

**Broughton
Gifford**

VILLAGE

A a B b C c D d E e F f G g H h I i J j K k L l M m N n

FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
COME AND JOIN US AT THE
INAUGURAL MEETING IN THE VILLAGE
HALL
ON
28th FEBRUARY 2009
AT 6.30PM
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS
ALL ARE VERY WELCOME

MAGAZINE

**February
2009**

IN MEMORIAM

Peter Williams

We were saddened to learn of the sudden death of Peter Williams on 3rd December at the age of 77.

Peter was born in Cardiff in 1931. In his youth he was an outstanding sportsman, holding the Welsh national youth record for the 100 yards and playing rugby for Swansea RFC when still only 16.

He made his career in the RAF as a physical education specialist, developing an expertise in adventure training. With higher rank his appointments reflected his wider administrative ability, although on retirement from the RAF he returned to his physical education roots, spending seven happy years with the Omani Air Force.

Peter and Glen's association with Broughton Gifford date back to 1981 when they bought their house opposite The Bell. Peter will be sorely missed by his many friends in the village.

Our thoughts are with Glenys, Christopher and Stephanie.

FEBRUARY 2009

Many moving tributes have been paid to Peter Williams following his untimely death in early December, including a lovely address by Andrew in our village church. I would like to add a short personal comment on a former Royal Air Force colleague. We served together in the early 80's when we were both posted to the Officer and Aircrew Selection Centre at RAF Biggin Hill. From time to time Peter and I would be paired together for a couple of days selecting fresh blood for the RAF. I was always delighted to find that I had been teamed up with Peter - he was easy going, thoughtful, intelligent, courteous and great fun to be with. I would be very happy if I thought that he had enjoyed working with me just half as much as I enjoyed working with him.

Many of you will have been saddened to learn of the difficulties encountered by the Cromwell Press. Cromwell started life in the village and although they moved to newer and bigger premises in the White Horse Business Park some years back they carried on printing the Village Magazine for us at a highly discounted price. Our printing moved to Cpod (a sister company set up next door to Cromwell) some months back and as I write they are unaffected. This magazine and its readership have been well and loyally served by both companies and on your behalf I wish our many friends at Cromwell and Cpod a safe journey through these difficult times.

Here's Hilary.....

Ponderings



In these straightened times, I hope my public is triumphing over all adversities and carrying on in the true bulldog spirit, just to spite Robert Peston. I know it is silly to get all worked up about it, but that man has only to appear on the haunted fishtank and my blood pressure hikes itself up by several notches and I reach for the silence button. He has even written a book about it all! There is such a thing as wishing disaster on you, and I will not subscribe to it. I am desperately sorry for those whose livelihoods have been affected, but as a spin off falling interest rates must have benefitted many families. For goodness sake, look on the bright side. We live in a lovely country with lovely people, and as long as you have your health and strength and a sense of humour, life cannot be all bad. I suppose if all you have ever considered are material possessions, then it does come as a bit of a shock, but there are other things in life, and now could be a good time to discover them.

I do hope that those folks who eventually move into the Low Cost Housing that is being built off Curtis Orchard get as much fun living there as have had watching them being built. The weather has been against them, but talk about a long running saga. The pile driving was fun, if rather noisy, but the best bit has been the giant crane which we see, like a huge giraffe, overshadowing the building works. I think it would have been faster if they had simply dropped in several ready-built homes and just plumbed them in.

I do not generally compose my Ponderings all at once; they are generally contributed to over several days. As a result, I often have to finish them in an unseemly rush, as the copy deadline looms large. This was the situation this month, when I announced to Household Male that action would have to be taken straight after lunch. He wanted to get involved in clearing out cupboards, a truly laudable ambition, and one that I wholeheartedly support, especially as a Help the Aged bag needs filling. However, Ponderings had to come first! They didn't, of course, but

I had a lovely waltz down memory lane while reading my grandmother's cookery books! I know I am a sentimental old fool, but I cannot bear to part with them, especially the leaflets which beg me to "Dig for Victory"! My grandmother was a remarkable woman, born in 1897 and widowed in 1917, when my mother was six weeks old. No Welfare State in those days and she had to go out to work to support my mother and her older brother. She worked all her life and died at the age of 93, still in full command of her faculties. I did manage to pull myself together and did some meaningful tidying and throwing out (yes, the Help the Aged bag did get filled) before finally getting back to my Ponderings.

I hope you have all managed to avoid the usual seasonal bugs and blights, and I trust that those who did succumb are now well on the way to recovery. I do hope that 2009 is a happy and healthy year for all of you, and that we will all emerge with plumage intact, sane and in our right minds. Just avoid Robert Peston!

We are very sorry to hear that Gerald Harding has been taking advantage of the NHS, and gave them his patronage all over Christmas. That is just not good enough, Gerald. I understand that he is now back home, and hope he will soon be restored to full health and fitness. I understand that his knee is the cause of the problem, and I hope it now fully restored to full kneeling capabilities!

Copy deadline for the next magazine is 19th February, so sharpen those quills, unroll the papyrus, and get writing. Your Editor will be dumbfoundedly delighted. As they say, bye for now!

Wing Commander Peter Williams 1931- 2008

Glenys, Christopher and Stephanie wish to thank everyone for the kind messages of sympathy and condolences for our sad loss.

We would also like to thank those who were able to come to the Church, your attendance at the funeral was much appreciated.

BROUGHTON GIFFORD YOUTH CLUB

It is with great pleasure we announce that Youth Club will re-open its doors on Thursday 26th February 2009 from 6.30 pm to 8 pm (first Thursday after half term).

We have a new leader, Chris Freeman who moved to the village recently. Many thanks go to him for stepping forward. Together with our regular team of helpers, we are pleased to be bouncing back for the New Year with lots of new ideas and a fantastic programme of events for 2009.

We would like to welcome back all our members. Parents, please feel free to come along and meet Chris and the rest of the team and find out more about Youth Cub and what it can offer your child.

Youth Club is open for children from ages 8 to 16 years. Admission: £1 per session.



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DECORATORS

REPORT OF BROUGHTON GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 3RD DECEMBER 2008

Councillors Carbin and Clark were present for part of the meeting. Also Mr Bush of 72 The Common was present to answer any queries on his planning application.

Mr Pitts was ill, Mr Hudson had an appointment and Mrs Jarvis had work commitments. All had sent their apologies.

MATTERS ARISING

Mr Coward was unable to attend the meeting of the Wiltshire Strategic Health Authority on 20th November. However, Mr Wiltshire had read in the Melksham News that disappointment had been expressed over the matter of a minor injury service for Melksham not progressing any further forward at that meeting.

Mr Gurney invited the Councillors to address the Parish Council. Mr Clark advised that changes to Development Control under the unitary authority will mean that an application can only be called in to be considered by the Planning Committee by an elected member, rather than by an objection from a parish/town council. This is thought to be a target driven initiative rather than a democratic one. The Parish Council would request support from Andrew Murrison MP for retention of the present system under the unitary council. Mr Clark also stated that those people already on the Social Housing Register, currently managed by Homes4West Wilts will have to re-register within 28 days of notification, to ensure the time already registered is carried forward, in anticipation of the switchover to unitary authority control, to be managed by Homes4Wiltshire. Mr Carbin had little to add to this report.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Boundary Committee had issued its final recommendations for the review of boundaries for Wiltshire Council. The Village was included in the division to be known as 'Melksham Without North' in line with suggestions made by the District Council back in March 2008.

A reply had been received from the Bursar at Stonar School in response to the Parish Council's request for no further equestrian traffic to be directed through the Village, with Atworth being the preferred route. He was newly appointed in the post and would investigate the situation before formally replying to the Parish Council's letter.

The Village Hall Management Committee had sent a letter advising of its intention to refurbish the toilet facilities in 2009 and requested financial assistance to carry this work out. The Bonfire Night had been somewhat of a washout this year which had impacted on the funds available for this major improvement project. The Parish Council would be reviewing donations early in 2009 and would advise the Committee that it would be seriously considering its request at that time.

PLANNING

The following planning applications had been received and the Parish Council had no objections: Extension at 50 Newleaze Park; Proposed two storey side extension and rear single storey extension at 3 Brook Cottages; Installation of 3 solar panels on south facing roof slope of barn conversion at Church Farm (Mr Hooper and Mr Taylor both declared an interest). An application for first floor and rear extensions at 72 The Common had been received. The applicant gave a brief outline of his previous discussions with the District Council's Planning Officer, who had advised him that it was unlikely to be supported for various reasons. The Parish Council viewed the plans and fully supported the application stating that it would greatly improve on the present 'haphazard' appearance of the dwelling. These comments would be passed on to WWDC Planning Services. The Parish Council did not think the comments made by WWDC Planning Officer to be appropriate, since some of the points he had raised with the applicant were not included in the criteria for consideration on any application. Mr Ernie Clark, who formerly sat on the Planning Committee, would offer advice to Mr Bush on how to proceed outside of this meeting.

WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUES IN METHODIST CHURCH

The Clerk had contacted the Secretary of Broughton Gifford Methodist Church, who advised that Rev Christopher Cory of Devizes was dealing with the winding up of the branch and of the disposal of the building. Therefore he was the appropriate person to write to regarding the costs of transferring the memorials to St Mary's Church. The Clerk had written a letter to the Secretary, with a copy going to Rev Cory and St Mary's PCC. Nothing further had been received on this matter.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

WCC Highways had been advised about the water flowing across the road near Hitherkings and it was thought that further investigations were being carried out as to the source of this water. However, some urgent action was required in the meantime to get this water off the road now that severe frosts were being experienced and WCC would be reminded.

The road surface near the Baptist Chapel was suffering severe subsidence where the deep hole had been previously repaired and it was likely to open up again. This would be reported to WCC Highways requesting urgent action.

A large hole at the edge of the road outside Priory Farm had been reported, where vehicles pull in to give way to oncoming traffic and WCC Highways would be asked to make repairs.

Mr Taylor had concerns about the damage being caused to roads and pavements in Curtis Orchard by large vehicles delivering and collecting from the new development. Selwood Housing would be asked on 16th December if necessary repairs would be carried out once the development was completed. Concerns were also raised about some lorry movements to and from the site taking place when children were going to and from school, despite a request by the Parish Council to avoid these times. However, it was thought to be unavoidable and difficult to control at times, but this was likely to reduce once the ground works are completed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Enquiries would be made about a speed sign indicator and whether one can be purchased or hired to be used within the Village. WCC Highways and the Police would be approached.

A slurry tanker appears to have taken up residence (been in place for about 2.5 weeks) on the Common outside Common Farm. A request would be made for it to be moved into the yard and not parked on the Common.

REPORT OF BROUGHTON GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 7TH JANUARY 2009

Mr Ernie Clark was present for part of the meeting. Mr Gurney was unwell and had sent his apologies, so Mr Atkins took the Chair in his absence. District Councillor Carbin had sent his apologies as he was attending another meeting at District Council.

MATTERS ARISING

WCC Highways Engineer had contacted the Clerk regarding the copies of the Parish Council's correspondence with the owner of Bishop's Seat that had been sent to him after last month's meeting, as further damage had been done to her property by traffic trying to get past vehicles parked outside the School. He advised that he could not assist in the matter of finding alternative parking facilities near the School. Installation of any parking restrictions would have to be with Parish Council approval, so the only matter he could liaise with her on was her proposal of installing bollards to protect her property from passing traffic, so the Parish Council would wait to see how these negotiations proceeded.

A pile of rubble outside 93/94 The Common had reported last month and appeared to be the remains of a dismantled wall. It had also been reported that the occupier is making quite a mess on the Common whilst he was carrying out renovations. Mr Gurney had agreed to speak to the occupier on this matter in the next few days. Members of the Parish Council would look at the wall before the next meeting so that it could decide on any further action was necessary.

The Parish Council had been advised to write to the WCC Road Safety Team (RST) at County Hall regarding the possibility of installing flashing school warning signs in response to reports of speeding traffic. The School would have submitted a Travel to School Plan to the RST and this request would be considered alongside this document by WCC. The Parish Council would contact the School advising the Headteacher of this request to improve safety outside the School, before forwarding her a copy of its letter sent to RST at County Hall.

CORRESPONDENCE

WCC had written advising of a new Parish Improvement Grant Scheme to enable parish(es) to implement non-statutory improvements to countryside access and rights of way within their parish. Further information was available from the Rights of Way

section at County Hall. The Parish Council would consider if the path between the paddock alongside the Village Hall and the new development of affordable homes would qualify. Although it was not a recognised public right of way, through extensive long term usage its retention would be supported. The details would be filed for reference as necessary.

Mr Atkins, from the Chair, invited Councillor Clark to address the meeting. Mr Clark advised that to cover the period from when the District Council finishes on 31st March to when the unitary authority elections are held in June 2009, existing members of the Planning Committee are being asked to consider being co-opted to enable the planning process to continue during the handover period. The Implementation Executive (IE) had decided that it could not carry out this task. Mr Atkins asked whether there had been any movement on the issue of parish councils no longer having the power to 'call in' applications to be considered by Committee rather than by Council Officers. Mr Clark stated that it would be highly unlikely since opposition would be received from the areas, such as Salisbury, that never had the option in the first place, as West Wiltshire was one of the few areas that had this policy. The IE was standing firm that only elected members can request an application be referred to Committee, albeit at the request of a parish/town council. Mr Atkins thanked Mr Clark for his contribution.

PLANNING The application for a two storey side and rear extension and single storey extension at 72 The Common would be considered by the Planning Committee tomorrow night at Bradley Road offices. The Clerk advised that the application had been recommended for refusal by the Planning Officer and the Conservation Officer on the grounds that the development is considered to be inappropriate and will harm the special character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The Parish Council had already fully supported the application and totally refutes the comments made by the Planning Officer. Mr Clark advised that provided further comments, preferably via email, were received by the Case Officer by noon tomorrow then these would be presented to the Committee for consideration at the meeting. The Parish Council resolved to email the Planning Officer in the morning with its additional comments as follows: The Parish Council totally refutes the comments made by the Planning and Conservation Officers; Alterations carried out in the 1970's initially changed the character of the original small cottage and has resulted in the dwelling having its existing 'haphazard' design, with roof levels of varying sizes and designs. The Parish Council includes members who have lived in this community for many years and remember the original cottage before any alterations and they agree that the proposed extensions would go some way to correct/redress this unbalanced appearance and restore the character of the building once again. The increased 'footprint' of the building would be minimal with most of the extension being upwards. Applications for neighbouring properties of greater sizes have been granted without incident and the Parish Council is concerned about this lack of consistency. Mr Clark requested to be copied in on this email, as would Mr Atkins also.

Permission had been granted for the following applications: Change of use of disused agricultural building to form holiday let accommodation, car parking and landscaping at a building north of The Granary, Mill Lane. Single storey link extension at Hollybrook House. First floor extension above the garage at 50 Newleaze Park. The application for a two storey side and single storey rear extension at 3 Brook Cottages, The Street had been refused due to its form, proportion, width and scale being out of keeping with the character and appearance of the area. An application for tree works to be carried out on trees in the rear garden of Orchard Farm had been received, including pollarding weeping willow, felling Lawson Cypress and Norway Spruce. The Parish Council had no objections.

Mr Atkins on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked the Clerk for organising the meeting on Affordable Housing held on 16th December 2008. Paul Walsh, Mick Latham and Andrew Myatt (Head of Neighbourhoods – in charge of lettings) from Selwood Housing attended to provide further information along with 15 parishioners who were interested in applying for the units via the social Housing Register. Mr Wiltshire was also thanked for providing the refreshments.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE WCC explained in a letter that whilst satellite navigation systems were possibly to blame for HGV's using Mill Lane as a direct route into the Village, the systems were universal, not designed for specific vehicles and would therefore have no way of knowing the size of the vehicle using them. Drivers were ultimately responsible for breaking any relevant weight limits and were therefore open to prosecution by the Police. WCC Traffic Signs Team was looking at Mill Lane to review the effectiveness of existing signs and would report back

when feedback was available. A ticket had been raised for the repair work to the carriageway edge damage in Mill Lane to be carried out when the gang was next in the Village.

A copy of the Parish Council's letter highlighting the speeding traffic and congestion reported outside the School had been passed to WCC Road Safety Team, who will investigate the matter and respond to the Parish Council directly. The hole in the carriageway near the Baptist Chapel would be inspected again and repaired as necessary. The problem appeared to be linked with a private sewer coming either from the Chapel or the nearby Scout Hut. Contact details for both would be passed to WCC Highways so that the matter could be investigated.

Persistent flooding in Norrington Lane had been reported and the jetting machine had carried out work at the beginning of December to clear the blockage in the carrier drain. The Clerk reported that flooding on the road had dissipated but that ditches running alongside the road at Norrington Green were constantly full of water, indicating a blockage in the ditch system which was preventing water from flowing away from the area. It was agreed to ask the Parish Steward, being independent from both the Parish Council and local landowners, to inspect the ditches and report any problems or make any suggestions to improve the situation.

Water was reportedly pouring down the road at Hitherkings before Xmas after heavy rainfall. Luckily this was not followed closely by any frosts but if it had been severe problems would have ensued. This matter of compromised road safety would again be drawn to the attention of WCC Highways, but unless extensive work was carried out at the site, such as installation of an underground drain going under the road it was not likely to solve the problems.

WAR MEMORIAL PLAQUES IN METHODIST CHURCH

The Clerk had received a letter from Revd Roy Fowler, Area Chairman of

Mid-Wilts United Area (Methodist/United Reformed Churches) stating that he had been handed the Parish Council's letter by the previous Chairman Revd Cory. Revd Fowler confirmed that arrangements had been made for the memorials to be moved by a local monumental mason from the Methodist Church to the Parish Church, as the PCC had readily agreed to accept them. The PCC had now received the necessary permissions from the Diocese of Salisbury and this would all be done at the expense of the Methodist Church. A letter of thanks would be sent, with a copy being sent to St Mary's PCC.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

4th February 2009. Mr Hall offered his apologies in advance due to family celebration.

NAMING OF NEW DEVELOPMENT

The Parish Council is aware that once the development of new housing adjacent to Curtis Orchard is completed it will probably require a name! The Parish Council thought this could be opened up to the local community to make suitable and appropriate suggestions, although ultimate responsibility will fall to West Wiltshire District Council (or Wiltshire Council as from 1st April 2009). One suggestion already made in recognition of the family who made the land available for the project (at a much lower value than market rates) is 'Kyte Close'. So if you have any original ideas, preferably with a local link, please contact the Clerk as follows:

Home – 702158; Mobile – 07952 909336; Email – parishclerk_bgpc@yahoo.co.uk

BROUGHTON GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK - MRS D.A. CUTHBERTSON - 189 Melksham Lane, Broughton Gifford,
Melksham, Wiltshire SN12 8LN
Telephone: 01225 702158
Mobile: 07952 909336
Email: parishclerk_bgpc@yahoo.co.uk

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – MONDAY 30th MARCH 2009

All parishioners are invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 30th March 2009 in the Village Hall. The evening will start at 7 pm with light refreshments and business will start promptly at 7.30 pm.

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting – Monday 3rd March 2008
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes
5. Correspondence
6. Police Matters
7. County and District Council Matters
8. Financial Report
9. Chairman's Annual Report
10. Affordable Housing
11. PUBLIC FORUM
 - a. Flooding
 - b. Village Projects
 - c. Draft Commons Regulations
 - d. Any Other Business
12. Date of Next Annual Parish Meeting
13. Vote of Thanks
14. Closure of Meeting

The Chairman reserves the right to adjust the order of these Agenda items to facilitate the smooth running of the meeting.

If there are any specific subjects, not already listed, that you would like to have an opportunity of making comments on, would you please advise the Clerk by 16th March 2009.

THE PARISH COUNCIL LOOKS FORWARD TO YOUR SUPPORT ON 30th MARCH

Table top indoor car boot sale

Sunday 8th February, 10 - 1

Broughton Gifford Village Hall

all profits to Broughton Gifford Youth Club

for bookings phone Jacqui on 01225 783518

District and County Council news from Ernie Clark, your Independent councillor.

Firstly, may I wish everyone a Happy New Year.

As a result of the Christmas/New Year period both councils have been quiet recently. WWDC and WCC are both due to have full council meetings during the next few weeks and, following the County Council meeting, we will see just how much the move to a unitary council has saved us - or, more likely, cost us!

It now seems certain that, for the new authority, Hilperton will be a 'stand alone' Division as it has just the right number of electors. If I decide to offer myself for election to the WC, Hilperton is the seat I will contest, as that's where I live. Accordingly, I would be happy to hear from anyone that might like to consider standing as an Independent for the new Division that Broughton Gifford will be in.

For up to date news please remember to look at my web site:
www.ernieclark.org.uk<<http://www.ernieclark.org.uk/>>

Ernie Clark,
13 January 2009

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Andrew writes

“Slipping through my fingers all the time” is the song sung by Meryl Streep’s character Donna in the Mama Mia film as she helps her daughter dress and prepare for her wedding day. As she sings she remembers how hard it has been to keep in touch with her daughter at every stage of her growing up. She has invested time, she has been there for her in times of need, she has always been prepared to listen, but somehow time moves on so fast and her daughter’s growing up years seem to be slipping through her fingers all the time.

It can seem like that for us, in so many ways. If we have children we will be aware of this feeling, but all of us are aware that our own lives are also running away with us. What happened to all those things we were going to accomplish, the hopes and dreams of youth? Why do the years seem to flash by so quickly, and are we really filling them with the things that really matter to us?

The start of a new year always gives us the opportunity to reflect, and to make resolutions to try to do better. I’ll try to eat better, take more exercise, drink less alcohol. But will I invest quality time in my family and friends?

When it comes to time slipping through our fingers, I often have to deal with funerals where the next of kin have not used any part of their lives to invest in finding out whether there is a God or not. They have designated themselves in the “not a religious person” category, and, of course, they have no framework, no relationship with a loving Heavenly Father to help them deal with what is before them.

When it comes to believing in God, I find that many people use their mood swings as a barometer. It’s easier to believe in God on sunny days. When it’s summertime – the living is easy, the fish are jumping, the cotton is high, Daddy’s rich, and Mama’s good looking, then there seems to be a God in the Heavens. But in the dismal months of January and February, it can seem that it ain’t necessarily so!

But those who do start to come to church, to explore the claims of the Christian faith, find, in time, that God is faithful. He is there for us and will help us even through the darkest hour. On this issue at least, don’t let your life slip through your fingers.

With Every Blessing

Andrew

The new website has been launched please see us on www.stmarysbg.org.uk, www.allsaintsgc.org.uk

Diary

February

- 3rd 9.30 am - 3 pm Quiet Garden at Great Chalfield. 12.50 pm short period of silence before the service and mediation at 1 pm led by a member of the team. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee available.
- 25th 7.30 pm Ash Wednesday Parish Communion at St Katharine’s Church, Holt.
- 28th 10am - 12 midday Coffee Morning at Broughton Gifford Village Hall, proceeds for the Homeless Charity in Trowbridge.

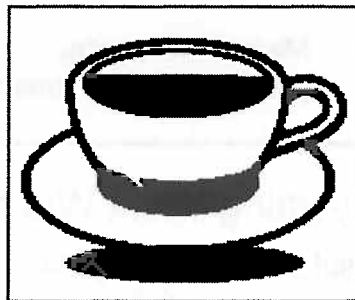
Sunday Services

	Holt St Katharine	Broughton Gifford St Mary	Great Chalfield All Saints
February			
1st	9.00 am HC 10.30 am SKT	10.00 am MS	6.00 pm E
8th	10.30 am PC	10.00 am SS 6.00 pm Immanuel Service	11.00 am HC
15th	10.30 am MW	10.00 am PC	11.00 am M
22nd	10.30 am MW 6.00 pm ChE	10.00 am PC	9.00 am HC
25th Ash Wednesday	7.30 pm PC		
March			
1st	9.00 am HC 10.30 am SKT	10.00 am MS	6.00 pm E
8th	10.30 am PC	10.00 am SS	11.00 am HC 6.00 pm Immanuel

KEY TO TYPES OF SERVICE

HC	Holy Communion	PC	Parish Communion, Common Worship
SKT	St Katharine's Together	E	Evening Prayer
ChE	Choral Evensong	SP	Special Praise Service
FC	Family Communion	M	Matins
MS	Morning Service	MW	Morning Worship

**ST MARY'S CHURCH INVITES YOU TO A
 COFFEE MORNING
 SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY
 BROUGHTON GIFFORD VILLAGE HALL
 Cake Stall, Bring and Buy
 ALL WELCOME**



Proceeds for the Homeless Charity in Trowbridge.

St Mary's Church, Broughton Gifford

It's too late to say "Merry Christmas" but I hope you all enjoyed in which ever way you chose.

At St Mary's there were so many wonderful and well attended services to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, which of course is what it's all about.

The church was decorated, as usual, by members of our flower rota and other helpers. It looked so beautiful in green and red with the multicolour decorated tree.

Most sincere thanks to everyone who helped in any way - decorating, donating holly and ivy etc, putting the crib together, changing altar frontals, cleaning, preaching. It is endless but we did enjoy it and hope those of you who attended the services realised the end results were almost perfect.

Christmas is not always happy for everyone so we do think and pray for those less fortunate than ourselves and in our hearts and minds wish them well in the future.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Janet Cameron-Watson

SAMARITAN'S PURSE

I would like to thank everyone who helped in any way with last year's Shoebox Appeal. We had a great response ! Some of you helped in the warehouse in Hercules Way, Bowerhill, while others knitted gloves, hats and scarves which were most welcome.

10,201 shoeboxes went to Ukraine
11,090 shoeboxes went to Bosnia
9,684 shoeboxes went to Serbia
4,553 shoeboxes went to Liberia

There is a great shortage of school supplies in Liberia. And we are hoping to fill a container for them by Easter with paper, exercise books, pens, pencils etc so that more children can go to school. Chris Bartos or myself will be happy to receive any items for them if you would like to help.

Many thanks again,
Rosemary Pressey

Babysitting Work Wanted

Responsible fourteen and a half year old young man, looking for babysitting work.
Experienced and very able!

Call Billy Gurney on 01225 782032

CANCER RESEARCH BAZAAR ON MARCH 21ST

It's that time of year again and as ever we are hoping that this year's event will be just as successful as previous years.

But we can't do it on our own, and we are still asking for your help and continued support.

We would be extremely grateful, if you could help us by donating any unwanted items to us. The prospect of a fresh New Year may often be associated with de-cluttering of our homes, we just thought it could be the case of in with the new and out with the old to us please!

The only items we are not collecting for is clothing, but all other unwanted gifts and goods would be most welcome. It would help us immensely if we could collect any items before the Bazaar to save us time on the day and to enable us to show the goods off at their best. Please contact Sue on 01225 812116, Doreen on 01225 704671 or Sasha on 01225 783336 and we will come and pick up.

We desperately need a volunteer to take over the organisation and running of the very successful Plant Stall this year. If you think you can help in any way please contact Doreen on 01225 704671.

Raffle tickets will be on sale nearer the time. If you wish to make a donation or offer a raffle prize please contact Sue or Doreen.

PS: don't forget we really need to see as many of you on the day, to spend, spend, spend!

Doreen, Sue and Sasha

**St Mary's
Broughton Gifford Primary School
Are you looking for a school for your child?**

If you want:

Small classes (average size 15)
Creative teaching
Nurturing environment meeting individual needs
Swimming tuition for every pupil
High standards of behaviour
Consistently good SATs results



St. Mary's
Broughton Gifford
A Church of England
VC Primary School

Look no further!

Limited places available. We welcome children from a wide area so do come and visit.

Tel : 01225 782223 or email admin@broughtongifford.wilts.sch.uk

Headteacher Mrs Pat Rogers

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2008

We collected £920.09 in the village this year, an amazing total. Thanks as usual, to everyone who collected and donated to the Appeal so generously. The total included the cost of the Wreaths from the Scout Group and the Parish Council, and cheques from St Mary's Church and All Saints' at Great Chalfield. Thanks also to Tony at The Bell for arranging the quiz night.

Thanks again to everyone.
Liz Lumley

BILLY IN THE LOWGROUND

ORIGINAL CELTIC / ALT COUNTRY ROCK

LIVE @

THE GEORGE

BRADFORD ON AVON

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH

www.billyinthelowground.com



Broughton Gifford Pre-School

The Village Hall, Broughton Gifford

Melksham, Wiltshire

Registered Charity Number: 1040894

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.00 am - 12.00 noon (Term time only)

- We are a small friendly village Pre-School with nearly thirty years experience.
- Very experienced, qualified staff who encourage children to learn through play.
- We are located at the spacious Broughton Gifford Village hall with a large range of equipment and outdoor play area.
- We welcome all children between the ages of 2½ - 5 years at either one, two or three sessions per week. Children can attend unaccompanied in the half term they are three years old.
- Plenty of off-street parking.

Please contact Jo or Ros on 07817 968141 during opening hours to arrange a free taster session.

Broughton Gifford Village Hall News

Registered Charity 305477

200 Club

Prize Draw -Winning Numbers

December 2008	Malcom Paines	£10
	Mr A Cole	£10
Christmas Draw	Mr R Mallabone	£250
	Sam Read	£100
	Mr P Leeson	£40
January 2009	Mr P Mitchell	£10
	Mrs S White	£10

Although there are no numbers currently available, if anyone would like to join the 200 Club the Village Hall Committee hold a waiting list. Please contact either Lucy Key on 782393 or Sue Jeffries on 783438 and they will advise you when a number becomes available.

We need a new Secretary!

If anyone is willing to fill this position when our beloved Lucy Key steps down in March, could they please contact a member of the Village Hall Committee to register an interest? We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, normally in the conference room at The Bell on the Common from 8.00 pm. All our records are computerised and therefore access to and a basic knowledge of computers is required. Like all other positions on the committee this is a voluntary post and no remuneration is payable.



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also at:-
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Tel/Fax: 01249- 465435
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Southwick

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Broughton Gifford**

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Top quality beef produced on our own farm.
Locally sourced Pork Chickens Lamb
Free range eggs

Cooked hams & cheese, Pickles & preserves

Fresh Veg Daily
Local Fresh Bread Thursday, Friday and Saturday

OPENING TIMES:

Monday, Wednesday, Sunday 9 am -12 noon
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8 am -5.30 pm
Saturday -8.30 am -4.30 pm

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REPORT

December 2008 After concluding a brief amount of business, Diane Starkey gave us a very festive talk on the Story of the Christmas Meal from the Mediaeval period up to the present one that we sit down to. It was charmingly presented with music and pictures and whilst we decided that we did not want to clean a boar's head to eat or pluck and clean our own turkey (which apparently did not become a regular until Victorian times). Elizabeth I actually ate it once but used to eat Swan or Peacock which was skinned and then redressed with the feathers! I am certainly pleased I can pop into the supermarket and pick up a turkey and put it in the oven without too much preparation. We also found out that Brussels sprouts did not put in an appearance until after World War I when the soldiers must have got a taste for them - which greatly surprised me because all the men in my family hate Brussels. We finished up the meeting with some experimental food cooked by L Holdway and K Wright from ancient recipes of Mediaeval Gingerbread (made with bread crumbs), Bishop Auckland Cheesecakes (made with potatoes and no cheese), Potage (the forerunner of a Christmas pudding) and Wassail (quite a potent spicy drink). The food seemed to be enjoyed by the members.

Lesley Holdway

January 2009 We started off our first meeting of the year with a talk called "Weather Lore" by Mr Guy, quite topical considering the rather extreme weather we have suffered of late. I suppose most of us were expecting a fairly serious analysis of weather conditions, causes and effects perhaps. However, Mr Guy chose a somewhat lighter approach to the subject and starting with slides of winter he matched a suitable saying, axiom or proverb to that of the pictures. Thus, a picture of cows was teamed with the saying that "when cows are lying down it is a sign of light rain coming". One member pointed out that her husband, a former farmer, thought cows lie down because they are tired of standing up, which seems a perfectly reasonable explanation particularly if one should be so lucky as to get a long dry spell! Strangely we didn't have pictures of lambs and lions, nor red skies and shepherds, but we did hear that if a "mackerel" sky is lined up North/South the weather will be fine, but if it is lined up East/West the weather will be bad. I cannot remember Mr Guy's term for this type of cloud formation, but mackerel has always seemed very descriptive to me.

After the talk we had the business part of the meeting. We didn't get a newsletter this month, but we were, as usual, forewarned of events in the pipe line. There are national WI celebrations in July - ours is in Salisbury. So far we don't know a lot about it. There are two WI holidays overseas, a scrabble event which will be morning and afternoon sessions, a visit to legal London visiting the Inns of Court and the Old Bailey and the Royal Courts of Justice, and a one man show about Isaac Newton so there is plenty to think about this year.

Our finances are expertly handled and we seem to maintain a comfortable balance - not too much of course, in keeping with WI policy! The Christmas Fair added a profit of £85 to the kitty.

Next month is a DIY evening. No we are not coming armed with saws and chisels, I mean we do not have a speaker. Lesley is going to make up a quiz for us. I hope to get into an intelligent group as Lesley's quizzes always demand a considerable level of intelligence. I'm not sure I shall be up to it.

Paula Bailhache



St. Mary's
Broughton Gifford
A Church of England
VC Primary School

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

It was really good to see so many people in the audience for our production of *The Late Wise Man* just before Christmas. The staff and the children worked so hard and performing to an appreciative audience made it all worthwhile. Working together is real strength of our school and being able to involve every pupil, from the youngest to the oldest, in a production to celebrate Christmas is a joy.

We would like to thank everyone who supported us. If anyone feels they would like to pay us a visit or would like to spend some time helping the children in the classroom or in an after-school club we would be delighted to welcome you. Please pop in or give us a ring on 782223.



A1

GENERAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE

mowing, strimming, hedge cutting, pruning etc

ADRIAN ALFORD

01225 704816

The Friendship Club

Twenty stalwarts braved the weather to get together again for our first meeting of the year.

Chris, our new leader, had a few brainteasers organised to fill in the time whilst we were waiting for our speaker to arrive which we enjoyed.

Mrs Sally Evans from Age Concern Wiltshire, then put us through our paces with some "Fit as a Fiddle" exercises. Very gently we learned the basic methods to keep all our joints and limbs in good working order and certainly earned our cup of tea and biscuits when it was all over.

A very happy time re-united us after the holidays and we are all raring to go again during the next year. So why not join us and see for yourselves.

Chris Smith Physiotherapy Clinic

**Chris is a Chartered Physiotherapist living in the Village
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**Sports injuries, post-op rehabilitation, spinal pain, joint pain,
nerve entrapment. GP referral not required.**

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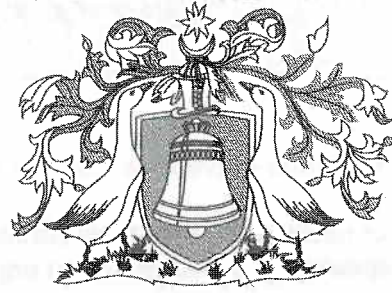
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WHAT'S ON AT THE BELL
IN FEBRUARY 2009

VALENTINE MENU

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY
14TH
£19.75

WEDNESDAY 18TH FEBRUARY

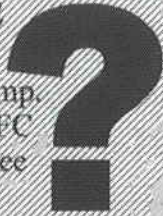
LIVE
MUSIC
IN THE
BAR



ROUGH
STREET
JUG BAND

SUNDAY QUIZ LEAGUE

- 1st Feb - H - KO Cup Comp.
- 8th Feb - H - Avonvale RFC
- 15th Feb - H - Old Ham Tree
- 22nd Feb - A - Kings Arms
- 1st Mar - K.O. Cup, Semi Final



Irish Music



INFORMAL
JAM SESSION

Sunday 22nd February

TUESDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

THE GREAT
PANCAKE RACE!

Teams of 3 required to race
in relay around the Triangle.

PANCAKES SUPPLIED



MONDAY QUIZ NIGHTS

- 2nd Feb - R.N.L.I
- 9th Feb - B.G. School
- 16th Feb - Julia House
- 23rd Feb - B.G. Youth Club
- 2nd Mar - Village Hall



VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Broughton Gifford Parish Council	Clerk - Mrs Dawn Cuthbertson	702158
	Chairman - Mr Gus Gurney	782032
St Mary's Church	Priest in Charge - Rev Andrew Evans	782289
Broughton Gifford Methodist Church	Secretary - Miss E Flatt	782344
Broughton Gifford Gardening Society	Chairman - Mrs Madelyn Arnold	782817
	Secretary - Miss E Flatt	782344
Village Hall	Bookings - Mrs Dorothy Stanley	782790 07504 514922
Broughton Gifford Pre-School	Supervisor - Mrs Ros Tyre	782065
Broughton Gifford Youth Club		
Women's Institute	President - Mrs Kathy Wright	782064
	Secretary - Miss E Flatt	782344
1st Broughton Gifford & Holt Scout Group	Scout Leader - Graham Jamieson	705624
Broughton Gifford 0-3 Club (Thursday 10 - 12 noon in the Village Hall)	Lucy Key	782393
	Nicky Manson	782929
B G Autumn Fayre Committee	Rob Tyre	782065
Broughton Gifford PTA	Chairperson - Jo Eccleston	782908
	Secretary - Jacqui Kemp	782687
	Treasurer - Sonia Earle	782464
Broughton Gifford Cricket Club	Rob Cumming	783484
The Friendship Club	Chris Pitura	782179

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Wiltshire County Council (local)	713000
West Wiltshire District Council (local)	776655
Melksham Police Station (local)(including complaints about mud on road)	0845 4087000
Environment Agency (free) - Emergency - all incidents	0800 807060
Environment Agency (local) - Floodline	0845 9881188
CLARENCE (free) - problems with streetlights, drains and roads	0800 232323
Wessex Water (free) - Leakstoppers	0800 214651
Hills Helpline (problems with black box collections)	0845 603 2085

VILLAGE CALENDAR

One line entries for this calendar should be passed in writing or by phone to Peter Atkins on 702819.

FEBRUARY

2	Mon	BG GARDENING SOC, Talk by Tom Cairns "Gardening with Wild Life", 7.30 pm
2	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of RNLI, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
3	Tue	QUIET GARDEN, 9.30 am - 3.00 pm
4	Wed	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 7.30 pm, Village Hall Committee Room
8	Sun	TABLE TOP CAR BOOT SALE, 10 am - 1 pm, Village Hall
9	Mon	FRIENDSHIP CLUB, 2.30 pm, Village Hall
9	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of BG School, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
10	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
10	Tue	WOMEN'S INSTITUTE, 7.30 pm, Village Hall
16	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of Julia House, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
19	Thu	VILLAGE MAGAZINE DEADLINE
23	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of BG Youth Club, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
24	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
26	Thu	YOUTH CLUB, 6.30 pm, Village Hall
28	Sat	FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S SCHOOL, 6.30 pm, Village Hall

MARCH

2	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid of the Village Hall, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
3	Tue	QUIET GARDEN, 9.30 am - 3.00 pm
4	Wed	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 7.30 pm, Village Hall Committee Room
9	Mon	FRIENDSHIP CLUB, 2.30 pm, Village Hall
10	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
10	Tue	WOMEN'S INSTITUTE, 7.30 pm, Village Hall
19	Thu	VILLAGE MAGAZINE DEADLINE
21	Sat	CANCER RESEARCH BAZAAR, Village Hall
23	Mon	BG GARDENING SOC, Spring Flower Show (video during judging), 7.30 pm
24	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
30	Mon	ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 7.30 pm, Village Hall

BACK ISSUES OF THE MAGAZINE ARE AVAILABLE ON www.bgvh.co.uk