us sooner rather than later. The configuration for the 6 rooms are 3 Double rooms, 2 King rooms which can become Twins and a Family room with Superking bed and Double sofa bed.

Our Christmas menu is now available (but must be pre booked) and will be served Tuesday to Saturday from Tuesday 5 December until Saturday 23rd. By the time this is published we will have had our Rummage Salehopefully some of you came and got a bargain or two and we'll have made a space for the functions already booked in December.

We are planning a Christmas Quiz on Tuesday 19 December and will combine that evening with a raffle with first prize being 6 bottles of wine chosen from our wine list (the winner gets to choose), along with a number of other prizes. Raffle tickets will be available for sale at the bar from 1st December.

Dates and times of December openings are as follows:

Tuesday 19th December: Quiz (8pm) and Raffle (9.30pm). Teams of up to 6 people, £1 entry per person. Prize for the winning team, and mince pies all round!

Christmas Eve: 12 noon to 11.30pm (food served 12-6pm, regular lunch menu)

Christmas Day: 11.30am to 1.30pm (bar only) Boxing Day: 12 noon to 6pm (food served 12-4pm) New Years' Eve: 12 noon to 9pm (food served 12-6pm)

New Years' Day: 12 noon to 5pm (food served 12-3pm)

We look forward to seeing you over the festive season and raising a glass or two, and wish you all a healthy and prosperous 2018.

On a final note, we will be holding our staff Christmas Party on Sunday 14th January, so will be serving food 12-4pm and closing at 6pm on this date. Additionally, the function room will not be available from mid January until the end of February while we complete its makeover.

The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus Committee Registered Charity Number: 284910

SOUTHAMPTON ROUTE - TIMINGS

The revised timings for Southampton have now been in operation for a couple of months and have proved satisfactory. It is intended, therefore, to keep to this new schedule (which nonetheless has to be ratified by the Traffic



Commissioners). Hence the timings below will apply until further notice.

TMETABLE FIRST WEDNESDAY

Broughton	The Hollow	09.30	14.30
	South Rd	09.30	14.25
	Village Hall	09.30	14.25
	The Square	09.35	14.25
	Chapel Lane	09.35	14.20
	North End	09.35	14.20
	School Lane	09.35	14.20
	The Pound	09.35	14.20
Mottisfont	Spearywell	09.45	14.10
	Abbey Gates***	09.45	14.10
Dunbridge	Lay-by	09.50	14.05
Timsbury	Jubilee Hall	09.55	14.00
Southampton	Near Bargate	10.30	13.30

*** When previously booked with Pam Dawkins on 301203

G E Vaughan Honorary Secretary

WHIST DRIVES AT MOTTISFONT

Our "Christmas Special" Whist Drive will be held at Mottisfont Village Hall on

Friday, 15th December at 7.30pm.

Why not come along and win a bag of sprouts for your Christmas dinner!



In the New Year:



Friday 26th January at 7.30pm Friday 23rd February at 7.30pm Friday 23rd March at 7.30pm Friday 27th April at 7.30pm

Gordon & Cathie, 340129

STOCKBRIDGE MUSIC

Stockbridge Music is to premiere an exciting newly formed string quartet made up of internationally renowned soloists.

At 7.30pm on Friday 9th February, at St. Peter's Church, Stockbridge Music is privileged to be hosting the premier of this quartet, led by Bogdan Vacarescu (violin), prior to their London launch one week later. Allegri Quartet 'cellist Vanessa Lucas-Smith, Akiko Ishikawa (violin) and Brook Day (violin) are the other members. They are united by a mutual interest in performing music all too rarely heard in today's concert programmes, such as works by Fritz Kreisler, Cherubini and Enescu to name but a few.

Tickets £14 available on sale now from: www.jumblebee.co.uk/stockbridgemusic Local box offices will start selling 6 weeks before the concert.

The Thomas Dowse's Charity: 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.

The grants are for educational purposes, including such things as the cost of school trips, music tuition, overseas educational trips, uniform, swimming lessons, transport to educational establishments, laptops, and books.

Here are a few of the thank you messages we have received recently:

"I've recently returned from my rugby tour ... a massive thank you for your donation."

"... we are so thrilled, it will be such a help to us ..."

"Thank you very much for the donation. It is much needed and will help me so much over the next year."

"We are so pleased. He is going to have an amazing first trip. Thank you."

Applications are treated in strict confidence. Applicants must demonstrate need, but there is no means testing.

Applications for consideration at the next meeting should be received by the secretary by Sunday, 12th November.

Grant application forms are available from St. Mary's Church, Broughton, Mottisfont Church, Broughton Primary School, or by email from tinastuart1-at-g-mail-dot-com *(remove the dashes, and change "at" to "@" and "dot" to "."*).

MOTTISFONT SOCIAL CLUB

And

Forthcoming events

2nd December: Children's Christmas Party with disco themed entertainment
9th December: Christmas Meat Draw and Christmas Raffle - tickets available from the Social Club
23rd December: Christmas Quiz, starting at 8pm
Christmas Day: the club will be open from 11.30am to 1.30pm
New Year's Eve: Disco and Karaoke

Regular events this winter

Mondays: We now have two snooker teams playing in the Southampton Snooker League. There is also the Romsey Ladies Darts League.

Tuesdays: Test Valley Billiards League and the ladies play in a local Darts League.

Wednesdays: The club is hoping to carry on staging the Pool League, but at the moment there are not enough teams. If you are interested in entering a team, please contact Peter Holmes at the club.

Thursdays: Bingo, with a chance of winning up to £100. Also the Romsey Crib League takes place.

Fridays: Romsey Men's Darts League, with two teams representing the club.



Saturdays: Meat draw every other weekend.

Sundays: Mottisfont Skittles League.

If you are interested in participating in any of the above,please contact the club on 340521 or email david-dotchase-159-at-bt-internet-dot-com (remove the dashes, replace "at" with "@" and "dot" with ".").

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

Acorn Acorn Community F	Editors Pre-School	Peter & Julia Barnett	340793			Gareth Jenkins John Millns	340922 340347
,	Supervisor	Danae Matthews	342441			Andrew Simmonds	
			07860		(mottisfont2@gmail.com)		
			662685	St. Andrew's	Rector	Vacant	- /
Allotments (Dunbridge)		Kim Bown	342204	Church	Reader	Gina Livermore	388433
Annie's Kitchen and Tea Room		Tim Arthurs	340777		Wardens	Susan Clutterbuck	340475
		David Ramos				Trish Armstrong	341120
Art Group		Gordon Wood	340129	Social Club	Chairman	Peter Simmonds	340891
Cricket Club	Secretary	Steve Godwin	07801		Secretary	Peter Holmes	340521
			522979		Steward	Linda Holmes	340521
First Responders	Coordinator	Marion Gray	341370	Test Valley Council	lor	lan Jeffrey	388872
Football Club	Secretary	Alan Stewart	340492	Village Bus	Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
Hampshire County	Councillor	Andrew Gibson	01264	-	Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
			861138		Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
History Group		Michael Horne	340105		Operations	Peter Broome	301506
Member of Parliame	ent	Caroline Nokes	512132	Village Hall	Chairman	Lynn Young	340134
Mill Arms	Manager	Lorna Burton	340355		Secretary	Jenny Wineberg	340843
Mottisfont Abbey	Gen. Manager	Louise Govier	344001		Bookings	Tony Stemp	340398
Neighbourhood	Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799	W.I.	Secretary	Valda White	368346
Watch	Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922		President/	Mary Batten	514384
Parish Council	Clerk	Sue Holder	340130		Press		
	Chairman	Jeff Channing	340555	Police	Village	Joanna Cole	101
	Councillors	Julia Barnett	340793		(request to be put through to Romsey to		
		Peter Barnett	Peter Barnett 340793		speak to Joan		
					Non-emergenc	y calls	101

The Acorn is also available at www.theacorn.org.uk, where you will also find links to local schools, pubs, trains, council, church, WI and more

Mottisfont & Dunbridge Acorn is edited and published by Peter & Julia Barnett, Dunelm House, Barley Hill, Dunbridge, Romsey, SO51 0LF, telephone: 01794 340793, acornnews@mandercom.co.uk, with assistance from the National Trust, Kimbridge Restaurant and the Mottisfont Social Club. 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. You should check with organisers of events in case there are last minute changes. © Mottisfont & Dunbridge Acorn, 2017.