



The Village Newsletter

Mottisfont & Dunbridge

ACORN



November 2017

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOURS!

Fifteen people came along to the first Meet Your Neighbours event at the Mill Arms on 5th October, and we had a very pleasant hour and a half or so. As hoped, it was a great opportunity to get to know each other a little better than brief walking-the-dog encounters.

Everyone agreed that it would be good to do it again, and that we should not always meet on the same day of the week, so people with regular commitments will not be excluded.

Our next event will be on

***Wednesday, 8th November
from 7pm at the Mill Arms***

We look forward to seeing you there!

Julia and Peter

Are you into good music?

Wednesday 22nd November from 7.30pm
at the Mottisfont Social Club

Come and listen to the
Romsey Ukulele Group
who will be playing and singing popular, happy,
sing-a-long songs.

Cathie 340129

CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER

We are planning another lunchtime gathering at the village hall on Sunday 17th December after the carol service.

Please make a note in your diary. More details in the December *Acorn*.

Pat Francis

JANE AUSTEN SINGERS

Directed by Simon Lillystone

**ADVENT CAROL SERVICE
St. Peter's Church, Stockbridge**

6PM, SUNDAY 3rd DECEMBER

Simon Lillystone, the new director of the Jane Austen Singers, will be conducting his first performance with the singers in St. Peter's Church, Stockbridge, on Sunday 3rd December.

Founded 42 years ago by Tim Lowden, who directed them throughout this period, this Advent Carol Service has become a very popular fixture, attracting large audiences because of the extent of their repertoire and the expertise of their singing.

Tim Lowden is confident that, under the direction of Simon Lillystone, this year's service will witness new heights for the singers, and should not be missed.

FISH & CHIPS

Keith and Dawn won't be bringing The Happy Fryer to Dunbridge in November. After a busy summer they will be having a well earned break on a Mediterranean cruise.

Look out for posters in the village for December and January.

BICYCLE FOR SALE

Unused for at least 20 years, this is the start of removing some seriously ancient stuff from our "garage" (never had a car in it in 30 years...)! It has 3-speed gears and a blue frame. It's in need of a little attention, but probably nothing too serious, hence £10. Call 340793.



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



**National
Trust**

Greetings from Mottisfont!

It's all feeling very autumnal here at the moment; the leaves are looking gorgeous and we've had some beautiful days for strolling about enjoying them. Do pop in if you've time, it's just lovely at the moment!

Behind the scenes, we're starting on a few projects for which we've just had planning permission granted, or which we've been wanting to do for a while. We'll soon start work on replacing the boundary fence along the lane from Hazel Cottage to the visitor car park. I'm sorry, I had really hoped that we could perhaps move this fence back a little to give pedestrians more room, but for a number of reasons that's just not possible (not least because the ground slopes steeply away in parts, and there are some very large trees and a river in the way). As the road is so narrow, the contractors will need to apply for a temporary road closure to do the work, but this will be in place only during off-peak day-time hours, and not at weekends or during holidays. It will take approximately two weeks to complete.

Next is our waste water project in the farmyard, where we're replacing three elderly septic tanks with a combined eco-friendly treatment system that will take waste water (including sewage) from visitor areas in the walled garden, a couple of residential properties and staff and volunteer areas, and clean and treat it to a very high standard, in accordance with an Environment Agency permit. Don't worry, it all happens underground in carefully controlled environments, so there won't be any smells! There will be some excavating work needed here, but we'll keep noise, disturbance and traffic to a minimum.

We're also creating a new composting area with dividing bays to enable batch management, and surface drainage to capture nutrient rich liquid that can be used as plant food. This will enable all of the green waste from the property (and also small quantities of cardboard and kitchen waste) to be composted for use in the garden, essential for mulching, disease control and soil improvement.

Head Gardener Jonny Norton and his team are set to start work on transforming the frameyard (for many years our car park) back into a productive garden, inspired by both the Abbey's history and its historic use for growing fruit and vegetables. There will be a series of brick and flint raised beds planted with mixed vegetables, cut flowers, herbs and roses; cold frames and long pergola walkways draped with climbing gourds, beans and vines will provide interest at different times of year. A central dipping pond will be surrounded by four lawns, each with a rill running through it so that the gentle sound of water is never far away (just as well we're doing the

sewage project and refurbishing the loos, I hear you say!).

We will move our nursery and propagation area into the farmyard, near the new compost area, enabling us to open the whole of the frameyard for visitors. We'll also be opening up part of Top Lodge for visitors to explore, with displays and interactive materials so that people of all ages can find out more about the history of the rose and the fascinating story of our walled garden. The historic route into the frameyard next to Top Lodge will also be opened for visitors, giving stunning views through into the central rose garden.

We aim to have the sewage project complete by the end of February, and the garden ready in time for rose season next year. There's a viewing area to watch the garden works as they happen, so do come and see what's going on.

With all best wishes,
Louise

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.

In the grounds...

Autumn colour

Our gardens are ablaze with colour in autumn. We're home to the National Collection of plane trees, which includes the great plane, thought to be the largest of its kind in Britain. Framing the east side of the house, this veteran tree boasts a dazzling autumn display. Another star of our colourful show is the hornbeam, which explodes into a canopy of orange and scarlet. Chestnut trees lining the upper half of our main pathway glow with yellow-orange leaves. Two tulip trees also come into their own during this season, as their acid green summer foliage turns a magnificent pale gold. A fresh walk through the gardens offers opportunities to take in these stunning sights. Take a stroll along the river, where the crystal clear waters of the Test reflect the colours of the season. We offer daily guided walks, too - just chat to one of our outdoor guides to find out what's on offer when you visit.

Artist residency

Artists Eileen White and Suna Imre are seeking inspiration at Mottisfont with a 12 month residency, normally visiting on Tuesdays. Responding to seasonal changes through making, contemplation and conversation will enable them to develop their individual

continued on next page

The WI



At our meeting last month we welcomed Mr. Birchmore, who explained how you could tell a person's character from their handwriting. We were given examples of handwriting, and also were given a slip of plain paper on which we were invited to write three lines of script. He then used these during his talk to illustrate how graphology works.

Following the success of our stall at the Village Fete a decision has been made to donate £150.00 each to The Piam Brown Childrens Cancer Ward at Southampton General Hospital and The Georges Trust for Teenage Cancer.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday 14th November at 7.30 in Mottisfont & Dunbridge Village Hall. The speaker will be Ian Bradford talking about Dementia Friends. Visitors will be very welcome on this evening so why not come along and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit with us.

Mary Batten

continued from previous page

processes and create new collaborative work based on their surroundings. Their work will be based outside, so you'll be able to see and engage with their progress. They also hope to offer a variety of participatory workshops over the course of the year.

Festive fun...

All the Colours of Christmas

Saturday 25 November – 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.

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.

**Test Valley Villages Lectures
Wednesday, 15th November, 8pm
Broughton Village Hall**

The Moving Story of Remembrance

**Speaker Major General (ret'd)
Patrick Cordingley**

Before the 1st World War our soldiers killed in foreign fields tended to be buried in mass graves and hardly remembered at home. All this changed during the 1st World War. Patrick Cordingley will relate how and why this happened, why there is the Cenotaph, as well as the two minutes silence. He will bring the story up to date by explaining the establishment of the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire.

Patrick's military career took him to the highest levels of the army, and since retiring he has been a consultant, broadcaster, author, and a commentator who is not afraid of controversy. He is now Chairman of the Defence and Security Forum and the National Memorial Arboretum Appeal. We are delighted to welcome Patrick back following his thought provoking talk about the Iraq conflict.

All are welcome. Entrance £5, to include a drink. Full time students free. No booking required. A donation will be made to the Army Benevolent Fund.

Lockerley Primary School

Christmas Fayre

**Friday 1st December
3.30 - 5.30pm**

Raffle, Tombola, Games, Cakes,
Refreshments - including Winter BBQ

...and someone special in the Grotto!

What a result!

In the October edition of the Acorn, Martin Fletcher asked some questions about Dunbridge history. This month he wrote to us:

Some 28 years after the shop closed, it was a long shot to think that someone might still have an original bill head. Amazingly, June Collins contacted me as she had found 3, and kindly let me have one. I now have copies of the other 2.

John Millns also contacted me with a copy of a section from the order book used at the time; it's a timely illustration of how business was done in those days.

Martin Fletcher

Let me introduce myself: I am Rev James Pitkin and, since 17th September this year, I have been the Area Dean for Romsey Deanery. The post of Area Dean used to be called Rural Dean, and judging by where we live, is a better job title!

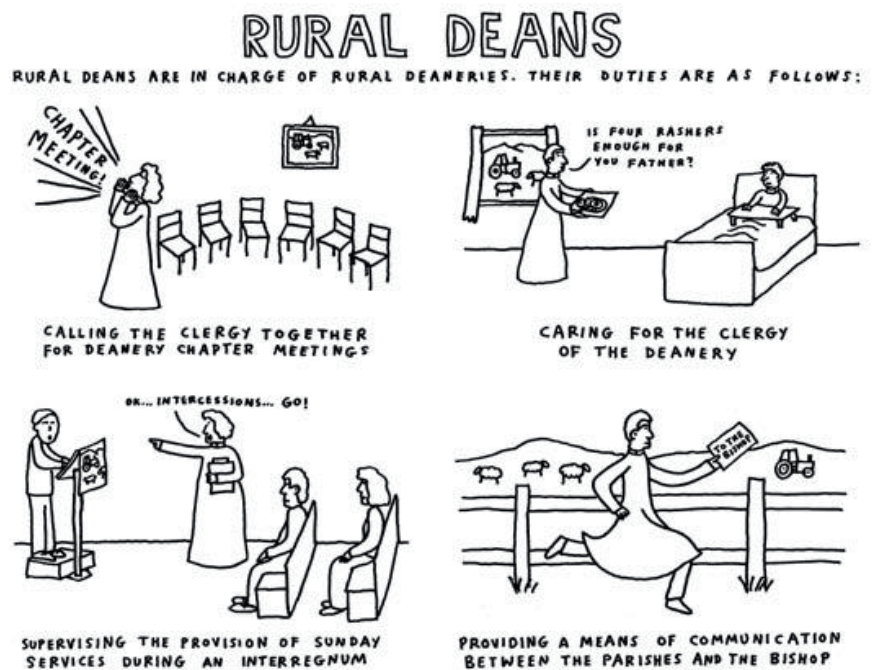
November includes more solemn occasions – including Remembrance – and is a time for Remembering and Preparing. At Remembrance, we remember the people who gave their lives defending their country – and those damaged by war. This year, in Mottisfont, there will be a Remembrance Service at 10.45am.

Before Advent there is a rather good series of evenings being held at Poppies, Choice Plants, in Timsbury, SO51 0NB. Each evening will include

input/discussion/interaction/refreshments/fun! The evenings will focus on “How to be a Christian here and now” and will be on Wednesdays 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd November, from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

In Advent (starting 3rd December), we prepare for Christmas; remembering the coming of God to earth, as a vulnerable child. Details of plans for Christmas will appear next month. I hope that you will find time, and make time, to remember and to prepare.

Your Area Dean, James
romseyareadean@gmail.com



cartoonchurch.com

CHURCH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER 2017

	5th November 4th before ADVENT	12th November REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	19th November 2nd before ADVENT	26th November Christ the King
8.00 am	BROUGHTON HC CW	-	BROUGHTON HC BCP	-
9.30 am	BOSSINGTON HC BCP BROUGHTON The Bible Uncovered	BROUGHTON 10.30 Wreath Laying Remembrance Services 10.45 BROUGHTON 10.45 HOUGHTON 10.45 MOTTISFONT	BROUGHTON Family Service MOTTISFONT HC BCP	BROUGHTON Family Communion CW
11.00 am	MOTTISFONT Messy Church Club	-	-	MOTTISFONT Family Communion CW
6.00 pm	MOTTISFONT Evensong	-	BOSSINGTON Meditation	HOUGHTON Evensong

HC = Holy Communion; BCP = Book of Common Prayer; CW = Common Worship

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

Events for November

2nd November: Miss Barbara Hillier
9th November: Mrs. Liz Trasler
16th November: Members' meeting
23rd November: Rev'd Dodie Marsden
30th November: Christmas lunch

Everyone welcome, please come and join us.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

ALL SOULS DAY

Thursday 2nd November, 7.30pm
All Saints Church, Houghton

Please join us for this yearly service of thanksgiving as we remember our loved ones who have died. We shall have a time of quiet reflection, with hymns and the opportunity to light a candle in their memory if you wish.

Advance Notice

On Advent Sunday, 3rd December, we shall be joined at St. Andrew's by Bishop John Dennis, who will accompany us to Mottisfont Abbey, where he will light an Advent Wreath.

Please note the date and take part in this memorable service.

Gina

"How to be a Christian here and now"



Mission in Action

Romsey Deanery

Pre-Advent Course 2017

Mind the Gap, Bridge the Gap, Close the Gap

**Wednesdays,
1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd November**

*Each evening will include
input/discussion/interaction/refreshments/fun!*

This course is an opportunity for church members from across the Deanery to come together to share with and learn from one another, in line with our Deanery Vision & Mission Action Plan.

Venue: Poppies, Choice Plants,
Timsbury, SO51 0NB
Time: 7.30 – 9.30 pm

Plenty of parking available

Advance indication of numbers
attending will be helpful.
Please email
Braishfieldbenefice@gmail.com

STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY CINEMA

Friday 17 November 2017 at 7.30pm

A Man Called Ove (Cert 15)
1hr 43mins. In Swedish, with English subtitles.

Ove, an ill-tempered, isolated retiree, who spends his day enforcing residents' association rules and visiting his wife's grave, has finally given up on life just as an unlikely friendship develops with his boisterous new neighbours.

Based on Fredrik Backman's international best-selling novel.

Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall, SO20 6HE.
Doors open at 7pm.

Wednesday 22 November 2017 at 4.30pm and 7.30pm

Miss Sloane (Cert 15) 2hrs 9 mins

In the high-stakes world of political power-brokers, Elizabeth Sloane (Jessica Chastain) is the most sought after and formidable lobbyist in Washington D.C. But when taking on the most powerful opponent of her career, she finds winning may come at too high a price.

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

Tickets for either film are £5 from Garden Inn and John Robinson in Stockbridge, or online via our website www.stockbridgecinema.org.uk.

See our website for special Stockbridge meal deals!

Parish Council

The next three Parish Council meetings will be on:

Wednesday, 22nd November
Wednesday, 17th January, 2018
Wednesday, 14th March, 2018

ART GROUP



Looking to be a bit creative during the forthcoming winter months?

Why not come along to the Village Hall on Thursday afternoons, 2 - 4pm and try your hand at a bit of painting or drawing.

Complete beginners always welcome.

Very sociable & friendly.

Gordon 340129

BROUGHTON FIREWORK EVENT 5th NOVEMBER

Broughton's fantastic annual family firework event will once again take place on 5th November with a children's torch procession leaving The Square (by the Greyhound pub) at 6.30pm. The procession will then make its way to the sportsfield in Buckholt Road, where the bonfire will be lit at approximately 6.45pm.



The firework display will commence around 7.30pm and will last about 20 minutes.



There is free parking adjacent to the cemetery/allotments (off Salisbury Road – please follow signs). Refreshments, hot food and merchandise will be available, and there will be a licensed bar. Tickets will be available on the gate, and entry is £6 for adults and £5 for concessions and children. This is a not for profit event and all proceeds are donated to worthy causes.

Please note that this year's event falls on a Sunday, so we are expecting a higher than normal number of attendees. Please do allow yourself enough time for parking, so as not to miss this fantastic display.

The Mill Arms

It's been a busy 2 months since we opened in August. It was lovely to see so many of you at our open evening on 15 August and we've enjoyed welcoming you in over the past 2 months and getting to know you better.



Every day brings little changes, whether it is adding pictures and décor, tweaking the menu or resurfacing the car park. We hope you'll continue to bear with us through the journey and be as delighted as we are with the changes. We've had a test run on the log burner and so as the weather turns autumnal look forward to you warming yourselves by the fire.

Our current project is working on the letting accommodation and the rooms will be fully available to let from 7 November. We have had a number of enquiries, and already have bookings around Christmas and for 2018.

Which brings us to the last major part of our refurbishment: the function room. As many of you will know, this has been used as the store area while we have worked on other areas, and we have quite a collection of furniture, electrical items and general bric a brac that will not find a home in the Mill Arms in the future, so before we start the final phase we are going to hold a 'Garage Sale' over the weekend of Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th November to sell off those items. Check the A Board at the front of the pub and our facebook page for more details nearer the time.

This will mean that we can have the function room up and running from 1st December, and yes, we will be maintaining the skittle alley. Our first skittles evening is already booked on 14 December for the Brownies.

Our Christmas menu is now available and can be booked for dates between 1st to 23rd December – both lunchtime and evening, Tuesday to Saturday. We hope you'll come and join us. We will be open for drinks on Christmas Day from 11.30 to 1.30pm so you can get into the festive spirit, and we'll provide a fuller outline of our December plans in next month's Acorn.

We are currently finalising our website, so you should see this go live soon. In the meantime, you can check out our facebook page at www.facebook.com/dunbridgehamshire.

SANSARA CONSORT

Friday 10th November, 7.30pm
St. Peter's Church, Stockbridge

"FOR THE FALLEN"

Stockbridge Music is thrilled to be bringing back to Stockbridge SANSARA CONSORT, a group of young singers who are making a big impact on the choral scene in the UK, having won the *International A Cappella Competition* in London two years ago.

"We will be performing a programme of



Remembrance music, exploring the depths of human suffering through the juxtaposition of choral music from the three masters of Renaissance with the twentieth century compositions by Arvo Part and Sir John Taverner. In this way we call to mind, with equal gravity, conflicts past and present: victims of war and terror, the plight of today's refugees, and the fallen of bygone ages".

This group attracts big audiences and, following on from our first sell out in September for the Delmege String Quartet, we recommend an early purchase of tickets for this concert.

Tickets: £14, available from:
Robinsons, Butchers
www.jumblebee.co.uk/stockbridgemusic
The Lights Theatre Box Office (01264) 368368
Roger Tym (01264) 810363

This concert is sponsored by Hildon Water.

WHIST

The next Whist Drive will be on Friday, 24th November, commencing at 7.30pm.

The **Christmas Special** will be on 15th December.

People come from far and wide for the good company and the fantastic prizes to be won!

Gordon & Cathie
340129

EMERGENCY GRAB BAG

If you had to get out of your house in an emergency, having certain items with you could make life considerably easier.

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service recommends having an Emergency Grab Bag near the door, containing such items as:

A torch (wind-up preferably, so you don't have to worry about flat batteries), some money/debit/credit card, keys to the house and car, First Aid kit, prescription medicines, identity documents, insurance details.

Of course, emergencies are unusual events, but if one happened, think how much easier it would be to cope if you had your grab bag with you!

www.hampshireprepared.co.uk

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

Forthcoming events

2nd December: Children's Christmas Party

9th December: Christmas Meat Draw and Christmas Raffle

Regular events this winter

Mondays: We now have two snooker teams playing in the Southampton Snooker League and there is the Romsey Ladies Dart 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-dot-chase-159-at-bt-internet-dot-com (remove the dashes, replace "at" with "@" and "dot" with ".").

MOTTISFONT CRICKET CLUB

QUIZ

at

The Social Club
on

Saturday
25th November

Starts at 8pm

Entrance:

£2 per person

Up to 6 people per team

RAFFLE!

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

Acorn	Editors	Peter & Julia Barnett	340793			Gareth Jenkins	340922
Acorn Community	Pre-School					John Millns	340347
	Supervisor	Danae Matthews	342441			Andrew Simmonds	
			07860			(mottisfont2@gmail.com)	
Allotments (Dunbridge)		Kim Bown	662685	St. Andrew's	Rector	Rev. Ron Corne	301287
Annie's Kitchen and Tea Room		Tim Arthurs	342204	Church	Reader	Gina Livermore	388433
		David Ramos	340777		Wardens	Susan Clutterbuck	340475
Art Group		Gordon Wood	340129			Trish Armstrong	341120
Cricket Club	Secretary	Steve Godwin	07801	Social Club	Chairman	Peter Simmonds	340891
			522979		Secretary	Peter Holmes	340521
First Responders	Coordinator	Marion Gray	341370		Steward	Linda Holmes	340521
Football Club	Secretary	Alan Stewart	340492	Test Valley Councillor		Ian Jeffrey	388872
Hampshire County	Councillor	Andrew Gibson	01264	Village Bus	Secretary	George Vaughan	301045
			861138		Bookings	Pam Dawkins	301203
History Group		Michael Horne	340105		Private Hire	Julie Smith	301470
Member of Parliament		Caroline Nokes	512132		Operations	Peter Broome	301506
Mill Arms	Manager	Lorna Burton	340355	Village Hall	Chairman	Lynn Young	340134
Mottisfont Abbey	Gen. Manager	Louise Govier	344001		Secretary	Jenny Wineberg	340843
Neighbourhood	Mottisfont	Alan Earthrowl	341799		Bookings	Tony Stemp	340398
Watch	Dunbridge	Cliff Astur	341922	W.I.	Secretary	Valda White	368346
Parish Council	Clerk	Sue Holder	340130		President/	Mary Batten	514384
	Chairman	Jeff Channing	340555	Police	Press		
	Councillors	Julia Barnett	340793		Village	Joanna Cole	101
		Peter Barnett	340793		(request to be put through to Romsey to speak to Joanna Cole)		
					Non-emergency 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.