

BENEFICE DIARY - MAY 2015

2 May	(Sat)	Appleshaw Plant Sale – see last month's magazine.
3 May	(Sun)	<u>The Fifth Sunday of Easter</u> Full service details – page 2 9.30am Live Wires at All Saints'
		8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
4 May	(Mon)	Bank Holiday - NO Way Inn Lunch Upper Clatford and Anna Valley May Fayre , Balksbury Field page 17
5 May	(Tues)	7.00pm Goodworth Clatford Parish Council meets in GCVC
6 May	(Wed)	7.00pm The Wednesday Bridge Club (Partnership Meeting) in GCVC
7 May	(Thurs)	10.30am Goodworth Clatford WI Coffee Morning 6.30pm Village Shop, Abbotts Ann Vision Footpath Walk
		7.00pm Abbotts Ann Parish Council meets in Abbotts Ann VH
10 May	(Sun)	<u>The Sixth Sunday of Easter</u> Full service details – page 2 9.30am Live Wires at All Saints'
		8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
11 May	(Mon)	12.30pm Way Inn Lunch in St. Peter's Room.
12 May	(Tues)	12.30pm Meadow Room Lunch at All Saints'.
13 May	(Wed)	7.00pm The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC
		7.30pm Upper Clatford Parish Council meets in UC Memorial Hall
14 May	(Thurs)	Ascension Day.
15 May	(Fri)	<u>12.00noon deadline for receipt of copy for the June 2015 Abbotts Ann Magazine.</u> editor@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk 10.00am Goodworth Clatford WI Walking Group
		1.00pm St. Peter's, wedding of Adam Faye and Lucinda Thompson.
17 May	(Sun)	<u>Sunday of the Feast of the Ascension</u> Full service details – page 2 9.30am Live Wires at All Saints'
		8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
19 May	(Tues)	7.30pm Goodworth Clatford WI Annual Meeting in GCVC
20 May	(Wed)	7.00pm The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC
		7.30pm Upper Clatford WI Annual Meeting in UC Memorial Hall
23 May	(Sat)	10.00am Bring-and-Buy Plant Sale at Abbotts Ann VH - page 23
24 May	(Sun)	<u>The Feast of Pentecost</u> Full service details – page 2 9.30am Live Wires at All Saints'
		8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
27 May	(Wed)	7.00pm The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC 7.45pm Clatford Valley Garden Club meets in UC Memorial Hall.
		7.30pm Abbotts Ann WI Annual Meeting in AA War Memorial Hall
28 May	(Thurs)	Threadgill Cup 2015 competition day.
30 May	(Sat)	<u>Trinity Sunday</u> Full service details – page 2 9.30am Live Wires at All Saints'
31 May	(Sun)	8.00pm Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbotts Ann
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For Abbotts Ann Magazine and Diary, email: editor@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk

St Mary's Church, Abbotts Ann

Rector	The Revd. David Broad The Rectory, Upper Clatford d.na.broad@virgin.net (HIS DAY OFF IS SATURDAY)	352906
Churchwardens	Gordon Howard, Swaledale, 4 St Mary's Meadow, Little Ann Sally Dashwood 1 The Bakery, Dunkirt Lane	710830 710640
	Details of church officers and activities can also be found on the village website at: http://www.little-ann.co.uk/church	
Choir Practice	THURSDAYS 7.45PM, ST PETER'S, GOODWORTH CLATFORD	
Bell-Ringing Practice	THURSDAYS 7.30-9.00PM, ST MARY'S, ABBOTTS ANN Tower Captain: Dudley Alleway	710646
	Parochial Church Council	
Secretary	Mrs Jo Brookes 3 Slessor Close, Monxton Road	07967 484581
Treasurer (Temporary)	Sally Dashwood, 1 The Bakery	710640
	Parish Magazine - www.abbottsanmagazine.co.uk	
Editor - editor@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk	Andrea Jackson 5 Timothy's Field, Abbotts Ann	710630
Advertising - ads@abbottsanmagazine.co.uk	Rollo Wilson Jubilee Oak Cottage	710899

For magazine deadlines please refer to the Benefice Diary.

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS

Have your magazine delivered free of charge (Abbotts Ann only). A yearly subscription is £6.00. For deliveries outside Abbotts Ann, we offer a postal subscription service if 12 SAE's are provided. If you would like to take out a subscription, please contact Pam Lytle on 01264 710468, email: plytle2@tiscali.co.uk or write to Pam at The White House, Abbotts Ann.

SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN MAY 2015

Please note change of services and times at all churches.

Date:

Sunday 3rd May

8.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Benefice Family Eucharist
6.00 Evensong

5th Sunday of Easter

St Peter's
All Saints'
St Mary's
Mrs S Dashwood

Sunday 10th May

8.00 Holy Communion
9.30 Benefice Eucharist
11.15 Benefice Matins
6.00 Evensong

6th Sunday of Easter

All Saints'
St Mary's
St Peter's
St Mary's
Mr/Mrs G Howard
Mrs S Dashwood

Sunday 17th May

8.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Benefice Eucharist
10.00 Parish Morning Service
6.00 Evensong

Feast of the Ascension

St Mary's
St Peter's
Abbotts Ann VH
All Saints'
Mrs N Keene
Mrs S George

Sunday 24th May

8.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Benefice Eucharist
6.00 Evensong

Feast of Pentecost

St Mary's
All Saints'
St Peter's
Miss W Casson

Sunday 31st May

8.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Benefice Eucharist
6.00 Evensong

Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

St Peter's
All Saints'
St Mary's
Mrs S Dashwood

Sunday 7th June

8.00 Holy Communion
10.00 Benefice Family Eucharist
6.00 Evensong

Corpus Christi

St Peter's
All Saints'
St Mary's
Mrs S Dashwood

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.

finally they asked for a letter from TVBC stating that we did not need planning permission TVBC required us to go through the whole planning process. This took until early this year.

We now have a new boiler working, in the vestry with the flue using the hole left in its West wall by an air vent. The system was designed for us by Dave Smith, a professional surveyor living in the village, and installed by Nigel Harris and his team. Thank you Dave and Nigel. The old asbestos boiler shed has gone as part of the project and we even had to have planning permission to take that away!

Gordon Howard and Sally Dashwood

Bring-and-Buy Plant Sale & Table-Top Sale

Saturday 23rd May 2015
10 am – 12.30 pm

Abbotts Ann War Memorial Hall

Refreshments, raffle,
crafts – and much more!

ALL PROCEEDS FOR FETE FUNDS

For more information contact Anne
On 710851 or 07788 645723

DEFIBRILLATOR

The Village Defibrillator is in a white, illuminated cabinet marked "Defibrillator" outside the rear entrance of the Eagle Inn, on the wall of the covered decking area by the car park. It is immediately accessible at all times.

ST MARY'S ABBOTTS ANN CHURCH RESTORATION PROJECT UPDATE

Repairs

As was reported before, your PCC spent much time last year trying to get a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in order to carry out urgent repairs to the church roof, stonework, brickwork and rain water drainage system. We heard in December last that our application for a grant had been successful and we were given an initial grant to carry out the investigative work needed. You may have noticed the scaffolding at the church and the blue marks on the grass showing where the rainwater soakaways are.

The work was completed last month and a Report produced for HLF, together with Tender documentation for the main project, for them to pass on to Historic England (used to be English Heritage) for their approval. Our Architect's Report on the Investigations is available on the Village website for all to read.

The cost schedule for the repair work has no surprises and tallies very closely with that submitted to HLF last August; with an overall budget of about £250,000. We continue to depend on the St Mary's Trust for our contribution to the cost and are most grateful for their support.

Assuming that Historic England are happy with the works proposed in our Tender, our Architect Duncan Wilson will proceed with the Tender process on our behalf and our Project Team, on behalf of the PCC, will prepare the detailed application to submit to the HLF asking for their approval of the major part of the grant needed to enable us to carry out the repairs. All being well, we hope the work will start later this year.

WC Planning

The requirement to provide a WC at the church was included in our first HLF application. The HLF made it clear that unless it was to be in the main building, not possible in our case, it should be taken out. This we did, after agreeing with HLF that we would still progress it as part of our major project whilst making it clear that the funding for it would come from elsewhere. The programme for the investigative works therefore including specifying a separate WC and getting planning approval for it. This was all made possible thanks to the funds raised at an 'Evening with Alan Titchmarch' organised by Julian and Jane Benson last July. This planning activity is still ongoing.

New Boiler

As many of you know, the old boiler stopped working completely last February. The PCC agreed to progress a replacement boiler as a separate project. Thanks to the generosity of many in the village, Sally Dashwood and Andrew Liddell quickly raised the funds necessary to put a new boiler, connected to the existing heating system, in the vestry. After much discussion with the Diocesan Advisory Committee we got the go ahead. However, when



The Moment of Truth is Now

In the month of the general election - but which seems to have been going on for the past year - we will no doubt, have begun to feel the weight of slogans and promises which has left us feeling not quite knowing who or what to trust. One news programme I recall, had listeners request that election reporting be restricted to just a half-an-hour and the rest of the programme carry on as before and report the news from around the world. But the programme-makers didn't take this seriously! Poor politicians put a lot of effort into persuading a relatively small number of people to vote for them since - at least it has been true in the past - most people habitually vote the same way. Yet, since mistrust in the political process is such a feature of our culture today, and the apparent birth of a multi-party democracy a fruit of this malaise, perhaps the process of electioneering will become more nuanced and authentic in the future.

In these election weeks I came across a rather startling suggestion. 'During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries,' John Berger wrote, 'most direct protests against social injustice were in prose. They were reasoned arguments written in the belief that, given time, people would come to see reason, and that finally, history was on the side of reason. Today this is by no means clear. The outcome is by no means guaranteed. The suffering of the present and the past is unlikely to be redeemed by a future era of universal happiness. And evil is a constant ineradicable reality. All this means that the resolution - the coming to terms with the sense to be given to life - cannot be deferred. The future cannot be trusted. The moment of truth is now. And more and more it will be poetry, rather than prose, that receives this truth. Prose is far more *trusting* than poetry; poetry speaks to the immediate wound.' Poetry, he argues, is the one medium today capable of putting into words the unspeakable and unspoken - the 'immediate wound'. It, he suggests, 'incites caring' - what an interesting phrase today in our world of terror - offers an original hope in the face of the predetermined and prefabricated and is able, unlike so much public and private discourse today, to reunite apparent opposites. Reasoned arguments may no longer convince and neither their shorthand of course, which is terror, still, I cannot imagine a politician quite resorting to poetry at the moment. At least not in Britain. Perhaps we might instead encourage the inhabiting of a poetic mind.

I should however, offer a poem itself. I've chosen one about love by a new up-and-coming poet called Zaffar Kunial. Love, by the way, in case you thought this was a cop-out from heady thoughts about an election, Pope Benedict XVI

wrote, 'will always prove necessary, even in the most just society. There is no ordering of the State so just that it can eliminate the need for a service of love. ... This love does not simply offer people material help, but refreshment and care for their souls, something which often is even more necessary than material support.' [Deus Caritas Est]. The poem is called 'Q'.

Somewhere (thank you, father) over the hills,
through some trap-door in my mind, despite my having
no call to speak it, and hearing of it so long ago,
I know the Urdu *ishq* is love.
And further, how it's the highest (a divine fervour,
a bolt cued from the round heavens - almost angelic)
among a whole host of forms, or feathers, of love
like that myth of subtle Inuit measures of snow
and now I've *utterly gone and put my foot in it*
and other shoppers are turning round, as we inch
up to the queue's end, still far from those tills,
and she's prodding me to explain my short-falling
answer - giving the nod, when she asked *If...* and *Whether...*
- she swears that at the end of my assent she heard me whisper
-ish

© David Broad May 2015; Zaffar Kunial : Faber; Berger : Bloomsbury.

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:
24 April -7 May
8 May - 21st May
22 May - 4 Jun
5 Jun - 18 Jun
19 Jun - 2 Jul
3 Jul - 16 Jul
17 Jul - 30 Jul
31 Jul - 13 Aug
14 Aug - 27 Aug
28 Aug - 10 Sep
11 Sep - 24 Sep
25 Sep - 8 Oct
9 Oct - 22 Oct

Flowers:
Gwen Pollard
Janis Bulpitt
Pamela Graham
Flower Festival
Elizabeth Howard
Anne Jones
Charlotte Pearce
Sue Hancock
Pat Keene
Gwen Pollard
Lillian Pierce
Harvest Festival
Anne Jones

Dusting:
Wendy Alleway
Peta Chattell
Mary Howell
Carol Palmer
Pauline Cooper
Gill Page
Charlotte Pearce
Alex Pugh
Pat Keene
Ann Hopwood
Audrey Cresswell
Helen Stuart
Biz Shaw



'Looking for JJ'

By Anne Cassidy
Adapted for the stage by Marcus Romer.

*Three girls walked into the woods together, but
only two came back"*

**Fri June 5th and Sat June 6th at 7.30pm
Sun June 7th 6.00pm
King Edward VII Hall, Upper Clatford**

Tickets available from the Hexagon Stores and from
www.burdockvalleyplayers.com

MONXTON & AMPORT GARDENS

Six charming local gardens are to be open to the public under the National Gardens Scheme on Sunday 24 May and Monday 25 May (Bank Holiday), 1.30 pm to 6.00 pm.

White Gables, Monxton, boasts a young giant redwood and other interesting trees which surround a gently sloping lawn down to the Pill Hill Brook. (No wheelchair access). A two-acre haven for wildlife at Bridge Cottage, Amport, includes a lake, a trout stream and drifts of colour in the informal planting schemes, as well as a plant sale. Amport Park Mews offers an opportunity to see eleven small borders in a communal space within a converted stable block, built in the late nineteenth century by the Marquess of Winchester. Fleur de Lys garden is a series of 'rooms' with glorious herbaceous borders, leading to a large orchard. Gaycorrel is a working garden (half an acre) of a National Vegetable Society judge and fellow. The newcomer this year is Sandleford House with its locally built iron pergola walkway along part of the western boundary, the garden being entirely walled in brick and flint.

Combined admission £5, children free. Proceeds to major caring charities. Teas available at Amport and Monxton village hall, proceeds to St Mary's, Monxton. Parking opposite Amport School. Further information at www.ngs.org.uk.

CLATFORD VALLEY GARDENING CLUB

Even if you only have a small garden there are plenty of ways in which you can grow vegetables according to Geoff. Hawkins, the speaker at the March Meeting of Clatford Valley Gardening Club. but don't aim for self-sufficiency which is practically impossible. Two principles are important, firstly grow only what you like to eat and don't get carried away by seed catalogues. Secondly, plant or sow in succession to avoid a glut of produce, which you might end up having to give away. For example, French beans can be sown at Easter and then every month until July giving a constant supply.

Growing vegetables in containers is a good way in a small garden, this might bring an initial cost but the reward of eating very fresh vegetables is well worth the initial outlay. Also look around to see what you already have that you might be able to use, such as old car tyres piled up. Vegetables can also be grown in the borders, coloured ones such as some lettuce are very useful, and runner beans can also be incorporated.

However you are growing them, vegetables have the same basic requirements, a good compost, water and fertilizers, preferably organic, so a water butt and compost heap are both very useful. When growing on chalk, put the organic matter on the surface and do not dig too deeply to avoid bringing the chalk to the surface. One tip he gave was to germinate carrots and parsnips by placing them in a polythene bag containing moist vermiculite for about 5 days, and when the roots begin to show place them in the drill. They can then be sown more thinly reducing the risk of carrot root fly when thinning later. He ended his talk with a list of varieties that he recommended and a question and answer session.

During the evening members were reminded of the evening visit to Dean House, Kilmeston on 19th May. **The May Meeting is on 27th when John Negus will be talking on 'Shrubs of Distinction.**

Jenny Llewellyn

OPERA HIGHLIGHTS IN THE GARDEN - 27th JUNE, 2015

Following the tremendous success and popularity of our evening of Opera Highlights, performed by the wonderful Candlelight Opera Company in the beautiful garden of Malt Barn, Upper Clatford, we are holding another one in aid of funding for Gene Therapy for Cystic Fibrosis.

The garden will be open at 6.00 pm for picnics prior to the performance at 7.30 pm.

Clinical trials have started and we are on our way to a cure for this terrible disease which still kills three young people every week. However, funding to complete the trials is desperately needed.

TICKETS are still only £25 from Lynda Gent, Malt Barn, Upper Clatford, 01264 359583.
Cheques payable to Imperial College (cf Gene Therapy)

From The Registers

Rest in Peace

Diane Mary Allen whose Funeral took place at All Saints' on 25th March.

If you do not wish to have information from The Registers published, please contact Gill Palmer on 710446

St MARY'S TERCENTENARY

If you saw last month's magazine you will see the PCC is calling a meeting on the 4th June at the church to decide on what celebrations should take place next year to mark the 300 years of our church building

We have had quite a few suggestions but we want the whole village to join in a good excuse to get together as one and rejoice in a church building that is unique in many ways.

We are hoping that this will be a project too large for the PCC to carry out alone - so you are all needed. All the societies - the school, pubs, village hall, etc. can help us so that events can happen throughout the year.

Sally Dashwood for the PCC.

AN AUCTION OF PROMISES IN AID OF RALEIGH INTERNATIONAL

When : 11.30am (after the Eucharist) on 24th May 2015

Where : All Saints Church, Upper Clatford,

This Auction of Promises is to raise money and awareness of the work of Raleigh International. Raleigh works in developing communities, specifically in rural areas and with young people from across the globe with the overall aim of creating globally sustainable futures and communities. I will be travelling to Costa Rica and Nicaragua in the summer months to volunteer with Raleigh International and support their projects. The money raised will go directly to Raleigh International and the projects they run. Please come along and support me - there are some great things to bid for! - so that I can support these communities in Latin America, and raise awareness of Raleigh International.

With sincere thanks,

Sophie Broad.

LIFE WITH THE TRIBE - MARCH 2015

The first day of the month roars in with strong winds and the promise of sleet; it never eventuates but we do have a few crazy weather days including one when the heavens suddenly open and dump enough hail to make it look as though the garden is covered in a blanket (albeit a lightweight, summer one), of snow. The saying that dates back to the 17th Century, "March comes in like a lion, out like a lamb" is rather appropriate. However, the 31st March brings gale warnings from the Met Office across the country and in Hampshire, a tugboat, attached to the Esso oil refinery in Fawley, capsizes and a man has to be rescued. The weather can obviously never be predicted. The rest of the month is relatively dry, not particularly cold and we manage to have our first Sunday roast cooked and eaten outside - bliss! We have to assure our newly arrived Australian au pair, that things are likely to change and the fires will no doubt be burning in the fireplaces in a few days time! Never a dull moment with the British weather.

Daffodils now brighten up everywhere - yellow is most definitely a colour to bring a smile to anyone's face. Even if the sun is deeply hidden beneath clouds, it is a colour of sunshine. Daffodils were originally brought to Britain by the Romans who believed that their sap could heal wounds (this is in fact totally incorrect as calcium oxalate in the sap irritates skin and prevents the flower being eaten by animals). The Latin name for the daffodil family, 'Narcissus' comes from Greek mythology. Narcissus, a handsome Greek man fell in love with his own reflection. The story goes that he fell into a pool of water as he admired his reflection and drowned. The gods changed him into a flower so he could stay by the water forever. Daffodils are also the reason that Hades, god of the Underworld was able to abduct Persephone - she was picking the daffodils that grew in his underworld. The original Greek word was 'asphodel'; the original English word for daffodil came from this - 'Daffodowndilly' - what a shame it's been shortened, although JRR Tolkien did use it in The Lord of the Rings and there's the short, but perfect poem by AA Milne called Daffodowndilly:

She wore her yellow sun-bonnet,
she wore her greenest gown;
She turned to the south wind
And curtsied up and down.
She turned to the sunlight
And shook her yellow head,
And whispered to her neighbour:
"Winter is dead."

The Littlest finds the word very funny, so we might just resurrect it at home. The daffodil (or daffodowndilly as we now know it!), is of course, also the

Abbotts Ann War Memorial Hall With The Abbotts Ann Players proudly present a Murder Mystery evening

Saturday 20th June at 7.30pm

Following the great success
of our last Murder Mystery
evening where mayhem and
murder came to the
picturesque village of Sleepy
Willows the Abbotts Ann
Players and the Village Hall
are pleased to provide
another night of mystery!
Keep the date and look for
more info in June !!!



Licensed Bar



To be held in the
Village Hall

Including 2-course meal

Tickets on sale from May in the Village Shop

ABBOTTS ANN VISION COUNTRYSIDE GROUP

Forthcoming events are as follows:



Another of Phil Wood's popular local footpath walks will set off from the village shop at 6:30 pm on **Thursday 7th May**. Further information from Phil - phone 710844 or email philmo.wood@metronet.co.uk

The first nature walk of the year will take place on **Friday 29th May**. We aim to look at water meadow and other late spring flowers and wildlife. Meet at the village shop at 6:30 pm. Further information from John or Julie Moon: phone 710123 or email julie.moon@care4free.net

Following the highly successful visit to the local cress beds last summer, two further visits are planned for this summer, by kind permission of Vitacress. The first of these, covering cress growing and stream ecology, will take place on **Thursday 4th June** at 6:30 pm. The second visit, to see (and hear) our local bats and see what has been caught in the moth traps, is provisionally scheduled for **Thursday 9th July** at 8pm (but this date will be confirmed nearer the time). Numbers are limited and **booking is essential** for both visits. Please contact John or Julie Moon (details as above) if you would like to attend one or both events.

If you have enjoyed Countryside Group events such as the indoor meeting in the War Memorial Hall in the spring of 2014, or one of last year's outdoor events, please consider joining our small committee in order that these events may continue. It would be particularly helpful if someone would be willing to organise an autumn indoor meeting once a year. If you think you might be able to help, please contact John or Julie Moon (details as above).

Julie Moon

Threadgill Cup 2015 Entries now open

**Large Gardens • Small Gardens • Eco Gardens
Vegetable Plots • Baskets/Containers**

We welcome Brian Davis, a RHS and
Britain in Bloom Judge this year.

Competition day is May 30th.

Please contact Stephanie Wheeler for entry forms -
01264 352693 or stephaniewheeler1972@yahoo.com

national flower of Wales, traditionally worn on St David's Day, 1st March. According to Kew Gardens, in the 1980s, daffodils commonly flowered around the 12th February but by 2008 this date had moved to 27th January, 16 days earlier - we've certainly noticed the earlier arrival of the daffodils around Jubilee Oak.

Mid month we have the excitement of the partial eclipse - even the Littlest is involved with the Nursery showing the event via the internet. I have a feeling that she had the best view. The rest of the Tribe are at school, one in Amport, the other two in Salisbury. There is heavy cloud cover everywhere! As I am walking with friends that morning, we notice a slight darkening of the skies as though dusk is falling. The greatest difference is that suddenly there is no birdsong - all the birds are roosting, thinking that night is approaching. The previous eclipse in the UK was in August 1999 and I remember standing with clients on the rooftop of our offices in London; Father of the Tribe was somewhere in the Celtic Sea in the middle of the Fastnet Race. Conditions were definitely better in London that day; this year felt a bit of a letdown in the Test Valley, Salisbury and London, but at least the Tribe all know a lot more about solar eclipses than they did before.

One day, just outside one of the kitchen windows, in amongst the shrubbery, I notice a tiny little bird flitting from branch to branch. It is about 9cm long and has a striking yellow stripe down its black head and its body is olive green. I watch it for a while until the Eldest comes in and exclaims that she has seen the same bird over the last few days. It is a goldcrest (hence its name) and I cannot ever recall seeing one in our garden. We discover that these very pretty, tiny birds weigh about 5g - the same as a 5p coin! Because of their size, during very cold winters, up to 80% of goldcrests can die by the spring. Given our recent mild winter, the goldcrest population should be in good health for the breeding season. They rarely feed at bird feeders, preferring to use the safety of shrubbery where bigger birds are unlikely to be. Long may they stay in our garden.

Our most recent visitors to the garden are a pair of mallards - the Tribe are thrilled. The ducks potter about our lawn - generally only waddling between the wendy house and trampoline and across the driveway to underneath the bird feeder. But they appear every day and are still with us at the end of the month. The cats watch them with a slightly nonchalant air - they are interested, but these feathered beasts are somewhat bigger than the usual garden birds that they stalk, and they are a little uncertain as to what these creatures are. Perhaps they'll fight back. We will see how our duck friends fare next month - maybe they will nest?? Gerald Durrell will definitely have her work cut out.

Mother of the Tribe



**BOOKS
AT THE
BARN**

www.booksatthebarn.co.uk



Friday 8th May - 3.00pm

Wednesday 13th May - 3.00pm

Emma Bridgewater

will be talking about her book
TOAST AND MARMALADE

**Quiddity Fine Art, Westover Farm
Goodworth Clatford SP11 7LF**

Earl Spencer

will be talking about his book
THE KILLERS OF THE KING

**Longstock Village Hall
Stockbridge SO20 6DL**

TICKETS £10

*Available from: www.booksatthebarn.co.uk
or booksatthebarn@gmail.com*

VILLAGE FETE - BRIC-A-BRAC STALL

The Fete Committee are in desperate need of a volunteer to run the Bric-a-Brac stall at the fete on Saturday 5th September. This is a very popular stall which usually raises about £500 towards the fete proceeds.

If you think you might be interested in taking this on or would like more details of what is involved please contact Anne Emerson on 710851.

BEE SWARMS

The next couple of months are the most likely time for bees to swarm; if you get a swarm in your garden and would like them removed then I would be pleased to attempt to do it (and then add the bees to my hives).

John Moon 710123

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.

Abbotts Ann Conservatives invite you to



**COME AND HAVE SOME MORE FUN AT OUR SECOND
BEETLE DRIVE!**

ON FRIDAY 5TH JUNE 2015

**DRINKS IN THE GARDEN AT 7.00pm
FOLLOWED BY BEETLE DRIVE at 7.30pm
AT ABBOTTS ANN WAR MEMORIAL HALL**

Tickets £10.00 (to include 2 course supper)

**Available in advance from Michael Pugh (Tel: 711158)
(pughabbottsann@gmail.com), Biz Shaw (Tel 710197)**

A Medieval Upper Clatford & Anna Valley

May Fayre

Will take place on Balksbury Field on

Monday 4th May

**Celebrating the 800th anniversary of the sealing
of the MAGNA Carta in 1215**



ABBOTTS ANN VISION

Abbotts Ann Housing Needs Survey



In the community consultation carried out by Abbotts Ann Vision, concern was expressed about the inability of young people or the elderly with a local connection to Abbotts Ann to obtain affordable or suitable accommodation in the village. This forces such people to leave the village with a consequent loss of continuity in the village community.

Abbotts Ann Vision, on behalf of the Parish Council, and with the assistance of Action Hampshire is carrying out a housing needs survey to quantify the extent of such needs. Questionnaires will shortly be delivered to all households in the village. We have defined "the village" as those parts of the Parish within which a local connection would be required in order to qualify for any housing built as a result of the survey. That means all parts of the Civil Parish of Abbotts Ann except those on the Andover side of the A303.

As well as helping to quantify housing need the questionnaire will enable all households in the village to express an opinion on the subject and we hope that all will take the opportunity of doing so.

Abbotts Ann Vision.

THE OLD COACH ROAD



The Abbotts Ann Vision Countryside Group is working towards claiming the Old Coach Road as a public Right of Way. Although it has been used by the public for a very long time, on foot, horseback and horse-drawn vehicle, it is not however recorded as a Right of Way, and access could be closed off at any time by the owners.

In order to have the track added to the Hampshire definitive map as a Right of Way, and to maintain public access, we need to collect evidence of unimpeded use during the last 20 years from as many people as possible. This involves filling in a very simple one-page form, which can be obtained from the village shop or by email from the Parish Footpaths Officer, Phil Wood philmo.wood@metronet.co.uk

Forms should be returned to the shop after completion.
If you have any queries, please contact Phil (phone 710844 or email as above).

Please do your bit to help keep this track open.

Abbotts Ann Vision Countryside Group

ABBOTTS ANN PARISH COUNCIL

Nine candidates are standing for election to Abbotts Ann Parish Council on 7th May. There are seven places available.

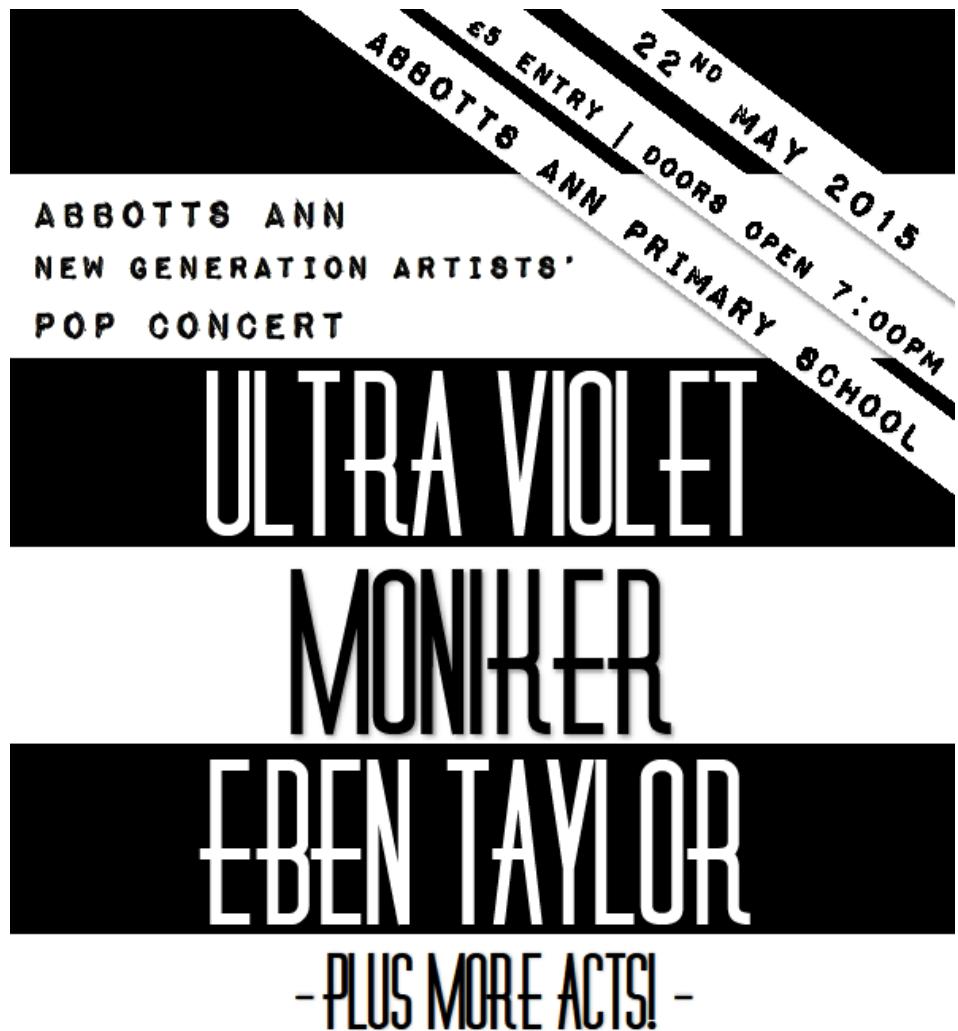
Abbotts Ann Vision has invited the candidates to provide a brief statement describing themselves and any issues they are keen to address. These will be posted on the village website.: abbottsann.com.

Please read these statements and be in a position to vote for seven of the candidates.

Abbotts Ann Vision

PERSONS NOMINATED FOR ELECTION AS A PARISH COUNCILLOR FOR ABBOTTS ANN PARISH COUNCIL

BLEEKER Susie	1 St Mary's Meadow Abbotts Ann	Proposer: Carole A Peters
COFFEY Sally	41 Duck Street Abbotts Ann	Proposer: John R Moon
DEACON Beth	"Long Thatch" 61 Duck Street Abbotts Ann	Proposer: Pauline Whyte
GRIFFITHS Bernard R	"Pennymarsh" Little Ann	Proposer: Richard Nolan
HAYTER Andrew T	2 Manor Close Abbotts Ann	Proposer: Janis Bulpitt
HOWARD Elizabeth O	4 St Mary's Meadow Abbotts Ann	Proposer: Rosemary Powell-Griffiths
SIMS Brian John	31 Bulbery Abbotts Ann	Proposer: Scott Russell
THORNLEY Susie	23 Duck Street Abbotts Ann	Proposer: Philippa Law
WELLS Dale Roy	16 Manor Close Abbotts Ann	Proposer: Paul Stanton



— **COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS – BAR BY THE EAGLE PUB** —

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM THE ABBOTTS ANN VILLAGE SHOP

ANDREW LIDDELL- 01264 710572

OR ON THE DOOR

ALL PROCEEDS IN AID OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH

We have watched the latest exploits of Dame Judi Dench and her cohorts, as they enjoy a second lease of life in The Second Best Marigold Hotel, savoured an excellent supper at the newly opened Lion in Clanville and laughed with Janet Street-Porter at the HCFWI Spring Meeting in Portsmouth Guildhall. At the same meeting our National Chair, Janice Langley, asked us to look forward to the next 100 years, in this our Centenary Year.

However, our speaker this month, Margaret Braddock, took us back to earlier generations, when our forebears believed in making a public display of mourning by wearing black for a year and a day and appropriate jewellery. Margaret's interest in this fascinating subject was triggered 30 years ago by the purchase of a very pretty piece of sentimental and mourning jewellery. Amongst her collection, which we were able to see and touch, were examples of both French & Whitby Jet, bracelets made of human hair - which surprisingly is both strong and elastic - and even vulcanised rubber.

At one time it was a tradition to leave memorial rings to your nearest and dearest and apparently Samuel Pepys left 123 to his friends and family. Thank goodness that tradition has died out!

On a more cheerful note our members were given details of various activities planned for the summer, including a visit to a Lavender Farm near Alton in June where we will finish the afternoon with a cream tea.

Other activities this month included reviewing the latest selection of our reading group, strolling around Enham Alamein and attending the Anton Danebury Group Spring Meeting in Chilbolton.

It is both our Annual & Resolution Meeting on 28th May - 7.30 pm in the Village Hall - but there will still be time for tea and chat.

Sharon King

The glory of baroque

Lovers of baroque music are in for a treat this summer as the period orchestra Linden Baroque joins forces with local chamber choir The Harmonium Singers at St Mary's Church, Andover on 20th June at 7.30pm. The main item on the programme is the ever-popular Vivaldi 'Gloria'

**Tickets (incl. refreshments) £12 at door, or £10 from
Newbury Building Society, The Lights and choir members
www.harmoniumsingers.org.uk**



Sandown



**James Wells is now at your service.
Abbotts Ann's very own Mercedes-Benz specialist.**



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz of Salisbury
Southampton Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2JS
01722 395160 james.wells@mercedes.co.uk
www.sandown-group.co.uk



ABBOTTS ANN VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE

Acting Shop Manager: Carol Murphy
Sub Post Mistress: Maureen Flood

May 2015 News

Spring into Summer

We are having a glorious Spring. So our thoughts will soon be turning to BBQ evenings in the garden. There is always a good supply of sausages and burgers in the Village Shop and Turners the butchers will be supplying us with chicken breasts and chops. Take a look at the display of sauces to accompany your BBQ. They range from Hot Mango to Banana to Thyme and Mustard. There is also a new range of Curry Pastes. Give them a try.

Easy Meals

Austwick, one of our local suppliers, has a good variety of easy meals, both in the chiller or freezer. They include Cauliflower Cheese, Quiche, Lasagne, Fisherman's Pie and Scotch Eggs (some with Haggis) and all come with good recommendations.

Wines

We now stock a selection of local wines, with Hampshire showing the flag for English wines. We have supplies from Sombourne and Cottonworth. **Try something different.**

Coffee and Cake

Take a break. Pop into the Shop for a coffee and a slice of cake – a bargain at only £2.

£5 Spend

What can you get today for only £5? Well, in Abbotts Ann you can get 5 items for £5 – **Now that is a bargain.** Choose from:-

Kitchen Roll (double pack).

Oral B Mouthwash.

HP Sauce.

A selection of biscuits.

Bin Bags.

Mr Muscle multi task.

4 AA Batteries.

and more.

The choice changes regularly.

Paperback Books

We still have our shelf of books; at only 50p for a paperback.

Bank Holidays

There are two Bank Holidays in May, Monday 4th and Monday 25th. The Shop will be open on both these days from 0900 to 1200.

Don't forget that we are open every Sunday from 0900 to 1200 and stay open late on Fridays until 7 pm.

We are here for your convenience.

So take advantage of this and use your local shop.

Elizabeth Howard - Shop Volunteer & Committee Member

ABBOTTS ANN POST OFFICE

British Travel Awards

Winner Best Foreign Exchange/Travel Money Retailer - 8 consecutive years
Get ready for your holiday with the Post Office

Travel Money

Buy your travel money and get great rates on your currency - commission free.

Pack a bit extra into your holiday. The more travel money you buy the better the rate.

Euros and US Dollars in branch now.

Order before 1pm in branch for other currencies available for next day delivery.

American Express Cards can now be used in the Post Office for goods and services.

Rod Fishing Licences: Don't get caught out - get your annual or short term licence today.

and finally did you know that there are six post office branches not open to the public:

- Court (Buckingham Palace)
- House of Commons
- Portcullis House
- Royal Automobile Club, 89 Pall Mall, London
- The Scottish Parliament
- Windsor Castle

Maureen Flood