

New Milton & District Community Association



NEWSLETTER

Address: Osborne Road, New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 6EA
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Registered charity No. 301897

JUNE, 2018

Sections And Activities

Art
Ballroom Dancing
Bowls
Bridge
Canasta
Chess
Come Dancing
Craft
Cribbage
Darts
Discussion Group
Fabric Crafts
Jubilee Singers
Languages
Line Dancing
Literature
Lunch Club
Mah Jong
Mens Get Together
NM & District Camera Club
Pianists
Poetry
Rummikub
Scrabble
Sequence Dancing
Social Sequence Dancing
Table Tennis

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Well, since for some reason none of us received an invite to THE wedding, I hope you all enjoyed seeing it on TV. A grand showbiz "spot the celebrity" event. We certainly can stage things with pomp and pageantry, all timed to the minute, with the sunshine showing Windsor at its best to the watching world. I'm sure we all want Diana's son to find happiness and so our wishes go to the Duke and Duchess of Sussex for a fulfilling married life.

A final reminder of our AGM - 7 p.m. Friday, **8th June**. Please do your best attend and provide a responsive audience.

Last month's Newsletter carried a Consent Form to be completed in regard to the new General Data Protection Regulation. It is not repeated in this issue but the forms are available in Reception. **It is essential that all members complete and return the form.**

Sections Please Note:

A query has been raised regarding the procedure if a Section cannot persuade members to serve on its committee. **The directive is that a Section needs to have a Chairman, Treasurer and Membership Secretary, although a Memsec may not be necessary if the Treasurer takes responsibility for collecting and counting the session fees.** Without these key people the Section has to revert to being an Activity, which

means that any monies collected by the group is handed over entirely to the Community Centre.

It is a great pity that, whilst there is a demand for entertainment and activities to stimulate the mind and body, members won't come forward to help run them. Surely the responsibility involved can't be that onerous or time-consuming?

Please see page 5 for the Come Dancing Special Appeal.

I was very pleased to receive from member Joan Coup an absorbing article covering her experiences as a wartime evacuee - all the more evocative to me as I, too, was an evacuee. I feel sure that Joan's story will make interesting, enlightening reading for many members. Too long to take up space in one issue so you will find the first instalment on page 8, concluding next month. Perhaps at some time I will recount my own couple of years as an evacuee. It might surprise some of you that many of us children found the war a rather exciting time, but so it was - new environment, new friends, new experiences, either ignoring or unaware of the danger.

Last month's Town Council Annual Meeting saw the re-election of Councillor David Rice-Mundy as Town

Website: <http://www.newmiltoncommunity.org.uk>
Email: info@newmiltoncommunity.org.uk

Mayor, with Councillor Alvin Reid as his Deputy. At an earlier meeting Doris Stanley received the richly-deserved Citizen of the Year award. Involved with St. Mary Magdalene Parish Church for many years, Doris is a Church Warden and tireless fundraiser. Our own Jubilee Singers Conductor, Janet Trow, also received a commendation for her charity work. Both an example of those who give their time and effort, largely behind the scenes, for the good of the community. What **would** we do without such people?

I am always drawn to historical programmes and have been watching Tony Robinson's series on our cathedrals. His coverage of Winchester Cathedral was naturally of particular interest and I found myself wishing that I, these days, had the mobility and stamina to go and see it all for myself. I **was** invited there years ago for a special event but didn't have the opportunity to wander around. I didn't even know that Jane Austen is buried there!

Of course, our history books tell us that Winchester was the original capital of England. Apparently the first cathedral, built in 600 hundred and something, was demolished to make way for the striking edifice we see today, and its outline can still be seen in the grounds. Then along came William The Conqueror in 1066 who set about building a new cathedral, authorising trees from the surrounding forest to be cut down to provide timber needed for the roof. However, when he realised

that this exercise resulted in virtual destruction of his hunting ground he instantly ordered that a "new" forest be planted up for his pleasure. The name stuck - hence we have the New Forest to enjoy today. Hope you enjoyed this mini history lesson!

Phyllis Inglis

FROM THE ACTING CHAIRMAN

As you will read in Colin Bower's report on the latest Executive Committee Meeting, we again discussed the lack of new volunteers and the possibility of recruiting a part-time paid **Centre Coordinator** for a trial period of 4 months. After much discussion, the proposal was accepted and **Geoff Tilston will take up this post on 1st June.**

He will be responsible for overseeing the running of the Centre as a whole, including maintenance and caretakers' duties. Of course it will take him a little while to get established, but he does hope to be the person who everyone goes to if they need help or advice, thus relieving Treasurer John Revill of these day-to-day queries so that he can concentrate on his own very important, time-consuming job of looking after our finances. I am sure Geoff will gradually make himself known to you all and he will, of course, be at the AGM.

To date I have not seen any committee nominations for the AGM which is almost upon us. We do need a full Executive Committee to keep the Centre

running so do **please look at the notice board and vote for at least one person.**

Marie Morgan

FROM THE EXECUTIVE

At our April meeting members asked for more time to consider the proposal to employ a paid part-time Centre Manager on a trial basis of 12 months, after which comments were submitted to the Chairman and a revised proposal put forward for a paid part-time Centre Coordinator on a trial basis of **four** months.

At the same time, in our Newsletters members were asked to consider volunteering for the vacancies of both Chairman and Maintenance Coordinator. The annual committee nominations procedure was posted on the noticeboard but, **by our May meeting there had been no response whatsoever!**

Accordingly, following a full discussion the **new role of Centre Coordinator was approved by a clear majority. Geoff Tilston was offered the position and accepted. He will commence on 1st June** and seek to develop the Centre, to attract more members and hirers. He will also wish to talk to members, sections, activities and volunteers to obtain their views. and provide a point of contact for everyone. Following Geoff's appointment, Marie Morgan has agreed to stand as Chairman.

The Executive then went on to discuss preparations for the AGM and received a detailed report from the Treasurer on our

financial performance in 2017. Other topics discussed were the Consent Forms needed for the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as well as maintenance activities planned and underway.

Colin Bower, Minutes Sec.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP SEC.

After each group has met for the month, I collect completed Attendance Sheets from Reception. It is, therefore, important that they are returned in due time. Details of new members who have joined a group can then be added, corrections made, etc. before printing off the new Attendance Sheet ready for your first meeting of the following month.

If your group contact details have changed, please give them on the sheet for updating.

The membership number is used to check the list each month to ensure that only those who have paid up have the benefit of being an Association member. Sometimes the number provided doesn't match the name, so it helps if a post code can also be included.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Nigel King

FROM THE WEBMASTER

At its meeting next month the Men's Get Together group will mark its 50th anniversary. Did those attending that first meeting expect it to be still running today?

How interesting it would be to read what they discussed, was it well attended from the start, etc.

It is only after some years have passed that importance is placed

on what was considered as **unimportant** at that time. This is true of our monthly Newsletter, and so copies covering the past few years are being made available on the website. If you find any old issues please let me know and a copy can be added to the online collection.

Nigel King

FROM THE SOCIAL SEC. Wanted! Apprentice music presenters for Mondays from 2 to 4 p.m. There are three cases of CDs so no need for your own music - just put on and play! Expert tuition given.

Many thanks to Barbara and Ben for the first Christmas tree donation. Very kind of you to think of the Centre. We need one more, if possible - self-opening - and I will be very grateful to hear from you.

Pam Badcock, 01202 980177

APPEAL FOR RECEPTIONISTS

We are in need of additional help, **particularly for Thursday/Friday mornings**. Many of our receptionists have their regular sessions but some flexibility is useful to cover unavoidable absences. On-the-job training will be given. If you think you can offer us a little time to help keep the Centre running smoothly, please contact Gill Ferguson on 612612, nmcomass@gmail.com.

NOTICE BOARDS -

For the attention of Chairmen, Secretaries/group organisers.

The foyer notice boards have been reorganised. Part of this process was to ascertain what was currently displayed and how it

benefited everyone. In addition and most importantly, serious consideration was given to the impression the notice boards make on visitors. Findings from the exercise are worth listing:-

- Hand-written notices are generally of poor quality and don't give a good impression.
- Spelling and grammatical mistakes are common.
- There are just over 40 groups and only 15 A4 spaces (30 A5) available.
- A few groups don't put notices on the board at all.
- All groups have an entry in the Centre brochure.
- Group notices are mainly produced in single copy, specifically for the board.
- All groups are entitled to place an entry of their monthly events/activities or any other pertinent information in the Newsletter.
- Groups are encouraged to provide timely information for the website.
- Affiliates often join the Association and pay a fee simply to have their notices displayed (this brings in income and helps keep the cost of group activities low).
- Many notices contain outdated information.
- There is a predominance of notices of some types of groups which give a biased impression of our activities.
- Some Group notices have become faded with time.

In order to be fair and give everyone the opportunity to post a notice, **it is suggested that**

Groups provide A5-sized notices in future. This will enable visitors to see the wide range of activities we have on offer and provide backup information to the pictures of activities displayed on the opposite wall. Those groups who do not wish to provide copy themselves will have a simple notice produced showing the times of their regular meetings where space on the board allows,

Please produce an A5 notice of your activity and, as is the usual procedure, leave it in Reception for it to be displayed when the boards are updated.

Thank you for your cooperation.

TECHNICS ELECTRONIC ORGAN FOR SALE

We wish to find a good home for the organ currently located in the Common Room. This was kindly donated but has had little use, so the donors are happy for us to pass it on now that we have been given a piano for that room. The organ is in generally fine order but has a minor fault on the high F# key. Used instruments of this quality sell for up to £300, the original cost being in four figures. It was felt that, before we advertise it externally, anyone involved in our Centre should have an opportunity to take advantage of this sale, so we are asking for blind offers exceeding £80. Purchaser will need to arrange transport from the Centre after 30th June, closing date of the auction. Take a look at the instrument and try it out. Write your offer on a piece of paper with name and phone number; leave your bid with Reception in a SEALED envelope with the word "Organ" on it.

CAKE DAY

15th June 10 to 11.30 a.m., tea/coffee and cake at 85P! Also on **13th July.**

FILM SHOW

17th June. Film to be advised so check the foyer notice board.

John Fogerty

DANCING HOLIDAY

16th/21st December at Mayfair Hotel, Bournemouth. A few vacancies, so call Dee on 627922.

WENDY'S CAFÉ

It is understood that this long-established, popular venue has now closed due to termination of the lease. It will be much-missed by many "regulars".

Please, not another charity shop!!

POLICE SURGERY

10.30 a.m. Wednesday, **27th June**, from a police vehicle on Station Road.

News from the Sections & Activities

BALLROOM/LATIN/SOME SEQUENCE

Contact: Pam Badcock, 01202 980177

Sadly, Monday Afternoon Dancing has lost one of its DJs due to an accident. This leaves us with only two and a heavy load since they do every other week, and then there are holidays. Both of Monday's DJs are also on the team for Thursday night. I am afraid that if we don't get another volunteer we may find the strain is too much, which may lead to others giving up. We have three cases of discs so no need for your

own music. You will get expert help to learn about the player.

So how about it, boys and girls? We all love our dancing and want it to continue.

BOWLS

Contact: Secretary Janet Keats, 614996

The John Chambers Memorial Cup competition final was between Jill Hennah and John Donelan. After a tightly-fought contest John edged in front of Jill to become the first winner of this trophy. The competition will be an annual event.

Our AGM was held on 9th May and the current committee will continue with additional member Alan Bolton.

We have approached Milford-On-Sea Bowling Club regarding a weekly outdoor session and a starting date. Details will be posted on our notice board.

BRIDGE

Contact: Christopher Fradd, 614605

Winners of the Social Bridge in April were Brian and Jean Sherrad, with runners-up Joan Bryant and Joyce Rooker. Our 19th May date was cancelled because of rival attractions commanding even keen bridge players' attention that day. Social Bridge this month will be on Saturday, **16th** at 1.30 p.m. but please arrive a bit earlier so that we can make a prompt start.

Sadly I have to report the recent death of Hal Croxson who had been a regular rubber bridge player until he had to take up

residence in a nursing home. **He will be remembered as having been one of the last surviving bomber pilots of WW2.**

DISCUSSION GROUP

Contacts: Bob Dowling, 838523;
Colin Bower, 613254

We had a group of nine at our May meeting, held during those hot days at the start of the month. There was a wide-ranging discussion from the resignation of Arsene Wenger at Arsenal to replacing the National Anthem!

Our next meeting will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday, **12th June**, when we will discuss the following:-

1. Should the UK get involved in other countries' problems?
2. Should the "smacking" law in England (where parents retain the defence of "reasonable punishment" when necessary) be changed in line with Scotland and Wales where hitting a child is illegal under any circumstances?
3. Should the UK parole system and the rules on sentencing be reviewed?
4. With an increase in gun and knife crime and random acts of terrorism by individuals, should we reconsider arming police?

If you would like to give your views on these topics and/or hear what others have to say, why not use the taster voucher and come along. We will be glad to see you.

COME DANCING APPEAL

As many of you will undoubtedly realise, this section is now facing a

serious crisis in that we are without a Chairperson and Membership Secretary, yet appeals for volunteers to come forward have brought no response.

It is time to take stock and ask ourselves how much do we value our Tuesday night dancing, parties, music and general social evenings which continue throughout the year with the help of people prepared to give a little time to ensure that these events happen. Our committee

members, music presenters and helpers have remained loyal over the years and are very dedicated to ensure the dancing, Newsletter writeups, finances and meetings not only run smoothly but are enjoyed by all. There is only so much that each person can give, however! Dave and I held our first music evening on 1st August, 2006, long before we actually moved into the New Milton area, and Richard and Doreen were already well on the scene at that time. Yes, we enjoy our dancing but it takes time to research, prepare and present each evening - nothing just happens! As many of you are aware, we also rescued the Friday afternoon Mary Magdalene Tea Dance when it faced closure and successfully transferred it weekly as an Activity to the Centre in March, 2012. Thanks to volunteers, who not only give up their time on and off-site to present the music, man the door and prepare schedules, this weekly Thursday afternoon dance is still very successful. Please bear in mind that, for each dance, the music presenters provide

entertainment generally once a month!

It is obvious that our section cannot carry on as it is unless more people are prepared to put themselves forward, so it may be only a matter of time before the remaining committee members and, quite possibly, the music presenters will start to question why they should continue to carry such a burden week after week. This would inevitably cause the section to close.

It is possible that our section could convert to an Activity, whereby no committee would be required. However, volunteers are still essential in order for it to function. As an Activity we would undoubtedly lose many of our current benefits, i.e. there is no guarantee we would always retain use of the Jubilee Room, we could easily be rescheduled to the Common Room. There would be no extra funds available to subsidise Larry Green or party evenings, and it would not be possible to hold the annual Christmas supper without charging extra to attend.

Think hard! Do you really want to risk losing the use of our wonderful ballroom? Please contact a committee member and offer help before it is too late.

Dave and Dee Mullinger

The Come Dancing Spring Dance was well-supported and enjoyed by all. Congratulations to raffle and spot prize winners. We were very pleased to welcome visitors on the evening and hope that they, too, enjoyed themselves.

June, 07791 336446

JUBILEE SINGERS

Contact: Liz Northcote,
621519

Our special concert to celebrate St. George's Day was a great success, enjoyed by the choir itself as well as the audience. We must, therefore, thank Sheila Lead for her hard work in organising the event, sorting out the music and refreshments.

Tickets for the first of our two Summer Concerts were sold out, so we had a good audience. Our programme of songs from musicals included several solo performances, a piano duet and Janet Trow's amusing anecdotes. Averil Meek also read a poem. She has been having some hearing problems lately but is now recovering and will hopefully re-join us after our summer break. A vote of thanks was given by Town Mayor David Rice-Mundy.

We wish to thank everyone who helped with the refreshments and volunteers who manned the door - all very much appreciated.

LANGUAGES

German - June

Contact: Susanne Platt,
612680

susanneplatt@talktalk.net

Improvers: 10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays.

Beginners: 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Have you got the beginnings (or more) of German and

would like to extend your knowledge of the language? If so, why not come for a free taster session to find out more? You will be very welcome.

Spanish - June

Contact: Ann Humphries
ana_humphries@hotmail.com

Conversation: 10 a.m. 1 hr.

Beginners: 11.15 a.m. 1 hr.
Mondays 4, 11, 18, 25.

Improvers: 10 a.m. 1 hr.

Beginners: 11.15 a.m. 1 hr.
Fridays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

LINE DANCING

JUBILEE STOMPERS

Contact: Chairman John Fogerty,
622274

This seems to be the time for annual meetings and the Jubilee Stompers held theirs on 4th May. Alan Joy was in the chair and, after welcoming those present, gave his last report in that capacity, as follows:-

"We have had a very busy year with a Spring party afternoon and Summer afternoon cream tea dance which was very successful.

The Christmas Party was a lot of fun with plenty of laughter and things to eat. Through the afternoons Nikki kept us all dancing.

Once again the Funday in April at Hoburne Bashley was a success with 97 people attending to enjoy social dancing and dance workshops with Karl. As a result of our raffle we were delighted to make a donation of £150 to Oakhaven Hospice in memory of Rose Alcock.

We started a beginners' class which is very well attended with

new enthusiasts. Thank you, Nikki!

The committee has worked hard sorting out all the different events, so a big "thank you" to everyone, with special thanks to Nancy for looking after the books".

Having ended his report, Alan reminded us that he and Rita were standing down from the committee. We have all benefited from their commitment and ideas and, happily, will still have them dancing with us on Friday afternoons. Rita and Alan then surprised Nancy, Gill, Nikki and Ann with thank-you gifts.

John Fogerty, who was unable to attend the meeting, has said he is willing to take on the Chair of our section, for which we thank him.

A committee list will be posted on our notice board for your information. Please don't forget that if you have a grumble let us know. Equally, we love to hear when all is well!

POETRY

Contact: Shirley Burke, 628992

Our section meets at 10.30 a.m. in Room One on the third Thursday of each month. The meeting lasts about an hour and a half during which time we read poems we have chosen on that month's topic. Some people occasionally read poems they have written themselves; others just like to sit and listen.

Our meeting this month is on **21st June**, which is the Summer

Solstice, and so we have chosen "Night/Day" as an appropriate topic.

Please do join us - you will be made very welcome.

SOCIAL SEQUENCE

Contact: Dee, 627922

Come rain or shine we meet in the Jubilee Room every Thursday for an afternoon of mixed sequence dancing. It is good to meet up with like-minded people who enjoy a little gentle exercise, both physical and mental - especially when trying to recall the many dance routines we have learnt. Each week heralds a different music presenter who compiles his/her own repertoire of dances, some traditional, others more up to date and perhaps a little more challenging.

A great social workout!

TABLE TENNIS

Contact: Secretary Gloria Lovelock, 613705

nmdca.tabletennis@btinternet.com

Thank you all for the feedback following our AGM.

Following a request made, we have now arranged for an extra hour to play "singles only" from 12 to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays. Players should ensure that tables and kit are stored as usual, thank you. Minutes of the AGM are now posted on our notice board.

We have been told that new Expelair fans will be installed shortly.

Motto of the month:

Family is not about blood, it is about who is willing to hold your hand when you need it most!

News from the Affiliates

EXTEND

Contact: Diana Steer, 610756

Extend exercise is for ALL. We owe it to our bodies to keep everything moving so that we can live independently for as long as possible. What part does exercise play in your life? Why not give gentle, chair-based exercise a go? I recently gave a demonstration to a group who initially were quite negative about exercise but, by the end of the session, some asked me when my classes took place! Thursdays 10 a.m. regular "movers", 11.15 a.m. "new to exercise". I also have a class on Tuesdays at the Forest Arts Centre, so contact me for details. **MOVE IT OR LOSE IT!**

NEW FOREST PLAYERS

This year we celebrate an incredible 90 years of drama with a production of six one-act plays from **18th to 21st July**.

To mark this important milestone in our history we held a play-writing competition which attracted world-wide entrants. The standard in both adult and youth sections was extremely and winning plays will be performed at the Performing Arts Centre, Ballard School, in New Milton.

Tickets are £9 for one or £15 for both adult and youth

performances. Children and members £5. To book or obtain further information, call the Box Office on 0845 166 8775 or visit www.newforestplayers.com.

NM MACULAR SUPPORT GROUP

Contact: Malcolm Swan, 618925
2 p.m. Monday, **11th June**,
Afternoon Tea at Forest Edge
Tearooms. Booking essential. **No meeting at the Centre.**

NEW MILTON RESIDENTS' ASSOC.

Contact: Secretary Phyllis Inglis,
615069

Chairman Alan Watson welcomed more than 120 residents to our April meeting when he presented the Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan proposals covering housing development and town centre regeneration over the coming 20 years. The Plan will go through various procedures ending with a referendum when all Parish residents will have a simple Yes/No vote on whether to accept the Plan. Two points were made:-

1. Although one or two projects could start up fairly soon, nothing is really going to happen immediately, and some of us won't be here to see all of these plans come to fruition, but the aim is to provide a town and environment which our children and grandchildren can enjoy.
2. The proposals in the Plan are NOT Town-Council-led! It has been put together by a Working

Party of local residents and members of community groups. It is also based on input received from residents, and it is essential that we all take an active part in providing comments, suggestions, criticisms, and ideas on what the Plan should incorporate. **If we don't put forward sufficiently strong viable proposals the powers-that-be will take over and we will have no say on how our town will be developed.**

In summary, the Chairman's presentation set out details of proposed **housing developments on Brockhills Lane, Gore Road, Caird Avenue, railway station and various development ideas for the town centre and Old Milton Road area.**

It was hoped that, from it all, more housing will be provided for younger people to encourage them to live and work here, a better quality of shops with emphasis on entertainment as well as opportunities to keep the town alive in the evenings, improved health and education, art and cultural facilities.

Our next General Meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, **10th July**, at the Community Centre, when speaker Penny Smith will talk to us about the New Milton Community First Responders, helping our

emergency services in case of need.

NEW MILTON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Contact: Janet, 617052

Our next meeting will be at 2 p.m. on Monday, **18th June**, when we will be entertained by Darren Matthews with a Music & Song presentation. All visitors are welcome.

PHOENIX HOLIDAY GROUP

Contact: Pat McKean, 278669

phoenixholshighcliffe@aol.com

Our next meeting at the Community Centre will be from 10 a.m. till noon on Friday, **22nd June**. Come and have a chat.

Holidays now booking.....

10th/15th June: Imperial Hotel, Barnstaple. Six days half board, one free day. £455.

7th/10th September: A Taste of the West Midlands. Four-star hotel in Stourport. Half board. A step back in time to include Bletchley Park, Coventry, Worcester, Black Country Museum, Severn Valley Steam Railway. £349 (ss£45).

18th/22nd November: Belmont Hotel, Sidmouth. Five days half board and outings each day. £425 (sea view £445).

24th/28th December: Five great days of Christmas entertainment at a Brenden Hotel in Bideford, North Devon. Outings most days, festive food and entertainment. £610.

Outings now booking.....

20th June: Mottisfont Gardens for the roses. £18.50 (plus £11 for non-National Trust members). Balances now due for this outing.

8th August: Guide Dog National Breeding Centre. £29.75 inc.

16th October: Sussex Tour for autumn colour. £19.50.

Note: Non-Phoenix members £1 extra. All outings provide a suitable location for lunch (not included).

Our next meeting at **Greystones Hall**, Waterford Road, Highcliffe, will be 2.30 p.m. Friday, **1st June**

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

New Milton Branch

Contact: Secretary Phyllis Inglis, 615069

A Branch Meeting will take place at the Memorial Centre at 7.15 p.m. on Tuesday, **19th June**. Liz Downs will tell us about Canine Partners, accompanied by a four-legged colleague.

MEMORIES OF AN EVACUEE

Thanks to a Stranger!

My story begins in 1940 when England was already at war with Germany. The war years for me were very happy, almost entirely due to not one stranger but two!

At that time I lived in North London with my parents and a younger brother - a quiet 8-year-old girl totally unprepared for the change in my life which was about to take place. It had been decided that children (and mothers where possible) should be sent away from the big cities to the country. I became one of those children; my brother was too young to leave my mother and she refused to leave London.

The day of departure came, with us children waiting in groups for coaches to take us to the station. Last-minute farewells were said, lots of tears, some laughter and excitement and even screams and struggles from some children who most definitely didn't want to go on this trip. There we stood, labels with our name and destination tied into our buttonholes, gas masks over our shoulders and paper bags containing food for the journey. Luggage was by now placed on the coach.

I remember little about the actual journey but do recollect my tears being comforted by the teacher travelling with us. Making new friends on the train helped to pass the time; looking out of the window to count the cows and telegraph poles was another good game. Thinking back, it was probably the first live cow I'd ever seen. I was also greatly impressed by all the fields and trees as a London park was the largest expanse of grass I'd known.

At last our journey was over and we arrived at the small Cornish village which was to be my new home for the next three and a half years - Grampond Road was its name, halfway between Truro and St. Austell. We were shown into the village hall and met by a sea of faces - villagers who had agreed to take a child into their homes. There was a complete hush as children and adults gazed at

each other. We were all asked to sit quietly while given a drink and biscuits, and told to listen out for our name to be called when we would walk up to a table and meet our foster parents. And so I was introduced to Mr. and Mrs. Petherick - my new-found Auntie Flo and Uncle Sam. Apparently I was chosen by them because Auntie was very hard of hearing but could hear every word I said. She and Uncle had been watching me sitting on the floor counting pennies which were given me because I was "going away on holiday"; I was excitedly speaking quite loudly and Auntie could hear me. I soon learned to speak up and mouth my words specially for her.

My Auntie Flo and Uncle Sam were the most wonderfully kind people you could ever wish to meet. How they coped with a lively child I'll never know. Their own children were grown up; a married daughter, and a son Harry who still lived at home. He and I got along famously but there were times when his teasing reduced me to tears; I was just very sensitive in those days and he meant no harm.

The years I spent with my new family really were very satisfying; they did everything in their power to keep me happy and content. Sadly, not everyone was so lucky; some children just didn't fit in and foster families couldn't adjust to having a stranger in their homes.

I dare say there were a few wild boys and girls; I was no angel myself and could be very wilful

at times, dropping my bottom lip if I couldn't get my own way. Many times I heard "If you drop that lip much more, maid, you'll tread on it!"

Actually, Auntie told me on more than one occasion that I was the only child to stay the whole time in my allocated billet - said with much pride, so I don't think she found me too dreadful.

We had such happy times together, often going for long walks on a summer evening after chapel. There were trips to see their daughter who lived in a small cottage with her husband's butcher's shop next door.

Other outings which I really enjoyed were visits to Auntie's sister near Penzance. She was very tall and thin, with a long lean face and pointed nose balancing half-spectacles. I thought she was the nearest thing to a witch I'd ever seen and was secretly a bit afraid of her. She seemed rather stern, probably because she was a spinster and a little uneasy with children but she was always very kind and welcoming, baking her special biscuits for me.

We went for picnics on a small beach opposite St. Michael's Mount but never went to it; I think it was taken over by the authorities or services for the duration. We also had purposeful walks along the railway embankment picking wild strawberries, which taste quite different from the cultivated sort.

My story concludes next month.

Joan Coup

Laugh Lines

Donald is walking out of the White House towards his limo when an assassin steps forward and aims a gun. A trainee Secret Service agent shouts "Mickey Mouse!". This startles the assassin so much that he drops his gun and is captured. Later, the trainee's supervisor asked him "Why on earth did you shout Mickey Mouse?" He replied "I got nervous. Meant to shout "Donald - duck!!!"

Seen in a restaurant doorway.....

"No, we don't have Wi-Fi! **Talk** to each other!"

Shirley was the church gossip and self-appointed monitor of village morals. Many people didn't like her but kept silent. She made a mistake, however, when she accused Frank, a rather elderly newcomer, of being an alcoholic after she saw his van parked in front of the pub one afternoon. She told him (and several others) that everyone seeing it there would know he was inside

drinking. Frank, a man of few words, just stared at her for a few moments and walked away. Later that evening he quietly parked his van in front of Shirley's house and left it there all night!

The message is "don't mess with an OAP!"

To be 8 Again!

A man is sitting on the edge of the bed watching his wife who was looking at herself in the mirror. Since her birthday wasn't far away he asked her what she would like. "I'd like to be eight again", she replied.

On her birthday morning he rose early, made her a bowl of Coco Pops and took her to an Adventure Theme Park. What a day" He put her on every ride. Five hours later they staggered out of the park, her head was reeling and her stomach was upside down. He then took her to a McDonalds for a meal with extra fries and chocolate cake, followed by a movie with popcorn, soda pop and candy. Finally she wobbled home with her husband and collapse into bed, exhausted.

He leaned over her with a big smile and asked "Well dear, what was it like being 8 again?" She opened her eyes and said "I meant my dress size, you idiot!"

The moral of this story is that even when a man is listening he's going to get it wrong! **Glo**

An Ode To Wine

Why do they confuse us
When talking about wine?
One day we shouldn't touch it
Next day we're told it's fine
I'm certainly no expert
On what our wine should be
"From the south of the vineyard"?
"Pretentious"? or "Free"?

I just know that I like it
Complements a meal -
Eases a social gathering
Toasts a special deal
So have a glass or two my friends
Of plonk or vintage year
Life's too short to worry
"You're alive! So raise a cheer!

And finally, a quote for some thought -

"Machinery and gadgetry must never matter more than the use of our minds".

"TASTER" VOUCHER

This voucher entitles you to attend one of our in-house sessions or activities for the first time - free of charge - to see if it will interest you

Please note that it CANNOT be used for affiliate and "outside hirer" activities

TRY SOMETHING NEW!

This Newsletter and our website give details of the days and times when the sessions and activities take place

What's On in June Regular Hirers

Contact the Hirer if you wish to join

Hirer	Session	Day	June
Bashley W.I.	A	Fri	8.
Brockenhurst Yoga	E	Tues	5,12,19,26.
C & NF Nat.Trust	E	Wed	27.
CAMEO Ladies	M	Wed	6.
Doohan Yoga	E	Thurs	7,14,21,28.
EXTEND	M	Thurs	7,14,21,28.
Hort. Society	E	Wed	20.
Mandela Book Grp	E	Mon	18.
Martial Arts	M	Sat	2,9,16,23,30.
Michelle's Slim. World	E	Wed	6,13,20,27.
NF Quilts Group	E	Mon	4,11.
Purely Pilates	M	Mon	-----
Purely Pilates	E	Thurs	-----
RAF Association	M	Tues	5,19.
Seq. Dance	A	Tues	5,12,19,26.
Tangent Yoga	E	Thurs	7,14,21,28.
Townswomen's Guild	A	Mon	18.
U3A Family History	M	Mon	25.
U3A Local History	M	Wed	6.
U3A Singing	A	Mon	18.
U3A World History	M	Thurs	28.
Weight Watches	M	Sat	2,9,16,23,30.
Wool Etc	A	Thurs	21.

Affiliated Organisations

Bashley Forest W.I.	Mrs. M. Wallace	629042
Brockenhurst College	Mrs. R. Clark	01590 625222
CAMEO - Ladies' Group	Mrs. M. Sheldrake	628675
C'church & NF National Trust Ass.	Mrs. S. Moreton	610590
Extend	Mrs. D. Steer	610756
Hamilton Townsend	Mr. D. Jenkins	01202 765404
HOPE	Mrs. J. Kane	629009
Milton Heritage Society	Mr. N. Saunders	618549
Modern & Social Sequence Dancing	Mr. R.J. Gillies	07582 969111
Neighbourcare New Milton	Mr. D. Whittington	291273
New Forest Mencap	Mrs. A. Page	621893
New Forest Organ Society	Mrs. P. Heath	611438
New Forest Players	Mr. C. Rigden	629451
New Forest Quilt Group	Mrs. J.A. Davies	620680
New Milton Healing Group	Mrs. A. Townend	619933
NM Health Centre (Spencer Road)	Mrs. C. Olsen	621188
New Milton Horticultural Society	Mrs. M. Sheldrake	628675
NM Macular Support Group	Mr. M. Swan	618925
New Milton Memorial Centre	Mr. Clive Rigden	629451
New Milton Quakers	Mrs. R. Wells	614279
New Milton Residents' Association	Mrs. P.C. Inglis	615069
New Milton Talking Newspaper	Mr. A. Singfield	616361
New Milton Town Partnership	Mr. J. Evans	610943
New Milton Townswomen's Guild	Mrs. J. Litten	617052
Open Sight	Mrs. P. Batchelor	627460
Phoenix Holiday Group (Highcliffe)	Mrs. P. McKean	278669
Purely Pilates	Mrs. C. Lillington	07738 484255
R.A.F. Association	Eileen	
Royal British Legion NM Branch	Mrs. P. Inglis	615069
R.N.L.I.	Mrs. A. Goulding	616106
Slimming World (Wednesday)	Michelle Walker	07795 275633
Sullivan Lawford	Aoron Lawford	200668
Tai Chi Qigong	Mr. M. Common	07973 639348
The Art Society New Milton	Mr. P. Ronan	638200
U3A New Milton	Mrs. R. Agar	610192
Wool Etc	Mrs. J. Daniel	01590 670625

INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES:

Miss W. Maund

Mr. G.F. Denson Mr. R.G. Ferguson

TRUSTEES/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

President	Phyllis Inglis	615069	pres@newmiltoncommunity.org.uk
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Technical Officer

Richard Ferguson

612612

technical@newmiltoncommunity.org.uk

Health & Safety Officer

Rob Stevens

healthsafety@newmiltoncommunity.org.uk

What's On in June Regular Events

Section /Activities	Time	Day	June	Section /Activities	Time	Day	June
Art	2:00 PM	Wed	6,13,20,27.	French Improvers	12:00 PM	Mon	4,11,18,25.
Ballroom Dancing	2:00 PM	Mon	4,11,18,25.	French Intermediate	9:55 AM	Mon	11,18,25.
Ballroom Dancing	7:30 PM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.	German Beginners	11:30 AM	Tues	5,12,19,26.
Beading	7:00 PM	Wed	6,13,20,27.	German Improvers	10:00 AM	Tues	5,12,19,26.
Beading	9:45 AM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.	Italian - Beginners	2:00 PM	Fri	1,8,15,22,29.
Bowling	6:30 PM	Mon	4,11,18,25.	Italian - Improvers +	10:00 AM	Fri	1,8,15,22,29.
Bowling	9:45 AM	Tues	5,12,19,26.	Italian - Improvers +	11:15 AM	Fri	1,8,15,22,29.
Bowling	9:45 AM	Wed	6,13,20,27.	Italian - Manuela	11:30 AM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.
Bowling	9:45 AM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.	Line Dancing	12:15 PM	Fri	1,8,15,29.
Bowling	9:45 AM	Fri	1,8,15,22,29.	Literature Group	2:00 PM	Wed	-----
Bowling	6:30 PM	Fri	1,8,15,22,29.	Luncheon Club	12:00 PM	Thurs	21.
Bridge Chicago	1:30 PM	Mon	4,11,18,25.	Mah-Jong	1:30 PM	Fri	1,8,15,22,29.
Bridge Cut in	1:30 PM	Tues	5,12,19,26.	Mens Get Together	10:00 AM	Thurs	7.
Bridge Partner	1:30 PM	Wed	6,13,20,27.	Piano	10:45 AM	Mon	4,11,18,25.
Bridge Duplicate	1:30 PM	Wed	6,13,20,27.	Poetry	10:30 AM	Thurs	21.
Bridge Practice	1:30 PM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.	Rummikub	10:00 AM	Wed	13,27.
Bridge Cut in	1:30 PM	Fri	1,8,15,22,29.	Saturday Dancing	7:30 PM	Sat	-----
Bridge Chicago	1:30 PM	Sat	16.	Scrabble	1:30 PM	Mon	4,11,18,25.
Canasta	1:30 PM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.	Soc Seq Dancing	1:45 PM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.
Chess	1:30 PM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.	Spanish Conversation	10:00 AM	Mon	4,11,18,25.
Choir	2:00 PM	Wed	-----	Spanish Beginners	11:15 AM	Mon	4,11,18,25.
Come Dancing	7:30 PM	Tues	5,12,19,26.	Spanish Beginners	11:15 AM	Fri	8,15,22,29.
Craft	10:00 AM	Wed	13,27.	Spanish Improvers	10:00 AM	Fri	8,15,22,29.
Cribbage	2:00 PM	Tues	5,12,19,26.	Spanish Circle	7:30 PM	Tues	12.
Darts	2:00 PM	Mon	4,11,18,25.	Table Tennis	7:00 PM	Mon	4,11,18,25.
Darts	2:00 PM	Tues	5,12,19,26.	Table Tennis	10:00 AM	Tues	5,12,19,26.
Discussion Group	2:00 PM	Tues	12.	Table Tennis	7:00 PM	Wed	6,13,20,27.
Fabric Craft	2:00 PM	Thurs	14,28.	Table Tennis	2:00 PM	Thurs	7,14,21,28.
Film Show	2:30 PM	Sun	17.	Table Tennis	10:00 AM	Fri	1,8,15,22,29.

NEED HELP?

The following have been recommended by members. **Inclusion does not indicate endorsement by the Association.**

FERGUSONS ELECTRICIANS

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FIRST CHOICE ELECTRICAL

Dave Woodhouse for all electrical work. 01425 619705/07971 050557. fc.electrical@outlook.com

FRUSTRATED BY COMPUTERS?

I can help you! I offer a local, friendly, inexpensive repair and tuition service. Over 25 years' PC experience. Contact me, David Mason, on 01425 626112/07512 890768. david.mason1948@gmail.com.

GILES TATHAM, RFHP, SACDip., FHP

Qualified foot health professional. Nail cutting, callus, corns, diabetic foot care. Full treatment or nail-cutting only. Appointments in the comfort of your own home. For enquiries and appointments call 01425 839313.

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Andy Scrutton. Prompt, reliable service. No job too small. Call 01425 276973/07526 542040

PLUMBING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Contact Guy Callway, 34 Barton Court Road, New Milton, BH25 6NR. 01425 620858/07890 172151

Editor's Contact Details: Mrs. Phyllis Inglis, 7 Chessel House, Fernhill Lane, New Milton, BH25 5WR, 01425 615069. pcinglis8@gmail.com. **Copy deadline date is 18th of the preceding month (a week earlier in December for the January edition).** The Editor reserves the right to adapt/summarise any contributions received.