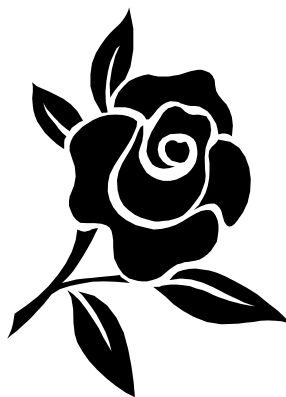


The Downsman

**NEWS AND INFORMATION
MAGAZINE**

**FLOWER SHOW
& FAMILY FUN DAY
Saturday August 18th**



**PENTRIDGE & WOODYATES
FESTIVAL
Sunday September 2nd**

**PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY
WITH PENTRIDGE**

August 2001

Including: Woodyates, Deanland and Minchington

Published by Sixpenny Handley Parish Council

Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

PARISH DIRECTORY

Parish Councillors

Sixpenny Handley

Chairman	Mr. B.M.J. Curtis.....	552397
	Mrs E. Miles.....	552768
	Miss E. Waller.....	552305
	Mr. P.G. Chick.....	552256
	Mr. S.Judd.....	552563
	Mrs P.K. Bailey-Wright...	552771
	Mr. P.J. Kellock.....	552849

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	Mr. R. Warner.....	552665
	Mr. J. Porte.....	552677
	Mr. B.J.Hansford.....	552468
	Mr. Tony Henderson....	552279

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Assistant Clerk

Member of Parliament

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County Councillor

Mr. T. Palmer..... 552321
Fax 552405

District Councillor

Mr. A. Humphries..... 517365

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Sixpenny Handley	Mr. P.J. Kellock.....	552849
Pentridge	Ian Davies.....	552076

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	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 Rice.....01258 452051	

1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Group Scout Leader	Mr. Barry Howes.....	552583
Scout Leader	Rob Easton.....	552038
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	Steve Pharo.....	552975
Secretary	Vacancy	
Bookings	Julie Richardson.....	519438

Sixpenny Handley Flower Show

Chairman	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Secretary		

For The Kidz

Chairman	Bronia Styles.....	552658
Secretary	Geraldine Vincent.....	552788

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point

John Curtis..... 552397

Co-ordinators

Area 1 - Dean Lane	Don Penrose.....	552022
2 - Lower Handley	Mike Comben.....	552085
3 - Upper Handley	John Clarke.....	552674
4 - Deanland & N.E.	Charles Nodder.....	552292
5 - West & South	George Tozer.....	552330

Other Areas (These are separate Homewatch Schemes)

Pentridge	Roy Elford.....	552296
Woodyates	Roy Warner.....	552665
Blandford Station. 01258		452101

Police

The Chase Nursery

Chairman	Tracey Pain.....01202 885374
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The Chase Nursery Link Group

Contact	Hazel Killeen.....	552980
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Sixpenny Handley W.I. (Formed in 1922)

President	Mrs Margaret Staplehurst.	552795
Secretary	Mrs H. Eynon.....	552308

Sixpenny Handley Mother's Union

Leader	Pamela Wood.....	552608
Secretary	Sheila Smith.....	552149

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

President	Tony Groves.....	552236
Secretary	Gill Martin.....	552297

Handley Sports Club

Chairman	Tony Dale.....	552540
Secretary	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Team Managers -Sat.	Mark Young.....	552741
-Sun	Stuart Haskell.....	552498

The Wednesday Club

Chairman	Pamela Wood.....	552608
Secretary	Heather Eynon.....	552308

Chase Community Friends

Chairman	Dr. Geddes.....	552395
Secretary	Vic Hatton01258 840671	

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club

Chairman	Michael Catchpole.....	552879
Secretary	Bill Chorley.....	552776
Membership/Treasurer	Jon Carlisle.....	552271

Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

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

Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club

Chairman / Secretary	Maggie Staplehurst.....	552795
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Happy Nappy Club

Chairperson	Sam Leiber-Young.....	552600
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S.H.E.D.D.S.

Chairman	Godfrey Turner.....	552533
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Sixpenny Handley Sports Association

Chairman	Colin Chambers.....	552796
Secretary	Brian Hansford.....	552468

Sixpenny Handley Allotment Holders Association

Chairman	John Curtis.....	552397
Secretary/Treasurer	Sandra Repper.....	552769

Welcome to the latest edition of *The Downsman*.

All your contributions to.....

Alan Vincent, 5 The Parsonage, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5QJ

Telephone – 01725 552788, Office Hours - 01722 412202.

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



Downsman Distribution in Pentridge

We need people to help distribute The Downsman in Pentridge. Would anyone who is prepared to give up just a couple of hours every two months to distribute this magazine within Pentridge, please contact Cllr. R Riddle (552659) or Cllr. R. Warner (552665).

Sixpenny Handley Annual Flower Show

Hints on showing Flowers & Pot Plants

General hints

Read the schedule - don't be disqualified for putting your exhibits in the wrong class, or not having the right number.

Make sure that your exhibits are looking their best. Trim off old flowers, leaves, etc. (no bugs or greenfly please) clean up pot/vase/container.

If in doubt over any entry, the committee will be only too happy to help.

Hints for showing Pot Plants

Ensure that pot plants are securely supported to prevent damage on way to show. Allow enough time when you get there to remove packing etc without having to hurry.

Remove damaged leaves/flowers if not already done so at home.

Make sure that plant is watered as tents can get very hot.

If possible label exhibits clearly with name of plant -if in doubt check with committee.

Remember it is not necessarily the biggest that wins!

Hints for showing Cut Flowers

Cut flowers for the show either the evening before or very early in the morning on the day of the show.

Always cut more than you think that you will need, just in case of accidents.

Try to cut the stems as long as possible and make a slanting cut at the end of the stem to assist the uptake of water.

Remove blemished/dead flowers & leaves and plunge upright into deep containers of clean water (the vase you want to use for the, show would be perfect)

If cut the night before -leave them in a dark place.

Make sure that the container is filled with water when your exhibit is arranged to your satisfaction.

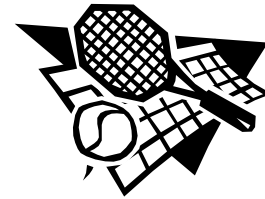
Try to produce a good balance with flowers of even size.

If possible label exhibits clearly with variety of flower (not necessary for a vase of mixed flowers) -if in doubt check with committee.

Show off!

This year, don't just visit your local Flower and Produce Show and come away saying-as so many people do-"Pity I didn't enter. My soft fruit/jam/sweetpeas/new potatoes/pot plants would have won easily" Make your mind up to have a go. It's true that some classes are always won by the same few people every year but there will also be dozens of classes with only a few entries where even a complete beginner stands a very good chance. If you don't enter, you'll never know. Whether you win anything or not there's nothing like putting up a few exhibits for entering into the spirit of the occasion-and a lot of local shows really need your support. Just read the schedule carefully and make sure you keep to the rules. Old hands at the game will always help beginners. So make this the summer you start showing. It's fun!

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club



In the two months since publication of the June issue, the weather has, generally, been very kind for those desiring to play tennis and without any shadow of doubt, the Club evenings held each Thursday have witnessed plenty of activity.

On Sunday 10 June, Roni Peck, helped by Toby and Kay Mills, organised an event for the younger members of the Club, three courts (two at the Club and the third at the kind invitation of George and Marion Tozer) being in play. By the close of a most enjoyable, yet competitive, morning of play the winners were declared as follows:

Group 1. Hugh Cadge	runner up, Phoebe Mills
Group 2. Josh Mills	runner up, George Goodwin
Group 3. Mark Styles	runner up, Harriet Noble

Unfortunately, the Adults Timed Tournament scheduled for 15 July had to be cancelled (principally due to a clash of events) and it is hoped that amends will be made on Sunday, 19 August when an Adults American Tournament is due to get under way at 12 noon. Another date for the diary is Sunday, 30 September when the Club will be holding its finals day. This event will start at 10 o'clock with a break at 12 for the Annual General Meeting, followed by lunch and more tennis in the afternoon. This is an extremely important event and would members (if they have not already done so) please telephone Hilary Brown on 01722 780496 to confirm their attendance.

Although not strictly a Club event, a most enjoyable mixed doubles contest was held on 8 July in order to help raise funds for Farnham Church. Peter and Vicky Forbes were the driving force behind the event which attracted an entry sufficient to require the use of three courts; one at the hosts (where the semi-finals and finals were played), the others being opened through the generosity of David and Jane Howarth and George and Marion Tozer. By lunchtime (an excellent barbecue, overseen by Peter Forbes) the various venue winners were declared as:

George and Caroline Rocke, Mark and Mary Harold and Serena Forbes and Bill Chorley. In the semi-finals, the latter named just managed to pip Mark and Mary but went down 6 4 in the final against George and Caroline.

Club fortunes in the second division of the Shaftesbury Tennis League have been somewhat mixed and as at mid-July they had won two, drawn two and lost, at least, three - two results have yet to be declared from the team captains, but it is suspected both were losses. Certainly, the matches have proven far more challenging than in the past but the Club has prevailed with its policy of selecting players from as wide a range of playing abilities as possible.

The various competitions within the Club have been going well. Leading contenders for the mixed doubles title must be Stephen Goodwin and Sally David and if successful, they will add the Summer Title to that of the Winter Title, which they won quite comfortably.

Bill Chorley

Handley SPORTS CLUB 100 CLUB

Draw Number 4

£30	158	Mr H J Overall, Mistlebury Cottage, Deanland
£10	027	Mr A Dale, Cobley Close, East Woodyates
£10	116	Mr K New, Sheasby Close, Sixpenny Handley
£10	152	Mr Barry Howes, Barleycorn House, Deanland
£5	037	Mrs M Day, New Buildings, Spetisbury

Draw Number 5

£30	223	P A Tenty, Anderson Road, Salisbury
£10	157	Mrs A M Reed, Pitfield House, Deanland
£10	078	Mrs M C Penrose, The Orchard, Sixpenny Handley
£10	179	Mr K Waters, Cobley Close, East Woodyates
£5	189	John Linnane, 15 Waterditchampton, Wilton



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 45p 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 10:15am -11:45am.

So come along and make new friends.

For any information concerning Chase Community Friends,

Please contact CCF co-ordinator, on 01725 552097.

New volunteers always most welcome.

PENTRIDGE & WOODYATES FESTIVAL

Sunday 2nd September

1-6 p.m.

(NB - change of start time from 12.30p.m.)

**A fun day out for all the family – something for
everyone**

Auction of Promises

Skittle competition

Tug 'o' war

Bouncy castle

Children's games

Hill run

Tractor rides (harvest permitting)

Tombola

Palm reading

Face painting

& lots more...

BBQ, beer & soft drinks, teas & cakes

Plant & garden produce stalls

Cakes & home produce stalls

Books & bric-a-brac

Free Entry

**All money raised at the event will go towards the annual
upkeep of the parish church - St. Rumbold's**



Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Recent figures show that Dorset is the fourth most crime-free county in the country, which is encouraging. Violent crime is on the rise, however – although happily not in Sixpenny Handley as yet. On average every day in Dorset, there are 140 crimes recorded about a quarter of which are eventually solved.

Our own problems continue to be mainly with thefts from sheds and gardens, together with a certain amount of mindless criminal damage in Handley itself.

A bicycle marking day was held on Saturday 21 July, when our local Detached Beat Officer, Fen Luckam, spent the morning in the High Street, engraving post-codes on the bicycles of all who turned up. She had joined forces with the Community Support Unit – the ‘Rural Rangers’ whose police van now comes to Handley about once a month.

If you see the vehicle parked outside the telephone exchange in the village, pop in and say hello. The officers who take the unit around are very helpful and they say that Handley is one of the friendliest villages they visit.

PC Luckham has also recently spent time in the village school and she is attending a meeting of the Parish Council shortly. Together with her efforts, the voluntary duties of our Special Constable, Yogi Patel, and the visits of the Community Support Unit, policing in our Parish is better than for many years.

One thing we all need to be alert for, please, is any attempted vandalism at the new playground facilities. For some reason these places always attract loutish behaviour. The Homewatch co-ordinators are arranging for random watches to be kept on the new equipment, but please can everyone – especially those living close by – keep an eye open and report any suspicious activity or vandalism to the police at once. These are good new facilities and we do not want them spoiled.

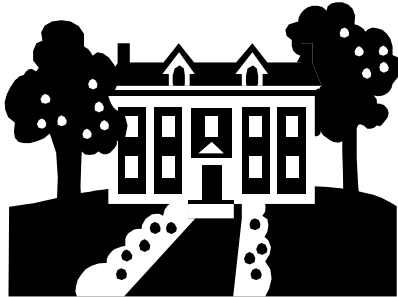
We learned recently at the East Dorset Crime Prevention Panel that police Inspectors are now writing to the parents of all youngsters who have to be spoken to by the police about their behaviour. Video camera surveillance is also back in force, now that doubts about its legality under the Human Rights Act have been resolved.

There are still problems locally with bogus callers of one sort or another selling alarms, offering tarmac for drives, or just distracting the householder while an accomplice slips into the house for whatever cash or valuables are easily available. The message remains: don't let any strangers into your house under any circumstances.

Finally, you may have noticed that some of the Homewatch signs around the Parish are becoming rather faded and need replacing. The Homewatch has been unable to hold a fundraising event this year but would welcome donations to help pay for new signs. If there is anyone who would like to contribute to their village in this very practical way, John Curtis would be delighted to hear from them. The signs cost about £12 each.

M. G. CORDINA

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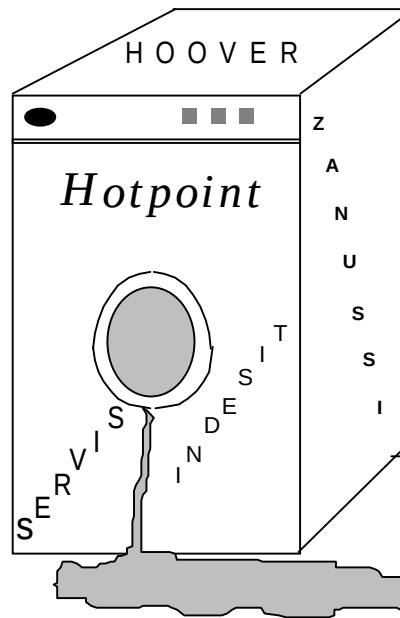
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Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice

Newsletter July 2001

Staff News

We are delighted to confirm that Dr Kate Trevelyan Thomas is now working with the practice as a PMS salaried GP for 4 sessions a week.

We are also pleased to welcome Sarah Dakin to the practice -she is our new Practice Nurse who replaced Fiona Stanton and joined us in March. Also a belated welcome to Sue Pillans who joined the reception team back in October and is now a familiar face for many of you.

And finally, in March we were all delighted when Celia Stone was awarded the Wessex Faculty Practice Manager Award 2001 by the Royal College Of Practitioners.

Travel Clinic

You may need time to have the necessary course of immunisations for your holiday so please remember to try to inform the practice at least 4 weeks in advance if possible.

We offer a telephone advice travel clinic with an appointment system. Once the travel clinic advisor has gathered relevant information, an appointment can be arranged with the travel clinic nurse for injections or with the doctor for difficult problems. We charge for vaccinations that are not covered by the NHS and certain certificates also attract a charge.

Personal Medical Services (PMS)

The concept of Personal Medical Services (PMS)

pilots was introduced in 1997 to explore different ways of contracting for general medical services. The intention was to:

- address local service issues and pilot new ways of delivering and improving services by allowing local flexibility.
- encourage GPs, community nurses and other professionals to work together as a single integrated team, delivering primary and community health services.

We have joined the 3rd wave of PMS pilots, commencing April 2001. This will not adversely affect current services but will increase the opportunities of investment in local developments.

National Primary Care Collaborative

We have also agreed to become part of the National Primary Care Collaborative which focuses on 3 areas:

- access to primary care services
 - coronary heart disease care
 - managing access to secondary care.
- All practices who are part of the collaborative aim to share, learn, apply and improve best practice to deliver patient care.

Surgery Gardens

This is the time of year when we are particularly grateful to Les Perrett and Bill Laity for the many hours they spend tending the surgery gardens for patients' enjoyment. A huge thank you to both of them. Less welcome and very distressing is the vandalism that the surgery garden at Sixpenny Handley continues to suffer. We are currently considering installing a security camera to identify those who persist in causing damage.

Patient Information Group

The Patient Information Group exists to represent your views to us. Please do not hesitate to make contact if there is an issue you would like to raise:

Col Gordon Beard, Tollard Royal 01725 516296, **Miss Bridget Sheppard**, Bishopstone 01722 780640, **Miss Joan Bissett**, Bowerchalke 01722 780205, **Mrs Mary White**, Broadchalke 01722 780024, **Mrs Christine Foley**, Tarrant Hinton 01258 830433, **Mrs Patsy Geddes**, Gussage St Michael 01725 552395, **Mrs Sue Fry**, Broadchalke 01722 780093, **Mrs June Head**, Chettle 01258 830206, **Mr Ian Fowler**, Broadchalke 01722 780519, **Mr Lionel Hunt**, Gussage All Saints 01258 840468, **Mrs Sue Shepperd**, Sixpenny Handley 01725 552784

Rural practice scoops three regional awards

The Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice has scooped a hat-trick of awards that reflect the high standard of care GPs and staff provide for patients in the rural area they serve.

It is the first in the Wessex Faculty -and only the twelfth in England -to have been awarded the highly soughtafter Quality Practice Award by the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP).

All three GPs in the practice have also been made Fellows of the RCGP, a double accolade achieved by only a handful of practices nationwide.

Thirdly, practice manager Celia Stone has received the Practice Manager Award 2001 from the Wessex Faculty of the RCGP.

She was secretly nominated by the GPs, partly for her work in helping them prepare for the first two awards.

The GPs' - Dr Hugh Pelly, Dr Elizabeth Nodder and Dr Mark Morgan -received their Fellowships after assessment of the service and care they provide to patients.

Assessors looked at how they responded to emergencies, how they provided care for people with both acute and chronic illnesses, the palliative care available for people with terminal illnesses, their health promotion work and communication skills.

"Everyone made a contribution to the Quality Practice Award," said Celia.

"We had to put in documentary evidence and then we were visited by assessors to make sure that what we had said was true. They talked to everyone -including GPs, health visitors, nurses, receptionists and patients.

"Preparing for the assessment was a very good team-building experience. It gave everyone the chance to work towards a common goal and look at ways of improving how we do things."

"The assessment visit was a big morale boost for the whole team and made them feel valued."

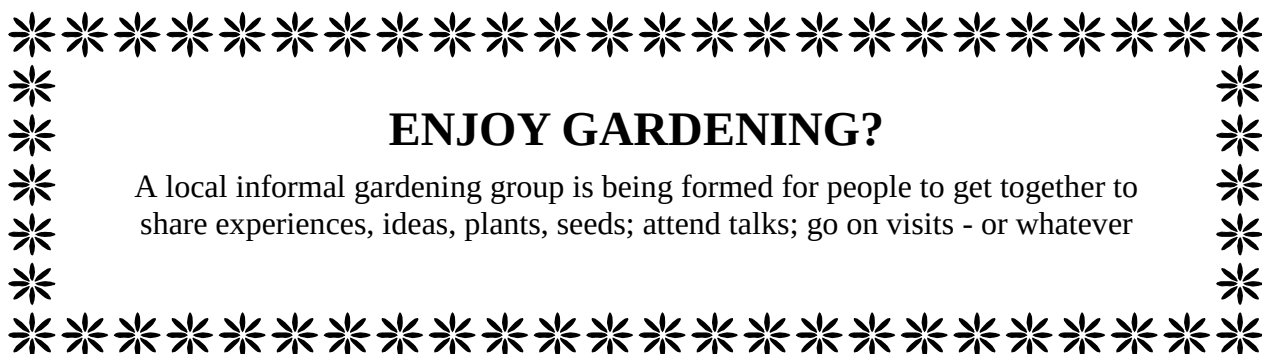
Taking account of patients' views was an important part of the assessment and a survey was organised to ask their opinions on the open-access flu jab service available last autumn.

Patients are regularly consulted at the practice through the Patient Information Group which meets every three months.

This enables them to make suggestions on how the service could be improved and to comment on any plans for the future.

The practice -which operates from two surgeries more than six miles apart -draws patients from a 250 square mile area that includes parts of Dorset, Wiltshire and Hampshire.

"They know we have got the award and we have had lots and lots of congratulations from them," said Celia. "We are delighted to have received it because it shows that a small rural practice can offer services that are just as good as much larger town practices."



The Happy Nappy Club



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

We will really welcome you and your children. We'd love you to come and visit us to meet for a friendly chat while your children play. You're welcome to bring along any friends or relations with you! This club is run to give mothers, carers and kids a chance to meet, so come and see for yourself.

We have tons of toys here and plenty of room to play. There are slides, climbing frame, bikes, trikes, sit-n-rides, play tent, tunnels, books, puzzles, painting, playdough, play kitchen, dressing up clothes, and even a parachute! There is also an opportunity to join in with action rhymes at the end of the morning.



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 queries phone Sam on
01725 552600**

Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club

Programme 2001

August 20th	Barbecue	October 15th	A.G.M. and Practice Halloween
September 17th	Demonstration by Marilyn Nourse "Yours Whimsically"	November 19th	Visit to a neighbouring Society
		December 3rd	Rachel Phillips with her Christmas Ideas

Chairman / Secretary - Maggie Staplehurst 01725 552795

The Wednesday Club Programme for 2001

19th September	Life with the Pharaohs - slides with Ron Wood
3rd October	John and Elizabeth Gradwell entertain
17th October	Salvation Army Bournemouth Fellowship Band
31st October	Arctic Summer - Wildlife in Greenland - Mrs. B. Last presents slides
14th November	Better Bones - Mrs. B. K. Duff
28th November	Southern England in Bloom - Pat Haskell presents slides
12th December	Christmas Lunch with the Ad Hocsters

After a **CHRISTMAS BREAK**, we start again on Wednesday, 23rd January 2002.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU AT SIXPENNY HANDLEY SURGERY

Tuesdays 9:30am – 12:00 noon Christine Pacey

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- Housing Related Problems
- Family Breakdown
- Issues relating to being a Carer
- Issues related to Community Care



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while you're there have a jar

For the finest food in Cranborne Chase
The Lantern restaurant is the place
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bring the kids, they won't be shot

With 3 real ales and lager too
have we got a choice for you

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Don't you worry we'll cater for you
With darts, pool table, juke box too
This really must be the place for you

Oh beg my pardon
I forgot the Beer garden!

Telephone: 01725 552230

RICHARD T. ADLEM

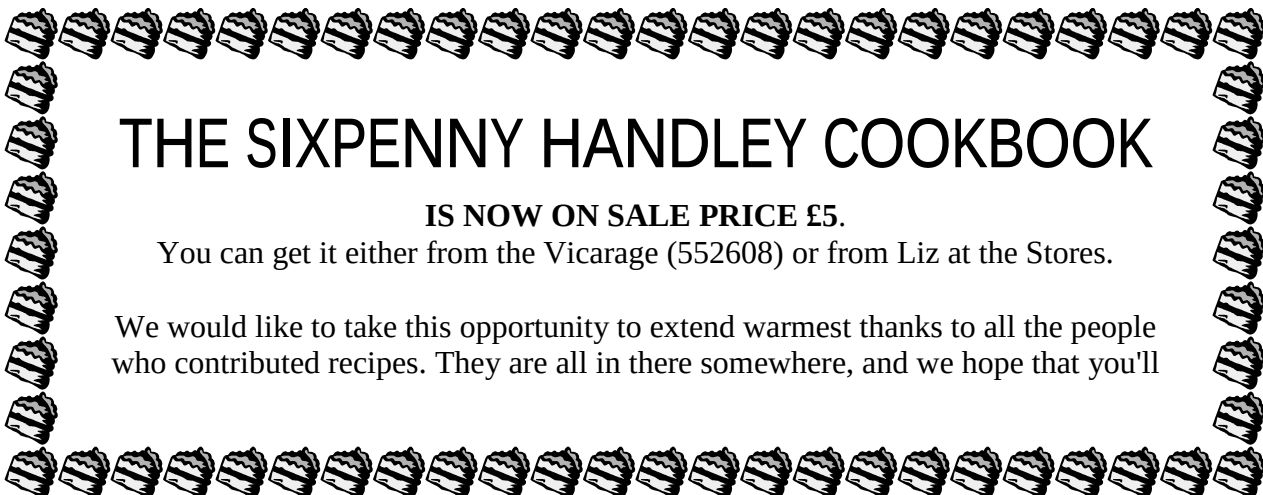
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THE SIXPENNY HANDLEY COOKBOOK

IS NOW ON SALE PRICE £5.

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We would like to take this opportunity to extend warmest thanks to all the people who contributed recipes. They are all in there somewhere, and we hope that you'll

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News and Information

NATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

June Report

Visitors were welcomed at Handleys' meeting when Mr D Piggott gave a most interesting talk on the Conservation of Historic Buildings and Monuments, one of which was Fovant Badges, some of which are now badly in need of restoration.

He was thanked by Carole North.

Members were reminded of forthcoming events; -

Skittles nights at Tarrant Gunville on June 15th and 22nd; Group Triennial Show at Shaftesbury British Legion Hall on July 4th; Visit to Margaret Quinn's garden at Woodyates on June 26th; Visit to Martin Green's Museum at Down Farm on July 2nd - 6.45 - 7 pm; August 13th - An evening walk around Old Sarum - In the footsteps of Pitt, with supper afterwards; September 6th Group Walk at Sturminster Newton with supper afterwards - meet at main car park at 6 pm.

Twinning with another WI Group has been suggested and several New Forest WI's are interested in the idea.

Congratulations were sent to Mr and Mrs Raban-Williams on the occasion of their recent Golden Wedding.

The next meeting on July 9th will be held at 'Middle Chase' by kind invitation of Mrs Elizabeth Brodie, when the speaker will be Mrs N Johnson on 'Summer Songs and Poetry - the competition to be a Summer Posy.

The flower of the month winners - Jan Gibb, Doreen Leverton and Margaret Summerell.

Refreshments were served by Anne Adams and Jean Maidment.

July Report

Handleys' meeting was held at 'Middle Chase' by the very kind invitation of Mr and Mrs Brodie. Mrs N Johnson was welcomed and entertained everyone with her delightful songs, readings and poems from her 'Summer Collection'. She was thanked by Heather Eynon.

Names were taken for the forthcoming walks around Old Sarum on August 14 and Sturminster Newton on September 6th.

A lovely afternoon was enjoyed when members visited Margaret Quinn's garden at Woodyates and were entertained with afternoon tea very kindly provided by Margaret and very much appreciated by all!

Peggy Holland at No 2 High Street is opening her garden on July 26th 1.30 - 5 pm in aid of 'Whizz Kidz' - 'Mobility for Disabled Children'.

The Group Triennial Show at Shaftesbury was well supported and several members won prizes for their entries. Handley skittles team has also won a trophy.

Twinning with Lyndhurst WI is suggested and we hope to meet their members in the near future.

At the Handley Flower Show on August 18th the WI members will be manning the cake and produce stall and any contributions of cakes or/and produce will be gratefully welcomed.

The business concluded and members sat down to a delicious meal provided and served by Mr and Mrs Brodie and enjoyed by all. With many thanks to our hostess and her husband.

The competition 'A Summer Posy' won by Nancie Raban-Williams and Win Judd.

The next meeting will be on September 10th with a speaker from Kingston Maurward College.

Win Judd (01725 552237)

ST. MARY'S CHURCHYARD, SIXPENNY HANDLEY

Conservation: The purpose of conservation in the churchyard is to provide sites where a variety of habitats can be created and maintained to support as many indigenous species as possible.

However, this plan will only be developed with the prime purpose of the churchyard being paramount. Individual graves that are currently maintained privately will in no way be affected; nor will new graves. The complete area will be in a management plan which it is hoped will create something the village can be proud of. The churchyard is both a place sacred to our dead and sacred to God's living creations showing that new life springs from the old. This is the natural way of things.

The Churchyard is a wonderful site, with little chance of contaminants from agriculture, industry, transport, domestic waste, noise, light, flooding or vandalism. It already has many resident species of plants, including mature trees, innumerable flowering and herbaceous plants, shrubs and grasses, lichens and fungi. Fauna are well represented with many nesting birds, rabbits, hedgehogs, bats, mice, voles and the occasional mole. Reptiles are represented by the common lizard, grass snake and slow worm. Insect life is abundant with butterflies, moths, ants and bees to name but a few. With careful management of habitats, the varieties and numbers could be substantially increased (e.g. short grassland for downland butterflies and nettles for the red admirals.)

Management Plan: The sketch map which follows has been divided into areas labelled A to F and another area called The Lawn which is the site used for all recent burials and for any in the immediate future. Also shown are the existing pathways which are currently maintained by volunteers (to whom most grateful thanks). If further access to graves is required requests will be considered.

The treatment of each area will be as follows:

A) This area contains many late flowering plants as well as the very early snowdrops, which means that to achieve the best ecological advantage it will only be cut once a year in late summer/early autumn.

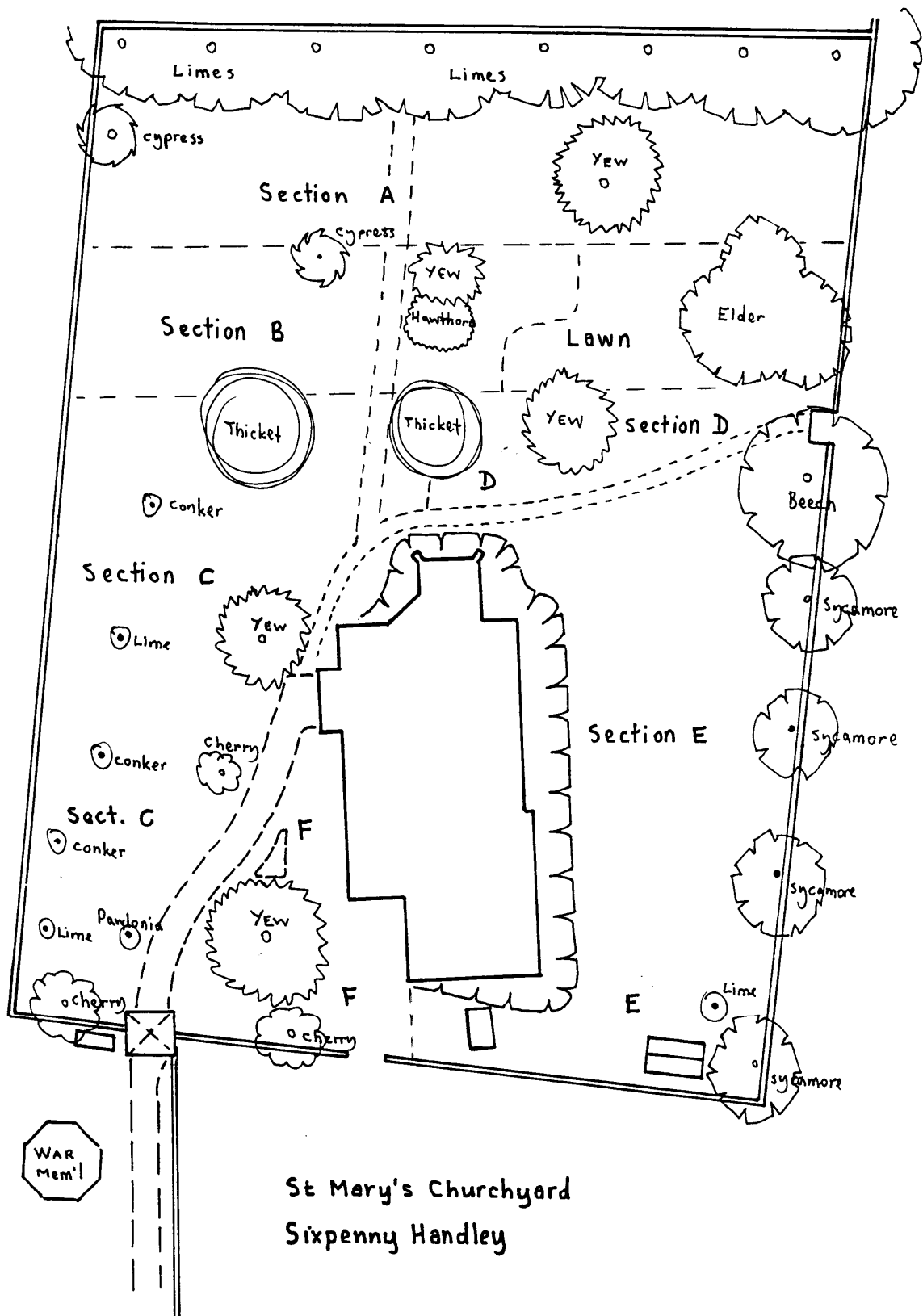
B) This is the area of grasses and bedstraws which flower in July and August and will be cut in late summer.

C) Area C contains snowdrops, primroses, cow parsley and ox-eye daisies and will usually be cut in early July or as soon as the daisies have flowered.

Areas A, B and C are the most likely areas for nesting birds and for slow worms which need long grass, both good reasons for cutting them later in the year.

D) This section has recently been brought into the areas of regular mowing.

E) This area is the latest part of the project to be tackled and is now awaiting a final tidy before being passed on to volunteers for regular mowing - hopefully on a three weekly basis.



F) This piece of the churchyard was recovered last year. Once the early snowdrops and celandines, daffodils and speedwells are over each spring, it is intended that the area should be mown regularly leaving the odd plants of special interest such as the established mullein as at present.

The Lawn: This area is already under the auspices of a village family who have a recent family grave there. They make a wonderful job of maintaining it and take a considerable load off the other volunteers.

Family plots, individual graves, areas and pathways to them. There are individuals who regularly do more than their fair share of maintenance -our thanks to them. Nothing in the current plan will affect them at all.

More information concerning The Conservation Plan will be made available as it is written up. This will include lists of species to be found in the churchyard, their common names, scientific names and location, as well as any relevant known information on them.

This is an ambitious project and help would be appreciated in all respects, manual labour, scientific know-how, bird, butterfly or moth watching and recording -in fact anything from photography to sweeping the paths. Please come and get involved. For more information, contact, The Vicar, The Churchwardens or Ted Cox on 0 1725 -552801

Thank you for reading this. We hope your appetite has been whetted. May God bless you and the project.

Ted Cox

ST MARY'S NEWS LETTER

Communication is so important which has been a little short in the past - this is the first of a regular feature which it is hoped will alter that shortcoming. In the past it appears that we meet on Sundays and then only to worship. This is far from true as many activities take place at different venues which accounts for the regular picking up and dropping off that occurs - nothing sinister in that. The village is blessed with an ancient church building, a place of peace and quiet with a beauty of its own many use today as did countless past generations -visitors remark on the feel and tranquillity of your church. We are most fortunate in these times to have our very own priest in Ron Wood supported by Pam and now joined by Wendy Griffiths who is the Curate (first since the 1940's). A report describing the Ordination and celebration weekend is below followed by an account of the Gardens Open or Garden Trail weekend. Hopefully entries, reports and contributions in this and future issues will be of interest to you all- Should there be matters you wish to raise then please contact any of the following Ron on 552608, Wendy 01747 828495 or Graham Smith 552149 or me David Salmons 552721 your two Church Wardens. Even about the ChurchYard -an explanation placed separately in this issue. We look forward to hearing from you.

ORDINATION SALISBURY CATHEDRAL 30th JUNE

What a memorable and joyful occasion this was - it had everything - we do love these grand events, and they are so uplifting. This was part grand wedding and part coronation -the music, colour and



Wendy Griffiths & Ron Wood

ceremonial in this vast and beautiful building -the sunlight streaming through the stained glass windows, took ones breath away. A party of us went by coach to witness and support Wendy and the other eleven Ordinands; the cathedral was packed with happy parishioners, families and friends. The grand procession passed up the nave as we sang "O for a thousand tongues to sing" the twelve clothed in

white amid a sea of richly coloured vestments. Declarations made, Bishop David laid his hands on the heads of each followed by his washing of each Deacons' feet -the sign Jesus gave to his disciples at the Last Supper that they were enrolled into His ministry of self giving. The twelve then like happy brides tripped down the aisle with their sponsor to the thunderous applause of all those there -a wonderful and happy moment after three years of study and sacrifice. After the presentation by the Bishop of their Licences, Letters of Orders and the New Testament, the procession moved down and out through the great West Door followed by us all to join a milling happy throng. Sunday dawned bright another glorious day of celebration with morning Eucharist when Wendy preached most eloquently to a large gathering. Later 50 family and friends enjoyed a bountiful lunch in the village hall. This weekend will stay with us for a very long time and is an excellent start point to an expanded Ministry for all of us to use, as we will according to our individual needs.

GARDENS OPEN OR TRAIL WEEKEND 7/8 JULY

This was a magic event and brought many people from outside into our village - they were overwhelmed by the diversity and quality of the gardens that were open to them. In all twelve points were available on both days, the owners (the gardeners) with a steward in each garden which made all the difference to the visitors - there was someone to speak to. The entry fee of £2.50 to visit all the gardens and the same again for a generous cream tea were considered to be excellent value. The weather was fine and visitors enjoyed the trek round to see gardens of national standard. A great thank you to the organisers and those who so unselfishly shared there pride and joy created by much sweat, toil and tender loving care with townies from yonder who really appreciated what they saw. Another bonus/reward of the day was the six hours (plus in some instances) produced a net profit of £ 1376.38 -thanks again to you all.

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST?

"ALPHA could it change your life" to be presented by David Frost on ITV starting 29th July for ten weeks - an introduction to the course. Here outside church at different venues weekly there is Monday Evening Prayertime (1 hour) Wednesday Fellowship (1.5 hours discussion). Monthly Bible Study and Men's Group (last Thursday -non -religious).

David Salmons

TWENTY THIRD ANNUAL
FLOWER
SHOW
& FAMILY FUN DAY
Saturday August 18th
SHOW OPENS AT 2 p.m.
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
& Recreation Ground
FRUIT ,VEGETABLE & COOKERY
COMPETITIONS IN MARQUEE
PHOTOGRAPHY & HANDICRAFTS
FLOWER ARRANGING
Entries Close 7.30p.m Wed. Aug.15th
STALLS : GAMES: RAFFLE
CHILDREN'S FANCY DRESS COMPETITION
Demonstration by Scouts 2.30 pm.
FUN DOG SHOW at 3 p.m.
REFRESHMENTS : ADMISSION £1.

(Children Free)

**Any profits from this event will be donated to the Wessex
Children's Hospice**

Minutes of Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council Meeting, held in the Sports Pavilion on 21st June 2001

1. Public Questions

Mr. I Davis asked that Pentridge Bridleway No 4 be added to the list of items to be discussed under Footpaths and Highways.

2. New Play Areas

a) Councillor Miles reported on some attempted vandalism of the fence constructed around the play area. Following a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Miles and seconded by Cllr. Waller that:-

- i. A notice be placed in the play area warning that all persons caught damaging any part of the site would be prosecuted.
- ii. A notice to the same effect be placed in the next edition of the Downsman.
- iii. The Homewatch organisation be informed of the attempted vandalism.

Voting:-Unanimous

The representatives of the Youth Club in attendance stated their support for these proposals. They said they would speak to the members of the Youth Club and stress the importance of reporting any incidents of vandalism witnessed.

b) The Chairman reported on the reasons for a change of contractor for the erection of the boundary fence. The new contractor would cost approximately £300-00 more, but there would still be a significant saving on the estimated cost of erection by Lapsett. The fence was also slightly higher than previously planned. It was proposed by Cllr. Chick and seconded by Cllr. Riddle that:-

- i. The additional cost be accepted Voting:-Unanimous

c) The Clerk reported some delays to the start of work at the Mulberry Court site, but work was scheduled to start at the playing field site on Monday 25th June. Although formal notification of the request for extra lottery money for the 'Waltz' had yet to be received, informal talks had indicated it was unlikely to be successful. Following a short discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Chick and seconded by Cllr. Riddle that:-

Should the lottery bid be unsuccessful, the Parish Council should provide any additional funding required to top up the £ 1000-00 offered by the Youth Club to purchase a 'Waltz'.

Voting:-Unanimous

d) It was further proposed by Cllr. Waller and seconded by Cllr. Porte that:-

The Clerk was to contact Mr Judd and request he remove the remaining swings and the concrete bases from the playing field site.

Voting:-Unanimous

3. Reports

a) Planning Committee:-Minutes of the meeting on the 31st May were distributed. Mr Porte then highlighted the more important items from the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 17th and 31st May.

b) General Purposes Committee:-This committee had not met since the last full parish Council Meeting.

c) County Councillors Report:-Cllr. Palmer had asked Cllr. Riddle to report that the petition for a 20 mph speed limit in the village had raised 500 signatures and had been handed in to the appropriate authority.

d) District Councillors Report:-Cllr. Humphries reported on the following:-

- i. Common Road Car Park:-The marking of allocated spaces in this car park had been on and

off as the EDDH Assoc. decided which way to interpret the result of the residents consultation. Cllr. Humphries stated his intention to write to the EDDH Assoc. stating that as a majority of the replies received were in favour, marking should be carried out.

ii. Highfields -Planning Application 3101/0327 ---This application had been granted. The Parish Council's concerns regarding the establishment of a second dwelling were not relevant, as permission for a second dwelling had been obtained when initial planning permission was granted.

iii. Following a number of reminders and some 'gentle' pressure the road sign in Cobley Close had finally been replaced.

e) Parish Office:-EDDC had called to state that estates were still investigating the possibility of using part of one of the units at Town Farm Workshops. Cllr. Humphries was asked to lobby on behalf of the Parish.

f) Financial Report:-A Financial Statement as at the 10th May was distributed. There were no questions regarding this statement.

g) DAPTC:-The Chairman reported that the minutes for all meetings of the DAPTC would now be done by DCC, not individual clerks, and then forwarded directly to parish representatives. The Deputy Clerk was asked to ensure the DAPTC had the addresses of all the Parish Council's representatives.

4. Footpaths and Highways

a) Verge barrier for A353 at Woodyates:-Raised at the Pentridge Assembly. Cllr. Palmer was looking into this matter, but had not yet reported back.

b) Definitive Statement for Pentridge Rights of Way:-The Pentridge Footpaths Officer, Mr Davis reported that he had produced an up to date statement that was more accurate and detailed than the County Council one, but the County Council had refused to adopt it. The Chairman stated that if the CC accepted one home produced statement, they were setting a precedent that could result in being asked to accept others that were not so accurate. They had filed Mr Davis' statement with their statement, and would hopefully take it into account when the periodic review occurred. It was agreed that up to date maps and notice boards for Pentridge and Woodyates would be examined after the next official review.

c) Mr Davis reported that Pentridge bridleway No 4 was still blocked by fallen trees, despite the landowner being informed of the blockage. It was proposed by Cllr. Waller and seconded by Cllr. Miles that:-

The Clerk write to the landowner and officially request that he clear the blockage, copying the letter to DCC.

Voting:-Majority -2 abstentions

An amendment was proposed by Cllr. Chick and seconded by Cllr. Porte that:-

Cllr. Riddle should approach the landowner personally and request he clear the blockage before the Clerk writes to the landowner.

Voting:-Majority -2 abstentions

5. Bus Shelters

a) Woodyates:-Cllr. Porte reported that a site had been accepted and that work, of the self help variety, should commence within 2 months. He stated that Cllr. Warner was masterminding the scheme and would ensure that the appropriate grant was claimed.

b) Handley Cross:-The Clerk reported he had been contacted by Wilts & Dorset regarding the cleaning,

and continued use, of this shelter. It was proposed by Cllr. Chick and seconded by Cllr. Riddle that:-

The Clerk write to Wilts & Dorset stating the Council did not have the means to clean this shelter and did not feel such a task was within their remit; that the future of the shelter was a matter for Wilts and Dorset to decide, but the Council would like to be informed of any proposed change.

Voting:-Unanimous

6. Correspondence

The Clerk reported on a number of items of correspondence received. Some were taken to be reviewed by individual councillors who would report to the Council should they feel the matter of sufficient importance.

7. Bills to Pay

The Clerk presented Financial Statements which showed that bills to the value of £1457.87 were due for payment. It was proposed by Cllr. Bailey-Wright and seconded by Cllr. Riddle that the bills be paid.

Voting:- Unanimous

8. Downsman Distribution - Pentridge

Following the disbandment of the Pentridge Homewatch organisation, because of slow police response times, there is no one to distribute the Downsman in Pentridge. Cllr. Warner distributed the last issue, and Cllr. Riddle volunteered to distribute the next issue. That issue will include a plea for a Pentridge distributor, which will hopefully solve the problem. It was reported that a number of requests had been received for the Downsman from outside the Parish boundary. It was agreed that these could only be met if an appropriate donation to the costs was made.

9. Following the mention of slow police response times it was agreed that it would be a good idea to ask the Local Community Beat Policeman to a Parish Council Meeting. The Clerk was asked to liaise with WPC Luckham and try to arrange a mutually convenient date.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9:25pm

Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club Sunday (Mostly) Fixture List 2001			
Aug-05	Tarrant Gunville	Away	
Aug-12	Harnham	Away	Salisbury
Aug-18	TOUR	Very	18th Chulmleigh
Aug-19		Away	19th Honiton
Aug-26	BELT	Away	Winton Oval
Sep-02	Rockbourne	Home	
Sep-09	Wessex Arch	Home	
Sep-16	Dewlish	Home	
Sep-23	Winterbourne Stickland	Home	
NOTES: September fixtures 2 pm start, all others 2:30pm unless noted otherwise.			

Victim Support Dorset

Victim Support Dorset provides practical care and comfort to those who suffer from crimes against themselves, their relatives, their homes or their belongings. Established in 1987 the service aims to be there when needed. Victim Support Dorset extended its service in 1995 to support victims and witnesses who attend Crown Court. In March 2001 the Witness Service became available in the Magistrates' Courts throughout Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole. We are there because we care.

Victim Support Dorset, Barnack Chambers,
 9/9A West Street, Blandford Forum, DT11
 7AW - 01258 453100

Bowls Club

We have had the pleasure of playing on our newly restitched Bowling Green for a couple of weeks now. Very expensive to do but it will be an improvement. We have also turned the carpet round 90° to avoid playing into the evening sun.

The Dorset League Men's team on Monday evenings has now completed their fixtures and should finish midway in the League.

The latest League table for the Westbrook Mixed Triples League shows us in top position. The last 4 or 5 games are away on strange territory, so we will have to play well to retain our position.

We have now played all our Tourist Team encounters for this season. The last match against Dunstable Town Bowling Club was very friendly and enjoyable and we came second this time.

The Bowls Club has agreed to do the teas at the Flower Show on August 18th at 2 pm. If anyone is willing to help with making cakes etc. we would be very grateful. (Please let Gill Martin know on 552297 as soon as possible)

Our annual Jumble Sale will take place on Saturday September 8th at 2.30 pm. We hope for another successful day so any jumble please contact Gill Martin or bring to the Village Hall on the morning - after 10.30 am.

Our Club Finals days will be on September 16th and 23rd. Bowling is expected to go on most of each of the days. On the second day it will be possible for new players to come along and see our best players in action and try Bowls for yourself. You can have a cup of tea and refreshments as well. Let us hope the weather will treat us kindly on both days.

Dates for matches for the New Short Mat Season have been fixed. We have all been promoted one league from last year in the Blackmore Leagues. It does not seem one year has gone by when you are enjoying playing bowls!

Gill Martin

BOWLING TUITION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

There will be bowling tuition for young persons
aged 11 years to 16 years on the following dates in August.

Tuesday	August 7 th	Wednesday	August 15 th
Tuesday	August 21 st	Wednesday	August 29 th

Start at 10 am for two hours each day at the Bowling Green.
All you need to bring is a pair of flat shoes (No heels or trainers)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

On the morning of the 19th June I went out of my door, to find that some low-down thief had stolen my hanging baskets. I have an idea who the vandals were and the Police have been informed and they will be keeping a look out - so keep your eyes peeled.

Resident of Sheasby Close

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MOBILE 07702 395743 TELEPHONE 01725 552821

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Secretary: Miss Adele Smith

THANK YOU

Nick and Claire would like to thank all our friends and neighbours for their patience and understanding during the last few months whilst we have had building work going on. You will be pleased to hear that the end is in sight and by the time this is published it might well just about be over.

Your patience has been appreciated, many thanks.

NOTICE

During the construction of the new play area on the Recreation ground, the site is OUT OF BOUNDS (Day or Night) to all persons until it is re-opened.

And this means YOU

**Action will be taken against any person found damaging
any part of the site or equipment.**

Remember you will not be covered by any Insurance against injury.

Parents please make sure your children understand this.

ADVANCE NOTICE**ST. MARY'S WINTER BAZAAR**

**WILL BE HELD AT THE
VILLAGE HALL ON SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER.
PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY NOW.**

Roy Latty

DELPHINIUM grower Roy Latty died on 17 March 2001 aged 75.

Roy was a keen hybridiser with the motto that "a delphinium should be a thing of beauty". He and his late wife Jeanne ran a small delphinium nursery (Ashton Nurseries) from Bishops Waltham in the 1970s before retiring to Sixpenny Handley near Salisbury in Wiltshire. He originally trained at the University of Birmingham to be an orchestral conductor, and many of his introductions have names with musical connections, such as *Delphinium* 'Leonora', the heroine in *Fidelio*.

Roy served on the RHS Delphinium Committee from 1968-2000 and was Chairman from 1992-7. He was also a leading member of the Delphinium Society, having served 40 years as a committee member.

Although he specialised originally in pink-flowered cultivars, his introductions encompassed all the colours in the delphinium spectrum. Many went on to receive awards including the cultivars 'Florestan' (large pale purple florets), 'Leonora' (rich blue), 'Sandpiper' AGM (white with a dark eye), 'Snowdon' (greyish-white with dark stems), 'SummerWine' (glowing pink) and 'Ruby' (pink).

Reproduced from the RHS Magazine "The Garden"

The Chase Nursery Link Group

Link Group is different! It's a chance for your child to receive a more formal pre-school session within the school building at Sixpenny Handley First School and make friends with the children they will start school with.

Only Chase Nursery can offer your child this unique opportunity.

Here's what Mrs Latcham, Headteacher Sixpenny Handley First School, has to say about Link Group,

Chase Nursery Link Group provides an excellent introduction to education in main school for children who are due to start in our Reception class. Children are able to familiarise themselves with the buildings, meet the staff and develop their confidence in preparation for their first day at school."

Ofsted Inspectors, who praised the work of the leaders, have recently verified in their report, the high quality of education received by all children attending the Link Group. Teachers notice how well the children are prepared for school when they have attended the Link Group sessions."

Link Group runs from January to July and children attend in the year they will start school in September. Places are limited and priority given to children who have been regularly attending pre-school sessions.

So, why not send your child to pre-school sessions now and give them a good chance of attending Link Group prior to starting school.

Pre-school playgroup held in Sixpenny Handley Village Hall Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings 9.30am – 12.00 noon. £3.75 per session. Optional extra hour on Tuesday and Wednesdays (£1 extra). Link Group held Monday and Friday afternoons.

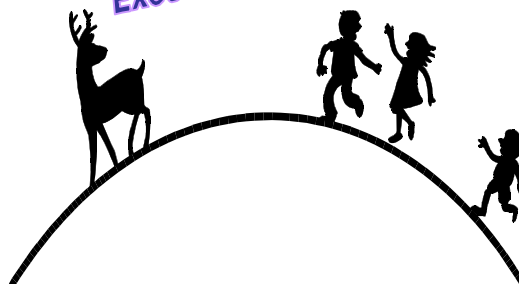
P'hone Tracey (01202 885374) or Hazel (01725 552980) for further information.

January 2001 OFSTED

Quality pre-school education at reasonable cost in a secure and happy environment.

Excellent OFSTED Report

The Chase Nursery



Dorset at War

Presently, much of my time is being spent in putting the finishing touches to the seventh volume in my series of Royal Air Force Bomber Command Losses of the Second World War. When completed, this seventh book will feature the casualties sustained by the Operational Training Units (OTUs) that came under the direct authority of the Command.

From the several thousand aircraft that came to grief at these establishments, four have a connection with Dorset while a fifth has merely a very tenuous link in that its pilot eventually flew out of Tarrant Rushton. I hasten to add that Tarrant Rushton was not a Bomber Command station but the squadrons based there were equipped with four-engined Halifaxes and thus many of the crews completed their OTU flying within the Bomber Command structure. So, it is with this unit in mind that I begin.

Based at Hixon in Staffordshire, No. 30 OTU had been formed in mid-1942 and from the outset had been equipped with Wellingtons. By the autumn of 1943, the training syllabus had been finely honed and it was during the afternoon of 26 October, a Tuesday, that Sergeant Ronald Franklin Mackrill signed the necessary forms authorising him and his crew to fly a training exercise in Wellington X HE696. The weather was far from perfect, but such was the urgency of the hour (Bomber Command's casualty returns were giving rise for serious concern, averaging around a barely acceptable five percent for each major operation mounted) it was deemed to be within the capabilities of the young Sergeant pilot to cope. It is not clear as to how long the crew were airborne; unit records merely state that no wireless or radio calls were received from the aircraft, which was seen approaching Hixon at around 5 o'clock in the afternoon. It was an anxious time for all concerned, for since taking off, fog was beginning to make its presence felt and in the prevailing conditions Sergeant Mackrill would need to call upon all his skills in order to make a safe landing. However, those watching on the ground realised that the Wellington was coming in with only one of its two engines functioning and as it neared the airfield it was patently obvious the aircraft had drifted away from the centre line of the runway. Then, just when a crash-landing seemed inevitable, full power was applied to the good engine and gradually the bomber began to climb away and begin a second circuit. But it was not to be and moments later the Wellington flew into telegraph wires and crashed about a mile south-west of the airfield. All five members of the crew (apart from the pilot, they are not named) were injured.

Moving forward eighteen months and we find Sergeant Mackrill (now promoted to Warrant Officer) serving at Tarrant Rushton and flying Halifax Mk.III's with 298 Squadron. "298" had a distinguished war record which included towing gliders for every major airborne operation from the eve of D-Day through to the crossing of the Rhine in March 1945. The Squadron also played a major part in helping to supply resistance organisations in the occupied countries, a task that it had begun well before the Normandy invasion and continued with until the surrender in May 1945. Thus, it was while engaged on a Special Operations Executive mission to Denmark on 18-19 April 1945, that Warrant Officer Mackrill lost his life. As yet, I do not have the full details, but I believe he was flying in Halifax III NA344 and the evidence to hand suggests his aircraft came down in the sea. At least two of the crew are buried in Denmark; Ronald Franklin Mackrill in north-west Jutland at Vang Churchyard, while a Flight Sergeant Frederick Bridge rests in western Jutland at Sondre Nissum Churchyard.

A little over two months previous to the No. 30 OTU accident described, No. 21 OTU at Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, was asked to supply crews for a leaflet dropping mission over France. Amongst those selected for the raid on 15-16 August was one captained by an Australian, Flight Sergeant Fenwick Moseley Gilkeson, who had volunteered for flying duties in 1941 and was now in the late stages of training before progressing to an operational squadron. Leaflet raids, or "Nickels" (as they were popularly referred too), were regarded as the ideal introduction for embryo bomber crews to the rigours of operational flying. Most would experience anti-aircraft fire and searchlights, but encounters with enemy night-fighters were considered less likely as the Luftwaffe was fully occupied in trying to counter the heavy raids now being mounted against the industrial towns and cities of Germany. On the night in question, a total of sixteen aircraft from the training units were tasked and, officially, all were successful. However, while returning to base and shortly after crossing the south Dorset coast, Flight Sergeant Gilkeson's aircraft (R1152) was picked up on the airborne radar of a patrolling Mosquito.

What happened next was a tragic case of misidentification. From certain angles the shape of a Wellington, especially the radial-engined Mk.Ic which Gilkeson was flying, could be mistaken for a Junkers Ju88; both types featured a single high tailplane and when approached from the rear (at night) the bulbous forward fuselage of the Ju88 would not be readily apparent. Undoubtedly, the Mosquito pilot thought he had an enemy aircraft in his sights and his opening burst of fire was deadly effective.

Aboard the stricken bomber, Gilkeson shouted to his crew to bale out but only three were able to comply before the Wellington plunged into the Deer Park at Wimborne St. Giles. When the wreckage was searched, two bodies were found, that of the pilot and his rear gunner, Sergeant Edward Causer of Whitehaven. From statements given later by the survivors, it would appear that the young Australian could not get a reply from his gunner and rather than take the chance that he had already departed, elected to stay at the controls and attempt to crash-land. In his heart, he must have known that his chances of being successful were slender in the extreme, but this did not deter him from trying. Not for the first time (or the last) a bomber pilot had given up his own life in the hope of saving those of his crew.

As the date for the invasion of Normandy drew near, the intensity of "Nickel" raids increased and during the night of 28-29 May 1944, fourteen such missions were flown. Again, all were successful until the force neared the Dorset coast. Possibly, a few of the aircraft were off course, or it may have been that they had failed to select their Identification Friend or Foe equipment (it may have been a simple case of the appropriate commands not being notified that Allied aircraft would be over the south coast at the time the aircraft were expected to return). But whatever the cause, two Wellingtons (HE199/J and LN443/C) from No. 82 OTU at Ossington in Nottinghamshire, were shot down by anti-aircraft fire from batteries based in the Gillingham area, both falling within five minutes of each other at around 2.30 a.m. The first, captained by Warrant Officer Second Class Donald Blair Machum crashed between the hamlets of Woodville and Stour Row, while the second came down near the village of Hazelbury Bryan. From this aircraft, piloted by Flying Officer Donald Galloway Watt McKie RCAF, there were no survivors but from the former, three survived - probably by parachuting. In total, nine airmen, all Canadians, died and they are now buried in the Military Cemetery at Brookwood (as is Flight Sergeant Gilkeson of No.

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	Sunday	Closed

21 OTU).

Looking at the Daily Report of Chief Constables (files held at the Dorset Records Office), enemy air activity was present in the region and bombs were reported to have fallen in the sea off Lyme Regis and in the Charmouth area roughly an hour ahead of the Wellington returning.

By sheer coincidence the fifth and final loss concerned a No. 30 OTU aircraft, though not from Hixon but the unit's satellite airfield at Seighford. Again, it was a "Nickel" operation, fifteen aircraft in total, of which six were drawn from No. 30 OTU. Once more, all went well until the bombers came back over Dorset on the return leg when, for reasons unstated, Flight Sergeant Jolly and his crew (six in total) took to their parachutes and left their Wellington X HE828/E to crash in the early hours of 10 August 1944, in the west of the county at Burl Farm, Holywell, just to the south of Evershot. Two were slightly hurt and both were treated at Warden Hill Camp before joining the rest of the crew at the Naval Air Station at Yeovilton to await collection and return to Seighford.

Finally, a return to the secretive Auxiliary Units (see the February and April 2001 issues) that would have been called into action, had an enemy invasion taken place. A telephone call from Mr Jasper Foyle offers the suggestion that two local game keepers may have been in the same cell as Ted Foyle, namely a Mr. Neave and a Mr. Watts, the former being employed by Colonel Cooper at West Woodyates and the later, a Scotsman by birth, being in the employment of Captain Eastwood at Copley, East Woodyates. Any details on these two men, no matter how slender, will be extremely welcome.

NOTES FROM RSPB GARSTON WOOD

With all the recent fine weather and warmth it is easy to forget that not so long ago, in June, we actually had a frost and before that considerable rain and cold with intermittent sunshine. Why this is important here is that, while humans have survived those weather changes very well, the same cannot be said for the wildlife. There has been a distinct lack of insects and particularly of butterflies so far this year. Not only are the flowers about three weeks later than in 2000 but food supplies for birds and other animals are in short supply. Our garden birds continue to eat around 5kg of black sunflower seed each week together with 5 kg of ground birdseed and 2kg of peanuts. This is almost the same as they would eat in mid-winter. A starving Buzzard chick was handed in to a colleague this week but quickly returned to the wild after a feed.

This fact was particularly apparent on the Open Day held in July. Although it was warm and later on quite sunny, only a few of the resident butterflies were seen. These included, Silver Washed Fritillary, White Admiral, Purple Hairstreak, Ringlet, Marbled White, Small Heath and Large Skipper, together with the common regulars. In all thirteen species, but in small numbers. True to form, a Scarlet Tiger Moth put in an appearance in the Car Park, an annual event for many years now. Of particular interest was a Large Emerald moth basking in the open. This is not an especially rare big moth but is actually a night flyer, very rarely seen in daytime.



Foot and Mouth restrictions have been removed from the entire wood now and we are clearing rides as soon as possible. The plantation walk is the best place to see butterflies at present. It will take some time to get the wood back to normal as so much manpower is needed at Arne Reserve to clear the backlog of work, especially spraying bracken and other weeds that working parties here are infrequent.

A few Dormice have come out of hibernation this month but there is no sign of breeding yet. Once again they have been affected by the cold snap in June. Many of you may have seen the television item on the re-introduction of Dormice to counties where they have become extinct. The Dorset Dormouse Group are visiting Blackmoor Copse near Salisbury in August to see how well they are keeping track of their population. They use tattoos to identify animals so that they can trace the movements more accurately. It is only necessary for a few observers to use this technique which does cause some initial distress, but by finding out the true movements and nesting habits, it will help to provide better habitats to replace those lost already. Dormice are not especially threatened in these counties but the populations are not increasing yet.

Can I please ask again for everyone to note, especially youngsters, that the various Wildlife, Countryside and Rights of Way Bills have stiff penalties for anyone interfering with most wildlife or their habitats.

On a brighter note we shall be happy for the walkers to return to the woods and keep all the paths clear again!

David Tucker, Voluntary Warden.

press release

East Dorset Countryside Management Service

MOORS VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

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☎ (01425) 470721 FAX (01425) 471656***

GET HOOKED ON FISHING

Throughout the summer holidays youngster will have the chance to receive coaching and advice on all aspects of coarse fishing from Anglers Council Coaches.

Charles Landells and David Cates will be running courses for children eight years old and above on the Moors Lake at Moors Valley Country Park on most Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays through the summer holidays. The days run from 10.00am to either 2.00pm or 4.00pm and cost £9.00 for the shorter day or £12.50 for the longer session.

The courses will suit all abilities including complete beginners; places are limited so booking is essential.

The 'get hooked on fishing' courses are part of the Moors Valley Country Park summer programme of events for children. Other activities include mountain bike challenges, animal care courses (with the chance to meet and touch a whole range of small animals), kids adventure days, family fun days and crafty capers.

If you would like to receive a copy of the Moors Valley summer events programme please contact the Wardens at Moors Valley Country Park Tel: 01425 470721.

Please contact Clare Gronow, Senior Warden, for further details.



East Dorset District Council

M.A. Westhead, B.Sc., M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E.M., District Environmental Services Officer

press release

East Dorset Countryside Management Service

MOORS VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

Horton Road, Ashley Heath, Nr. Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 2ET

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"BATTY ABOUT BIKES"

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If you are batty about bikes and want to join in some cycling fun, why not pedal along to one of the 'wheely' great events at Moors Valley over the summer. Children aged between 7 and 12 years are catered for over several events ...

THE BICYCLE CHALLENGE

Wednesday 29th August

9.30am to 12noon

Suitable for 7 to 8 years

A great way for children to touch up on their cycling skills within a fun and exciting environment. Each cycling activity will gain valuable clues to take them closer to the treasure!

£3.75 per child

MOUNTAIN BIKE SKILL COURSES

Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th August

9.30am to 12.30pm sessions are suitable for 11 to 12 year olds

2.00pm to 4.30pm sessions are suitable for 9 to 10 year olds

Come along to learn some top tips from MTB coach Andy Storey to improve your skills. The events will be made up of fun and challenging activities as well as off road rides through the Park and Forest.

£6.00 per child for the two days.

**ALL EVENTS MUST BE BOOKED IN ADVANCE AS PLACES ARE LIMITED,
PLEASE CONTACT THE WARDENS ON 01425 470721 FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION AND BOOKINGS.**

CONTACT: Jackie Hansford: Recreation Warden

TEL: 01425 470721



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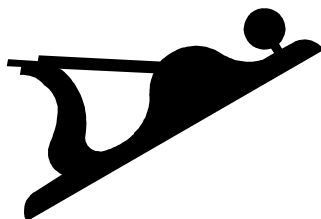
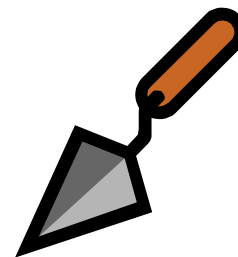
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Worship in August and September

ST MARY'S	ST ANDREW'S	ST RUMBOLD'S
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August 5th Eight Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Morning Prayer 6:00 Holy Communion	11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
--	--

August 12th 9th Sunday after

10:30 Family Worship	9:30 Holy Communion
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August 19th 10th Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Evensong	11:15 Morning Prayer
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August 26th 11th Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion	8:30 Holy Communion	11:15 Family Service
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September 2nd 12th Sunday after Trinity (Pentridge Harvest Festival)

9:30 Morning Prayer 6:00 Holy Communion	11:15 Harvest Festival Service
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September 9th 13th Sunday after Trinity

10:30 Family Worship	9:30 Holy Communion
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September 16th 14th Sunday after Trinity (Handley Harvest Festival)

9:30 Holy Communion (said service) 11:00 Harvest Service	6:00 Evensong	11:15 Morning Prayer
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The Archdeacon of Dorset, Ven. Alastair Magowan, will preach at the 11:00

September 23rd 15th Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion	8:30 Morning Prayer	11:15 Family Service
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September 30th 16th Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Sunday Night Live!
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There is Holy Communion at St Mary's every Wednesday at 10:00am



Mobile Library Service

Weekly on Thursdays:-

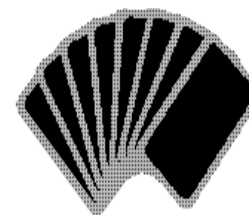
Sixpenny Handley	3.20 - 3.40	School
	3.45 - 4.05	Garage
	4.10 - 4.20	Dean Lane - Letter Box
	4.25 - 4.45	Sheasby Close

Fortnightly on Thursdays

Aug 9th, 23rd, Sep 6th, 20th

Woodyates	2.30 - 2.45	Cobley Close
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Bridge at The Roebuck



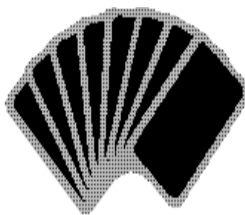
Frequently, the secret in playing (and making) a contract lies in the art of maintaining communication between the cards held in hand and those displayed in dummy. Conversely, the defenders will attempt to thwart this communication, but without the benefit of being able see each other's hands; this requires a degree of awareness as to declarer's aims. The following is a good example of how both declarer and defence needed to be alert in order to maximise communication between the hands:

			« K 7	
			a A 9 3 2	
			© A 8 4	
			" 10 6 4 3	
			N	
« 6 5				« A 10 4
a 8 6 5	W			a 10 7
© K 2				© Q J 9 7 6
" A K Q J 8 7			" 9 5 2	
			S	
			« Q J 9 8 3 2	
			a K Q J 4	
			© 10 5 3	
			" -	

Dealer was south and following a 1 spade opening bid, opposed by west with 2 clubs, the auction eventually closed at 4 hearts with south being the declarer. West led the ace of clubs which was roughed in hand. South then led a small spade towards dummy's king and east, without pausing to think, immediately rose with the ace and led back a second club (I can only assume the thought process was to make declarer use up trumps and trust that west could capitalise later in the play). Declarer promptly roughed with the jack and after laying down the king and queen of trumps crossed to the ace of hearts, thus dropping west's last trump, cashed the ace of diamonds and led dummy's last spade back to hand, thus establishing his winning spades and denying the defence any further tricks.

Now play the hand if, having roughed the ace of club opening, east ducks the lead to the king of spades. Life for declarer now becomes much more difficult for in order to establish his spades, he must draw out the ace and when east wins the spade continuation, he then plays the second club which reduces south's trump holding to two, while leaving west with three trumps. Now if declarer tries a spade, west will rough and force dummy to over-rough (if he discards, west will play another club). It is, of course, still possible to make the contract but by destroying the communication twixt declarer's hand and dummy the defence have, at least, put themselves in with an excellent chance of success.

At The Roebuck, meanwhile, bridge has continued throughout the summer, sometimes with two tables in play. By and large it has been the men who have suffered at the hands of the ladies, Helen Goodwin and Sally David triumphing over Robin Radclyffe and Bill Chorley on 13 June. On the first deal, Helen and Sally defeated a 4 spade call and then made two doubled contracts (4 spades,

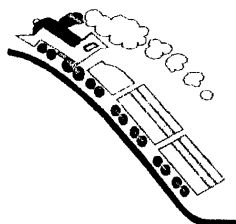


doubled and 3 hearts, doubled). Sylvia Marskell and Anne Reed have both enjoyed good cards, though when Sylvia partnered Bill on 4 July, Eric Turner sitting south (George Marskell was North), doubled 4 diamonds and such was the skill of the defence that declarer, who was vulnerable, went off by four tricks (1,100 points).

Prior to that, however, Sylvia played brilliantly, racking up contract after contract, to leave Eric and George adrift by 2,000 points. Looking at the

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FROM A HANDLEY GARDEN

They tell me I mustn't say, "I'm lucky" or "I'm fortunate", but say "I'm blessed", and because they were wise and loving friends who also showed me where the blessing comes from I try to remember. "Yes" I say to myself as I sit at my window, looking out and recall the memories and the Now marked by this window, "I am indeed blessed to have this view". It's what is called a picture window, and it's been mine for 30 years.

If I sit in the right position I see only the massed greenery: the neighbouring buildings are hidden. I could be sitting alone in a green world. Yes, there's a wooden fence and three wooden bird tables but they have been there so long that they no longer intrude. I see only the bushes and trees bunched together. Every one is a different shape and a different shade of green, and there seems very little space keeping them apart. "Crowded" is the word. In winter the Coniferous trees are numerous and large enough to make the outlook sombre and, perhaps, a little sad; but now there are at least twelve different shades of green. I have watched some of them being planted and watched them grow. Now they represent the growth of years and the thoughts of years.

Two collared doves are using the gable end of the bird table as a perch. They sit close, side by side, feathers puffed out. Occasionally they fancy a little preening. They are a pair, married for life, and they have delighted me as I watch their wooing and mating. It is only now that I understand what "Billing and cooing" mean. I knew it only as a joke used of a pair of human lovers, but of course it is utterly literal. They tap their beaks against each other and ruffle the feathers of each other's neck. Their language is certainly one of "cooing": that lovely rippling sound they make. I have watched the male approach the female by walking along the top of the fence. He is stiff with anticipation and does a succession of bows to the female; so like a little plump man in stiff clothing might bow to the lady he seeks to woo (or perhaps just like they used to do it in more courteous times). He bows and she responds, either by turning towards, him encouragingly or by flying a few paces away. Every female dove knows that too eager a response must be withheld until a suitable humbleness is there. If he flies after her and again bows she might give in and allow him to consummate their union, or, in no uncertain way, indicate that "that is quite enough", or "not today" and fly a good distance away. As they are lost to my window I can only imagine what comes next. Yesterday, I saw a pair of which the male was in disgrace. After bowing to his love a male spotted another single female and flew over to try his luck there. When she rejected him he flew back to the first lady who had been watching all this from her perch on the fence. She withdrew from him completely, even closing her eyes to pretend that she was asleep because the whole matter was quite boring. She moved away a few paces, and clearly he was in a quandary, It was a relief to me when I later saw them back side by side.

Yes, I am blessed for I see so much from this window that is lovely and true. Which have been the most memorable moments? Well, there was the fat, downy baby cuckoo that suddenly appeared, landing in my bird bath, and was consequently followed by the tiniest Dunnock who hastily brought nourishment, almost disappearing inside the cuckoo's throat as it dropped in the morsel of food that would do so little to stop demands for more. Then there was the astonishing sight of 24 pied wagtails suddenly landing on my lawn. What a spectacle of grey and white was there!

Then there was the woodcock who smacked into my window, and had to be revived, brought in to lie before the heat of a fire in a large box. Its beautiful russet plumage was so delicately marked, and my cat sat close and gazed in wonder so great that even stretching out an enquiring paw was impossible. Then there was the first sightings in my garden of all the birds I came to know: greenfinches, gold finches, blue tits, great tits, coal-tits, long tailed tits (a whole family of waving tails), thrushes, blackbirds, cocky sparrows, warblers, chiff-chaffs, robins, chaffinches, wrens, the large pairs of wood pigeons so sedate, the chattering rooks and jackdaws, dunnocks, yellow hammers and others. Then there were the house martins that came to nest just above the window and could be watched making their mud nests and then working so hard to feed the clamouring beaks

that poked out. Then there was the almost-tame pheasant that liked to be fed and the pair of French partridges so unafraid that they could allow their beautiful markings to be admired. Then, alas! the arrival of a sparrow hawk who made me birdless as I tried not to provide it with sitting targets: a lovely bird in its own right but disastrous for me. Now I have to be content to feed small quantities in secret behind a golden privet hedge. I hope and hope for it to leave this area. The birds water bowl on the top of a post for safety provides a quick sight of drinkers and bathers.

A real delight has been the hedgehog "watch". Having lashed out on buying a hedgehog house, I had so many wonderful sightings of these funny little creatures, who obliged in my first year by visiting in numbers and in evening daylight. Their weaving walks, their amazing ability to make a course for the food on the saucer (found by smell and not eyes which have a poor sight), their fights so comically conducted by bashing each other side against side - the only way of tackling each other's prickles - all gave such delight. The house was used to rear just one baby, and I was as proud as a human parent of my part in this! Hibernation has been taken in it but not every year. A saucer of clean water and a saucer of dog and cat food mixed are placed there every night in the summer and is taken. I always place it near their house in the hope that they will recognise a perfect hibernation house when winter comes. The food is protected by a wire frame to prevent a stray cat eating it. I have a much valued video of these first years with hedgehogs. Sad are the Autumn sights when babies are born too late to gain enough fat to allow hibernation; rescues and even visits to the vet do not often save them. Ah, yes, there has to be sad sights as well as joyous ones.

I feel very privileged to have such a window's view and my memories are added to every year, in good times and bad. The seasons come and go and the garden itself changes in colour and shape as new ideas bring change to its lay-out.

I watch the lovely sunsets I can see from this window (how blessed that it faces south-west). They are sometimes so lurid and awesome that I tremble slightly and am filled with awe. I tell myself that it might be like this when Christ decides to return and I wonder what I shall do if he does. I have been waiting quite a while now. I know that He will come and that then the beauties I have seen through my window will be magnified a thousandfold.

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The Downsman

DON'T FORGET WHATS ON!!!

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Aug-01	Bridge at The Roebuck	36	Sep-06	Tennis Club Evening	04
Aug-02	Chase Community Friends	05	Sep-06	Chase Community Friends	05
Aug-02	Tennis Club Evening	04	Sep-08	Bowls Club Jumble Sale	24
Aug-07	Bowls Tuition for Young People	24	Sep-09	Cricket Club Home Match	23
Aug-08	Bridge at The Roebuck	36	Sep-10	W I Meeting	15
Aug-09	Chase Community Friends	05	Sep-12	Bridge at The Roebuck	36
Aug-09	Tennis Club Evening	04	Sep-13	Tennis Club Evening	04
Aug-15	Bridge at The Roebuck	36	Sep-13	Chase Community Friends	05
Aug-15	Bowls Tuition for Young People	24	Sep-16	Cricket Club Home Match	23
Aug-16	Chase Community Friends	05	Sep-16	Bowls Club Finals	24
Aug-16	Tennis Club Evening	04	Sep-17	Flower Arranging Club	12
Aug-18	Flower Show	20	Sep-19	Downsman Copy Deadline	03
Aug-19	Tennis Club Adults Tournament	04	Sep-19	Bridge at The Roebuck	36
Aug-20	Flower Arranging Club	12	Sep-19	Wednesday Club	12
Aug-21	Bowls Tuition for Young People	24	Sep-20	Tennis Club Evening	04
Aug-22	Bridge at The Roebuck	36	Sep-20	Chase Community Friends	05
Aug-23	Chase Community Friends	05	Sep-23	Cricket Club Home Match	23
Aug-23	Tennis Club Evening	04	Sep-23	Bowls Club Finals	24
Aug-29	Bridge at The Roebuck	36	Sep-26	Bridge at The Roebuck	36
Aug-29	Bowls Tuition for Young People	24	Sep-27	Tennis Club Evening	04
Aug-30	Chase Community Friends	05	Sep-27	Chase Community Friends	05
Aug-30	Tennis Club Evening	04	Sep-30	Tennis Club Finals Day	04
Sep-02	Cricket Club Home Match	23	Oct-03	Wednesday Club	12
Sep-02	Pentridge & Woodyates	06	Oct-15	Flower Arranging Club	12
Sep-05	Bridge at The Roebuck	36	Oct-17	Wednesday Club	12