

The Downsman

**NEWS AND INFORMATION
MAGAZINE**



**PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY
WITH PENTRIDGE**

April 1999

Including: Woodyates, Deanland and Minchington

Published by Sixpenny Handley Parish Council

Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Councillors

Sixpenny Handley

Chairman	Mr. P.G.Chick.....	552256
	Mrs E. Miles.....	552768
	Mrs P.K.Bailey-Wright..	552771
	Mr. C.Styles.....	552658
	Mr. S.Judd.....	552563
	Mr. N.Bowes.....	552416
	Mr. B.M.J.Curtis.....	552397

Pentridge

Vice-Chairman	Mr. I.Davies.....	552076
	Mr. R.R.Riddle.....	552659
	Mr. C.F.Sims.....	552629
	Mr. B.J.Hansford.....	552468

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<u>County Councillor</u>	Mr. T. Palmer.....	552321
	Fax	552405

<u>District Councillor</u>	Mr. A. Humphries.....	517365
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Footpaths Liaison Officers

Sixpenny Handley	Mr. A.Turner.....	552735
Pentridge	Dr. S.E.Barnes.....	552259

Downsman Editorial Team

Editor	Alan Vincent.....	552788
	Ian Davies.....	552076
	Brian Hansford.....	552468

Churches

Church of England	St. Mary's, Sixpenny Handley	
	St. Rumbold's, Pentridge	
	St. Andrews, Gussage St.Andrew	
Vicar	Rev. Ron. Wood.....	552608
Roman Catholic	Church of Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Cecilia, Blandford Forum	
Priest	Fr. John Mordaunt.01258	452051

1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Group Scout Leader	Mr. Barry Howes.....	552583
Scout Leader	Bob Lewis.....	517465
Cub Leader	Esme Isaacs.....	517203

Doctors

Drs. Pelly, Nodder & Morgan	
Dean Lane Surgery.....	552500

Schools

First School	Handley First School.....	552356
Middle School	Cranborne Middle School	517348
Upper School	Queen Elizabeth's School Wimborne.....	01202 885233

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Chairman	Mr. S Judd.....	552563
Secretary	Mrs P.K.Bailey-Wright...	552771
Bookings	Mrs Michelle Daniels.....	552189

Sixpenny Handley Flower Show

Chairman	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Secretary		

For The Kidz

Chairman	Bronia Styles.....	552658
Secretary	Michelle Daniels.....	552189

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point

John Curtis.....	552397
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Co-ordinators

Area 1 - Dean Lane	Don Penrose.....	552022
Area 2 - Dean Land & North East		
	Barry Howes.....	552583
Area 3 - Handley Central		
	Charles Nodder.....	552292
Area 4 - West & South		
	George Tozer.....	552330

Other Areas (These are separate Homewatch Schemes)

Pentridge	Roy Elford.....	552296
Woodyates	Roy Warner.....	552665
<u>Police</u>	Blandford Station. 01258	452101

Sixpennies Pre-School

Chairman	Denise Meaden.....	552715
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Sixpennies Pre-School Link Group

Supervisor	Sue Shepperd.....	552784
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Sixpenny Handley W.I. (Formed in 1923)

President	Mrs Stella Symes.....	552236
Secretary	Mrs H. Eynon.....	552308

Sixpenny Handley Mother's Union

Leader	Pamela Wood.....	552608
Secretary	Jean Mayne.....	552692

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

Chairman	Robert Jesse.....	552340
Secretary	Gill Martin.....	552297

Handley Sports Club

Chairman	Tony Dale.....	552540
Secretary	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Team Managers -Sat.	Mark Young.....	552741
-Sun	T. B. A.	

The Wednesday Club

Chairman	Pamela Wood.....	552608
Secretary	Vacancy	

Chase Community Friends

Chairman	Dr. Geddes.....	552395
Secretary	Sally Clarke.....	552674

Sixpenny Handley Lawn Tennis Club

Chairman	John Clarke.....	552674
Secretary	Gael Radclyffe.....	552829
Membership/Treasurer	Bill Chorley.....	552776

Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

Chairman	Simon Ellingham.....	552370
Secretary	Juli Spendley.....01202	822244

Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club

Chairman	Eileen Miles.....	552768
Secretary	Dawn Ridout.....	552407

Happy Nappy Club

Chairperson	Penny Morrison.....	552024
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S.H.E.D.D.S.

Chairman	Godfrey Turner.....	552533
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Welcome to the latest edition of *The Downsman*.

Articles in this magazine from both Alan Humphries and Tim Palmer show they have been trying to help one of my neighbours, Jeremy Bloomfield, to get a tree removed. This tree is seriously damaging a brick and flint wall, which is all that remains of the parsonage (?) that originally occupied this site. EDDC want to retain the tree rather than the wall, which seems to be taking tree preservation to the extreme - buildings and walls are also part of our heritage. Perhaps Jerry should have applied to build a number of new houses on his plot, recent events suggesting that he would have no trouble then in obtaining permission to remove the tree.

As Tim says, views in this village seem to be regularly ignored by EDDC. I was intrigued why this should be until Ian Davies recently showed me a list of the Planning Committee members. What struck me was that not one of them lived in the Salisbury Postal area like we do and I wonder whether they regard us as not really part of Dorset.

Do they look at the address of applications, see Wiltshire, and totally switch off?

Perhaps we would be better off if we could persuade the Post Office to move us all to Dorset!

One good thing to come out of EDDC this month, however, is their new tourism web site on the Internet (Page 17). This is a really well put together site with some very good photographs of the county. Our villages are described thus:-

*The village of **Sixpenny Handley** lies on Cranborne Chase, between the Romano British village of Woodcutts and the Roman road of Ackling Dyke. Its name is derived from two medieval hundreds'''Sexpenna' and 'Hanlegga' which, over the years, local Dorset folk reduced to the memorable 6d Handley. In 1892, the whole village was virtually destroyed by a fire which started in the wheelwright's shop and left many villagers homeless. The village church, dating back to the 13th Century, remains and several traditional pubs and shops line the main street.*

*On the northern fringes of the County adjoining both Hampshire and Wiltshire, lies the village of **Pentridge**. It nestles in the*

Cover Picture

Sixpenny Handley after the
Great Fire of May 1892.

Photograph reproduced from original held in
The Dorset County Museum archives.

Adventurers In The County Museum.

Page 30

The next edition of this Magazine
will be published on the

1st June 1999

KKKKKKKKKK

Copy Deadline is

Heard at the Surgery??

A man goes to the Doctor.

He says: 'Doc, I have this problem. I can't
stop singing either *The Green Green
Grass of Home* or *Delilah*'.

The doctor says: 'Sounds to me like you
have a severe case of the *Tom Jones*',

'Is it rare?' the man asks.

'**Its not unusual!**' replies the doctor.

*shelter of Pentridge Hill with its Celtic fields
and Bronze Age Barrows. The rolling chalk
downland above the village, which forms
part of Cranborne Chase, is excellent for
rambling with many fine views and an
abundance of wild flowers and butterflies.*

The site also includes an events diary for which
local organisations can submit their own entries
via the Internet.

Keep those contributions coming.....

Alan Vincent, 5 The Parsonage

Sixpenny Handley

E-mail: alan@num5.freemove.co.uk

Telephone – 01725 552788

Office Hours - 01722 412202.



SIXPENNY HANDLEY TENNIS CLUB

Membership applications/renewal form

Return to:

Subscriptions are due by 1 April. Members who fail to renew by 30 April will not be entitled to the privilege of membership. Your present courts key should be returned, with your subscription and a replacement key will be issued.

Treasurer
10 Sycamore Close
Sixpenny Handley
Salisbury SP5 5QQ
01725 552776

I (full name and title) _____

of _____

_____ Post Code _____

Telephone No. _____ wish to apply/renew for membership of Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club and agree to abide by the Rules and Regulations of the Club, as laid down by the Constitution.

Category	Annual Subscription	Amount enclosed
Family	£25	_____
Adult (over 21 years of age)	£15	_____
Junior/Student	£5	_____
Non-playing supporter	£1	_____
Temporary (not exceeding 14 days)	£10	_____
Key deposit (single payment on joining/refundable on cessation of membership and return of key)	£5	_____
	Total	_____

Please make cheques payable to Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club.

Please complete this section when applying for/renewing family membership.

Name of spouse _____

Children _____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

Signature of applicant _____

For official use: Your application for membership to Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club has been accepted and your membership No. is _____. This number should be quoted when booking the courts, via Mr James Reed on (01725) 552518.

Signed _____ Treasurer and Membership Secretary.
W R CHORLEY 01725 552776

*"One cannot improve on Perfection.
A day to look forward to.
The President is the life and soul of the Party"*



"Wouldn't miss it for the world. Such a lovely group of people"

"We do enjoy our Outings. Thank you"

The CCF offer voluntary support to those who need it,
within the Cranborne Chase villages.

In the form of :-

- Transport to the Surgery, Dentist, etc, with an appropriate contribution from the user of 30p per mile, to cover petrol costs.
- Collection of prescriptions - local shopping for the house bound.
- Emergency garden care - child sitting - dog walking.
- We hold regular Social Day Centres, at Sixpenny Handley Village Hall.
- And weekly Coffee Mornings at the back bar of the Roebuck Inn, Sixpenny Handley.
Thursday mornings 10: 30am- 12 midday.

So come along and make new friends, or play cards.
For any information concerning Chase Community Friends,
Please contact CCF co-ordinator,
Margaret Pendrigh on 01725 552510.
New volunteers always most welcome.

*"You meet so many friends. The Kitchen Folk deserve a
Medal for all the Hard work for us"*

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

For many years I have felt aggrieved by the fact that almost without fail power cuts in this area of Dorset come with the onset of every winter. So this year I decided to complain to the electricity industry's watchdog, OFFER, to see whether we really do have to suffer these inconveniences. The result of my complaint was a letter from the Works Manager for Southern Electric containing the following passages:-

It may be helpful to explain that the supply comes from a major substation at Minchington by way of an 11000 volt overhead line circuit feeding local, mostly pole mounted substations. The Minchington substation is supplied from a higher voltage (33000 volt) circuit from a grid substation at Shaftesbury. We keep records of all interruptions in supply and there have been incidents on both the 11000 volt distribution system and the higher voltage ring circuit which have caused sustained faults since the end of September. Below are details of these incidents.

<u>Date</u>	<u>First Off</u>	<u>Last On</u>	<u>Cause</u>
30 Sep 98	08.49	13.25	Tree branch on 11000 volt switch
23 Oct 98	03.14	05.09	Failed insulator caused fire on 33000 volt pole
12 Nov 98	08.05	08.08	Supply restored with no cause found - possibly lightning
03 Jan 99	10.32	13.42	33000 volt pole broken in high winds
19 Jan 99	21.57	01.15	11000 volt pole mounted transformer failed
08 Feb 99	07.32	08.49	Swan collided with 33000 volt wires

Prior to September there were no sustained interruptions over the last year although you may have experienced short duration interruptions, up to about 30 seconds, which are caused by short lived faults which generally result in no permanent damage. These may be due to lightning activity or wind blown material shorting lines momentarily. Supply is interrupted and restored automatically by fast operating circuit breakers. Making dead the lines whilst the short circuit occurs avoids damage and the need for repair, along with the lengthier interruption this would bring about.

Although we cannot identify a recurring cause for the recent interruptions we have arranged to carry out a complete pole top inspection of the 33000 volt circuit (on which a number of faults have occurred) commencing in May when full access is possible over the land.

As you will appreciate we cannot guarantee a 100% reliable supply because a public electricity supply system does not operate in a controlled environment, and many factors often beyond our direct control can affect the system.

We are required to pay compensation to our customers if we do not meet certain standards. For incidents which involve unplanned interruption of supply, compensation is payable if we are unable to restore within 24 hours.

There is no standard for the number of interruptions but I can assure you that we examine carefully the reasons for all interruptions so that wherever possible we can reduce or eliminate those of a recurring nature.

We are fully aware of the rising expectations of our customers and of the inconvenience which supply interruptions can cause. That is why we are investing in our networks to enhance supply reliability particularly in rural areas."

One incident the Works Manager did not include was the fallen tree at Pentridge in January, which not only brought down cables but also demolished a garden shed. Either this event did not in fact break the supply, or not all incidents are recorded as he suggested!

Ian Davies.

Sixpennies Pre-School



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Denise Meaden
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Development

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Intellectual and
Creative Development
Physical and Emotional
Development
Language and Literacy
Link Group in School



Strong working links with
Sixpenny Handley County First School



**Planned changes to mobile library
schedules
From April 1999**

"In order to accommodate the various changes being made, a different mobile library vehicle from the one serving them now will serve some stops. All our mobile libraries are similar so this should not present problems in itself. However the complexities of timetabling will result in some stops being served on a different day from hitherto."

From April 1999 the mobile library will make its visits to **Pentridge, Woodyates,**

**East Dorset District Council
Mobile Advice Centre**

**Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Tuesdays between 10:00am & 10:45am**

**27th April
25th May
22nd June**

Keep on Saving Your 2p Coins

**To complete
A Mile Of Pennies
UP (& Down) The High
Street on Carnival Day**

The Village Notice Board

**If you wish to place a notice on the village
notice board the key is available from
Styles Newsagents**

**Handley Sports Club
'100' Club 1998**

Draw No 9 - February

£50	126	Roy Latty, Sheasby Close, Sixpenny Handley
£10	81	Chris Wadge, Sycamore Close, Sixpenny Handley
£10	39	M J Woodgett, Hunt Corner Farm, Sixpenny Handley
£5	73	Andrew Scott, The Old Rectory, Tarrant Hinton

Draw No 10 - March

£50	136	M O Phibbs, St. Mary's Court, Sixpenny Handley
£10	34	Phil Harris, Common Rd, Sixpenny Handley
£10	65	M J Cuff, Primrose Cottage, Berwick St James
£5	190	John Box, Bunnies Lane, Rowde

Next Draw - Tuesday April 13th 1999

The 1999/00 Club starts in June. Don't forget to renew your membership!

Interested in becoming a new member?

Please contact the Club Secretary - Brian Hansford on 01725 552468

Here we go again!
CHARITY CYCLE RIDE

Saturday 17th July, start time 1.30p.m. - Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Raising funds for
Salisbury Hospice and the Motor Neurone Disease Association.



Two routes
44 miles on and off road.
25 miles on road only.



Choose whichever route you prefer.

Last time we raised nearly £2,500 -with your help we can raise even more!

We hope to finish in the village of Sixpenny Handley with a Disco/Party. (subject to confirmation)

For full details and sponsorship forms put your name and phone number on the lists displayed in local shops and pubs and we will contact you.

Alternatively ring Stephanie or David Heath on 01725 552574 for more information.

Should you be unable to ride but wish to help in other ways, please let us know, otherwise - Start training now!!!

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GARAGE**

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Mon. to Sat. 8am to 6pm

Sunday 11am to 1pm

SNIPPETS FROM THE DAPTC NEWSLETTER

Fire Safety Signs in Public Places

The transition period on fire safety signs ran out on 25th December 1998. Under new Health & Safety Regulations, all fire safety signs, including fire exit and fire extinguisher signs, must be in pictogram format with a running man for fire exit signs and a picture of a fire extinguisher for fire extinguisher signs. It is acceptable to have text and a pictogram, or just a pictogram, but fire safety signs with text alone have now become illegal.

New Government Rural Strategy

In late November the Deputy Prime Minister announced that the Government intends to produce a new Rural White Paper by this summer. The decision followed the recent Rural Development Commission survey of rural services that made sorry reading. The Government now recognises that action is needed to improve the quality of life in many rural areas and for many rural people. The White Paper will examine how we are conserving and enhancing the countryside and how various Government policies will support sustainable development in rural areas.

Park and Ride Study

The DETR study into the effectiveness of bus-based park and ride schemes has revealed that well-designed schemes lead to an overall decrease in private car mileage and in the number of cars entering urban areas. Transport Minister Glenda Jackson said that the findings will be used to update DETR's guidance to local authorities on how park and ride can deliver local transport objectives.

Countryside Agency - Draft Prospectus

The Government has published its draft prospectus for the new countryside agency that will be created by the merger of the Countryside Commission and the Rural Development Commission. The prospectus outlines the challenges and opportunities facing the countryside in the next century and highlights four main aims: to set up a national centre of rural expertise; to ensure that public policy takes account of the needs and aspirations of those who live and work in rural areas; to ensure the same for those who visit or value the countryside; to ensure that objective information and advice about the countryside reaches all who need it.

Anne Reed, B.A., M.C.S.P., S.R.P.

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THE YOUTH CLUB NOTICE BOARD

The new Sixpenny Handley Youth Club has now been running for a few weeks and already is proving to be extremely popular.

The average attendance has been in the region of 55 children from 8 – 16 years old.

And here is the first piece of good news –

There was great distress and woe when members found they had to leave the club directly after their 16th birthday – we have thought this through carefully and have changed the rules! – You can now stay in the club until the end of the school year after your 16th birthday – who knows we may even have a party for the leavers in July.

The committee is constantly reviewing the opportunities and events for the club and will be updating members soon.

Once the lighter evenings are here we will be able to go outside for team games - we are looking to join the tennis club and also outdoor activities and maybe a barbecue or two.

We are still looking for more volunteers to help us run the club – if you would be interested in demonstrating a specific skill or sport we would welcome your support. Just let one of the committee know or speak to Bronia.

We are planning to group with other clubs and go for more adventurous outings – Tower Park, Alton Towers, Snowdonia – these are some of the range of trips we are proposing. Look for the suggestion sheets in the club – we would be delighted to hear where you would like to go.

All new members will be welcomed – for just £1 you can have lots of fun and many evenings go home with something you have made.

If you just like a chat and listen to music we can cater for this too – and don't forget there is a Tuck Shop.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

It is your Youth Club – we will be happy to try and accommodate your ideas – just let us know.

FAVOURITE POEMS

THE BODY

By John Fury
Landlord of the Roebuck

The body is a marvel,
An engineering dream;
Chemicals, fluids and tissue,
Such a sophisticated scheme.

The heart the central engine,
A beating pounding sound,
Taking life to all extremes,
Pumping all around.

The brain the controller,
Regulating, setting the beat;
All nerves and fibre tissue,
From the head down to the feet.

The whole thing is supported
By a clever calcium frame,
Which binds it all together,
Creating the form in the main.

The male and the female
Reproduced to uphold the race,
Each attracted to the other
By their aesthetic grace.

The very last ingredient
Of the body, is the soul,
Which creates the individual
And makes a person whole.

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All Normal Post Office Services**

***Rural Post Offices are under threat
Use it or risk losing it!***

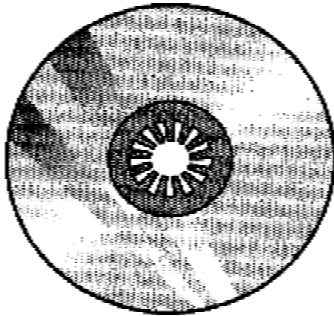
TO THANK YOU

By Patience Strong

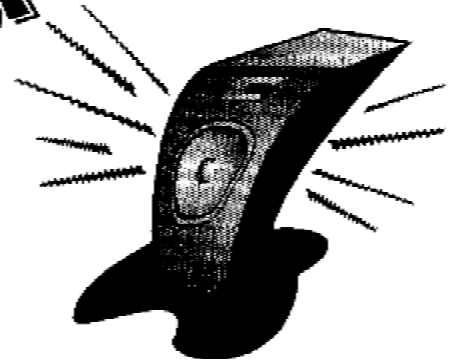
How can I prove my gratitude for all that you have given me
happiness and fond affection, comfort in adversity.
Peace of mind and joy of living. help and hope and friendship true.
Richly has my life been blessed with all that I have found in you.

Thank you for your understanding. for your trust and sympathy...
For the gift of your devotion. for your love and loyalty....
Ever I'll remember this. no matter what the years may bring.
I'll remember and be grateful. Thank you dear for everything.

BASE THE FINAL FRONTIER



THE DISCO



TEL:- 01258 830143

PAUL OR ALISON

OXFORD

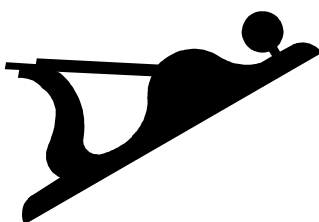
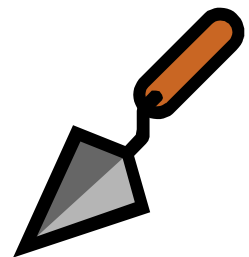
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Letters to the 'Editor'

Dear Editor

Commenting on Ian Davies' recent article about the proposed mast erection at Cobley Farm. Whilst I would say that this may not be fully visible, even at 26 metres, the point here is that permission has been granted and does this pave the way for other development in the future?

I find it amazing that mobile phone operators cannot share masts, so much so that I wrote to 2 operators to ask for their comments. I have recently had a response from Vodafone and am now awaiting their booklet entitled "Environmental handbook for radio site selection" which should shed a bit more light on the whole subject. Daniel Martin from Vodafone has been very helpful and advised me as follows -

They already share 60% of their masts and all of the network providers will try, where possible, to do this. Problems arise because of interference from other networks and also location.

Currently Network providers do not require full planning permission when a mast is less than 15 metres. Above that and they apply for permission. If the mast is likely to be in an area of conservation then they can erect a "pole" rather than a tower. This can be painted to blend in with the surroundings!!

Apparently the Networks have an agreement with the Government to ensure adequate coverage for phone users (part of their licence). As a result networks can stick a pole or tower just about anywhere they like!!

Interestingly enough, years ago (in the days of the briefcase phone) there were very few towers. As most phones were powered from a car or large 12volt battery this increased the power and meant the signal went much further. Nowadays everyone wants smaller phones with smaller batteries.

Unfortunately the downside is more towers.

Although Daniel's response does not answer the

question of mast sharing in this case, it is certainly interesting to find that the networks share such a high percentage of masts. I would be interested to know whether the mast at Cobley Farm is being erected because of interference, location or some other reason. Perhaps Ian Davies has already obtained this information from the local planning office?

Rory Hunter
East Woodyates

--000000--

Dear Editor,

In response to Roger Watkins' letter in the latest edition of The Downsman, here is the Contributions Agency version of our Hill View address that must have made David Salmon chuckle:

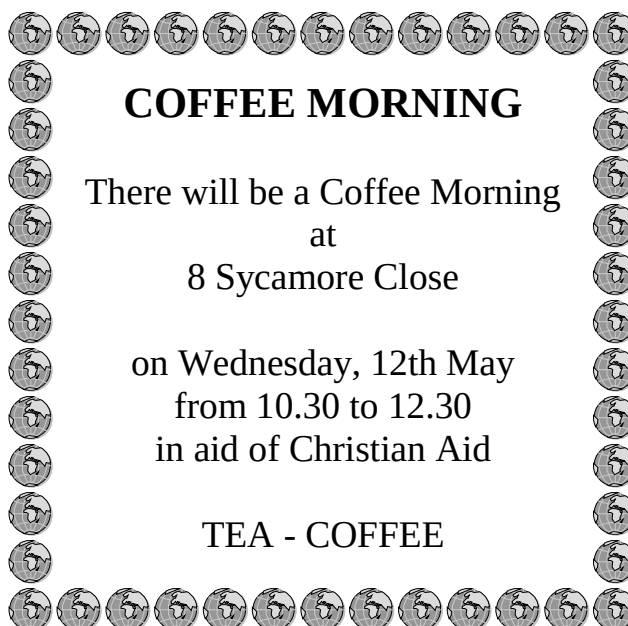
MELLOWDEW
DEAN LAND
SEXPENNY HANDLEY
SALBBURY
WELTS

The postcode was correct!

Christina Reynolds
Hill View, Deanland

--000000--

Dear Editor



I should be obliged if you could please provide me with some information about the Parish of Pentridge and where I might find records of the early 19th century. I am particularly interested in confirming that the William Spear whose name appears in an illustration of a Land Tax List (*This appears on page 182 of "A Companion to Local History Research" John Campbell-Kease, 1989*), is the same person who was an officer in the Royal Navy immediately prior to this. Any information about Pentridge would be appreciated.

Shirley Waldock
39 Scripton Gill, Brandon,
Durham, DH7 8BQ

{If any of our readers are able to help Shirley, perhaps they will write to her direct. Ed.}

--0000000--

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Report From Our District Councillor

Since last writing to you life as your District Councillor has, as usual, had its ups and downs, albeit with the 'ups' a little higher and the downs certainly lower.

It was a real pleasure, at Dr Geddes's invitation, to drop in for a chat with many of you at the Chase Community Friends lunch on Friday March 12th. I came away full of admiration for those who provide this wonderful meal and social occasion.

The previous day I had visited The Tregonwell Lodge Residential & Day Centre for People with Learning Disabilities at Cranborne, and the Workshop at Dean Lane where these youngsters are taught various crafts, from spinning and weaving to woodwork and printing etc.

Many of these pupils need one-to-one tuition, again "Hats off" to the devoted staff and volunteers for their dedication and commitment. If you are able to join that team, even for a couple of hours per week, please phone Mrs Lockyer now on 01725 517458.

On the 'down' side, I felt devastated when the Trees Sub Committee, after a site visit, failed to support our campaign on behalf of the owner of the Sycamore tree, the root system of which, is causing severe damage to the ancient brick and flint wall at The Parsonage and Dean Lane.

Your Parish Council, County Councillor (and seemingly our MP) are unequivocal in support of the owners request to fell the offending tree, in order that he may carry out his generous

offer, (at his own expense) to have the wall rebuilt & to replant, with a more suitable species.

At the time, of writing, this whole saga drags on, with cost escalating, as more and more committee and officer time is (in my opinion) wasted.

All this has resulted in my resignation from the present administration at Furzehill, I now sit as an Independent Member.

As if the above were not enough, to ruffle a few feathers, my attention has now been drawn to the fact that, despite what appeared to be a condition preventing the destruction of potential bird nesting sites in the Denzil Cottage curtilage, during the period March to July, some clearance work has recently been carried out. --- So much for 'conditions'.

Matters currently being addressed include Parking Problems at Common Road, and correction to position of Dropped Kerbs at Wheelwrights Close.

The 'Hands on' approach.

The resident who complained to Cllr Humphries regarding the litter fouling the walkway between Sheasby Close and the High Sreet, must have, been somewhat surprised, when a few days later, she discovered the job being done by the councillor himself! Is there a lesson there somewhere, Editor?

Alan Humphries

Help us change



This

to

=



Please buy a £5 brick and help us reach -

THE SALVATION ARMY

Salt Lane

Salisbury

(A registered charity)



Please contact

Mrs V. Weinand
15, The Parsonage
Sixpenny Handley

If you wish to buy a brick to help the Salvation Army reach its refurbishment target of £15,000

EAST DORSET LAUNCH NEW TOURISM INTERNET SITE

Local residents and visitors to East Dorset will now be able to explore East Dorset's attractions and countryside from the comfort of their own homes.

The colourful new Internet site, www.eastdorsetdc.gov.uk/tourism provides visitors with a detailed guide to events, places of interest, towns, villages, travel information and accommodation within the region. Local residents too will benefit from the comprehensive up to date events diary, travel planning links and guide to local attractions.

Enhanced by stunning pictures from well known local photographer Roger Holman, website browsers will be able to learn more of the regions landscape, history and heritage, as well as sports and leisure activities provided in the area.

Report From Our County Councillor

I was asked by Jeremy Bloomfield, the owner of the Sycamore that Alan mentions, to do what I could to help him in his efforts to get common sense from the District Council. He had originally written to our Member of Parliament, Robert Walter, who alerted me. When I visited Jeremy at No.1, The Parsonage, it was soon apparent that he had a very strong case and I told him that he must get onto Alan Humphries straight away. The rest is history and Alan tells the story in his report opposite above.

What he doesn't say is that he, with the unanimous support of the Parish Council, has done a magnificent job on behalf of all of us at some considerable cost to himself. It isn't easy to make the sort of break that Alan has made, albeit on a point of principle or in defence of justice and common sense. He has said that he will be standing at the coming Council elections as an Independent and we, the local Conservative Association, will not be putting up a candidate against him. Personally, I hope that he is returned unopposed.

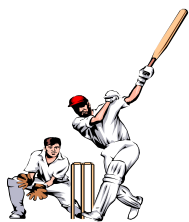
In the meantime, the campaign for the Wall must go on. Although the wall itself is small there is a big principle at stake – the right of a community to have a fair say in determining its own environment. That is what Tree Preservation Orders were invented for, not to put arbitrary power into the hands of unelected individuals. Over the last few years, the views of the Parish Council on planning matters in Sixpenny Handley have been consistently ignored or over-ruled by the Planning Authority and we have felt powerless to do anything about it. Here, at any rate, is a case on which we can make a stand. At the time of

writing Alan, myself and a senior member of the Parish Council are making plans for a meeting with the Chief Executive of EDDC and you can be sure of one thing – we won't be backing down.

One of the pleasures of being your County Councillor is working alongside Alan who, as you can imagine, knows the local corridors of power as a mole knows it's own burrow. As a result, we often find ourselves dealing with the same problem from opposite directions – for example the misplaced Dropped Kerbs at the entrance to Wheelwrights Close. He tackles it from the planning end, I tackle it from the Highways end and, well, if that hasn't solved it by the time this goes to press I'll be very surprised.

Of course one of the main issues for Sixpenny Handley is the weight and speed of traffic and how to control it. We have been waiting for the 30mph signs to be enhanced with yellow backing boards – the decision got lost in the system between County Hall and the Parish Council but has now been freed to go ahead. We are still waiting for the Act of Parliament (!) that will allow County to paint (30) signs on the roads – it was promised 12 months ago. We have however been promised that the parking problem at the corner of the High Street and The Hollows will be investigated and, we hope, solved. The long term solution, and Alan will know how long that is, is a mini-bypass along Back Lane. It's a £1m scheme, it's on the books but when will they find the money?

Tim Palmer.



Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

In a fortnight the new cricket season will be upon us. We welcome members past, present and new. Also any offers of umpires, groundsman and general support. Memberships are now due. £20 adult, £8 junior. Same as last year.

We have a full season of games - league on Wednesdays, Friendlies on Sunday and indoors during the winter. So whatever your ability, come along, try it out and enjoy yourself.

For details of membership please contact:

Neil Bowes, 45 Sheasby Close, Sixpenny Handley - 01725 552416
Clive and Juli Spendley - 01202 822244

1999 Fixtures (Sundays)

Date	Team	Venue
April 11 th	Old Eldonians	Home
April 18 th	South Newton	Home
April 25 th	Moonrakers	Home
May 2 nd	Bournemouth Schools Association	Home
May 9 th	Shroton	Away
May 15 th	(Saturday) Commoners	Home
May 16 th	Commoners	Home
May 23 rd	Pimperne	Away
May 30 th	Dewlish	Home
June 6 th	Rockbourne	Away
June 13 th	Dewlish (Milton Abbas)	Away
June 20 th	Shroton	Home
June 27 th	Dinton	Home
July 4 th	Wincanton	Home
July 11 th	Coombe Bissett	Away
July 18 th	Moonrakers (Wilton)	Away
July 25 th	South Newton	Away
Aug 1 st	Bournemouth Schools Association	Home
Aug 8 th	Tarrant Gunville	Away
Aug 15 th	Tour - Gloucestershire	
Aug 22 nd	Weymouth Labour Club	Home
Aug 29 th	Pimperne	Home
Sept 4 th	(Saturday) Rockbourne Sixes	
Sept 5 th	Rockbourne	Home
Sept 12 th	<i>No game</i>	
Sept 19 th	Wessex Arch	Home
Sept 26 th	Old Eldonians	Away

Sixpenny Handley First School

At school we have activities. One of the Maths activities is 'What else is in the Square?' What you do is you have a board with squares on it and you have some pictures you put some pictures at the top and some at the side like a square. Then you get some little squares and put them in the right place. I really like playing with it it's really fun. I really enjoy it.

Our school is a caring and happy school and we all help us to keep it happy and I hope you will too! Even I! try to make this school very happy.

We do music every Tuesday and I really like it. I really like the song we are learning It's really funny! I also like the instruments we play they make a lovely sound they're really fun nobody can't like them!

Jessie Baynes Age 6 years

In the playground at our school we have got games like hopscotch. At lunch time play we have got games like Cars, Jacks, Skittles and Stilts.

In our school we have got homework the homework is good fun! One time we got syllables it was good fun! We have folders. It is a grey folder and we get a sticker if we do it all.

Mary Gillett Age 7 years

At our school we go swimming with Allen. Then we swim from the deep end to the shallow end. Some people wear armbands or rocketpacks. Some times we jump off the diving board. Some times we go under water in the shallow end and it is really fun and we have a playtime. We wash our hands and then we sit in our fixed places and then we say our prayer to God and then we eat our lunch. In our playtime we play with our friends and play games and then we come in.

Christopher Masson Age 7 years

What we do in our school for work is Geography. I enjoy learning about it because you can learn about the world. You can learn about any country. It would be nice to live in a hot place where it's sunny all the time!

Another thing I enjoy doing is Maths because they are very good to do and they are a bit easy to do some times but some times it's very hard. The things I enjoy doing is multiplication sums.

Eloise Killeen Age 7 years

At school we have a star chart. If you are good you get a star. I got some for my Maths and my English because I try hard. We have school uniforms. I have a red jumper a pinafore and a blouse. My blouse is white and my pinafore is grey.

Rebecca Witt Age 7 years

Sixpenny Handley MIDSUMMER CARNIVAL WEEK 1999

Carnival Week 1999 will start on Saturday 12th June and end on Saturday 19th June.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS (SO FAR):

- Saturday 12th Selection Contest for Carnival Queen/Princess 1999, in Lounge Bar Star Inn at 8.00pm.
 Sunday 13th 10:30m Children's Treasure Hunt around village.
 2:30pm Wheelbarrow/Pram Race.
 Both of these events start and finish in front of The Star Inn.
 7:30pm Fun Quiz Night, Lounge Bar, Star Inn. Entry £1.00 per person in teams of up to 5, or individuals.
- Monday 14th
 Tuesday 15th
 Wednesday 16th Events yet to be arranged for these three days.
 Thursday 17th Special Carnival Bingo in the Lounge Bar, Star Inn, Doors open 6.45pm, Eyes Down 7.30pm.
 Friday 18th

Saturday 19th **MIDSUMMER STREET FAYRE AND CARNIVAL DAY**

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 12:30pm | Street closes to all Traffic for setting up. |
| 1:00pm | Official Start of Street Fayre. |
| 3:00pm | Judging of Children's Fancy Dress by Roebuck Inn. |
| 3:30pm | Family Pet Contest. |
| 4:00pm | Floats assemble for Judging at Spots Green. |
| 4:15pm | Parade moves off along Dean Lane, up the High Street and down Common Road. |
| 5:15pm | Prize giving. |
| 5:30pm | Raffle. |
| 6:00pm | Carnival Week Ends. |

I am hoping to have a Tombola 1000 stall this year. This is a Tombola Stall with 1000 prizes; one for each year of the 2nd Millennium, 1000 to 1999. To achieve this I need you all to help by donating a prize or two for the stall. If I reach this figure then it will be run as a **PRIZE EVERY TIME** this year.

I am also looking for Raffle Prizes and Carnival Bingo Prizes for this event. If any of you can help, no matter how large or small, then I shall be most grateful.

Proceeds from this event will be divided between the S.H.E.D.D.S. Millennium Project, the Scouts and Cubs plus any Village Group with a specific project that will benefit our Community. If you are in such a Group and would like to be considered for support from the S.H.E.D.D.S. Carnival, then please submit the details of your project in writing, to me, by the 1st May 1999. The Group selected to receive Carnival support will be expected to help with the running of Carnival day. Local Groups wishing to raise funds for their own Organisation can book stall space at the Street Fayre, for the usual payment of 10%.

Watch out for further details of all events.

S.H.E.D.D.S. STAR BINGO

The S.H.E.D.D.S. Star Bingo is now known as "THE S.H.E.D.D.S. STAR BINGO AND SOCIAL CLUB". Membership Cards have been issued to all qualifying Bingo players.

Everyone is welcome and membership cards will be issued to new members after a qualifying period and will cost 20p each. There is a Snowball running for Card Carrying Members.

Bingo Sessions are held fortnightly, on a Thursday night, in the Lounge Bar of the Star Inn. Upcoming session dates are: 1st, 15th & 29th April, 13th & 27th May and 10th & 24th June then continuing fortnightly.

There will be an extra Carnival Bingo Session on Thursday 17th June.

Timings for all sessions are: Doors open at 6:45pm, Eyes Down 7:30pm.

THE S.H.E.D.D.S. MILLENIUM PROJECT

The Millennium Film is well underway, visiting local businesses, filming local people and events. The film, approx. 180mins long, will be titled "SIXPENNY HANDLEY - 1999" and is expected to cost £10.00 per copy. You will be able to order them from Vic Enticott or from myself.

A professional Commercial Design Artist and Painter will be producing a Montage of the village changes over the years. Copies of this picture will be available to buy in due course. The price will be advised once the cost of printing is known. The original picture will be auctioned at a later date. More details on the Millennium Project will be published later.

Godfrey J Turner

Chairman, S.H.E.D.D.S.

SIXPENNY HANDLEY BOWLS CLUB

*Ever thought you'd like to try bowling
but could never quite pluck up the courage?*

YOU MIGHT BE A NATURAL

**Then come to the Bowling Club's
OPENING OF THE NEW SEASON EVENT ON**

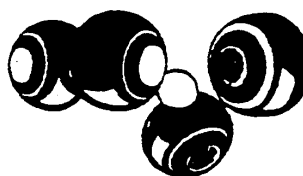
Wednesday April 14th

from 5:30pm to 8:00pm

**and try on the superb all-weather 6 rink green
and meet club members**

Bowling

Refreshments after



**If you have a pair of Bowling shoes (Flat no heels) please bring them
otherwise Shoes & Bowls can be provided.**

Experienced and Beginners welcomed

Sixpenny Handley First School

Have you heard about Sixpenny Handley First School's excellent Ofsted report?

If you have missed out on this exciting news recently, read on...

The Ofsted inspectors were particularly impressed by the high levels of academic achievement shown by the pupils, the caring ethos of the school and the commitment of the staff. Pupils, parents, governors and staff were praised for their efforts.

Pupils' achievements in all subjects were found to be good but, in particular, the inspectors noted especially high standards in English, Mathematics, Science and Music. The pupils were observed to be hard-working and well-disciplined, demonstrating an eagerness to learn and improve.

Teaching was judged to be good or better in all subjects with over a tenth being viewed as very good. Teachers were praised for their enthusiastic introduction of the Literacy Hour and their careful planning for good opportunities for pupils to apply their skills in all areas. Pupils benefit from a well planned curriculum that provides variety and challenge.

The efforts of the hard working governing body were recognised; they are interested in all aspects of the daily life of the school -their willing support playing an important role in its success.

The inspectors were pleased to note that the school is strongly supported by the parents, who share its values. They work in partnership with the staff to create an environment in which their children can flourish both socially and academically.



Strike while the iron is hot



Busy young archaeologists at work

Sixpenny Handley First School

ARCHAEOLOGISTS FOR THE DAY!

A special treat was in store for children of Sixpenny Handley First School when they attended the Ancient Technology Centre at Cranborne, on February 10th, as part of their topic on Britain in Celtic and Roman times: an archaeological excavation was in progress in which, they discovered with delight, they were to participate!

In digging the foundations for the huge new round house currently being built at the Centre, director Jake Keen and his team had unearthed evidence of the earlier use of the site, including ditches, pits and plough-marks in the chalk, which had yielded burnt flint, animal bone and pottery of Bronze Age date. Construction had been suspended to enable brief excavation of the site to be carried out.



Excavating and recording the evidence

Before starting their work for the day, Mr Keen gave the children, with their accompanying parents and helpers, a truly fascinating tour of the Centre and its buildings, exemplifying all kinds of ancient construction techniques. They were then able to set to, with unconcealed excitement, sharing the tasks of digging, sieving, washing and sorting the finds, under the guidance of the archaeologists working there.

It soon became evident that eager young eyes missed nothing, the smallest fragments of bone or pot being dug and sifted from the earth for perusal. Despite a bitter wind and temperatures barely above freezing, the hours flew by, helped by a warming stint in the forge where, with the watchful encouragement of blacksmith Reg Miles, the children experienced the skill of working iron into knives and arrowheads.



Identifying and sorting the finds with Mr. Keen

All too soon, the time came to return to school, tired, grateful and gloriously muddy, still full of enthusiasm and not a little sense of achievement too. Through this first-hand experience, the children had gained a real insight into how much of

our evidence about the past is obtained, and had come to see that a wealth of remains from the ancient

NOTES FROM RSPB GARSTON WOOD

Another coppicing season is over. The South Wilts Group member's barbecue, signalling the end of work for another year, was held in the middle of the month, a little earlier than 1998. Beyond March, cutting wood cleanly becomes more difficult as the sap rises and this year the mild weather has brought new growth quite early. It is very disappointing to see that some hedgerows were trimmed so late this winter, when they had already produced buds, that they will provide little early food or nesting for birds this year.

As I write, Bluebells are already out in parts of the wood, there may be very few left by the **Open Day on May 23rd** but please do come along anyway and have a guided tour to see all the other spring plants and migrant birds. Wood Anemones are carpeting the floor of the woods with patches of yellow Celandine beginning to appear, while the first spikes of Early Purple Orchids are pushing upwards. What a relief that winter seems to be over!



Now that the ground is beginning to dry out it is much more pleasant to walk in the woods. Those of you that have not visited recently will be surprised at the amount of work carried out this winter and may also note some additions. A path through the Plantation is being cut, very slowly, but will open up a completely new view of the wood.

A few nestboxes for particular birds, for example Spotted Flycatchers, have been put up in suitable places, in the hope that they will breed again.

In the lower half of the woods, a clearing with two seats has been created to encourage both birds and butterflies. Why not take a snack and watch the wildlife go by for a while?

Thirty more black boxes are located at the bottom of the wood to encourage a greater diversity of bats, Bechstein's in particular, and two very large hibernation boxes are now in position to provide a winter home.

Extraordinarily, a torpid Dormouse was found in a nestbox during February when it should have been safely tucked up underground; it had disappeared a few days later, presumably its body clock was playing tricks. Each winter the old nests are cleaned out, bird droppings removed and any other visitors such as Yellow-necked and Wood mice are discouraged.

Encouragement of the breeding programme continues, with a further 55 boxes being put up this year: The target for 1999 is to find nests full of young in the southern half of the woods for the first time.

Finally, we have an unusual visitor to report. On the barbecue day mentioned above, Jack Edwards, (the Warden) and I were emerging from inspecting the plantation when we met a man accompanied by two children, who assured us he was just "taking his pig for a walk". ??

As you can imagine, the group thought we were telling 'porky pies'.

David Tucker

David Hunt
The Workshop
Dean Lane
Sixpenny Handley
Tel: 01725 552655



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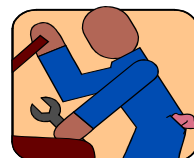
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Opening Hours

Mon – Fri 7:30am – 7:30pm

Saturday 7:30am – 4:30pm

PRESS RELEASE

World Health Day -7th April

East Dorset Citizens Advice Bureau has run a service from the Sixpenny Handley GP Surgery since May 1994 as part of a pilot scheme to advise patients from this rural area with health related social problems. As a result of this association we are pleased to celebrate World Health Day on the 7th April.

The project continues to operate on a weekly basis. The Adviser is available every Tuesday at the Sixpenny Handley surgery and it's sister surgery based in Broadchalke. The practice serves the area bounded by the Tarrant Valley to the west; the Salisbury/Shafesbury road (approx) to the north; Moor Crichel, Cranborne, Martin and Coombe Bisset in the south, thus a wide local area is served by this Citizens Advice Bureau out-post.

Specific social problems that affect patient's health where we have been able to assist are:-

- The re-housing of a young family.
- Assisting and negotiating with creditors for a young couple who found themselves in debt.
- Obtaining Disability Living Allowance for a young man who had been involved in an unfortunate accident.
- Severe Disability Allowance in addition to Disability Living Allowance for a patient suffering from a stroke.
- Disability Working Allowance in addition to Disability Living Allowance for a young lady now running her own business after we introduced her to the Princes Trust and Business Link.

The list can go on forever as there are no boundaries to information/advice available. We also have access to professional help where essential.

Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club

The Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club held their first meeting on Monday 15th of March 1999. It was an informal Practice Meeting titled "With Spring In Mind". We had some beautiful arrangements, really bringing Spring to life.

We have decided that seeing as the Club has no Committee running it at the moment, we would continue as a whole club being involved, in it's planning and stick to practice evenings as the norm, and once or twice a year have a Demonstrator as a special occasion.

We hope that this will not deter anyone wanting to come along and have a go at Flower Arranging. Because this is how we all learn by keep practising and sharing ideas with other Members. We are a friendly bunch, so come along and have a go, we have a well equipped Sales Table to supply all your Flower Arranging needs. Our next meeting is on Monday the 19th April 1999 (7:30pm) at the Village Hall when we will be Practising an "Easter Arrangement incorporating Eggs.", any kind!

May 17th will be Sue Nowell who will be planting up interesting garden containers. Come along for ideas for your container planting.

Acting Chairman, Eileen Miles

Drs Pelly, Nodder and Morgan Surgery Opening Times

	Sixpenny Handley	Broadchalke
Monday	8.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 7.0	8.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 7.0
Tuesday	8.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 7.0	9.0 - 5.0
Wednesday	9.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 7.0	8.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 6.0
Thursday	8.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 6.0	8.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 7.0
Friday	8.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 7.0	9.0 - 1.0 and 2.0 - 6.0
Saturday	9.0 - 12.0	Closed

St Mary's Church



"The Seeker" is the Church magazine for the combined parishes of Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge. It gives details of all Church Services and Church activities. If you would like "The Seeker" delivered to you, please get in touch with Dr. Zoe

Lent is the seven weeks before Easter when the Church takes time to be penitent; some people give up some personal pleasures, others do some extra duty; but all join together to enjoy the break halfway through Lent when we celebrate Mothering Sunday.

It was good to see so many families in Church that day.

So, by the time the Downsman comes out you should be all ready for Easter, when we can all join the greatest celebration of the Christian year. **CHRIST IS RISEN!**

GOOD FRIDAY (2nd April)

07:30 pm at St. Mary's
Readings and hymns.

EASTER SUNDAY (4th April)

08:30 Holy Communion at Gussage
St. Andrew
09:30 Holy Communion at St. Mary's
with the St. Mary's Mini-Singers.
11.15 Morning Prayer and Holy
Communion at St. Rumbold's, Pentridge
6:00 pm Sung Evensong at St. Mary's.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual meeting will be on Tuesday, 20th April when we elect the Churchwardens, Deanery Synod Representatives and members of the Parochial Church Council.

GLIMPSES OF PARISH LIFE IN AND AROUND SIXPENNY HANDLEY

Continuing our extracts from a booklet compiled originally for the use of children to learn a little of the life of their grandparents.

Now for school life. At 9 a.m. the bell in the gable tanged its single note for ten minutes, and then every child was expected to be in. At about 9.15 the Curate came and gave us our Scripture lesson; this took half-an-hour, after which we settled down to our lessons till 11, when we had ten minutes break, and then lessons were resumed till 12. From 2 to 4 in the afternoon there was no break, but the time soon passed.

The chief game of the boys was marbles, and we were very keen. We arranged sides, two on each, and our 'pound' for this was about six feet across. Another game was leapfrog. This was generally played on our way home for lunch and again when out at 4 o'clock. We leaped over one another from the school to nearly the bottom of the street. The girls skipped and were very clever with the antics they made over and under the rope.

Our Sunday School was attended by about 80 children from 5 to 14 years, divided into classes according to age. We assembled at 10 a.m. and at 10.45 all above eight years old marched into church to the seats allotted us. The afternoon session was from 3 o'clock to 4.

There were two events connected with the Sunday School to which we looked forward - the Summer tea and sports and the Christmas tree and tea. The sports and tea took place in the Vicarage meadows in August. Foot races, long jump, a high jump (you may be sure it as not very high) and three-legged races, etc. The girls would join in these. Small money prizes were given. Sixpence would be a lordly sum, but we enjoyed every moment of it and after a scramble for sweets and three (or more) rousing cheers for the teachers and helpers, we dragged our weary selves homeward.

The Christmas Tree was erected at one end of the Sunday School room; James Isaac, the Verger and Sexton, was responsible for this.

A week before the event James would be seen trudging across the Common with a beautifully shaped fir. With the help of the Curate, this would be placed in a tub, and all curtained off. And, during two or three afternoons the ladies

would be busy decorating the tree with fairy lights, toys and bonbons, etc. tied to the branches, and one side of a table would be laden with books of all degrees, for the tiny tots as well as for the seniors. After tea the tables were cleared and Miss Markland was asked to present the books. Every one of us received a prize, and then each child received an orange and a cracker. The vicar then gave a blessing and we were dispersed - the end of a perfect afternoon and evening.

We have seen something of the life and gaiety of our village folk, but they never shirked their work, whatever it was.

The hay and corn harvest was a very busy time. As much for the women as the men.

After harvest came the nutting in the woods. This was the women's job chiefly, but the woodsmen and hurdle makers joined in too. During a good season hundreds of sacks of nuts were sent to the London Market. In some seasons a considerable sum of money was earned in this way. One villager, when 84, told me that when a young man he could earn as much as £1 in a day. He had three brothers and together with his parents the total income of this one family would be £4 to £5 a day for three or four weeks. This was not always the case, some seasons were not as good as others. In those days there was one store in the village where one could purchase almost anything - shirts, boots, groceries, leather gloves for farm workers, etc. Every customer had a book in which the purchases were entered, and the storeowner made an entry in her ledger. After the harvest and nutting the year's purchases were paid for. It was the boast of the storeowner that she was never let down. And so life went on happily and quietly until Christmas. About a week before this festival a small group of children would go from house to house singing bits of carols, but on Christmas Eve, early on Christmas morning and for two or three evenings after, an excellent choir of men and ladies would be heard at various points in the village singing hymns and carols. From six o'clock till eight o'clock in the morning of Christmas Day the church bells would be ringing a merry peal. Another entertaining company were the Mummers.

*(Read about the Mummers in the next issue.
Ed.)*



Blow to Rural Policing

Homewatch schemes throughout North Dorset have reacted with dismay to the news that PC Andy Boardman has resigned from his duties as 'Detached Rural Beat Officer'. Dorset Police say that the shortage of funds mean he is unlikely to be replaced.

In the eighteen months he held the post, PC Boardman really made an effort to get to know the local Homewatch schemes and to improve policing of the area. It is very regrettable that he has stood down, primarily, we understand, because the available police resources simply did not enable him to do the job as well as he would have liked. Sixpenny Handley Homewatch is nonetheless grateful to Andy for the progress he undoubtedly made.

The Parish will of course continue to be policed by full time officers based at Blandford, but without special attention to liaison with the Homewatch we have recently enjoyed. In the circumstances we are very fortunate to retain the assistance of Yogi Patel, our volunteer Special Constable, who spends as much time as he can in the parish when he is on duty.

On a brighter note, Dorset Police have now finally taken delivery of their helicopter, which is expected to be particularly valuable in the policing of rural areas. Lets hope we see it in the skies above Sixpenny Handley soon!

Local Crime Report

Further to our warning in the last issue of the Downsman, there have been more shed breaks in the area, with chainsaws being a particular target. Please look to the security of your outbuildings and keep them locked at all times

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

when not in use.

The Dorset Police 'Ringmaster' system has also recently given warning of door to door callers in the area offering help with tree felling and gardening jobs. Police advice is to have nothing to do with these people, who at the least are likely to overcharge and at the worst, to spy out your property for future criminal attention.

Barbecue go-ahead

Village Homewatch Co-ordinators met recently and decided to go ahead with another Sixpenny Handley Village Barbecue. This year's event will be held on **Friday 23rd June** at Church Field, by very kind permission of Mr Stephen Judd. The Village Barbecue has been a popular event in the past and we hope that you will come along and enjoy yourselves, meeting new friends and building a closer and safer community in our Parish. Newcomers to the village are especially welcome.

Crime and Disorder Act

Finally, both the Homewatch and the Parish Council have been informed about the implementation of last year's Crime and Disorder Act. The Act puts a joint responsibility on the Local Authority (County and District in our case) and the Police, to research and produce a clear action plan for fighting crime in each area. Performance will then be monitored against the targets set.

On the face of it this looks like good news, but no new money has been made available to implement it. We can only hope that with better forward planning the existing slender Police resources can be spent in the most cost-effective ways.

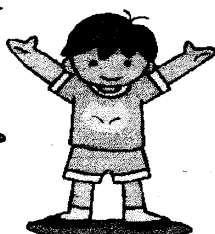
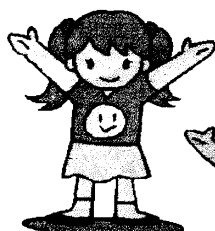
Urgent Police Warning

Dorset Police have just alerted the Homewatch

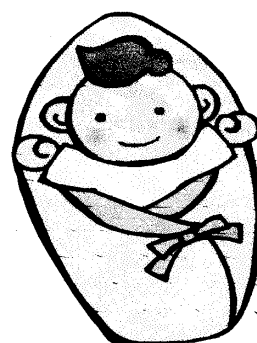
about thefts of staddle stones and other garden ornaments from properties in Sixpenny Handley and surrounding villages on the night of 23rd March. These thefts follow a spate of similar crimes in the area.

Police advice is to remove ornaments for safekeeping if at all possible, and if not to mark them with your post code in the hope that it may aid recovery if they are stolen.

The Happy Nappy Club



*Come along
and join in the*
fun



The Happy Nappy Club meets at the Village Hall on Monday mornings between 10 and 11:30am (during school term).

We really look forward to welcoming you and your children. You can visit us every week or once a term. You can bring a friend or come alone. You can even come and help. Whatever you want to do, it's your club - it's up to you!

Play with playdough, have fun with friends, dress up and dance or just relax and read. From slides, sit-n-rides and sing-songs, to tents, tunnels and tea-sets, there's something for everyone.

Everyone is welcome - from babies and toddlers to children up to school age, with their mums, dads, nannies and minders! £1.40 per morning, refreshments inclusive.

If you have any questions phone Penny on
01725 552024

The Happy Nappy Club - Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

THE WEDNESDAY CLUB

Wednesday Club meets every other Wednesday at 2.30pm in the Village Hall for tea and a talk or entertainment. Plans for April and May include:-

April 7th	Family Trees with Val Andrews
April 21st	A talk of Ethiopia by Lesley Simm.
May 5th	Sandroyds School Choir -a Musical afternoon.
May 19th	Game, Shooting and the Countryside -Charles Nodder.

Your £1 buys you an excellent tea, good company **and** the afternoon's entertainment. So just come along, and bring a friend, or come along and make some new friends.

ADVENTURERS IN THE COUNTY MUSEUM

Although established as long ago as 1846, the Dorset County Museum is still better known to visitors to the County than to local people by a factor of four to one!

How many readers know that the Museum contains the largest collection of Hardy manuscripts in the World, the most local photos, the only professional curated natural history and geology collections, a rich map collection and library and one of the largest collections of archaeology outside the national museums?

The Museum is a community enterprise in the very best sense and is supported by the 2,000 strong membership of the Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society. Members help financially through their subscriptions (childrens membership starts at £5.20), by volunteering, by contributions to the Society's 200 page annual 'Proceedings' and through attendance at the active annual programme of events, workshops and talks on Dorset subjects. Through the richness of its collections and the activities of its membership it contributes back to the community data on local wildlife and fossils, rainfall records, entertainment, education and a historical memory of life and adventure in every local parish. There is an active and changing exhibitions programme including major summer shows on Mary Anning the fossil lady of Lyme in 1999 and next year a large scale show on 2000 Years of the Christian Church in Wessex showing some of the finest objects from Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire and Dorset. Not for nothing were we Best Museum of Social History in the Museum of the Year Awards in 1998!

Why not sign up to become a member of Dorset's first conservation body and largest cultural organisation? One member in almost every Dorset village has a stock of membership forms for local distribution or you can contact the Curator or Administrator directly on (01305) 262735.

The Dorset County Museum, High West Street, Dorchester DT1 1XA
Open 10-5 Monday - Saturday. Sundays in July and August



THE STAR INN

Come on down and have a jar
at your local called the Star
Come on in and sit right down
Whatever you drink be it cider or brown
You can play darts or maybe some pool
or just sit down by the bar on a stool
If you've come from near or from afar
We hope you won't forget the Star
We hope you have enjoyed your stay
as we wave you on your way
from all the staff behind the bar
at your local called the Star

THE STAR INN

Paul and Caroline welcome you all to our bar
with a nice variety of ale and good home made traditional food.
Nice comfortable bar area with separate lounge for eating.
Bookings taken for that special occasion.
Sunday Lunches, Cream Teas, Car Parking facilities.
Open all day Weekends.
We offer you entertainment last Saturday of each month.
Fruit Machine, JukeBox, Pool Table, Darts....

Don't be shy and pass us by
Visit our bar and try a jar!

SUMMERLOCK UPHOLSTERY

Church Farm Workshop
Sixpenny Handley
SALISBURY

Tel: 01725 552333 Fax: 01725 552333

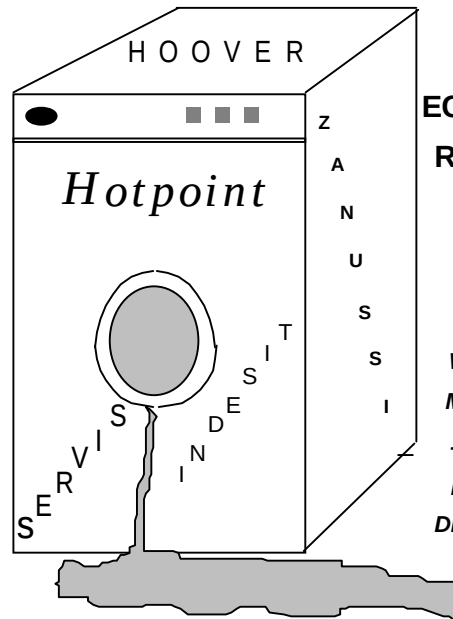
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RE-UPHOLSTERY

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VERTICAL & VENETIAN
BLINDS
Carpets Supplied & Fitted

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LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS



NEW & QUALITY RECONDITIONED MACHINES SUPPLIED

**FAST
ECONOMIC
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*Washing
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Tel No: 01725 - 552843

FREE BOOKS FOR HANDLEY SCHOOL

A big "thank you" to everyone who has collected tokens for the Free Books for Handley School scheme. The scheme does not end until 27th March, and then there is a run-off period for token collection and for the School to apply for its books; so I can't give you a final result yet but at the last count there were nearly **4000** tokens.

So, well done everyone, and if you've got a pile of tokens still at home, then do give them to Bronia Styles or to the School direct.

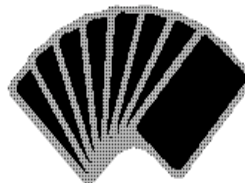
Pam Wood 552608.



**WHIST AT THE VILLAGE HALL
COMMENCES: 7:00pm**

Wednesday 7th April
Wednesday 21st April
Wednesday 5th May

Whist start again in September



**BRIDGE AT THE ROEBUCK
COMMENCES: 8:00pm**

Wednesday 14th April
Wednesday 28th April
Wednesday 12th May
Wednesday 19th May
Wednesday 26th May

Details - Bill Chorley - Tel: 01725 552776



**News
and
Information**

NATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

Report for February and March

On a cold snowy night in February members of Sixpenny Handley W.I. turned out for a return visit from Mrs K. Browning, also braving the weather, who showed slides of her holiday with the Ramblers' Association in Italy.

It was a treat to bask in the beauty and sunshine of the Sorrento peninsula, and we thoroughly enjoyed Mrs Browning's most entertaining commentary.

At the end of the month we held our annual Jumble Sale which is the main fund raising event of the year, also financing our share in the Senior Citizens' outing and tea party with entertainment. This was very successful.

March saw us again enjoying slides, this time of Wilton House and the estate. Mr. A. Williams gave a splendid account of the history of the house and gardens, and also interested us with the information that Parry; the author of the music for "Jerusalem" was married to a daughter of the then Earl of Pembroke.

Dates for our diaries are:

April 15th - Birthday dinner

May 1st - "May-Day" cake stall

June 19th - "All sorts" stall at the Street Fair.

July 15th - A visit to two gardens in Weymouth

Also in July a garden meeting to be arranged at Margaret Quinn's home.

August 9th - Salisbury "Constable" walk - evening

August 27th - Senior Citizens' party

Nancie Raban-Williams

**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU
AT SIXPENNY HANDLEY SURGERY**

Tuesdays 9:30am – 12:00 noon

Christine Pacey

**NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHAT YOUR ENQUIRY IS
WE WILL TRY AND HELP
COST? – Free**

FOR YOU?

For everyone, regardless of class, race, sex, sexuality, culture, income or benefits.

- We will not tell anyone unless you say so
- We don't judge or blame
- We will not be influenced by outside interests or views
- Financial Problems
- Preliminary Debt Counselling
- Employment Issues
- Housing Related Problems
- Family Breakdown
- Issues relating to being a Carer
- Issues related to Community Care



Domiciliary appointments available

ELECTIONS '99

Local Government Elections for East Dorset District Council, and all Parish and Town Councils within its District will take place on **6th May 1999**.

Anybody who knows that they will not be able to vote in person at their polling station on 6th May, 1999, may wish to contact the Elections Office to arrange for a postal or proxy vote.

The closing date for absent vote applications for the Local Government Elections is 5 p.m. on 20th April, 1999.

European Parliamentary Elections take place on **10th June, 1999**, and the last date to receive absent vote applications for that election is 5 p.m. on 25th May, 1999.

If you have any enquiries concerning absent voting, or require information on any aspect of the elections please telephone (01202)

What is Alpha?

DO YOU THINK THAT..

CHRISTIANITY IS BORING, UNTRUE,
IRRELEVANT?

FIND OUT WHAT OTHERS THINK.
COME ALONG TO AN

ALPHA COURSE

COME TO OUR CELEBRATION SUPPER
ON 21st APRIL AND FIND OUT ABOUT
THE **ALPHA COURSE** STARTING ON
28TH APRIL

PHONE THE COURSE ADMINISTRATOR,
PETER EVANS ON 01725 552270

FOR YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION

Taking Up Kart Racing

Do not go rushing off to buy a Kart. Go to your nearest circuit and take a look at the classes that are racing. If you are big and heavy consider gearbox karts, as most of the top 100cc drivers are built like jockeys. However, many clubs now offer 100cc heavy as one of their classes.

Having viewed the options, and talked to drivers in the pits, decide upon which class is best for you. It is best to consider a class that is well supported as no matter how fast or slow you may be there will always be someone to race with. Racing in the early days of your career is most fun if you are mixing it with others. Small grids rarely give entertaining racing.

Look in the magazines and consider a Kart racing course. A course will teach you more about the sport and the cost of racing in each class.

As well as learning about driving techniques you will also learn how to set up and maintain the Kart and engine. It is ideal to attend a course before you make your final decision on which class to enter, and before a purchase is made. The information that you will pick up in these areas will be invaluable. Once you have purchased your equipment you will also need tools in order to maintain it correctly. Try to go testing at the circuit that you will use for your ARKS test. In order to enter a Kart race meeting you will also need to obtain the following: -

- An MSA "Starting Karting Pack" which is available from MSA, Motor Sports House, Riverside Park, Colnbrook, Slough, SL3 0GH. (01753 681736). This pack contains the competition licence application form. You need to successfully complete the ARKS test before applying for a licence.
- A medical certificate of fitness provided by your doctor. This is part of the medical examination that is on the application form.
- A Kart club membership. There are many clubs in the country. By joining one of them you will then be allowed to race at any circuit. Some clubs have test days and offer special rates to members for test days and race days.
- Apart from your Kart you must have protective clothing which includes-a helmet approved for racing, an approved racing suit, proper gloves, and ankle boots.

The nearest circuit to our village of Sixpenny Handley would be Forest Edge Kart club approx. 4 miles from Christchurch. Racing is held there on the 1st Sunday of the month from March to November, from 10.00a.m. until 5.30pm. The circuit is off Matchams Lane opposite the ski-club on the Barnsfield Heath MOD test site. Admission £2 or £3 children free.

The next nearest is at Clay Pigeon Kart club Wardon Hill, Evershot on the A37 midway between Dorchester and Yeovil, racing the 2nd Sunday of the month.

The third closest would be Dunkeswell Kart club 5 miles from Honiton in Devon. Racing the last Sunday of the month.

Forest Edge approx. 20miles. Clay Pigeon 40miles. Dunkeswell 65miles.

All the mentioned circuits have a snack bar, commentary, and toilets.

As from this year Ann and myself have decided not to run just one club but to go freelance, but if you wish to have more detailed information or to obtain a free complimentary pass to the Forest Edge circuit please phone 01725 552074. (private line).

You can start racing from the tender age of 8years (karts).

If you enjoy motor racing why not become a marshal, scrutineer, Clerk of the course, MSA steward, observer or competition secretary.

All of these positions can be obtained, if you enjoy the sport but do not wish to race, training will be given and also sometimes it is possible to claim expenses.

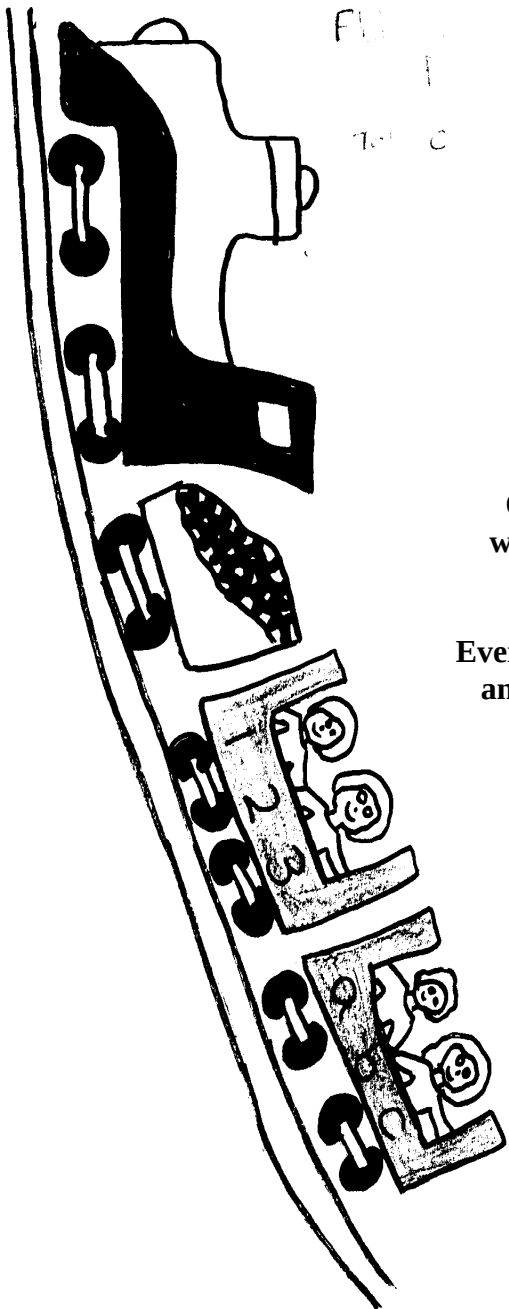
We hope you have enjoyed reading this article.

Yours in the sport of Karting

Pete Francis (Commentator) Ann Francis (Results admin.)

Karting on the Internet. The UK's most popular Karting web site. <http://www.karting.co.uk>

Bright Sparks Nursery



Bright Sparks

**Ebbesbourne Wake Village Hall
Ebbesbourne Wake
Tel No 01722 781069**

Took Over Flying Start 26th March 1999

New Name - Same Place - Same Faces

Mon. - Fri 9:15 - 12:15 £5 per session

Tue & Fri All Day Sessions 9:15 - 2:45

2 yrs - 5 yrs

**Our friendly Qualified and well experienced team
welcomes you to our homely, stimulating and secure
environment.**

**Every child is an individual with differing needs, abilities
and potential. We are sensitive in responding to those
needs.**

**Our well planned and structured activities can
enhance your child's full social, intellectual,
emotional, physical and creative development.
For a prospectus or to arrange a visit, please
call us during opening times.**

Your Child's Well Being Is Paramount

We Look Forward To Seeing You.

Holiday Play Schemes Also Available

Pentridge and Woodyates: a Parish Map for the millennium
Pentridge Village Hall, Sunday 18th April, 12. 00 noon (after church service)

The Parish Maps Project has helped many communities come together to re-discover and celebrate their local place. Perhaps the start of the new millennium is a good time to record what makes Pentridge and Woodyates special to those of us who live here.

The idea is to involve everyone in the village, old and young. Do you have any maps, photos, drawings or records of the parish? What is important to you? What do you think should be included on a map? Where do you think it should be displayed? What materials might we use? What contribution could you make? A painting, poem, photograph?

As a start, an informal get-together has been arranged at Pentridge Village Hall on Sunday 18th April at 12.00 noon (after the church service). Light refreshments will be provided and some maps will be on display. Please telephone if you are able to come and bring your ideas and any material of interest.

If you feel inspired before then or cannot make the meeting, please get in touch with Pru Barnes, Yew Tree Cottage, Pentridge (552259) or Margaret Quinn, 4 Cobley Close, Woodyates (552213). We have leaflets about the project that we can give to anyone who would like more information.

Walking for Epilepsy

If you would like to raise money for medical research into epilepsy, then join this fun walk over Easter! Whether you want to walk for half a day, a whole day or even the full week, all are welcome. Joining points are below: -

- Corfe Castle to Wareham (6 miles): **Sunday, April 4th**. Meet 13:15, in the square at Corfe Castle.
- Wareham to Lychett Matravers (10m): **Monday, April 5th** Meet 10:15 Wareham BR, or Cock & Bottle, Morden, 13:20
- Sturminster Marshall to Badbury Rings (8m): **Tuesday, April 6th** Meet 10:30, NT car park at White Mill (957016) or The Vine, Pamphill Green, 12:00pm
- Badbury Rings to Cranborne (10½m): **Wednesday, April 7th** Meet 10:30, main car park, or Witchampton Church, 12:00pm
- Cranborne to Tollard Royal (10m): **Thursday, April 8th** Meet 10:30 between church and Sheaf of Arrows, in street, or Fork in road to Deanland, (OS 001176) 12:15pm
- Tollard Royal to Shaftesbury (8m): **Friday, April 9th** Meet 10:45 village pond, or Win Green, tree clump at top, 12:00pm
- Shaftesbury to Sturminster Newton, **Saturday, April 10th** Meet 10:00 Castle Hill, or Stour Provost School, (808216), 11:45

Timings given for arrival at joining points, other than the start are necessarily approximate, so please arrive in plenty of time and be prepared to wait! All walks finish between 4:00 and 4:30. The best day for children is Monday, April 5th. Numbers in brackets are OS map references. Teas are provided at the end of each walk, at approx. £3.00 a head except kids under 14, which are free! On the last day, tea is free, but a donation would be appreciated from the really rich! Please confirm your walk day(s) and at the same time if you will be requiring tea, by calling **Ben Owen** on **0171 461 0061**, or **01725 552327 over Easter**, so I have an idea of possible numbers. Now let's just hope the weather stays kind!

SIXPENNY HANDLEY BOWLS CLUB

The 1999 Outdoor Bowling Season is about to begin !!

The Club will be opening the new season on Wednesday April 18th although some of our braver members have been playing regularly outside on the all weather rink.

IN FACT IF YOU BELONG TO ANOTHER OUTDOOR CLUB WE OFFER A SPECIAL WINTER OUTDOOR MEMBERSHIP-OCTOBER TO END OF MARCH FOR THE BARGAIN PRICE OF £15.

What do we do ? What will YOU be able to do ??

- Our main activity is playing bowls -Mixed friendlies -Home and Away.
- The Men play in the Dorset County Men's Outdoor League on Monday evenings in the middle of the season.
- We run internal competitions -all season with finals and trophies are awarded in September.
- We have an Annual Dinner and Presentation evening which is always enjoyable.
- We run Quiz Nights to raise funds as we do other events.
- Some of our men take part in County Competitions.
- We also provide a rink (4) for some of the Dorset County Friendly Fixtures during the season.
- Two of our members play in the Dorset County Short Mat Team.

Short Mat Bowls

We also play Short Mat Bowls in the Winter and since Christmas we have played our internal competitions-the results were:-

Singles -	Winner -	Colin Chambers
	R/Up -	Gordon Martin
Pairs	Winners -	Colin Chambers & Sarah Churchill
	R/Up -	Tony Groves and Bob Keech

Short Mat League

In order to make the Short Mat Bowls more interesting we are considering joining a Short Mat Mixed League, which if we join will begin in September 1999.

QUIZ EVENING

**Saturday April 10th at 7.30 p.m.
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall**

We are sure everyone has heard how much **FUN** these are.

Anyone interested in entering a Team of FOUR please

Contact Valerie Martin on 01725-552607

We provide the Sandwiches and the Tea or Coffee

You bring your own bottles!

PARISH DIARY

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Apr-01	Chase Community Friends	0	Apr-29	Tennis - Members Evening	0
Apr-01	S.H.E.D.D.S. Bingo	2	Apr-29	Chase Community Friends	0
Apr-02	Good Friday	2	Apr-29	S.H.E.D.D.S. Bingo	2
Apr-04	Easter Sunday	2	May-01	Tennis 99 - Parent & Child	0
Apr-04	Walking for Epilepsy	3	May-01	W. I. May-Day Cake Stall	3
Apr-07	World Health Day	2	May-02	Cricket Club Home Match	1
Apr-07	Wednesday Club	3	May-05	Wednesday Club	3
Apr-07	Whist at the Village Hall	3	May-05	Whist at the Village Hall	3
Apr-08	Chase Community Friends	0	May-06	Tennis - Members Evening	0
Apr-08	Walking for Epilepsy (Local)	3	May-06	Chase Community Friends	0
Apr-09	CCF Social Day Centre	0	May-06	EDDC & Parish Elections	3
Apr-10	Bowls Club Quiz	3	May-08	Tennis 99 - Doubles Handicap	0
Apr-11	Cricket Club Home Match	1	May-09	Tennis 99 - Doubles Handicap	0
Apr-12	W. I. Meeting	3	May-10	W. I. Meeting	3
Apr-13	100 Club Draw	0	May-12	Christian Aid Coffee Morning	1
Apr-14	Bowling New Season Event	2	May-12	Bridge at The Roebuck	3
Apr-14	Bridge at The Roebuck	3	May-13	Tennis - Members Evening	0
Apr-15	Tennis - Members Evening	0	May-13	Chase Community Friends	0
Apr-15	Chase Community Friends	0	May-13	S.H.E.D.D.S. Bingo	2
Apr-15	S.H.E.D.D.S. Bingo	2	May-14	CCF Social Day Centre	0
Apr-15	W. I. Birthday Dinner	3	May-15	Cricket Club Home Match	1
Apr-18	Tennis - Winter Finals	0	May-16	Cricket Club Home Match	1
Apr-18	Cricket Club Home Match	1	May-17	Flower Arranging Club	2
Apr-18	Pentridge & Woodyates Map	3	May-19	Downsman Copy Deadline	0
Apr-18	Outdoor Bowling Starts	3	May-19	Wednesday Club	3
Apr-19	Flower Arranging Club	2	May-19	Bridge at The Roebuck	3
Apr-20	PCC Annual Parish Meeting	2	May-20	Tennis - Members Evening	0
Apr-21	Wednesday Club	3	May-20	Chase Community Friends	0
Apr-21	Whist at the Village Hall	3	May-23	RSPB Open Day	2
Apr-21	Alpha Supper	3	May-25	Mobile Advice Centre Visit	0
Apr-22	Tennis - Members Evening	0	May-26	Bridge at The Roebuck	3
Apr-22	Chase Community Friends	0	May-27	Chase Community Friends	0
Apr-25	Cricket Club Home Match	1	May-27	S.H.E.D.D.S. Bingo	2
Apr-27	Mobile Advice Centre Visit	0	May-29	Tennis - Members Evening	0
Apr-28	Bridge at The Roebuck	3	May-30	Cricket Club Home Match	1

S I X P E N N Y

SIXPENNY HANDLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Age 4 - 9 years
Give your child a first class education in the friendly, caring environment of your village school.
Register your child as soon as possible to ensure a place.
Contact - Mrs A. Latchem (Headteacher) Tel:- 01725 552356

SIXPENNY HANDLEY SCHOOL LINK GROUP

An introduction to mainstream school. Time to get to know the teachers, the routines and expectations of school life.
Monday and Friday morning 8:45am - 11:15am
Contact - Sue Shepperd Tel:- 01725 552784

SIXPENNIES PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Opportunity to spend time away from mum and enjoy playing with other children within a caring environment.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30am - 12:00 noon
Contact - Denise Meaden Tel:- 01725 552715

HAPPY NAPPY CLUB

Come and enjoy a friendly, fun-packed morning at the Village Hall.
Babies, toddlers and children under school age are welcome
- with their mothers and carers.
We always provide refreshments and sometimes special events.
Mondays 10.00am - 11.30am Term time
Contact - Penny Morrison Tel:- 01725 552024

NEW BABY CLINIC - POST NATAL SUPPORT GROUP

A chance to share concerns and meet new friends with similar needs.
Contact - Mary Marsh Tel:- 01725 552792

Get Your Child Headed in
the Right Direction!

