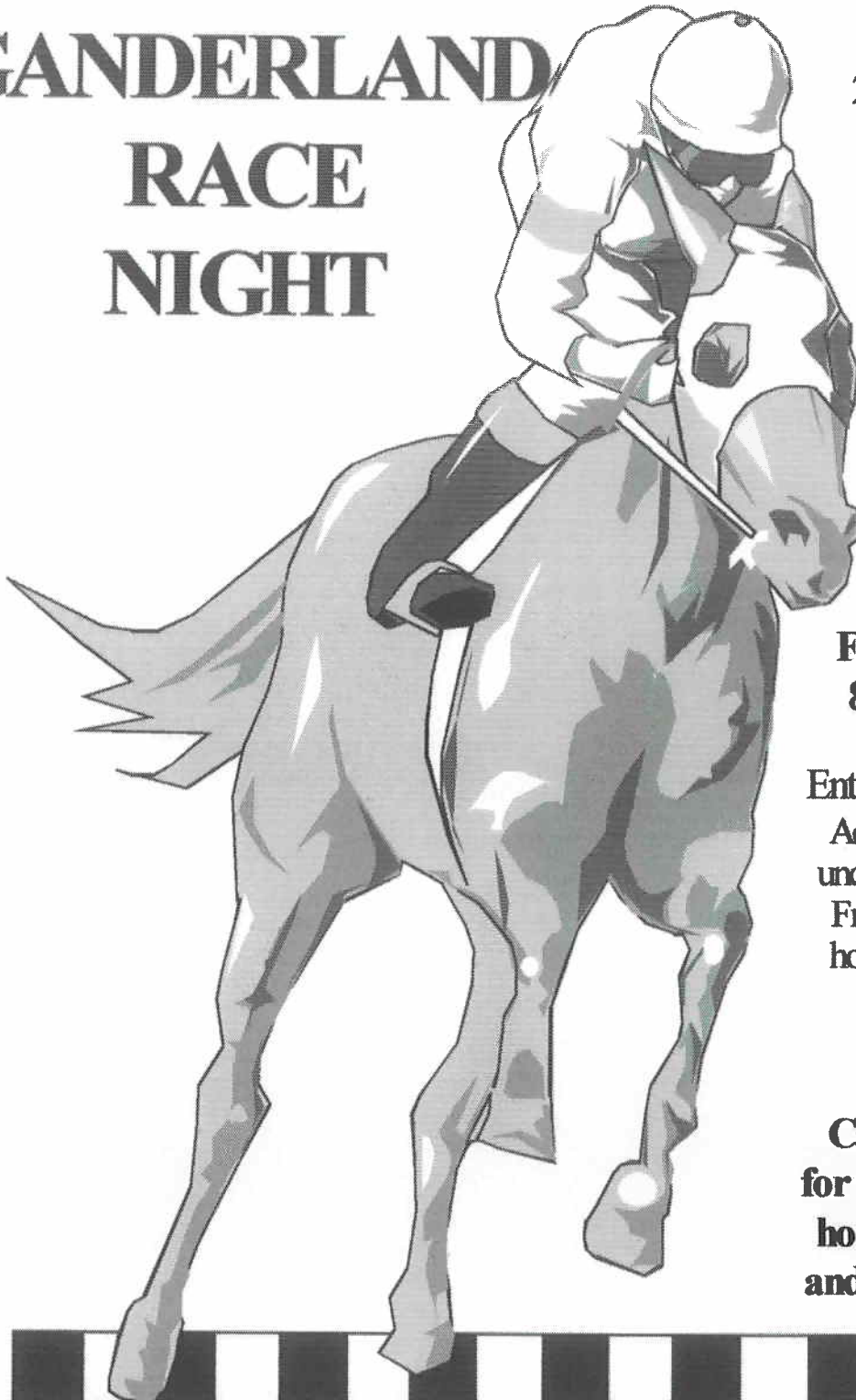


**Broughton
Gifford**

VILLAGE

GANDERLAND RACE NIGHT



**Friday
20th March
2009**

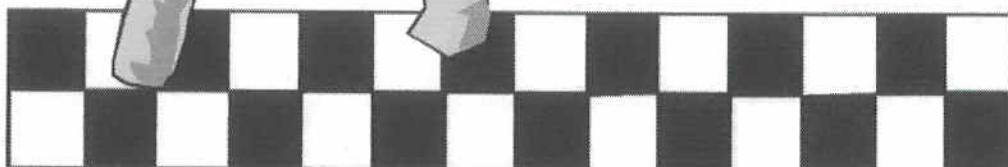
**7.30 p.m.
In the
Village Hall**

**First Race
8.00 p.m.**

**Entrance £3.00
Accompanied
under 12's free.
Free entry for
horse owners.**

Bar

**Cash prizes
for 1st and 2nd
horse in each
and every race**



MAGAZINE

**March
2009**

MARCH 2009

The news from Cromwell Press and Cpod is somewhat better and it looks as if the Peerless Publication will continue to be printed by our friends - at least for the time being. But I think that some of our friends have perhaps lost their jobs in the reshuffle and that is reason for our celebrations here at Magazine Mansions to be somewhat muted. I understand that Allan Hicks, the previous MD and a long-time friend of this village and it's Magazine, has moved on. We thank Allan for his extremely loyal support and wish him well in his next appointment.

Here's Hilary.....

Ponderings



I do hope you have all managed to keep your heads above the snowline. The inclement weather actually forced us to return home from Number One Son's residence a day early. I told him no good would come of moving to Kent! We watched the weather coming in, and once the snow started on Sunday morning, we deemed it only fit and proper to make a run for it. I am extremely glad we did, as we would have been stuck on the M25 for possibly days. As a country, we do not do bad weather very well at all. If it rains, we get flooded out, if it blows too hard all our trees fall down, and if a snowflake has the temerity to fall on us, the whole place comes to a standstill. It had to be explained to me why the London Underground ceased to function, as for the life of me I could not see the reason behind that one. Apparently, all the depots are above ground, hence full of snow! I am sure other European countries suffer just as badly, both from snow and its effects. In fact, I rather like snow. It offers a challenge and a change of environment, and now I do not have to battle to get to work (or, indeed, anywhere at all) I am quite happy to experience the odd snowflake or two. It was accompanied by some uncomfortably cold weather, and I do hope my public managed to keep warm. That went on for so long I even got used to that!

I know I am dealing with the bad weather in a somewhat light-hearted fashion, and I apologise to anyone who I am offending, but what with one thing and another I feel that we could do with a spot of levity. Life does go on, and all things go in circles. Just hang on in there, and do not take too much notice of the ever-present doom laden media.

On a lighter note, spring is definitely on the way. The rhubarb is stirring, and bursting through the ground, and once that has happened, there is no holding it. It does remind me that shortly I will have to dust off the spade and fork, and hunt for the bulbs I have planted oh so deep in the ground. The theory is that once I have found them and brought them to light, they will burst forth in bloom. That is the theory, anyway.

Household Male and I have been charged with a very special mission. My niece is getting married in Belfast, while my sister lives in Warwickshire, and the co-ordination of events is providing some interesting logistical challenges. As we are going to travel by sea and everyone else appears to be flying, we have been entrusted with the Wedding Favours, as they are rather heavy. One hundred chocolate lollies will duly be delivered to Belfast, and apparently there are no spares! It could also be that my chocolate resistance is rather more solid than my sister's. We are much looking forward to going to Northern Ireland, and it is good to have an excuse.

Otherwise we might never have made the journey.

I hope you all escaped the icy and slippery conditions without breaking anything vital and I know that there has also been a particularly vicious cold virus doing the rounds. One hopes that any sufferers from any malady are now well on the road to recovery. I understand that Gerald Harding is now on the mend, and we send him best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Copy deadline for April is 19th March. The Editor is always delighted to hear from you about absolutely anything. Happy Easter to all our readers.

BROUGHTON GIFFORD COMMUNITY BUS

Driver needed for 12-13 hours per week (£6.50 per hour) to transport children from Holt, Broughton Gifford and Atworth to Corsham School, commencing September 2009. Ordinary driving licence with D1 category required (pre 1997).
Training available (funded).

Interested ? Please telephone George Brown 01225 700319.

THE BIG SING.....

Anyone can sing - particularly when there are the haunting melodies and stirring faith songs from Iona to enjoy.

Whether you are a croaker or a chorister, Sunday March 29th is for you (and your larynx!). International singer and teacher Alison Adam, from the Iona Community, is coming to St Katharine's for an afternoon of singing workshops beginning at 2 pm. Afterwards there will be a buffet supper followed by a special Evening Worship service.

The repertoire will be varied – from capella folk songs to African chants, psalm setting and evocative four-part melodies. And everyone is welcome, from any church and faith. Just bring your voice – and £5 for admission.

More details from Fiona Drysdale on 782095)

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REPORT OF BROUGHTON GIFFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - 4TH FEBRUARY 2009

District Councillor Carbin was present for most of the meeting. However, Mrs Jarvis and Mr Hall both had family commitments and had sent apologies. County Councillor Clark and PCSO Ledbury had also sent apologies.

MATTERS ARISING It was reported that the far section of wall outside 93/94 The Common was never actually built. Overall the site was tidier, considering the amount of work being done to the property. However, there was a manhole cover nearby that had been damaged by a delivery lorry. This would be brought to the owner's attention and he would also be reminded him if he wished to make another access to his property over the Common he must initially seek permission from the Parish Council before he proceeds.

The Clerk had written to the Headteacher at St Mary's School asking if the School would support the Parish Council's request to the County Council to install flashing warning signs to alert drivers to the possible presence of school children at the beginning and end of the day. She had responded by email giving full support, stating that it could only improve the safety for the children, especially since its 'Travel to School Plan', to be submitted to the County Council by the end of March 2009, would include its proposal to commence a 'Walking Bus' system for the children. The Clerk would now contact the Road Safety Team with this request, stating full support from the School.

PCSO Ledbury had advised that there was currently a clamp down on untaxed vehicles and as the Common is part of the highways vehicles parked on all parts of the Common without valid tax discs will be reported. The green van, on which the tax expired at the end of December 2008, had been declared SORN (Statutory Off Road Notice) but was now parked directly in front of a garage. This was still part of the Common and therefore it remained parked on the 'highway' despite being declared otherwise. A letter would be sent to the owner asking for the vehicle to either be immediately taxed or removed from public land, indicating that the Police had initially reported this problem to the Parish Council, so it is currently at risk of further action being taken by the Police.

A suggestion of 'Brooke Close' had been received as a name for the new development, which would be considered nearer the time.

Mr Gurney invited Trevor Carbin to report on District Council matters. Mr Carbin advised that owing to the recent spell of poor weather some refuse collections had not been made but green bins should be left out as they could be collected anytime. Black boxes on the other hand should be taken back in as they will not be collected until the next scheduled collection day. The budget process is underway and under Wiltshire Council the Council Tax is proposed to be increased by 3.5%, despite the promised savings of going unitary, as the costs involved in the changeover almost outweigh any savings made. However, figures produced to support this are not clear. Proposed changes in the future include charging for internet use in libraries and possible charging for green compostable waste, as this is already in place in other districts. Mr Atkins questioned about the double charge for this service since we already pay for refuse collection through the Council Tax. The 3.5% increase is an average figure, since some districts will have to be charged more and some less to compensate for the differences in existing levels of Council Tax. Mr Carbin advised that the District Council had previously agreed to look into the possibility of councils providing some cover for the removal of Post Office services in the District but nothing more had been heard as he felt this had been superseded by the move to unitary. Mr Wiltshire asked Mr Carbin about the Area Boards, currently being piloted in some areas ready for rollout throughout the County, stating their similarities to district councils since they will have power to spend public money. He asked whether parish councils will have the opportunity to 'opt-in' on matters concerning them but then step back on other matters or will it have to commit a representative to attend every meeting. Also will parish councils have access to the funds available. Mr Carbin stated he was unsure how the system will work at the moment or how the structure of these Boards will be made up, but confirmed that only unitary councillors will have voting rights, with other details being a little vague until nearer the time. Mr Gurney thanked Mr Carbin for his report.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs Liz Lumley had forwarded a receipt for the payment made in respect of the Poppy Day Wreath and confirmed that a total of £920.09p had been raised in the Village this year. The Clerk thanked her for her hard work for this good cause.

Wiltshire County Council confirmed in its monthly newsletter that it operated over 1200 grit bins in the County, re-filled an average 350 following public enquiries and asked for assistance from parish and town councils in the management of these bins. This was to ensure those in regular use are kept topped up, local knowledge could be passed on regarding the location of any new bins required and also those not in use would be removed during the coming summer. However, each parish will be contacted and provided with a map of which bins they wish to remove before any action is taken.

The District Council invites members to an information evening about the transition to Area Boards on Wednesday 11th March starting at 7pm at Bradley Road offices. Mr Coward will try to attend, possibly accompanied by Mr Wiltshire.

WALC monthly newsletter invited nominations to attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace on 21st July 2009. The Parish Council would nominate the Chairman and his wife to attend. It also confirmed that the 2008/9 pay dispute regarding local government employees will now be taken to arbitration. West Wilts Link Scheme was asking for more volunteers to come forward to help with its increasing demand for its services.

Mr Hudson reported on a clever idea suggested by a paramedic regarding the insertion of an emergency contact phone number into a mobile phone to be used if the owner is unfortunate to be involved in an accident or taken ill and is unable to use the mobile themselves, or communicate with those attending him/her. Under 'ICE' (In Case of Emergency) the next of kin, relative or friend could be easily contacted and advised of the situation, with multiple contacts being entered as 'ICE 1', 'ICE 2' etc. Details would be included in the Magazine.

PLANNING The application for various trees works at Orchard Farm considered last month had since been withdrawn, to be replaced by a revised application, with the main difference being that a Blue Atlas Cedar is to be crowned rather than felled. The Parish Council had no objections. The application for two storey side and rear extensions with a single storey extension at 72 The Common had been granted permission despite being recommended for refusal by the Planning Officer. Members of the Planning Committee overturned this recommendation at its meeting held on 8th January. The application for the installation of three solar panels on the southern roof-space of the barn at Church Farm had been refused. Mr Hooper and Mr Taylor declared an interest in this item. The application is likely to be resubmitted in due course as this refusal had resulted in the permitted development status being withdrawn from the barn and as such no further work can be carried out on it. It appeared odd that similar installations had been carried out on nearby properties without any problem and considering the current emphasis on switching to renewable energy. An application had been received for the addition of a dormer window to the rear of 12 The Street. One objection was raised due to the window looking out over the neighbouring property of Egerton Farm. However the majority of the Parish Council had no objections.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE A letter received from Wiltshire County Council Highways indicated that flooding in Mill Lane appears to be a land drainage problem rather than a highway one and asked to be advised of the owner of the field opposite number 164 so that he can request the ditches be cleared out and would be advised accordingly. The BT junction box outside Priory Farm had been exposed but was programmed for reinstatement. The Parish Council had been advised to contact Wiltshire Safety Camera Unit regarding speed indicator devices and contact details were provided.

Mr Gurney felt that for the cost of a couple of signs stating 'No Lorries' it was worth continuing to push for action to stop lorries using Mill Lane, usually following satellite navigation systems. Mr Taylor reported that he had recently purchased a new satnav that again indicated Mill Lane as the most direct route in and out of the Village and had advised the manufacturer of this error. The Parish Council would continue to pressure WCC Highways on this matter.

Norrington Lane was still regularly flooding with excess water pouring off the fields quicker than it was being drained off the highway. This matter, as well as the continuing water flowing across the road near Hitherkings would again be brought to the attention of Wiltshire Highways.

Highway matters to be reported or chased up included: When would the fingerpost at the Norrington Lane junction, removed some time ago for renovation, be replaced? The road surface outside 29a The Street was badly degrading and would shortly be breaking up if not repaired. There was a large pothole just

inside D Mortimer & Sons entrance, sometimes used by vehicles to pass large oncoming traffic and a large pothole in the road on Melksham Lane between Priory Farm and Frying Pan Farm. There were large amounts of mud on the highway surface along Mill Lane. The village name sign at the Holt end of Village, promised to be replaced with new one sometime ago, but no action had yet been taken.

Incidents of flyposting and flytipping had been reported. These matters would be brought to the attention of the relevant agencies and more information would be highlighted in the Village Magazine.

Extensive amounts of debris in the River Avon being pushed against the Pack Horse Bridge on footpath 26 had been reported, which was in danger of damaging the Bridge and the relevant authority would be advised.

A large amount of rubbish was reported on the Common, next to a telegraph pole at the end of Taylors Lane. It was thought this was left over after building work on a nearby property and the person thought to be responsible would be asked to remove it.

The fence between the Village Hall car park and the paddock was in a state of disrepair and had recently caused an injury to a child. A request would be made for either urgent repairs to be carried out or for it to be removed.

The streetlight on the Common at the end of Taylors Lane and the one outside 11 The Street were both being blocked by overgrown vegetation and would be reported. The streetlight opposite Hollybrook House is out of order and would also be reported.

TRIAL GRAZING ON THE COMMON

It was reported that a local farmer had agreed to graze some rams on the Common, within the terms of the Declaration made by the Parish Council in October 2008 and this was likely to commence in the near future.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Parish Council would write a letter of congratulation to Mr Robert Floyd of Great Chalfield Manor on being appointed High Sherriff of Wiltshire as from 1st April 2009.

Mr Taylor reported that there had been a break-in in Curtis Orchard but nothing had been taken. The Police had been informed.

The Parish Council would enquire with the RSPB about the lack of skylarks on the Common, and how to encourage them back.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 4th March 2009 starting at 7.30pm in the Committee Room.

FLY TIPPING AND FLY POSTING

As part of the Clean Neighbourhoods legislation, both fly posting (the display of advertising material including posters and stickers on buildings and street furniture, including road signs, without the consent of the owner and contrary to law) and fly tipping (waste dumped or tipped on a site with no licence to accept waste) are illegal. Both problems can be unsightly, affecting the image of the area and the street scene and can be damaging to the environment. As a duty of care the Parish Council encourages everyone to report incidents of both types, giving as many details as possible:

**West Wiltshire District Council – 01225 776655
customerservices@westwiltshire.gov.uk**

Ode to my Friend (A time to reflect)

As yet another birthday draws near,
For you the bus pass and pension will be sent,
It's time to reflect on the years: since we met,
Of our friendship and what..it has meant.

Can it really be 30 years
Since we met in the village hall,
We clicked straightaway, we had coffee each day,
How could we know we'd have such a ball.

First there was playgroup then came the school,
Followed by brownies and guides,
With children in tow, no time to feel low,
As we took them on trains and bus rides.

We met other mums who soon became friends,
We held our meetings in the bar,
We would walk through BG, chat to friends we would see,
We really didn't need to go far.

There was Debbie, Betty and Brenda,
Val, Cathy and Karen too,
All daft as a brush, there wasn't much hush,
At the playgroup trip to the zoo.

Mrs Braine said we behaved like young girls,
Nicky M said our child allowance should stop,
They meant no harm, it was part of their charm,
At music night down at the Fox.

As our children grew older, we soon needed more,
The Committee of the Village Hall beckoned,
Our ideas to raise cash, were sometimes quite rash,
We were certainly a force to be reckoned.

We raised money for this, and money for that,
Dances, auctions, jumbles and the like,
With raffles galore, we even swept the hall floor,
Do you remember the wobbly bike?

We rattled buckets for Michael on bonfire nights,
All our events were managed with great care,
We resurrected the fete, it took more than one mate,
It still carries on now as the Autumn Fayre.

Thirty years on, we're grandmother's now,
It's time that we should behave,
I don't think that we will, there's more for us still,
Hey, let's check out and find the next rave.

We still meet up with the girls now and then,
Not for evenings out, but for lunch,
We still drink wine most of the time,
And continue to be that rowdy bunch.

Now our children have gone, Rod and Andrew are grey,
We all have to take the odd pill,
Our health's not as good, as it probably should,
Happy Birthday old friend, love Gill.

BROUGHTON GIFFORD YOUTH CLUB

We would like to thank everyone who helped with the Youth Club Indoor Car Boot Sale on Sunday 8th February. We raised £126.82 on the day for Youth Club funds. Also a big thank you to Mrs Bailey from 11 Curtis Orchard who donated another £10 "for the sale of her bed" to Youth Club too.

Thanks to everyone who attended on that cold snowy morning.

Youth Club opened again at 6.30 on Thursday 26th February so do come along.

A1

GENERAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE

mowing, strimming, hedge cutting, pruning etc

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Broughton Gifford Village Hall News

Registered Charity 305477

200 Club

Prize Draw -Winning Numbers

February 2009	Mrs E Gaisford	£10
	Mrs B Pullen	£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!

Anyone willing to fill this position when our beloved Lucy Key steps down in March, 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 would be preferable, although not essential. Like all other positions on the committee this is a voluntary post and no remuneration is payable.



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Andrew writes

May I warmly invite you to visit the St Mary's and Benefice website at www.stmarysbg.org.uk One or two pages are not yet fully complete, but the site is live and full of life already. Broughton Gifford is a great place to live and it needs a great church. I believe the site reflects the life that there is in your local village churches. Go on line and check it out!

I always think that it is a difficult thing to communicate information. It's amazing how you can say one thing and two people hear two totally different messages! I also have to confess that there have been occasions when in my brain I believe I've said one thing, but it has later transpired that what has come out of my mouth was something different.

The one thing that I hope our website doesn't communicate is that church is boring. And yet the folklore of our age insists that church is boring. The words that come to my mind when I think of St Mary's church are *caring, relevant, village, fun, faithful, Christingle, school and preschool*. St Mary's is a growing family bringing together all sorts of people with different backgrounds. What seems to draw people to the church is not only the strong sense of community, but the message that God cares and wants to be an active part of our lives.

You don't have to have faith to be a part of St Mary's. Whilst we have many people who are sure of their faith, we also have people, who come, like what they see, and find faith through an increasing sense of belonging.

We are also a church for all ages and we do our best to cater for differing tastes in our community. It would be true to say that we are attracting an increasing number of families and children and a good deal of our focus is in that direction. Our *Second Sunday* service on the second Sunday of the month is all about being a family, from the young to the not quite so young as they used to be! We have a very creative monthly Service called *Immanuel* at one of the Benefice churches. Have a look at the service pattern. There is something for everybody. Have a look on the website. I think you may be surprised at all your village church gets up to! And then, come and join us.

Are you getting the message?

With Every blessing

Andrew

Diary

March

- 3rd 9.30 am - 3 pm Quiet Garden at Great Chalfield. Short period of silence before the service and meditation at 1 pm led by Rev Annie Wintour. Please bring a packed lunch. Coffee and tea available. All welcome.
- 14th 8.30 am the Big Breakfast Party at Holt Village Hall for all the family. Please contact Andrew 782289 for details.
- 29th 10.30 am United Service at the United Reformed Church, Holt. St Katharine's, St Mary's and All Saints' please join the united service.
Big Sing at St. Katharine's Church, Holt. 2 pm Singing workshops for everyone Evening Worship with the songs at 6 pm. All welcome. £5 admission. To book places contact Fiona Drysdale 782095

Sunday Services

	Holt St Katharine	Broughton Gifford St Mary	Great Chalfield All Saints
<u>March</u>			
1 st	9.00 am HC 10.30 am SKT	10.00 am MS	6.00 pm E
8 th	10.30 am PC	10.00 am SS	11.00 am HC 6.00 pm Immanuel
15 th	10.30 am MW	10.00 am PC	11.00 am M
22 nd <i>Mothering Sunday</i>	10.30 am United Family Service 6.00 am ChE	10.00 am MS	9.00 am HC
29 th	10.30 am United Service at URC, Holt.	St Katharine's, St Mary's and All Saints' please join the united service at URC, Holt.	
<u>April</u>			
5 th <i>Palm Sunday</i>	9.00 am HC 10.30 am SKT	10.00 am MS	6.00 pm E
9 th <i>Maundy Thursday</i>		7.30 pm PC	
10 th <i>Good Friday</i>	9.30 Procession with Cross URC, Holt.		11.00 am M including the Litany
	2.00 pm One Hour Devotion	2.00 pm One Hour Devotion	
11 th <i>Easter Saturday</i>	3.00 pm Eggsplore		
12 th <i>Easter Day</i>	10.30 am PC	6.00 am Dawn Vigil 10.00 am FC	9.00 am HC

KEY TO TYPES OF SERVICE

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

Christingle Service

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the Christingle Service held on 1st December at St Mary's Church. £110 was donated to The Children's Society which would not have been possible without your generous support. Many thanks also to all who helped.

Annette Stone and Eileen Morris.

**ROYAL
AIR FORCES
Association**
Comradeship Welfare Opportunities



The Melksham branch meets at Melksham House at 8 pm on the last Wednesday of every month. Why not join us ? Alternatively, give Peter Atkins a call on 702819.

ADVANCE NOTICE

The **BARGAIN BEATLES** will be back this year on
SATURDAY, 2ND MAY, 7.30 pm
in **BROUGHTON GIFFORD VILLAGE HALL**
Keep the date free and see you there.

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BAZAAR IN AID OF CANCER RESEARCH UK

Once again the Cancer Bazaar is quickly getting nearer and this year we are all behind with the 'humdrum' preparations. So we've put ourselves in gear and are ready to get on with it, and so we thought we would take this opportunity to give you all a little nudge to find ways in which you can help. Listed below are the different stalls which will show you the things needed. White elephant items are always welcome, as with groceries, bottles, cakes, books and toys.

Cakes - Ethel Flatt, Kim Hall, Ann Giles

Groceries - Sheila Cleverly, Barbara Pullen

Bottle Stall - Heather and Ray Jones

Gifts - Margaret Mallabone, Anita Stratford, Olive Etheridge

Bathroom - Annette Stone, Rosemary Pressey

Plants - Madelyn Arnold

Toys - Sasha Frowd- Bailey (will collect, 01225 783336)

White Elephant - Sue Milthias (will collect, 01225 812116)

Books & Raffle Prizes - Doreen Frowd-Bailey (will collect, 01225 704671)

We are quite happy to collect anything you would like to give us. By sorting it out for the various stalls before the Saturday of the Bazaar saves us an awful lot of time on the day. Just 'phone Sue, Sasha or Doreen. Every penny we make on the day goes to Cancer Research UK, so do come along to the Village Hall on SATURDAY 21st MARCH at 2.00 pm.

Raffle Tickets are on sale at 'The Bell' or door to door nearer the day.

Thank you

Doreen, Sue & Sasha



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- Very experienced, qualified staff who encourage children to learn through play.
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- Plenty of off-street parking.

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

L E T T E R S

**Mr C P & Mrs A J Andrews
Egerton House Farm**

19th February 2009

EGERTON HOUSE FARM AND FOOTPATHS

Having very recently moved into Egerton House Farm my wife Angela and I have been struck by how friendly and welcoming everyone has been.

As owners of land adjacent to the village we are conscious of our responsibilities and land with public footpaths increases that responsibility. Though we have made a point of introducing ourselves to as many walkers and villagers as possible, we will never get around everyone and rather than the danger of erroneous Chinese whispers about what the newcomers at Egerton are doing we thought it would be helpful to use the services of the Broughton Gifford Magazine to let you know who we are, what we will be doing and our attitude to the use of the footpaths.

Angela and I have two adult girls both working in the equestrian world and currently overseas. We have come from Devon where we were farming 120 acres under a Higher Level Organic Stewardship scheme. Any of you who know about Natural England's environmental schemes will be aware of the strict and detailed prescriptions on farming and the care of the land, the general aim of which is to manage the land in a way that enhances the environment for animals, birds, insects and humans whilst enabling the proper commercial use of the land. We are in effect caretakers of our countryside for future generations.

Angela has been involved in horses for most of her life, competing at a high level in Dressage, a spell as an amateur flat race jockey, eventing and hunting. She even taught me to ride and probably regrets it now! As the years have passed I have also been an amateur flat jockey, point to pointed and for far too many years have played polo which I still compete in. With this family background in horses our plan is to train and breed young sport horses with one of our daughters who is currently training young showjumpers in Germany. I hasten to say that she will do the hard work!

This brings me to the use of our land at Egerton. We have been here a very short time, but clearly there are a few different interpretations over use of footpaths and land, in particular where it relates to Egerton land. Our intention is to continue use of some fields with the grazing of cattle and possibly sheep, this will help to maintain the land in good heart as horses are notoriously poor grazers. We will have a mixture of Brood Mares, foals, yearlings and horses in training, mainly Showjumping, Dressage and Polo breeds.

Horses, like people, behave differently, at each stage of their life and as such require different handling. For example, horses at rest such as the polo ponies presently on the land are relatively calm, but as soon as they are in work and beginning to get fit they become more flighty and sensitive to noise, movement and handling. Yearlings who are teething can nip and sometimes do not know their own strength, again careful sensitive and knowledgeable handling is essential. I mention this to explain why different fields and paddocks will be used for various horses at

different times of their upbringing.

We will vary the use of fields so it is important to our business that we know which fields will be free of any outside influence such as walkers, dogs or anything else.

Wiltshire is fortunate to have the largest number of footpaths and BOATS per head of population in the country and it is clear from the use made of them at Broughton Gifford that this public access is fully appreciated. Just as landowners have rights over their land so does the public over public rights of way. However both have corresponding duties and must mutually respect the proper use of the land. The land at Egerton is not covered by the Right to Roam Act which mainly covers open moorland and common land.

Egerton Farm has 3 major footpaths, two start and cross what I am told is called "The Village Field" and join up to cross two fields beyond. The third path is the far section going down the right hand side of the hedgerow from the small triangular holding paddock out in the direction of the Common. It clearly has been a custom by some people to cross the large 23 acre field coming back towards the village field and some use the furthest field, both of which do not have public access paths. The Village field is regularly walked around the perimeter as well as across on the designated paths, as are some other fields.

In working out the division and use of the fields we want to take into account the current use by walkers as much as possible. We are also ruled by the business of horses and farming and regrettably by the very small minority who either do not understand or do not care. Specifically, horses have been fed carrots, this could be fatal to an under 3 month foal and encourages horses to nip, approach and "mob" people who might not wish it and could indeed be frightened of them. Gates have been left open. Even if there is no stock in a field it doesn't mean something may not jump out or push through a fence in an adjoining field.

As regards the "village field", by a long way the most used, we wish to see minimal change. We do need to create a small paddock adjoining the current orchard area and will be planting a mixed hedgerow. We are also hoping to improve the potentially beautiful pond and create a conservation haven with a bench where even the fittest of walkers would find pleasure in a place to rest their weary limbs and contemplate life. We would use this field mainly to make hay and at times graze cattle or sheep and ride over. It is unlikely that we would graze this area with horses in order to minimise any risk to both humans and horses. We will need to underline the fact that the circular or any off path route is permissive and not a public right of way. To do this we therefore reserve the right to close it at any time. So, nothing need change on the village field as far as walkers are concerned.

For the rest of the land we would ask everyone to stick to the public footpaths and we would request that dogs are under control, to be under control they do not have to be on leads but within voice or whistle control. Clearly for some dogs walking through stocked fields it is only wise to have them on leads. I am concerned that any dog not under control could easily run into another field or stable area with young or nervous stock. Also I would plead that no one should feed other peoples animals however kind the thought may be.

I hope this article is received in the spirit it is written, one of goodwill and respect for each other. We look forward to a long and happy stay in Broughton Gifford.

Chris and Angela Andrews



St. Mary's
Broughton Gifford

A Church of England
VC Primary School

Olympic Silver Medallist visits St Mary's

Olympic rower, Debbie Flood, paid a visit to St Mary's Primary School at Broughton Gifford. She talked to the children about how she achieved her success in the sport of rowing. Debbie won Olympic silver both in Athens and in Beijing and brought one of her medals to show to the children. Debbie's success came in a team event (quad sculls) and she told pupils how much hard work is needed to be one of the best in the country. She trains three times a day, every day, sometimes being allowed to have a day off on Sunday!

Debbie left giving the children the message that they should take advantage of any opportunity that comes their way and that they should work hard, have fun and achieve their best.



THE FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

We have had a generous donation to raffle a day out for two at the Chelsea Flower Show on Thursday, 21st May. The prize includes luxury coach travel from Whitehall Garden Centre there and back, and two entry tickets into the Flower Show. The draw will take place on Thursday 7th May. Tickets £2.50 each available from Maggie Chippendale, 22 The Street, tel: 01225 783233.

The Friendship Club

February 2009

There was an impressive turnout of members for the February meeting on a night when a particularly heavy fall of snow had been forecast, although that turned out to be completely erroneous.

Our March meeting will be our AGM and Kathy Wright has already forewarned us that she will be stepping down as President and not seeking re-election. She stressed that more members are needed to take part as officers and committee members.

We were given information about the County federation's 90th birthday celebrations in July. We are all to take a picnic, as posh as we like - to share while listening to a brass band, young singers, a jazz group, and a group whose stars are Dozey, Beaky, Mitch and Titch. I must admit the names meant nothing to me but seemed to engender a ripple of recognition and appreciation from other members. We take tables and chairs too, and maybe a rug and a large umbrella as an insurance policy. This last suggestion being mine own, born of long experience of the English picnic, and that before we became involved in Climate Change, and when our climate was considered to be fairly settled. Now we are in a state of flux regarding climate change and leaving footprints all over the place and there is little chance of knowing what to expect. In April there is entertainment at Seend both am and pm, and a Climate Change day at Bromham, and an International Day as well as a grand day out discovering Legal London.

Our speaker, Mr Pope has a farm at Kingsdown. He came with slides of the various stages of the transformation of his farm buildings into sets for the TV production of Lark Rise to Candleford. His barn and other farm buildings were given a real make over to emerge as the buildings in the TV show. Where needed new buildings were instantly created with the help of a pile driver, metal framework and wood panels - maybe even cardboard, suitably treated and stressed. Timbers were treated to achieve an appearance of years of neglect, likewise thatching on cottage roofs were cunningly devised to appear ragged and holey.

Some buildings were removed, some had bits added on, some were suitably hidden by grass, trees miraculously growing on concrete. Quantities of topsoil were brought in for instant gardening (this has a certain appeal) and flimsy fencing was erected which seemed to me to be totally useless against any type of livestock I have ever met in the country. A supply of fresh water was instantly created by digging a very shallow well and dropping in a water tank. What could be easier? Chimneys had to be built on to buildings with a new role as old cottages. A false flue was installed inside up which potted smoke could be dispatched as required. On TV summer could be winter.

Nine minor members of cast arrived, already clad in fine feathers - nice big red-brown hens, a welcome change to today's ubiquitous white hybrids. They came complete with two minders to lavish undivided attention upon them, who saw to it that they strutted and scratched around in the right places.

A slide showing three beautiful farm horses was very impressive. These three equine stars had been hired from South Devon to draw a binder for the corn harvest - the machine also having been hired from South Devon. Sadly the horses never made the TV screen. What a waste. But I know I am incorrigibly biased.

Filming means hours of hanging around maybe for no more than a few minutes of film. One day Mr Pope counted one hundred and fifty seven people standing around on site. It seems the extras are regulars these days turning up at all the locations. It isn't exactly a life of

glamour.

One wonders if it is better to remain in ignorance of the false fronts and empty backs of the film sets, with the artificial sunlight (if the real thing is a bit temperamental), and the snow machines and the trees "growing" on concrete. I fear when I see TV countryside in future I shall envisage low-loaders with loads of metal supports and sheets of wood or even cardboard, pile drivers and rows of loos, luxury caravan parks, and artificial ivy. Oh no! The ivy has to be real these days because we are into the era of high definition.

Mr Pope doesn't do much farming these days but he knows a lot about TV countryside and he gave us a very entertaining evening.

Paula Bailhache

ANDY ABRAMS

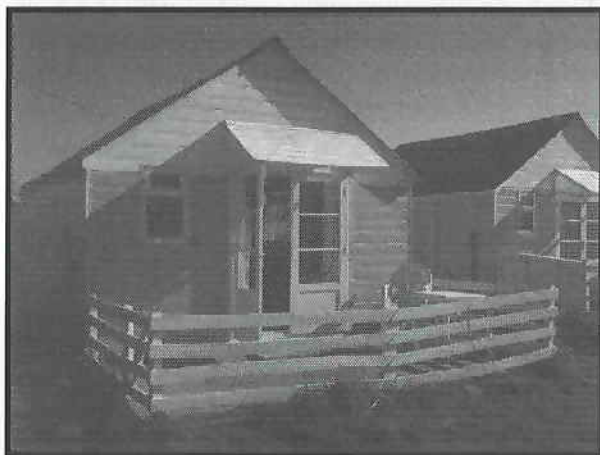
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Broughton Gifford

The Friendship Club

The recent bad weather and icy conditions caused our February meeting to be cancelled.

Our next meeting is Monday 9th March when Paul Mitchell will bring along his collection of walking sticks.

Chris Smith Physiotherapy Clinic

**Chris is a Chartered Physiotherapist living in the Village
who operates a private clinic in Bradford on Avon.**

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07816 500539

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nerve entrapment. GP referral not required.**

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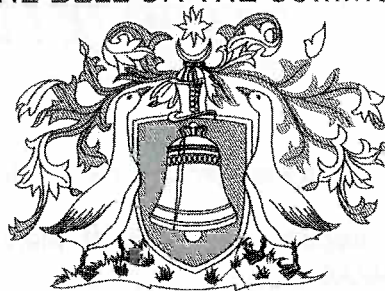
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WHAT'S ON AT THE BELL
IN MARCH 2009

THE BELL ON THE COMMON



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WHISKY BREAD & BUTTER PUDDING	£3.50
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TUESDAY FEBRUARY 17TH

WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH

LIVE
MUSIC
IN THE
BAR



**ROUGH
STREET
JUG BAND**

SUNDAY QUIZ LEAGUE

1st Mar - Semi Finals Night
8th Mar - H - The Hop Pole
15th Mar - A - The Sunrisers
22nd Mar - Finals Night



Irish Music



INFORMAL
JAM SESSION

Sunday 29th March

RACE NIGHT

Friday 20th March

THE VILLAGE HALL



CRICKET CLUB A.G.M.

Thursday 5th March. Everyone Welcome



Mother's Day

Sunday 22nd March
Bookings for 12 noon & 2.00pm

MONDAY QUIZ NIGHTS

2nd Mar - Village Hall
9th Mar - B.G. School
16th Mar - A Question of Thought (MS)
23rd Mar - B.G. Pre-School
30th Mar - Village Magazine
6th Apr - 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.

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
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 A Question of Thought (MS), 8 pm, The Bell
19	Thu	VILLAGE MAGAZINE DEADLINE
20	Fri	GANDERLAND RACE NIGHT, 7.30 pm, Village Hall
21	Sat	CANCER RESEARCH BAZAAR, 2 pm, Village Hall
23	Mon	BG GARDENING SOC, Spring Flower Show (video during judging), 7.30 pm
23	Mon	QUIZ NIGHT in aid BG Pre-School, 8 pm, The Bell on the Common
24	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
30	Mon	ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 7.30 pm, Village Hall

APRIL

1	Wed	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 7.30 pm, Village Hall Committee Room
6	Mon	BG GARDENING SOC, Talk: "Slugs & Snails & Puppy Dogs' Tails" 7.30 pm
7	Tue	QUIET GARDEN, 9.30 am - 3.00 pm, Great Chalfield
7	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox
13	Mon	FRIENDSHIP CLUB, 2.30 pm, Village Hall
14	Tue	WOMEN'S INSTITUTE, 7.30 pm, Village Hall
19	Sun	VILLAGE MAGAZINE DEADLINE
21	Tue	MOBILE LIBRARY, 10.15 - 10.50 am, The Fox