

the Miller's Tale

IRISH NIGHT CELEBRATION

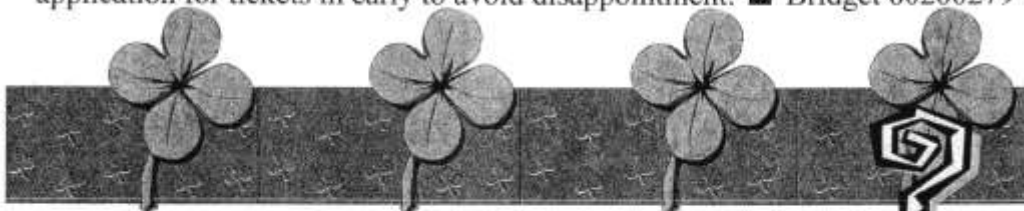
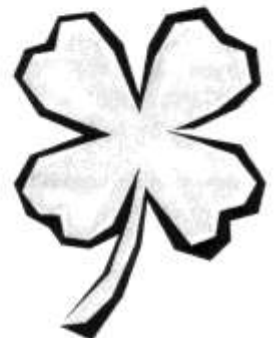


You don't have to be Irish to enjoy a touch of Irish 'craic'. Following the success of previous Burn's Night celebrations we have decided this year to give St Patrick a bit of recognition and have an evening dedicated to enjoying some Irish culture.

It's to be an evening with the emphasis on fun with Irish music, a display of Irish dancing and a chance to do some folk dancing yourself. In keeping with the previous Burn's nights there will be food laid on with an Irish flavour and a opportunity to sample some Irish spirits. Also, as before, you are encouraged to bring along your own tittle to help the evening go with a swing. In addition there will be an Irish themed quiz with prizes and a raffle.

This is just the preliminary information, as we have to confirm the date to fit in with our various contributors to the evening's entertainment, but it is likely to be Saturday the 20th March. There will be a flyer coming round nearer the time to confirm the exact details.

The cost of the evening will be £10 per head to cover food, entertainment, and complimentary drink and will be limited in numbers, so get your application for tickets in early to avoid disappointment. ☎ Bridget 80260279



QUIZ NIGHT with *Inquizitor*
Phil Heller

In the Millers Dale Hall

On Sat 13th March 2004

First Question at 8pm prompt.

Prizes and Raffle. Book in your team of 4 adults/teenagers for £10 per team with Phil ☎ 80265407



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the Information board



what's on at the community hall?

- Mon:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm
 Rainbows 4.30pm-5.30pm
 Aerobics 8.00pm-9.00pm
- Tue:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm
 Brownies 6.00pm-7.30pm
- Wed:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm
 Brownies 6.00pm-7.30pm
- Thu:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm
 Yoga 7.00pm-8.30pm
- Fri:** Yellow Dot 8.10am-5.30pm

HALL BOOKINGS:

Contact: Mrs Linda Mandley
 C/o Eastleigh Baptist Church
 Wells Place, Eastleigh, SO5 5LJ
 ☎ 023 80 613210
 between 9.30am-4.30pm weekdays,
 answer-phone at all other times.

Community Hall Keyholder
 Doreen Lewry
 ☎ 023 80 268562

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E-mail editor@nmdca.org.uk
 Website www.nmdca.org.uk

Or drop articles into:

8 Weavers Place or
 10 Ashbridge Rise
 North Millers Dale



Belated Happy
 New Year from all of
 us at the Miller's Tale

and from the committee of the North Millers
 Dale Community Association.

At this time of the year, thoughts turn to new years resolutions and no doubt those good intentions of New Years Eve may have already been put on the back burner! Keeping up the momentum of what at the time seemed like a good idea is always a hard slog. For that reason it is all the more admirable that our newsletter has come of age having reached its 21st edition and that our Association has been operating since 1997, nearly seven years.

Over that time NMDCA has had its ups and downs, minor triumphs and minor setbacks. We campaigned to keep the community hall available for the community. We have had successes with three well-attended Burn's Night events. A survey was conducted of every house on the estate to get your ideas for future events and an idea of what concerns you had. We had a huge response from you when the issue of traffic safety was raised and a meeting with the police and council was arranged for you to air your concerns about anti-social behaviour. A walk to school bus was started amidst great enthusiasm only to fail later because of our inability to maintain a crossing patrol on the Hursley Road.

The newsletter has survived the loss of two editors Peter and Helen. But thankfully we are still going strong. Mainly this is due to contributions from yourselves who have, over the years, kept interesting items coming in to fill the pages. This is also due to the tireless efforts of the committee who have worked long and hard filling the calendar with events to bring the community together.

Since my earlier rather clumsy efforts I have redesigned the NMDCA website. The online Millers Tale page now enables browsers to check out newsletters back as far as March 2000. I am slowly attempting to add even more issues prior to that.

May I take this opportunity to thank all our newsletter advertisers who have supported us over the years and enabled us to produce the newsletter without loss (give or take a pound or two). Now is also a good time to thank all the volunteers who help with the distribution of the newsletter and other circulars, particularly at times of the year when the weather leaves a lot to be desired.

Useful Numbers

Instead of thumbing through the Telephone Directory or Yellow pages to find that important number, look no further than the Millers Tale. If you have any suggestions for a useful number that is not included please contact us

Editor Millers Tale Phil 023 8026 5407
 Editor Millers Tale Charles 023 8026 8562

Emergencies

Police (non urgent) 0845 045 45 45
 Electricity 0345 708600
 Gas (escapes) 0800 111999
 Southern Water 01961 714585

Schools

Hiltingbury Infant School 023 8026 5414
 Hiltingbury Junior School 023 8026 1808
 Knightwood Primary 023 8026 1900
 Merton County Junior School 023 8026 5255
 Thornden Secondary School 023 8026 9722
 Toynbee Secondary School 023 8026 9026

Post Office

4 Ashdown Road 023 8025 2791

Local Services

Chandlers Ford Library 023 8026 7393
 Eastleigh Library 023 8061 4646
 Eastleigh Tourist Information 023 8064 1261
 Eastleigh Borough Council 023 8068 8000
 Solent Blue line Buses 023 8033 6235
 Southampton Int Airport 023 8062 0021
 Red Funnel Ships 023 8033 3042
 Railway Enquiries 0845 748 4950

Medical Services

Millers Dale Surgery 023 8026 2488
 Park Surgery, Hursley Road 023 8026 7355
 Boyatt Wood Surgery 023 8047 2126
 Fryern Surgery 023 8027 3252
 Eastleigh Heath Centre 023 8061 2032
 Brownhill Surgery 023 8025 2188
 Southampton General Hospital 023 8077 7222
 Winchester Hospital 01962 863535

Dentists

P R Dodd
 157 Hursley Road 023 8026 7141
 M Mansourian
 67 Bournemouth Rd 023 8026 7889
 Clover Dental Practice
 Fleming Rd, N Baddesley 023 8073 8787

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR MEETING

By Richard Mollon

This is an interim report regarding the anti-social behaviour in North Millers Dale 20th November 2003.

Following the meeting with Inspector Scipio and PC Boyd, I thought the residents would appreciate an update. I rang the police and was invited to discuss the situation with acting Inspector Fowler. The main points were:

- Within a week of the meeting with the residents, plain-clothes officers were visiting North Millers Dale, Hiltingbury and Valley Park. At Hiltingbury Rec. a group of youngsters were confronted. Uniformed officers were called in as back up when there appeared to be danger of injury to the police.
- There was a minority that misbehaved but most of the youngsters dispersed. Police have seized a large quantity of alcohol. An information letter was written to parents which invited them to open a dialogue with a police officer. One girl was in a bad state and her parents were called to take her home since she was incapable of doing so herself.
- So far as anyone can tell since September the number of youths causing anti - social behaviour has fallen. This is possibly for a number of reasons.
- A couple of retail outlets have been identified and are

PC Boyd A Profile



"It's a good job and I would recommend it to anyone" That's the view of Community Beat Officer Nick Boyd after 28 years as a serving police officer.

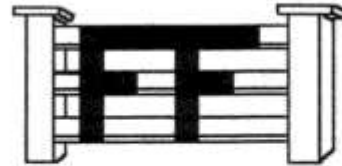
Nick, who has lived in Chandlers Ford for 18 years with his wife and 10 year old daughter, has been patrolling the Hiltingbury Triangle as it's known including North and South Millers Dale, Scantabout and Peverells Wood estates for the past 8 years and he thoroughly enjoys getting out and about meeting the residents on his patch.

Covering his beat on foot and bicycle, he is now the proud user of a new power assisted cycle, Nick finds stopping and talking to people invaluable and often, a chance comment made in casual conversation can assist the police in gathering valuable information. His laid back nature has seen him develop a good rapport with the young people on the beat who see him as a friendly person who they can talk to, rather than the officious bobby they would sooner avoid.

He has seen many changes in policing over the years but the most significant is probably the introduction of modern day technology which has greatly improved communication and the collating of information.

So much does he enjoy doing his job; he is even considering delaying his retirement from the force which is due in July of this year.

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working with the police to prevent the youngsters getting further supplies of alcohol.

- One of the features from the police work is that the youngsters seem to migrate to different areas, Valley Park, Fryern arcade, Hiltingbury Rec and North Millers Dale.
- The next steps are important. It is expected that PC Boyd will invite interested groups to provide help and suggestions to a sustainable solution. That will include residents of North Millers Dale and the police already have a number of contact names not just my own. It is important that residents do call the police if there are any further nights of bad behaviour. I am being told by the police there are no recent reports of any problems.

Police (non urgent)

0845 045 45 45



FEBRUARY AT THE FARMHOUSE

£5 EVENING MEAL DEAL

6.30 pm - 8.30 pm

Homemade Pies, Casseroles, Steaks, Fish, etc.

"Farmhouse Stars in their Eyes"

(or so they think!)

Sat Feb 28th 7.30 pm

Come and judge for yourself

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CAN YOU HELP WITH EASTER CHEER?

By Charles Lewry

Regular readers of the Millers Tale newsletter will have seen our articles following the exploits of a local group



Distributing aid in a Kosovo village

who have for the last few years been regularly taking aid to families in the war ravaged Balkan countries of Albania, Serbia and Kosovo. I have been involved with them over the years helping to collect aid and funds. This year however, I have decided to take the trip with them to Kosovo on their Easter Aid Convoy.

Myself and Bernie Sullivan, also from Chandlers Ford, will be driving a 7 1/2 ton truck through Europe with aid to deliver to families, schools and hospitals in Kosovo. The journey will take five days; we will spend five days there, over the Easter weekend, distributing aid, then another five days to make the return journey. We will be part of a convoy of over ten trucks from all over the UK including some 38 ton articulated lorries.

With the help of the Southern Evening Echo and the Advertiser we are launching our Banana Box Appeal. What we are hoping for is that people will get a banana box from their local supermarket (they get through 100+ a day and normally destroy them!) and then buy either food or toiletry items to fill the box. These boxes will then be distributed to families who would normally have to feed their entire families on less than £2 a day. Given that food is scarce and costs more in Kosovo than the UK it is not an easy task.

Like most countries that have been in the grips of conflict they get intensive media coverage for the period that the war is of international interest but once the cameras move away the problems still remain. People still live in bombed out shells of houses with tarpaulin over the roof, many families are without their main breadwinners who were either killed in the conflict or disappeared in the ethnic cleansing that followed. Our travelling out not only helps with the aid which is vital but more importantly lets them know that they have not been deserted and forgotten and hopefully will give



Temporary accommodation whilst rebuilding homes



Grateful children receive a boost to their lives after visit from the aid convoy

them the encouragement to help them rebuild their shattered lives. They are our European neighbours and yet they are living in conditions difficult if not impossible for us to imagine.

If anyone would like to help us fill our lorry we would be extremely grateful. We do have some empty banana boxes at 8 Weavers Place that you could collect from us. The items which we would like are as follows:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| Sugar | Flour | Soup | Salt |
| Tea Bags | Pasta | Lentils | Dried Peas |
| Spaghetti | Fruit Juice | Porridge | Oats |
| Coffee | Squash | Jam | Crisps |
| Baby Food | Cooking Oil | Ketchup | Biscuits |
| Rice | | | |
| or | | | |
| Washing Up Liquid | | Bleach | |
| | Disinfectant | Toilet Rolls | Washing Powder |
| | Sanitary Towels | | |
| Pan Scourers | Shampoo | Soap | Tooth Paste |
| Tooth Brushes | Razors | Pens | Crayons |
| Exercise Books | | | |

We are also collecting 'good' shoes and boots for men, women and children. Usable garden and household tools. Working computers (Pentium 1 or better)

If you would like to help, please contact myself or Doreen on 80268562, it can make a huge difference to these unfortunate peoples lives.

RAT RUN STUDY FOR NMD

At the Chandler's Ford and Hiltingbury Local Area Committee Meeting Jan 14th 2004 consideration was given to the following motion submitted by Councillor Mrs Wellfare: -

"In view of the the concern expressed by local residents, this Area Committee requests that officers upgrade the North Millers Dale Traffic Survey scheduled for North Millers Dale, be upgraded to a full Road Traffic Management Study and provide recommendations for measures designed to deter rat running and reduce the speed of traffic using North Millers Dale Road"

Trudie.E.Timby
M.S.S.Ch., M.B.Ch.A.

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Half A Century And Not Out

By Charles Lewry

I'd just completed my Open University Degree and decided I needed to take on another project. I would be turning 50 at the end of 2002 and it was some twenty odd years since I had last attempted my one and only marathon. I had declared at the time 'never again' but somehow the memory of the pain and recovery time had faded and I thought if only I trained properly this time it would be better. There was not enough time to prepare for the London Marathon and with it being three times oversubscribed there was always the risk my application would not be successful. Two big marathons were about a year away, the New York and the Chicago. I thought New York might well be as hard as the London to get a place in, so I applied for the Chicago and early in 2003 my entry was accepted.

My training strategy this time was quite different, I wanted to find a pace that I was happy with and then concentrate on getting lots of miles under my belt. No high-speed heroics, just keep increasing the distances. By the time I was boarding the plane I had managed to do four runs in excess of twenty miles and covered over 750 miles since the beginning of the year.

With just a couple of days in Chicago before the run to acclimatise we managed to find time to go and see Pam and Ken Sherman who were our next door neighbours on North Millers Dale a few years back. Prior to the event all the runners had to go to the Chicago Exhibition Centre to pick up their numbers and the electronic chips that enabled accurate individual timing throughout the race.

As the sun rose over Grant Park an army of

runners and supporters were converging on the start line. 42,000 competitors had applied and I was part of this sea of humanity. And as the 8 o'clock start time approached the anticipation was almost tangible. Athletes and fun runners all beginning to focus on what lay ahead of them. For many not just how quickly could they run but were they up to the task at all?

Then the klaxon, a huge roar, the slow shuffle to the line and away. Here I was, part of this huge event and already coasting to the first bend. Over the next few miles as the runners began to space out a bit it became a little easier to run at that pace I had practiced all year and soon I was feeling quite relaxed and comfortable. With an estimated two million spectators lining the route all shouting encouragement in a way only Americans can, the psychological boost was overwhelming. The variety of the route made the event very special from skyscraper canyons, lakeside parks, Chinatown to the University campus. An eclectic mix of live bands lined the route and districts represented their international origins with national costumes, food and dance.

Although speed was not

important to me, I had set myself a target of crossing the line in under four hours. By the time I had done about twenty miles the unseasonal October weather was getting to an uncomfortably warm 70° and I was aware that I was beginning to slow down a bit. I just had to keep taking on board water at the drink stations and not let up. About this point on my last Marathon I had hit the 'wall' and was forced to slow to a walk on uphill sections. Still Chicago boasted that it was a flat course, so no excuses. Half a mile from the end suddenly there was a hill back into Grant Park and people were walking, but not me, I was made of sterner stuff! Anyway I would have been too embarrassed to walk so close to the finish. There I was, on the home straight, grandstands full of cheering people lining either side of the road, now was the time for the sprint finish. Where did I find that from? But it felt great as I sailed passed other runners who must have burnt themselves out earlier. I'd done it! I was so chuffed that I forgot to stop my watch so I only roughly knew what my time was. But I knew it was under my target four hours!

My son at home gave me my official time over the phone as he had been following my progress on the Internet. Isn't technology amazing? It was 3 hours 54 minutes, which was over 40 minutes faster than my last time. I came in 9057th which doesn't sound that good until you work out that I came in ahead of 33,000 other runners, the majority of them a lot younger than me.

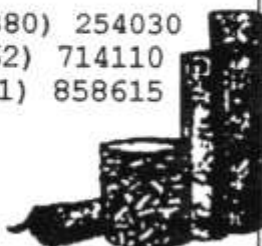
Most importantly though I raised over £800 for Hope and Aid Direct, a charity whose work we have reported on in previous issues of the Miller's Tale. I have been involved with this charity for some years as a volunteer helping to collect and pack aid for shipping out to needy families in Albania, Serbia and Kosovo. This Easter though, I will be driving one of the lorries and delivering aid myself to the Balkans so will be able to see the results of the work at first hand.



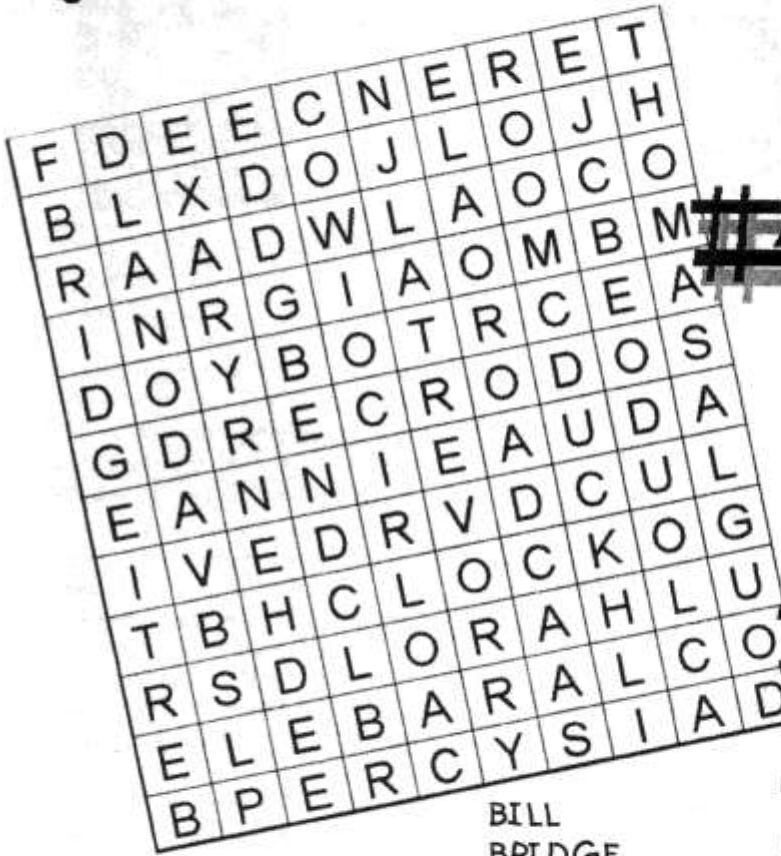
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CLOUD
COAL

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DONALD
DOUGLAS
DUCK

PERCY
ROAD
ROOM
SODOR
TERENCE
THOMAS
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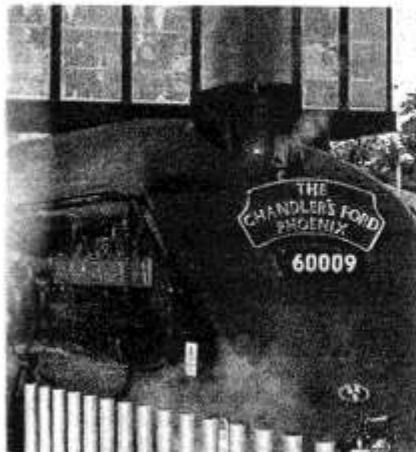


Charlie Dimmock performs the official opening ceremony and plants a tree

Hundreds of people turned out to be part of the Chandlers Ford Station official opening. The 19th of October was a great day out for the families of Chandlers Ford with kind weather, a celebrity, a traction engine and a steam train to

add to the atmosphere. If the parking was anything to go by there were more people using their cars than were using the train. After an assortment of speeches by local councillors and railway officials Charlie Dimmock of *Ground Force* fame assisted in the planting of a Cypress Oak tree, proving she could still handle a spade despite wearing clothes and shoes totally unsuited to the task.

Charlie had just returned from walking the Great Wall of China in aid of the Breakthrough Breast Cancer charity.



Hampshire Wildlife Trust

Eastleigh &
Chandlers Ford
Group



Indoor Meetings
2004
7.30 pm at the Community Centre
Hursley Road
Admission £1.50

Tuesday 24th February

Otters and Water Voles
Speaker: Chris Matcham

Tuesday 30th March

Strategy for Survival in Butterflies and Moths
Speaker: Brian Fletcher

Tuesday 27th April

Annual Meeting Followed by Social Evening.
Admission £2.50 For Refreshments

Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves Regular Workparties

Flexford Wildlife Reserve, meet 10am at Scout Hut
Ramalley Lane.
Contact Theo Jarman (01794 514825)
Workparties Sundays February 15, March 21 and April
18 2004



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- etc, etc, etc*
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USE OF MOBILE PHONES IN CARS



New legislation banning the use of hand held
phones and messaging devices whilst driving came
into force on December 1st 2003

Who it affects:

Anyone driving a vehicle, supervising a learner driver, or who causes or permits a person to use a hand held device whilst driving will be breaking the law (including employers)

Penalties:

Anyone caught will face a fixed penalty fine of £30. This will increase to a maximum fine of £2,500 for bus or lorry drivers, or £1,000 for any other motorist if convicted at court.

What it means:

Anyone using a hand held phone, or messaging device whilst driving will be breaking the law. *Hands free kits will be acceptable to use provided the phone is not being held.* However, drivers using hands free kits can still be prosecuted if they fail to maintain proper control of their vehicle whilst using the phone.

Hands Free Kits:

All hands free kits are acceptable – including wired and wireless headsets – providing the phone is not held in the hand, and requires only the touch of a button to answer a call.

999 Calls:

In a genuine emergency, a hand held device can be used to phone for the emergency services only if it is unsafe or impractical to stop driving to make the call.

Hampshire Constabulary advice:

Although the use of hands free kits are permitted under the new legislation, police would ask motorists to follow this advice:

- Never use a hand-held mobile phone whilst driving. If driving keep the phone switched off and use your voicemail/message service
- If using a hands free phone to answer a call, say you are driving, end the conversation quickly, and ring back once you have found a safe place to stop. Do not make phone calls from a hands free kit whilst driving
- Stop in a safe place, not on a motorway or hard shoulder to use a mobile phone and pick up messages

A hand held mobile telephone is:

A device other than a two-way radio which performs an interactive communication function by transmitting and receiving data

Hand held means:

If it is, or must be, held at some point during the course of making or receiving a call or performing some other interactive communication function

Interactive Communication Function means:

- Oral or written messages
- Facsimile functions
- Still or moving images
- Providing access to the Internet

The government is also planning to bring in further legislation which would make driving whilst using a hand held phone an endorseable offence, resulting in three points on the license of anyone caught.

Casualty Reduction Manager, Sergeant Kory Thorne said:

"Every day myself and my colleagues see many examples of people driving a vehicle and holding a mobile phone. This is a dangerous practice as drivers often are not in proper control of their vehicle and are not concentrating on the road ahead. The new legislation will be effective in dealing with this problem whilst contributing to road safety."

HEAR THE BELLES!

*'Give me a song, an old barbershop song that I can sing when I am blue.
Give me a tune that will soon take my troubles away.'*



These are the opening lines of just one of the songs sung by The Tudor Roses, Winchester's one and only Ladies Barbershop Chorus.

For those not in the know, barbershop harmony is a form of unaccompanied singing in four parts: the TENOR sings the highest notes, the BASS sings the lowest, the LEAD sings the melody and the BARITONE makes up the 4th part by singing all the left over notes, which are generally below the melody in pitch and yes, I know these are the names of men's voices. 'Barbershop' was started in America by men waiting for their turn to be shaved. They sang while they waited and made

beautiful harmony. The ladies see no reason why they can't be part of that — except the shaving!

This style of singing is suitable for all ages and abilities. It is not necessary to be able to read music, although it does help the learning process if there is

some ability to sight-sing. More important is the ability to blend your voice and help create a balanced sound.

Our chorus was formed in the early months of 1995 and is going from strength to strength. From small beginnings we now boast a membership of forty ladies. We rehearse weekly and compete both locally and nationally. Our most recent success was winning the barbershop section of the Gosport Music Festival for which we received both an 'honours' appraisal and an impressive silver cup. This gave our confidence a boost for our next big challenge — the National Convention and competition at Harrogate in November 2003.



Cornucopia

The curtain and soft furnishings agency is now OPEN in Chandlers Ford. So if you're renovating, moving, re-decorating or just fancy a change and you need top quality curtains and other soft furnishings at affordable prices, then make sure you come to us first!

Cornucopia

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Chandlers Ford. Tel: 023 8026 7777*

Barbershop singing is a hobby both fun and challenging — and what more could anyone want.

If you are interested in joining us, are interested in engaging us to sing for your fete, festival or other occasion, or would just like to hear us sing, please contact Tessa on 01962 880933

There was a vocal workshop for ladies held at Thornden School, Drama Room 2, on Monday, 12th January at 8.00 pm