

THE REDLAKE

NUMBER 27

SUMMER 2014

From the Editors

Lovely summer!

Well it had to happen sometime, and isn't it a lovely summer. Since the end of May, the weather has been sunny and getting warmer through June and July, with few interruptions for rain. Waking up to sunshine, and wearing light clothing is such a joy. For once the sheep seem grateful to have been sheared! This is when we wish to have a soft top car, and feel the sun on our skin. Let us hope it continues well into August. Well I say make the most of it, as you can be sure the weather reports will be sending out red warnings for flooding before you know it!

Jeremy J.

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More information & photos of some of these articles are available on the website at www.chapel-lawn.co.uk

Birthday Surprise!

I innocently went along to the drawing class run by Simon, my brother, (every second Wednesday in the month) and was quietly drawing my stick figures and trying to give them some sort of movement, when the doors were opened by Nick Ogden and James Middleton; I thought two unlikely candidates for the drawing class, but fair play to them. They had a banner between them and they were carrying some packages, this was unusual for Wednesday lunch time. More people quickly followed, carrying more baskets full of food and drink. The banner was put up that read "Happy Birthday". Pencils were put down and tables were laid out down the middle of the Hall. More friends with food and drink arrived and before I knew it the Hall was full of chatter.

I would just like to say a big thank you to Christine and Jemima for organising it so surreptitiously and everyone who came along and brought such delicious homemade food. Having never had a surprise party before, it was great fun and the

hall lent itself perfectly for the occasion as it is so well equipped.

I can't guarantee this will happen during every drawing class, but I can't wait to find out!

Jeremy Jameson

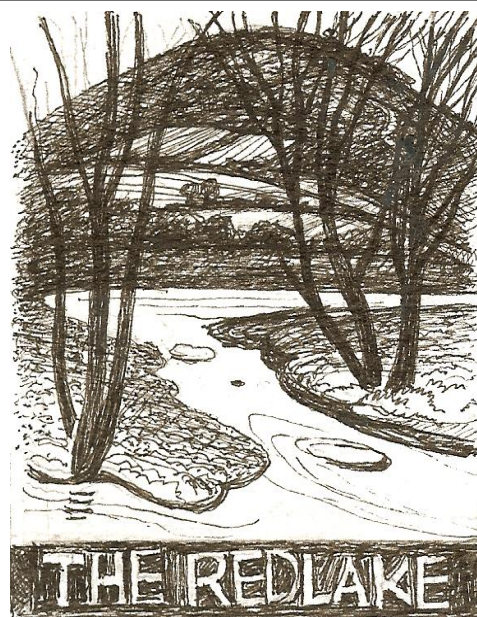
Fund Raising events

Two very successful events were held at the beginning of June which together raised £599 for the Church Restoration Fund. Sixty-four hearty breakfasts were cooked and served by the resident Chapel Lawn chefs, Christine Oakley and Patrick Cosgrove. So good were the breakfasts that one customer had two (or was it three?)

'The Voices of the Valley' concert was compered by Andrew Gibbs who kept the audience entertained by his topical jokes and quips. There was a variety of popular, folk songs and songs from shows delivered wonderfully by local singers. It was pleasing to see younger artists involved too. It was a super afternoon completed by luscious homemade cakes and cream scones enjoyed by over sixty five people who attended.

A big thank you to everyone involved.

Di Cosgrove



Chapel Lawn First World War Centenary Event

Saturday 16th August
Everyone Welcome.

Afternoon Tea in the Village Hall followed by the film 'Oh What a Lovely War'

Before tea there will be a walk around the village along the edge of Bryneddin Wood for anyone wishing to take part. The bar will remain open after the film and everyone is welcome to stay into the evening.

We invite people to bring along a photograph and short account of a relative who served in the First World War, any First World War artefacts or a favourite war poem.

Walk 3:00pm, Tea 4:00pm,
Film 5:00pm
Adult £9 Child £6,
Includes free prize draw

Tickets or reservations contact:
Di Cosgrove 01547 530347 or
Peter Sherman 530530

Profile:**Ella Ann Rogers of
Tan Vron**

Born in Eastleigh, Hampshire, in 1931, she is 12th of 13 children, 6 boys and 7 girls. Sadly only two of her siblings are alive today; Lettie who is 99 and Sally Bengie the youngest child who is 82.

Ann had a happy childhood and was a favourite of her father who was an undertaker in the family business of builders and undertakers. Five of Ann's brothers served in and survived the Second World War.

When Ann was six years old the family moved into a brand new house in Bishops Stoke, built with a legacy from her grandfather. She can remember it being built and having picnics in the garden whilst watching it grow.

With thirteen children to raise her Mother was always busy but Sunday was her day of rest and the children took it in turns to cook the Sunday dinner which Mother served sitting at the head of the table with a big spoon at hand to wrap the knuckles of any miscreants,

Ann can't remember when she first wanted to become a nurse, it could have been in the Girl's Brigade prior to the second world war or when she was a Brownie, certainly by the time she joined the St. John's Ambulance Brigade she knew that was what she wanted to be, especially after she was asked to help in the Sunlight clinics which were set up after the war for deprived and undernourished children.

Ann left school at 14 and applied to the London County Council for a job as a nursery nurse down the Old Kent Road, she is the only one of her siblings to leave Hampshire, but she couldn't become a nurse in Bishops Stoke because folk were superstitious of the daughter of the undertaker being a nurse! Nevertheless, when she left home her Father said she could always come back if she was unhappy and whenever she went home he always gave her the money for her fare home. When the Welfare State was introduced in 1946 her Father said it would bring the downfall of Britain.

From the age of 16 Ann worked in a residential nursery for children in care. There were 3 nursery nurses to care for 20 children, 10 babies and 10 toddlers and the nurses had to be very imaginative and versatile to keep them amused.

When Ann's friend Margaret Lumley left to start her General nurses training, Ann decided that she also wanted to do that, they went to Highgate Hospital for the three year training. Later this hospital was amalgamated into the Whittington Hospital. Ann qualified as a State Registered Nurse in February 1952 and remained at the Whittington as a Staff nurse and later a Sister, for 18 months, as a ward sister she became known as Rogers the Rebel as she liked to be innovative and change things, her sister Bengie told her she had a pioneering spirit! When she moved on, it was to become a pupil midwife at the East End Maternity Hospital. Flavours of 'Call the Midwife' Ann became 'Pupil Midwife of the Year'

When a vacancy occurred on the male medical ward at the Whittington, Ann returned to be Sister there for the next 12 years although she did not sit back on her laurels, when offered money by the Kings Fund to purchase a new steriliser for the ward she instead introduced central sterilising (CSSD) first to her own ward and ultimately to the whole hospital, employing housekeepers to maintain the system and also to do non nursing jobs on the

wards. Another innovative idea was to train blind physiotherapists to work on the wards when she saw that the practice of keeping patients in bed for long periods of time was increasing the risk of thrombosis.

With all these new ideas and a Diploma in Medical Nursing from the University of London, Ann was asked to help in the School of Nursing and to give lectures on ward management at the Royal College of Nursing, however when she applied to Manchester University to do a teaching qualification, she was rejected because she had no 'O' levels, she then set herself to get 7 'O' levels in the next year, and in 1968 she got her teaching certificate from Manchester University!

Following this Ann went to work in Bristol as a nurse tutor first at South Mead and later at Frenchay hospital where she introduced Enrolled nurse training. Whilst living in Bristol she began to look around for somewhere to make a home for herself when she finally retired. A friend saw Tan Vron advertised in the Telegraph, they went to view it and Ann determined to buy it.

The cottage was owned by the farmer at the Vron, although there were no amenities or services it had been inhabited by an old man for some years before he died. Henry Richard of New Invention told Ann that the occupant 'had washed but dried dirty'. The owner of Tan Vron was anxious to have a say in who bought it as they would be near neighbours, but he took a liking to Ann and allowed her to buy it in 1986. She says it has been her life's work to make it into the pretty idyllic cottage it is today. At the time however she did not have the funds to pay for all the renovations and had to continue working. She worked in a nursing home in Kingsland and helped to get it recognised as an education centre for the area. Ann also worked for several years in Saudi Arabia during the period of the Kuwait war, the contract was for 3 years and for the first 7 months they were not allowed out of the hospital, after this time they had to wear

bhurkas if they went out.

When a new hospital was built in the mountains with American/Saudi management, Ann was employed as Director of education, the tutors taught all nursing skills and English to a multi-national group of nurses and doctors. After one year in the new hospital Ann realised that she had bowel cancer and returned to England for treatment which was successful. By 1992 she had made a good recovery and decided to remain in England, settling down in her new home and enjoying it.

However she was persuaded to return to Saudi two years later as a tutor to teach English to a group of 45 Saudi women who wanted to take their nursing exams in English in 8 months' time, this was a great challenge not least because of the difference in cultures. Ann is full of stories about Saudi, and the cultural differences, one student once offered her a baby camel and couldn't understand why she did not welcome it. Another time she was summoned to the King's palace to vaccinate all the family. During the Halgh pilgrimage she had to prepare the nurses and doctors to treat the often sick pilgrims and vaccinate them against meningitis and hepatitis.

On her return to England after a year, she continued to work at Kingsland but when she was 70 finally retired, for the third time. After her retirement Ann finally got herself a rescue dog, became an active member of the WI and generally enjoyed country life for the next 10 years.

Despite deteriorating health, Ann manages to remain in her beloved Tan Vron with the help of her friend Bobby and near neighbours the Moule family, especially 9 year old Lavinia whom she has known since her birth and who calls in every day to do little jobs for Ann.

Pat Jameson

Agm & Wine Tasting

In recent months we have been less involved in Chapel Lawn than in the past, and decided to go to the Village Hall Committee AGM to try to catch

up on what is happening. We were expecting to enjoy meeting friendly faces, but thought the AGM itself would not be the most thrilling event - how wrong we were! The actual business was despatched with great speed and efficiency and then Mark Hughes, a local wine merchant, took over, to lead us through a wine tasting. During the course of the next hour or so we each tasted and learnt about 8 wines with accompanying cheese and biscuits. The commentary explaining their source and qualities was fascinating and made each wine really interesting to taste and the whole evening really enjoyable. We came away happy to have been, and feeling we could now blag our way through any dinner party! We recommend you look out for the next AGM - they can be fun!

Jane and Julian Kent

Village Hall Committee:

James Middleton stood down after eight years as chairman but he remains on the committee. The new committee is much as before with the addition of Beryl Palmer who will continue as housekeeper and bookings secretary. Becky Whitton is now 'Chair' and Ian Campbell, Patrick Cosgrove and Jim Rogers continue as Vice-chairman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Other trustees are Di Cosgrove, Simon Jameson and Peter Sherman.

In case you're not aware, the income from the photo-voltaic solar panels on the roof of the hall enables hire charges to be waived for local organisations wanting to use the hall, or for other events in the hall that are open to all residents.

Restoration of the Church

Work continues on the church and is set to be completed by early September.

The Bell Tower is being refurbished and work is near to completion. The bell has been taken down and has been sent away for refurbishment. It will be put back in place during August. The internal roof has been

repaired and internal decoration has begun. The East end external rendering is complete, including new coping stones.

Poets Corner

*The chickens are laying,
Whilst farmers are haying
In fields that are golden with corn.
The cats lie around
Upon Summer's warmed ground,
And the sheep are so grateful they're
shorn!*

*This blazing-June's been
Like an old recalled dream...
A nostalgia, for Summers gone by.
Now, we're promised a storm
And a cloudy, grey dawn.
So enjoy.... While there's endless blue sky.*

Jem



REDLAKE RIVIERA

Seasonal Gardening Notes



Regular customers at my plant stall will often see Astilbes on offer: they are great favourites of mine, and for good reason as they combine beauty with perfect manners, which makes them sound like Miss World contestants.

Astilbes have exquisite feathery foliage in various shades of green, rusty red and chocolaty-maroon, sometimes mat and softly furry, sometimes polished and light-reflecting. Their flowers are feathery too-delicately arching plumes or upright branching sprays-and richly coloured in pinks, mauves, reds, as well as white and cream. Astilbes are often planted in masses beside water,

to be seen from a distance, so that their colours can look quite startling in their intensity. This flower colour ages to warm chestnut and, as the stems stand strongly, can continue the effect through the winter and spring.

They look fine beside water, but are not marginal plants, so would rot if their feet were permanently wet. They like a good strong border soil, but are tough enough to grow almost anywhere. And I have yet to find anything that eats them.

Hannah Willetts

Redlake Recipes

A Terrine of Summer Fruits

Ingredients:

15 fl oz sparkling rose wine

2 x 11g sachets of gelatine

2 oz caster sugar

1 tablespoon fresh lime juice

12 oz small strawberries

8 oz raspberries

4oz each of blueberries, black currants or any other combination. If fresh fruit not available use 1½ x 500g packs of frozen summer fruits (defrosted).

1. Prepare the fruit if using fresh. Remove stalks, halve strawberries. Wash, dry and mix together in a bowl. If using frozen, mix together in a bowl.
2. In a small saucepan heat half the wine until it begins to simmer.
3. Whisk in the sugar and gelatine in the wine until dissolved.
4. Add remaining wine and lime juice. Leave to cool.
5. Lay the fruit (fresh or frozen) in a loaf tin.
6. Pour the liquid over the fruit. Cover with cling film and leave in the fridge overnight.
7. When ready to serve, turn out the terrine by dipping briefly in hot water and inverting onto a large plate.
8. Decorate with fruit and sprigs of mint.
9. When ready to serve use a sharp knife, first dipped in hot water to cut slices.
10. Serve with fresh cream, crème fraîche or Greek yoghurt.

Di Cosgrove

Farming Column

Well, an old fashioned English summer we have not seen the like of

for years, perfect haymaking weather. This would seem to be the year of plenty of rain last winter, plenty of mild weather, plenty of lambs, plenty of grass and plenty of dun-flies. It looks like apples, plums and hazel nuts are also plentiful.

First mention must go to the Purlogue farmer who has received an award from Western Power for his energy saving strategy; completely blacking out the national grid between Knighton and Clun. Seems he went out to fell a tree for firewood and felled an electricity pole by mistake. Maybe he should have gone to Specsavers.

During the wettest part of the winter one Chapel Lawn farmer discovered his discovery was not 'Noah's Ark' and it did not float; he had to seek help to exit his turnip field. The same farmer was observed driving his tractor all the way to Craven Arms in reverse. Seems the sat-nav had broken and he wanted to be sure he could find his way home.

We have survived (just) another lambing season. Alas this year we had students with no previous experience. Twice I discovered ewes which had not lambed, penned up with lambs, whilst the real mothers ran around the main shed desperately searching for their offspring. Our biggest losses were a couple of the more elderly brethren who exited the lambing shed to a field full of grass and promptly keeled over with staggers, saddling me with four tiddlings.

With long perusal of the weather forecasts and critical cutting times, we were able to schedule the last of the hay harvest in around two days.

At the Royal Welsh Show there was a marvellous display of live- and dead-stock, although every passing year things seem to get bigger and wider including a good percentage of the general public.

A big mistake on the second day was buying a new rucksack. Claudia promptly filled it with 'must have' items, which I then had to carry around all day!

Having recently signed up for a new environmental agreement, our main

target is bracken eradication. With sixty acres of the stuff it is keeping me busy with daily forays with the topper, sprayer or strimmer depending on terrain and weather. Hopefully next week we have a helicopter coming in to spray some of the steepest areas.

As I write this, 5:00 am Saturday, the RVCBS have organised another step building session in the Quillet today. I thought there were only three steps to heaven, but apparently society members are Led Zeppelin fans and are building a Stairway to Heaven.

That's it, back to the home front in the bracken war.

Bob James

Drawing Classes and Crafty Chat

On the first Wednesday of each month from 10 until 4 Simon Jameson runs a drawing workshop in the Village Hall. It is informal and friendly so you can turn up and stay for an hour or all day if you want. Materials, advice and lunchtime soup are all provided for £3.

So far Simon has set exercises that have helped develop drawing and observation skills. The last time I picked up a pencil to draw in a structured way was at school and since then have only occasionally sketched or doodled. It is wonderfully relaxing, absorbing and satisfying, especially when set a specific task. The whole experience is almost 'Zen-like' in such a peaceful atmosphere. Simon is on hand for advice and encouragement if needed and sociable banter from time to time with other fellow sketchers.

As the Drawing Classes got underway, Christine Rogers came up with a way of including other activities by organising "Crafty Chat". You can bring along whatever craft or handiwork in which you are interested. The name speaks for itself and so if you want to get away from the distractions at home to do whatever you like and pick up on the banter that goes along with it. Come along - Tea and Coffee included for £1.

Peter Sherman

Diary

W.W.1 Centenary event in the Village Hall, Saturday 16th August. Walk 3pm. Tea 4pm. Film: "Oh what a lovely War" 5pm.

Ramble & Lunch Sunday 14th September. Walks from 10.30 in car park. Lunch from 12pm Village Hall.

Flicks, 20th September "*Philomena*"

W.I second Tuesday of the month.

Drawing Day 10am- 4pm, every second Wednesday of the month, in the village Hall

ODAS on the last Thursday in every month. 7pm