

12 Feb	(Sun)	<b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
14 Feb	(Tues)	<b>11.15am</b> Said service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church
		<b>12.30pm</b> Meadow Room Christmas Lunch at All Saints'.
<b>15 Feb</b>	<b>(Wed)</b>	<b><u>12.00noon Deadline for receipt of copy for the March 2017 Abbotts Ann Magazine</u></b>
		<b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club in GCVC
		<b>7.30pm</b> Upper Clatford WI meets in Upper Clatford Memorial Hall.
16 Feb	(Thurs)	<b>7.30pm</b> Bell Ringing Practice at St Mary's.
		<b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
17 Feb	(Fri)	<b>10.00am</b> Goodworth Clatford WI Walking Group
18 Feb	(Sat)	AA Safari Supper, in aid of St. Mary's Loo Fund – page 21 and page 19
19 Feb	(Sun)	( <u>The Second Sunday before Lent</u> ) - full service details, page 2
		<b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
20 Feb	(Mon)	<b>7.30pm</b> Ethel & Ernest Film at Upper Clatford page 9
21 Feb	(Tues)	<b>10.00am to 11.30am</b> in St. Peter's Room – Goodworth Clatford Community Coffee Morning.
		<b>11.15am</b> Said service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church
		<b>7.30pm</b> Goodworth Clatford WI meets in GCVC
22 Feb	(Wed)	<b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC
		<b>7.45pm</b> Clatford Valley Gardening Club meets in UC Memorial Hall.
23 Feb	(Thurs)	<b>3.00-4.00pm</b> Neighbourhood policing scheme AA village shop page 19
		<b>7.30pm</b> Bell Ringing Practice at St Mary's.
		<b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
		<b>7.30pm</b> Abbotts Ann WI meets in Abbotts Ann War Memorial Hall.
25 Feb	(Sat)	<b>7.30pm</b> "Aire Flamenco" at Upper Clatford Memorial Hall.
26 Feb	(Sun)	( <u>The Sunday Next before Lent</u> ) - full service details, page 2
		<b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
28 Feb	(Tues)	<b>11.15am</b> Said service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church
		<b>7.30pm</b> Film Night in Goodworth Clatford Village Club
		<b>MARCH 2017</b>
1 Mar	(Wed)	( <u>Ash Wednesday</u> ) For service times see page 2
		<b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club (Partnership Meeting)
2 Mar	(Thurs)	<b>7.00pm</b> Hand Bell Ringing at 9 Catherine's Walk.
		<b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
5 Mar	(Sun)	( <u>The First Sunday of Lent</u> ) For full service details – page 2
		<b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
6 Mar	(Mon)	<b>12.30pm</b> Way Inn Lunch at St Peter's
7 Mar	(Tues)	<b>11.15am</b> Said Service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church
		<b>7.00pm</b> Goodworth Clatford Parish Council meets in GCVC
8 Mar	(Wed)	<b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC
		<b>7.30pm</b> Upper Clatford Parish Council meets in UC Memorial Hall
9 Mar	(Thurs)	<b>10.30am</b> Goodworth Clatford WI Coffee Morning
		<b>7.00pm</b> Abbotts Ann Parish Council meets in AA Memorial Hall
		<b>7.30pm</b> Bell Ringing Practice at St Mary's
		<b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
		CADS production "The Big Snooze" in Goodworth Clatford Village Club

<b>Priest-in-charge</b>	<b>St Mary's Church, Abbotts Ann</b>
Revd. Katrina Dykes <a href="mailto:revdkatrina@gmail.com">revdkatrina@gmail.com</a> (Her day off is Friday)	07922 153765
<b>Ministry Team</b>	
Revd. Nicky Judd <a href="mailto:clive@judd47.plus.com">clive@judd47.plus.com</a>	729075
Tim Tayler <a href="mailto:tim.tayler@talk21.com">tim.tayler@talk21.com</a>	710201
Peter Eastwood <a href="mailto:peter@eastwood.me.uk">peter@eastwood.me.uk</a>	353320
<b>Churchwardens</b>	
<b>St Mary's</b>	
Gordon Howard 4 St Mary's Meadow, Abbotts Ann <a href="mailto:gw_eo Howard@btinternet.com">gw_eo Howard@btinternet.com</a>	710830
<b>St Peter's</b>	
Jane Eastwood John Milne	353320 361206
<b>All Saints'</b>	
Eleanor Jakeman Bill Mitford	362502 357675
Details of church officers and activities can also be found on the village website - <a href="http://www.abbottsann.com/amenitiesservices/church/">http://www.abbottsann.com/amenitiesservices/church/</a>	
<b>Choir Practice</b>	Thursdays 7.45pm, St Peter's, Goodworth Clatford
<b>Bell Ringing practice</b>	Thursdays 7.30-9.00pm, St Mary's, Abbotts Ann Handbells 7.00pm 1st Thursday each month Tower Captain: Dudley Alleway
<b>Secretary</b>	710646
<b>Treasurer</b>	
<b>Parochial Church Council</b>	
Vacant	
Jenny Gorski	364196
<b>Editor</b>	
<b>Abbotts Ann Magazine</b>	
Andrea Jackson 5 Timothy's Field, Abbotts Ann <a href="mailto:editor@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk">editor@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk</a>	710630
<b>Advertising Manager</b>	
Mark Stevens <a href="mailto:ads@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk">ads@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk</a>	710908

## SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN FEBRUARY 2017

Please note change of services and times at all churches.

### Date:

**Sunday 29th January**  
10.00 Benefice Eucharist

**Sunday 5th February**  
08.00 Said Holy Communion  
10.00 Eucharist  
10.00 Family Service  
    Baptism Charlie Shorter  
18.00 Evensong

**Sunday 12th February**  
08.00 Said Holy Communion  
09.30 Eucharist  
10.45 Baptism Max Blake  
11.15 Matins

**Sunday 19th February**  
08.00 Said Holy Communion  
10.00 Eucharist  
10.00 Family Service (lay led)  
16.00 Evensong

**Sunday 26th February**  
08.00 Said Holy Communion  
10.00 Family Eucharist & Baptism  
16.00 Evensong

**Wednesday 1st March**  
20.00 Benefice Eucharist

*Anyone unable to carry out their duty and who cannot exchange with another sidesman please contact Kate Bennett or Wendy Casson on 712028. Please note that services are provisional as changes can sometimes be made at short notice. Please check the Sunday Link Sheet.*

### St Mary's Duties:

**Fourth Sunday of Epiphany**  
St Peter's (KD/TT)

**Fourth Sunday before Lent**  
St Peter's (KD)  
All Saints' (NJ)  
St Peter's (KD)  
  
St Mary's (PE)

**Third Sunday before Lent**  
All Saints' (KD)  
St Mary's (KD)    Mr/Mrs G Howard  
St Mary's (KD)  
St Peter's (NJ)

**Second Sunday before Lent**  
St Mary's (NJ)    Mrs P Keene  
St Peter's (NJ)  
St Mary's (TT)  
All Saints' (PE)

**Sunday next before Lent**  
St Mary's (KD)    Miss W Casson  
All Saints' (KD)  
St Peter's (TT)

St Peter's



Homing Enquiries 0345 2601501 or  
[www.andovercats.org.uk](http://www.andovercats.org.uk)  
Fund-raising/volunteers 07733 242196 or  
[coord@andovercats.org.uk](mailto:coord@andovercats.org.uk)  
Items for resale 01256-892773

In 2016 we took in and re-homed 122 cats and kittens, a fraction of the number that passed through our hands ten years ago. This is partly due to fostering capacity but a lot of blame can be placed on the social media where cats are passed freely from home to home, and kittens, most of which have never seen a vet, are sold for exorbitant sums. Cats Protection are often asked to pick up the pieces from these transactions. We ask £60 for a cat/kitten but it will be in good health, vaccinated, microchipped and neutered (in the case of a kitten we will do this when it reaches the appropriate age).



Fund raising is slow at the moment due to the lack of an organiser but we shall be back in the Whitchurch Charity Shop in March.

Last month's cat Betsy has, at last, found a home. Dotty is a grey and white, very friendly, young cat who came to us as a stray and has been in care since September. She loves attention, but as we don't know her background, would probably prefer to be an only cat.

*Martin Bevan*

### BENEFICE DIARY - FEBRUARY 2017

1 Feb	(Wed)	7.00pm	The Wednesday Bridge Club (Partnership Meeting) in GCVC
2 Feb	(Thurs)	10.30am	Goodworth Clatford WI Coffee Morning
		7.00pm	Abbotts Ann Parish Council meets in AA Memorial Hall.
		7.00pm	Hand Bell Ringing at 9 Catherine's Walk.
		7.45pm	Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
4 Feb	(Sat)	"Jack and the Bean's Talk" puppet show at GCVC	
5 Feb	(Sun)	(The Fourth Sunday before Lent) - full service details, page 2	
		8.00pm	Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
6 Feb	(Mon)	12.30pm	Way Inn Lunch at St Peter's
7 Feb	(Tues)	11.15am	Said service of Morning Prayer in St Peter's Church
8 Feb	(Wed)	7.00pm	The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC
9 Feb	(Thurs)	7.30pm	Upper Clatford Parish Council meets in UC Memorial Hall
		3.00-4.00pm	Neighbourhood policing scheme AA village shop page 19
		7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice at St Mary's.
		7.45pm	Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
10 Feb	(Fri)	5.00pm-7.00pm	Pizza Night at Abbotts Ann Village Shop, page 10
12 Feb	(Sun)	(The Third Sunday before Lent) - full service details, page 2	

## Abbotts Ann War Memorial Hall Committee

### Time to Renew your Subscription to the All New 100 Club!

**Year April 2017 to March 2018**



Time to Join the '**100 Club**' you could be one of our lucky monthly winners!

Help support the War Memorial Hall and remember - you have to be in it to win it!!

Please complete the form below and send it with your cheque or cash to the Promoter: Gayle Wilson, Formosa, Cattle Lane, Abbotts Ann, SP11 7DS as soon as possible or before end of April. If it's easier for you, you can also drop it in the Secretary's letter box – Graham Stallard, Rose Cottage, 86 Little Ann SP11 7NW.

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Please accept my application for Membership of the Abbotts Ann Memorial Hall Hundred Club. I enclose my £15.00 by Cheque(s) /Cash per subscription

NUMBER OF SUBSCRIPTIONS:.....

SURNAME:.....TITLE.....INITIALS.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

SIGNED.....DATE.....

## *Dear friends,*

In Philip Larkin's poem *Church Going* a cyclist calls at an empty church, even though he is not a regular worshipper.

*Yet stop I did: in fact I often do,  
And always end much at a loss like this,  
Wondering what to look for; wondering, too  
When churches fall completely out of use  
What we shall turn them into, ...*

But then he – I assume it's a man – goes on to remind himself that, despite his seeming indifference to the building and pessimism about its future, he has come because he is searching for what he calls 'something serious'. Yet he remains unclear about what that might be. Another visitor, John Betjeman, in *A Lincolnshire Church*, was far more confident:

*The great door shuts, and lessens  
That roar of churchyard trees  
And the Presence of God Incarnate  
Has brought me to my knees.*

Our churches of All Saints, St Mary and St Peter are always open and people call there every day. Many record their stop in the visitors' books so we know something of why they come. They visit the graves of ancestors and research family history; they admire the architecture or the features that are unique to every church. They enjoy the setting or may be on a sentimental journey having known the church previously. More just see our churches as a corner of each village where they can seek peace and quiet, a place to sit and think, perhaps to find solace, guidance or inspiration. Others, like Betjeman, find themselves at prayer.

The buildings are always available for locals too. In addition to the public worship that we celebrate every week hundreds come to worship each Christmas. Throughout the year we celebrate rites of passage at the many baptisms and weddings we hold in the benefice and remember the lives of our loved ones who have died.

What links everyone who enters our churches, whether they feel it or not, is love. Jesus told his followers that the essence of their faith was to love God and love their neighbour (Luke 18:18). Love is God's gift to us and provides meaning and structure to the lives of Christians. It helps inspire others too. The most famous example of neighbourly love is the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37) but it is love that underpins all relationships between neighbours, family and friends.

We are able to open our churches each day because they are maintained in good repair, kept warm, clean, and attractive. This is thanks to the generosity and unflagging support, the love, of villagers, many of whom are not regular worshippers. John Betjeman, in another poem, caught the mood that inspires this support:

*And must the building fall?  
Not while we love the church and live  
And of our charity will give  
Our much, our more, our all.*

Love is the something serious sought by Philip Larkin's cyclist. I wish he could have visited our churches.  
Best wishes,

*Tim*

### From The Registers

#### Funeral

The funeral and burial of Henry F Keefe was held on 30th November at All Saints'

The funeral of Clarence Frederick Hunt, "Fred", took place at Salisbury Crematorium on 13th December

The funeral of Trevor Arthur Brown took place at Salisbury Crematorium on 21st December

The funeral of David William Long took place at Basingstoke Crematorium on 22nd December

The funeral of Jon Fletcher took place on 5th January 2017 at All Saints'

The funeral of Elizabeth Joan Riley took place at Salisbury Crematorium and Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's, both on 11th January

#### Burial of Ashes

The ashes of Eva Elizabeth 'Eve' Smallbones were interred on 18th November at All Saints'

#### Wedding

The wedding of Francis Angus Locke Marx and Tobina Kate Wilson was held on 17th December at All Saints'

*If you do not wish to have the information from the registers published,  
would you please contact Rev. Nicky Judd on 01264 729075.*



## CITIZENS ADVICE TEST VALLEY

### Voluntary Trustees Appeal

**Background** - Test Valley Citizens Advice is a charity created to serve the local community, providing independent, impartial, free advice and information on a wide range of subjects. It deals with more than 10,000 issues a year for clients who need a voice to make themselves heard. The charity's annual spend is around £300,000 and it relies heavily on public grant funding.

**Type of role** - We need to recruit two new trustees to join our board. The trustees are responsible for ensuring that the aims of the charity are met and for providing a proper level of governance for the operational team, with particular responsibility for ensuring financial integrity. The trustees agree the business plan and set the strategic direction for delivery of the plan.

**Location** - Citizens Advice Test Valley has two main offices, Andover in the north of the borough and Romsey in the south, but trustee meetings (currently quarterly) are held in Stockbridge in the middle!

**Further details about the role** - We are looking for people with independent judgement and a willingness to give time and commitment to being a trustee, which goes beyond simple attendance at meetings. We are particularly looking for someone with fundraising experience (or natural skills and enthusiasm in that field!), but more important is an interest in the work being done by the operational paid and volunteer staff, and a belief in the value of the service being provided. The post of trustee is unpaid but will provide a great deal of experience and satisfaction. All reasonable expenses incurred as a trustee will be reimbursed. We welcome applications from all sections of the community.

**Contact details** - Ange Moon, Chief Officer [co@testvalleycab.org.uk](mailto:co@testvalleycab.org.uk) (tel. 01264 355090) or John Patience, Chair [patiencejp@aol.com](mailto:patiencejp@aol.com) (tel. 01264 710001)



### AQUAFIT AT FARLEIGH SCHOOL

**THIS IS GREAT FUN - WHY NOT GIVE IT A TRY!**

**Mondays 10.15 - 11.00 am**

**Term time only £6.00 per session**

**Further details email [roslynswim@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:roslynswim@hotmail.co.uk)**



### ST MARY'S CHURCH FLOWERS - AND HOLY DUSTING ROTA

We are so grateful to you all for giving up your time to the Church. Here is the rota. If the dates are inconvenient and you are unable to change with someone else, please ring Sylvia Burson (710852) for flowers and Jill Tayler (710201) for dusting.



#### Dates:

27 Jan - 9 Feb  
10 Feb - 23 Feb  
24 Feb - 9 Mar  
10 Mar - 23 Mar  
24 Mar - 6 Apr  
7 Apr - 20 Apr

#### Flowers:

Margaret Hind  
Margaret Hind  
Lent  
Lent  
Lent  
Easter

#### Dusting:

Sheila Robinson  
Audrey Cresswell  
Penny Scriven  
Beth Deacon  
Margaret Hind  
Jill Tayler

### MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE

The magazine has recently changed its banking arrangements and we would like to bring the Subscription date in line with the Advertising year which starts on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Rather than give our volunteers twice the work in collecting subscriptions now and again in May, we are asking if those holding annual subscriptions would, just this once, pay in advance for 16 months instead of the usual 12. The payment would be £8 instead of £6. There will be nothing more to pay until June next year **2018**. We confirm that there is no change in the price of the magazine which remains at 50p per month. We hope you will bear with us and apologise if this causes any inconvenience.

From now on any cheques should be made payable to Abbotts Ann Magazine. Thank you.

*The Magazine Team*

#### EDITOR'S NOTE:

All articles printed in the Abbotts Ann Magazine are printed in good faith and are not necessarily the views of the Editor. All contributions must be accompanied by a full name and email address which may be withheld at the Editor's discretion. The Editor reserves the right to amend all contributions. Please support our advertisers; they support the magazine.

## MORNING PRAYER

There is a said service of Morning Prayer at 11.15am every Tuesday in St Francis Chapel, which is the chapel on the right hand side in St Peter's Church. The service lasts about half an hour. All are very welcome to attend.

*Peter Eastwood*

## ABBOTTS ANN PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

There was a full agenda for the January Abbotts Ann Parish Council meeting, here is a summary. The official minutes are published on the village website and the Parish noticeboards. We reviewed and agreed feedback to 2 planning and 5 tree applications. It's always a shame to see trees cut down, the current ones have mainly been condemned by the Test Valley Borough Council because of disease. The Parish Council has started a review of trees and through 2017 will pull together a list of trees that already have Preservation Orders and make sure any that don't are also protected.\*

Cllr Andrew Hayter presented the New Burial Ground charges and regulations already reviewed by the Burial Ground sub-committee which were approved having been overdue a review since 2008. In future they will be reviewed annually.

Abbotts Ann Green Action proposed improvements to The Green including moving the Wildflower Meadow from the Burial Ground to the site. The Parish Council will fund some of these changes with Abbotts Ann Action leading the changes. The Green (formerly Manor Close Playing Fields) was saved by the Friends of Manor Close action group who applied for 'Green Status'. This prevented development by Hampshire County Council (HCC) with a mixture of houses and open space who agreed not to build houses and provide the Parish Council with a long lease on the land provided 'The Green' application was withdrawn – result!

The Parish Council have provided three Defibrillators either through parishioners' fund raising and donations or directly by the council. The one installed in Burghclere Down was unfortunately stolen. It has been replaced by our insurers and stored in a locked cabinet! The lock is coded and if you call 999, they can provide the code to release it. This helps by keeping the unit secure and also making sure an ambulance is dispatched too.

The Parish Council have also decided to purchase a container for the Sports Field, this will be used to store the Fete equipment and allow better storage for the tractor's grass cutting equipment.

Cllr Lorna Haigh has been leading the renovation of the Red Telephone box and after discussion councillors decided to replace the door as replacing the damaged glass would cost more. This will ensure that the phone box is an

## ABBOTTS ANN WAR MEMORIAL HALL

### BIG DATE FOR YOUR DIARY / CALENDAR!

FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017

With Easter a little later this year, we will be skipping a year with our Fish Friday competition, so if you are the 2016 trophy holder, you have another year before the competition comes back bigger and even better in 2018.

Instead, we have an exciting new fun social event planned for the evening of Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017, so please reserve the date now! Watch this space for more details in the March Magazine!

*Graham Stallard, Secretary and Trustee - Abbotts Ann War Memorial Hall*

## HAMPSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

**Come and meet us - Abbotts Ann Village Shop & Post Office**

**Every other Thursday**

**3pm - 4pm**

**Thursday 9 February**

**Thursday 23 February**

*Come along and speak to your local Neighbourhoods Team*



## SAFARI SUPPER



Please come to the Safari Supper on Saturday 18th February.

As well as raising money for a loo for St Mary's church you eat and drink exceedingly well.

It is also a chance to see old friends or meet new people in the village.

Its a wonderful evening.

Forms in the shop.

Alex Pugh

## ABBOTTS ANN WI - DECEMBER 2016

There are so many calls upon our members' time that the WI does tend to take a back seat during December, but the reading group still managed to fit in a session to discuss their latest book and the walking group rambled around Barton Stacey. Several members went to the Cinema to see Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them. Carol Taylor welcomed everyone to her home for a Christmas Coffee Morning. Carol loves this time of year and gets out her vast collection of Christmas related decorations and ornaments and creates a very festive atmosphere.

Noted in our programme for our meeting on the 8th December was Nick Crump and his Amazing Instruments.

We were all curious to find out what this referred to - well Nick is passionate about music and asked us first to ponder how music actually started. Today, we are all so used to hearing music in our lives, whether we are shopping, standing in a lift, as background to tv programmes and films apart from our own favoured artists and composers had it even occurred to us? Nick believes it probably started in either Africa or Australia and began when someone picked up a couple of sticks and managed to beat out a rhythm.

Nick's website refers to him as a versatile musician with a flair for inventing unusual new instruments and this is certainly true. He can produce music from all sorts of different items usually seen and used in other circumstances! He had us amused and amazed at his creativity which included a boghorn (no explanation as it has to be seen to be believed) and a Theremin (this is an electronic instrument which is often used to produce eerie soundtracks).

We were at times incredulous and moved with his instruments, but always entertained throughout the evening. Nick's presentation finished with Happy Birthday being played for one of our members on one of Nick's novel creations! We then had a lovely buffet supper with contributions from all our members.

Our meeting this month is on 23rd February and starts at 7.30 pm as usual, but on this occasion non-committee members are organising the speaker who has yet to be confirmed. So if you like to be spontaneous, come along to the Village Hall and join us - visitors always welcome.

Sharon King

asset rather than an eyesore to enhance the village street. A survey is currently being undertaken on how best to use the phone box in the future via the website and in the shop.

The Parish Strategic Plan was presented by Cllr Haigh with the proposal that councillors should take responsibility for a portfolio. Traffic, Communications, Housing, Burial, Trees, Footpaths and Amenities have all been assigned to councillors so that they can provide a focus for these areas in the future.

*Andrew Hayter, Chairman Abbotts Ann Parish Council*

*\*See page 16 for more on Tree Preservation Orders in the Parish*

## LIFE WITH THE TRIBE - DECEMBER 2016

The first day of December is stunningly glorious. Our favourite winter weather - very cold with a sharp frost, dry, still, clear with brilliant blue skies. Not that it's light when we first emerge from the house; it is still dark and the light is just appearing as I return home from the station with the Littlest - the temperature gauge reads -8!! It is cold! Despite this happy start to the day, events don't quite go as I'd have liked them to and I find myself having to explain to the Littlest when I pick her up from school, that her beloved one year old cat, Tiger, "is very, very ill and not going to get better" and that we were going to have to go to the vets to say goodbye to her. When you're 6, this is just something that you're not able to process; in fact, when you're a lot older it's difficult to understand that sometimes vets or doctors just aren't able to fix things. It's just life and some lives are sadly, much shorter than others. The vet had explained that our little Tiger (and she really was little) was incredibly sick with her body killing its own white blood cells. Not good. So on a day that started with joy and sunshine, it ended with sadness and tears. I collected the older three from the station and we went direct to the vets to say goodbye to a much loved tiny cat. I sat on the floor at the vets with the Littlest on my lap, so she could cuddle Tiger for the last time. It was a tricky decision as to whether I should let the Tribe stay with Tiger as she was injected with an overdose of anaesthetic, but in the end I thought that it was the right thing to do - and it's alright to sob, cry, howl and be deeply sad about the loss of the Littlest's tiny, sweet cat, Tiger. She slipped away from us in seconds and we wrapped her in a blanket and brought her home to bury. A couple of days later, when the ground had thawed, Father of the Tribe dug a hole and we had a quiet ceremony in the garden where a wooden toadstool marks her grave; we will plant a tree there later in the spring. She's not in pain any more but it still breaks my heart when the Littlest occasionally looks at me with big, tear-filled eyes and says "I miss Tiger so much Mummy. Why did she have to die?" So we now imagine her Tiger meeting Max (the Boy's cat who died just over a year ago) in 'cat heaven' and together they play

in a flower filled meadow chasing butterflies and bees - it makes it a lot easier. For all of us.

But December should be about hope, happiness, kindness and sharing; and so it is. Despite the start, it is a busy, happy month. The Eldest did one of her Duke of Edinburgh hikes and as we pick her team up, we take a short walk ourselves on Martin Down, on the Hampshire/Dorset border. This is one of the largest areas of chalk grassland in the UK. Farmers from the Neolithic age onwards cleared woodland and cultivated the area. Common grazing rights have been in place here since medieval times. It is another beautiful area of Hampshire that has been, until now, undiscovered by us. There are miles of good footpaths and an easy circular walk. There is the ancient earthwork, Bokerley Dyke - a broad bank and ditch running for 6km and believed to date back to the Bronze Age. Today it forms part of the Hampshire/Dorset boundary. The top of the earthworks give awesome views, particularly on the clear, cold day that we visit. The area was also used as a rifle range during WWII. It was a delight to find and given the fact that it is renowned as a place for wild flowers, butterflies, bees and birds, it will be a place we will return to in the Spring.

As Christmas itself approaches we are fortunate to visit Salisbury Cathedral several times for carol concerts with two of the Tribe singing in the choir on one occasion. There is something about the Cathedral; as Bill Bryson said "There is no doubt in my mind that Salisbury Cathedral is the single most beautiful structure in England". At this time of year it is even more awe-inspiring, particularly with the incredible and impressive installation 'Star of Bethlehem'. Created by a coding artist (very 21st century) Jayson Haebich, it has been made by projecting light onto a transparent screen and appears as an ever-changing geometrical shape above the Cathedral's Spire crossing. With the UK's tallest spire, the world's oldest working clock and the finest original Magna Carta (of the surviving 4), it is definitely worth a visit and the Tribe still enjoy it every time they are taken.

Closer to home we take the Littlest to visit Father Christmas at the village shop. We all walk to the shop together with no sport or events to break up our day - bliss. The shop is quiet when (or should that read 'until'?!?) we arrive - live music is being played, but Father Christmas has not yet arrived. It isn't long before he does appear and the Littlest is delighted to have a chat and assure him that she has been good. We decide to stay for coffee and hot chocolates sitting in the winter sunshine outside. Soon enough there is a steady stream of people into the shop. We realise that this is the first time that the Littlest has visited our village shop Father Christmas since she was just 3 weeks old and the village was covered in a blanket of snow. It makes the Tribe reminisce about their life in the village; it's lovely to hear them chattering away and I realise that their childhood memories of the village are quite magical. The Littlest is looking forward to meeting Father Christmas at the shop again next year.



The image features a large red circle on the left side of a dark blue background. To the right of the circle, the word 'DRAIN' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. To the right of 'DRAIN', the word 'TECH' is written in red, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below 'TECH', the word 'TANKERS' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, followed by a small red circle with a white dot. To the right of the logo, the word 'TANKERS' is followed by a red dot and the word 'COM' in white. Below the logo, the words 'TANK EMPTYING' are written in large, bold, red, sans-serif capital letters. To the left of the contact information, there are three icons: a red telephone receiver, a red envelope, and a red globe. To the right of each icon are the corresponding contact details: a phone number (01264 710543), an email address (booking@draintechtankers.com), and a website address (www.draintechtankers.com).

### INSPIRING SPORTS DRAMA AT ANDOVER FILM CLUB

At the ODEON on Monday February 13<sup>th</sup>, Andover Film Club will be presenting the 2016 movie "Queen of Katwe" (cert PG).

This much-praised film was produced by Disney but shot entirely in Uganda and South Africa. It tells the true story of a Ugandan girl living in a slum in Kampala who learns to play chess and attains the elevated status of Woman Candidate Master after her performances at the World Chess Olympiads.

Although fitting with the studio's longstanding tradition of telling sports underdog stories, director Mira Nair defined *Queen of Katwe* as "a radical film for Disney in many ways", not least because of its realistic depiction of life in the slum. This inspiring drama manages to both capture the hardship of poverty and work as a feel-good Disney movie.

The show will start at 8.00pm, and pre-booking is available at the Club's website, [www.andoverfilmclub.org](http://www.andoverfilmclub.org).

*Graham Richardson*

## **ABBOTTS ANN PARISH - TREE PRESERVATION ORDERS**

Love 'em or hate 'em, Abbotts Ann has a large number of Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's). The definition from Test Valley Borough Council (TVBC) is that "*Tree Preservation Orders may apply to any tree, group of trees or woodlands that make an important contribution to public amenity.*" So the trees along Church Path, clearly stand out as examples of this. However this brings up a second point - all trees in a conservation area require planning consent to be sought prior to any works being carried out and do not necessarily have TPO's.

If a tree is diseased and considered a danger, it can be cut down anyway, essentially insurance companies insist that tree owners do so quickly because they will not insure the risk. This is what happened to the tree in Church Path, which was reduced to its trunk within 4 days of the request to carry out tree works being registered with TVBC.

Using TPO's, TVBC are able to manage the cutting of branches or felling of trees by requiring tree owners to explain what they want to do and why they want to do it. Most Tree Applications are approved and are unopposed by the Parish Council after advice from our Tree Officer John Moon who reviews each one. In addition to controlling tree works, a TPO can also impose conditions - for example planting a similar tree as a replacement.

The Parish Council does not have good records of TPO's on its patch. During 2017, the council is going to establish which trees are covered and those that either should be covered and added or should be removed from the list. The objective being to have the right list, not the longest list.

If you would like to take part in our review, please contact either myself or the Clerk ([abbottsanncouncil@gmail.com](mailto:abbottsanncouncil@gmail.com)).

*Andrew Hayter, Chairman, Abbotts Ann Parish Council -  
[cllr.andrewhayter@gmail.com](mailto:cllr.andrewhayter@gmail.com)*

## **"RECYCLE YOUR GLASS BOTTLES AND JARS AND BE A RECYCLING STAR!"**

Recycling Star is encouraging residents to recycle their glass bottles and jars this winter. From wine bottles to pasta sauce jars, all sorts of glass can be recycled at local recycling centres (LRC) across the borough. Recycling glass helps to reduce the amount of waste in your black bin and helps the borough recycle more.

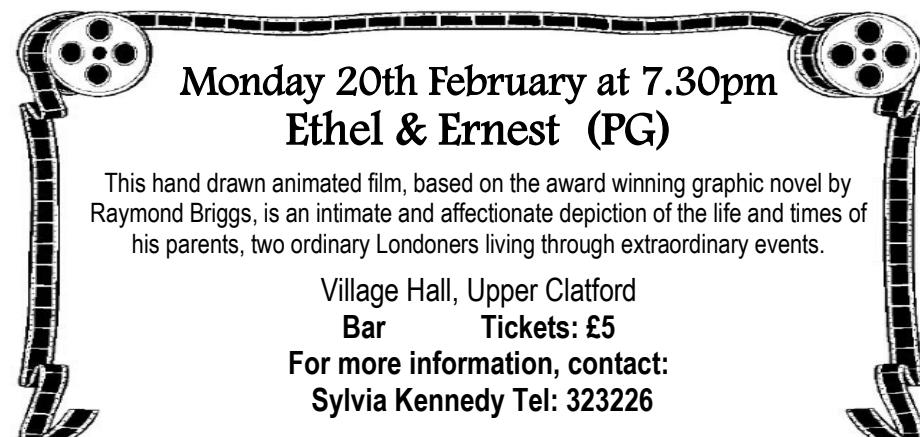
There are over 100 LRCs throughout the borough so it is easy to find a site that is convenient. To find your nearest recycling centre visit [www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling](http://www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling).

For more information about Recycling Stars visit [www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingstars](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingstars). For regular recycling updates and recycling hints and tips, "Like" Recycling Stars on Facebook."

*Alice Keeping - TVBC Environmental Project Officer*

Christmas comes and goes with a busy house full of family and friends and before we know it another year has come to an end. Personally, it has been a quietly happy year (despite the recent sadness); in the greater world order it has been a strange and I believe, less happy year. I can only hope that 2017 will bring more kindness, empathy and generosity of spirit across the world, although I'm not holding my breath.

*Mother of the Tribe - [www.lifewiththetribe.com](http://www.lifewiththetribe.com)*



**Monday 20th February at 7.30pm**  
**Ethel & Ernest (PG)**

This hand drawn animated film, based on the award winning graphic novel by Raymond Briggs, is an intimate and affectionate depiction of the life and times of his parents, two ordinary Londoners living through extraordinary events.

Village Hall, Upper Clatford  
Bar      Tickets: £5  
For more information, contact:  
Sylvia Kennedy Tel: 323226



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## ABBOTTS ANN VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE

**Shop Manager:** Tim Abram  
**Deputy Shop Manager:** Carol Murphy  
**Sub Post Mistress:** Maureen Flood

### February 2017

#### Coffee

Drop by the shop and enjoy a coffee or a hot chocolate from our superb machine. Arrange to meet up with your friends and have a natter. Katrina, our vicar, is often in the shop on a Thursday morning and would be pleased if others would join her.

#### Shrove Tuesday

Yes, it is Pancake Day again on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, it soon comes round. All the ingredients you need are available from your village shop.

#### SPECIAL PROMOTIONS

Tim, our manager, is setting up a weekly special promotions shelf, with bargains galore and new promotions every Thursday. Don't miss it!

#### Pizza Night

### February Pizza Night

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February - 1700 to 1900

**Remember to order in advance for collection at your chosen time.**

*Elizabeth Howard  
Shop Volunteer & Committee Member*

## ABBOTTS ANN POST OFFICE

### **Try Post Office Limited award winning Travel Insurance**

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Booked that next holiday?

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**0330 123 3690 or visit online at <http://www.postoffice.co.uk/travel-insurance>**

(Please quote Abbotts Ann Post Office branch code: 303 -542-5)

## CH.2146/S MARINE EDWARD SAMUEL ALDERMAN, RMLI



Edward Samuel Alderman, a grocery bar attendant born on 5th January 1899 at Chute, Wiltshire, and living at Redenham, near Andover, enlisted into the Royal Berkshire Regiment at Andover on 5th March 1917 and declared his age as 18 years and 2 months. He was subsequently transferred to the Royal Marine Light Infantry (RMLI) on 7th March. He was at the Royal Marine Depot at Deal from 8th March until 6th September and thence with the Royal Marine Brigade in the 1<sup>st</sup> (Reserve) Battalion on HMS Victory until 28th December.

Edward Alderman was drafted to France on 21st January 1918 and was posted to 1 RMLI on 4th February. 1 RMLI was in 188<sup>th</sup> Brigade in 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division, one of two brigades manned by the Royal Navy (RN) in the Division – the Division also had a third army brigade under command. The Division was part of V Corps in 3<sup>rd</sup> Army. The RN Division was a Winston Churchill baby when he was 1st Lord of the Admiralty, and was originally found from RN personnel who were not serving afloat. It was a direct descendant of the force of naval and marine battalions sent into action at Ostend in August 1914.

In March 1918, both 1 and 2/RMLI were manning the vulnerable trenches of the Flesquieres Salient, a bulge into the German lines, which were steadily attacked by a German gas bombardment as a precursor to the 21st March 1918 attack, the Ludendorff offensive. As a consequence of this bombardment, the Division suffered over 2,500 gas casualties. As the British defence lines broke under the relentless pressure of the German attack, 188 Brigade were ordered to withdraw to Haverincourt Wood on 22nd March and thence to the Bapaume - Peronne road on 24th March, Martinpuich on 25th March and Thiepval on 26th March. The whole Division was very severely mauled by the Germans and suffered considerably in the attack with 1 RMLI losing 20 killed, 83 wounded and 344 missing by the end of March. Subsequently, in the later offensives as part of the "Last 100 Days", 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division was used as a spearhead formation, ending its war in the Mons area.

Marine Alderman was admitted sick to 148 Field Ambulance on 6th July 1918 and discharged to his unit on 16th July. He was subsequently medically evacuated to Woodside Hospital, Glasgow on 5th October. After recovery, he was placed on the strength of 1<sup>st</sup> (Reserve) Battalion on 22nd December 1918, and was discharged on 8th March 1919 to Lower Mill, Mill Lane (101 Abbotts Ann).

Marine Alderman was entitled to the British War Medal and the Allied Victory Medal.

*Pauline Cooper pp The Late Michael Cooper*

## CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

This Christmas carol singers raised £580.36 for church funds, the best year that we can remember. Abbotts Ann PCC is very grateful to all the singers who turned out, to collectors Barbara Dixon and Gordon Howard, to our hosts Esther Kitching and Dee Howarth and, most of all, to everyone in the village who gave so generously. Thank you very much!

*Tim Tayler*

## ABBOTTS ANN TELEPHONE KIOSK - CORRECTION

I didn't clean the kiosk by myself, Lorna Haigh spend the 2 hours scrubbing with me!

Liz Dell 711051  
[www.lizdellart.com](http://www.lizdellart.com) ..... have a look!



## **Abbotts Ann Green Action**

Do you care about:  
Caring for our planet and our village?  
Living sustainably?  
Reducing your fuel bills and our dependency  
on fossil fuels?

You are invited to our  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm**  
at  
**the War Memorial Hall**

To hear about and discuss AAGA's work during 2016  
and make plans for 2017

## Use Royal Mail for your parcel returns

Do you have parcels to return to retailers including eBay, M&S, John Lewis and asos? Whether your returns are free or paid for, pop in to Abbotts Ann Post Office for help and advice, and trust Royal Mail to return your parcels safely.

Awaiting the delivery of parcels, keep your Amazon postage worries away by using the Click and Collect service. By selecting this option when you order any items from Amazon, you can select Abbotts Ann Post Office from the list and your parcel (s) will be delivered directly – safe, sound and secure – to Abbotts Ann Post Office. Once it arrives, you'll receive a text message or email confirming it's here, and then you're free to collect at your leisure.

The service is also available when purchasing from other online retailers, just check to see if we are an option in the list!

## Royal Mail Special Stamps

Royal Mail's 2017 Special Stamp programme is set to showcase the "Best of British" in a range of subjects from some of the greatest racehorses from the past six decades to beautiful birds that herald spring and summer in the UK.

Windsor Castle stamps on sale 15<sup>th</sup> February

Founded by William the Conqueror in around 1080, Windsor Castle is the oldest inhabited castle in the world, and an official residence of HM The Queen. This photographic celebration explores iconic views and some of the Castle's sumptuous interiors. Featured in the stamp set is an image of the world-famous Round Tower that has dominated the Berkshire skyline for over 800 years. 2017 also marks the 25th anniversary of the devastating fire, which was the spur to the extraordinary rebuilding and refurbishment that almost 1m visitors a year enjoy. The fire at Windsor broke out in the morning of 20 November 1992 and was finally extinguished fifteen hours later. One hundred and fifteen rooms were destroyed or very badly damaged by the fire and over a million gallons of water were pumped into the fabric of the building. The process of clearing, drying out, rebuilding and redecorating the damaged structure was completed exactly five years later.

*Maureen Flood - Sub Post Mistress*

## 100 CLUB WINNERS 2017

1st prize £30, 2nd prize £20, 3rd prize £10



### JANUARY 2017 DRAW WINNERS

**First Prize : Teresa Barkley**  
**Second Prize : Brian Wilkins**  
**Third Prize : Beth Deacon**

*Lisa Hillier*

## VIEW FROM THE REAR STALLS

Battening down the hatches to ride out winter's waves of deadlines can effectively speed these 'drear' months. Procrastination abandoned, and tax returns finally complete, one can sail on in good conscience to plan the spring diary. However, Life has an infinite store of spanners to cast into the best-oiled domestic machinery.

The Parish Council Burial Ground Sub-committee had met for the first time in November. (It's called a sub-committee, but someone commented that there is no 'committee' of which it can be 'sub' – a council being technically a higher organ than a committee.) Three parish councillors formed the group, with one member of the public. The two other members of the public who were attending as interested observers were invited to join, and one did.

It was decided a viewing meeting should be arranged at the churchyard, for new councillors to familiarise themselves with the area under their authority – learning that churches are oriented (literally) to the east, for instance – and to ascertain what work was needed. It was obvious to regular visitors to the church that the paths had become dangerously slippery with algae and moss. Previously, the Parochial Church Council (PCC) arranged to clear them when necessary. The Parish Council (PC) now has responsibility and is including such works in new maintenance contracts which have been put out to tender. It may seem over-officious to those who just quietly "get on" with jobs as need arises, but we live in a litigious world: even those who helpfully clear snow from a pavement outside their homes might render themselves liable should someone fall on the swept surface!

The Burial Ground Sub-committee was offered several site-meeting dates by the Clerk and 17<sup>th</sup> December was duly diarised. One member apologised in advance for being unavailable, but Life must have seen fit to fling a few more items from its tool-kit to confound other diaries: unexpectedly, no one from the Parish Council turned up at all!

It is easy to overlook appointments amidst the demands of the festive season but it was a pity newcomers missed the opportunity to become informed. The three individuals who did foregather – the non-councillors and the churchwarden – were already quite familiar with the churchyard, and discussed the situation. Besides the urgent cleaning of the path to the west door (the main entrance) of the church, more significant repairs are also required.

The Clerk reported to the January meeting of the full Council that the moss on the path had been treated. No mention was made of the site visit, or the other necessary works.

Proposals had been circulated to councillors for the 'improvement' of The Green, prior to their January meeting. These were prepared by Abbotts Ann Green Action from residents' comments, at the Council's request. Opinions

range from those who wish to keep the area as a simple open space for dog walking, informal children's games, play, and recreation, to those who would like more structured and artistic design. The Council is restricted in what it can allow, under the terms of its lease. There can be no buildings, for instance, or commercial activities. This still leaves plenty of room for imaginative projects and the Council has budgeted for potential costs.

After some discussion, councillors decided to begin the improvements as soon as possible by transferring the wildflower meadow from the burial ground. Parishioners will recall the Council had permitted part of the burial ground to be left as a wildflower meadow until the consecrated land was needed for graves. It has been particularly appreciated by the after-school 'Fun Club' and its continuation will be welcomed – although is a little ironic that something intended as a temporary, and free, amenity for the community could now apparently cost residents £2,800 (the amount earmarked from council funds for this part of The Green development). That said, this sum will cover the expense of preparing the site, moving the wild flowers, additional fencing on The Green to keep dogs off the new meadow, and the installation of a dog bin.

The plaque bought by the Council for its defibrillator at the Poplar Farm Inn is now in place. It rightly acknowledges the generous donation from a previous clerk that enabled the purchase of this second village device. The first defibrillator was, of course, paid for entirely by donations from many villagers and friends in 2013, including the Great Shave-off event in the Eagle Inn where it is now sited. The two pubs in the village - easily memorable locations - are now well-known to have one of these life-saving devices. The Council paid for the third defibrillator, now repaired after being vandalised, at Burghclere Down Community Centre.

The Village Consultation a few years ago produced many ideas for the future of our village. Members of Abbotts Ann Vision spent much time and effort ensuring all residents could express their views. Analysing the responses resulted in a list of potential projects, which it was envisaged would be facilitated by the Parish Council. In order to ensure that actions are not overlooked, councillors have now decided to assume 'portfolios' of particular topics as their individual responsibility. 'Portfolio' is a term used at Borough and higher-level councils, and not generally considered appropriate to Parish Councils. However, henceforth in Abbotts Ann there will be a named councillor portfolio-holder to contact if you have issues over trees, traffic, housing, and so on. The full list should be made available. Each will develop expertise in his or her chosen topic, and will be able to keep the projects on course.

Finally, two moles have been caught in the burial ground – digging their own graves, as it transpired!

*Rosemary Groves*