

Quidhampton Village Newsletter

July & August 2021

What's On in July and August

July

Thursday 1: White Horse pub quiz, booking essential, limited numbers

Saturday 3: village garden show and evening barbeque and music at The White Horse see page 2

Sunday 4: Lower Bemerton open gardens 14.00 – 17.00 see page 3

Tuesday 20 end of school year for Bemerton St John Primary and Sarum Academy

August

Thursday 5: White Horse pub quiz, booking essential

Thursday 19: election for police and crime commissioner

Bemerton Live, the older people's exercise group at St John's is meeting again. 10.30 for 10.45 on Fridays. Friendly company, gentle exercise and a coffee break.

Everyone welcome.

Other events may be organised if Covid restrictions are lifted

The next newsletter is not until September so communication will be by email and posters.

To receive the village email send your email address to the editor (details on back page)

At last the sockets have been installed and Quidhampton's own speed indicator device (SID) is in its proper place!

Sandie Smith, who has worked harder than anyone else to get this for the village, said:

"After more than 3 years of CSW, in the heat and the cold, it's going to be great to have the message going to drivers 24/7 on the fastest stretch of Lower Road. Maybe they will carry the message with them for the rest of their journey - we can but hope."



There are three other official positions, including one on the Netherhampton Road, and SID will be moved between them. Sandie is on the left in the photo; on the right is Joy Wagstaff who has taken over as leader of the village community speed watch (CSW) and between them is Steve, Joy's husband and an important member of the SID removal and positioning team.



At the White Horse

Quidhampton Summer Garden Show



Saturday 3 July 2021



**Entry forms available from hutch outside
Withy House (opposite the pub) from 28 June**



Please note extra formalities to comply with Covid regulations

There will be a one way system in the marquee and pub garden



08.45 - 10.30 Exhibits to be taken to marquee

Please observe social distancing if queuing outside and go into the marquee or hand over your entries only when asked to do so

Face masks must be worn in the marquee for the duration of the show

11.00 Marquee closed for judging

14.00 Marquee opens for general viewing. Limited numbers and one way system inside

14.00 – 16.00 Homemade cream teas £5 a head served in the pub garden
Facemasks can be removed when sitting down

16.00 Prize giving

16.30 Dog show begins (just for fun!)

Categories: 1. Best dog 2. Best trick 3. Most like owner
£1 per head

19.00 Live music, hog roast and barbeque

Live music: Glasshouse and singer

Facemasks must be worn when moving around but can be removed when sitting. One way system still operating

22.00 finish

Sadly NO dancing but tap your toes and enjoy the music from your seat.

It's not quite normality but a step in the right direction.

Come and enjoy the day!

Extra helpers are needed this year for stewarding duties: ring Clare Herring 01722 741469

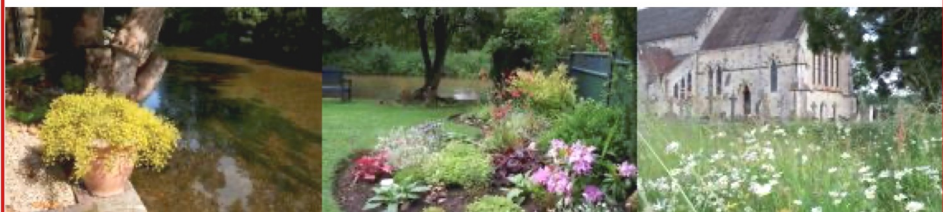
BEMERTON COMMUNITY

Registered Charity No. 1136873

The beautiful gardens and riverside views of Lower Bemerton are again open to the public. Enjoy a mix of different styles of gardens, breathtaking river views and a warm friendly atmosphere in this community event.

Teas, Plants and Home Made Jams for sale in St John's Place

Lower Bemerton Open Gardens



Sunday July 4th 2021, 2 to 5 pm



**Covid Compliant event - please follow
guidance and wear masks in St John's Place
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION BAND PLAYING AT
ST JOHN'S PLACE**



**Tickets £5 give access to all the gardens (under 12s free)
Available on the day from Belvedere or St John's Place**

**12 gardens to see between Gramshaw Road Pathway
Community Garden and St John's Place**

*More details from 01722 326261
All proceeds in aid of St John's Place*

Other Lower Bemerton events. These are LIVE events (no Zoom)

Wednesday 7: Bemerton Talks at St John's Place: Stonehenge: a curator's view
Heather Seibre, senior property curator will summarise recent research projects and consider the responses to Stonehenge by artists over the centuries. Doors open 19.00
Masks must be worn. Pre-booking essential. Ring 07790 287062

Wednesday 14 Bemerton Film Society St John's Place
Tokyo made in 1953 is often described as "a masterpiece, one of the top ten films ever made". It is a simple family story of great emotional power.
Black and white film with English subtitles
Masks must be worn. Pre-booking essential bemfilmbooking@gmail.com

Monday 19 : St John's Place Christian Fellowship 19.00 – 21.00
If the Covid restrictions are lifted the Christian Fellowship will meet again at St John's Place. Supper, worship, Bible teaching, prayer and fellowship. Contact Andrew & Susie Farley 01722 326518; Nick & Elspeth Saint 01722 324880

Wednesday 21: George Herbert in Bemerton event St Andrew's Church 19.30
Espying Heaven: George Herbert in Stained Glass: a talk by Adrian Barlow
Booking: 01722 321771



Do you want to stop oversized HGVs coming through the village?

In the past the community police officer dealt with HGVs in the village if we gave him a registration number, date and time, but these days the police are too busy and we have to act for ourselves.

Sandie Smith, who reported HGVs on our behalf, explains how to do it with the help of the internet:

You need a company name, not just the number plate, and date and time.
Look up the company and then email or phone them.

Any HGV recorded speeding during a CSW shift will be dealt with through the CSW system.

Sandie has offered to share the kind of email she would write.
Contact the editor for a copy.

Parish Council The newly appointed parish council clerk, Anisa Doubell, has resigned. Unfortunately she found that she had over-committed herself with another part time job, voluntary work and the study necessary for her master's degree.

Editor's comment: it is so easy to over commit. I'd be very interested in hearing from someone who'd like to take over the newsletter for two or three months.

Bus service:

Wiltshire Council wanted to know of any improvements residents feel could be made to our bus service. Responses were needed

by the end of June so the request was made through the village email. Very few responses were received. Does this show that villagers are generally happy with the service? Certainly we have more frequent buses than many villages, as well as the convenience of buses along Wilton Road. If you have any comments they can be sent to parish councillor Ken Taylor.



Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre (WSHC) has begun a new collection called Living in Lockdown.

This material will be closely studied by future generations to see how the coronavirus pandemic affected individual people and communities.

They are asking for material from individuals, groups, businesses etc that shows their experiences. This could be official letters, flyers, posters, diaries, photographs, or creative responses such as poetry, drawings or paintings.

WSHC already receive the newsletter

every month and have asked for copies of the village email but there must be much more that we can give as individuals or a community. How about photos of houses decorated outside for Christmas? Or the doorstep flower show? Or Lower Road with no traffic?!

If you can contribute something to Living in Lockdown make contact by email:

hertitageadmin@wiltshire.gov.uk or write to: WSHC, Cocklebury Road, Chippenham SN15 3QN

News from the past

Sidney Leonard Gulliver, affectionately known as Sid the milkman, died in May, aged 94. He delivered milk to Quidhampton from 1948 – 1969. Sidney came here to the service on Remembrance Day 2018 in memory of his uncle after whom he was named. Sidney Leonard Gulliver (1898 – 1920) lived in Quidhampton and died from TB in 1920, after being held as a prisoner of war in Germany.

Cilla and Rick Pickett have sent news from France. They lived in Melrose from 1992 – 2011. Rick has had surgery on his hand for trigger finger and is much happier as he can play the piano and guitar more easily again. He has a fully equipped studio in France and is recording a CD with a friend. Download the Sound cloud app and dial up Rick Pickett to hear their songs for free.

Rick and Cilla feel lucky to live in lovely countryside with a beautiful garden and few cases of Covid but are sad they have not been able to see their family. They say it is their grandchildren's generation who have suffered most with disruption to exams, university and finding work.

They love getting the newsletter and keep in touch in other ways too; Rick recently had a piece about music in the Bygone Salisbury page in the Salisbury Journal.

Community email catch up

Information from June's emails that is still relevant and not mentioned elsewhere in the newsletter. To join the village community email send your address to the editor

Library of Things

The Library of Things is like a normal library but with no books, just other useful stuff like carpet cleaners, pressure washers, gardening tools, camping gear, musical instruments and lots more.

You pay a fee for all items but it is reduced by 50 -70% if you join one of the membership schemes. **Some examples at full price per day:**

8 man tent £5

A3 laminator £3

Pressure washer £6

Tower fan £2

Sharing things instead of buying new is good for the planet, saves clutter, reduces waste, saves money. Why not give it a try?

There is a website and email but you can also go to : Wessex Community Action. Unit 6, Paxton Business Centre, Whittle Road, Churchfields Salisbury SP2 7YR

Opening hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday 11.00 - 14.00

Warning: be wary of strangers offering to do gardening, repairs etc. There has been one reported instance in the village this month. They can be charming and forceful. If a clear "No thank you" doesn't work contact the police.

Playground: the parish council had a successful clean up day but everyone was surprised at the amount of litter there was, especially bottles by the bench and sweet wrappers all round. Everyone knows what they should do! The litter bin is by the gate.

Old bench: parish councillor Tim Duncalfe dug out the stone and concrete ends of the rotten bench behind the goal posts. They are now on the ground by the gate. Please take them if you want them (great hardcore). if anyone can take them to the dump that would be great. They are very heavy – it is not a one person job.

Found: in the wild flower verge to the west of the playground: a red pair of children's swimming goggles. They are now hooked over the blue heart showing it is a wild flower area.

Three junctions: a non-statutory consultation is being held about proposed improvements to the Exeter Street roundabout, Harnham Gyratory and Park Wall junction. It is proposed to reconfigure them all to increase capacity, improve journey times, and reduce queues while also improving walking and cycling. Engagement events are online and emailed comments are encouraged but written comments can be sent to: Major Highway Projects, Wiltshire Council, Trowbridge BA14 8JN. The Salisbury Junctions Consultation Booklet with more information can be downloaded. Contact the editor if you have problems with this.

Mike Barwell 1936 -2021

Mike died of cancer on 25 April aged 85. He'd lived in Nadder Lane since 1988 with his wife, Ann. Their welcoming home was full of books and they were well known for running a full and varied bookstall at jumble sales etc. They made annual donations to the newsletter and were both very appreciative of the many kindnesses of villagers during the lockdowns both last year and this.

Covid regulations meant Mike's funeral on 21 May was a small one with only close family and friends. This is the tribute his family read to say goodbye and celebrate the life of Robert Michael Barwell - Mike.

Mike was born in Chelsea, in the days, his brother says, before TV or the internet. He was the oldest of eight children. He joined the Royal Army Ordnance Corps to do his national service, and trained to be an ammunition technician.

His first posting took him to Singapore and Malaya for three years, and then, after marriage to Ann in England in 1959, to Belgium and Germany. He did a tour in Ireland in 1973 and came back to England for the London bombings, working at bomb disposal.



Queen Mother's funeral. In 2004 he was invested with the Royal Victoria Medal for his service to the queen.

Out of uniform Mike enjoyed the various dogs that joined our family over the years, holidays in Dorset, and our final home (of many!) with a quiet life with his books and music in Nadder Lane.

Mike and Ann met as pen pals. Ann, like many other young women, was asked if she would like to write to a serviceman on National Service away from home. Although she had one or two other boyfriends she agreed, little dreaming it would lead to over sixty years of marriage.



Over the years Mike moved up the ranks to the honorary rank of conductor.

He retired after 24 years' service and became a personnel officer at EMI followed by several years with the Forestry Commission, first as warden and then in the Forest Survey.

Mike was in uniform again in 1982 when he enrolled as yeoman in the Queen's Bodyguard, the Yeoman of the Guard. He served until 2006 and was on duty for most state occasions including a royal wedding and the

One Man Went to Mow

The monthly column by Nick Tomalin

Have you heard about 'No Mow May?' The idea is to stop mowing and allow your lawn to grow, so grasses and other plants can flower and set seed. For many people this is exactly what they don't want in a lawn – what they see as weeds! But for wildlife, a traditionally well-tended lawn is a desert: a monoculture of short grass with no food or shelter.

You do not have to allow your whole garden to become a jungle: it is possible to have the best of both worlds by leaving edges and patches to grow and trimming the bits you use as a lawn. Or let it all grow and mow a path through to the gate or washing line. In doing this, you remove the hard edges. Although we like borders nature struggles with sudden barriers, preferring a soft change from one habitat to the next. What to you might be weeds – e.g. dandelions and daisies – are food to invertebrates and birds. When my dandelions came up, the sparrows dropped down to feed on the seed heads, and butterflies landed on my lawn to feed instead of passing over.

The main point here is mindset. Many people believe a tidy garden is a better garden, but if you want wildlife to flourish in your outside space then save yourself the effort and do not mow so often. Even National Trust properties and the Chelsea Flower Show are increasingly highlighting the value of gardening for nature.

What to look out for in June Owls. As chicks get bigger and their appetite increases, adults spend more time hunting for food. With long evenings and warmer conditions, a dusk stroll might be rewarded with an owl encounter.

What can you do this month Discover somewhere new for a walk. We are very fortunate to live in such a beautiful area. Check out Grovelly Wood, Garston Wood or Bentley Wood for the shade, or Martin Down, Coombe Bissett Down or Winterbourne Downs for the grasslands and sun. Langford Lakes and Blashford Lakes are good alternatives too.

Editor: I let my lawn grow longer last year and definitely had more birds in the garden. Small changes can make a big difference.

Photo by Ian Day
Thirteen happy calves in the meadow behind Alexandra Cottages provide company and entertainment for walkers – they have been known to race across the meadow to greet passers-by.

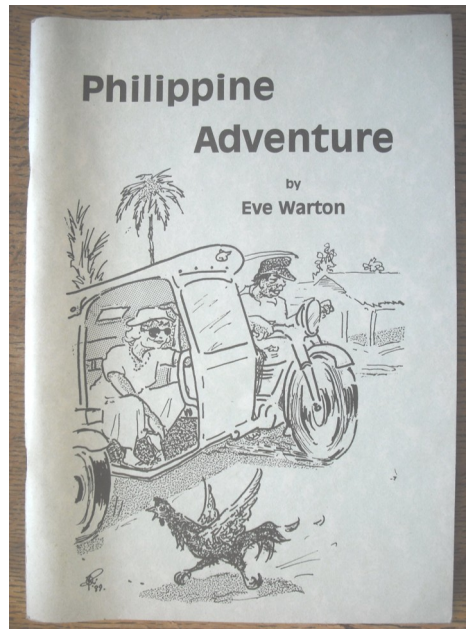


Unintended consequences

The recent request for stories about Prince Philip led to the revelation of a remarkable adventure in the life of one of our oldest villagers.

In the early 1980s, Eve Warton, now of Sovereign Close, set off for the Philippines with Priscilla, a woman she'd met in a convalescent home. Eve had been spellbound by the story of Priscilla's early life in the Philippine jungle during the Japanese occupation. She was saved by an aboriginal tribe and lived as one of them until her father returned for her after the war. Later she sold sweets in the streets of Manilla to pay for her schooling, then was tricked into marriage and abandoned in the jungle again. Eventually she came to England and married an Englishman.

Eve was determined Priscilla's story should be heard and when she couldn't persuade an established author to take it on decided to write it herself. Another important decision followed: they simply had to go to the Philippines to see where it happened.



It was a truly adventurous trip and Eve says now she doubts whether she would have gone if she'd known what it would be like: the dirt, the discomfort, long journeys on poor or virtually non-existent roads with bodyguards for protection from bandits. She was also unprepared for the effect on Priscilla who thought everything had changed for the better but saw that the gap between rich and poor was even wider.

It was utterly different to anything Eve had imagined and changed her way of thinking forever for which she is grateful. She has no regrets whatsoever about going.

The Royal connection

Eve was asked to make a speech at a tribal village feast with greetings from the Queen and Prince Philip. She got round this by saying "If the Queen were here I am sure she would say..." then spoke about her concern for all small communities and approval of plans to raise the standard of living. Before the book was printed Eve thought it wise to write to the queen to ask if she could say this and, having been approved, when it was printed she sent a copy to Buckingham Palace.

The thank you letter she received made her smile. The Queen and Prince Philip apparently loved reading how she left notes for her husband to help him cope in her absence, notes hidden among his socks and underpants, reminding him to water the plants, to pay the milkman and so on. It shows that they read it!

Eve still has one or two copies of her Philippine Adventure. Contact her if you want to borrow one. 01722 742258



Remembering the victims of the First World War

Background: The lychgate at St John's church is the war memorial for our parish, dedicated in March 1921. The parish consisted of Bemerton, Fugglestone and Quidhampton.

Thirty nine of the forty one men listed there have been commemorated 100 years after their death with a biography researched by Wendy Lawrence and Bea Tilbrook and published in full in this newsletter. Shorter versions appeared in Bemerton What's On and the church parish magazine. Prayers were said for the men in the morning service at St Andrews on the Sunday nearest their death.

Two names were added to the memorial after its completion, the first being that of Arthur Smart.

Arthur Robert Smart 1891 – 1921 Mercantile Marines

Arthur died before the end of August 1921 (the cut-off date set by the government for an official WWI death) but his death was not as a direct result of the war.

Family background and early life

Arthur's family background is described in the September 2016 newsletter* when his brother Walter was commemorated.

They came from Gillingham where their father, Tom, was a gardener but he moved first to Sherborne and then in 1910 to Bemerton to find work. There were eight children and Walter and another brother stayed in Gillingham with their grandparents. In 1911 the remaining family lived at 7 Church Lane. Arthur was twenty and worked as a footman.

During the war

In September 1914 Arthur Smart married Daisy Payne in Christchurch. He was 'hotel boots' at the Tollard Royal Hotel, Bournemouth. Daisy, 22, was born in Mile End, London, the daughter of a brass moulder. She also worked as a servant.

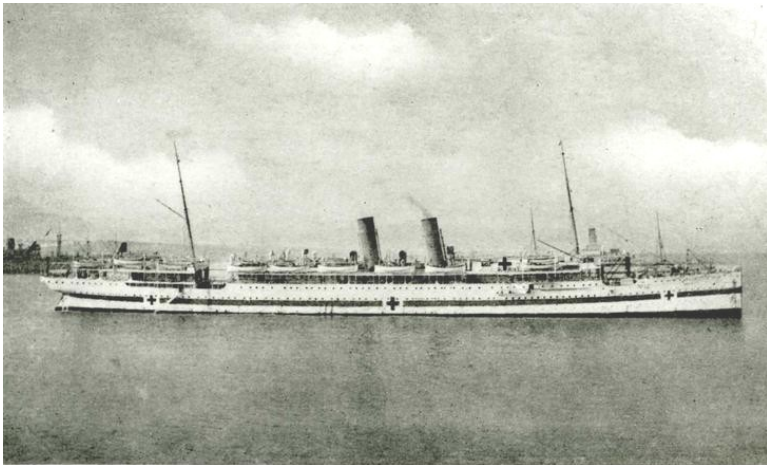
Arthur and Daisy's son Henry was born in November but died a month later. One of his middle names was Kitchener, suggesting Arthur's support for the war, but it is not known whether he tried to enlist in 1914 or not.

The next documented fact is a crew list for HMS Egypt in 1915. Arthur is a 'rating, general servant', having previously served on the P&O liner Arabia. Later he was the bar room steward.

Daisy and Arthur's daughter, Edna Winifred May Smart, was born at home on 1 May 1917. Daisy was living in 2 rooms in Church Street, Fisherton Anger (now Mill Road).



Tollard Court Hotel 1914



H M Hospital Ship "Egypt" (P&O)

It would seem likely that Arthur had arranged for Daisy to live near his parents in Bemerton while he was away at sea.

HMS Egypt was a P & O ocean liner, launched from Clyde in 1897. She travelled between India and the UK and was a hospital ship during the war. No other details of her war service have been discovered but Arthur Smart was awarded the mercantile marine medal. This was given to those who served at sea for 6 months including at least one voyage through a danger zone so he would have spent some of this time in danger.

His medal ribbon was sent to Daisy then living in two rooms in Ramsgate. By the time the medal was issued in 1922 she had moved back to live with her parents in London and Arthur was dead.

Arthur had continued to serve on HMS Egypt as a steward after the war but in July 1921 he contracted cerebral malaria and died in hospital in Bombay (Mumbai). He is buried in Sewri cemetery there.

The reasons for including Arthur's name on the lychgate are not known. Perhaps he hadn't been back to the UK after the war and the committee saw his time on the ship as part of his war service. His inclusion means there are four pairs of brothers named on the memorial.

Arthur's parents lived in Bemerton until they died and were buried at St John's. His widow married again in 1922 and had three more children all of whom emigrated to the USA. Her daughter with Arthur married in London and moved to Essex.

*Copies of the newsletters can be found on the Quidhampton parish council website.

Contact details during the coronavirus pandemic

If you need someone to talk to ring Jane Taylor 744534

If you need shopping or prescriptions collected or transport to medical appointments ring Jane Morgan 07880 550321 or Zoe Hoare 07747 717877.

For free counselling call or text Rachella Michaels 07778 102086

For other help call the Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub 0300 003 4576 who can refer you to a range of other services. Opening hours 09.00 – 17.00 Monday to Friday, 10.00 – 16.00 Saturday. Email: wellbeinghub@wiltshire.gov.uk

Latest update

New at The White Horse Super Seniors Lunch on Wednesdays

One course for £6.95
Two courses for £10

Please phone and book a table
01722 744448

Waste and Recycling July and August 2021

Recycling and garden waste

Friday July 2, 16 & 30

Friday August 13 & 27

Household waste

Monday July 5 & 19

Monday August 2, 16 & 30

This month's newsletter is paid for by Ann Barwell in loving and joyous memory of her husband Mike.

Local Contacts

The White Horse

01722 744448

Police non emergency no.: 101

PCSO Matthew Smith CPTSouthWiltshire@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk

Parish Council :

parishclerk@quidhampton.org.uk

Website:

www.parishcouncil.quidhampton.org.uk

Village Hall bookings:

Sabine Dawson: 07742 273984

sabinedance@btinternet.com

Quidditch Club: occasional activities by and for parents and children of all ages. Contact Abi by email for details :

abi.kingston@talk21.com

St John's Place : contact Manager:

Paula Johnston 07784 372201

sjp.salisbury@gmail.com

Community Emergency Volunteer

John Cater 744079

Community Speedwatch (CSW)

Joy Wagstaff 743080

Floodwarden:

Ken Taylor 742456

St John's Primary School: 322848

Quidhampton Mill : 741171

Self catering apartments

Quidhampton Nature Project

Mandy Wheelan

amandawhelan@me.com

Wilton and District Link

Scheme :01722 741241

Wiltshire Council 0300 456 0100

Area Councillor, Pauline Church.

pauline.church@wiltshire.gov.uk

07436 810350

Bemerton Church Parish

Rev'd Kevin Martin, Rector

rector.bemerton@protonmail.com

01722 679655 / 07821 943838

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