

Mottram St. Andrew

Mercury



Issue 179 Jun / Jul 2018

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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
Brunch served on sunday mornings		9am - 11.30am



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

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The Parish Magazine of Mottram St. Andrew



Produced jointly by the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council

Well what a great start to the summer, could get very used to this gorgeous sunny climate lets hope it is set to continue. I have been busy as usual and slowly getting the garden up to some acceptable standard when I have a spare minute to myself. Looking forward to a long deserved break and I am off to Greece like Shirley Valentine this month to soak up some sunshine, eat feta Cheese & olives and celebrate my friends wedding, very excited to say the least.

All our farming community are busy making hay while the sun shines, not so good for hay fever sufferers but I do love this time of year, the sweat smell of cut grass and the long hazy days. We sure have witnessed some beautiful sunsets at Goose Green. The swallows have arrived from there long journey from South Africa and have settled every year in around the farm, swooping and diving, beautiful to watch. It always amazes me just how far they travel. Migrating swallows cover 200 miles a day, mainly during daylight, at speeds of 17-22 miles per hour. The maximum flight speed is 35 mph. What amazing creatures they truly are.

As most of you will know we have sadly lost a few treasured members of of village community. Alma Fletcter sadly passed away on 24th May 2018 age 79. My heart goes out to all the family and I for one am honoured to have had the privilege be her niece. May she travel on with her next journey and thank you for all the love you gave to everyone and the

beautiful memories you made for me., Which I hold so very dearly close to my heart. Alma was such a big part of this community and she will truly be missed, our loss but heavens gain. We also sadly lost another magnificent member of our community Norman Wright who died the next day on the 25th May 2018 at the grand old age of 102 years. Thank you to both of them for all there contributions, community spirit and effort that they both put into our little village over the years. What amazing stars shining brightly in the sky. I am sure you will all join me in offering condolences and our heart felt love goes out to the families for their loss.

If anyone would like to contribute by writing an article for the Mercury please do feel free to email - gander@goosegreenfarm.com

You can keep up to date with up & coming event via our village website so please take a look & check out what is going on .



Front cover image In the heat of the morning Sun - Photo taken by Claire Hatch

Parish Council Chairman's Report

By Bill Pilkington

Final Parish Chairman's Report

At this year's Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Village Chapel on Monday 21st May, Rob Hughes agreed to succeed me as Chairman of the Parish Council.

He was my deputy prior to the meeting and is looking forward to the challenges ahead.

During my seven years as the Chairman of the Parish Council, your Councillors past and present and the Parish Clerk have worked tirelessly on your behalf in the interests of the community.

There have been many challenges that have been satisfactorily resolved by taking advantage of the contacts that have been made within Cheshire East, The Cheshire Association of Local Councils, Cheshire Police, Manchester Airport, The Local Area Partnerships and adjacent Parishes sometimes by working in partnership with them and David Rutley our Member of Parliament.

We have had the usual planning applications to deal with and the numerous consultations to respond to. The latest one being the Cheshire East Local Transport Plan. There is still time if you want to respond in a personal capacity because the deadline is not until Monday 25th June.

Our response to the Local Transport Plan concentrated on the poor condition of our roads, the poor broadband speed, poor mobile phone signal and the lack of public transport. We pressed for the need to retain the Community Transport that serves the village due to the lack of

public transport. We also commented on the traffic congestion in the centre of Wilmslow and the lack of car parking adjacent to the railway station in Wilmslow.

Through our contacts we have been made aware of many grants that have been available and we have taken advantage of these which has enabled us to minimise the increases in the Parish Council precept. We must be one of the Parish Council's with the lowest precept.

The grants have been used to renovate the Village War Memorial located in the Village Chapel and to set up the Village Web Site a Government requirement.

Listed below are a few of what has been achieved by your Parish Council's involvement.

Improvements to Lees Lane and Wilmslow Road in Newton involving the imposition of a 40mph speed restriction, the resurfacing and reprofiling of the road surface on the sharp bends on Lees Lane and safety improvements to the Mill Lane/Woodford Lane crossroads. Further works are planned. All funded by Cheshire East Highways.

The installation of Vehicle Activated Warning Signs in Alderley Road and Priest Lane plus the installation of the 20 mph warning lights that are displayed at the start and end of the school day. All funded by Cheshire East Highways.

Provision of resident's parking on the Crescent. Funded by Peaks and Plains Housing Association.

Community - News

Renovation of the Village War Memorial part funded by a grant from Cheshire East.

Production of a leather bound book of the research carried out by local residents of those who gave their lives from our small community during the first and second world wars. The book was funded by donations raised by the Bulls Head public house.

Planting of the Diamond Wood on the recreation ground to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Trees being provided by the Woodland Trust.

Purchase for £1 and relocation of the redundant telephone box from Alderley Road to the village hall car park where it is now a library.

Refurbishment of Mottram Cross at no cost to the parish.

Persuaded Cheshire East to fund the Community Transport provided by D&G Little Bus that provides a vital bus link to Wilmslow and Macclesfield.

Arranged with Vispa a small company in Greater Manchester to provide a broadband signal of up to 60 Mbs to residents in the village due to the poor service that we were receiving from BT which was more or less non-existent. Hopefully this will be resolved soon because BT have been installing fibre cables and cabinets in the village. No details of the speeds to be provided but hopefully the fibre connection will be achieved this summer.

Supported the residents in their objection to the setting up of a helicopter flight school in the village.

Preparation of an Emergency Plan for the village that hopefully we will never need to activate.

We have supported the petition to retain the Millbrook Hospital in Macclesfield to avoid patients and their relatives the problems of accessing the proposed facility based near Chester.

This will be my final report and hopefully Rob will continue to keep you up to date. Although I have stepped down as the Chairman I shall be remaining as a Parish Councillor to ensure that there is a smooth transition.

All of your Parish Councillors give their time freely on your behalf and it would be good if more of the residents attended the Parish Council meetings in recognition of what the Councillors do for the community. Without your Councillors involvements most of the above would not have happened, so please give them your support.

Thank you.



Parish Chairman's Annual Report 2018

By Bill Pilkington

Mottram St Andrew Annual Village Meeting 23.04.2018

Introduction. Councillor Pilkington.

Good evening and welcome to this year's annual village meeting where it is your opportunity to raise any issues under item 9 on the agenda.

First of all can I introduce Hayley Shenton our deputy clerk and our new councillors who are Andy Levis and Yvonne Dodd.

Hayley has been shadowing Ron Taylor for about six months now.

Andy and Yvonne were recruited to replace Mike Holland who has provided loyal service over many years to the village decided to stand down due to business commitments and Tucker Wennell whose knowledge and experience helped us to respond to the air space change document issued for consultation by the CAA.

Several of you will know by now that Ron Taylor who has been the Parish Clerk since 2009 is handing over to his deputy Hayley Shenton at this year's AGM of the Parish Council on Monday 21st May in the village chapel.

During the nine years that Ron has been the Parish Clerk he has worked tirelessly on behalf of the community working many hours each week and I would like to place on record my thanks to Ron for all the help and guidance that he has given me during my seven years as the Chairman of the Parish Council. I know that he has been guiding and offering advice to Hayley to ensure that there will be a smooth transition when she takes over from Ron at this year's AGM.

Thank you.

Chairman's report. Councillor Pilkington

Your Parish Council has again been extremely busy responding to the numerous planning applications and considerable time has been devoted to responding to the various consultations emanating from Cheshire East and other organisations.

The main consultations responded to were from Cheshire East and included the proposed reduction in bus subsidies, proposed cuts to school transport services and their pre-budget consultation. The other main consultation was the proposed changes to air space procedure.

We objected to the proposed reduction in bus subsidies which would mean a significant cut to the community transport provided to the village, the proposed cuts to school transport, the proposed cuts in highway maintenance and the proposed closure of the libraries at Alderley Edge and Prestbury.

Due to the numerous responses received by Cheshire East they have increased the highways maintenance budget by £5 million and kept the libraries at Alderley Edge and Prestbury open. To date there has been no decision regarding community transport.

You will know by now that Cheshire East have increased the council tax for this year by 5.99% and more increases are likely in future years or budget cuts unless they find more efficient methods of working.

The Parish Council has also made a small increase in the village precept of 2.5% from £7,280 to £7,462 an increase of £182 and also made a

similar percentage increase to the allotment rents.

During our examination of Cheshire East's budget we became aware of the suspensions, resignations and police investigations into the conduct of a number of senior officers and councillors at Cheshire East. We understand that the investigations so far have cost Cheshire East Council Taxpayers £720,000, money that could have been better spent on the provision of services or minimising the Council Tax increase. We took up our concerns with David Rutley our Member of Parliament who forwarded a response from Sara Barker, Head of Strategic HR at Cheshire East which we have responded to.

Her response stated that Cheshire East Council deals with concerns about senior officer conduct responsibly. The investigation and Disciplinary Committee has made decisions to suspend certain officers while investigations into concerns about officer conduct continue.

They state that the Council is not able to make any more detailed comments about the matters that are under consideration by the investigation and Disciplinary Committee because these relate to disciplinary issues which are confidential.

They assured us that the Council is proceeding with all possible speed in relation to these matters which have been going on for about 12 months.

Moving on we have managed to get the drains and gullies dealt with this year by Cheshire East highways something that has not happened for some time. Many were found to be well and truly blocked.

There have also been many water main leaks in the village the worst ones being

in Wilmslow Old Road which have now been satisfactorily dealt after much pestering by the Parish Council.

20 mph speed restriction signs have been erected on the approach roads to the village school that are activated at the start and end of the school day.

Emily Blair who was our PCSO has now become a police officer with the Greater Manchester force. Hannah Jackson took over as our PCSO and has attended our Parish Council meetings when her duties permitted and always provided us with a report of recorded incidents in the village and surrounding areas. Unfortunately due to reorganisations in the local police force Hannah has been relocated within Cheshire and her replacement is Anna Jenkinson who unfortunately cannot attend this evening's meeting but Anna will be in attendance at our Parish Council AGM in May and continues to provide us with police reports.

The telephone box that the Parish Council bought and had repositioned outside the village hall has now been painted and shelving fitted and has now been opened as a library as intended. The opening ceremony was performed by Kath Hughes, a local best-selling author, who is the wife of Councillor Rob Hughes who is the vice chairman of the Parish Council.

We have had the finger post direction signs repainted.

Fibre Broadband is hopefully a step nearer and Councillor Hughes will bring you up to date under item 5 on the agenda.

The parish council whilst obtaining quotations for the cleaning of the Mottram Cross that is a grade two listed

Annual Report 2018 continued.....

By Bill Pilkington

monument near to the cross roads at the Bulls Head were approached by the chairman of Aura Conservation of Stockport who carried out the cleaning at no cost to the village.

At our regular meetings at the Airport we were advised that they are experiencing congestion problems on the Terminal forecourts and it has been necessary to consider solutions to the problem. Although they have invested in various programmes to increase capacity, they are limited by security issues that restrict how close vehicles can get to the Terminal front. The simple fact is the forecourts were not designed to handle the number of vehicles they do today and do not have the capacity to cope with any further growth in the number of people being dropped-off immediately outside the terminals.

They are therefore investing in a dedicated drop-off site, from where a free shuttle bus service will operate to all three terminals.

In parallel, an Express Drop-off charge will be introduced in the areas directly outside the three terminals. From June if you are looking to drop off or be dropped off at Manchester Airport; this will be possible free of charge at their drop off point or you can choose to pay £3 for five minutes (£4 for ten) to be dropped off outside the Terminal front.

We were also advised of the Government's noise policy, effective from January 2018, which is to limit, and, where possible reduce the number of people in the UK significantly affected by adverse impacts from airport noise.

We were also advised of their planned dual use of both runways.

Parish Council Plans.

This year we will be looking into the renovation of the village pump in Oak Road which is part of our village heritage.

We are still trying to get improvements for the sighting for vehicles exiting Mill Lane which is proving difficult due to the hedge being owned by Adlington Hall. We believe that only solution is for the hedge to be replaced by Cheshire Railings that can be seen through and we are trying to persuade them to take the necessary action.

After more than 50 years of complaining about the junction of Mill Lane and Woodford Lane with Lees Lane we understand that plans are currently being drawn up to improve the junction. Certain works have been carried out in the last few years after much campaigning by the Parish Council that have included the imposition of a 40 mph speed limit on Lees Lane, Lees Lane has been resurfaced and re-profiled on the sharp bends by Parkers Nursery where there had been numerous accidents, crash barriers are currently being installed and a safe area for children to await the school bus has been provided. The issue will be raised again at the Cheshire East highways meeting at which we will be represented.

We will also be raising our concerns over the poor state of the roads in the village, there being numerous potholes and damaged roadside verges which we keep reporting to Cheshire East highways. I would urge all of you to report any road defects to Cheshire East on their web site, the more complaints that

Annual Report 2018 continued.....

By Bill Pilkington

they get might increase our chances of seeing improvements.

We are also looking at new ways of improving communications with you. Currently there is the village web site and the Mercury which is issued six times per year. The current editor has advised that her work commitments are making it impossible for her to continue and we have been attempting to find a new editor. Therefore if there are any volunteers please let us know. We would like to set up a circulation list of resident's emails with their permission so that important information can be circulated to all who sign up at the earliest possible moment. Hopefully this will not contravene the EU data protection directive that comes into force in May this year.

The 11th November this year will be the centenary of the end of the First World War and as a village we will need to decide if we wish to mark this event and if yes how. There will be the annual

remembrance service in the chapel commencing at 10.30 when we remember all those men and women, especially the 23 men from our small village community, who gave their lives on behalf of their country.

Consideration will need to be given to the updating of the Parish Council Honours Board that is located in the Village Hall.

The emergency plan for the village will need updating and will be discussed at the AGM of the Parish Council on Monday 21st May and an updated copy will be available to view on the village web site. The Parish Council AGM will be held in the village chapel in Priest Lane and all are welcome to attend. The meeting will commence at 6.30pm as usual.

Are there any questions on the reports that you have heard and are there other issues that you would like to raise? The meeting is open to you.



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After the winter doldrums we are at last beginning to catch up a little with those events cancelled earlier with a coffee morning hosted in the chapel on 12th May in aid of East Cheshire Hospice. As this is being written before the event the amount raised has yet to be revealed but more on that and other things next bulletin!

As we head into summer our next special event of the year is a culinary treat when on **Saturday 4th June** we hold a **Strawberry tea** in the **Village Hall** from **2pm to 4pm**. Suggested admission is £5 for adults £2 for children, and we can't do better than repeat our comments made last year where we were planning to have as many tables and teapots ready for a traditional afternoon tea as we did the year before! Hopefully we will again have plenty of visitors to enjoy the 'fruits' of our labours! As this is one of our main fundraisers in support of the chapel we hope those serving and assisting will be very busy indeed so come along if you can. You will be very welcome!

On the following **Sunday 10th June**, we turn to more spiritual endeavours as we celebrate our annual **Open Air Service** once again to be held outside the bungalows on Alderley Road at **2.30pm**. This year the service will be led by Rev Sue Swires for the first time so we hope the weather is going to be kind. As some may remember it rained heavily throughout the service last year though we did survive! This year we will again be serving refreshments after the service

thanks to the generosity of Michael Nixon providing the power to heat the boiler; this regardless of the vagaries of our British weather! We are of course, hoping for a fine day but one never knows so bring along a 'brolly/sunshade?' just in case they are needed! Please come along if you can as an open air service has a special feel to it all of its own even if it does rain and it's an opportunity to be reminded that we are all part of the great outdoors and the miracle of creation.

Just a note here that there will be **no morning service** at the chapel on that day as it is replaced by the special Open Air service mentioned above.

As yet the chapel continues on without a number of key administrative posts being filled though we are seeking a solution to this in a positive way and hope the matter is resolved soon. In the meantime we carry on with our Sunday Services each week as normal at 9.30am; a time to step back from our busy lives and consider things more spiritual as we worship God and bring our prayers to the forefront of our minds. At present we are aware of a number of people in our village suffering from one malady or another and will be thinking of them and praying for them during our prayers of intercession each week. Helping to support one another in times of difficulty should be one of our key themes and in a church context is perhaps at its most powerful as we share together. Every one of us is valued by God and important to us all.

We explore such themes in other ways; not least through our Fellowship meetings. Our next get together will be held on **Thursday 31st May at 1.30pm** a little later in the month than usual as we bend to accommodate summer holidays etc. The meetings are open to anyone who would like to join us for these interesting discussions with a reminder that in this series of reflections and bible study we are looking at the psalms and how they still relate to our lives even today.

Ian Wright (Secretary)
Tel:01625 583704



We still enjoy our quizzes, bingo, raffles and a game of darts. Which brings us right up to date with the wonderful news that our Pauline won the silver cup for her brilliant win over the year. I hope you are pleased to see Pauline's enjoyment in her photograph.

We are a fun loving, good bunch of adventurers if would like to join us and are thinking about it, please call Margaret or Pauline.

Contact: Pauline Glancy
Tel:01625262940/Mob:07731483022
or Margaret Potts
Tel: 01625 582154

Bowling Club

By Phillis Kennerley

We are seriously in need of new players so if you fancy having a go then please get in touch, come along and have a go. We will try to arrange some dates at the beginning of the season for potential new members to get together.

My number is 01625 820231 or email: sydkennerly@gmail.com. We hope to have our annual Presentation night at the social club in the near future and members will be informed as soon as a date is fixed. Wishing you all a good season in 2018.



Wednesday Club

By Joan Williams

We have lots of reasons to be cheerful and the joy of the spring daffodils are one of them that have been spectacular this year. At our Wednesday we have enjoyed our Christmas meal together, Celebrated Happy Birthdays without exception brings each one of us a little closer together. We all enjoyed our springtime outing at the Wilmslow Garden Centre which included a delicious lunch.

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The Untidy Gardener

As spring progresses it isn't just the spring bulbs to look forward to but the blossoming of spring in all its fullness. In fact the early part of the year is full of promise it's hard to know where to start with the appreciation of it all. One thing I like to see is the unfurling of the fern fronds (also known as crosiers as they resemble the staff carried by bishops), as they emerge. In my 'natural' garden there are many examples as they come in so many shapes and sizes, some evergreen, some dying back for the winter, looking for all intents and purposes as though they are dead, only to sprout forth again in the spring. Most are long lived and often spread of their own accord, some such as the Hart's Tongue Fern (*Phyllitis scolopendrium*), a little too enthusiastically! Ferns in general have been a favourite of mine for some time, and not just in the garden but wherever I find them, particular the smaller species which grow amongst the rocks of mountain or by the sea.



Many years ago when my enthusiasm for ferns was at its height I joined the British Pteridological Society; ferns being classified as Pteridophytes (basically translated as Winged Plants). I remember that shortly after I joined, members were asked to vote on a proposal to change the name to the British Fern Society. I voted against. It had taken me a fortnight to master pronouncing Pteridological! (The 'P' is silent and starts as 't'; at least in the way I pronounce it it does!). I need not have worried. The proposal was defeated on a technicality as the term Pteridophytes also covers the Horsetails and the Club-mosses, (As we all know!), and they would have felt left out!

Seeing the fern fronds emerge as the weather warms is a treat for any fern lover and from an artistic point of view they can be beautiful. Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), is possibly our most recognised fern; not that you would want it in the garden, though the tips of its fronds are said to be edible. I have to confess I haven't sampled this supposed delicacy as part of any salad mix. I suspect it is specialist gourmet fare like some toadstools, so have never risked it! Cowardly I know, but I am still alive!!



The Victoria age was the hey-day of fern appreciation; a time when fern mania saw many well to do garden lovers vie for who had the best collection or who could spot the most obscure forms and varieties. Many of these great collections were lost during the time of the Great Wars as gardens were neglected or turned towards food production. Social changes too, added to the decline and there are far less varieties to choose from nowadays without going to specialist nurseries or growing your own which is interesting but requiring considerable patience! Despite this rather negative view, even the most common species and forms are well worth growing. Many grow well in shade, particularly damp shade, and a few like the Shield ferns (*Polystichum*) and The Common Polypody (*Polypodium*) will stand quite a lot of drought (if we ever get one!). There are also ferns for every part of the garden, whether this is in the borders amongst shrubs or by a pool or in the rock garden or dry stone wall. Something for everyone!



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Village Hall

By Steve Hatton



We held the 2018 AGM on Monday , 16th April 2018 . The Chairman reported that 2017 had been a successful year for the Hall. A summer working party had made a great job of sprucing up the buildin and the grounds , taking on a number of repairs and redecoration tasks . By the end of the summer, the Hall was looking better than it had for several years. The Finances remained in good shape , with an increase in the bank balance , mainly due to an increase in revenue from hiring out the Hall . New activities including the Parent/Toddler group had been successful with more than 30 children registered in that group. The Chairman thanked the Trustees for their time and efforts during the year , with special thanks to the Treasurer, Bookings Secretary and the Trustee Secretary for their hard work .

Appologies for last months editorial blunder the article was not updated due to the editor of the Mercury being a dingle! Sorry Steve. This months you have relevant information.

Steve Hatton Tel: 01625 590879



We saw the return of Billy Mitchell after his first sell out visit to the Hall. Billy delivered a great night of entertainment and was on stage for close to 2 1/2 hours in total. His Geordie humour and songs from a wide range of musical genres made for a thoroughly enjoyable night of live music.

Next up is what you can only describe as "Folk music royalty " , and two for the price of one ! On October the 13th we have Martin Carthy and John Kirkpatrick together for what promises to be a very special night

For more than 50 years, BBC Radio 2 Lifetime Award winner , Martin Carthy has been one of folk music's greatest innovators. His skill, stage presence and charm have won him many admirers and influenced a generation of artists including Bob Dylan and Paul Simon.

John Kirkpatrick is one of the most prolific figure on the English Folk scene both solo and with a host of other musicians . he has established a reputation as an instrumental virtuoso with melodeon, concertina and button accordion. He has been a member of the Albion Band and Steeleye Span among others

Details, further information and on line booking can be found on our recently revamped website www.musicatmottram.com. You can find YouTube clips , reviews and an on line ticket booking site

<https://www.musicatmottram.com/>

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Village News - Telephone Book Exchange

By Bill Pilkington

The official opening of the Mottram St. Andrew Telephone Box Book Exchange took place on a rainy Monday 2nd April attended by Parish Council Chairman Bill Pilkington and other Councillors. The ribbon was cut by local bestselling Author Kathryn Hughes who recently topped the charts with her first Novel The Letter. Kathryn has since had two further books published and is developing an International following. The success of the Telephone Box project has been nowhere near as instant as Kathryn's as the idea of acquiring the Box from BT to preserve it for future generations was first conceived eight years ago. The box was briefly used as a library in its original position on Alderley Road but the location was not safe to encourage parking and a decision to move it was made. Planning permission was granted and the dilapidated box was moved to its current position on the Village Hall car park. The Box has now been completely restored and shelved to accommodate books and makes an ideal small library. Residents are encouraged to exchange

their books without membership fees, fines for late return or even having to keep quiet while they do it. The traditional red phone box will be preserved for generations in a safe position and will be maintained while providing a useful facility for the Community. The box can still be utilised for telephone calls, that is provided the user is carrying their own mobile telephone as all the original equipment has been removed.

Chairman Bill Pilkington said he is delighted that the project has been successfully completed and has been so well received by the Village. The loss of a British Icon in the Village has been avoided and will be here for people to see as well as use.

Kathryn kindly donated two copies of her books for inclusion in the Book Exchange and volunteered to help organise the venture in future with the help of her husband Rob Hughes who is also Vice Chairman of the Parish Council



Kathryn Hughes cuts the tape while Bill Pilkington and other Councillors look on



Mottam St. Andrew Primary Academy

Head Teacher's Report

By Miss Jean Willerton

The children and staff of Mottam St Andrew Primary Academy continue to be busy with lots going on in school. Staff are committed to providing the very best for our children who have such a positive attitude to leaning and take advantage of everything on offer.

Sport has a high profile here and we have a wide range of different sporting activities within our enrichment programme. These include football, yoga, quick cricket, rounder's, netball, tai chi, gymnastics, martial arts, athletics and fun P.E. Last term, during Sport Relief week, the children all ran a 'daily mile' on the school grounds and joined in with HIIT sessions from Joe Wicks, the 'Body Coach'. Our Year 3 and 5 classes had a fantastic football coaching session with Michael Carrick. Children have competed against other schools in football, cross country and athletics.

During the first week of term, our Year 4 and 5 children went on their residential visit to the White Hall Centre in Buxton. For the Year 4 children, it was their first school residential visit and for some children the first time they have been away without their parents. Residential visits are an important part of our curriculum and help to build team work, independence and confidence. The focus was on outdoor activities which included abseiling, canoeing, stream scrambling, a night hike and the zip wire.

The children had to work outside of their comfort zone and showed a willingness to get involved with all of the activities. The staff were proud of their resilience and excellent behaviour.

We have been very pleased with the success of our Nursery, which opened last September, and is now an integral part of our school. It offers an excellent provision during that important year before children start in a Reception class. We take children from the September after they are three and offer flexible hours. The core sessions are 8.45-11.45am and 12.15-3.15pm and free childcare hours can be used for these. We also offer wrap around care from 7.45am-6pm. If you know anyone who might be interested in a Nursery place then please ask them to email office@mottamacademy.org.uk

We were all very proud of our Year 6 children who have just completed the Year 6 SATs tests. The children completed tests in maths, reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar. The teaching staff and children have all worked very hard over the last few months and we are sure that the results will reflect this. They have just left school for their residential trip to the Conway Centre which will be an amazing week for them.

Our Summer Fair is on Friday 6th July, here at school. It is a major fundraiser for us and we would love to see as many people as possible here.



WHITE HALL RESIDENTIAL TRIP 2018





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Brownies

By Katy Hatton

1st MSA Brownies

The Brownies have completed their impact badge....looking at how we are impacting our world and the changes we can make. We all made shortbread with the help of Mrs. Stelele for part of this badge and cooks badge.

We are going to Tatton Park to do sailing and canoeing on the lake in June and have a water slide and picnic planned.

We will start home safety and brownie skills badges this term.

We meet on Tuesdays in the village Hall 6-7.30

Katy Hatton (Brown Owl).

Contact: 01625 590879

G

Guides

By Katy Hatton

1st MSA Guides

Our numbers have increased to 18. We have just have a cake decorating competition with the theme of flowers and completed the impact badges by raising money to buy blankets for the children of Syria.

In June we are sailing and canoeing on Tatton Park lake and having a camp sleepover.

In July we are going to an international scout and Guide camp with over 4,000

people from around the world. Bear Grylls is attending for one day, flying in with his helicopter, so the girls are excited.

We meet on Fridays 6-7.30 in the village hall

Katy Hatton (Owl)

Contact: 01625590879

In Loving Memory

In Loving Memory of two great members of our community. Condolences to all members of the family. They will be sadly missed. Fair well and may you both shine brightly in the starry sky.



Alma Fletcher: 1st July 1939 - 24th May 2018



Norman Wright: 1916 - 25th May 2018

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RONTAYLORLLB@GMAIL.COM**

**STEVE HATTON 590879 OR BY EMAIL TO
STEVEANDKATYH@GMAIL.COM**

Community - News

MSA walkers

Our walking group continues to meet and enjoy our local adventures. If you feel like joining us come alone and enjoy the country air. The next walks are;

Wednesday 27th June

Thursday 12 th July



Please let me know if you intend going on any of these walks so that I can send details of where we are going.

Contact: Katy Hatton Tel: 01625590879

Email: steveandkatyh@gmail.com

Toddler group

We are flourishing with 34 children on our register. Thankfully they don't all come every week! The atmosphere is calm and relaxed.

We meeting on Mondays 10.30 - 12 noon.

Contact: Katy Hatton

Tel: 01625 590879



Pilates

Heidi puts us through a very interesting and varied session every Wednesday 13.30-1.30 in the village hall.

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Contact: Katy Hatton

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EXTRACTS FROM BETH GARDOM'S DIARY - 1988 (shared by Jill Hillary)

Beth Gardom lived in Mottram for over 50 years with her husband Reg and both immersed themselves into village life. I shared extracts from 1986 & 1987 in the previous editions of our Mercury and now we move on a year to 1988 to see what was happening in the village and society in general.

January

Welcome to 1988. I wonder again if Reg will retire this year.

24th - Bad gales on Sunday evening and the electricity was going off and on. Men called on Monday morning and said they would trim back the branches that are touching the wires.

26th - Dreadful gales were forecast for Tuesday (to have started by noon) and they were not joking. There was a specially fierce gust at 5.00 pm.

March

8th - What an excitement on Tuesday afternoon - the Hunt went through! Horses along the lane at the back, hounds across the field and (six of eight of them) through our garden. Meg nearly went mad - what a good job she was not outside, I dread to think what might have happened. There must have been about 50 followers - twenty or so in pink and a lot of others. Tally Ho! What memories it brought back to me, of the pack at Bridge End and of the Meets at Oulton.

10th - cutting from newspaper. "Spring seems to have sprung in New York but the pessimists are saying: remember the blizzard of 88. That's 1888. It struck on March 10 after similarly balmy weather, bringing 21 inches of snow, drifts of over 20 feet and 85 mph winds. Its centenary is being marked by books, an exhibition and lots of snowdrift pictures in the papers but so far, the forecasters say, there is no sign of a commemorative re-enactment."

15th - Budget day - tax reduced.

There was a coal tit here today.

The pond is full of frogs and they are really noisy during the night. The fish don't seem to mind, and are happily clustered around their heater.

25th - Cutting from newspaper - "A Farewell party was given this week for retiring district physiotherapist Reg Gardom. The party was held at Mottram Village Hall on Friday. Mr Gardom was presented with a cheque and treated to a floor show produced by the therapists from West Park Hospital. Mr Gardom, who has worked in Macclesfield for the last 34 years now intends to spend much of his time working as Secretary of Mottram St Andrew Village Hall. The near future promises to be busy with a fund raising campaign for a new village hall and the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the hall in 1989.

Mr Gardom will be continuing his roles as school manager and local parish councilor"

28th - A very busy and tiring week for Reg. Many speeches were made at various lunches and dinners and he was presented with a compact disc player and a cheque for £220 from the physio party - we intend to get things for the garden. Perhaps gates or fencing.

31st - Reg retires!!!

April

11th - Got fence from Astbury garden centre. Reg worked extremely hard putting it up behind Little Cottage.

30th - Cut these out for Reg to read. Just hope they have the right effect.

"CANCER - The moon, your planetary ruler, is passing rapidly through your sixth house of work indicating that routine chores are piling up and need to be tackled without delay."

"The trouble with doing nothing is that you can't take any time off."

And one I don't want to show Reg "If you want things done, call a busy man - the man of leisure has no time."

May

16th - Very hot day - well over 96°. Reg filled the hanging baskets.

17th - Got very cold watching the bowling.

June

8th - Russell Harty died today after a long fight against hepatitis. I shall miss him from Countdown.

10th - Reg bought new Woods. I am paying, I think, for his birthday.

12th - The day of the explosion. Newspaper article reads "Fire destroyed a shed at Priest Lane, Mottram St Andrew on Sunday after a gas cylinder caught alight".

13th - Insurance assessor came.

14th - Skip came for us to load rubbish. Reg and Garnett worked VERY HARD all the hot afternoon.

16th - new shed erected. Skip taken away. Neighbour Penny at Ascot today - in a very smart hat.

25th - Village Fete - great and made £600+. Woodford Airshow cancelled.

July

Newspaper article "This month was the wettest July in 50 years and the 22nd wettest since 1727 when records began. A depressing 128 millimetres of rain were recorded against an average of just 73mm."

August

1st - Flood in kitchen! Central heating pump has packed up.

6th - Ruby wedding. I think everyone enjoyed the party.

7th - After they had helped Reg to tidy the Hall Ros, Jack, Benny and Elsie came to a "barbecue" type lunch here. We really must get a barbecue.

20th - Barbecue and Grand Draw at the Village Hall. Baked 30 potatoes and made a large salad. Evening was a great success. Group was excellent but noisy. Made c. £850.

21st - We bought a barbecue - that should fix the weather! Reg moved a large frog gently along with his foot, and it turned and "growled" and spat at him. He was quite alarmed.

September

3rd - Flower Show day. Entries much as last year. Reg 3rd for marrows. A good show except that money was stolen from the door.

Forty nine years ago today I was in the school yard, waiting for evacuees to arrive - because "no such undertaking had been received". It was a hot, sunny day.

17th - Hoe Down at Hall. The blue tits are hammering on the window all the time.

Newspaper article "CANCER - The quicker you make a start on important domestic improvements the sooner you'll be free to get on with activities that are, in the final analysis, more attractive. You may have to give in to relatives' wishes" - Feel Reg should take note of his star sign today.

18th - We have been really gripped by the Olympic Games this time but we do watch first thing each morning. I was most pleased by our Hockey Gold, I think, because it was a team effort. So pleased that Linford Christie was cleared of drug taking. So sorry Daley Thompson was injured and missed the medals. So fed up with the commentators burling on - especially Brendan Foster.

October

2nd - The Olympic Closing Ceremony was fantastic, of course, but (because of the difficulty of photography I think) didn't come over as well as the Opening.

3rd - WI 40th anniversary. Was invited to go as a previous Vice President.

30th - Reg at Hall - men were building bonfire.

31st - Bonfire meeting (Reg). A lot of Halloween bangs.

November

1st - Reg at Hall most of day. Michael here to sort fireworks.

2nd - Reg at Hall all morning.

3rd - Reg at Hall 0930-4.00.

4th - Reg at Hall am. I'm getting fed up.

5th - Hall Bonfire 7.00. All went well at bonfire and a good time was had by everyone.

6th - We think the heron has been. Two fish have gone.

7th - Only one fish left now. We are sad.

8th - To garden centre about dead fish.

10th - Reg busy with articles for the new village newspaper - "The Mottram St Andrew Mercury"

28th - To Kennerleys 7.30. Phyllis 50!. Good party for Phyllis. Lovely food.

30th - Heard an explosion this morning. It was at the airport. One man killed.

December

21st - Jumbo Jet crash at Lockerbie. It was tragic for the people on the plane, but I feel more for the people on the ground. Poor Lockerbie.

25th - Xmas Day. I bought monopoly for Reg - I wonder if we will use it. Reg cooked the turkey dinner - it was lovely. He has been very good this year. Bless him.

Highlights

Reg's retirement - he likes it!

6th August - our Ruby Wedding Day.

Low Spot - 12th June - EXPLOSION!

Women's Institute

By Anne Wilson

At our April meeting we met Edna Madely from the "Quilting Box" in Macclesfield who is dedicated to teaching people the art of quilting and brought along a huge selection of her work, which was greatly admired by our members.



Each year at the April meeting, the Denman Bursary is drawn, which allows a member to attend a 2/3 day cookery, craft or lifestyle course at its college in Oxfordshire and I am pleased to announce that in its 70th year I am the recipient and look forward to making my course choice from the vast array on offer.

The following Monday there was a coach trip to Boundary Mill at Colne which enabled members to participate in some "retail therapy"!

In May we spent an informative afternoon at the Blackden Trust Medicine House, Holmes Chapel, the home of author Alan Garner, his first children's fantasy novel being "The Weirstone of Brisingamen" set on "The Edge".

Our county walk in June is 5/6 miles around this area.

With summer on the horizon we are looking forward to the healthy living and wellbeing week in June. Mental wellbeing is at the forefront of all our minds, as discussions at our May meeting were centred on this year's resolution.

Keith Birkett from Roberts Bakery was our speaker for the evening. He told us about the family history and how the bakery has expanded over the years and how they have had to diversify to keep up with the changes in trends and tastes. They also produce products for some of the big supermarkets under their own labels. A very interesting talk but unfortunately no free samples!

At our June meeting we look forward to hearing about the work of "Ronald McDonald House" a charity that provides free "home away from home" accommodation for families with children in hospital.

Our Film Group meets monthly at MSA Methodist Church - please see the village notice board for upcoming dates and times.

For more information about your local WI contact Margaret Graham 01625 617054 or Anne Wilson 01625 250473.



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Meeting**
on Monday
in the Village Hall
commencing at 7 pm.

**Mottram St Andrew
Village Hall**

**Our next Meeting
to be held on
Monday 18 at
7.00pm.**

Mercury Magazine We Need Your Input

We are currently looking for villagers who would like to write an editorial piece to be featured in future issues of our much loved Mercury magazine.

We are well aware that we need to include advertising in each issue to fund the production costs but also need to balance advertising space and articles of interest to us all.

If anyone is interested in joining the Mercury team and writing a piece for us then please contact Claire Hatch Tel:01625 827042

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Contact the Editor Claire Hatch

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Copy deadline Issue 180 Aug/Sept Fri 20th Jul 2018

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