



News and Notes

for Bodenham, Britford, Charlton All Saints, Nunton and Odstock February 2011

In this issue:

Page 2

- WI
- Poppy Appeal
- Chalke Valley Link Scheme
- ONB Fête
- Wool required

Page 3

- "Steam-Driven Nostalgia"
- Archdeacon of Sarum
- Chalke Valley Ladies Choir
- Chalke Valley Flower Club

Page 4

- Childcare in Wiltshire
- Third Thursday
- Seedy Sunday
- Radnor Arms

Page 5 - 7

- Local Ads

Page 8

- Local Ads
- Regular Events
- Diary Dates

More than just a pinboard ...

If I sit at my computer, which I do quite a lot (but possibly not as much as our esteemed News & Notes editor!), I look straight at the pin-board in front of me. It's a strange mix of reminders, notices, newsletters, phone numbers and my birthday calendar.

Which birthdays come up this week? Have I remembered to buy a card? And I say a little prayer, especially for any who are god-children. I note that one birthday next week is of a friend who is ill with cancer, so I must think carefully what to write; and I pray for her.

On the right is the latest newsletter about Sudan – I think of the still unresolved referendum. I am so glad we have a strong link with southern Sudan. The people deserve stability and autonomy, but with so few resources, it will take time for real peace to come, let alone any hope of prosperity. So I pray for them and in particular Bishop Anthony from Kajo Keji, who visited us last year. Just alongside on the board is pinned a Zimbabwe note with the nearly farcical face value of 5 Billion Dollars!!!! – but totally worthless. The note is to remind me to pray for that broken land too.

On the other side of the board are mostly phone numbers, a list of books out on loan, and cards from 'useful people' – hairdresser, cleaner, chimney-sweep, window-cleaner and so on – people without whose help I would be domestically lost! So I give thanks to God for our community, those I might be tempted to take for granted, and especially any who are in special need at this time.

So my pin-board is not just useful – but a wonderful prompt for prayer!

Alison Williams (01722 330628)

(Please see the note on page 3 about the visit to our villages by the Archdeacon of Sarum, including the invitation to the service at St Andrew's, Nunton on 20th February).

Church of England Services

6 th February 5 th Sunday before Lent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion Family Service Parish Communion Choral Evensong	Britford Nunton Coombe Bissett Homington	JT ACFT CH LB
13 th February 4 th Sunday before Lent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Parish Communion Family Service Choral Matins	Odstock Coombe Bissett Charlton All Saints	JT AW DB
20 th February 3 rd Sunday before Lent	8.00am 9.30am 9.30am	Holy Communion Parish Communion Family Communion	Britford Nunton Homington	JT DH CH
27 th February 2 nd Sunday before Lent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	Parish Communion Family Service Choral Matins	Charlton All Saints Odstock Coombe Bissett	AW AW LB
6 th March Sunday next before Lent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am 6.00pm	Parish Communion Family Service Parish Communion Choral Evensong	Britford Nunton Coombe Bissett Homington	JT ACFT AW AW

DH = Canon David Henley, AW = Revd Alison Williams, JT = Revd Jenny Taylor,
CH = Revd Charles Hatton, LB = Lavender Buckland, DB = Denis Blake, ACFT = Adrian Taylor

News & Notes

Editor: Adrian Taylor

01722 325862
(email below)

Deadline
18th of each month

Odstock, Nunton & Bodenham WI

Jill Dodd

The January meeting was held on Monday 10th. Happy New Year wishes were given by our President, Elizabeth Cutter. She welcomed one new member and one visitor. Barbara Stevens was thanked for providing a bright arrangement for the President's table. Appreciation was extended to Susie Appleford for organising a superb Christmas lunch at the Emblems Restaurant.

The business section of the meeting covered our financial position, which continued to be good. The draw for the bursary to Denman College was made. For this year there were two winners and four reserves. Membership subs were due and a new pamphlet was given to members. This has been compiled by the committee to inform everyone of the local, county and national structures of the WI.

All our monthly activity groups will continue this year. These include the Book Club, Walking Group, Skittles, Scrabble and Theatre. This month, the fifth Monday will be a trip to Waitrose for a cookery demonstration organised by Claire Hendicott.

Jean Van Hagen and Pam Trubshaw gave details of forthcoming county events including Bobbin Lace Making, What We Do At Devizes House, and a Dance Day.

After coffee and a chance to view the Bring a Book/Buy a Book stall, Mr M Angel gave a talk entitled Isaac Gulliver, King of the Smugglers. This was an amusing and informative experience. Our members were delighted with all the local connections, and many will be on the hunt to discover the various locations that were mentioned, smugglers' routes, inns and churches. Julia Joynt gave the vote of thanks.

The next meeting is on 14th February at Bodenham Hall at 10:00am when we welcome Mrs A Booth talking on the history of Punch & Judy. Visitors are always welcome.

Poppy Appeal 2010

*Lt Col Jeremy Metcalfe OBE Retd
(01722 325825)*

Thank you for all the support given to the 2010 Poppy Appeal. Our village total was £1522.91 which is up on last year. I am also very grateful for the support we receive from New Hall Hospital, The Radnor Arms, The Yew Tree and Odstock School.

The Poppy Appeal is the major single source of revenue for the Royal British Legion's Benevolent Fund. Each year more people come to the Legion for help and the cost of that help is continually increasing. Daily we see and read of young Service men and women employed in peace keeping duties in many parts of the world, often in considerable danger, and this means that there will always be a need to provide help for them and their dependants, when they themselves no longer can. That is why it is so important that the Legion can continue with its vital work.



Chalke Valley Link Scheme

Annual General Meeting

This will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 2nd March 2011 in the Village Hall, Broad Chalke.

The Scheme is a registered charity serving the communities of the Chalke Valley by the provision of voluntary transport and care services. The Scheme Members (its Executive Committee and registered volunteers) and any users of the Scheme are invited to attend the AGM, as are any other members of the public interested in the Scheme.

Members of the public wishing to attend should please contact the Secretary, John Lace, at Bingham's Farmhouse, Bowerchalke, Salisbury SP5 5BN Tel: 01722 780214.

Any nominations for election to the Executive Committee should be submitted to the Secretary by 23rd February 2011.

Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham Fête

Brian Blake, Chairman (01722 340261)

We had another very successful year in 2010 and, consequently, from the funds raised we have been pleased to make donations to the Parochial Church Council, the WI, Longford School, the Orchard and the Stars Appeal.

As always, the Committee has made an early start to plan this year's Grand Fête and surrounding events. We are always on the lookout for more people to get involved and so I would be delighted to hear from anyone in our villages who would like to play a part. Both before and during the Fête, there are all sorts of things to do and so, whatever your particular skills, you'll be welcome! Please give me a ring, even if you have helped before and want to make sure we know you are available.

One event we did not run last year was the Scarecrow Competition. We have decided, by popular request, to have one again this time. More details about entering will appear in later editions of News and Notes but in the meantime, so you can start planning your entry, I can confirm that you will not be restricted to a particular theme but invited to make a scarecrow based on any character you choose (even a scarecrow!).



Wool Required

- ❖ Two local ladies are looking for donations of wool
- ❖ Any colour, any thickness, any amount will be gratefully received
- ❖ These ladies knit blankets all year round for the Trussell Trust
- ❖ The blankets are given to orphans and the needy in Bulgaria

*For any donations of wool,
please ring Helen on 07920 263753*

Many thanks to those who have already donated.

Steam-Driven Nostalgia

Denis Blake

As one travels north up the M3 from the M27 – as one occasionally must, I suppose – you come to a place where the motorway goes over the crest of a hill and there before you, on the other side of the valley, lies the infamous Twyford Down cutting. To the left of this there is a large, squat hill with a copse on top, which looks for all the world like a turned-out Christmas pudding, only green. This is St. Catherine's Hill and is the venue of this scrap of nostalgia.

Twice a year, at the beginning of the September and the May terms, it was and still is the custom for the whole school at which I spent five happy years to walk up to the top of the hill: by whole school, I mean just that. Headmaster, teachers, boys – the lot – walked, before breakfast – to the top of St. Catherine's Hill, there to form up round the maze that is cut into the turf and to go through the ceremony of a full roll-call. As the head of the school, the senior scholar, called out the names of the boys in descending order of academic seniority, we stepped forward, raised our hat to the Headmaster, and walked across the maze and back down to the school for breakfast. Why and why there – that's another article!

First thing on a September or May morning, the weather was apt to be stunning and the panoramic view from the top of the hill was breathtaking: from Southampton way over to the left right up to the Micheldever Downs and Beacon Hill near Newbury to the right. On one of these wonderful mornings there occurred something of which the Editor unwittingly reminded me in his excellent piece including his Hornby Dublo "Mallard" locomotive.

As I stood there, quite junior, waiting for my name to be called, a train came up the valley and I could, and did, watch it progress from south of Otterbourne right up to Winchester. As if by a miracle of meteorology the air was quite still and quite cold with the result that the exhausted vapour (smoke or steam if you like) from the engine's funnel hung still in the air! The remarkable effect was to leave a suspended trail of white "smoke", gradually gathering height and breadth, all the way up the valley behind the train and it was still coming out of the funnel when the train passed me at about St. Cross and shortly after shut the regulator (the throttle!) for the slow-down approach to Winchester City station. (In those days there was still the Cheesehill station, known officially as Winchester Chesil, so the word "city" was needed.)

I very nearly missed hearing my name called but the Lord was clearly doubly on my side that morning: I had witnessed a steam-caused miracle and been spared dire retribution all in a few minutes. I have never seen anything like this steam effect since then but my love of trains has done nothing but increase over the years. I am now longing for my own lay-out, starting with either a "Lord Nelson" or a re-built Bulleid Pacific "Merchant Navy"! I fear I may long for long, if you see what I mean!

(Thank you, Denis, for this splendid piece. Editor)

Archdeacon of Sarum

We look forward to welcoming The Archdeacon of Sarum, The Venerable Alan Jeans, to our villages in February. On Wednesday, 16th and Thursday, 17th, he will spend time with various groups and people involved in all aspects of village life, as he considers the mission of the church among us. He will also be joining us at the 9.30am Parish Communion at St Andrew's Nunton on Sunday, 20th February where all will be welcome.

Chalke Valley Ladies Choir needs you.....

.....but only if you're female and can sing a little!!

We are in need of more singers, particularly sopranos at the moment. If you would like to give us a try, then come along to our rehearsal on Monday 7th February, 7.45pm at the Chapel, Broad Chalke.

We have three terms a year, each costing £20, to cover subs and new music (i.e. £60 per year) and we perform two concerts per year, with the proceeds going to charity but our main aim is to enjoy ourselves. Meeting night is on a Monday at 7.45pm at the Chapel, Broad Chalke.

To learn more, telephone Janet Roe on 01725 519242

Chalke Valley Flower Club Flowers are Fun in 2011

Liz Long 01722 780448

Emily Broomhead is a Chelsea Flower Show Gold Medal Winner which certainly makes her a local celebrity when it comes to flower arranging. Join us on Wednesday 23rd February at Broad Chalke Village Hall to enjoy Emily's imaginative designs. The evening starts at 7.30 pm and we can promise a warm welcome. Tickets are £5 at the door on the night.

The Chalke Valley Flower Club has a dynamic programme of events throughout the year starting with our regular flower arranging shows and including special outings to places of interest. We also have a busy season in front of us carrying out flower arranging ourselves. Already we have five weddings booked for which we are making all the floral arrangements. On 19th June we shall be at the Broadchalke Open Gardens and Church Flower Festival too. There are bound to be other opportunities for our members to show their creative skills and their craftsmanship as the year progresses.

We are always attracting new members who want to have a go at something novel and different. Some regulars just attend the meetings and watch demonstrations. Others join to meet new people and socialise. We welcome new learners who want to join our flower arranging teams. There can be a real sense of achievement working on some of the big wedding plans that we are invited to undertake. So whatever attracts you it is clear that there is plenty of activity at our club. Try us in 2011 and see what you think.

Childcare in Wiltshire

Parents in Wiltshire are being asked to give their views on childcare services across the county.

A survey of almost 2,000 Wiltshire parents conducted earlier this year highlighted 31 percent found childcare issues had prevented them, or their partner, starting a job, keeping a job or training.

Wiltshire Council aims to address local childcare concerns in the recent draft of its Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Report. The report is out for consultation now at www.wiltshire.gov.uk/childcare and all comments need to be received by March 20. The final report will be published by April 1 and will show how the council is addressing the issues that have arisen in the assessment.

Wiltshire's Family Information Service (FIS) at askwiltshire.org holds a wealth of information about Ofsted registered childcare in Wiltshire, including day nurseries, pre schools, childminders, nanny agencies, before and after school clubs, and holiday clubs including those which are able to care for children with difficulties and disabilities. They can be contacted on 08457 585072 or at www.askwiltshire.org.

The charity [ask](http://askwiltshire.org) supports parents and carers in Wiltshire through providing information, advice and services.

FIS can also give advice on the different types of care available, how much tax credit people might be entitled to and other types of help such as Salary Sacrifice, the pre-tax childcare vouchers arranged through employers.

Third Thursday (17th February)

A short, Iona form of Healing and Wholeness - held in Bowerchalke Church, on the third Thursday of each month at 11am for half an hour. Those who come, say it is a very comforting time of shared prayer for our own and others' needs. There is music, peace, prayer - and space for everyone. for more information, or if you would like to have a lift - please ring Lavender Buckland 01722 780488

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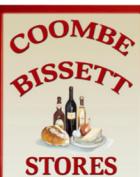
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Regular Events

WI	Second Monday of the month, 10.00am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham
Whist Drive	Every Thursday, 7.30pm, Barker Room, Nunton
Singing Group	Every Tuesday (ex. Aug/Dec.), 7.00pm, Barker Room, contact Adrian Taylor on 01722 325862
Tiny Tots	Wednesdays (ex. Aug.) 9.45 – 11.45am, Radnor Hall, Bodenham (Suzie Orchiton - 01722 502026)
Mobile Library	Britford (The Green), alt. Thursdays, 9.40 – 9.55am (3 rd & 17 th February) Charlton All Saints ('phone box), alt. Fridays, 10.25 – 10.40am (11 th & 25 th February) Nunton (The Orchard), monthly, 11.55 – 12.25pm (16 th February)
Acorn Social Club	Coffee Morning – Wednesdays 10.30am, Bingo – Fridays 7.00pm at the Orchard
Open Circle Folk Dancing/ Local Vocals	Dancing: 2 nd & 4 th Mondays each month, 7.30pm, Radnor Hall Local Vocals: 1 st Monday each month, 7.30 pm Radnor Hall contact Clare Chitty on 01722 330871

Diary Dates

9 th February	Odstock Parish Council Meeting
17 th February	Third Thursday service of Healing and Wholeness, Bowerchalke Church, 11.00am (see page 4)
27 th February	Seedy Sunday, Memorial Hall Downton, 2 - 4 pm (see page 4)
2 nd March	Chalke Valley Link Scheme AGM, Broad Chalke Village Hall 7.30pm (see page 2)

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