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From the Editor

Over the past weeks, British life seems to have been turned upside down. We have a new Prime Minister who wanted us in Europe but must now negotiate our way out, a United Kingdom which is anything but, and a computer game, Pokemon Go, which is sending kids streaming into the great outdoors. In these unpredictable times, we should be grateful for small certainties: the sun will shine every now and then this summer, rail services will be disrupted and the villagers of Holybourne will turn out in droves to push, pull, race and drench each other at Summerfest.

Just to add to the disruption, there are a few changes in this issue of the Holybourne and Neatham village magazine. But I'm more or less confident you'll approve of these. For a start, the magazine is now all-colour, the better to display our fabulous photos (see the centre double page spread of Summerfest fun). A redesign by new designer Stephen Lewis has also sharpened up our look and feel. Most importantly, this edition of the magazine features the first of what we hope will become a series of interviews with local heroes. Our debut hero, Georgie Armitage, will, however, take some beating. Georgie will be representing team GB at the Rio Paralympics in September. Georgie's is a truly awe-inspiring tale of determination, hard work and triumph in the face of adversity, and we wish her huge success in Brazil.

We also have updates from all our usual contributors, to whom we are very grateful, plus poetry, theatre reviews, sport and lots and lots of lively pictures. We're always on the lookout for talent behind the camera, now that we can display it in full technicolour we urge all our readers to get out there and capture some of our stunning local scenery. You never know, it might make the cover.

We'd welcome your feedback on the new look magazine, as well as suggestions as to how we could improve further. We are a mirror of the village so the more you put in, the more you will be able to get out. Letters, thoughts, stories, even criticism – all are invited. A final note of thanks, as always, to our advertisers, whose ads are looking great in colour. Do get in touch if you'd like to see your business on our pages.

Enjoy the rest of the summer of 2016, we'll see you again just before Christmas.

Tessa Laughton, Editor

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Cover Photo

Josh Law at this July's Summer Fest
photo by Mikael Kaplar

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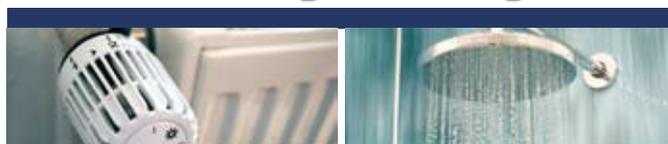
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Holybourne Village Pre-School



A Year in Review

Back in September, the children began the new academic year and we welcomed a new French teacher. Sarah Human is one of our parents and she runs a fun French session for us every Monday morning, which the children love. Parents are always surprised and delighted when their children repeat French words at home, but the little ones just absorb it naturally. It has been proven that learning a second language at a young age has many benefits for a child's development.

In November the children celebrated Diwali. Our lovely mum Narinder was kind enough to cook up some delicious Hindi treats for us to try and also helped us make Diwali lanterns. We love learning about the traditions that our families celebrate and encourage them to share these with the pre-school.

The autumn term would not be complete without lots of Christmas activities. To coincide with the launch of the Teddy bears toddler group at church, we were invited to visit and take part in some activities based on the Nativity. We also took the children to Andrews' Endowed School to watch their fantastic nativity play and to join the Acorns' class for a morning of festive fun. The term concluded with a Christmas party and raffle. Thanks to the fantastic efforts of our committee, the raffle raised an amazing £500 for the pre-school.

In March it was time for our much loved visit to Mill Cottage Farm. This time it took place in the grounds of Andrews' Endowed School, which made for an enjoyable and informative morning. 'Hands on' activities such as the farm visit are invaluable and it always reminds us of how lucky we are to have this on our doorstep. Many thanks to Tom and Sarah Main and the rest of the MCFE team for allowing the children the opportunity to interact with the animals - I very much enjoyed bottle feeding one of the lambs! We also celebrated Sports Relief in March - the children all dressed up in their favourite sports kit and our mum, the amazing para-athlete Georgie Hermitage [see interview on pages 30 & 31, ed] paid us a visit so that the children could

try on her World Championships gold medals and show her their amazing running skills.

The spring term finished with our Easter events: crafts at Andrews' Endowed School and our annual Easter Egg hunt and picnic. Thanks to The Lawn for once again allowing the Easter Bunny to hide her eggs in their grounds. We also visited the church to learn about the Easter story through song and activities.

In April we discovered that Graham Trott had nominated the pre-school for a donation from the Winter Beer Festival! We were awarded a huge £500, which is being used to upgrade our ICT equipment. Four new tablets have been ordered and in September we aim to go digital with the children's development records. This will allow parents to access their child's records remotely and become even more involved in their learning. We are very excited about the launch and thank Graham and the Beer Festival for the donation.

In the first week of the summer term the children took part in our annual sponsored walk around the village. Collectively the children raised £200, which we used towards our summer outing to Birdworld on a very wet day in June. The rain didn't stop us from having a great day out although we did end up with rather soggy sandwiches at lunch! Our summer outing is always a lovely occasion that staff, children and their families can enjoy together.

On 1st July we held our first ever quiz night. There was a great (competitive) atmosphere and the laughter didn't stop for the whole evening. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the event, and especially to our brilliant dad Dan for being such a great Quiz Master. The evening was combined with our summer raffle draw. Total money raised will be announced on our Facebook page in due course.

That brings us to today. I am writing this article breathing a sigh of relief that today it was dry. This means that we were able to have our Sports Day, which was postponed last week due to - you've guessed it - the rain! The children were great sports, doing their very best in the four races. The event was finished with the presentation of medals and the treat of an ice lolly. Thank you to the good people of Holybourne Sports Field for allowing us use of their facilities.

The final event of the year will be our Summer Party where we say a fond (but sad) farewell to our leavers and rejoice in how far they've come in their time with us.

Gemma Urquhart, Deputy Manager

Holybourne Village Pre-School is open 9am-3pm Mondays and Wednesdays and 9am-12pm Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. We accept children from 2 years 6 months and are taking applications for September and beyond (be quick - places are limited, with a waiting list for our full days). See our advert opposite for our contact details.



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Treloar's **Treloar School & College**

Enabling Education

We are delighted to announce that Martin Ingram will become the next Principal of Treloar School and College with effect from August 2016. Mr Ingram is currently the Principal and Chief Executive of Woking College. Educated at the University of Bath where he read history and philosophy with social sciences, Mr Ingram worked with Save the Children at a residential school for children with physical disabilities in Morocco. He then began his teaching career in 1988 at Esher College, starting as a teacher of history and politics before going on to become Head of Department and then Director of Faculty. In addition to his responsibilities at Woking College, Mr Ingram is actively involved in the broader education community, and has extensive experience of working with key stakeholders and educational organisations, both locally and regionally. He also has prior knowledge of Treloar's, having been a Governor of the College from 2003 to 2008. He was Chair of the Organ Donation Committee at Great Ormond Street Hospital from 2010 to 2015.

In other news, Martin Sinclair, GB Paralympian and Treloar School Student Support Assistant, will be inducted into the National Football Museum Hall of Fame in October by Sir Bobby Charlton and other football legends. Martin is a wonderful role model, Treloar's ambassador and more importantly, a wonderful asset in the classroom.

On 11 May Treloar's hosted its third annual Day of Disability Sports. More than 35 students and staff from Alton College, Perins School, Eggar's School and Alton Convent School came to the Treloar's campus to play and learn about disabled sports with our students. Students took part in power chair hockey, table cricket, boccia (a game which is similar to bocce but for disabled players), and archery.

Treloar's students celebrated completion of the final stage of their outdoor classroom with the addition of a dipping pond. The new feature has been added to Willow Way, which is comprised of a wigwam and outdoor classroom connected with raised ramps for wheelchairs and willow tunnels. Staff and students were able to 'pond dip' (pictured below) and found crayfly nymphs, water snails and water fleas. It is hoped that frogs and other creatures will soon find a new home.



Dame Jacqueline Wilson meets Treloar's student Will

Best selling children's author and Treloar's patron Dame Jacqueline Wilson visited Treloar's in July for the second year running. Her visit marked the finale of the Six Book Challenge, an annual competition run by The Reading Agency to encourage people to read.

Dame Jacqueline is very popular with Treloar's students, many of whom asked her to autograph copies of her books. After a visit to Treloar Nursery, Dame Jacqueline joined students and staff in Pike Hall where she read an excerpt from *The Lion King*, which was being performed by students as the primary school play of the summer term.

Treloar's is close to Dame Jacqueline's heart: "I visit hundreds of schools but none match the warmth and friendliness of Treloar's. It's a school in a million."

Our fourth St Swithun's Way Walk and Run took place with 280 participants and supporters raising over £3,500. It was a fantastic day and despite the forecast promising showers all week even the weather kept dry on the day. The 5 mile halfway point proved a popular stopping point once again with hot drinks and delicious cakes kindly provided by Bentley Primary School. For those who completed the ten miles, there were well-deserved bacon butties at the finishing point. This event will be back again next year by popular demand.

On Sunday 4th September 2016, at London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Treloar's will take part in the world's first fully accessible and inclusive mass participation event – you have the chance to join us too. Everyone and anyone can enter Parallel London – disabled and non-disabled, beginner and pro. All you have to do is choose your challenge – 100m, 1km, 5km, 10km – sign up through Treloar's and get training. Simple! For more information contact claire.kercher@treloar.org.uk or call 01420 547469.

The Dummer Fair will take place again this year at Dummer Cricket Centre on Wednesday 12th October (6 - 9pm) and Thursday 13th October (9:30am - 4pm). All profits from the fair will help support Treloar's. For full details visit www.dummerfair.org.uk. With over 90 stalls and 900 visitors, the Dummer Fair has established itself as one of the most successful fairs in Hampshire. Offering a huge selection of goods from cashmere to cakes, gifts to garden goods, there will be something for everyone.

Carolyne Warne carolyn.warne@treloar.org.uk

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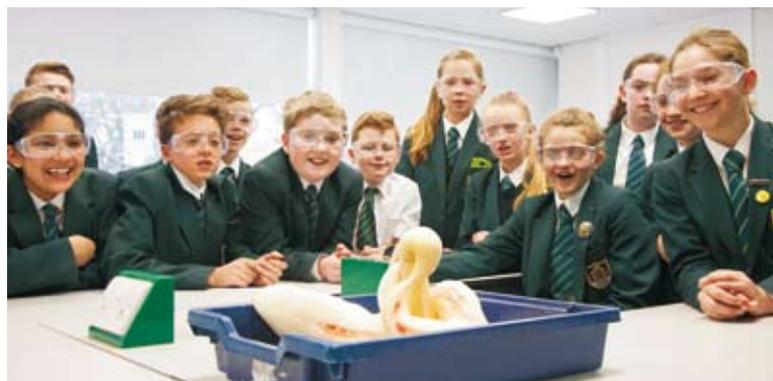
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Eggars School



From GCSEs to Zulu Warriors

The summer term is always incredibly busy. It's also a term full of mixed emotions for our Year 11s, from the elation of finishing their final GCSE examination to the sadness of leaving a school that has been 'home' for the last five years and provided them with some terrific memories. They certainly celebrated in style at this year's Prom, which was held in the beautiful surroundings of Froyle Park with all our students (and staff) looking very glamorous.

Calling all former Eggars students: become a part of ESAA

The Eggars School Alumni Association (ESAA) is being launched for all our ex-students. It aims to keep everyone in touch, to share experiences, to inspire and motivate our current student body and to highlight how Eggars shapes its students' future lives. We hope to connect or reconnect our former students with news and regular events. Simply register at eggars.net/alumni

Start of the secondary school journey

Eggars welcomed many Year 5 and 6 students in the summer term, providing a taster of what Eggars can offer as they prepare for the next stage of their education. As we are smaller than many of the other secondary schools in the area, it is always good to see how quickly these young students settle into this new learning environment. We've also just finished three July Open Events when we opened our doors to both prospective students and their parents



so they could take a look at the school in action and get a real sense of the Eggars experience.

There will be more opportunities in September and October to come and look around the school, it's a great time to chat to teachers and current students. Make an appointment for a personal tour or come over for one of our autumn Open Events (eggars.net/openevents).

Good sports

It has been a particularly successful sporting term. Highlights include the Year 7 cricket team becoming district champions. In a very tight final, they played against Salesian College, the independent Roman Catholic school in Farnborough, and won by two runs! Some excellent bowling and tight fielding were the keys to victory. Cricketing success continued when the Year 7 / 8 cricket team won their semi-final in the Hampshire plate competition against Perins. They won by 27 runs and now face Connaught in the final.

Eggars achieved one of our biggest medal hauls from the junior district athletics meet at Aldershot military stadium. There were some great performances from all who participated. We also had a record breaking 14 students representing Aldershot and district at the Hampshire Schools Athletics meeting in July.



Working with the community

Aside from education, Eggars is working hard with and for the community. We hosted the second Community Arts Week, supported by Tom Yendell and the Mouth & Foot Painters Association, with more local children benefiting from a great outdoor learning environment. There was a huge variety of activities and performances including the Lions of Zululand, a cultural group of musicians and dancers whose aim is to expose to the world the wonderful richness of traditional Zulu culture.

We had our second ALTON LIVE @Eggars on July 9th, a brilliant family music festival celebrating the best of Alton and the surrounding area. There were several bands playing including Bemis and a set by Joe Waller, the X Factor contestant. A wonderful time was had by all!

If you'd like to find out more about our community programme or the next open events at Eggars, please do not hesitate to visit www.eggars.net or contact us on 01420 541194.

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Mill Cottage News



“More than one in nine children in England have not visited a park, forest, beach or other semi-natural environment for at least 12 months. Only 21% regularly play outdoors, as 71% of their parents did as children.”

(Monitor of Engagement with Natural Environment or MENE report, by Natural England. To find the full report search MENE at www.gov.uk)

These statistics hit us here at Mill Cottage, twice in fairly quick succession: once at the South Downs Teachers Conference and then again in the Royal Horticultural Society magazine, ‘The Garden’. One in nine, 11%, is a lot of children not doing something that should be as natural as getting up in the morning. The other statement from the original statement that leaps out at us is that four in five children do not play regularly outdoors.

The benefits of being outside have been well documented, not least the mental and physical health benefits, so it leaves one wondering why so many children are not exposed to them.

On reading the original report in more detail, it states that families in certain areas of London and among certain cultural groups are less likely to engage with nature, but even with that minority skewing results a little, it still leaves many children deprived of the opportunity to learn, enjoy, discuss, engage and develop an understanding of the outdoors. We often visit schools that are ‘concrete jungles’

where you have to hunt for the grass – in fact we have been booked to visit one London school where the only surface they have is astroturf. In another school, we had to explain what we meant by the word ‘field’.

Yet in London there are some beautiful parks and commons, small oases in an urban jungle. While Tom was brought up in rural Sussex with outdoor life a daily enjoyment, Sarah was brought up in Morden – the end of the Northern Line – but it would have been very unusual to have a week when we didn’t visit the local park or play in the garden, making dens, digging pits or making daisy chains and there are 101 things a stick can be turned into!

We are very privileged here in Holybourne where the vast majority of houses have their own garden space as well as outstanding green spaces surrounding us, and a village school with a variety of outdoor areas for the children to use, work in and learn from. In fact, we could even go as far as saying it would be difficult not to engage with nature in our village. Having said this, we still occasionally find local people who have lived here for years and yet never knew there was a footpath running between Lower Neatham and Upper Neatham Mill Lane. It is great to see more students from Treloars making use of the footpath now that the whole area is more accessible, as well as young families with pushchairs.

Playing outside doesn’t need to cost anything or require much prior preparation, children will often make up their own games using whatever they come across. However, some ideas to get you started can be found online, on websites such as the National Trust 50 Things initiative.

Maybe we should all make it a special mission over the summer to get outdoors and explore, find new paths in the area, spot new flora and fauna, play and ensure no one in this area becomes one of the MENE statistics. Let’s re-wild the next generation! I am off to make mud pies with the children.....

Tom and Sarah Main www.mcfce.org.uk

Friends of Alton Station

Saving our Heritage Footbridge

Alton Railway Station was provided with a new footbridge with lifts in 2013. Whilst this was welcomed, it was putting the future of the original 1892 footbridge in jeopardy. This led to the formation of Friends of Alton Station to protect the heritage footbridge, station and its environs.

Forward-wind to April 2016 when we received a copy of an Network Rail internal memo recommending the removal of the footbridge. We have now been given an ultimatum by Network Rail to prove, by the end of 2016, that we can raise the funds required to repair the bridge. We are stepping up our campaign to meet this challenge.



We have started by setting up an online petition to collect support from people. If you would like to show your support, please go to:

www.change.org/p/network-rail-save-the-heritage-footbridge-at-alton-station-in-hampshire

This is just the start. We want to organise a full structural survey in order to assess the full extent of the renovation required. We also plan to set up a crowd funding scheme for the survey and to contribute towards repair costs.

Find out more, including how to join, from our website:

www.FriendsOfAltonStation.org.uk

Stephen Lewis, Chair of Friends of Alton Station

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Our River Into Summer

Although we are past the summer solstice and have had some sunny days, cloud and rain seems to have returned. The riverside footpath through Mill Cottage field has been distinctly

wet with water issuing from the ground at a spring near the goose shelter. On either side of the path near the entrance to the field are patches of grey-green plants of Common Fleabane: these should have colourful yellow daisy flowers in August, attracting a number of insects. This plant lives in damp locations so the riverside field suits it.

On one of the dock plants were several metallic Green Dock Beetles, there is another similar species on water mint and cress. Green Dock Beetles (*Gastrophysa viridula*) feed on the leaves and there were some lacy dock leaves showing evidence of their activities. Earlier in the year, at Flood Meadows in Alton, I saw clusters of the ripe orange eggs of this beetle on the underside of dock leaves. There are several generations a year and a female can lay as many as a thousand eggs. The larvae are dependent on dock leaves and after feeding voraciously, they spend 6-9 days as pupae in the soil before emerging as the magnificent metallic green beetles. They are common and widespread where dock grows and favour wet riverside habitats.

On somewhat better drained ground were some mole hills. The underground tunnels of moles function as pitfall traps for the earthworms that they feed on. All this life goes on under the surface.

Last summer I mentioned Glen Skelton of Surrey Wildlife Trust who is running Riversearch and Riverfly projects and also co-ordinating river improvement work in the upper reaches of the Wey for the Wey Valley Landscape Partnership. His report follows describing work done in the Alton area.

June Chatfield, Chair, Northern Wey Trust

Above: Green Dock Beetle on leaf in riverside field

Below: Ear Fungus on dead Elder branch by the river bank



Surrey Wildlife Trust volunteers working on the river

River Wey Update

Surrey Wildlife Trust are working closely with the North Wey Trust on behalf of the Wey Landscape Partnership to improve the ecological status of the River Wey running through Alton.

The river at Alton is a chalk stream making it an internationally rare habitat. A combination of geology and climate means that these precious streams have characteristic features that support special wildlife habitats and species. They are fed from groundwater aquifers, meaning that the water is of high clarity and good chemical quality.

A healthy chalk stream is one with a diversity of habitats including fast and slow flowing water, shallow and deep areas, silt and gravel, shaded and light areas and plenty of instream vegetation. This diversity creates opportunities for many different species of wildlife to live in the river.

Between March and May this year two projects have been carried out in Alton to improve habitat along the river. The first was carried out downstream of Papermill Lane. This stretch was rather straight with few refuge areas for fish and invertebrates so volunteers spent two days pinning brushwood into the river to create a more sinuous channel with a range of flows and depths thereby increasing the opportunities for wildlife. Over 20 staff and volunteers took part during the 2 days and improved over 100m of river.

The second project was carried out on a degraded 90 metre stretch at Flood Meadows, upstream of the Basingstoke Road footbridge. This stretch was overwide and very uniform in nature. The huge amounts of silt dropping out on the riverbed were smothering nearly all life.

River Works contractors Aquamaintain were commissioned to install a number of woody berms within the channel and to backfill them with silt taken from the river bed. Berms are manmade low level shelves made of brushwood material which speed up the water running past them, thereby allowing the silt to be scoured from the river bed. As the silt is scoured away it reveals the bed gravels below which provide ideal conditions for aquatic invertebrates. The berms also create a more natural shape to the channel helping deeper and shallow areas to form. Over time vegetation will increase, making them a permanent part of the river bank.

Recent surveys at both sites are already suggesting an increase in the aquatic invertebrate populations since the works.

Glen Skelton glen.skelton@surreywt.org.uk

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Holybourne WI



Stories of humorous encounters and unexplained events divulged by Margaret Braddock, a volunteer at Winchester Cathedral, kept us entertained at our March meeting.

Holybourne WI skittles team won the final of the Hampshire WI Skittles Competition in April. As team member Jo remarked "No one was more surprised than we were!" Quite an achievement considering we are a small group.

'Waggle dances' and other intriguing facts about bees were

shared by Bob and Lucinda Yelland in April, followed by honey tasting – delicious.

In June we had a go at making miniature flower arrangements in teacups (picture right) with amazing results and celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday in style!

The Holybourne Summerfest in July saw us decorating cakes – not quite Bake Off but some fun was had by all who participated, as well as tasty treats for their efforts.



Coming up:

15th September - a chance to learn about the history of Holybourne Village with old pictures and stories from the village with historian Jane Hurst.

20th October – have a go at lino printing with Shirley Anne Stephens.

17th November – hand bell ringing with The Greywell Ringers.

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30 in Holybourne Village Hall. New members of all ages with or without new ideas are very welcome!

Sharon Buckle & Wendy Ostler holybournewi@gmail.com



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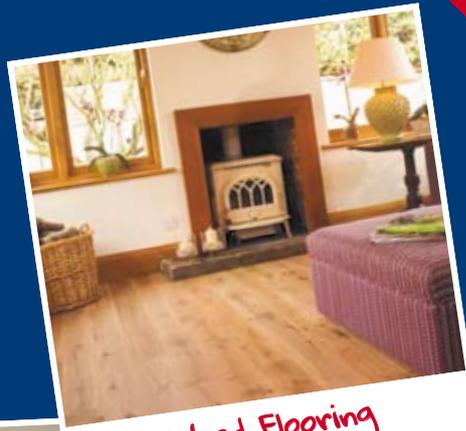
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Holybourne Singers



By the time you read this issue, Holybourne Singers will have performed a range of music together with the Holybourne Singers Young Voices and the Chamber Choir in Alton College on 16th July. We were joined by soloists Alison Lewis and Jane Gray, who also sang with us at the Alton Proms in the Park on 9th July. The photo above shows all the Singers behind the marquee, waiting to go on to sing.

The Holybourne Singers Young Voices, under the direction of Jonathan Upfold, himself a tenor soloist and accompanist for the choir, are a brand new choir for all young voices aged seven to 11 and over. The vision is to provide an



opportunity for all young voices in the area around Alton, Four Marks and Medstead to experience the joy of singing and to develop the skills and confidence that will lead to a lifetime of musical pleasure. Please see our website for contact details.

Our next concert is the mighty Verdi Requiem, which we will perform with Cantique Chamber Choir and The Surrey Mozart Players. Due to take place at St. Thomas on the Bourne in Farnham on Saturday 26th November 2016 at 7.30 pm, it will surely be a wonderful concert. This choral masterpiece, with all its drama and intensity, is regularly performed in the BBC Proms and at other big concert halls but perhaps less often in local venues, so it will be a very special evening. Soloists include soprano Monika Bilewicz, contralto Shirley Brice-Keeble, tenor Dominic Felix and bass Andrew Da Silva.

As Christmas approaches, on the 3rd December we are holding a Come and Sing Messiah at St. Lawrence Church, Alton (rehearsal at 2.30pm, performance at 6.30 pm). For those who haven't experienced the exciting and fun musical leadership of Holybourne Singers' charismatic Director of Music, this is an opportunity not to be missed. Those who don't wish to sing can also come to the performance in the evening. St. Lawrence has one of the very best organs in the area and what could be a better start to the Christmas season than to participate in this great work?

Further details are on www.holybournesingers.co.uk and for those who book before the end of September there is a reduced rate for the Messiah.

Sue Hubbard



Holybourne Village Association

Another English summer, and after weeks of rain my family and I have escaped to more reliable Spanish sunshine. Trying to write about the adventures of Holybourne is difficult when anything we may have done locally pales into insignificance with world events. We have had a month with Brexit, a Tory Party leadership battle, a new Prime Minister, a Labour Party leadership meltdown, a murderous lorry in Nice, a coup in Turkey and Pokemon Go sending the youth into a spin. However, we have been trying to do our bit, objecting to unwelcome development, running village events and supporting local organisations.

The roundabout development has just been turned down, but it is likely that it will go straight to appeal, so it is not a subject that will go away for some time yet. The plan for a nursery on Eggars' playing fields has been turned down at appeal. Most of the other major developments have been outside the village, in Alton, and though of interest to us as a village, are outside the remit of the HVA.

There is positive ongoing work on the drainage from the fields. Previously, the rainfall was so heavy that our current

systems could not cope and there was flooding across London Road by the entrance to Rakemakers. Hampshire Highways have a plan to alleviate the problem by diverting the water coming off the Downs and allowing it to drain into the River Wey near the turning to Neatham. The work has been disruptive and is not yet complete, but it should be worth it in the end!

This year's Holybourne Summer Fest was a very successful event. We as a family had lots of fun and it was great to see so many people of different generations getting involved in all the team games. We even had a tug of war between Remain and Leave Teams! The Holybourne Cricket Club also used the occasion to celebrate its 21st birthday and the celebrations extended late into the night.

As usual, I would like to hear from anybody who would like to get involved, meet lots of other people from the village and help make it an even better place to live. If you would like to take part, please contact me at: chairman.hva@holybourne.com

David Tomlinson, Chairman, HVA Committee



Summer Fest 2016

Well the sun certainly came out for us on Saturday 2nd July, what a fabulous family day was had at Holybourne Sports Field! Local organisations laid on a wealth of activities, notably the famous village games, to keep us thoroughly entertained all day and into the night. Congratulations to the blue team led by Ali Joy, winners of the 2016 games!

A huge thank you to all our sponsors (right) and to the local companies that came along on the day to support us.

Charlotte Murrell

Photos all by Mikael Kaplar







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Légion d'honneur



Cecil Harry Chandler Flight Engineer XV & 622 Squadrons

On April 15th 2016 Holybourne resident Cecil Chandler, 'Pop' to all who know him, was presented with a Chevalier Légion d'honneur by the Consul Honoraire of France, Captain Francois Jean, at a special presentation ceremony organized by Alton Town Council. The Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Nigel Atkinson, and his wife were also in attendance.

Pop joined the RAF in 1942 with the promise of a two year course in engineering. This was reduced to six months after which he flew only four operations in the Stirlings, for which he had been trained, before being transferred to the Lancasters. In total he flew 28 operations

Captain Francois Jean spoke of the bravery shown by all the men and women at the D-Day landings. The medal has been awarded to all surviving D-Day veterans for their contribution towards the liberation of France. Pop flew two ops that day, one daylight mission to Ouistreham and the other that night to Lisieux, a communications target.

After WWII Pop remained in the RAF and became a Warrant Officer. He trained as an air traffic controller and was stationed in both France and Germany as well as holding UK postings.

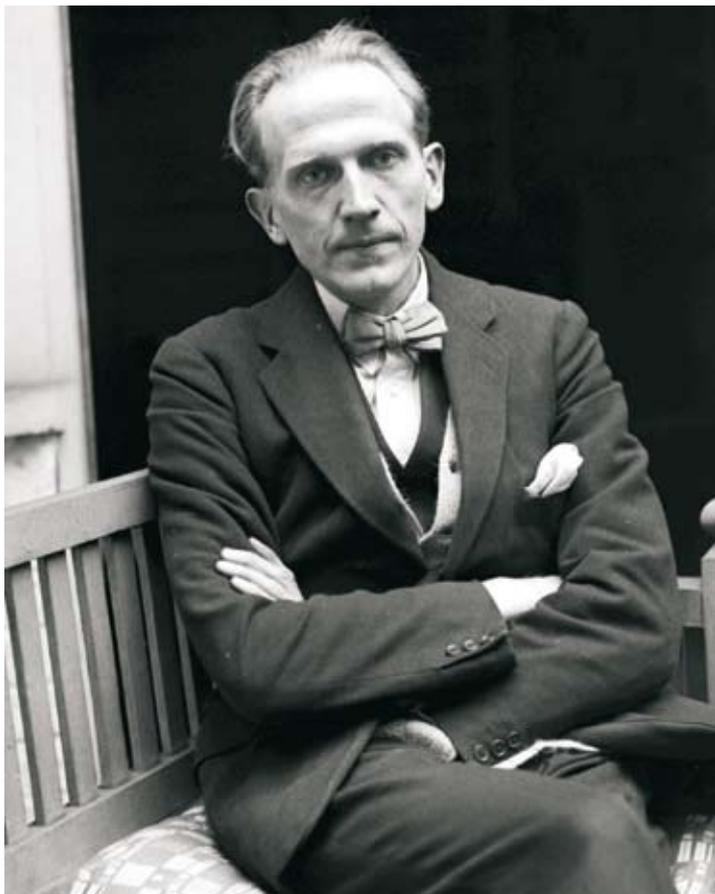
He is still well regarded within the RAF and attends many functions including the annual Mildenhall register reunion, the reformation of 622 squadron last year and XV squadron dinners. He has been invited to Brize Norton for the Battle of Britain memorial dinner and has been asked to give an after dinner speech there.

Though he never married he stayed close to his family, particularly Kay Andrews, and before retiring asked them to find him a home in Holybourne. That was 40 years ago and at the grand age of 93 he can still be seen daily roaming around the village, heading towards the golf course or playing with the dogs at Howards Farm.

David Andrews



Friends of Alton Abbey



The 'real' A A Milne, 1882-1956

An Evening with Sue Morris & Alfred Bradley
Saturday 17th September at 7.30pm

The interesting thing about Alan Alexander Milne is that he is remembered for the wrong thing. By the 1920s he was very well known as a prolific, talented and successful author of plays, novels, short stories and essays. What made him truly famous however, was a silly family story about a teddy bear that became a huge hit. Eventually it rather plagued him, and indeed plagued his son, Christopher, even more. This talk will focus on some of the very enjoyable and diverting (but mostly not 'Pooh') writing by Milne, which display his wider strengths.

This entertaining evening will be held in the Abbey Church with wine, soft drinks and light refreshments served in the garden afterwards.

Tickets are £15, available by post from:

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Coming Soon

We have a great show coming to the theatre that I first saw at the Edinburgh Fringe. Every Brilliant Thing is one of the funniest plays you'll ever see about depression – and possibly one of the funniest plays you'll ever see, full stop. So what is it that makes life brilliant? Ice cream? Rollercoasters? Not worrying too much about what you are spending on holiday because the currency all looks like Monopoly money? The colour yellow?

A boy is making a list for his mother, who has just tried to kill herself. He hopes the list will cheer her up; he wants it to keep her alive and make her realise that life really is worth living. As the years flash by and the boy grows up, goes off to university and falls in love, it becomes apparent that maybe the list might even help him save himself. This one-man show plays for one night only on Thursday 8th September. Tickets are £10 and available online or on the door. Don't miss it...it's brilliant!

Bob Yelland

bobyelland@gmail.com

www.holybournetheatre.co.uk

The Twits

Holybourne Youth Theatre

Any production that kicks off with Madness' Baggy Trousers is aiming to be a crowd-pleaser. And the tone the song set – upbeat, energetic, tongue-in-cheek – was maintained with great success throughout this innovative interpretation of Roald Dahl's children's story.

Holybourne Youth theatre has staged a number of Dahl classics over the years including James and the Giant Peach, The Witches and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The problem with The Twits, according to directors Peter Stone and Heather Davies, was a lack of character roles. How to give parts to the growing number of Youth Theatre members?

A great script hunt ensued and that led to the discovery of a book of six smaller plays, each focussing on different stories within the book. That allowed six pairs of Twits to take to the stage in Holybourne, all played by different children. One minute Mr Twit was tall and gruff. The next he was slight and squeaky. A teenage Mrs Twit was followed by a tiny, elfin version of herself – a hilarious juxtaposition, especially when the elf turned out to have perfect comic timing and a wickedly deep voice.

What's on at Holybourne Theatre?

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"Funny, clever, and surprisingly uplifting." *The Telegraph*

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"Beautifully directed...perfectly cast...deeply personal. I defy anyone not to laugh and cry." *WhatsOnStage*

"Immensely likeable...with great sensitivity behind the abundant laughs." *Evening Standard*



Other roles were shared too. The Mugglewumps multiplied as the show went on, as did the beautifully feathered Roly-Poly bird – lending this lively production an air of comically confusing déjà vu.

Another advantage of the script with multiple short scenes was that it moved the play along at a cracking pace. Before they eventually meet their own sticky end, the Twits revel in their mastery of the delightfully disgusting practical joke. So it was that they progressed rapidly from worm spaghetti to glass eye in a pint of beer to mysterious shrinking cane – gags that had the audience squealing and squirming, and made all the more hilarious by the fact we knew they were coming.

Performances were clear and convincing, each Twit lending their own personal style to the role, supported ably by the animal parts and chorus. How the Mugglewumps managed to lie with their legs in the air for so long will remain a mystery. Costumes were effective but the wigs stole the show – particularly, of course, Mr Twit's famous, food-filled beard. Roald Dahl is said to have disliked men with beards so much that he based his most odious character on a full face of hair, covering eyes, nose and mouth and housing all manner of nasties including blue cheese, sardines and cornflakes.

Each short play was interspersed with a blast of song, performed by the entire cast of at least 30 children. Baggy Trousers was followed, to the audience's delight, by seventies classics Kung Fu Fighting, Help! and Jungle Boogie. Young and old were tapping their thighs in time and singing along. But above all this is a play written for, and performed for, children. Mine loved it. Even better, it seemed that every child performer enjoyed themselves immensely. What more fitting way to remember the great children's author in the year of the centenary of his birth?

Tessa Loughton

Photographs by David Quick



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Curtis Museum & Allen Gallery



The Alton Buckle at Curtis Museum

As Alton's Anglo-Saxon Festival approaches, it is a good time to have a closer look at the museum's most precious artefact, the Alton Buckle.

Found in Grave 16 of the Mount Pleasant Anglo-Saxon cemetery during excavations in 1959-61, the buckle was probably made in Kent, where several others of this type have been found, and it was certainly made by a master craftsman. We do not know exactly how he made the buckle but can make some reasonable assumptions based on what we know of the society of the time. He would have had access to the gold and silver he needed to produce the silver gilt as the Anglo Saxons traded widely throughout Europe and beyond. He probably used a method called fire gilding, which involved grinding together gold leaf and mercury, then making a paste of them and applying a fine coat to the silver. The filigree around the edges was applied by making tiny gold filigree balls into threads, interweaving them and soldering them on to the plate. The gold repoussé of the plate of the triangle was beaten from the front and beaded wires were soldered onto it. It was common in Anglo Saxon times to use animal shapes in jewellery, on buckles like this four shapes are often identified but on this one just two abstract animal shapes (possibly snakes) can be made out, with their heads in the top left corner and centre left of the triangle.

Garnet cloisonné was a popular decoration in Anglo Saxon England and these are almandine garnets, which may have come from the Middle East. Those in the shoulder of the buckle, just above the two side studs, are said to represent birds and those below the tongue are contrasted with shell inlays. The cloisonné decoration was formed by first adding compartments (cloisons in French) to the base by soldering gold wires on their edges. These remained visible in the

finished piece, separating the different compartments of the inlays. The garnets were then applied using glass paste. The glass probably came originally from North Africa or the Middle East, possibly in the form of mosaic stones or glass staves.

Niello is a black paste used as an inlay. In this case silver sulphide was used, which is silver tarnish. It was heated and pressed into the channels between the gold filigree but unfortunately for us the craftsman did not key it in firmly enough and much of it has fallen out.

Buckles like this were worn by men and used to fasten a belt worn around the waist or hips during the 6th and 7th centuries.

Alton Anglo-Saxon Festival

On Saturday 13th August from 10:30 am until 4pm Weorod return to the Curtis Museum for the Annual Alton Anglo-Saxon Festival. Their colourful encampment will be set up in the War Memorial Gardens alongside the Museum. Come for the day and explore the delights of the sixth and seventh centuries, be enchanted by the stunning metalwork of the time, handle replica weaponry, put flesh on the bones of the archaeology from the Alton Mount Pleasant Cemetery and beyond. Immerse yourself and your family in the world of Anglo-Saxon Hampshire. Admission is free.

Family Fun Fete at the Allen Gallery

On Saturday 20th August from 11.00 am to 5.30pm join the Friends of the Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery for their annual fete in the garden. Fun, games, cups of tea and cake! Entry is free.

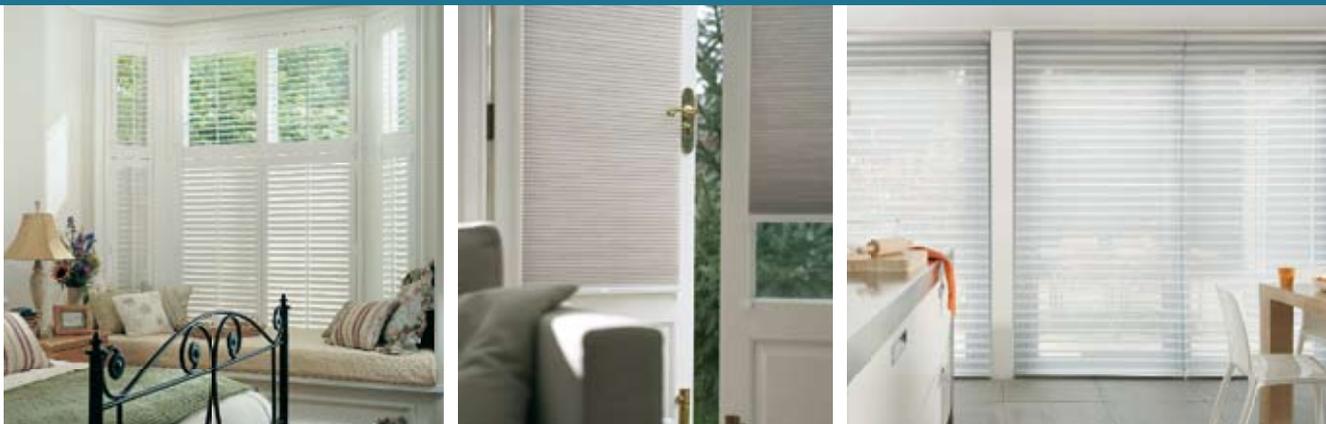
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The busiest months for feeding are here
 Bill says summer bird feeding is cool
 Food shortages can happen any time of year
 And birds will perish as a rule

So do please join me as a backyard birder
 Their singing is pure joy to hear
 And nothing's so great or more absurder
 Once they know you and come so near

Vernon Burford

Obituary

Margaret Rose Oakley 1936 - 2016

Holybourne has lost one of its oldest villagers. Margaret Rose Oakley, or Betty to her firends, is believed by her family to have been named after Princess Margaret. Betty was born at number 4, Church Lane (numbers two and four are now one house) on 17th September 1936, to Rufus and Dolly Oakley. Rufus, known as Bob, was a bricklayer for Mylwards and Son, the local building firm where later his eldest and youngest sons were also to work.

Betty never married but lived at 4, Church Lane until September 1973. She attended Holybourne Church of England School (now Andrews' Endowed) until she was 11 years old then Alton County Secondary School (now Amery Hill), until she was 15. On leaving school she worked at the old Reliance laundry in Ackender Road, Alton, biking every day in all weathers. When the laundry closed down she joined the cleaning staff at the Alton General Hospital, progressing to Head of General Cleaning. When this closed she went to work at Treloar Hospital, taking time off only to nurse her dying father and take care of her younger brother, David.



Betty and David finally left Church Lane after 37 years and moved into number 3, Lower Neatham Mill Lane. Later David married their neighbour, Jane, but Betty continued to live there until her health necessitated a move to the Quinta Nursing home in Bentley, where she spent the last five years of her life.

Betty enjoyed her life in Holybourne, being a lifelong member of the local Women's Institute and supporting all village events. She loved having her family around her and with her neighbour, Jane's mother Mrs Palmer, regularly watched tennis on the television. She also enjoyed days out with her other neighbours, the late Roy and Betty Goddard.

Betty died on 18th April 2016 in the Quinta Nursing home and was cremated on 6th May at Aldershot crematorium where relations and friends attended the service.

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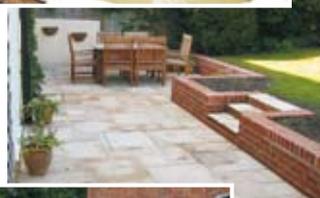
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From the Rectory



Introducing our new Curate The Revd Chris Bradish

I was delighted to welcome Chris Bradish and his family to the parish this summer. Chris was ordained on July 3rd 2016 in Winchester Cathedral at a service led by the Bishop of Winchester. He is part of a large group (16) of newly ordained people who will serve curacies across Winchester Diocese and it's exciting to have him and his family with us. A curacy is a training post and he will work across all our congregations as well as serve our wider community. We look forward to receiving from him as he ministers among us. Chris is married to Naomi, who worked as a social worker before having their two children Peter, 3, and Juliette, 18 months. They are living in the Vicarage at Holybourne.

I asked Chris a few questions.

Where did you grow up and what were you doing before your training?

I was born and raised in Reading. I'm from a big family (the eldest of five) and both my sisters still live in the town so it's always good to go back. Naomi grew up in sunnier climes on a farm in Clovelly, North Devon, so whilst it takes us a bit longer to get there, it's always an amazing place to be.

Before training, I worked as a lawyer in London. I trained for ministry at Ripon College, Cuddesdon, four miles south of Oxford. I trained there for three years and we were part of the residential student community. This meant we lived,

studied, ate and worked alongside all the other students and staff on campus. There were about sixty of us training across the year groups plus families, spouses, staff, a vast array of pets and five nuns - it was an extraordinary experience! Before moving to Oxford we were living in Winchester and before that, Basingstoke, so we know the surrounding area a little.

How have you settled into the Vicarage?

We've settled really quickly, we love village life in Holybourne as well as all that Alton has to offer. Everyone's made us feel incredibly welcome which has made all the difference. Peter and Juliette are enjoying feeding the ducks at Holy Rood pond and I'm enjoying using my bike again as well as the various coffee shops around town, (which I've missed since living in the countryside).

What are you looking forward to?

We're looking forward to making new friends, having fun and getting to know the area. It's been an incredible few weeks following my ordination in July. I'm amazed at how much is going on around the parish - there's loads to learn - and it'll be good to just be involved with as much as possible.

I'm also looking forward to thinking through and exploring with others how we can express our hope and faith in Jesus joyfully and confidently within our wider community.

As for the children, they'd like chickens, which could be fun! (We may need some advice, Andrew!). Peter starts at Holybourne pre-school in September and I know he's looking forward to it.

And hobbies...?

All sports, the outdoors, kites, cinema, birds of prey and surfing. Naomi's just started training with the Alton Netball team and is enjoying having a garden for the first time (we've only ever lived in flats prior to moving here). Other than that it's the usual really - good food, company and hanging out with friends and family.



Do look out for Chris and the family on Sundays and if you see them around town, please do say hello!

Revd Andrew Micklefield

01420 88794

andrew-micklefield@gmail.com

Local Paralympic Champion heads for Rio



Georgie Hermitage is European Paralympic champion in her class for the 100 metres, 200 metres and 400 metres and World Paralympic champion in the 400 metres. Georgie has a form of cerebral palsy, a condition affecting muscle control and movement, which affects one in every 400 children in the UK. Born in Guildford, Georgie now lives just outside Holybourne with partner Ricky and daughter Tilly, 3, and trains regularly at local club Mint Condition. Georgie's journey to success has been remarkable and rapid. After being classified as eligible for para-sport in 2013, she turned professional in 2014 and won her first gold medals just a year later. But her career as an athlete almost never happened, as she explained to Holybourne and Neatham magazine editor Tessa Laughton during a rare break from training.

How did it all start?

"I was quite sporty as a child. Because of the nature of my disability, I was no good at throwing or catching – that was just dangerous – but I was always a good runner. School sports day was always my favourite day of the year. And after I'd moved up to secondary school, I joined Guildford and Godalming Athletics Club at Guildford Spectrum.

I'd been there for a year or so when my coach asked if I would consider disability sport, maybe even the Paralympics, and suggested that I might be able to qualify. It sounds strange but my mother had never told me what my condition was. I was always told that my hand was a bit weak and my leg was a bit weak but that was it. I didn't know the real nature of it. I didn't know that it was on the cerebral palsy spectrum.

So when the coach said this to me as a 14-year-old girl, I didn't handle it very well. Like most teenagers I was worried about what people thought and what I looked like. I didn't want someone highlighting what was wrong with me. So I walked off the track and didn't go back for 10 years. I just shut off from running and life moved on.

When I finished school I had various jobs including working in the office at the Hog's Back Brewery, and it wasn't until London 2012 that I even thought about running again. My partner, Ricky,

was really keen to watch the Olympics. I wasn't that interested but he dragged me along – and thank God he did.

London was amazing. It inspired a generation. It definitely made me look at things differently. We watched Mo Farah win the 5000m and I started to reconsider my decisions of 10 years earlier and wonder if they had been the right ones. We were walking back to the tube station that night and I told Ricky what had happened in my teens. He knew I had a weak arm and leg because there are certain day-to-day things I can't do. But I'd never told him everything because I'd tried to block it out. It was something I'd considered negative. But he said: "This could be amazing. Let's get you classified."

Every Paralympic athlete has to go through a classification process to make sure they are eligible to meet the disability criteria and to assess which sport class describes their activity limitation most accurately. Georgie was classed as a T37.

"The classes T31 - 38 relate to track and field athletes with cerebral palsy or other conditions that affect muscle co-ordination and control. T37 is cerebral palsy with one side affected. The name for it is hemiplegia. I'm left-side affected hemiplegic.

"The majority in my classification are hemiplegic. Most are congenital but there are also stroke victims since strokes can cause a very similar condition. It affects me mainly biomechanically. My foot fractures a lot: because I don't have an arch in it, it falls around all over the place. My balance is poor. My coordination is poor. My muscle tone on the left side is severely lacking compared to the right. I don't really work my right leg at the gym because it does enough as it is. All I do is work on my left side. But you will still see a huge difference between the left and the right.

"I was pregnant with Tilly in 2012 when I was tested. She was born in November and I was diagnosed with post-natal depression shortly afterwards. I got quite low. But I never forgot the conversation I'd had with Ricky. I started going to the gym in the January. That really helped mentally and emotionally and I began to feel normal again. Once I was classified in June 2013, I was told I could compete nationally in this classification. I started training again in June, competed in the Cerebral Palsy National Championships in September and broke the British record by two seconds. It was all a bit nutty. British Athletics found out and took over and it all exploded from there, really."

What's your motivation now? As a world record holder and gold medallist, is it a desire to break more records or is it something else?

"There was a time when I first entered running again, after that first National Championships, when British Athletics called me and said 'What do you want to do? What do you think you're capable of?' I think I was about two seconds off the world record for 400m at the time and I said 'Well I think I can break the world record.'

I was quite blasé about it then but that's what I wanted to do. Then after 2013 I stress fractured my left foot and lost my whole 2014 season to injury. When I came back at the end of 2014, my

coach asked me the same question and I said: 'I'm not sure if I am capable of breaking this world record. I just want to go out and run well.' Then, of course, 2015 was amazing. We broke the world record four times."

In 2015 Georgie qualified for the 2015 IPC Athletics World Championships in Doha. She took the gold in the 400m final, beating the world records she had set in Berlin in June and London in July.

How did it feel to break those records, to have achieved more than you were aiming for?

"I'd had a hard 2013 and 2014. So when 2015 finally came round it was my first proper season. When we went to Berlin in June for the IPC Grand Prix and I broke the world record for the 400m, I was in a mixed classification race and I just tried to pace it really well. I'm still learning how to run the 400 properly. I remember looking at the clock and I think I fell on the floor and started crying like a baby! It was just relief. Relief and faith in the process.

"You asked me what I run for now. Without Tilly, I doubt I would have had the fight in me to keep going, to train day in day out. I want to leave her memories, stories to tell her children and be a positive female role model. This year's been really good. I had the Euros in June where I lowered the record again and I broke the 200m but I've not been able to run since June because I've got more fluid in the bone of the old fracture site. So I've had to take a month off and I'm only just getting back into running now. And obviously Rio is very, very close. I'm slightly scared. But, again, I've just got to have faith in the process, that British Athletics are looking after me and that I'm going to be all right. I just want to go there and if I can medal in my events, then that's enough."

Tell me about your training schedule.

"I have one day off a week, Saturday. I have gym sessions on Mondays and Wednesdays when I train with Nick at Mint Condition. Tuesdays I'm on the track at Binsted recreation ground. Thursdays I'm at physio and on the track. Friday I train on my own at the gym. And Sunday I'm back on the track."

How do you juggle your career with being a mother?

"I don't really! I try to fit it all in. I'm so grateful to Holybourne pre-school where Tilly, who's three and a half, goes in the mornings. She loves preschool. It's the best. I just wish she could go every day. Tilly's very active. On the days she's not at school I sometimes take her to the crèche at Alton sports centre while I train there."

What does the future hold for you?

"The original plan was to get to Rio then stop, but once you start it's addictive. I haven't had a full cycle between Olympics yet, due to the injuries. So if, after Rio, I got to go to the 2017 World Championships in London, that would be amazing.

And after that, if my body can and if I have the will, I'd love to go to Tokyo in 2020. I just really want to get there. Then maybe I'll sign off and do something else."

You can see Georgie and her fellow Paralympians on the C4 'Dare to Believe' shorts series, available at: www.channel4.com/programmes/catchup/c4

The Rio Paralympics is 7 - 18 September.

For more information on cerebral palsy, see the NHS website www.nhs.uk/conditions/cerebral-palsy

Photos: British Athletics / Getty Images



COMMUNITY SPORTS BAG SCHEME



Alton Town Council is offering a scheme to encourage families in Alton to come together and take part in a variety of sports in the Town's open spaces.

Community Sports Bags are available to hire for:
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Bookings require a £25.00 damage/loss refundable deposit and proof of ID and address.

Bags include: Football, Basketball, Cricket Bat, Bean Bags, Bat & Ball, pair of Hockey Sticks & Ball, Rounders Bat, Frisbee, Skipping Rope, Velcro Mitt Catch Set. Additional equipment can be booked upon request including a Rainbow Parachute, Skittles, Rugby Ball and Netball.

For bookings contact Alton Town Council:
 Tel: 01420 83986 or email events@alton.gov.uk
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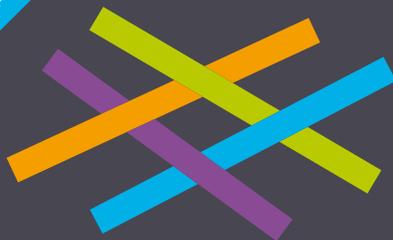
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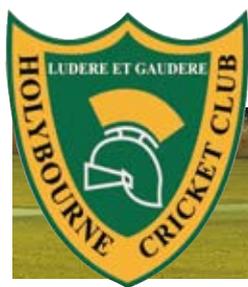
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Holybourne Cricket Club



The 2016 season is well underway with surprisingly few games lost to the weather, although we have on occasion played through the showers – they have been frequent and heavy!

The colt teams have finished their season of league fixtures and we are happy to report some great performances on the field from our youngsters. Again, many thanks to Paul Taylor, Paul Allen, Rob Milner and all the coaches and parents who support the Friday night training and help organise things on match days.

Many of the older colts will continue to play for the senior teams throughout the summer with the league season ending for everyone on 27th August. At the halfway stage our two senior teams are sitting mid-table, a great achievement for the 1st IX who were promoted last season.

The final game of the season will be the Chairman's game on bank holiday Sunday, 28th August 2016. The Chairman's game is a very social and fun event for Holybourne and you can expect to see players and non-players of every

age and ability getting involved. In this, our 21st year, we will be running all sorts of games during the day and in the evening so please put the date on your calendar. More information to follow.

We are grateful to Charlotte Murrell and our friends on the HVA Committee for working with the cricket club to run several activities associated with our 21st birthday celebrations alongside the Holybourne Summer Fest. Thanks to everyone who attended and supported the club.

The final event of the year will be the Colt Awards and the Senior Awards for 2016. This will take place on Friday 16th September at the pavilion and the bar and BBQ will be open.

Our best wishes to those of you jetting off on your summer holidays and don't forget to pack a bat and ball for the beach. Have a great time with your friends and families and be sure to come back refreshed and ready to start net practice for the 2017 season!

Peter Robinson, Chairman and the Committee of HCC.

Holybourne Veterans' Football Club



A Steady season

After a good start to 2015/16, we continued with the rich vein of form (as noted in the spring edition), competing to quarter finals in the Invitation and League cups respectively. Unfortunately a spate of injuries combined with bad weather took their toll on our ageing legs and we were well beaten by quicker, younger veterans. However our league form was consistent and Jubilee playing fields, our short term fortress, became our home pitch, as adverse weather affecting the hallowed turf of the 'theatre of moles', continued through to the end of the season.

Our most notable performance was away to the current and eventual champions Ropley, who had yet to lose or even to concede a goal before meeting us. On a wet, cold December morning, a strong squad took on the mighty Ropley. After early home pressure Ropley took the lead but we hit back with two quick fire goals, taking the game by the scruff of the neck and draining the confidence of the

home opposition. Level at half time, we took the lead to go three-two but eventually the younger legs of the opposition proved the deciding factor and they scored three scrappy late goals. We were beaten but proud and received plenty of plaudits from the eventual champions.

We finished our league campaign strongly in a respectable fourth place (out of eight). The top two sides, with relatively new and young teams, have now been promoted, leaving Holybourne in good shape for the season ahead.

We plan to start pre-season training on the first Sunday in August at Holybourne playing fields. If you are over 35 and are not quite ready to hang your boots up yet, please come along and take part. Not only do we play football but we

also enjoy social drink afterwards.

William Ponsonby,
Holybourne Veterans'
Football Club



Number 9 is our departing club secretary, creative left back and magazine contributor, Scott Fowler, in one of his last games for the Veterans

Village Hall News



The most significant news to report since the last magazine is that the Millennium mosaics are finally back at the village hall and once more on display. These were originally commissioned by the Holybourne Village Association and created by talented local artist Lucy Yendell. They were then gifted to the village hall in 2000 and, as many of you will remember, displayed on the wall outside the hall for some years. Unfortunately, the weather has not been kind to them and it transpired that they are by no means weatherproof. A team of local mosaic enthusiasts, led by Shirley Stephens and Jan Christian, offered to restore them and made a wonderful job of it. Both mosaics have now been mounted in the lobby inside the hall to protect them. Our thanks to Shirley, Jan and their team for all their hard work.

Our spring fundraising quiz was held on 12th March this year and we raised a fantastic £522.45 towards village hall funds. We hope everyone enjoyed this event and look forward to seeing you at our next quiz, scheduled for Saturday 26th November. Thanks to all those who helped

with the organising and running of the evening. If anyone would like a stab at setting the questions for the next quiz, please get in touch with us using the contact details below.

In mid-May, a teenager's birthday party at the hall was gatecrashed and things got out of hand, with the police even being called. Word had apparently spread on social media and many uninvited guests turned up, some with alcohol, completely overwhelming the two adults trying to run the party. The trustees took the unprecedented step of terminating the booking early. Many apologies to our neighbours who were inconvenienced by rowdy and possibly intoxicated teenagers. We will be introducing a "teenage party policy" stipulating minimum numbers of adults to supervise and outlining precautions to be taken to try to stop this from happening again. While we have no wish to ban this sort of party, we do have a responsibility to our neighbours and will take action should circumstances dictate.

Very sadly, two of our trustees will be retiring from the management committee. We'd like to thank Karen Bennett and Heather Ongley for all the hard work they put in to ensure they left the village hall in a better state than they found it - both will be sorely missed. However, we're also pleased to be able to welcome Lis Gray as a new trustee, and are looking forward to working with her and to the new views and energy she will bring to the committee.

In terms of housekeeping, on 28th May, another 'work party' tackled the garden weeds. Betty's bench was repainted, and the radiators in the main hall were "mucked out" amongst many other minor tasks. Our 5-yearly fixed electrical installation inspection identified some remedial work which we will have done over the summer, and plans are underway on the kitchen refurbishment, currently due to start in the Christmas holidays.

Keep up to date with events at the hall on Facebook or see the village hall news bulletins on our noticeboard. Enquiries or queries should be sent via the Facebook page or via email: villagehall@holybourne.com

Ben Kemp, Chairman, Trustees of Holybourne Village Hall

www.holybourne.com/Vil_hall.html
www.flametip.com/hvhbook.htm



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Vickie Kemp
 01420 549074 / 07737 369803
villagehall@holybourne.com

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Select the 'LOCAL' option, then 'Village Hall' option, and click on the availability link.

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