



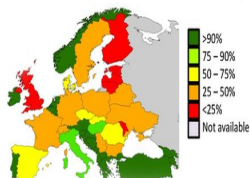
## Around the College

On 5<sup>th</sup> June, the residents of The College enjoyed an informal get-together with the Duke of Somerset and the Trustees. The weather was balmy as drinks & canapés appeared, seemingly from nowhere, as the convivial chatter extended into the sunset. The ladies at The College would like to convey their 'Thank You' to the Duke & Duchess of Somerset and the Trustees for a very pleasant evening.

**Derby Day** – organised by Barbara, and the winner was Janet at cottage 25 who picked 'Australia' and promptly donated her winnings to the Social Club Fund. Claire (me) as usual managed to pick the last horse running, but thanks to a donation from Sheila received a box of lovely chocolates, which made my last place very agreeable. Barbara writes 'We may not have been wearing posh hats, but we did have a truly scrumptious high tea that could have rivalled The Ritz. Thanks to the ladies who baked - various cakes, sandwiches, sausage rolls & nibbles, scones with cream & jam, along with endless cups of tea, and lots of hard work in the kitchen (left in pristine condition), ensured an enjoyable afternoon and £36 raised for the Social Club.' Thank you ladies.



Percentage supply of honeybees relative to demand



Teresa at 46 will be participating in "race for life" on the 6<sup>th</sup> July and raising money for cancer. There is a Sponsorship Form on the notice board in 24. Good luck Teresa.

**Bees** and their loss in the UK, see graph, is particularly dire. There are not enough for crop pollination. Following on from a recent talk in the Board-room on bee-keeping, given by Vicki and Malcolm, research has shown that borage, lavender, marjoram and open-flower dahlias varieties are very good for insects; bowles mauve everlasting wallflowers are also very attractive to pollinators, while the least attractive flowering plant for insects is the geranium! As we make plans for our own beehive in The College grounds perhaps our 'expert gardeners' can coordinate a way to make our gardens more bee friendly. June has provided a leaflet of shrubs useful to bees, which is on the notice board in 24. As UK Politicians, vested interest and Europe argue over what to do to save these vital workers of the food chain, the Queen and ordinary people across the country are, in their own small way, trying to help. How, by increasing the number of hives, growing bee friendly flowers, providing habitats that attract bees and examining those insect spray cans - labelled 'bug killers' - almost all of these harm bees. Some pests can be controlled by planting certain other plants nearby. At least half of plants bought at home improvement stores were found to contain neonicotinoids, which harm bees. Saving them is not going to be easy!

## The Social Club

Barbara has asked me to clarify there is **no** social club **committee**. We have a social club group who organised the Derby Day, a wonderful lunch, very much appreciated by those who attended, and other events for the future. Any resident(s) and those who want to help organise are welcome to instigate a social event or get-together at The College. If you have an event idea e.g. day trip, bring & buy, someone to give a talk, chat with Emma first and start organising. Simple!



## Dates for the Diary

Is necessarily brief this month, with just events at The College. Please see notice board, web sites, and local publications for what's on. Any information received on outside happenings I will put in 24, but if that doesn't work, will resume normal service. Meanwhile a few events to mention... and if you have any let me know so I can include them in the relevant future issue.

## Out & about

**4<sup>th</sup> July**, Quiz night at the Pelican, 7.30 pm

**5<sup>th</sup> July**, Chilton Foliat Primary School Fete, 3pm, followed by Primary School Festival - A range of local bands and soloists, across a range of styles will be performing. Highlight will be the return of Upsala Circus, a group of incredible children from St. Petersburg who,



despite huge setbacks in their lives, manage to develop extraordinary circus skills through this sponsored circus programme.

**6<sup>th</sup> July**, Froxfield Village Hall, Brass Band 3pm; summer draw & refreshments.

**9<sup>th</sup> July**, Parish Council Meeting, Froxfield Village Hall, 7.30 pm.

**12<sup>th</sup> July**, Tosca comes to Newbury Racecourse 6.30 pm.

**19<sup>th</sup> July**, Brendoncare is organising a party to be held at St John's Academy, Marlborough, 2 – 4.30 pm; a celebration of the contribution older people make to the community. Free Tickets 01488 684916

Hungerford will be a blaze of red flowers, especially poppies, during the centenary commemorations of the First World War.

**30<sup>th</sup> July**, Tidworth Military Cemetery, 10 am. An open invitation to commemorate the sacrifice made by 10,000 Wiltshire soldiers during WW1. Parking and refreshments provided.

### **War Changes All**

As we mark the 100th anniversary of the Great War (1914 – 1918) and Britain's involvement, often overlooked is the role women played during those war years. In pre-war England working class women had no choice but to work in order to help support their families, mainly as domestics but also in factories and were an easy exploitable target for the factory owners of those times. In WW1, women from all classes were expected to do their bit. Women in their thousands were drafted into the newly formed or expanded munitions factories. They worked in heavy, dirty and hard jobs such as brick making, coal mining, power supplies, aircraft and ship building, as well as farm work, public transport, postal services, the fire brigade, etc., which had traditionally been reserved for men.

Other women worked as nurses or auxiliaries; women like Edith Cavell celebrated for saving the lives of wounded soldiers in Brussels, from all sides without distinction, which for some also made her a controversial figure. She and Belgian and French colleagues helped over 200 Allied soldiers escape from German-occupied Belgium. In 1915, she was arrested, tried with 33 others by a German military court, found guilty of 'assisting men to the enemy' and shot by a German firing squad.

*"I realise that patriotism is not enough.  
I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone".*



(Pictures courtesy of PW20C & B&W courtesy British War Museum)

After the Great War the number of women workers, particularly in industry and trade, declined to practically pre-war levels as soldiers returned from the front. Women were put in a position of disadvantage and now faced a return to domestic work or underpaid employment. In addition, many women had become war widows with young children. The Great War showed women had integrity and courage in war, as in peace, and were just as capable despite the barriers put in their way. It would take another world war and decades before 'The Times They Are a-Changin' reflected the fairer society that was to come...

*(Comment – a woman who has been on benefits for 25 years and appeared on the C5 programme 'Benefit Britain – Life on the Dole' June 2014, complained about today's pensioners having this & that; I hope someone will enlighten her. Most of the people she complained about will have worked or had to work all their lives; her sense of entitlement, a modern phenomenon born of ignorance or arrogance, over 25 years, is appalling. She needs a history lesson and a job!)*





As we remember those who sacrificed so much...

“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them...”

Ask, ‘Are we still worthy those who inherit the land?’