

Mottram St. Andrew

Mercury



Issue 167 Aug/Sept 2016



The Bulls Head

Mottram St Andrew



The Bull's Head is a classic pub restaurant situated on the Wilmslow Rd in Mottram St Andrew, just a few miles from neighbouring Prestbury, Wilmslow and Alderley Edge.

With open fires, bookcases, good old furniture, prints, rugs and oak floors, with a lighter touch of plenty of plants, flowers and large outdoor sun terrace.

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Recommendations

Good Pub Guide2014

Good Pub Guide - New pub of the year2014

Opening times:

Day	Open	Food served
Monday	10:30am - 11pm	12noon - 10pm
Tuesday	10:30am - 11pm	12noon - 10pm
Wednesday	10:30am - 11pm	12noon - 10pm
Thursday	10:30am - 11pm	12noon - 10pm
Friday	10:30am - 11pm	12noon - 10pm
Saturday	10:30am - 11pm	12noon - 10pm
Sunday	10:30am - 10:30pm	12noon - 9:30pm



The Bulls Head, Wilmslow Road, Mottram St Andrew, SK10 4QH

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Web: www.bullshead-mottram.co.uk

The Parish Magazine of Mottram St. Andrew



Produced jointly by the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council

Summer Holidays here I come, a well deserved week in Wales. Let's pray the weather is going to be kind to me. Heading for a week in Abersoch (Cheshire by the Sea) with a heavy loaded car, George my son and two of his mates and a dog squeezed in for good measures. Let the adventures begin. Wish me luck!

Well the village has seen a few great events over the last few months. The Queens Birthday Celebrations really brought our community together and for all those who joined us it was a fun filled afternoon even though the weather was not really up to much. A big thank you to all that helped with the preparations.

A few other things coming up that might be of interest to the budding green fingered types. The 67th Horticultural show will be on next month so grab your entry form and get entering some classes. I will certainly be entering a few and having a go. I feel that it is part of my family heritage to keep this tradition going and get involved. There are loads of classes to suit everyone including the kids. It is always an event that makes me proud to live in such a wonderful little village as we do.

There is also a night of folk music planned at the village hall. A rare solo appearance by legendary Lindisfame singer Billy Mitchell coming up in November, tickets are available, see detail in this issue of the Mercury P 20.

The

I would just like to take the opportunity to make you aware that there are Dog training classes now available at the village hall so if you have unruly pouches then this might be an ideal opportunity to get advice and sort out any behavioural problems. I for one think I might take my little four legged friend. If interested get in touch with Zsuzsa on 0771 3017 202. Full details on the village website.

See you all at the 67th Horticultural show on the 3rd Sept. Lets make some more village memories. Remember you can keep up to date via our village website www.mottramstAndrew.com



Front cover image "Queens Birthday Parade" at Mottram St Andrew

Somme Memorial Service

By Bill Pilkington

MOTTRAM ST ANDREW SUNDAY 3rd JULY

We are gathered here this evening to remember all those who gave their lives at the Battle of the Somme.

The battle commenced on the 1st July 1916 and when it had finished on the 18th November 1916, there had been 419,654 British casualties which included the two men from our small village community.

They were Henry Slater aged 21 and John Frederick Waller aged 23.

Henry was born in 1895 the son of Fred and Ann Slater and he enlisted in Macclesfield aged 19 on the 10th September 1914 and served as a rifleman in the 1st battalion Rifle Brigade.

He was drafted to France on the 13th July 1915 and served in France and Flanders and was killed in action on the 1st July 1916.

He has no known resting place but he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

The 1st July 1916, the date of Henry's death, was the start of the battle of the Somme that commenced at 07.30 am after a long artillery bombardment that eliminated any surprise but failed to destroy the German barbed wire.

The assault resulted in catastrophic losses as the British troops went forward across no man's land in long lines to be mown down by German machine guns

that the British artillery had failed to suppress.

The British suffered an appalling 57,450 casualties on this day.

John Frederick Waller was born on the 12th March 1893, the son of Alfred and Florence Annie Waller and he enlisted in Manchester on the 12th January 1915 and served in the 18th battalion Manchester Regiment.

He was promoted to Lance Corporal on the 3rd April 1915 and on the 6th January 1916 with training completed, the battalion was deemed ready to take its place in the line. It marched eastwards towards the trenches of the Somme.

As the 1st July 1916 approached it was evident to the men that a major battle was imminent.

At 07.22 am on the 1st July 1916 a ferocious bombardment opened up on the German positions which intensified as zero hour approached.

At 07.30 am along the entire length of the allied front whistles blew and the men scrambled from their front line trenches and began the 3,000 yard advance on the enemy positions.

The attack resulted in the loss of 5 officers and 170 other ranks from the battalion.

On the 8th July and the following night shelling was intense and casualties were heavy. Three times the enemy attacked and were repulsed by Lewis gun and rifle fire.

By mid-day on the 9th July the battalion's position had become impossible and they were ordered to withdraw.

At 10 pm with less than 100 men remaining the battalion moved to Chimney trench where it remained for the next 28 hours. The trenches offered little protection from the constant shelling and was regularly strafed by machine gun fire resulting in many casualties including John Frederick Waller who was killed in action aged 23.

He has no known resting place but is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

The fighting continued after his death and by the 14th July the whole nature of the battalion had changed due to most of the original pals lying on the battlefield where they fell or lay wounded in various hospitals.

When the news of the losses reached Manchester there was not a street that was left unaffected and the curtains of many houses remained tightly drawn as families and loved ones mourned their losses.

THE EXHORTATION

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old.

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We will remember them.

We will remember them.

TWO MINUTES SILENCE

When you go home tell them of us and say,

For your tomorrow we gave our today.

A well-attended memorial service, led by the Reverend Ben Clowes, was held in the chapel in Mottram St Andrew on Sunday 3rd July to remember all those who gave their lives at the Somme especially the two young men from our own small community. They were Henry Slater, age 21 and John Frederick Waller, age 23 who were killed in action and have no known resting place. Their names are however recorded on the Thiepval Memorial.

The service was very moving and contained poems and readings by Olivia Hunter, the Mayor of Cheshire East, David Rutley, the Macclesfield MP, Angela Philpott, vice Chairman of the Parish Council, Pat Smith, Margaret Graham and Ian Wright from the local community. The Act of Remembrance was led by Bill Pilkington from the Parish Council with Karen Robinson of the Over Alderley Brass band sounding the last post and reveille on her bugle to denote the start and end of the two minutes silence.



A collection of £190 was made during the service for the Alderley Edge branch of the Royal British Legion who were in attendance.

Metho**d**ist Church

By Ian Wright

Community - News



The weather was perfect for us on July 17th for our Open Air Service held by the bungalows on Alderley Road. This was the ninth year of its restored position in the chapel's calendar and the sun was so bright and hot that the gazebo's, organised in case of rain, made excellent sunshades. Who knows what the British weather will do but we certainly appreciated the sunshine! This year we were greatly indebted to Michael Nixon who kindly allowed us to use his electricity supply to brew the all important tea enabling us to serve refreshments after the service along with another mouth watering selection of cakes. Once again we have the musicians from the Over Alderley Band to thank for the musical accompaniment to encourage us in the singing of the hymns and to our minister Rev Ben Clowes who led the service. As you will read later Ben will be moving on to another appointment in due course but we look forward to another open air service under his guidance in 2017.

As this is written we are looking forward to another culinary treat as we hold a Strawberry tea on Saturday 30th July in the Village Hall. This will be our second attempt at this particular event but we are certainly hoping it will be as good and as well supported as our first. Proceeds for the afternoon are in support of the chapel finances but there is also an element of fund raising for the Breast Cancer Charity which we were pleased to support in 2015.

Within the Methodist Circuit to which Mottram Chapel belongs we face a few years of goodbyes and hello's as one by one our current minister's move on to other appointments. This year we are saying goodbye to our current superintendant minister Rev Jackie Betts as she leaves us to move to Kirkby Stephen in Cumbria where we will continue to wish her a long and happy retirement. Her role of superintendant within the circuit is being taken over by Rev Ben Clowes and Rev Rob Cotton for the time being and we are looking forward to balancing the ministerial team at a welcome service for Rev Scott Manning and his family on **Sunday 4th September at 7pm** in our Knutsford Church. The Manning's are joining us from South Africa where Scott has been a Minister for many years and he will be filling the vacancy left by Jackie's retirement and will be based in Mobblerley.

As mentioned earlier Ben will be leaving us in 2017. During his sabbatical earlier in the year Ben felt the call to move on from his present position and has the support of all those around him in making this as easy a transition as

possible. We shall be sorry to see him go but on the plus side Ben is still with us for another year, formally moving at the end of July 2017 to destinations as yet unknown. As this will be his last Harvest season with us he will be leading our special service on **Sunday 18th September at 2.30pm** and joining with us as we continue to celebrate with a harvest tea following the service. Giving thanks for what we have and sharing our good fortune is part of what harvest is about and nowadays our gifts to the harvest display at the front of the church tend to be more of the tinned and packaged variety that can be more easily distributed to those who may need it. As last year the gifts will be going to the Macclesfield Salvation Army Food Bank as part of our ongoing support for that cause and we would be pleased to receive further contributions to our harvest display to add to that support if you have any such items to spare.

Finally, the next date for our Fellowship group meeting will be on **Thursday 8th September at 1.30pm**, in the chapel again led by Ben. We are asked to consider what our best good news has been in the last twelve months as we gather for that meeting. With all the bad news which seems to be surrounding us at present it's perhaps a good exercise for us all to undertake!

Ian Wright (Secretary)
Contact: 01625 583704

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Chairman's Report

By **Bill Pilkington**

This will be my final chairman's report as I have decided that now is the time to stand down as your chairman of the Parish Council, a position that I have held for the past five years. I shall however be remaining as a Parish Councillor to give support to the new chairman.

It became clear from the many discussions we had during the year with BT and Cheshire East and correspondence with Ed Vaisey, The Minister, and Ofcom that the village was not going to be included within any programme operated by BT and Cheshire East despite having the support of David Rutley our MP.

Therefore we are very fortunate that Vispa came to our rescue and we now have superfast broadband of up to 60Mbps in the village care of Vispa, a small company based in South Manchester.

It was embarrassing that only ten residents attended this year's annual village meeting after the fantastic attendance of fifty residents last year who were there mainly to raise their concerns over the poor quality broadband provided by BT. It was especially disappointing because Vispa attended the annual meeting to demonstrate their product and answer any questions that residents may have.

During the year your Parish Council has again been extremely busy responding to the numerous planning applications that have involved considerable investigations and attendance at appeal

hearings all of which has been very time consuming.

Considerable time has also been devoted to responding to the various consultations emanating from Cheshire East and other organisations, mainly the 1300 page Cheshire East Local Plan, the supplementary 600 page document and the Green Belt assessment carried out on behalf of Cheshire East and there will be more to come.

Cheshire East have provided the permanent Speed Indicator Devices, now renamed as Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) either side of the village school funded out of the Minor Highways Improvement budget. The results obtained demonstrate that most motorists are adhering to the 30 mph speed restriction. There are however certain exceptions.

Cheshire East have also improved the area in Newton where the children wait for the school bus and they have commenced looking at improvements to the cross roads there to improve sighting.

The village web site has been set up and thanks must be given to Ron Taylor and his wife Pauline plus Mick Shaw for the time and effort they have devoted to this valuable service. To assist with the setting up of the web site we obtained a grant from Cheshire East to cover the cost of a scanner and training.

The emergency plan for the village has been updated and can be viewed on the village web site. The main contact details are also shown in issue 165 of the Mercury.

You will be pleased to note that we have retained the village precept at £7,000 the same as last year, unlike adjacent parishes that have seen significant

increases. This has been achieved by being aware of what funding and grants are available and making the necessary applications.

We have also kept the allotment rents at the same level as last year. There are two allotments vacant at the moment if anyone is interested.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ron Taylor the Parish Clerk for the ongoing professional support that he has given me over the last year which has been greatly appreciated.

And finally my wife and I were delighted to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party last summer after being nominated by the Parish Council and selected to attend by Cheshire East. It was a wonderful experience for which I am very grateful to my fellow councillors for nominating me.

Apologies from the editor:

I would like to apologise to Bill for cutting his article short last month, therefore I have included the full article in this months issue. I would also like to thank Bill for his services to our community for all the hard work he has put in over the years whilst being Chairman of the Parish Council. I wish Bill all the best for the Future.

Mottram United Charity

By Hugh Morgan

I have just been appointed Chair of Mottram United Charities, taking over from Ron Taylor who has done an excellent job for the last five years. I thought this would be a good opportunity

to remind Mercury readers about the charity and encourage people to apply for assistance.

It became the United Charities in 1909, as a merger of a number of older charities, one from a legacy from Roger Holland in 1694 and another from John Day in 1729. The Trustees are now Mike Holland, Bill Pilkington, Richard Preece, Lesley Rowbotham and I, and it is our job to assess applications, and distribute the income from the trust as we see fit. We are not talking about large sums of money: our income is about £1,000 per year, but we do not get many requests!

So if perhaps you are a student struggling to earn enough money to buy a new laptop, a parent who can't quite believe the cost of children's shoes or an older person whose television is packing up, please consider applying for assistance from the trust. The charity's deed says that the money is to be used for "necessitous and deserving persons" living in Mottram, and we interpret that as widely as possible. If you have a Bentley parked in your drive, we may take a little convincing of your need, but you don't have to be penniless to apply.

We keep all requests confidential, so no one apart from the Trustees will know that you have applied. If you would like to make a request, or just discuss the possibility, please contact me or any of the Trustees.

Hugh Morgan

Email hughfmorgan@icloud.com ,
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Foundation Nursery School

By Kate Gilman

Looking back over this past half term to describe it as “busy” I feel would not do justice and it is hard to know where to begin with so much exciting stuff going on!

The first day back from Holiday Club brought the arrival of a very special and very hungry parcel. Inside were lots of tiny, and very hungry, caterpillars! As part of a project we run every year, the children were each given a caterpillar, which they were able to watch develop, change and turn into a magnificent butterfly. Each morning the children (including Mum or Dad who were all just as fascinated!) would dash in to find their caterpillar in their individually named pot, to see how much it had eaten, how fat it had become and one morning to find a cocoon!! The wait was then on as a week or so later the children became fixated on the tiny wobbling chrysalises for the moment, as if by magic, a butterfly would emerge. The grown ups have all see this process many times, yet the marvel of nature never ceases to amaze!



We have also had a visit from Macclesfield Fire Crew. The children got to sit in the engine, try on uniforms and helmets and even use the hose! The children were very curious and got to ask the crew lots of questions. They had a great afternoon. A big thank you to Macclesfield Fire Station !



It was a pleasure to welcome all of our parents in for some one to one time with their child’s keyworker during “Parents Week”. The time to talk is often rare, so these meetings provided a period for parents to come in, have a chat about how their child is progressing, what they have been up to and to have a look at some of the work they have been doing. It was great so many parents could join us throughout the week and the children all loved showing off their work!

For some of our Woody Walker explorers, these last few weeks of term have been their last adventures over to the woods as they will be leaving for school. We have been revisiting some of their favourite spots and doing their chosen activities including climbing the “spider tree” and fishing in “Big Bad Barry’s” puddle. The children have made some special butterflies to hang in the Story Tree to attract some of the nursery butterflies over to their special place. Excitement is building for our very last week of visits, but not for the reason you may think ... for the first time we have invited our Mummies and Daddies to join us on a very special Woody Walkers adventure!! The children can’t wait to show them all of the special places we explore, the different things we have found, the games we play and all the work they have done in building Bluebell House and the Story Tree! We also look forward to taking our new preschoolers in September to begin their journey of exploration and discovery.

Throughout the term we have been working with our preschoolers in helping them “get ready for school”. In our role play area we have set up our very own classroom, complete with school uniforms, school books and photos of our different teachers. All the children have spent time ‘being the teacher’, trying the uniforms on, reading to everyone and telling each other off!! There has also been lots of school visiting, introduction days and teachers coming to visit us, which has been great and caused much excitement!! In addition we have also been holding regular “uniform sessions” where, with the guidance of a grown up, we have been practising getting ready for PE and then back into our uniform. In gaining

these practical skills we hope the children will have as much confidence in these early stages as possible so they can concentrate on settling in, finding their feet and making friends.

This half term it hasn’t just been the children that have been learning, the Foundation Nursery team have been involved in several different training activities and have gained valuable knowledge, ideas and skills to bring back into the setting. Covering several topics including outdoor learning, communication and language, plus the impact the physical environment has upon a child’s development, the overall issues have been relatively similar, bringing learning back to basics. As such we are having a bit of a clear out and re-jig over the summer to bring all of these ideas together and implement them within the setting. We are on the hunt for unwanted items to assist in these plans, so if you are having a clear out over the summer and have any old pots/pans, colanders, baskets, steel items, wicker items, etc, that you no longer use and would like them to find a good home, we would be extremely grateful!

Lastly, our school leavers put on a fantastic show for their families and friends last week. We had great feedback from everyone who came and the children certainly did themselves proud! Well done! As a final treat we are having a special visit from “Animal Magic” in the last week of term. From spiders and meerkats, to snakes and rats, the children will have the opportunity to handle a variety of different animals from around the world, learning about where they come from, what they eat and feel like.



Little hands. Big achievements.

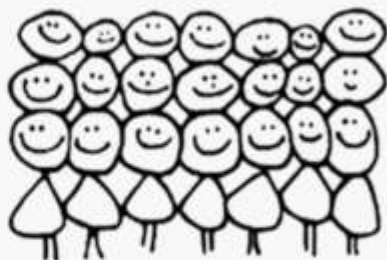
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Women's Institute

By Gwynneth Littleton

Busy, busy, busy. Ann organised a successful lunch at Morley Garden Centre. Celebrations for the Queen's birthday went well. The box for the Christmas child is proving helpful and a steady lot of donations are coming in. There are gardens to visit and a trip to Ashbourne planned before summer slips away.

Mr Greene returned in June to give us a happy evening listening to Andrew Lloyd Weber's music. He interspersed the talk with interesting snippets about Andrew's life. Andrew is a great wine collector and has a magnificent collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings.

In July we welcomed Alia and Judith from the North East Cheshire group. They told us enthusiastically about their newsletter that they have launched and were busy organising a summer evening walk and a November outing to Chatsworth.

It was pleasing to note that at last we got a mention in Cheshire News and that the Resolution on Dementia Care in hospitals that we supported, had been successful.

There was the temptation of a strawberry tea on 30th July and programmes for the Village Show on 3rd September were circulated.

Gwynneth Littleton gave pithy advice on what to do if inadvertently a fire breaks out in the home. She had just recovered from the ordeal.

We were then introduced to a worthy local historical character. Suze Appleton had carried out diligent research on the Amazing Elizabeth Raffald.



(1733 -81) Elizabeth produced the first cookery book, ran an agency for domestic servants, using her experience at Arley Hall, where she also met and married the head gardener. She had two confectionary shops in Manchester, co-wrote a book on midwifery, made the first Eccles cakes, had nine children, and in her spare time practised speaking French! Suze is hoping to get a plaque put up to her at The Arden Arms in Stockport. She is buried in the churchyard at St Mary's Stockport. It was impossible not to be impressed by Elizabeth Raffald.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Social Club

By Mick Shaw

The Caribbean night had to be cancelled due to lack of interest. That was a real shame because the weather was perfect for a change and it would have made a great evening.

It is with great pleasure that we were able to make two of our long standing committee members Honorary Members.

Dave Fletcher has been ever present at Social Club events, has served on the committee in various roles, including chairman and is one of the committed few who support The Club on a regular basis. Through the years he has also served as trustee on the management committee of the Village Hall, several of these as chairman.

Sheila Cavanagh is another ever present at Social Club events, she has been membership secretary for many years and is also one of the committed few who support The Club on a regular basis. Through the years she has also served as trustee on the management committee of the Village Hall and has been involved in organising many events and interest groups.

We congratulate them both and would like to thank them for their amazing contributions over the years.

Forthcoming Events:

Curry Nights are Tuesday 30th August and Tuesday 27th September. Book yours by the Tuesday before to receive your £2 discount.

Community - News

The Club is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings from 8pm and you would be most welcome to join us.

Keep up to date on the website:
www.mottramstandrew.com

Wednesday Club

By Joan Williams

Hello everyone, it seems that a very long time has passed by since last I wrote about what we get up to at the Wednesday club and it is. We have all celebrated the Queens birthday in one way or another. A special mention for the children who made the bunting for the party it was truly delightful. If fact Sheila asked for it to be left up as we had a Birthday celebration of our own coming up for Dulcie who is a long standing member of the Wednesday club.

More exciting adventures coming up and Pauline is organising our Summer Trip to Llandudno again and is busy getting the names down for the coach. It is not too late if you fancy joining us for a day at the seaside. The trip is arranged for the 7th September 2016 so get in tough with Pauline who will be happy to arrange it.



Contact Pauline Glancy Tel: 01625 262940 / Mob:07731 483022 or Margaret Potts Tel: 01625 582154



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The Queens Birthday Parade



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Village Hall

By Steve Hatton



Chairmans report

As we move into the summer months the Hall is busy as a facility for the many and various activities based there . Our Queens Birthday event was a nice chance to combine this national celebration with a local community get together. A number of willing volunteers again worked hard to put this event on for the village , although the numbers of people who decide to come along was not what we had hoped for . Our thanks to the Academy School for their wonderful support .

Pilates , Parent/Toddler and the walking group are all becoming established and bring new people into contact with the Hall which is a good thing . We plan a kick off event for a Womans group which is planned for the evening of the 21st September . More information to follow on this idea.

Our next Music at Mottram event will take place on the 12th November when the” legendary Lindisfarne singer Billy Mitchell “ comes to the hall . Please put the date I your diary .

The annual Village Horticultural Show will take place at the Village Hall on Saturday 4rd September 2016 at 2pm. Always a great community day for all the family so get entering some classes, we have something for everyone and come & join us.

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For more information please see official website:

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child
or our village website: www.mottramstandrew.com

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Guides

By Katy Hatton

1st MSA Guides

A very excited group of 15 set off for London in July to go to a pop concert in Wembley arena . We had a vote to decide what to do with our morning in London. It was to go to Harrods!

In June we had a wonderful camp at cliche roe in Lancashire. The girls did all the planning, organising and cooking. Some of the guides also gained their camping badge.

In June we also had a camp fire cookout with all the guides from Chelford, Prestbury and Alderley edge. A movie night was held to celebrate one of our guides becoming 15.

We meet in the village hall on Fridays, 6-7.30

Katy Hatton (Owl) 0162559087

Brownies

By Katy Hatton

1st MSA Brownies

During the summer term the brownies had a water slide and picnic.... Lots of screaming was involved in this!

We had a walk to the park and another picnic.

The crime prevention badge was begun which we will complete term and the begin the Beatrix Potter 150 th anniversary badge.

We meet in the village hall on Tuesday's 5 - 6.30

Katy Hatton

Brown owl 01625590879

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Mottram Bowlers

By Phyllis Kenerley

Well here we are half way through the season. How quickly time goes when you are having fun! I don't know whether we are not bowling as well or if the oppositions are much improved but we are doing our best.

In the Macclesfield League - the A team in Division 1 are 3rd from the bottom. The B team in Division 2 are 2nd from the bottom and the C team in Division 3 are bottom! We all have to enter the floodlit competition this year and our games were played last week. Suffice to say, we shall have some free dates at the end of the season. In the Thursday mixed leagues both A & B are doing better and are both half way to the top rather than the bottom. Saving the best until last the Vets are about 3rd from the top, getting close to the promotion zone.

We hold competitions on a Sunday afternoon, about one a month which continue to be well attended. Alice along with willing helpers organise them and afterwards we have faith tea when everyone brings some sort of refreshment and I can assure you no one goes home hungry! Always a lovely spread.

The Reg Gardom Cup was won by Don White and Graham Hold came 2nd. The Ted's 2's was won by Tony Bird and Janet Arrowsmith and the Cav Cup was won by Deswin Price and Joyce Thomas

came 2nd. Deswin and Joyce are relatively new players at Mottram bowling club and we congratulate them especially, along with the other winners.

The next competition is the Norbury Pairs which the details are on the bowls Notice board. There is Social Bowling held every other Sunday around 2pm so why not come along and join us, you will be very welcome.



Trevor Kenerley who lives at the Rossendale Trust in Sutton would like to say a big thank you to everyone who sponsored him recently. Trevor has always taken a keen interest in Marathons and other running events but as he is restricted to a wheelchair he has had to remain a spectator. However with the kind support of his friends, Jason Blythe and Karl Dowing who work at Rossendale, Trevor was able to take part in the Manchester 10 K which he thoroughly enjoyed even though it rained. A huge thank you to all his sponsors who helped him raise over £2000 for the Rossendale Trust.

Well done Trevor you are an inspiration to us all.

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Out Of The Field

By Charles

The boss of the English press is called Murdoch and his media empire has become so important that Mr. Murdoch is a maker of kings and surely someone far more involved and influential in the politics of the UK than most of the English politicians of all parties.

Based on the tabloids like the Sun or on so-called more serious newspapers such as The Times, the Murdoch's message is always the same,

- England must regain its sovereignty;
- Europe has only to be considered as a market running trades in goods and services;
- Immigration and free movement of EU residents are such as to prejudice the interests of the country and its people

If I mention Murdoch it is not of my sympathy for the person but more because of the publication in the columns of our local newspaper, under the signature of Ron Taylor, of a series of articles entitled "In the field".

Congratulations Mr. Ron Taylor your prose is at this point that tasty and at this point comparable to what I read in Murdoch's tabloids that if I was an uninformed reader I would be entitled to ask myself if "Mercury" would not have become one of the jewels of Murdoch's Empire.

Let's be sure not!

If that was the case we would have on page 3 of our newspaper a topless woman.

But enough jokes and let us accept the usefulness of your words. Obviously you have contributed (like others) to enlighten minds in the direction of Brexit with the desire to appear pamphleteer and democratic!

So,

- Do you think I had in mind to come to settle in England with a Kalashnikov while carrying drugs in my orifice?

- Do you think that English language is at this point the peak of excellence that we can blame those who do not speak the language of Shakespeare?

- Do you think the excellence of your culture is such that your only historical references are Napoleon and Adolph, and some others of the same caliber as far as you look behind?

- Do you think that European Union is a utopian and naive concept whose "qualities" do not even deserve a "cuddle in bed"?

- Do you think that your legal system is the best in the world (copied by many but equaled by none) the same as the sausages that are used for a full English breakfast?

- Do you think that the poverty of English fish stocks is the consequence of plundering of English territorial waters by French fishermen?

- Do you think that "Angela" and "Francois" need to use the services of "Google" to dominate the 25 other countries of the union?

Out of the field continued

No Mister Ron Taylor you're not Voltaire; we no longer live in the "age of enlightenment" and your lights singularly lack of luster.

Yes Europe is in crisis;

Yes Europe lacks leaders as were the founding fathers of the Union;

Yes Europe is today misunderstood by people;

Yes Europe lacks of a strong and unifying political project and thereby promotes a sprawling and costly administration.

But is this a reason,

To deny that since joining the European Union, England is the only EU country to have doubled its standard of living per capita.

To ignore the European contribution on peace, democracy (the Wall), technology, training and education, energy and environmental policy, communication (the Channel Tunnel) mastery of inflation and currency stability.

To promote a mercantile development and thereby to report a "bad arithmetic" in terms of the country's financial participation in the union budget; let's be honest and write at least that regarding a 17 billion Euros contribution, 6 billion are returned in rebates and 5 billion are returned in grants.

Europe is in principle a generous idea based on tolerance and sharing. Don't plagiarize longer Margaret – Marylyn Monroe with the eyes of Caligula – by considering the European Union as only

a single market for goods and services.

As a corollary don't qualify longer some member countries of the Union by saying that even the "English shopkeepers " would not grant them a credit ounce.

Dear pamphleteer such statements - marks of selfishness and arrogance - undermine and contradict the excellence of democracy and the British qualities that you described in your articles.

Finally - if it could make me find grace to your person- let it be known that if I had requested my English citizenship (I am married to an English woman, I pay my tax in UK, I have a property in the village) my vote would have been in accordance with your wishes and I would have added my ballot to those supporting Brexit.

Why? You are entitled to ask?

Because with the Brexit, Europe can no longer ignore its mistakes and shortcomings. Europe must question itself without complacency and propose a new chapter in its history.

Will Europe be able? I hope so!

In any case it will be without the United Kingdom and be sure and convinced that finally Europe will have every chance to bring to the world the message of justice and peace that made our countries great.

A final word, I do not deliberately evoke the consequences of Brexit on the British citizen's in the UK or elsewhere. For sure Mister Murdoch will say this better than me.



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