

28 May	(Sat)	<b>7.30pm</b> Abbots Ann WI meets in AA War Memorial Hall – Annual Mtg.
29 May	(Sun)	<b>10.00am</b> Abbots Ann WI Annual Plant Sale at AA War Memorial Hall. (The First Sunday after Trinity) – full service details page 2
		<b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann
<b>JUNE 2016</b>		
1 June	(Wed)	<b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club (Partnership Meeting) in GCVC
2 June	(Thurs)	<b>10.30am</b> Goodworth Clatford WI Coffee Morning <b>7.00pm</b> Abbots Ann Parish Council meets in AA War Memorial Hall. <b>7.30pm</b> Bellringing Practice, St Mary's Church. <b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
3 June	(Fri)	Burdock Valley Players' production "Cash on Delivery". See Page 26
4 June	(Sat)	<b>11.00am to 5.00pm</b> All Saints' Flower Festival. Burdock Valley Players' production "Cash on Delivery". See Page 26
5 June	(Sun)	(The Second Sunday after Trinity) and Confirmation - full service details page 2 <b>12.00noon to 5.00pm</b> All Saints' Flower Festival. <b>12.30pm</b> Abbots Ann Village Family Picnic – See Page 24 Burdock Valley Players' production "Cash on Delivery". See Page 26 <b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann
6 June	(Mon)	<b>12.30pm</b> Way Inn Lunch at St. Peter's
7 June	(Tues)	<b>12.30pm</b> Meadow Room Lunch at All Saints'.
8 June	(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 June	(Thurs)	<b>7.30pm</b> Bellringing practice, St Mary's <b>7.30pm</b> CADS production "The Insurance Man" in GCVC <b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
10 June	(Fri)	<b>7.30pm</b> Abbots Ann Players' production Boeing Boeing - See page 25 <b>7.30pm</b> CADS production "The Insurance Man" in GCVC
11 June	(Sat)	<b>7.30pm</b> Abbots Ann Players' production Boeing Boeing - See page 25 <b>7.30pm</b> CADS production "The Insurance Man" in GCVC
12 June	(Sun)	(The Third Sunday after Trinity) – full service details next month <b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann
15 June	(Wed)	<b>12.00noon</b> Deadline for receipt of copy for the July 2016 Abbots Ann Magazine <a href="mailto:editor@abbotsannmagazine.co.uk">editor@abbotsannmagazine.co.uk</a> <b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC <b>7.30pm</b> Upper Clatford WI meets in Upper Clatford Memorial Hall.
16 June	(Thurs)	Goodworth Clatford WI's coach outing to Compton Acres. <b>7.30pm</b> Bellringing practice, St Mary's

#### **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

All articles printed in the Abbots 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.

### **St Mary's Church, Abbots Ann**

<b>Rector</b>	Vacant	
<b>Ministry Team</b> (During the Vacancy)	Revd. Nicky Judd <a href="mailto:clive@judd47.plus.com">clive@judd47.plus.com</a> Tim Tayler <a href="mailto:tim.tayler@talk21.com">tim.tayler@talk21.com</a> Peter Eastwood <a href="mailto:peter@eastwood.me.uk">peter@eastwood.me.uk</a>	729075 710201 353320
<b>Churchwardens</b> <b>St Mary's</b>	Gordon Howard 4 St Mary's Meadow, Abbots Ann <a href="mailto:gw_eo_howard@btinternet.com">gw_eo_howard@btinternet.com</a> Sally Dashwood 1 The Bakery, Dunkirt Lane, Abbots Ann	710830 710640
<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.abbotsann.com/amenitiesservices/church/">http://www.abbotsann.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, Abbots Ann Handbells 7.00pm 1st Thursday each month Tower Captain: Dudley Alleway	710646
<b><u>Parochial Church Council</u></b>		
<b>Secretary</b>	Mrs Jo Brookes 3 Slessor Close, Monxton Road	07967 484581
<b>Treasurer (Temporary)</b>	Sally Dashwood 1 The Bakery	710640
<b><u>Abbots Ann Magazine</u></b>		
<b>Editor</b>	Andrea Jackson 5 Timothy's Field, Abbots Ann <a href="mailto:editor@abbotsannmagazine.co.uk">editor@abbotsannmagazine.co.uk</a>	710630
<b>Advertising Manager</b>	Mark Stevens	710908

## SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE IN MAY 2016

Please note change of services and times at all churches.

**Date:** **St Mary's Duties:**

**Sunday 1st May (Rogation Sunday) Sixth Sunday of Easter (see page 4)**

08.00 Said Holy Communion	St Peter's (NJ)
10.00 Sung Eucharist	All Saints' (NJ)
10.00 Family Service	St Peter's (TT)
11.30 Baptism of Oskar Harris	All Saints' (NJ)
18.00 Evensong	St Mary's (PE)

**Thursday 5th May Ascension Day**  
20.00 Sung Eucharist St Peter's

**Sunday 8th May Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
8.00 Said Holy Communion All Saints' (Arch.Dea. Richard Brand)  
9.30 Sung Eucharist St Mary's (Arch.Dea. Richard Brand)  
Mr/Mrs G Howard

11.15 Matins	St Peter's (TT)
11.30 Baptism of James Lister	All Saints'
18.00 Evensong	St Mary's (Peggy Ellis)

**Sunday 15th May Pentecost (Whit Sunday)**  
8.00 Said Holy Communion St Mary's (NJ) Mrs P Keene  
10.00 Sung Eucharist St Peter's (NJ)  
10.00 Family Service (lay led) St Mary's (St Mary's Team)  
11.30 Baptism of Keira Davis All Saints'  
18.00 Evensong All Saints' (NJ)

**Sunday 22nd May Trinity Sunday**  
8.00 Said Holy Communion St Mary's (NJ) Miss W Casson  
10.00 Sung Family Eucharist All Saints' (NJ)  
12.00 Baptism of Phoebe Bovill St Peter's (NJ)  
18.00 Evensong St Peter's (PE)

**Sunday 29th May First Sunday of Trinity**  
10.00 Benefice Sung Eucharist All Saints' (NJ,TT,PE)

**Sunday 5th June Second Sunday of Trinity**  
8.00 Said Holy Communion St Peter's (NJ)  
10.00 Sung Eucharist All Saints' (Bishop David)  
10.00 Family Service St Peter's (PE)  
18.00 Evensong St Mary's (PE)

*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.*

\*Revd Nicky Judd (NJ) Tim Tayler (TT) Peter Eastwood (PE) Choir (CH)

## BENEFICE DIARY - MAY 2016

1 May	(Sun)	(The Sixth Sunday of Easter) – Rogation Sunday - full service details page 2 and see Page 4 <b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann
2 May	(Mon)	(Bank Holiday Monday) NO Way Inn Lunch today. <b>2.00pm</b> Upper Clatford & Anna Valley May Fayre, on Balkesbury Bridge Playing Field.
3 May	(Tues)	<b>7.00pm</b> Goodworth Clatford Parish Council meets in GCVC
4 May	(Wed)	<b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club (Partnership Meeting) in GCVC
5 May	(Thurs)	<b>Ascension Day</b> – service details, page 2 <b>7.00am to 10.00pm</b> Local elections for Police and Crime Commissioner <b>10.30am</b> Goodworth Clatford WI Coffee Morning <b>7.00pm</b> Abbots Ann Parish Council meets in AA War Memorial Hall <b>7.30pm</b> Bellringing Practice. St Mary's <b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
8 May	(Sun)	(The Seventh Sunday of Easter) – full service details page 2 <b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann
9 May	(Mon)	<b>12.30pm</b> Way Inn Lunch at St Peter's
10 May	(Tues)	<b>12.30pm</b> Meadow Room Lunch at All Saints'.
11 May	(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 <b>7.30pm</b> Bellringing practice, St Mary's <b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
12 May	(Thurs)	<b>5.00pm-7.00pm</b> Pizza Night at Abbots Ann Village Shop
13 May	(Fri)	<b>7.00pm</b> Piano and organ recital by Carl Bahoshy in All Saints' Church, in aid of 'Iraqi Christians in Need. - See page 19
14 May	(Sat)	
15 May	(Sun)	(The Day of Pentecost) – Whit Sunday full service details page 2 <b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann <b>12.00noon deadline for receipt of copy for the June 2016 Abbots Ann Magazine</b> <a href="mailto:editor@abbotsannmagazine.co.uk">editor@abbotsannmagazine.co.uk</a> <b>10.00am to 11.30am</b> in St Peter's Room – Goodworth Clatford Community Coffee Morning.
17 May	(Tues)	<b>7.30pm</b> Goodworth Clatford WI meets in GCVC – Annual Meeting
18 May	(Wed)	<b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC <b>7.30pm</b> Upper Clatford WI meets in UC Memorial Hall – Annual Mtg.
19 May	(Thurs)	<b>7.30pm</b> Bellringing practice, St Mary's <b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's
20 May	(Fri)	<b>10.00am</b> Goodworth Clatford WI Walking Group
22 May	(Sun)	(Trinity Sunday) – full service details page 2 <b>8.00pm</b> Eagle Pub Quiz, Abbots Ann
25 May	(Wed)	<b>7.00pm</b> The Wednesday Bridge Club meets in GCVC
26 May	(Thurs)	<b>7.45pm</b> Clatford Valley Garden Club meets in UC Memorial Hall. <b>7.30pm</b> Bellringing practice, St Mary's <b>7.45pm</b> Benefice Choir Practice, St Peter's



**Burdock Valley Players**  
Amateur Dramatic Society Presents:

**Cash on Delivery**  
A Comic Farce by Michael Cooney

Friday 3rd June - 7.30pm      Tickets £7, 4 for £25

Saturday 4th June - 7.30pm      Available to purchase at:  
[www.burdockvalleyplayers.com](http://www.burdockvalleyplayers.com)

Sunday 5th June - 6.00pm      The Hexagon Stores  
King Edward VII Memorial Hall, Upper Clatford, SP11 7QL

facebook.com/BurdockValley    @burdockvalley    [www.burdockvalleyplayers.com](http://www.burdockvalleyplayers.com)  
info@burdockvalleyplayers.com

### Dear friends,

*Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations: ask thy father, and he will shew thee; thy elders, and they will tell thee. (Deuteronomy 32:7)*

This year sees the tercentenary of St Mary's Church in Abbots Ann. The village is marking the occasion with several events to be held over the summer. The first was a celebration of the building itself which has recently been restored thanks to a generous grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and it prompted thoughts of what our churches mean to their communities.

Built on the site of an older church, St Mary's, 300 years old and largely unchanged, is a youngster when compared with St Peter's at Goodworth Clatford and All Saints', Upper Clatford, which have been evolving since at least the 11<sup>th</sup> century. So each site has witnessed the joys of baptisms and weddings, and supported people in their grief at funerals for almost a 1000 years. In some families, several generations have marked these important events in the same church.

Local surveys show that many residents, not just church-goers, value 'their' church. They appreciate the atmosphere and appearance of these lovely old buildings. It's ironic that, in an age when few people worship regularly in church, the buildings are better cared for than at any time in their history. The number of volunteers who keep our village churches clean, and well maintained, who provide flowers and ring the bells far exceeds the congregations. So the sense of ownership of our churches is hard to define but it's held by the whole community.

Visitors' books show that almost daily people travel to our churches for many reasons. They enjoy the architecture the peaceful churchyard. Some search for information about their ancestors. Others visit family graves or make a sentimental journey to where they were married. The atmosphere of our buildings is important to them. It may be just a cool place to sit on a hot day or a tranquil place of solace, somewhere to meditate or pray quietly.

We each respond to churches in a different way and every country parish church is unique; in this benefice St Mary's has its virgin crowns, All Saints' its pulpit and St Peter's reveals fragments of pre-Reformation colour on its walls. Yet they all serve the same purpose and they are all open every day, just as God is there for us - always.

*Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: (Matthew 7:7)*

**Tim Tayler**

### From The Registers

#### Rest in Peace

The funeral of Lt Col Michael (Mike) Desmond Cooper MBE was held at St Mary's on 4<sup>th</sup> April

The funeral of James Walter Appleton (Jim) was held on 11<sup>th</sup> April at St Peter's

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

#### 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:

22 Apr - 5 May

6 May - 19 May

20 May - 2 Jun

3 Jun - 16 Jun

17 Jun - 30 Jun

##### Flowers:

Pamela Graham

Sue Hancock

Janis Bulpitt

Anne Jones

Pat Keene

##### Dusting:

Wendy Alleway

Pauline Cooper

Peta Chattell

Gill Page

Alex Pugh

#### ROGATION SUNDAY

This is the day when the congregation used to 'beat the bounds', marking the parish boundary by walking around it. It is also the time when traditionally the growing crops are blessed. This year Rogation Sunday is on the 1<sup>st</sup> May. The 10.00 am Family Service at St Peter's will take the themes of Rogation (asking), walking and blessing. In the afternoon, weather permitting, Nicky intends to walk from St Peter's, through Goodworth Clatford, Upper Clatford, Anna Valley, Little Ann and Abbotts Ann, starting at 3.00 pm and ending up at St Mary's for Evensong. It will be a prayer walk, but she will be very happy to stop and chat with anyone who is out and about. Crops will be blessed opposite Poplar Farm.

#### ASCENSION DAY

There will be a Sung Eucharist at St Peter's, Goodworth Clatford, at 8.00 pm on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate this significant day in the Church's year. All are welcome to take part.

#### OFF DUTY

Please note that Nicky will be on retreat from lunchtime on 9<sup>th</sup> May until the evening of 13<sup>th</sup> May. During this time, please refer any enquiries to the Churchwardens, Tim Tayler or Peter Eastwood.

The Abbotts Ann Players are proud to present  
An amateur production of



At Abbotts Ann Village Hall  
On 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at 7.30pm

In the 1960's swinging bachelor Bernard couldn't be happier: 3 gorgeous air hostesses all engaged to him without knowing about each other. When all 3 girls are in town simultaneously Bernard's life becomes a little bumpy!

Tickets £5.00  
on sale at Abbotts Ann Village Shop  
Contact Trish Wallis (01264) 710918





**BOOKS  
AT THE  
BARN**

[www.booksatthebarn.co.uk](http://www.booksatthebarn.co.uk)



Wednesday 18th May - 7.00pm for 7.30pm

**PETER SNOWDON**

**Cameron at 10:**  
**The Inside Story 2010-2015**  
(co-written with Anthony Seldon)

Longstock Village Hall  
Longstock SO20 6DL

Friday 10th June - 6.00pm

**ANTONY BEEVOR**

**The Ardennes 1944:**  
**The Battle of the Bulge**

Venue - to be confirmed  
on website shortly

**TICKETS £12 including a glass of wine**

*Available from: [www.booksatthebarn.co.uk](http://www.booksatthebarn.co.uk)  
together with more information on the events*

## CONTEMPLATIVE DAYS

### From Sight to Insight – Journeying with Christ in Modern Art

The Revd Jenny Ellis is leading a series of Contemplative Days at her home, Batts Row Cottage, Laverstoke Lane, Nr Whitchurch, RG28 7PA. Each session begins at 9.30 am for 10.00 am and ends at 4.00 pm. The cost is £12 per session, including refreshments, light lunch and materials.

The sessions and themes are as follows:-

#### **May – the coming of the Spirit**

Wednesday May 25th

#### **June – Living Well**

Begun Saturday June 11th and completed Saturday June 18th

If this is of interest to you, please book with Jenny at

[jenny.battsrow@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.battsrow@gmail.com) or on 01256 892 895

*Rev. Nicky Judd*

## CONFIRMATION

Further to the earlier notice, Confirmation this year will now be happening in the Benefice. Bishop David will be at All Saints, Upper Clatford, for the Flower Festival weekend and is going to confirm our candidates at the 10.00 am Eucharist on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. At the time of writing we have two adult candidates and two younger ones. If anyone else is interested in being confirmed, please speak to Nicky as soon as possible (729075).

## BELL RINGING ABBOTTS ANN

Bell ringing has been part of life in towns and villages for generations. We hope (the bell ringers) that we provide that tradition and also pleasure for many of the inhabitants.

Throughout the country and in Abbots Ann we need new ringers as the majority of us are “aging gracefully”! We plan to have a recruitment drive by opening the tower on Saturday 25th June from 2-4 pm and hope to interest some new ringers. Food and drink will be provided so please come and have a go.

We practise every Thursday evening 7.30 to 9 pm but am sure we can accommodate new ringers.

## HAND BELLS

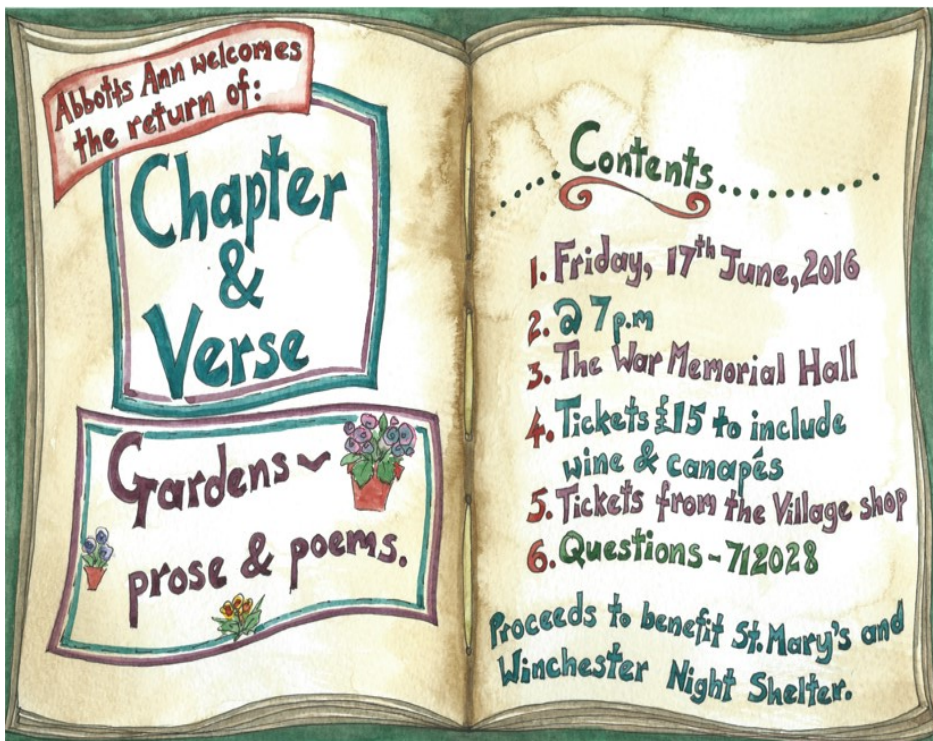
At long last we have set up a group. Without a teacher it is rather like “the blind leading the blind” but without a doubt we are making progress.

Throughout the winter we have been practising in my basement with nobody to disturb but Colin.

His main comment is that he hears more laughter than bells! Anyone wishing to join us would be most welcome. It’s good to join a group in its infancy. We meet at 9 Catherine’s Walk on Thursdays from 5.30 – 6.30 pm.

Anyone interested phone Dee Howarth 711198.





### CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The grand Total of this year's Children's Society Box opening and Coffee Morning is £1,062.50

With many thanks again to box holders, counters, pourers, eaters, drinkers and all supporters.

(If you would like to fill a box with your spare change that will benefit The Children's Society please call; Kate 712028)

*Kate Bennett*

### 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:

### ART EXHIBITION

St Mary's Church, Andover 27th and 28th May 10.00-4.00pm



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

Microchipping for dogs became compulsory last month. Although the microchipping of cats is not covered by law it is a good idea to get yours done. It is not expensive and will be of enormous help should your cat go missing. Talk to your vet about it.

We spent an excellent fortnight in the Whitchurch Charity Shop and raised £2215. Thank you to everyone who helped, donated or purchased goods. We shall be back in September. We are at Pets at Home in Andover for three days, the first weekend in June. Come and talk to us and find out what we do. We are a friendly group who are always looking for new volunteers.



LOU LOU is a very pretty, pale ginger, longhaired cat who came to us when her owner went into a care home. She is not used to other cats, dogs or small children, so is seeking a quiet home. She is very confident and affectionate and craves attention. She would make an excellent companion for a retired person.

*Martin Bevan*

## Summer Concert



**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June, 7:30pm**  
**St. Peter & Holy Cross Church, Wherwell**

Join the Wherwell Singers in a celebration of Summer. The choir will perform a mixed programme of sacred and secular music from around the world, including works by Tallis, Byrd, Sarti, Elgar, Mathias, Vaughan Williams, Gershwin and so much more.

Tickets £8, available online: [www.wherwellsingers.org](http://www.wherwellsingers.org)  
 via Kim Lampard on 01264 720529, or on the door.



# Bingo Night

"Eyes down, folks!"

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June**

**Abbotts Ann War Memorial Hall**



**Doors open 7pm**  
**Books on sale**  
**7.30pm, First**  
**game 8pm**

**£10 Includes Supper**

**Bar available**

**Tickets on sale Abbotts Ann Village Shop**

**Contact Lisa 710231 or 07535 630 266**

**[lisahillier63@btinternet.com](mailto:lisahillier63@btinternet.com)**

**Abbotts Ann War Memorial Hall Committee**



## PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS (Or not!)

Before we begin (as they used to say on "Listen with Mother"), following certain comments and admonishments received, I would like to emphasise that I am not writing on behalf of the Parish Council.

For the avoidance of doubt, I write and comment as a "member of the public" on what happens at meetings (often being the sole "member of the public" present!), and on anything of interest in the village as a peripheral to the Council that may not be generally known - such as the visit by Southern Water engineers to explain their problems, including the reasons for the overflowing sewerage system.

The Council's official record is the Minutes, which are properly little more than a list of resolutions taken. The reports in the Andover Advertiser can be a fuller description of meetings, but are limited by their editorial format. People who do not wish to squeeze into the Jubilee Room of the War Memorial Hall each month might still be interested in what goes on, and perhaps more importantly, why!

Neither the Parish Council as a body, nor any member, controls what I write anywhere - despite several recent attempts at censorship! A small flame of free speech still flickers at Dance's Corner...

The Parish Council meeting of Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> April discussed proposals from residents around Manor Close to set up a committee to work with the Parish Council over the management of The Green. Councillors were very appreciative of the volunteers willing to put in an effort, but hoped that other villagers would also be interested enough in what is their public open space to become more practically involved. After all, the lease for The Green was negotiated by the previous Parish Council with Hampshire County Council for the benefit of the whole village, as a "green lung" for the future, not to secure an undeveloped space to protect property values of adjacent houses!

The history of The Green was not fully aired at the meeting, but as an explanation for the record, the facts are that the then Clerk of the Parish Council, Adrian Stokes, and the Vice-Chairman, Graham Whyte, took the opportunity to approach the leader of HCC at an official social gathering early in 2009, asking what HCC intended doing with the school playing field when it became redundant. Negotiations ensued, the Parish Council initially considering purchasing the land outright.

Village Greens became a buzz-word in the media, as communities around the country discovered they might protect their open spaces with a special statutory status. The Friends of Manor Close Playing Field,

quite independent from the Parish Council, united to promote the idea of the school field becoming an official Village Green to protect it from being built on. Low-cost or community housing was one of the options needing to be considered for the field by HCC at the time. Because of the far-reaching legal implications of Village Greens, and the possible effect on similar applications in the county by Abbotts Ann's potential precedent, HCC was unwilling to grant the status, and their concomitant deliberations delayed the Parish Council's acquisition attempts.

The efforts of the Friends did energise both councils, however. Eventually, it was agreed that the Village Green application be withdrawn and the Parish Council finalised a ninety-nine year lease. One of the conditions imposed is that the Parish Council should endeavour to find another area where low-cost housing could be located. This must not be forgotten by the present council.

The lease is a good result for the village, the Parish Council and the County Council. A purchase by the parish could have led to a scenario where a future council might decide to sell the land for development - quite against the original aim of the scheme. By the same token, Hampshire County Council retains ultimate ownership of its asset and can stipulate what may take place on it. The village has not had to pay for a purchase; there is just a peppercorn rent of £1 a year. A win-win situation all round, surely.

The frequent requests by the previous council and the previous two permanent clerks for ideas for The Green produced little response from villagers. If you want to preserve or develop this area as you would like, the council needs to know - orchard, wildflower meadow, a clear open space for dog walking - or what else? If you don't get involved, you have no power to make decisions, and no justification for complaint. Volunteers, giving their time freely and willingly, are at a premium, and everyone's contribution is valuable and welcome, however small. The Council would be pleased to hear from you - contact the Clerk at <abbottsannparishcouncil@gmail.com> or Dale Wells's group of interested residents.

Cllr Sally Coffey has been particularly supportive of the work of the Sports Field Management Committee. She proposed at the April meeting that the Parish Council demolish and replace the present pavilion. Councillors agreed with the concept and were very enthusiastic to get the ball rolling, but progress will unavoidably be gradual. Cllrs Susie Bleeker and Andrew Hayter, with their professional expertise, will be advising the Sports Field Management Committee on

## **ABBOTTS ANN POST OFFICE**

Post Office Ltd is the UK's largest retail network and the largest financial services chain in the UK and wants to provide other banks with greater access to their own customers.

Post Office Ltd offers a range of banking services in branch which means you can withdraw, deposit or collect cash from your bank account, pension or benefits.

### **Banking**

#### **Barclays Banking**

As from 19 April the range of banking services available to Barclays customers at Post Office counter positions is being extended.

Cash withdrawals by debit card now available to Barclays business customers (already available to Barclays personal customers)

Balance enquiries by debit card now available to personal and business customers

### **The Royal Mint News**

The new UK £1 coin will enter circulation in March 2017, and The Royal Mint is producing more than 1.4 billion of the new coins.

*Why change the £1 coin?*

At Budget 2014, the government announced its intention to introduce a new and highly secure £1 coin into circulation. The current £1 coin, first issued in 1983, is one of the oldest British coins in circulation. Over time, it has become increasingly vulnerable to counterfeiting. Roughly one in every 30 £1 coins in circulation is now a counterfeit, generating significant cost to taxpayers, industry and the general public.

Shape: 12-sided with rounded edges ('radial chords') and corners

Weight: 8.75g

Metallic Composition: Nickel-brass outer; nickel-plated solid alloy inner

*Maureen Flood - Sub Post Mistress*

## **AQUAFIT AT FARLEIGH SCHOOL**

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

**Mondays 10.15 - 11.00 am**

**Starting Monday 18th April - £6.00 per session**

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







## **ABBOTTS ANN VILLAGE SHOP & POST OFFICE**

**Shop Manager:** Tim Abram

**Deputy Shop Manager:** Carol Murphy

**Sub Post Mistress:** Maureen Flood

**May 2016**

### **Summer**

Summer brings to mind cool drinks, ice creams, ice lollies (ice pops for the children) and so on. As you would expect, they are all available in the freezer.

### **Cider**

Have you tried the Abbots Ann cider? It is truly delicious (tried and enjoyed in our household). It is now available in the shop. You can either purchase a 10Litre container for £25 or bring your own 1Litre bottle and have it filled up for £3.

### **Hannah's Pots**

We now stock a small selection of floral pots and flowers from Hannah's flowers. They are usually available outside the shop on the "green" bench.

### **Shop Garden**

Many thanks to Sarah Oldham (from Kimble Cottage) for so kindly coming forward to keep our shop garden tidy. Any contributions you may have of Summer planting would be much appreciated.

### **Refurbishment**

Tim, the manager, has decided that it is time for the shop to be given a bit of a freshen up; a lick of paint here and there and some changes in layout. The only practical time this can be done is over a Bank Holiday. So we plan to carry out the work over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend at the end of May.

### **Opening Hours for The May Bank Holidays**

Saturday	30 <sup>th</sup> April	0830 to 1230
Sunday	1 <sup>st</sup> May	0900 to 1200
Monday	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	0900 to 1200
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup> May	0830 to 1230
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup> May	Closed (papers will be available 0900 to 1200)
Monday	30 <sup>th</sup> May	Closed (papers will be available 0900 to 1200)

### **Date to Remember for May**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May 1700 to 1900 – Pizza Night**

(place your order beforehand for collection at a time convenient for you)

*Elizabeth Howard*  
*Shop Volunteer & Committee Member*  
**20**

the steps they need to take.

Finances were discussed by councillors, as always. Excluding funds earmarked for budgeted items and prudent reserves (including over £5,000 from refundable burial ground reservation fees in case anyone changes their mind about their final resting place), there was around £12,777 available on the account. It is expected that village organizations will be invited to submit funding requests for specific projects, so that they and the Council can budget effectively.

After over a century of being conducted as a formal meeting with previous minutes distributed, detailed presentation of accounts and official reports from village organizations, all of which were recorded and filed for posterity, this year's Annual Parish Meeting on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> April under the chairmanship of Cllr Beth Deacon was re-designed as an informal "meet your councillors" social gathering.

There is no statutory format for the Parish Meeting: the requirement is simply for an official meeting of parishioners once a year. The free village cider on offer may have helped the conviviality, but certainly the atmosphere was more relaxed than at some recent parish meetings and it was an occasion for interesting conversation.

Instead of presenting individual reports on their activities, organizations had "stalls" around the War Memorial Hall, giving villagers the opportunity to talk to the exhibitors in depth and to make suggestions for progress of such projects as The Green and the sports field. Councillors mingled and conversed. It was even possible to try hand-bell ringing!

The usual full and lengthy "Chairman's Report", summarizing the village year, was replaced by brief notes on a display board. A small matter perhaps, but it has generally been considered appropriate to thank by individual mention the many volunteers and groups who have contributed to the life of the village over the year. This was missing from the meeting: an unfortunate oversight, perhaps. Most people do not expect thanks for their voluntary work, but public appreciation boosts morale and helps village cohesion. Courtesy costs nothing and buys the Earth.

However, those present had the chance to ask questions of the Council, whose members perched delicately on the edge of the stage. The lack of seating for everyone else may have necessarily curtailed this session for some, especially after a couple of hours' "hospitality", but it was a helpful opportunity to express views publicly on the state of the village. Matters raised included the potential of Neighbourhood Plans, provision

of activities for young people, dog bins, flooding, and traffic. Councillors encouraged people to continue to come forward with their ideas, and to bring their concerns to the Council.

A different occasion, but enjoyable, and ultimately a useful and civilised exchange of views and information.

So ends the first year of the new Parish Council, with new members, new Clerk, new ideas, new methods, new ethos, and now a new Chairman for the first time in a generation. Interesting and exciting times ahead, no doubt! But those who ignore history do so at their peril.

The next Council Meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, popularly but incorrectly referred to as the AGM, on Thursday, 19th May. This is when the Council elects its officers, including the Chairman, for the coming year. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

*Rosemary Groves*  
(*"Not The Parish Council News" Reporter!*)

### **GARMENT STUDIO**

For those in the know, The Great British Sewing Bee starts again on the 5<sup>th</sup> May. If this sets your creative juices flowing and you feel the need to learn a new skill or brush up on some old ones then our Beginners Sewing Course is for you.

- £20.00 per week, four week course, starting on the 12<sup>th</sup> May - 9.30 -12.30
- This time next year, you could be the next competitor on The Sewing Bee!
- For course details and more information please take a look at our website or give us a call.

[www.garmentstudio.co.uk](http://www.garmentstudio.co.uk)      01264 726998

### **ABBOTTS ANN VISION COUNTRYSIDE GROUP FARM VISIT**

A further visit to Saxley Farm, to see some other aspects of farm management, will take place on the evening of Friday June 24<sup>th</sup>, by kind invitation of Matthew Read.

Further details next month, but put it in your diary now.

*Julie Moon (Abbotts Ann Vision)*



Abbotts Ann Conservatives invite you to

### **COME AND HAVE SOME FUN AT OUR BEETLE DRIVE!**

**ON FRIDAY 24TH JUNE 2016**

**DRINKS IN THE GARDEN AT 7.00 pm 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](mailto:pughabbottsann@gmail.com)),**  
**Biz Shaw (Tel 710197) ([bizmorris@sky.com](mailto:bizmorris@sky.com))**  
**or Committee Members (Cheques payable to NWHCA)**

The pleasure of your company  
is requested for

### **A piano and organ recital by Carl Bahoshy**

**In aid of 'Iraqi Christians in Need'**

**Saturday 14 May at 7.00pm**  
**All Saints' Church, Upper Clatford**

**Ticket £10 (to include interval refreshments)**  
Tickets are available from: Jane Kennedy (tel 323804)  
Sylvia Kennedy (323226) Betty Armstrong,  
Emily Fabricius, Margaret Prior  
Or by reservation via email [janelkennedy@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:janelkennedy@tiscali.co.uk)

**CELEBRATING 300 YEARS**  
**SINCE THE BUILDING OF THE CURRENT ST MARY'S CHURCH**

The celebration of the church's tercentenary started with a service on 17<sup>th</sup> April to give thanks for its restoration. Please put the rest of the events in your diary, or on the kitchen calendar, now:-

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 'Chapter & Verse' Concert – 7 pm** This popular entertainment makes a return visit to the War Memorial Hall.

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July Abbots Ann Primary School church service – 10 am** service to celebrate The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary. All welcome.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July. St Mary's Church in the wider community.**

**Friday**

- **7 pm Youth Rock Concert** – In a Marquee in the Old Rectory garden.

**Saturday**

- 10 am to 5 pm - Flower festival – In Church.
- 10 am to 5 pm - History exhibition – Outside Church.
- 12 noon to 3 pm - Ploughman's lunch – In a Marquee in the Old Rectory garden.
- **7 pm.- Abba's Angels Tribute Band Concert** - In a Marquee in the Old Rectory garden. – bring your own picnic.

**Sunday**

- 10 am to 5 pm - Flower festival – In Church.
- 10 am to 5 pm - History exhibition – Outside Church.
- 2 pm - Peal attempt by Ancient Society of College Youths
- 3 pm to 5 pm - Cream teas - Old Rectory Garden.
- **6 pm - 'Songs of Praise'** Evening service in Church.

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September - St Mary's Church and its people**  
 Evensong at 5 pm - led by the Bishop of Basingstoke.

If you have any queries about, or suggestions for, this programme contact Tim Tayler on 710201, Lynne Lucas on 710037, or for Flower Festival matters Elizabeth Howard on 710830.

## How does your garden grow?



Every year, at about this time, someone organises our village garden competition. I would be delighted if you would consider entering your garden this year. Neither size nor structure matter. It can be small or large, intensively cultivated, or encouraged to be wild and eco-friendly, there is a category for everyone. Don't worry about the patch the children have worn, or the area that is being redesigned.

Our judge this year is Brian Davis, an RHS qualified judge. He has requested that you simply enter your garden. He will decide whether your garden is large or small, and which gardens have excelled in various areas e.g., eco-friendly, ornamental plants, vegetables, hard landscaping, etc.

The overall winner will be awarded

## The Threadgill Cup

There will be also be prizes for various categories.

Entry forms are available from the village shop, and at the plant sale on 28<sup>th</sup> May. If you have any questions please e-mail or give me a ring, or come and talk to me at the plant sale.

Last date for entry is 12<sup>th</sup> June.

Judging will take place on 16<sup>th</sup> June (not the 30<sup>th</sup> as previously suggested.)

Organiser: Liz Dell [lizdell.48@gmail.com](mailto:lizdell.48@gmail.com) 01264 711051  
*The Old Exchange, Duck Street, Abbots Ann.*



## MICHAEL COOPER

The Cooper family would like to thank everyone for the messages of sympathy and many acts of kindness that we received following the death of Michael. It reinforces what a special place Abbots Ann is, with a wonderful community spirit.

*Pauline Cooper*

*Editor's Note: We are indebted to Michael for the very interesting series of histories of Abbots Ann's wartime soldiers which he contributed to the magazine.*



### **MOVING ONTO PASTURES NEW**

As age and health begin to dictate the future, Margaret and Mike Butt are moving to Romsey. Not far but away from Abbots Ann which has been our home for 34 years. It may be our 27<sup>th</sup> move but things are no easier when you depart a lovely village like Abbots Ann. We will miss the friendship and chat we found here. Having done 22 years as your NHW contact, having done some eight years helping getting the shop up and running, having served behind the PO counter for seven of those years, having opened the church each Monday and Tuesday morning for I don't know how long, and Margaret having helped run the early Nursery School (Abbots Ann play group) for a number of years, also having been clerk to the Primary School Governors for several years means that we were not just inhabitants of the village but active within it.

This move will mean a change but we feel it's necessary. So to everyone who has known us a large thank you for your company and your friendship.

*Mike Butt*

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

**Saturday 28th May 2016**  
10 am – 12.30 pm

**Abbots 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

### **CHURCHYARD CLEAN-UP - ST MARY'S ABBOTTS ANN**

My grateful thanks to the few who turned out to help clean up the churchyard on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April. You made a real difference by smartening up all the areas in the churchyard so that they complement the smart, clean lines of the church.

*Gordon Howard - Churchwarden*



### **THE FUTURE OF THE GREEN**

The Parish Council has asked Abbots Ann Green Action to prepare a report on how the Green\* can be used for the benefit of the village community; so we are consulting as widely as possible to hear the views of the people of Abbots Ann. Lots of ideas came from the Village Assembly on 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Here are some of them:

Trees  
Grass long short  
Open space  
Paths  
Seating  
Space to run around  
Meeting place  
Flowers wildflowers  
Community Orchard – mixed fruit  
Interpretation panel  
Sensory area/s; space for contemplation/ meditation/ reflection  
Encourage birds with nest boxes – suitable planting – bug hotels Owl boxes, bug hotel,  
A stumpery – good way to use up old logs to create a wildlife haven – plant with shade loving plants and make a dark part of the area look attractive  
Exercise route round the edge with outdoor exercise equipment  
Wildflower Meadow  
Hard standing at entrances. Hard paths at edges if required.  
Hard path through the middle.  
Drama  
Herb path. Sweet smelling grasses. Camomile lawn?

**Anyone who has not yet contributed is invited to go to the village website ([www.abbottsann.com](http://www.abbottsann.com)) to comment on the ideas already suggested and offer new ideas of their own.**

Thank you!

\*The Green is the old school playing field accessed from Duck St, Manor Close, and Catherine's Walk

*David Read*



## **ABBOTTS ANN WI - MARCH 2016**

Be warned, next time our members receive a handwritten missive from their friends and family they will be using tips on graphology to discover the writer's true character traits. It's not just the way we cross and dot the relevant letters, but whether we space out the lines and characters or write very small and tight. This can all reveal those characteristics that perhaps we keep hidden. Our speaker this month Graham Birchmore's interest in the subject was sparked when he wanted to discover who his first unsigned valentine was from - research proved, much to his disappointment, that it came from a family member.

Nevertheless, he has gone on to study the subject and considering that we are all taught to write in much the same way everyone has a different approach. Whether we use the page in a portrait or landscape format, join-up our characters or not, write ornately or quite plainly, legibly or illegibly so much can be interpreted from all these variations. Graphologists have been used to study requests for parole from prisoners to see if the person truly repents or not. Graham is thinking that now we all email and text that perhaps he should be analysing the type of font that is used. (I am typing this in Calibri 11 - so I wonder what that is saying about the real me?!)

We have done all our usual activities which involve reading, walking, eating and drinking this month and Aileen Catterson gave a super report on Hampshire Federation's recent Spring Council Meeting at Portsmouth where the guest speakers were Mandy Hickson (female pilot of a front line Tornado) and historian Lucy Worsley. Four of our members also attended the Anton Danebury Group's spring meeting at Weyhill where the entertainment was BUMS (Braishfield Ukulele Musical Society).

There is no guest speaker this month as May is our AGM and when we get to debate the two resolutions that will be voted on nationally in June. Nevertheless, you are still welcome to join us at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall on 26th May.

*Sharon King*

### **BRING AND BUY PLANT SALE**

The annual Plant Sale, in aid of fete funds, will be held at 10.00am on Saturday 28th May at the War Memorial Hall. As usual, any donations of plants will be most welcome on the day.

Additionally, we always have a small selection of other stalls eg crafts. If you are interested in hiring a stall please contact me for further details.

*Anne Emerson (Show Secretary) - Home: 01264 710851  
Mobile: 07788 645723*

## **CLATFORD VALLEY GARDENING CLUB**

In March, Mike Read visited us again to talk about 'Birds and Flowers of The Vercors' which is an area in France. The region is situated between Grenoble and Valence on the edge of the French Alps. Mike explained that there is a lot of history to the area as resistance fighters operated there during the war. The area is made up of limestone mountains and verdant green valleys and the scenery is stunning.

Mike is also an expert in photography and his slides were exceptional. It would be impossible to list all of the birds, flowers and animals that Mike showed us, but he pointed out that many species, which can no longer be found in the UK, can still be seen in The Vercors.

Sometimes 30-35 species of orchids can be seen in one week, if you are lucky. These include Ladies Slipper Orchids, which grow in large groups in the hills, Coral Root Orchid which only grows to three inches tall and Pyramidal and Burnt Orchids.

Some of the amazing birds that can be seen include Black Kites, Montagu Harriers and Hen Harriers. Grenoble airport is a good place to see these birds. Amongst the rarer species is Red-backed Shrike which has declined due to trapping in North Africa during migration, Black Redstarts and Honey Buzzards, although they can be seen in the New Forest.

The Vercors is an area inhabited by Chamois as well as Red Deer, Red Squirrels and Pine Martins.

Mike has been guiding for twenty five years and visiting the Vercors for fifteen. His talk was certainly an inspiration to visit the region and perhaps accompany him on one of his future trips.

Jenny reminded everyone that our social evening on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July this year will be 'Pimms, Plants and Pastries'. The next newsletter will include booking forms for the summer outings.

Our meetings are held in Upper Clatford village hall at 7.45 pm on the fourth Wednesday of every month and our next meeting will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> April when Derek Dexter will be talking to us about 'Fuchsias'. All new members are welcome to join us.

### **ABBOTTS ANN VILLAGE FETE 2016**

The Fete this year will be 3rd September. If you would like to consider getting involved in a fun and friendly committee the fete are looking for a new Secretary to take the minutes of our monthly meetings and distribute electronically to our members. If you are interested please contact Lisa Hillier on 710231 or 07535 630 266 for more information.

## **COUNTRYMAN'S CORNER**

### **OPTICAL ALLUSIONS**

#### **An Ode to my Optician**

You can't be optimistic  
If you've got a misty optic.  
This may sound rather mystic  
Like a parable in Coptic.

But I know I'm only jocular  
And not a nervous wreck  
When I've brought, for reasons ocular  
My spectacles on spec.

Not for us prophetic vision  
Or far-sightedness oracular.  
We myopics crave precision  
To avoid unkind derision  
Or some damaging collision  
In a blur of indecision.  
Raise our sights from dull vernacular;  
Make our lives, with specs, spectacular.

*Hadrianus Spectator*

### **LIFE WITH THE TRIBE - MARCH 2016**

Mad March seems highly appropriate as the Tribe are blown down with various maladies meaning that routines disappear completely. I have many discussions with friends bemoaning the lack of a 'good, cold spell' that we feel would certainly have rid us of all these bugs. Whether it would or not, we'll never know, but I have to admit to feeling a certain amount of frustration at having to run a continual sick bay at home. And of course the Tribe were all unwell at different times meaning that the sporting activities continued - most inconsiderate! However, in between times Spring has been springing up around us and the wonderful and harmonious notes of birdsong is increasing daily and despite the 'bugs' we still get excited about the awakening of nature at this time of year. One day the Littlest comes inside clutching a bundle of just picked daisies for me - priceless. Later 'Gerald Durrell' makes a daisy chain crown for her, weaving some leaves into the design, so the Littlest looks as though she has just stepped from Neverland in the pages of Peter Pan.

This month sees the return of the 'rescue' season and the resurrection of our own animal hospital. The first to be rescued is a shrew, saved from the clutches of cats. It is re-housed in a tiny child's suitcase that has been transformed into a miniature wildlife garden, complete with bugs for the shrew to eat.

Unfortunately however, this shrew doesn't make it, but is given a dignified burial. The next shrew that is rescued is found in 'Gerald Durrell's' bedroom - together with two cats. The cats are removed from the room and 'Gerald Durrell' and I work as a team to capture the terrified animal. We do so relatively easily - obviously the amount of practice we have had is beginning to pay off. The shrew is checked out for injury and appearing fine, it is taken back into the garden and released. 'Gerald Durrell' watches it for a while as it happily devours some centipedes found under a rock. I wonder why 'shrew' means 'an aggressively assertive or bad tempered woman' - it seems somewhat harsh for such a tiny creature to be associated with the word. We learn that shrews are easily startled and will jump, faint or drop dead at a sudden noise. The shrews of Abbots Ann are obviously from hardy stock.

Returning from the afternoon pick-up service one day, we see a rabbit at the side of Red Post Lane. It is obviously in a distressed state. The Tribe are all telling me that I "have to stop and pick it up!". So, 'Gerald Durrell' jumps out of the car while I turn round. By the time I stop, the terrified creature is being cradled in her arms. I get an old blanket from the car and we wrap it up. She comments on how heavy it is. Instead of going home, we head to Foxcotte vets, where they kindly take the damaged animal. Later that evening, the vet rings to say that the hare had myxomatosis and didn't survive. Myxomatosis was originally released in the 1950s to control the rabbit population; a man-made disease. It's a pretty barbaric and inhumane method of control in my book, first blinding its victims then blocking its nose so it can't breathe, forcing it to breathe through its mouth, meaning that it can't eat. Despite these horrors the animal can last up to 14 days allowing the disease to continue to spread to other rabbits. So, if you do find a mixy rabbit, please take it to a local vet who will stop its suffering. After discussing the gruesome nature of mixy, the Tribe were interested to know that what we'd picked up was a brown hare and not a rabbit. It's tricky to tell the difference between rabbits and hares, but the main difference is size - hares are bigger and heavier. Rabbits weigh up to 2kg, hares between 3 and 4kg. Hares have black markings on the tips of their ears; they also have large staring yellow eyes. When they run, hares hold their tails down showing the black on their tail while rabbits hold their tails up showing the white underneath. Astonishingly, hares can run up to 45mph. So, now we know. Perhaps we'll save the next one.

*Mother of the Tribe*

### **TERCENTENARY FLOWER FESTIVAL**

**23RD & 24TH JULY 2016**

As part of St Mary's Tercentenary celebrations we plan to hold a Flower Festival over the weekend 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> July. I am looking for helpers to make this possible by arranging the flowers. Also, you are most welcome to sponsor an arrangement, perhaps in memory of a loved one. In either case, should you wish to be involved please contact me, Elizabeth Howard on 710830.