



Mottisfont & Dunbridge

ACORN



The Village Newsletter

April & May 2024

Radical new proposal for goods yard development

A new player has emerged in the long-running saga of the development of the former goods yard at Dunbridge. Gester Developments of Laughterton, Lincs., a little known but highly innovative architectural design house, will shortly be lodging its proposals with borough planners, and is optimistic that they will attract considerable attention.

"We have looked into the points raised about previous proposals for this site," said Gester's press officer, "and concluded that to get round issues related to the number of houses, capacity of the sewer, and parking, we needed to think outside the box, and even think the unthinkable. We are therefore proposing the construction of a two storey, steel-framed car park."



A car park of the type proposed by Gester Developments

"It may not be the prettiest of buildings," they admitted, "but let's face it, nearly anything would be better than what is there now."

They went on to explain that in their view "you can't have too much parking," and that it would open up opportunities for use as overflow parking for Mottisfont Abbey.

There would also be business opportunities for car valeting services, a cafe (but probably just a coffee vending machine), and for park-and-ride services to Romsey and Salisbury, although in this case the ride part would involve trains rather than the usual buses. The resulting increase in the use of the station might even inspire the rail company to install a ticket machine.

Gester Developments originally intended to lodge their application with the Planning Department on 1st April, but as this is a bank holiday this will now take place at a later date.

THIS YEAR'S VILLAGE FETE – CANCELLED?

At our recent meeting the village hall committee reluctantly decided that there will not be a fete in August this year unless more volunteers come forward to help.

This was a very difficult decision, but we simply do not have enough volunteers to organise and run the event. Last year we had to outsource the bar, barbecue and ice creams, and reduce the number of stalls. This resulted in criticism that the fete was not as large as in previous years.

If the village really wants a fete, it is vital that we get more volunteers to help. Are you willing to come forward to help organise the fete, commit (now) to running a stall or even join the committee? You will not be alone, as the current committee members have years of experience to support you.

Please get in touch with us if you want to help. This is not an April Fool.

Lynn Young

Tel: 340134

Email lynhenmatt-at-aol-dot-com

Dave & Pat Francis

Tel: 340609

Email pandafrancis-at-btinternet-dot-com

(Replace "-at-" with "@" and "-dot-" with ".")

MEET THE NEIGHBOURS



Meet the Neighbours is an opportunity to have a chat with and to get to know people who live nearby, over a drink at the Mill Arms.

So, why not come and join us for the next two *Meet the Neighbours* events from 7.30pm on:

Thursday, 25th April
and
Wednesday, 22nd May

Put it in your diary now!



Happy Easter from Mottisfont!

Please do find below details of our Easter and Summer Programme, and then pay us a visit. If you need to renew your Parish or Tennant passes, please get in touch with us via Mottisfont@nationaltrust.org.uk.

As we gear up for the season ahead, please be aware that we are expecting to be busy over the Easter Weekend and school holidays, especially if the weather is warm and sunny. We have made some small changes in our main car park to help with traffic flows and increase capacity a little, and have a full car park team in over Easter. It is far too wet to open an overflow car park at the moment, but we will be looking to open that in or just before June, weather and roses depending.

Looking ahead, we will be celebrating the 800th anniversary of the consecration of Mottisfont Abbey priory on Sunday 26th May 2024. We will be running medieval walks at 2.30pm. One of our volunteers is liaising with local churches to plan a small celebration at 3pm.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Rose Garden, which was planted between 1972 and 1974, and we'll be open until 8pm again on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings from Thursday 30th May to Saturday 29th June.

Vicky Fletcher
General Manager

In the gardens...

Daffodils are blooming beneath our giant plane trees and brightening up the beds of the winter garden. The parterre in front of the house is filled with Delft Blue hyacinths, and 15 Mount Fuji cherry trees are bursting into frothy white blossom. The small cherry orchard is established in a bio-diverse meadow, which reveals bright spots of colour from narcissi and fritillaries. Tulips flower in the walled gardens, and the Kitchen Garden will be planted with produce once the risk of frost has passed.

The first roses will start to emerge in May, particularly wall-climbing varieties, building up to rose season in June. Looking ahead to rose season, we'll be offering extended opening hours again, with the gardens open until 8pm on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 30th May to 29th June.

For families...

Easter

23rd March to 14th April, 10am to 5pm

Experience all the fun of a spring fete with our

energetic Easter trail. Have a go at welly wanging, 'egg-ercises', bunny bowling and hoopla. There'll be a craft activity to make and take home, and a spring-themed selfie station, too. £3 per trail, which includes an Easter trail sheet, bunny ears and dairy or vegan and Free From chocolate egg.

May half term

25th March to 2nd June, 10am to 5pm

Choose from one of three themed activity packs to help you explore Mottisfont at your own pace. Find creative inspiration as you discover different artworks in the house and gallery, explore the gardens to find out what's growing at this time of year, or take a walk for a closer look at the natural world.

Each activity booklet includes puzzles and challenges to complete while you explore, as well as a themed scene to cut out, decorate and keep. £2 per pack.

In the gallery...

**Exhibition: Heath Robinson at War
Until 14th April, 11am to 4.30pm**

Over 50 artworks of humorous drawings from both World Wars, demonstrating Heath Robinson's ability to counter the horrors of war with gentle satire and absurdity. You'll also be able to hear transcripts of letters from the troops and the public thanking him for his morale-raising efforts.

From mid-May to mid-July, we'll be showcasing highlights from the Derek Hill Collection of 20th-century art in two rooms of the gallery.

In the house...

You can catch some curtain conservation in action on a weekday visit to the house this spring. Original features of last owner Maud Russell's design scheme for the house, the curtains and pelmet found in the Study are one of only a small number of objects donated to the National Trust along with the house and grounds. But the pelmet attachment was beginning to fail, and light damage has deteriorated the floral chintz and its lining.

The curtains have also become very dirty over time. A specialist textile conservator will be carrying out treatment over the coming months, which will provide stabilisation and ensure we can re-hang the curtains more fit for future years.

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

Mottisfont PCC will be hosting

The Rose and Wine Evening 2024



To be held on



**Friday May 24th 6.30-8.30pm
in the
Walled Rose Garden at Mottisfont NT**

This increasingly popular event is a delightful chance to savour the famous ancient roses and attendant planting whilst sipping a chilled glass of Provence rosé or a Sauvignon blanc on a late May evening with friends.....and have a fling on the RAFFLE.

**TICKETS....to include a glass of wine or fruit cup.
(Wine also available to purchase by the glass or bottle)**

**Adults £15, Children age 12 + £6, under 12 free.
Tickets available on entry, or in advance via Mrs
Clutterbuck on 01794 340475**

**PLEASE NOTE..... we regret that we can only accept
payment by cash or cheques (made payable to
Mottisfont PCC).**

Card payments cannot be processed on the evening.

Parking in NT staff car park which will be signposted

**In aid of the forthcoming renovations required by St Andrew's Church.
By kind permission of Mottisfont NT.**

Lockerley Primary School

Clerk to the Governors Vacancy Available at Lockerley Primary School

The school is seeking to appoint an efficient and enthusiastic Clerk to the Governors, with strong organisation skills and administrative experience to support our school governing body. You will work closely with the Chair of Governors and Headteacher to co-ordinate the running of Full Governing Body meetings.

The role requires attendance at evening meetings, with home working for the remainder of the time. The main requirement is to attend ten Full Governing Body meetings per year. The post needs six hours per meeting at £15 per hour, term time only, with access to a computer and internet to undertake the work.

The start date will commence as soon as the pre-employment checks have been completed for the successful candidate. Please email a CV and covering letter to cofg@lockerley.hants.sch.uk or contact the school office on 01794 340485.

Caterpillars Playgroup



Every Tuesday during term-time 10:00 – 10:45am

£2 'play as you go'

Lockerley Primary School

We invite you to come along to our playgroup, from birth to 5year olds.

There will be songs, stories, crafts and toys.

Run by a qualified teacher

We have baby-weighing scales

Refreshments served

No need to sign up, just come along and join the fun.

WHIST AT MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL



Friday 19th April, 7pm start

Friday 17th May, 7pm start

The Thomas Dowse's Trust

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 towards the cost of such things as uniform, school trips, music tuition, overseas educational trips, 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.

Please email the secretary, Tina Stuart, for an application form or collect one from Broughton Primary School, St. Mary's Church (Broughton) or Mottisfont Church. Applications received will be considered at the next meeting of the Trustees. The closing date for applications in time for the next meeting is 2nd June.

Email address: tinastuart1atgmaildotcom (change "at" to "@" and "dot" to ".").

Pentecost, Sunday 19th May

The Church celebrates its birthday

Why is Pentecost called the birthday of the Church? The congregation of St. Andrew's invites all villagers to join us on Sunday 19th May at 11am to find out why, and to celebrate with us.

Worship has taken place in this building for the last 800 years, but our faith has been active for 2,000 years. Come and see inside this ancient listed building, and join us to find out more. Alongside a short act of worship will be an activity, a story, and a game for the children, not forgetting the all-important birthday cake - which will not have 2,000 candles.

Make a note of the date, and we look forward to welcoming you.

MOTTISFONT VILLAGE HALL OPEN MORNING

It was good to see so many villagers and those from further afield who came along to the village hall open morning on 23rd March.

A big thank you to everyone who supported it, especially to the WI for the delicious cakes!

KINDLING WOOD FOR SALE

£5 a bag

Contact David on 07967 657003

Can deliver locally



A CHURCH VIEW

CHOICES

The Lent course this year focussed on the Old Testament book of Ruth. Tucked away at the beginning of the Bible just after the awesome book of Judges is Ruth, a heart warming story of famine, death, separation and loyalty, but which ends with a perfect romance, a marriage and a direct line to Jesus. The book of Ruth starts as a study of the choices that confront us as humans each day of the week. Someone once said it's not the chances we take that determine the course of our lives, but the choices we make. As we considered the choices that Ruth and her relatives had to make, and as we swapped famine for war and economic and political persecution, we realised just what a contemporary message the book of Ruth had for us all.

Choices we make as individuals so often have a longstanding effect on others. The impact of the choices we make about our life partners and occupations live with us throughout our lives. We might ask whether it is possible to make choices in this life which will affect the direction of our eternal lives. Joshua said to the Hebrew people he led, "Choose you this day who you will serve".

We know that decisions we make in our secular lives often influence our mental and spiritual lives. But can

the choices we make now affect our eternal destiny? Jesus said to Nicodemus (John 3), "I tell you the truth. No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again."

As a benefice we will soon be making choices about a new vicar to lead the benefice. It may not be obvious who that person should be, and so we need to be listening to God to perceive the person of his choosing.

Samuel the great prophet was given the task of finding, identifying and then anointing the new king of Israel, who would be a forebear of Jesus himself. He was led to visit Jesse, a noble man with 8 sons, all of whom might have fitted the bill as a potential king. Samuel had to meet all 8 sons before realising that David, the youngest and therefore the least qualified, was the person who God had chosen as their leader. And what a leader he became. Yes, David made mistakes, but he understood his people and listened to God when he needed guidance as to the way forward.

Do pray with us that the person of God's choosing will be appointed as our new vicar. Thank you.

John Rennie

CHURCH SERVICES FOR APRIL AND MAY

	Bossington	Broughton	Houghton	Mottisfont
7th April Easter 2	-	9.30am Parish Eucharist	-	6pm Evensong
14th April Easter 3	-	11am Parish Eucharist and Baptism	6pm Evensong	11am Morning Worship
21st April Easter 4	9.30am BCP Parish Eucharist	9.30am Bible Uncovered	-	-
28th April Easter 5	11am Family Service Rogation 6pm Meditation	8am Holy Communion (CW or BCP)	9am Parish Eucharist	11am Parish Eucharist
5th May Easter 6	-	9.30am Parish Eucharist	-	6pm Evensong
9th May Ascension Day	-	-	-	7.30pm Ascension Day Service + PCC Commissioning
12th May Easter 7	-	11am Parish Eucharist	6pm Evensong	11am Morning Worship
19th May Pentecost	9.30am BCP Parish Eucharist	9.30am Bible Uncovered	-	11am Family Service
26th May Trinity Sunday	6pm Meditation	8am Holy Communion (CW or BCP) 11am Family Service	9.30am Parish Eucharist	11am Parish Eucharist

STOCKBRIDGE CINEMA



Friday 19 April, 7.30 pm

Anatomy of a Fall (15)

For the past year, Sandra, her husband Samuel, and their eleven-year-old son Daniel have lived a secluded life in a remote town in the French Alps. When Samuel is found dead in the snow below their chalet, the police question whether he was murdered or committed suicide.

What follows is not just an investigation into the circumstances of Samuel's death but an unsettling psychological journey into the depths of Sandra and Samuel's conflicted relationship. [In French with subtitles]

Tickets **£6** (incl. 50p booking fee). See below for further details.

Saturday 20 April, 7.30 pm

20 Days in Mariupol (18)

An Associated Press team of Ukrainian journalists trapped in the besieged city of Mariupol struggle to continue their work documenting atrocities of the Russian invasion.

As the only international reporters who remain in the city, they capture what later become defining images of the war: dying children, mass graves, the bombing of a maternity hospital, and more. ***This award-winning documentary is being screened as a fundraising film for the Stockbridge Ukraine aid group.***

Tickets **£12.50** (incl. 50p booking fee). See below for further details.

Wednesday 24 April, 5pm and 7.30pm

The Miracle Club (12A)

Ireland 1968: three close friends win the trip of a lifetime - a pilgrimage to Lourdes.

With each woman desperately in need of a personal miracle, the trip seems like an answer to all their prayers. But when they are joined by another friend, returning to Dublin after decades in America, deep wounds from the past are re-opened and bitter truths exposed.

As they confront one another and embrace their shared past, the group reckon with revelations that will change them forever (comedy/drama).

Tickets **£6** (incl. 50p booking fee). See below for further details.

Sunday 28 April, 3pm

Wonka (PG)

A spectacular adventure, based on the extraordinary character at the centre of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, one of the best-selling children's books of all time.

Starring Timothée Chalamet in the title role, "Wonka" tells the wondrous story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician, and chocolate-maker, became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today.

A fundraising film for the Friends of Stockbridge School.

Tickets **£6** (incl. 50p booking fee) per adult ticket or **£5** per child ticket. See below for further details.

Friday 24th May, 7.30 pm

Godland (12A)

In the late 19th century, Denmark regards Iceland as its territory, which extends beyond matters of geography and governance to the spiritual health of the population.

So Lucas, a Lutheran priest, is sent by the Church of Denmark to establish a parish. Ever an optimist, Lucas believes his faith will guide him, even when he is warned of the obstacles, including a people who may be less than welcoming.

Godland makes the most of a breathtakingly austere Icelandic landscape in its story of a man on a singular mission. [In Icelandic with subtitles]

Tickets **£6** (incl. 50p booking fee). See below for further details.

Wednesday 29th May, 5pm and 7.30pm

Next Goal Wins (12A)

Based on a true story, this heartfelt underdog comedy follows the American Samoa soccer team, infamous for their brutal 31-0 FIFA loss in 2001.

With the World Cup qualifiers fast approaching, the team hires down-on-his-luck maverick coach Thomas Rongen (Michael Fassbender), hoping he will turn the world's worst soccer team into winners.

Tickets **£6** (incl. 50p booking fee). See below for further details.

All the above films: Showing at Stockbridge Town Hall SO20 6HE. Tickets on sale via www.stockbridgecinema.org.uk or by telephone from TicketSource 0333 666 3366 (no additional charge). Please visit our website for full details of all films.

In February, our guest speaker was local historian Phoebe Merrick. Her topic was "The highways of Romsey" and we were expecting to see familiar roads and streets in days gone by. Unfortunately Phoebe's computer chose to go on strike and refused to work, but, undaunted, Phoebe calmly stood and talked for an hour about the development of Romsey and its roads from Saxon times.

The Abbey of course owned much of the area in the middle ages, and the town gradually expanded thereafter. There are records of Cherville Street in the 13th Century, and early evidence of the Bell Street area too.

We learned about the canal which flowed from Southampton to Andover in the 1790s and the coming of the railway in 1840. This led to the construction of the Alma Road and Station Road areas, where there had once been fields.

The many waterways which surround Romsey led to the building of mills, initially for the finishing of high grade woollen cloth, and later for flour and paper making. Even those of us born and bred in the area learned some new facts - and all without the speaker using a note or slide to jog her memory!

Our speaker in March came from another country altogether. Analiza Jones lived originally in the Philippines but married an Englishman, and has lived here now for a good number of years.

She brought with her a great selection of very attractive bags, in all shapes and sizes. These were made by natives of the Philippines, using fibres from the leaves and stalks of the banana and aucuba trees.

Analiza's computer DID work, and we were shown pictures of the hard and often dangerous work entailed by the locals in extracting and preparing the fibres for weaving the most attractive bags. These bags were offered for sale at the end of the talk, for very reasonable prices, and several members took advantage of the offer - it's never too early to start your Christmas shopping!

We were told of a Fashion Show for local charities to take place in May and also of a chance to see the musical "Oliver" at the Plaza. A team is needed for the W I Group Quiz, also in May.

Next month, on 9th April, Tim Benson, vicar of the Braishfield benefice, will talk about his life as a vicar, which promises to be both amusing and informative. Why not come along and join us for a friendly evening with coffee and biscuits afterwards?

Broughton and Mottisfont Village Bus



Here are our regular services:
Romsey: Thursday mornings and Friday afternoons
Salisbury: Tuesday mornings
Southampton: 1st Wednesday of each month
Winchester: 2nd Wednesday of each month
Andover: 4th Wednesday of each month

DID YOU KNOW?

You can use these services free of charge if you have an older person's bus pass. And the pass is free too!

For more information, please call 01794 234794, or email thevillagebus@outlook.com.

There's more on our web page at [www.broughtonvillage.net/village bus](http://www.broughtonvillage.net/villagebus).

BROUGHTON COMMUNITY SHOP

Village Hall, High Street, Broughton SO20 8AX. Tel.: 01794 502495

Broughton Community Shop: Weekdays: 9.00am - 5.00pm
Saturdays: 9.00am - 12.30pm Sundays: 9.30am - 12.30pm

Broughton Post Office: Weekdays: 9.00am - 5.00pm
Saturdays: 9.00am - 12.00pm Sundays: Closed

Coffee Shop: Indoor and outdoor seating, and takeaway drinks

(Closes 30 minutes before Shop closure)

Follow us on FB or Instagram at broughtoncommunityshop and check on our website www.broughton.shop.
Or email news@broughton.shop to be included in the shop's mailing list for updates, promos and more.

Local produce, essentials and treats, fresh and frozen goods, wine and spirits, newspapers, magazines and much more plus, centre stage, a great range of dry and liquid refillables – just bring your own container!

Broughton Community Shop (Hampshire) Limited is a Community Benefit Society registered under the Co-operative and Community Benefits Societies Act 2014
Registration no: RS007762. VAT Reg no: 302 2080 69. Registered Office: Ford Springs, The Hollow, Broughton, Stockbridge SO20 8BB

Dunbridge Allotments

We are an active gardening community working 14 allotments in the centre of Dunbridge village. We now have several allotments vacant and available to rent. They are available immediately so good timing in preparation for the new growing season. We also have a current allotment holder who would like to share part of their plot.

Please contact me if you are interested:

M: 07811116761

E: Kim*dot*bown00*at*gmail*dot*com
(replace "*"dot*" with "." and "*"at*" with "@")

Many thanks,

Kim Bown

Somborne Community Cinema

The Monday Matinees have now finished for this season.

Somborne Community Cinema would like to thank everyone who supported the events, and hope that you all enjoyed the selection of films. We will start again in October, so watch this space for the dates and titles.



This is all made possible by our dedicated volunteers, and of course the grants from the Lottery Community Fund and Test Valley Borough Council. We also extend our heartfelt thanks to Mottisfont Parish Council, Broughton Parish Council and the Community Bus Committee for organising and driving the minibus.

Our regular Thursday evening screenings continue throughout the year.

Avis & Roger Stephens

Thursday 11th April

Anatomy of a Fall

A gripping crime drama set in the French Alps where a woman is suspected of her husband's murder, and their blind son faces a moral dilemma as the main witness in this thrilling Palme d'Or and Oscar winner.

Thursday 9th May

One Life

The story of Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton, a young London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued almost 700 predominantly Jewish children from the Nazis.

Tickets for these films are just £6 each and are

MOTTISFONT SOCIAL CLUB

RACE NIGHT

Saturday, 13th April

First race 8pm

DIABETES UK QUIZ

Saturday, 11th May - 8pm start

With Raffle

£2.50 per person, teams of up to 6

Quizmaster Gordon Collins

Please come and support this charity

OKEE DOKEE DISCO

Saturday, 22nd June

With Karaoke & BBQ

THE MIKE HUGHES QUIZ

Every other Friday, starting at 8pm

£2.50 per person, teams of up to six

5th & 19th April

3rd, 17th & 31st May

14th & 28th June

The Revd Sue Kipling

On 5 January 2023, Revd Sue Kipling was licenced to the Mid Test Benefice as Associate Priest. As such, Sue worked with Philip sharing services, or taking services, helping the workload by taking weddings, funerals and baptisms and generally becoming part of the Ministry Team. I know Philip enjoyed working with Sue as a colleague. Sue's licence comes to an end on 20 April and after much reflection, she has decided to retire. She is applying for a Permission to Officiate, and this allows her to choose how many services to take. We hope she will join the Clerical Registry as she will then be available to take services for any of the churches here in this Benefice, so we will continue to be in touch. Her last service before retiring is Sunday 7 April, 11am at St Peter's Church, Stockbridge.

At the last meeting of Benefice Council, we felt we would like to make a small presentation to Sue in thanks for her service, and this will take place after the service. Please come to the service at Stockbridge, if you can.

available from the Somborne Community Cinema web site at www.sombornecommunitycinema.co.uk, or at the door at King's Somborne Village Hall on the night.

Doors open at 7.15pm and the films start at 8pm, leaving plenty of time to get your drinks and snacks from the well-stocked bar.