



Mottisfont & Dunbridge

ACORN



The Village Newsletter

February 2019

DEFIBRILLATORS

We are holding a demonstration on how to use the defibrillators that are outside The Mill Arms and The Social Club. The demonstration will be on Thursday 28th March starting at 7pm, will last about 90 minutes, and will be held in the function room at The Mill Arms.

To give us an idea of numbers, if you are planning to attend, please ring The Mill Arms on 340355, and just give them your name.

For any inquiries about this session, please ring Michael Horne on 340105.

ONE FOR THE ROAD

Plaza Theatre, Romsey

We are directing this Willy Russell comedy at the Plaza from 12th – 16th February. It will be performed in the small Green Room studio with an audience of just forty-five.

It's a raunchy comedy with strong language, so not suitable for children under fourteen.

Tickets at £10 each are available on-line at www.plazatheatre.com, or from the Visitor Information Centre next to the post office in Romsey.

We would love to see you there.

Pat & Dave Francis



MEET THE NEIGHBOURS

Come and join neighbours and friends for a chat over a drink at the Mill Arms.

**Thursday,
21st February, 7pm**



VILLAGE QUIZ NIGHT AT THE VILLAGE HALL

**SATURDAY 23rd MARCH
7 for 7.30 pm**

We are holding a quiz to raise funds for the Village Hall. Teams can be up to five people, at £2.50 per person.



Bring your own drink and nibbles, and we will provide tea and coffee.

As usual there will be prizes for the winners and booby prizes for the lowest score.



Give us a ring or send an email to book your team.

We will then ask you for a deposit of £5 per team.

Dave and Pat Francis
340609

patfrancis-dot-romsey-at-gmail-dot-com

The Broughton and Mottisfont

Community Bus

makes regular trips to Andover, Romsey, Salisbury, Southampton, and Winchester. Anybody can use the bus, and if you have a bus pass it is free.

Andover: monthly (4th Wednesday of the month)

Romsey: twice weekly (Thursday and Friday mornings and afternoons)

Salisbury: weekly (Tuesday mornings)

Southampton: monthly (1st Wednesday of the month)

Winchester: monthly (2nd Wednesday of the month)

The full timetable is available at
<http://www.broughton-hants.net/village-bus>

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



**National
Trust**

Hello everyone,

As I write, the snowdrops are already looking very pretty around the grounds and in the woods, and a new exhibition of cartoons and local landscapes by Norman Thelwell is making the visitors chuckle – just what we need at the moment! A highlight for me is the

Thelwell pony rocking horse, one of only ten made, who has been set up in his own little 'paddock' in the gallery.

The gardeners are part way through the mammoth task of pruning all the roses in the walled garden. They had a new apprentice with them last week, as you'll see from the picture attached. I was let loose on a nice straight rugosa as my 'starter' rose and given expert tuition. It was really interesting and I learned lots; however, I think I am possibly the slowest pruner they have ever had! We're looking forward to seeing the benefits of everyone's work this summer.



On the estate, our woodland management plans are progressing well through the winter. In accordance with our Countryside Stewardship agreement, we are doing some tree felling to open up rides and coppiced areas. Tree surgeons will be finishing tree safety works over the next few weeks. Please do keep to the footpaths when you're out walking – you'll always see a sign if someone is working on tree management nearby.

On the river, we've had permission from the Environment Agency to repair and restore the main fishing hut. Sparsholt College have been surveying the

fish, and we're looking forward to hearing their findings, which will feed into our management plans.

You may have noticed that there's some building work going on in the Stables at the moment. The front of the building was showing signs of movement, so it's being anchored in. We're also replacing some beams where previous water leaks had caused problems. There's another beam in the house that needs to be replaced, which is a more complex job: the surveyors are scoping out the possibilities now. Such are the joys of looking after historic properties – but we like a challenge, and we'll find a solution.

Hope you can get out for a spring walk when it's not too cold.

With best wishes,

Louise

In the gallery...

**Thelwell: Laughter and Landscapes
Saturday 5 January – Monday 22 April**

A welcome return to the world of Norman Thelwell. There are old favourites on show, including the antics of iconic characters Penelope and her mischievous pony, Kipper. The exhibition also includes other satirical cartoons, with astute and amusing observations on country life, and breathtaking landscape art. Some of this work has never been publically shown before, including a selection of Thelwell's early sketches.

For families...

**February half term: Country Capers
Saturday 16 – Sunday 24 February**

Explore the grounds with a half-term activity trail, full of mischievous activities inspired by Thelwell's love of the countryside. The exhibition includes child-friendly labels, too.

In the gardens...

This is the perfect season to see our winter garden at its best, full of bright colours which really stand out on frosty mornings. Delicate white clusters of our native snowdrop, *galanthus nivalis*, emerge around the grounds, especially along the font stream and at the start of the river walk, where a woodchip path meanders through an ancient buxus plantation on the banks. Over 16,000 snowdrops were planted for the 2018 display and will bloom again in 2019.

In the house...

The winter is a busy time for our house team, who are busy working on the annual deep clean. You'll be able to get up close to some of this conservation work when you visit. Look out for the team using a huge array of interesting equipment to make sure our rooms are looking their best for the year; they'll be

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working in the Dining Room during February.

From Monday 18 – Friday 25 February, families can explore the hidden world of pesky pests like silverfish and woolly bears which like to munch on our books, curtains and carpets.

On the wider estate...

Essential forestry works continue over the winter season. These include thinning operations to allow the remaining trees to grow to maturity, and the felling of trees to improve light conditions along our ride networks to improve wildlife habitats. Please take note of safety signs and path closures; they are for your safety and the safety of the forest workers. We will try to keep disruption to a minimum.

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The Village Hall will be holding a Quiz on **Saturday 23rd March** at 7pm. Get your teams of up to 5 ready or just come along yourself and join in the fun.

The Village Hall AGM will be held at the Village Hall on **Monday 18th March** at 7.30pm. Please come along and join us to hear what we have achieved over the last year, and to let us know your views and ideas. Drinks and nibbles will be available.

The Grand Mottisfont and Dunbridge Village Fete will this year be held at the Village Hall on **Sunday 11th August** from 1 - 4pm. Fete meetings will be starting in March; anyone from the village is welcome to attend.

If you would like to help on the fete weekend or have any ideas for stalls and attractions, please phone Sarah Cox on 07903 652016 for more information.

Cricketers Wanted!

Your local village team, Mottisfont Cricket Club, is looking for players. We play in the Hampshire County Division 4 West on Saturdays, and on Tuesdays we play in the Border League Division 2.

We supply superb test for Saturday matches!

The season starts in early May. Please contact Tony Stemp on 340398 if you are interested.

Test Valley Villages Lecture Series

8pm, Wednesday, 20th February
St. Mary's Church. Broughton

A Life in Crime

Speaker: Judge Christopher Lee QC

Christopher Lee spent his working life as a barrister in the criminal courts in Hampshire. He then worked all over the country as a Q.C., before returning to Hampshire when he was made a circuit judge.

He will talk about some of the cases he prosecuted, defended and tried as well as touching on some of the wider issues facing the criminal justice system today. These include whether judges are out of touch, and whether the police are worthy of our trust.

All are welcome. Entry £5, to include a drink. Full time students free.

LENGTHSMAN WANTED

Stockbridge Parish Council is looking for a Parish Lengthsman to carry out routine maintenance work across 15 parishes in the Test Valley. The work will take roughly 60 hours per month but as much of the tasks are weather dependent it will not be spread evenly across the year.

The role of the Lengthsmen is to do everything necessary to improve the environment within the local communities and to keep their parishes up to scratch, forming a close relationship with the parishes and an awareness of their needs. The work is outdoor and varied, ranging from sweeping footpaths to clearing grips.

The Lengthsman is required to provide transport, mobile telephone and tools necessary to carry out their duties. The scheme is funded by Hampshire County Council and administered by Stockbridge Parish Council.

If you would like to apply for the role please contact the co-ordinator, Alyson Lownie at alyson-at-lownie-dot-net. (Replace -at- with @ and -dot- with a dot.)

Don't forget the village web site:

www.mottisfontpc.org.uk

What would **you** like to see on it?

Thoughts from St. Andrew's

We hope this is not too late to wish you all a Happy New Year. The New Year is the time for new beginnings, a time for new resolutions, and to think about new improvements to one's life and relationships, and what one does; and most importantly a time to open one's eyes, and look about.

Loneliness: could you resolve to go and visit a relation or friend who may be getting older, and might need help?

Poverty: do you ever give time or money to help charities who do their best in so many fields?

The Church's year begins in Advent, and prepares us for the coming of our Lord at Christmas. Lent prepares us for Easter, and is a time to "give up sweets for Lent", or whatever you were taught as a child! Why not take up a new project to help other people?

Above all, look around at God's beautiful creation. Already we have snowdrops, aconites, and witchhazels flowering in our gardens. Promising that spring is not far away, they and many others herald the New Year.

Susan Clutterbuck
Trish Armstrong

BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

Events for February

7th February: Members' Meeting
14th February: Mr. Philip Mutton (Hope Now)
21st February: Members' Meeting
28th February: Mr. David Stone

Everyone welcome, please come and join us.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

Bossington Meditations

Our 2019 season will begin on the third Sunday of April with a piece on Thomas Becket, formerly Archbishop of Canterbury, and be followed in May by one on Gladys Aylward, a missionary in China, who famously rescued a lot of children from the Japanese invaders by walking with them to a safer part of China. Finally, in June, we will feature Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch watchmaker who hid Jewish refugees from the Nazis during the Second World War.

All three have been the subject of films. Maybe you have seen them, and would like to know more about them - and there is a lot more to know! We will publish the names of the films next month, together with news of a competition.

CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY

	3rd February Presentation of Christ in the Temple	10th February 5th of Epiphany	17th February 6th of Epiphany	24th February 7th of Epiphany
8am	BROUGHTON HC CW	-	BROUGHTON HC BCP	-
9.30 am	BOSSINGTON HC BCP ----- BROUGHTON The Bible Uncovered	BROUGHTON HC CW ----- HOUGHTON HC CW	BROUGHTON Family Service ----- MOTTISFONT HC BCP	BROUGHTON Family Communion CW
11am	-	MOTTISFONT Messy Church Club	-	MOTTISFONT Family Communion CW
6pm	-	-	-	HOUGHTON Evensong

HC = Holy Communion

CW = Common Worship

BCP = Book of Common Prayer

The Churches were very well-attended over Christmas, and I hope that people will come to Church on other days in 2019! Many visitors commented on our villages being welcoming. Thank you for being part of the Christmas Celebrations in our communities.

This year is going to be a memorable one in the life of Romsey Deanery. Many parishes will be joined by clergy in new appointments walking with, and supporting, all of you. Do, please, make them welcome.

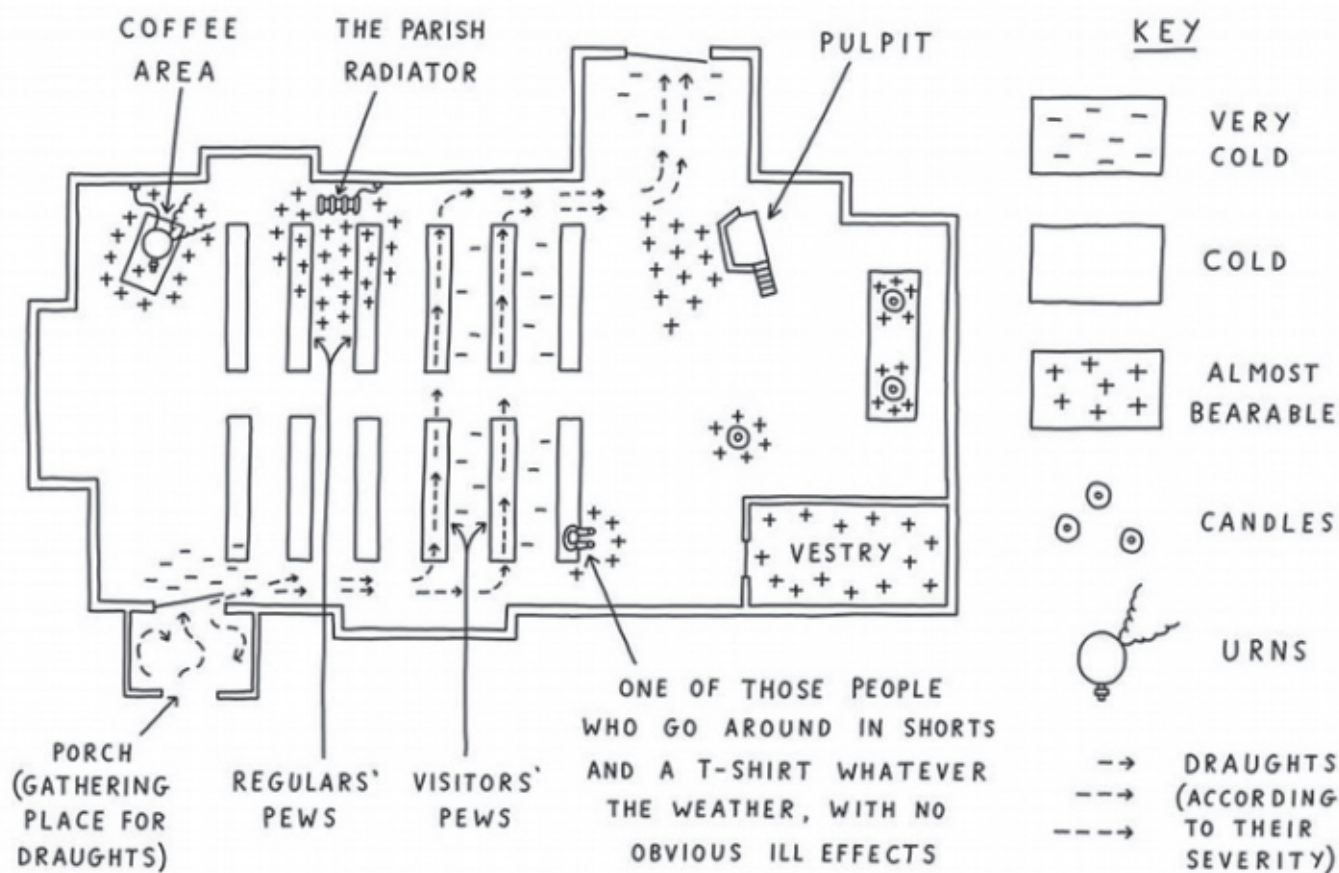
The cartoon this month was chosen because I suspect that February will be a cold month. Our churches are usually warm for services but there are definitely places where the draughts are stronger and colder! Go along and find a warm seat...

Your Area Dean, James

THE CHURCH BUILDING

A HEAT MAP

Cartoon supplied by
the Area Dean,
James Pitkin.
©cartoonchurch.com



World Day of Prayer Friday 1st March, 2.30pm Prepared by Christians in Slovenia

This service for the World Day of Prayer (yes, the name has changed due to it being an inclusive service for men and women), will be at St. Mary's Church on 1st March at 2.30pm. We will be sharing in a wave of prayer that starts at sunrise over Samoa and ends 38 hours later as the sun sets over American Samoa. 120 countries and islands all over the world will take part.

In Broughton we received the invitation from Slovenia to take part, and thank them for their preparation for "Come – Everything is Ready!" There will be refreshments where we can meet and reflect on our fragmented world that is being brought together on this special day, once a year, in this unique service.

Please come!

Ann Ridout, 01980 862232

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 2019

The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus is run as a charity under the provisions of the law and the Charity Commission.

An Annual General Meeting is held each year, at which members of the public are welcome.

The 39th Annual General Meeting will be held in the Broughton Primary School on Monday 25th February 2019, starting at 7.30pm.

The bus will collect people who wish to attend, starting from Dunbridge at 7pm.

Agenda

- Item 1: Apologies
- Item 2: Approval of minutes of 38th AGM
- Item 3: Matters arising from those minutes
- Item 4: Financial report given by David Mason
- Item 5: Chairman's report given by Peter Broome
- Item 6: Resignations and Election of Officers
- Item 7: Any other business, including **suggestions for excursions in the summer months.**

Anyone wishing to serve on the committee, or nominating someone else, should contact either the chairman, Peter Broome on 07715 055938, or the secretary, Andrew Illingworth on 301295.

The latest date for such nominations is 18th February.

Whist Drives

at

Mottisfont Village Hall

The next monthly Whist Drives will be on

Friday 22nd February
Friday 29th March
Friday 26th April



All commencing at 7.30pm.

Good company, highly valued prizes, and refreshments!

Gordon & Cathie
340129



STOCKBRIDGE COMMUNITY CINEMA



Friday 15 February
Peterloo (12A)

In 1819, British forces charge on a peaceful pro-democracy rally at St. Peter's Field in Manchester, England, which results in the Peterloo Massacre.

Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall, SO20 6HE, at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7.00pm.

Wednesday 20 February 2019

The Wife (15)

Drama in which a devoted wife (Glenn Close) questions her life choices, as she travels to Stockholm with her husband (Jonathan Pryce), after he is selected to receive the Nobel Prize for Literature.



Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall, SO20 6HE, at 4.30pm and 7.30pm. Doors open 30 minutes before the start time.

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

Painting & Drawing at Mottisfont Village Hall

We meet every
Thursday afternoon
from 2pm - 4pm.

Rubbishy paintings, but
the refreshments and
the company are first
class.

Come and give us a try!

Gordon 340129



The Broughton and Mottisfont Community Bus

Charity Number: 284910

The Community Bus provides regular scheduled journeys from Mottisfont to Romsey, Salisbury, Andover, Winchester and Southampton. For a full time table please see



<http://www.broughton-hants.net/village-bus>

or call Peter Barnett (Mottisfont Parish Council's representative on the bus committee) on 340793.

Drivers Wanted

We are always looking for additional volunteer drivers.

The normal commitment is about one half-day a month. No previous experience is required, just an ordinary driving licence. Full training is given.

It's fun and a great way to contribute to the community!

MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting dates for 2019

Wednesday 13th March 2019

Annual Parish Meeting - Wednesday 24th April 2019

Annual General Meeting – Wednesday
15th May 2019*

* Please note that the date of the AGM may be subject to change in the event that the Village Hall is needed as a Polling Station for elections.

Parish council minutes, etc. can be found at
www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/pc/pc.php

IS THERE SOMETHING THE PARISH COUNCIL CAN DO FOR YOU?

The Parish Council is looking for your ideas about things that could be done to improve life in the parish.

Please send in any ideas you have by clicking on any of the name links at
www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/pc/pc.php,
emailing acorn-news-at-mandercom-dot-co-dot-uk
(*removal all the dashes, change "at" to "@" and "dot" to "."*), or ringing Julia or Peter on 340793.

The WI

Wishing all our readers a very Happy New Year.



To start the New Year it was decided to hold a skittle evening for members and friends. This was held at the Mottisfont Working Men's Club, and an enjoyable evening was had by all. It gave members the chance to have a drink and a chat together.

The next event planned is an evening meal on 24th January at The Old House at Home in Romsey. If any guests would like to join us, please contact Caroline Egg on 278509.

The next meeting will be held at Mottisfont Village Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 12th February, when the subject will be 'Your Natural Voice', and the speaker will be Janet Ayres.

Guests will be very welcome on this evening, so why not come along and meet us all and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea and a friendly chat.

Mary Batten
President

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, 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.

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, 24th February.

Grant applications should be made on the new application forms which have the Trust's Privacy Notice attached for your information. These are available from St. Mary's Church, Broughton, Mottisfont Church, Broughton Primary School or by email from tina-stuart-1-at-gmail-dot-com. (*remove the dashes, and change "at" to "@" and "dot" to "."*).

MOTTISFONT SOCIAL CLUB

Renewal of subscriptions is now due. £15, £8 for concessions.

Forthcoming events

AGM - Wednesday 20th March, 8.15pm.

Due to lack of support the club will be opening at 7pm on Fridays, instead of 6pm.

Regular Activities at Mottisfont Social Club

Mondays: Ladies' Darts Team, Romsey and District Ladies' Dart League. Snooker Team - Division 2 of the Southampton Snooker League.

Tuesdays: Billiards Team, Test Valley Billiards League.

Wednesdays: Free snooker and pool night.

Thursdays: Crib Team, Romsey Crib League. Bingo - this is very popular, with a chance of winning

up to £100.

Fridays: Two Darts Teams, Romsey Men's Darts League.

Saturdays: Meat Draw every other week - Meat supplied by Owtons. Find the joker game. Quiz - On the last Saturday of each month (February's is on the 23rd). Up to 6 people per team. £2 each. There will be a snowball round.

Sundays: We have our own Skittle League, 10 people in a team. We are always looking for new teams to join.

Most of these activities take place between September and May apart from ladies' darts, bingo and the meat draw which take place all year round.

If you are interested in any of these activities, please contact the club on 340521, or pop in for a drink.



Tel: 01264 810 601
timlowden@gmail.com

STOCKBRIDGE MUSIC

Friday 22nd March at 7.30pm
St. Peter's Church, Stockbridge

KOSMOS



Tel: 01264 810 601
timlowden@gmail.com

Last season, KOSMOS mesmerised us with their internationally acclaimed passionate world music.

Critics down the years have variously described KOSMOS performances as revelatory, refreshing, exciting and so on.

James Montgomery added: "Dazzling! These are truly exceptionally gifted classically trained instrumentalists who have used their talent to revolutionary effect. Not surprising that KOSMOS is booked all over the world".

Tickets (£14) are now available from www.jumblebee.co.uk/stockbridgemusic
Local Box Offices will open one month prior to the concerts.

