



Mottisfont & Dunbridge

ACORN



The Village Newsletter

June 2019

MOTTISFONT & DUNBRIDGE VILLAGE



Sunday 23rd June

Sellers from 10am

**£5 per car, £7 car & trailer or van
£5 per table inside the hall**

Buyers from 11am, 50p per car

**Please phone 340609 to book a table
inside the hall**

Light refreshments available

David 'Gordon' Wood

It was with great sadness that those of us who knew Gordon Wood heard the news of his passing on 4th May.



It was testament to the part Gordon played in the lives of so many that almost 200 people packed the service to commemorate his life. We heard of his meticulously planned exploits as a seasoned traveller, mountaineer, cyclist, canoeist, camper and walker. We remembered his

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VILLAGE FETE, SUNDAY 11th AUGUST, 1pm TO 4.30pm

Lots of people have already volunteered but we need loads more help both on the Sunday and on the Saturday to set up stalls and erect gazebos.

We still need lots of new ideas. Can you organise and staff a stall of any kind or help in the car park?

Please come to a meeting on Tuesday 11th June at 7pm at Yew Tree Cottage Spearywell, the new home of Sarah and Phil Cox. (There might be cake!!!)

The village needs you all to make this special day a huge success!

Please phone Dave & Pat Francis on 340609 and let us know what you can do to help.

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



**National
Trust**

Greetings from the Abbey!

We have been enjoying the lovely warm weather and seeing the late spring flowers come out all around the grounds. The gardens team is busy doing the final preparations for rose season, which is not seeming to be noticeably early or late so far (but then so much still depends on the weather over the next few weeks). I always think of David Stone when people ask me when the roses will be at their peak this year, and his endless variety of incredibly precise (and always tongue-in-cheek!) predictions of dates and times. Still, it's an exciting time as the garden changes every day at the moment.

Guaranteed to be in bloom all the time are the beautiful contemporary botanical illustrations on loan to us from the collections at Kew Gardens. They are full of colour and detail, and will brighten your day even if it's raining outside. They're paired with a lovely exhibition by Eileen White and Suna Imre, two artists who have been working at Mottisfont and on the estate over the last year, particularly with Neil our river keeper. Their drawings, photographs made using light sensitive paper in the river and using pin hole cameras, ceramics and other works offer a fascinating local view of the living world around Mottisfont.

We've recently had the river surveyed by Sparsholt College, and we were really pleased to find that following the extensive restoration work we did on the Oakley Beat a couple of years ago, we are now seeing significantly increased numbers of young salmon and brown trout there. These are protected species, so this is very good news.

If you like to pop in for a coffee, you'll be pleased to know that the building work on the Stables has finally been completed and the scaffolding and hoardings have been removed, so it's now a pleasant place to sit down for a cuppa once again. The poor bookshop team have emerged, blinking, into the light, after months of being hidden!

Hope we'll see you soon,

With all best wishes,

Louise

In the gardens...

Our walled gardens are filled with heavenly fragrance and colour from thousands of roses in early summer. We're home to the National Collection of pre-1900 old-fashioned roses, which reach their peak in June. We're anticipating an early season this year, with the gardens looking their best in the first weeks of June.

We're offering extended opening hours in June for more opportunities to enjoy this spectacle. We'll be opening the walled gardens at 9am, and our evening openings this year will be on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 6 – 22 June. We'll be open until 8pm on those dates (last entry into property 7pm, house closes at normal time of 5pm), and there'll be live, acoustic music from the FB Pocket Orchestra on Friday evenings.

Exhibitions...

Plants Portrayed and For the Time Being Saturday 4 May – Sunday 7 July 11am-5pm

There are two exhibitions side-by-side in our gallery in early summer. *Plants Portrayed* is a selection of 34 contemporary botanical illustrations from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The exhibition includes work by Pandora Sellars - one of the world's most important and influential botanical painters - and her former student Masumi Yamanaka, now a renowned artist in her own right. *For the Time Being* showcases ceramic compositions, prints and artist books from a one-year residency by Hampshire-based artists Suna Imre and Eileen White.

A Good Year for the Roses by The Caravan Gallery

In the beech circle, until 30 June

An outdoor exhibition of 32 quirky, colourful portraits taken in Mottisfont's famous rose gardens in the summers of 2017 and 2018. The Caravan Gallery is a collaboration between artists and photographers Jan Williams and Chris Teasdale, who tour their 1969 Bluebird caravan, working with communities to celebrate the reality and surreality of everyday life.

In the countryside...

Weed cutting on the River Test is carried out three times over the course of each summer. This is a vital management practice that enables us to maintain diverse and productive habitats. Cutting starts in the Mottisfont area on 13 June and subsequent 'clearing off' days (when the weed is freed from any bridges or obstacles in its way and pushed downstream) start on 24 June this year. Huge rafts of weed can often be seen floating down the river at this time. The weed will eventually reach Romsey, where it will be removed from the river, collected by the Environment Agency and composted.

This summer, a force of tree-loving volunteers is helping to protect ancient tree stock on the estate woodlands. Trained with the skills to identify specific age categories (ancient, veteran, and significant) they'll record each tree's condition, then plot its location on a GPS device. The data gathered from our surveys will be used to enhance site management, and formulate conservation strategies for individual trees and their dependent habitats.

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Mottisfont Cricket Club: 200 years, 1819 – 2019

Cricket Fixtures for June

Date	Competition	Team	Ground	Start
1st June	HCL Div 4 West	Hyde	Away	1.00
4th June	Border League Div 2	Redlynch & Hale B	Home	6.15
8th June	HCL Div 4 West	Bournemouth 3	Home	1.00
11th June	Border Plate Cup	Whiteparish or Totton & Eling B	Home	6.15
15th June	HCL Div 4 West	Breamore	Away	1.00
18th June	Border League Div 2	Wellow & Plaitford	Away	6.15
22nd June	HCL Div 4 West	Soton Travellers	Home	1.00
25th June	Border League Div 2	Totton & Eling B	Home	6.15
29th June	HCL Div 4 West	Fawley 2	Away	1.00
30th June	Bicentennial Match	Broughton	Home	TBA

Come and support your village team!

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many talents as an artist, gardener, fete organiser, art group founder, lantern parade organiser and supporter, initiator of numerous local social activities, and of course heading up the team of Acorn distributors (we estimate that Gordon and Cathie have between them have folded and helped distribute over 20,000 copies of the Acorn in the time we have been the editors).



Enjoying a cup of tea and a piece of cake after a long "village walk".

Gordon was indeed, a very talented man, but he was a modest and effacing man; a warm and gentle man who gave of himself to all he met. Supporter of young and old, he brought people together with fun and laughter packing so much into his life and not wasting a moment.

The sadness of the commemoration of Gordon's life was lightened by laughter at his exploits, happy memories of friendship and thankfulness for being fortunate enough to have known him.

When Gordon and Cathie chose to make Dunbridge and Mottisfont their home 36 years ago little did any of us know how many firm friendships they would make, and how much they would both add to the life of our community. Gordon, we will miss you.

Julia and Peter

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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, Instagram and follow us on Twitter @MottisfontNT for regular updates.

LOCKERLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNING & TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

**Wednesday 12th June
9am - 11.30am
(Picnic from 12 noon to 1pm)**

We would like to invite the local community and all current and prospective parents to visit our school.

If you would like to stay for the Teddy Bears' Picnic, don't forget your packed lunch!

LOCKERLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER FETE

Friday 12th July, 5-7pm

Bar, BBQ, raffle, tombola, games, stalls and arena events

This year's theme is Nature.

Everyone in the community is invited to join us!
Pop the date in your diary now.

SUPERVISORY ASSISTANTS WANTED

Lockerley Primary School requires lunchtime supervisory assistants, 12 - 1pm daily (term time only).

Please contact the school if you have any lunchtimes free. Even one would be helpful! Good rate of pay.

Telephone 340485 or call in.

Thoughts from St. Andrew's Church

GLAD TIDINGS AT LAST!

After a lengthy interregnum we can happily announce that Rev'd Philip Bowden is to be appointed as Rector of the Mid Test Benefice. The Service of Induction for Rev'd Bowden is likely to take place at St. Peter's Church in Stockbridge, but the date remains to be confirmed. Whilst this may happen at fairly short notice, for the time being services will remain as they are at St. Andrew's. We will publish, through the Acorn, any developments as soon as we are able, and a list of services is also displayed on the noticeboard in the churchyard.

Obviously, taking on a large and recently merged benefice is going to be somewhat daunting, and it will take a while for Rev'd Bowden to settle in and get to grips with what will be a demanding but hopefully rewarding new challenge.

It has to be said that we are grateful to everyone who has had to be patient and tolerant with us during the absence of a vicar. We are particularly grateful to Rev'd James Pitkin, our Area Dean, who has been tireless in his support and guidance to the whole benefice throughout the times of upheaval and uncertainty.

We have also been blessed with the help of a number of registry priests (locum vicars so to speak!) to take our Communion services. One deserves special mention, not only because he has stepped up

for almost all these services in the last year, but because we have come to know him quite well, and he has taken us under his wing with great warmth and thoughtfulness. I refer of course to Rev'd Bob Green.....thank you so much Bob. We hope Bob will continue to lead some services until such time as the new incumbent is inducted, and service patterns have been reviewed and established.

Hopefully we will all have a chance to meet Philip soon, and be able to wish him a very warm welcome, a smooth initiation, and a learning curve with a kind and gentle gradient.

A happy warm and sunny midsummer to you all, and do try to join us for the Cheese and Wine on June 29th. Everyone will be welcome!

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On a very much sadder note, since the last Acorn was distributed, the community has lost a wonderful friend and neighbour, Gordon Wood. I have just returned from his funeral and since most of you were there, you will know that it was the loveliest, warmest, heartfelt and fitting testimony to the man who touched the lives of so many...a very moving service mourning but also celebrating a very special man. Cathy, you were amazing, and please know our thoughts and prayers are with you, and the family.

Trish and Sue

### CHURCH SERVICES FOR JUNE

|            | <b>2nd June<br/>7th of Easter</b>                                                  | <b>9th June<br/>Pentecost</b>                                  | <b>16th June<br/>Trinity</b>                                               | <b>23rd June<br/>Trinity 1</b>              | <b>30th June<br/>Trinity 2</b>                                |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8am        | <b>BROUGHTON</b><br>HC CW                                                          | -                                                              | <b>BROUGHTON</b><br>HC BCP                                                 | -                                           | -                                                             |
| 9.30<br>am | <b>BOSSINGTON</b><br>HC BCP<br>-----<br><b>BROUGHTON</b><br>The Bible<br>Uncovered | <b>BROUGHTON</b><br>HC CW<br>-----<br><b>HOUGHTON</b><br>HC CW | <b>BROUGHTON</b><br>Family Service<br>-----<br><b>MOTTISFONT</b><br>HC BCP | <b>BROUGHTON</b><br>Family Communion<br>CW  | <b>10am</b><br><b>MOTTISFONT</b><br>HC CW<br>for the Benefice |
| 11am       | -                                                                                  | <b>MOTTISFONT</b><br>Messy Church Club                         | -                                                                          | <b>MOTTISFONT</b><br>Family Communion<br>CW | -                                                             |
| 6pm        | <b>MOTTISFONT</b><br>Evensong                                                      | -                                                              | <b>BOSSINGTON</b><br>Meditation                                            | <b>HOUGHTON</b><br>Evensong                 | -                                                             |

HC = Holy Communion

CW = Common Worship

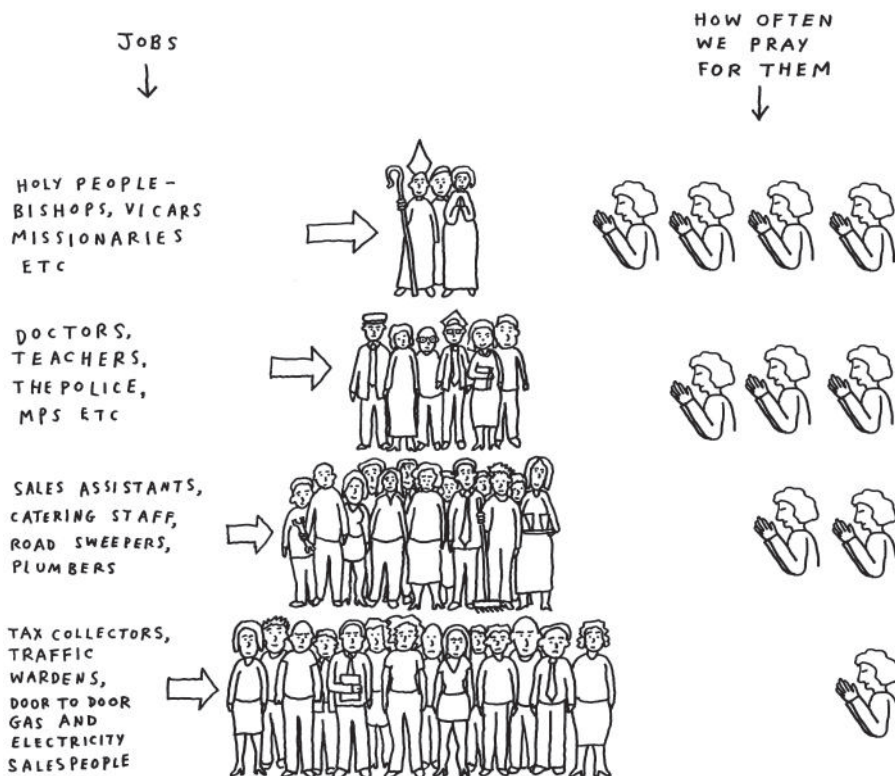
BCP = Book of Common Prayer

The Novena (9 Days of Prayer) starts on Ascension Day (30th May) and ends on Pentecost (9th June). The impetus comes in response to the "Thy Kingdom Come" initiative from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York ([www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)). There are prayer resources and more information on the website – do have a look.

Across the Deanery there will be special services and extra opportunities for prayer. I hope that you might take the chance to find out – or just drop in to your nearest church to sit, rest, think and, perhaps, pray. In the many prayers offered, the focus for us will be on the mission and ministry of each of us in our communities.

Your Area Dean, James  
romseyareadean\*at\*gmail.com

## A HIERARCHY OF VOCATIONS



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

### The Friends of St Andrew's Church

*invite you, your families and friends to*

## A Midsummer's Garden Evening with Wine & Cheese Strawberries & Cream

A fundraising event in the riverside garden at Mottisfont House, adjacent to St. Andrew's Church, in support of essential repairs and renovation of St. Andrew's Church vestry.

**29th June, 6.30 – 9pm**

Tickets available on entry:  
£15 for adult, £6 for age 5-16, under 5 free  
Includes one glass of wine/fruit juice.

### Authors of Meditations

To help you identify the three authors, here are three clues. They are not in the right order. All the words have six letters.

1. Mixed school adds to this item in the yard
2. A number standing out for her
3. Add pebbles to find a blocker

Good luck!

Desmond Graves

THE FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,  
HOUGHTON  
present

## ROMEO AND JULIET

performed by  
**THIS MY THEATRE**

at All Saints' Church, Houghton,  
on Saturday 22nd June.

Wine and canapes at 6.30pm.

Performance begins at 7.30pm.

Tickets £15 (children under 16 £5) from  
Julie Moldon: [jmmoldon\\*at\\*googlemail\\*dot\\*com](mailto:jmmoldon*at*googlemail*dot*com)  
Sue Marshall: 388538

### BROUGHTON BRIGHT HOUR

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

#### Events for June

- 6th June: Rev'd Christopher Walker  
13th June: Miss Barbara Hillier  
20th June: Members' Meeting  
27th June: Rev'd Jill Bentall

Everyone welcome, please come and join us.

Barbara Perry, Booking Secretary, 301466

## Charity Whist Drive

Mottisfont Village Hall

Friday 26th July at 7.30pm

**Top Quality Prizes!**

**Refreshments and a Grand Raffle!**

Cathie Wood, 340129

## MEET THE NEIGHBOURS

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

**Tuesday,  
25th June, from 7pm**



**Don't forget the village web site:**

**[www.mottisfontpc.org.uk](http://www.mottisfontpc.org.uk)**

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

### Test Valley Villages Lecture Series

**8pm on Wednesday 19th June  
at St. Mary's Church, Broughton**

### A Passion for the Land: adapting farming to a changing world

**Speaker: Dagan James, Farmer at  
Manor Farm, Broughton**

For this third talk about local passions, Dagan James will speak about the multiple challenges of developing a farming system which fits the locality, the climate, and the bureaucracy. The buffalo herd has become a popular local feature, and their place in the system is also changing and adapting.



Dagan thought he was an artist, and was surprised himself to become a farmer. He has adapted to his new life with energy and commitment, and is still here to tell the tale, and to work for the future of farming.

Entry £5 to include a drink. Full time students free. All are welcome – no booking required.

## STOCKBRIDGE CINEMA



**Friday 14 June 2019  
Shoplifters (15)**

After one of their shoplifting sessions, Osamu and his son come across a little girl in the freezing cold. At first reluctant to shelter the girl, Osamu's wife agrees to take care of her after learning of the hardships she faces. Although the family is poor, barely making enough money to survive through petty crime, they seem to live happily together until an unforeseen incident reveals hidden secrets, testing the bonds that unite them. [In Japanese with English subtitles]

Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall, SO20 6HE, at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7pm.

**Wednesday 19 June 2019  
A Private War (15)**

Marie Colvin (Rosamund Pike) is one of the most celebrated war correspondents of our time. Colvin is an utterly fearless and rebellious spirit, driven to the frontlines of conflicts across the globe to give voice to the voiceless, while constantly testing the limits between bravery and bravado.

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](http://www.stockbridgecinema.org.uk).

### OPEN GARDENS, LONGSTOCK

**Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June  
1.30pm to 5.30pm each day**

**Entry (covering both days): adults £8,  
under 16s free**

Eight Longstock gardens, some of which have never previously been seen by the general public, plus the Village Allotments and St. Mary's Church will be open to visitors.

Programmes will be on sale in the Village Hall (postcode SO20 6DP) and also at one of the designated parking areas in the village. Teas will be served in the Village Hall on both afternoons starting at 1.30 pm, where there will also be a plant stall with many quality plants and bargains.

A limited amount of free - mini bus - transport will be available to take visitors up and down the village. Unfortunately dogs will not be allowed to enter any of the gardens. All proceeds are in aid of St. Mary's Church, Longstock.

For queries please contact Garry Hedley (Church Treasurer) on 01264 810284 or by e-mail at [gh2900@btinternet.com](mailto:gh2900@btinternet.com)



## MOTTISFONT PARISH COUNCIL

### Is your broadband super fast or snail's pace?

Broadband download speeds in the parish seem to vary from 40Mbit/s to 1Mbit/s.

Mottisfont Parish Council wants to hear from you if you are frustrated at the slow speed of your broadband connection, with the aim of putting together a case to improve the standard of provision so that everyone in the parish gets a reasonable service.

We will need to know your address, broadband service provider and download speed (you can measure your download speed at [broadbandtest.which.co.uk](http://broadbandtest.which.co.uk) or various other sites) and we will also need your permission to use this information.

The more responses we get, the better our case is likely to be.

Email us at [broadband@mottisfontpc.org.uk](mailto:broadband@mottisfontpc.org.uk) by 9th July, please.

### Meeting dates for 2019

Wednesday 10th July  
Wednesday 25th September  
Wednesday 20th November

#### Which councillor does what?

At the AGM on 15th May, the following areas of responsibility were agreed:

|                                               |                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Dunbridge matters                             | Julia Barnett,<br>Peter Barnett              |
| Footpaths                                     | Julia Barnett,<br>Peter Barnett              |
| National Trust liaison                        | Jeff Channing,<br>Julia Barnett, John Millns |
| Planning and housing                          | Jeff Channing                                |
| Police liaison                                | Gareth Jenkins                               |
| Test Valley Association<br>of Parish Councils | Jeff Channing,<br>Peter Barnett              |
| Highways/rail/transport                       | Andrew Simmonds                              |
| Village Bus Committee                         | Peter Barnett                                |
| Village Hall liaison                          | John Millns                                  |
| Website                                       | Peter Barnett                                |

*Much more information at  
[www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/pc/pc.php](http://www.mottisfontpc.org.uk/pc/pc.php)*

### The WI

There were 19 members and friends at the May meeting, which was our AGM. The previous year's AGM minutes were read and approved.

Reports were given by the Treasurer and President, and discussion and voting took place for the committee members and for the President for the forthcoming year.

Various items were discussed including a forthcoming lunch at Eastleigh College, two trips to the Plaza Theatre, and the resolutions that will be discussed at the forthcoming WI Conference in June. The resolutions we discussed were "Local Bus Services" and "The Cervical Smear Test".

Members were invited to bring along a photograph of themselves as a child/baby. These were put on a table and we had to guess who each one was. This, together with a cup of tea or coffee, proved to be an enjoyable game and got us all thinking and scratching our heads as to who they all were.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 11th June at 7.30pm in Mottisfont Village Hall. The speaker on this night will be Ian Mackay and his subject is "The Dog Listener". Visitors will be welcome to come along and meet us, enjoy the evening, and have a biscuit and a cup of coffee or tea.



### 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 at least 10 days before the next meeting (i.e. by 2nd June).

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](mailto:tina-stuart-1-at-gmail-dot-com). (remove the dashes, and change "at" to "@" and "dot" to ".").

## MOTTISFONT SOCIAL CLUB

### Forthcoming events

**22 June:** 80/90s Disco.

No Quiz in June.

**6 July:** Mottisfont Social Club would like to invite all to its Fun Day from 2pm there will be free face painting and fruit shoots. Children's entertainment and Bar-b-q late afternoon.

**27 July:** the monthly quiz with snowball question over £100.

On 12th October the club will be celebrating its centenary. Do you know anyone who was either on the committee, was a steward, or was related to anyone who has been involved with the club at any point in its history? If you do, please can you let us know at mottisfontclub\*at\*outlook\*dot\*com, pop in to the club, or phone on 340521 so they can be invited to our celebrations.

During the summer the club will be closed on Wednesday evenings opening again in September.

### Regular Activities at Mottisfont Social Club

#### Mondays:

Ladies' Darts Teams in the Romsey and District Ladies Dart League  
Snooker Teams in the Southampton Snooker League

#### Tuesdays:

Billiards Team in the Test Valley Billiards League  
Ladies' Darts Team in the Eastleigh and District Ladies' Dart League

#### Wednesdays:

Free snooker and pool night  
Pool Team in local Pool League

#### Thursdays:

Bingo - this is very popular with a chance of winning up to £100.  
Find the Joker game

#### Fridays:

Darts Team - Romsey Men's Darts League

#### Saturdays:

Quiz (last Saturday of the month)

#### Sundays:

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

Most of these activities take place between September and May apart from Ladies' darts and bingo 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.***

### SNOOKER AND BILLIARDS

We have two snooker teams that have been playing in the Southampton Snooker League (see <http://snooker.southampton-social-clubs.co.uk/>).

The season has now finished, and the B team ended in second place in the second division. They will be joining the A team in the first division, who finished 8th with 85 points.

The B team won 18 of the 26 matches played, finishing with 107 points, one more than the third place team. They beat Exbury Club B 5-0 on the last day of the season to beat Woolston to second place. They also got to the semi-final of the Peter Marchi Cup, but lost 3-2 to Romsey Conservative Club.

Kalum Tarrant got a break of 50 in the last game,



one of the highest breaks in the league for the season.

There was success too in the Test Valley Billiards League, with the Mottisfont team (pictured) winning.

And Dan Jenkins and David Chase came away with a trophy having won the Pairs KO Cup.

