

The Downsmen

NEWS AND INFORMATION
MAGAZINE



PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY
WITH PENTRIDGE

October 2002

Including: Woodyates, Deanland and Minchington
Published by Sixpenny Handley Parish Council
Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

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Welcome to the latest edition of The Downsman.

All your contributions to.....

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

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**Chase Community Friends Present
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Details Page 23**



FLOWER SHOW - DATES FOR NEXT YEAR

SPRING SHOW 12th APRIL 2003

SUMMER SHOW 16th AUGUST 2003

Details of both of these events will appear in future editions of The Downsman,
now is the time to be thinking about the Spring Show.

There will be classes for daffodils, narcissus and other bulb flowers as well as some of
the classes from the summer Show such as Flower Arranging, cookery and children's

Front Cover - Handley marchers outside Parliament

About a hundred parishioners attended the Liberty and Livelihood march for the countryside
in London on Sunday 22 September. Victory Tours biggest double decker was filled for the
event, while others from the village and from Pentridge, Woodcutts, Woodyates and Farnham
traveled by other means. All the marchers passed Parliament, where a Sixpenny Handley
banner was prominent for all to see.



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pavements, street lighting, or blocked
road drains?

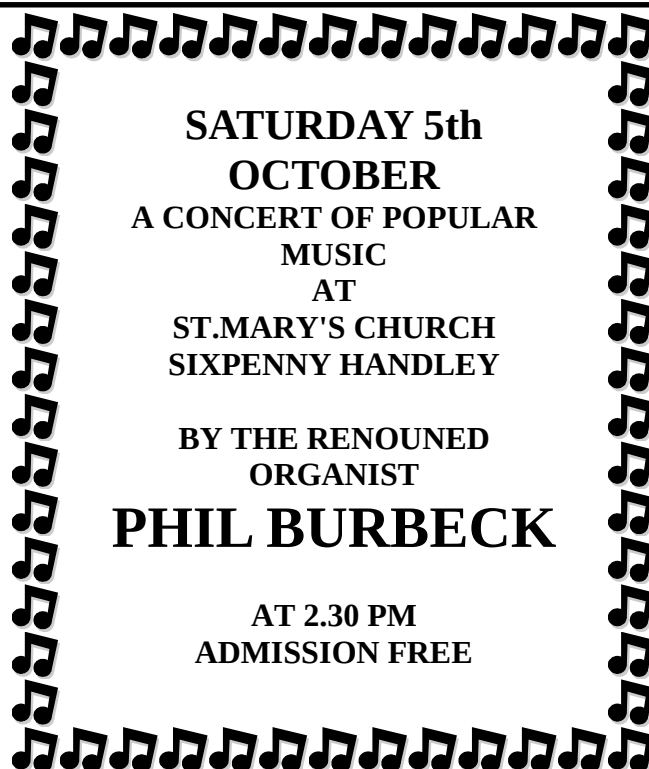
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The next edition of this
Magazine will be published on
the

1st December 2002

**Copy Deadline is
20th November 2002**



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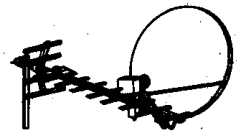
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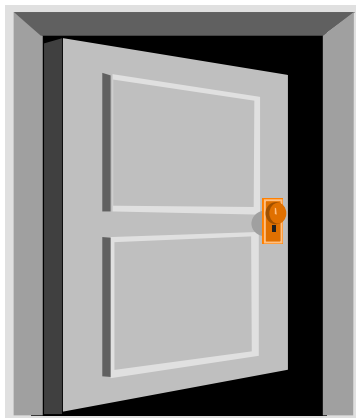
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2002 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

For most people, the wearing of a poppy each November symbolises the emotion felt in remembrance of the terrible sacrifice in human lives brought about as a result of two catastrophic world wars. Through the medium of books, films and television dramas and documentaries, the two conflicts are still very much a part of our nation's history; and rightly so. However, the driving purpose behind each year's Poppy Appeal is the tremendous need required by the Royal British Legion to raise sufficient funds to meet the calls for help from the thousands of ex-servicemen and women whose lives have been blighted by war.

The promise made by Lloyd George to those serving in the First World War that they would return to '*homes fit for heroes*' was soon broken and it is to the everlasting credit of Field Marshal Earl Haig, a man who, in the years since the armistice of November 1918, has been much maligned by historians, that the foundations of what we now know as the Royal British Legion were put in place. Over eighty years on, it is still worth recalling the background to the Legion's establishment.

Equally passionate in furthering the cause of ex-servicemen was a recently released artillery soldier, Lance Bombardier Tom Lister. While Haig used his influence to badger the War Office, Lister set to with a zeal that was to be every bit as effective. Within months of beginning his drive to draw awareness to the dire conditions facing ex-servicemen and their families (thousands were without jobs while their wives and children were living in abject poverty), Lister had organised the men into regional groups and had persuaded landlords across the country to ease the prohibitive rents then being levied. Another of Lister's remarkable triumphs was in persuading Burton to provide free suits for men seeking job interviews!

Haig, meanwhile, had gained the ear (and support) of Winston Churchill and in the spring of 1921, the leaders of the various ex-service groups formed by Tom Lister met in what is now known as the *Unity Conference*. To give the organisation a title, nearly fifty names were put up for consideration, but it did not take the delegates long to settle on the one phrase that encompassed all their needs and aspirations, namely the British Legion (the prefix Royal was not bestowed until 1971).

And so, from the most worthy of births, the Legion has gone from strength to strength and as my opening paragraph mentions, the needs of ex-servicemen and women, war widows (their very special circumstances were recognised from the start) and their dependants are still very much in evidence today.

Please, do support this year's appeal to the best of your ability and wear your poppy with pride in remembrance of those who over nearly a century of the Royal British Legion's existence have given their lives in the cause of our freedom.

Bill Chorley, Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser (01725 552776)

Letter

On behalf of all those who travelled on the Sixpenny Handley coach to London for the Liberty and Livelihood march, we would like to express our thanks to Charles Nodder for all his personal hard work in organising the event. We know that a lot of effort was involved in making the necessary arrangements, and preparing all the posters and signs.

The large Sixpenny Handley banner was a constant landmark on the London skyline and was by far the tallest! It also made sure that his flock kept together, and that we all got back to New Covent Garden safely to find the coach waiting for us. (In fact, it was so distinct that we overheard one total stranger on his mobile phone telling a friend to meet him underneath it!)

It was a great day out and so nice to see some village spirit.

Rosemary and Nick Sherman

Harvest at Woodcuts

All the cereals, oil seed rape and peas have been safely gathered in. Many farmers are celebrating a bumper year, claiming wheat yields of four ton to the acre, or if you prefer ten tonnes to the hectare. This yield has doubled over the past forty years, while the price has almost halved over the past ten, not a happy situation, I am sure you will agree, especially if you happen to be a farmer with bins full of grain. On the other hand, there have been no price wars, no subsidies paid, no tariffs nor trade embargoes on the countryside's other harvest. This is the produce of the hedgerows, freely available to all for the picking. If the farmers can claim bumper yields, so can the hedgerows.

You only have to look out of the car, bus or train window, or if you are walking or riding in the countryside, it is difficult not to see the abundance of the red berries of the hawthorn or the rowan. The shiny, red rose hips, the dark purple berries of the elder, now past their best, the sloes gradually changing from dark green to almost black, all are clearly visible. Not so easily seen, are the hazel nuts which are also losing their green hue but in their case taking on a tan colouring, to indicate they too are approaching maturity, but you can be assured that they also are in abundance this year.

All bodes well for Christmas with holly berries much in evidence, while the ivy flowers are extremely copious, currently their scent is almost more than you can stand, while bees are in their element taking advantage of this particular late nectar supply. There are many, many more plants which have had a very productive year, but how can we benefit other than by observing and enjoying the wonderful sights, of both the fruits and the wildlife taking advantage of this God given gift?

Well, I for one, am a great lover of elderberry wine. To me, a good elderberry wine is our only answer to port wine, it looks the same, tastes very similar, contains half the alcohol content and can be made very cheaply in your own home. There are numerous other uses, some medicinal, of these berries, but none as good as wine making. Wine can also be made from rose hips. I made some last year, had considerable trouble with the fermentation and as yet have not tasted it, therefore I reserve judgement. I intend using the hips this year for other purposes, namely the production of rose-hip honey, rose hip apple jelly and rose hip cream. In all these cases it will be a first for me.

The next fruit to harvest for us is the blackberry. As last year, the priority will be to make wine, then blackberry jam, and if we still have them available, all sorts of puddings. Plain blackberry crumble or apple and blackberry both take some beating. Hopefully we will get our share before birds and small mammals eat the lot. As things stand there will be plenty for all. Even the haws are so abundant this year, that it seems such a waste not to use some of them. As a young lad I chewed many a haw in its raw state, and I don't remember getting much satisfaction from them, so this time they have to be utilised in some other way. For instance, hawthorn jelly with pheasant sounds good to me, but I am not too keen to try hawthorn berry wine, I imagine it to be dry beyond belief, so I'll stick to the jelly.

There is one more wine I shall definitely try again, and that is sloe. I didn't do well with it last year, but since I'll be collecting sloes for sloe gin, I might as well try the wine again.

We could go on and on, but apart from hazelnuts, chestnuts and mushrooms, all of which have several uses I think I will have to call it a day there, as far as fruit and nuts are concerned. Of course I won't be turning my back on any pheasants, partridges, woodcock, pigeon or duck that come my way, nor will I turn away venison, rabbit or hare, as for badger and hedgehog as yet I am unconvinced.

This has made me realise it is nearly supper time, and since I must hand this in tomorrow, I will leave you with the thought that there are many more crops to be freely harvested out there, why not have a go? Its cheap, you will enjoy the countryside to a much greater degree and you will have a much more sustainable diet. Until next time, God bless us all.

Ted Cox (September 2002)

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Woodland Trust Seeks To Restore Ancient Forests. (Extract from The Garden.)

The Woodland Trust has launched a campaign to restore Britain's ancient woodland. A new report, *Reclaiming Our Forgotten Inheritance*, claims that the time is ripe to restore native woodland that has been replanted with conifers, before the remaining fragments of its flora are lost for ever.

Between the 1930s and 1980s, hundreds of thousands of hectares of Britain's ancient woodlands were felled and replanted with conifers. The intention was to make the UK self-sufficient in timber, but it resulted in the widespread destruction of species-rich woodland, which was home to many rare plants and provided a valuable habitat for wildlife.

Research, commissioned by the Woodland Trust and carried out by Oxford University's Forestry Institute, has shown that in the next ten years approximately 75 percent of the conifers planted in the last century will be reaching maturity. The researchers found that in more than 80 percent of the sites studied there were significant fragments of ancient woodland plant communities and species. Many of these forests also contained traces of medieval ridge and furrows, boundary ditches and prehistoric earthworks. However, if more conifers are planted when the mature trees are felled, the woodland flora would disappear for ever.

The Woodland Trust believes we should take the opportunity to rescue and restore these ancient woodlands and allow flora such as bluebells and anemones to flourish. It hopes to persuade the Government to enable Forest Enterprise to commit itself to restoring all of its ancient woodland sites and thus act as a catalyst for other landowners. It also hopes to convince the Forestry Commission to replant its woods with native species.

Ian Davies

[According to the Woodland Trust's website, people living in England have less woodland to escape to than any other country in Europe, apart from Northern Ireland. In fact, trees cover a mere 8% of England's landscape compared with a European average of 30% ID]

S IXPENNY HANDLEY GARDENS OPEN WEEKEND

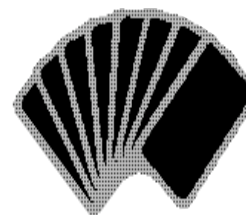
Following the successful weekend of "Gardens Open" in 2001, we propose to have a similar weekend in 2003. The dates will be Saturday and Sunday, 28th and 29th June 2003.

Everyone who so kindly joined in to show their gardens in 2001 will be receiving an invitation to do so again. But it would be excellent if other people would also join in this time, so that we can give the punters something new as well as old favourites to revisit! A good variety of gardens, large, small, patio, vegetable, wildlife, etc., is what people like to come and see.

Please will you think about this, and if you would like more information or would definitely like to join in, then phone **Jean Mayne on 552692** or **Pam Wood on**

Whist At The Village Hall

Following the very successful format adopted for the last season of whist drives, it has been decided to continue in the same vein for 2002-2003. However, before recapping on the rules, it is with much sadness that I report the deaths of two of our very staunch supporters, namely Mary Bennett and Evelyn Angel. Both were regular attendees and their expertise will be very much missed at the tables.



The 2002-2003 competition will consist of seventeen competitive rounds, played between Wednesday, 4th September 2002 and Wednesday, 14th May 2003 inclusive. The annual Christmas drive, scheduled for Saturday, 14th December will not count towards the competition, whilst the final meeting of the season on Wednesday, 28th May 2003 will be the occasion for the awarding of prizes:

For the player returning the highest aggregate score, playing seventeen rounds:	£15
For the player returning the second best score, playing seventeen rounds:	£10
For the player returning the third best score, playing seventeen rounds:	£5
Missing one qualifying round; highest aggregate score:	£10
Missing one qualifying round, second best score:	£5
Missing one qualifying round, third best score:	£2.50
Missing two qualifying rounds, highest aggregate score:	£5
Missing two qualifying rounds, second best score:	£2.50
Missing two qualifying rounds, third best score:	£1.75
Highest individual score, returned during any of the qualifying rounds:	£5
Total prize money:	£61.75

If a tie in aggregate scores exists between players at the conclusion of the final competitive round, the winner will be decided in favour of the contestant returning the best score in the first competitive round. Should a tie then still exist, best scores from the second qualifying round (and if necessary subsequent rounds) will be used to determine the final places.

The customary wide selection of prizes awarded each fortnight will, of course, continue, these being split evenly between the highest whist scores returned and draw winners. All drives will commence at 7.30 p.m. and the twenty-four hands will be played through without a break. Entry fee: £1 per person; draw tickets .50p per strip.

On behalf of Doug and Chris Haskell and our *Master of Ceremonies*, Fred Denham, we look forward very much to your support for the forthcoming season.

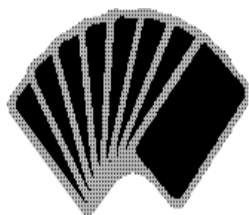
Whist Drive programme 2002-2003

All Wednesday's apart from the Christmas Drive which, by tradition, is held on a Saturday:

October	2nd	16th	30th	November	13th	27th
December	14th	Christmas Drive		January	8th	22nd
February	5th	19th		March	5th	19th
April	2nd	16th	30th	May	14th	28th

Bridge With Bill

Before commencing the first instalment of bridge basics, may I say what splendid support



has been forthcoming throughout the high summer evenings, In the last issue I made mention of Doug and Christopher Haskell returning to the tables; this time I am pleased to report the reappearance of Alan Bennett. Prior to Alan's return, the club held a two-table duplicate competition where the players were presented with four pre-dealt hands. Table one

played first, noting the contracts and scores for each hand. Then the wallets were handed to table two and without looking at the contracts/scores, the same four deals were played.

The final results were quite illuminating in respect of the contracts agreed.

Table 1

N/S Helen Goodwin/Doug Haskell

E/W Christopher Haskell/Eric Turner

Dealer	Contract	Declarer	Result
West	4 hearts	North	1 off
North	2 NT	West	1 off
East	4 diamonds	South	3 off
South	5 diamonds	North	Made

Table 2

N/S Bill Chorley/Robin Radclyffe

E/W Sally David/Chris Snape

Dealer	Contract	Declarer	Result
West	4 spades*	West	3 off
North	3 NT	West	Made
East	4 hearts	South	Made
South	6 diamonds	South	1 off

* doubled for penalties

Scores:

N/S 650

N/S 900

E/W 200

E/W 600

The N/S defence on table one, Helen and Doug, were eminently more successful than their counterparts on table two, Bill and Robin when it came to defending the NT contracts declared on the second deal.

Bridge basics: Opening bids, using the ACOL system:

Declarer:

12-14 points balanced	1 NT
13-19 points	1 of best suit
20-22 points balanced	2 NT
23 points plus	2 clubs

Examining these bids in slightly more detail, 1 NT balanced informs your partner that your hand is probably 4 3 3 3 in shape, though 4 4 3 2 and even 5 3 3 2 are acceptable parameters for making a weak 1 NT call. In respect of the 5 3 3 2 shaped hand, the five card suit must be *weak* and should not have an honour value higher than the queen. Although preferable to have a *stop* in all four suits, it is not absolute and, therefore, the absence of *stops* should not preclude the use of this very informative call.

13-19 points, bid your best suit at the one level and, remember at this stage of the bidding, length is better than strength- For example, Q J 10 8 7 of clubs should be bid ahead of A K J 10 of hearts.

The comments made in respect of 1 NT hold good for 2 NT; in other words, you have a balanced hand but the honour strength has increased from 12-14 to 20-22 points.

Finally, the 2 club call. This merely indicates to your partner that you hold a very powerful hand; minimum 23 honour points. Partner must respond, and I will discuss responses in my next article. With a 2 club call, the partnership is looking for a game contract, at least, and perhaps a slam

Talking of slams, several have been made of late and a very nice 7 spades was bid and made

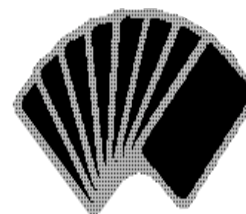
twixt Robin Radclyffe and Alan Bennett, their opponents being Silvia Marskell and Anne Reed.

Bill Chorley

STOP PRESS

With two rounds completed in the 2002-2003 Whist Competition, Doug Haskell tops the table with an aggregate score of 344 and, for the present, has posted the highest total at 178 (on 18 September). Lying second with 339 points is Doris Day, while third and fourth spots are held by Sylvia Thome and Kathy Sargeant with scores of 337 and 335 respectively. Challenging hard are Sam and Marge Poolman (the latter being the individual champion last year) on 333 and 332 points, while others in the *top ten* are: Peter Sargeant 329; Daisy Nobles 322; Ruth Hustings 320 and Mary Meaden, also with 320 points.

At bridge, recently, Doug Haskell (declarer) partnering Angie Snape pulled off a remarkable 6 no trumps doubled and redoubled contract. All in all, the standard of play from all concerned is going from strength to strength and three tables now seem to be the norm.



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Lucky Dip, Cakes & Candy stall, Tombola, Christmas craft stalls, Hoopla,
Christmas Raffle and Refreshments

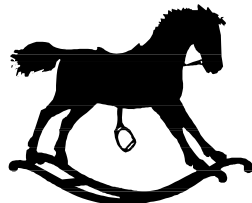
Children's Christmas fancy dress competition

And lots more!

Please come and join us for what promises to be a fun afternoon



HAPPY NAPPY



Happy Nappy meets every Monday at
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall at
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All children below School age are
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loads of
toys and fun!

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- ✓ Adults can meet for a chat.
- ✓ Tea and coffee available.
- ✓ Children £0.50p Adults £1.00.



For more information phone.

Kyla: 01725 552437 Karen: 01725 552944 Louise: 01725 552388

What in 'earf is an LPA?

"Where are you going Dordor?" asked my five year old granddaughter

"To an LPA.'s meeting." I replied.

"What in 'earf is that?" she asked.

"An LPA. is someone who helps Ron, the Vicar with his work."

"Oh. Is that what you are?"

"No, I'm an NSM Curate."

"That sounds crazy." Commented the seven year old!

It is quite muddling, but of course all organisations label themselves and the jobs in the firm by initials. The fact that it needed explaining to the girls made me think perhaps others may wonder what is what and who is who. So I will endeavour to explain.

LPA. - Lay Pastoral Assistant. We are very fortunate to have six in our parish and they all do very important work. They are not, as someone said to me, the Vicar's minions, they are specially trained volunteers who share the workload of the parish. They are the arm of friendship from the church. They visit the sick, bereaved, the lonely, those who have recently moved into the village, and families who just need someone to share a problem with, they also carry out many other jobs within the church. The Vicar cannot visit everyone in the parish, but all those who share the work come with the same love and care that he would bring if he could.

Each LPA will have attended a ten week course run by the diocese, and have a licence from the Bishop to work in a particular parish. Never underestimate your LPA's they are there for you when you need a friend, a listening ear or a little comfort, and everything shared with them is, as with all who work for your church, in confidence.

NSM - Non stipendiary minister. This is the title given to someone (like me) who is either employed or retired, and supports themselves financially but has completed a three year training, and entered the priesthood. Most of us work only part-time although in a few parishes there are full-time NSM's who hold the post of Vicar. We have the same training, the same calling and the same commitment as stipendiary clergy but we are only expected to work approximately twelve hours a week in the parish.

MSE. - Minister in Secular Employment. This would again be a trained priest whose ministry is carried out in the place of their employment as well as in their own church. They may be a chaplain in a school combining the work with that of teaching. Or perhaps a chaplain in a large factory who also carries out some other job.

OLM - Ordained Local Minister. Another priestly role. but in this case the training has been carried out with the help of a team from the candidates own parish, in conjunction with a college course. The ordained priest will have the same qualification as other priests but they are only licensed to work in their own parish.

Which brings us to the roles of the Vicar and the Curate (strictly speaking Assistant Curate). I suppose the best explanation is to say that Ron, the vicar is the engineer and I, as your curate am the oily rag! In point of fact I am here to assist the vicar in whatever way he requires help, but I am very fortunate in that the vicar treats me as an equal and we work as a team with the LPA's, the Parochial Church Councils, the church wardens and the organists.

I do hope you feel a little enlightened but this is not the complete story, there are numerous other titles which I will explain another day. In the meantime remember every believer has a ministry, they are called disciples, and their job is to spread the Good News!

W.M.G. Your curate.

PS my granddaughter now knows it is "what on earth?"

Traffic in Sixpenny Handley.

The first phase of the new enhanced traffic management scheme for Sixpenny Handley has now been completed.

The idea has been to extend the range of the existing speed limit and to introduce 40mph buffer zones at the entrances to the village. New signing and lining has been provided and the objective is to slow traffic down before it gets to the most dangerous and sensitive stretches of road. If this phase is successful then the second phase, the introduction of a 20mph limit in the High Street will follow.

So the job isn't finished yet. Our very successful petition for a 20mph limit kicked off the whole process last year and we have found (at last) a new willingness on the part of County Highways Officers to tackle the menace of speeding traffic in our villages.

The Parish Council put in a lot of time and effort to try to get the job right with Cllr. Tony Gibb especially to the fore. It isn't perfect yet and there are still worries about Dean Lane for instance, although we will get some warning signs for "Children at Play" now that the play area behind the surgery is in operation.

Overall I think it's been an effective joint effort so far. Let's keep up the good work.

County Councillor Tim Palmer.

Village Hall 100+ Winners

JULY	1st	Mrs Johnson	13	AUGUST	1st	Mrs I Goddard	64
	2nd	Julie Richardson	20		2nd	R Steel	28
	3rd	L Wolstenholme	6		3rd	Julie Richardson	20

SIXPENNY HANDLEY ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW 2002

The committee would like to thank everyone who helped to make this year's show such a success. The helpers who 'put-up' and then 'put-down' all the tables, tents etc, the stallholders and sideshow organisers, the ladies who provided the teas, the people who arranged the fun dog show, the stewards and of course the exhibitors, not forgetting, the supporters who came on the day.

HAS ANYTHING CHANGED?

I reproduce the following from an article in the Church Times "Fast-forwarding time" by The Revd Adrian Leak (Hon Assistant Curate of Worplesdon). The time is 1752, the event was the acceptance of Parliament of the change to the Gregorian Calendar (thereby losing a week) and coming in line with the rest of Europe through the fast persuasive, flattering and charming explanations of Lord Chesterfield - the bill was passed unanimously.

As he explained later to his son,

"Every numerous assembly is mob, let the individuals who compose it be what they will. Mere reason and good sense is never to be talked to a mob; their passion, their sentiments, their senses and their seeming interests, are alone to be applied to. Understanding they have collectively none."

It was a chilling assessment of the legislature in a parliamentary democracy.

David Salmons



The Chase Nursery pre-school playgroup received a glowing report following it's OFSTED Inspection in January 2001. Here are some quotes from the report:-

Overall quality of learning "Children are making good progress in relation towards the early learning goals in all six areas of learning" "Especially good emphasis is placed on their personal, social and emotional development"

How well the children are taught "Teaching is of a good standard" "There is a high adult to children ratio at sessions" "Good teaching methods help all children to learn and make progress effectively" "Emphasis is given to providing an interesting range of first-hand experiences. These provide good support for children's development of skills in all areas of learning."

How well the setting works in partnership with parents and carers "There is a good partnership overall with parents which effectively contributes to the children's learning" "There are good opportunities for parents to take an active part in their children's learning."

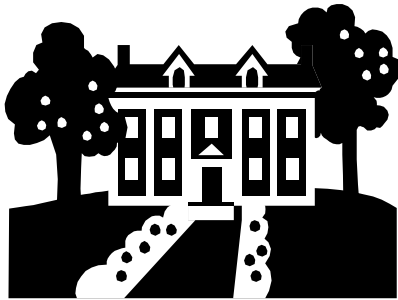
Playgroup held in Sixpenny Handley Village Hall Tuesday and Wednesday mornings 9.00 am - 12 noon (+ optional hour for lunch to 1pm), Thursday morning 9.00 am - 12 noon.

Chase Nursery "link group" sessions held twice a week in Sixpenny Handley First School allow children to experience a more formal structure of learning, in addition to familiarising them with the school and the teachers.

Please 'phone Jackie on 01735 552808 or Hazel on 01725 552980 for further information.

M. G. CORDINA

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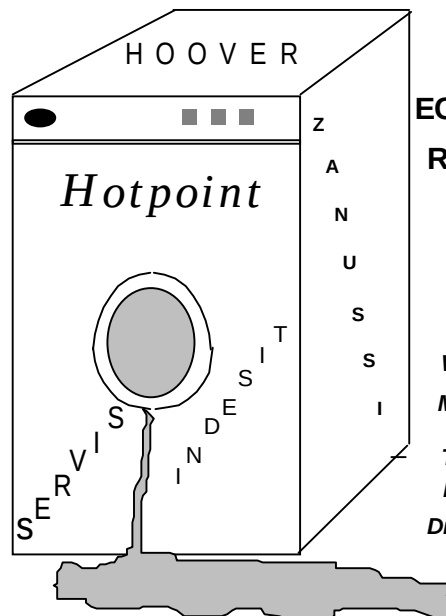
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Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

BEWARE DISTRACTION THEFTS

The main message this month on the crime prevention front is 'Beware Distraction Thefts'. Dorset Police are repeatedly warning us that more and more crime in our corner of the county takes this comparatively new form.

Typically, the criminals operate in pairs, sometimes threes. One rings the doorbell and engages the resident in conversation, perhaps using some elaborate excuse. Recent examples include:

- My dog got into your garden and has gone missing, can you help me to look for it.
- My companion feels faint. Could we possibly have a glass of water.
- We are the television licensing authority, can we check your set please.

While all this is going on at the front door, an accomplice is getting in at the back, or into a shed, and making off with valuables.

A variation on the theme is when someone is lured out of their property (for example to look for the fictitious dog,) and the accomplice actually enters via the open front door.

These are simple con tricks but they are proving very effective. Vigilance is the answer. Trust no-one you do not know until you can be sure of their identity and that they have a genuine reason to be calling on you.

If you have suspicions about a caller, lock the door and call the police.

So far these sorts of crimes have been more common south of Blandford than up here but that is only half an hour away, so please keep alert.

Lighting up

As the evenings are drawing in, the Homewatch would like to remind you of the importance of drawing curtains at dusk, so criminals cannot get a perfect view of the contents of your home.

Equally important, attend to the lighting arrangements if you are out for an evening. Just leaving a hall light on is a real giveaway that someone is out. Invest in a cheap timer switch and programme some bedroom lights to go on and off while you are away. Draw the curtains before you leave!



Mobile Library Service



Weekly on Thursdays:-

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

Fortnightly on Thursdays:-

Rob's Column

Reading The Country Signs

Did you know the animals have inside information:

Rooks are good weather forecasters. When on leaving their nest they fly straight to their foraging grounds the day will be fine. If they twist and turn rough weather is on the way, and they will not venture far from their nests or roosts when a gale threatens. This is understandable, as the rook is not particularly strong on the wing and it doesn't like being caught out at a distance from home by a sudden gale.

When swallows and swifts fly high the weather will be fine. This is because they are pursuing gnats, flies and other insects which react to high barometric pressure. Similarly they fly low when the barometer is low.

Blackbirds and robins, among other birds, perch high for their morning song if there is promise of a fine day but lower in the tree when rain threatens. The skylark in fine weather takes its time over its descent from its song flight, hovering and gliding, but when rain is imminent it drops straight to the ground. The green woodpecker is another bird whose loud 'yaffling' is considered a sign of rain.

With the development of inland reservoirs and sewage farms gulls have changed their habitats. Early this century to see a gull inland indicated rough weather; now they are regular visitors to inland sites. Except during the breeding season, when for three or four months they are seldom or never seen inland except in spells of bad weather. To see a gull inland during these months is a sure sign of rain and gales.

Most dogs have knowledge of an approaching thunderstorm before it can be detected by humans. Their reaction varies from a vague unease to sheer panic. Pigs also become very restless when gales threaten and wander around their sties, carrying straw in their mouths. Old countrymen swear that pigs can see the wind. You detect a sign of approaching rain by observing the direction goats are facing when grazing. If they are facing the wind the weather will be fine, but if they graze with their tail towards the wind, rain will follow.

When cows linger in the vicinity of their cowshed or stand with their tails towards the wind, rain is imminent:

*When a cow tries to scratch its ear,
Then a shower is very near.*

Cats become restless and frequently wash behind their ears when the weather is about to change from 'set fair' to 'gales'. Spiders stand at their front door, looking out to see the approaching rain. They spin their long gossamer strands only when they are assured of a spell of fine weather.

*Bees are a reliable guide to the weather:
When the bees crowd out of their hive
The weather makes it good to be alive:
But when the bees crowd into their hive again
Beware the rapid approach of rain.*

Amusing Sayings

I've got to the age when I need my false teeth and my hearing aid before I can ask where I've left my glasses.

If I'd known I was going to live so long I'd have taken better care of myself.

I don't let old age bother me. There are three signs of old age, loss of memory - I forget the other two.

Rob Jesse

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

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PRESENT

BUFFET & HORSE RACING

on

FRIDAY OCTOBER 18TH 7.00 PM

in

**SIXPENNY HANDLEY
VILLAGE HALL**

£6 to include first glass wine

**Tickets available Ian Geddes (01725
552395)**

and CCF committee members

**To support the improvement of the hall
to benefit our Social Day Centre**

Village Hall News

Well what a different spell of weather we have had over the last month, sunny and dry. So my report is more productive this issue.

The painting at last has been finished and I must say a very big 'Thank You' to Pam Wood for painting the top coat, thanks too to Bronia and Chris for providing a donation of £100 for the paint. The downside is I am having trouble removing the masking tape as it has been on for four months plus – but my workmates have lent me a new tool to do the job (Its good to have friends around)

The lights have at last been replaced with twin element units, which have made the hall so much lighter. A few thanks are needed – firstly to the electrician, B Kovorn and to Sandroyd school who not only lent us the mobile scaffold tower but delivered and collected it; the panels have also been replaced making it look much better.

The floor has had a new face lift after consulting Liza from Sandroyd and a lot of hard work by Julie.

A few problems with the plans for the storage space on the stage but we will keep you informed.

We have so many broken tables now that its time to replace all of them with light -weight ones but finding suitable ones for all uses is more difficult. Any ideas?

No reply from the Parish Council over the gravel problem yet (No news could be good news I hope)

Mr and Mrs North have been busy sorting out the 100 Club (Thanks) Thanks to Pat Oxford and Mr and Mrs Maskell for all the help they gave me when I was in charge of the 100 Club.

The Badminton Club has started to take off and should be up and running very soon. (If interested please contact Ron Wood)

EVENTS

The Committee ran two stalls at the Flower Show:

Julie and family running the Teddy Bear stall; myself running games.

What a lovely organised day it was, very well attended.

A good profit was made for the hall fund. Thanks to Julie and her daughter for collecting and selling the bears; it was nice to receive a prize every time. Well done.

By the time the Downsman is printed we should have had a works party and hopefully I will have had many volunteers to help.

Work to be done:	Painting cracked walls
	Painting front porch
	Sorting out toilet handles
	Security on windows
	Looking at ventilation
	Cleaning back play area
	Finishing off guttering

As you can see there is always plenty to do so we always are grateful for any help.

In October Chase Community Friends have very kindly offered to run a **Horse Race Evening** with profits going to the hall. Tickets for the evening – **18th October** – are available from Ian Geddes (552395) or CCF committee members.

Please support this and have a fun evening.

On the **9th November** The Chase Nursery are running their second **Music Quiz** in aid of the hall. Teams of 4 required. A great night was had the first time round so I'm looking forward to the next one. Hope you are.

In **December** there is to be an **Auction and Xmas Draw**. I have received offers of items for the sale already, and am pleased to take small items now. Remember you can sell items and have the profit for yourself only giving the hall 20%. So look out those unwanted items and make yourself some money for Xmas. Food and drink available on the night.

Major Xmas draw. Tickets will be on sale soon together with more information and details of prizes.

I do feel that at last the committee are making headway.

Rob Jesse

PARISH OFFICE

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council have leased part of a unit at Town Farm Workshops for use as a Parish Office. With the help of East Dorset District Council this unit has been divided, decorated and carpeted. It is now in the process of being fitted out with the necessary furniture and office equipment. The entrance to this office is on the outside of the workshops, on the corner of Dean Lane and Handley Hill, and a ramp has been constructed to the door. A sign will be fitted outside the office in the near future.

While the office will be officially opened sometime in November, the Clerk or Deputy Clerk will man it each **Tuesday and Friday morning from Tuesday 15th October**. The hours of opening will be from **10:00 to 12:00**. This is to enable parishioners to visit the office to examine any planning applications that the Parish Council may be considering, or to raise any other matter related to Parish Council business.

It is also intended to hold 'Surgeries' on some Saturday mornings or early weekday evenings. Parish Councillors, with the District and County Councillor attending on some occasions, will hold these 'Surgeries'. These are to allow members of the Parish to raise any matter directly with one of their representative councillors. Dates and times for these will be published separately.

Thank You

I would like to say a big 'Thank You' to everyone for their help and kindness especially Bronia, Paul, Phil and Stephen – their visits, cards, messages etc following my recent unfortunate accident and brief stay in A and E Salisbury Hospital, where I was well cared for, so many thanks to them also. It has all been greatly appreciated.

Many thanks again to you all.

Win Judd



News and Information

NATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

August & September 2002

There was no meeting in August but members enjoyed guided walks around Salisbury and Georgian town Blandford, both with supper afterwards.

There was also a visit to Lyndhurst to meet our link members there and enjoy a visit to the New Forest Museum and the sumptuous tea they had provided at the Community Centre.

The Village Flower Show was well supported and members manned the cake, produce and plant stall – the proceeds from that goes to the Flower Show Committee Funds. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way.

September started with a very well attended meeting when several visitors and hopefully future members were welcomed by President Maggie Staplehurst.

A most interesting and enthralling talk was given by Mr K de V Lorrain, MBE, on the Hidden Secrets of Salisbury Cathedral, from the very beginning to the present day – things that cannot normally be seen on Cathedral visits. Fascinating and some things almost unbelievable. He was thanked by Jan Gibb.

A group of members from Lyndhurst visited Martin Green's Museum at Down Farm, meeting Handley members and afterwards enjoying tea in the garden at Dean Cross Farm – the home of Mr and Mrs Staplehurst who had very kindly invited members and guests.

Congratulation and Get Well cards have been sent to Esme Isaacs on her election as County Chairman and to Mal Smith, the previous County Chairman who has resigned through ill health. Our best wishes to both ladies.

The Group meeting will be at Shroton on Wednesday October 23rd.

The Autumn Council to be at Weymouth Pavilion on Wednesday 30th October.

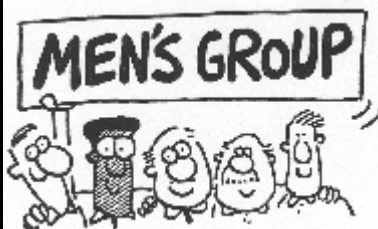
There was an exhibition of 'Cathedral Souvenirs'

The Hostesses were Carole North and Peggy Holland.

Flower of the month winners: - Doreen Leverton, Jean Maidment and Stella Symes.

Next meeting October 14th. – Speaker to be announced later. There will be an exhibition of hand painted light bulbs.

Win Judd



THE MEN'S GROUP

This is an informal group that gets together on the fourth Thursday evening of each month to talk and have a drink. Generally, we have someone to come and lead the discussion on a particular topic. Although the group meets at the Vicarage, it is a non-church group open to anyone to come

along; and we are perfectly happy to talk about sex, politics, religion or money - in fact all the things you aren't supposed to bring up! Come and join in at 7.30 pm.

COFFEE MORNING

FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER

10:30 – 12

At 35 Sheasby Close

*By kind invitation of Mrs Rita Card
in support of St. Mary's Church*

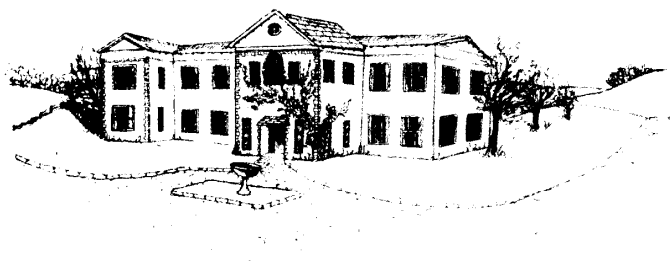
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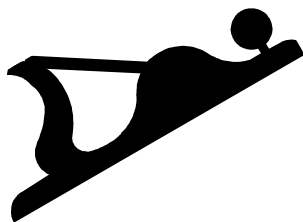
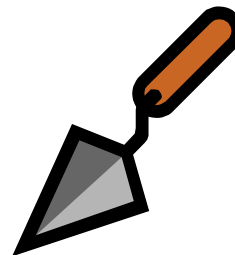
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The Council Tax Threat

The August issue of the Downsman contained a piece by Parish Councillor Pauline Bailey-Wright highlighting the threat of Government-imposed increases in council tax way above the rate of inflation. She was quite right to do so. As she says, the impact of this stealth tax on households in Dorset has become increasingly severe in recent years, especially in the rural areas of a county where wages are well below average and house prices are well above. In my work as a councillor my colleagues and I come across an increasing number of people, usually pensioners, paying almost a quarter of their income in council tax. We have dubbed this Council Tax Poverty and in my view this is a scandal in itself.

The questions are what is the source of the problem, what can be done about it and what is being done.

For East Dorset District Council the case is particularly clear-cut. Most councils have three sources of income, a share of the business rates, a revenue support grant from central government and the council tax, usually in the ratio of 25%, 50% and 25% from each. For reasons that we don't understand, when the official formulae are applied to East Dorset it is reckoned to be too wealthy to need a revenue support grant. A grant of zero means that East Dorset council tax payers must meet not 25% but 50% of any expenditure. This is the main reason why, for example, East Dorset District's tax is so much higher than is the case in North Dorset District.

After the last District elections in 1999, the incoming administration (including myself) was able to make a number of savings by cutting waste and increasing efficiency and this resulted, despite the usual price rises, in a small reduction in the District tax for 2000/2001. At that time it was thought that future increases could and should (as Cllr. Pauline says) be limited to the rate of inflation. Nobody reckoned with the impact of the stealth taxes that were to come. The Government imposed on local authorities a series of new statutory duties backed by the force of law. With each one extra funding was promised to cover the cost of the new duties. It never came. East Dorset's grant remains set at zero and council tax payers must pay the cost in full. One example is sufficient. The Government decided that all pensioners should be able to travel on the buses for half price – the Concessionary Bus Fare Scheme. Most of us thought this was a good idea. The new law said East Dorset must bring in a scheme, which the council duly did, at an annual cost of about £250,000. As there is no matching change in the business rate, all of this must be paid for through the council tax – equivalent to an increase of about 7% on the district rate. So we have the absurd situation that the pensioners of rural Dorset who rarely see a bus are paying to fund a service to pensioners in urban areas where buses are common and even those urban pensioners are being taxed to fund a benefit to themselves. Most of us think this is just plain stupid.

So what can be done about it? Apart from lobbying all the Dorset MPs and making our case to Government through the Local Government Association and the County Councils Network, we have had to keep pushing for increased efficiency and to make some tough decisions too. About 85% of what East Dorset spends is now covered by a statutory duty. That leaves just 15% amongst which to find the savings. Over the last couple of years we have managed to find about £1/2 million in savings and reduced commitments – without that the district rate would have risen by another 14% or so. This process has to continue if we are to maintain any sort of control over the money that people are being asked to find.

The situation with Dorset County Council is similar though the sums involved are much bigger. About three quarters of our council tax bills are due to the County, the rest going mainly to the District and the Police with the remainder going to the Parish Council. County does at least get a revenue support grant but it is a small one and only covers 20% of expenditure. This leaves 44% to be found by the council tax payer instead of the national norm of 25%. Again new duties are imposed without adequate funding. For instance, the Government's Best Value inspection regime costs County about £3/4 million

a year to run as does the famous Fridge Mountain that we've all heard about. Again the only way to tackle this is to keep increasing efficiency and to pare back on those areas that are not imposed by law and not at the top of the community's list of priorities. Unlike the District Council, County has a large central administration to cover areas like education, social services and highways. Over the years it had become hide-bound and inefficient, so as the new Leader of the County Council I am heading up a small revolution that is already producing big benefits and a much more tightly focussed and businesslike approach. There is much more of this to come.

The Fridge Mountain is of course part of the system of waste disposal and recycling that Cllr. Pauline mentions and it is from here that the greatest threat to council taxpayers now comes. We all support the idea of recycling to make the best use of scarce resources and to safeguard the environment and East Dorset's green box scheme has at last reached Sixpenny Handley. For the last few years Dorset has been the top recycling county in the country and looked well set to make an important contribution to the high levels of recycling required of the country by the latest EU directives. But again for reasons that nobody can understand, the Government has responded by imposing stratospherically high new targets on counties like Dorset while those authorities in other parts of the country that have made little or no effort in the past have been set target so pathetically low that they can be achieved by putting out a few bottle banks. Recycling rates in Dorset have to double by 2006 and the cost will be extremely high. Rubbish will have to be handled in three separate streams with three wheelie-bins for most households, for compostible materials, dry recyclables and other waste. New bins must be purchased and new vehicles to handle the extra volumes. New composting and waste treatment facilities must be provided. As Pauline says East Dorset has already stated that it will need to charge an extra £5 each year for the next six years adding up to £30 extra by 2009. The cost to the County Council will run into millions. We and other authorities in the same boat have protested vehemently at the unfair share of the national load that Dorset is being made to carry but the Minister has said that the targets are not negotiable.

What of the future? Well the good news is that the Government is working on a new grant formula for local authorities and we are arguing, even praying for a better deal. The bad news is that the early indications are that the new formula will shift more money away from the south and southwest towards the midlands and the north. There is a small possibility that East Dorset may do better – the zero grant situation is after all indefensible. The County, on the other hand, is likely to lose out. The spread of betting is still wide – anything between an extra £9m in grant and a loss of £16m. The omens are not good.

I hope all this helps to clarify the issue in people's minds. I have tried to leave the usual party-political argy-bargy out of it. The simple fact is that Council Tax, the way it is applied and the things it is used to pay for, is a big issue for the whole community, especially here in the rural northeast corner of Dorset. Many people believe that now is the time for high public spending for better public services. Fair enough but if you want to do that then in my view the only fair way to raise the money is through central taxation. Council Tax bears particularly heavily on those least able to pay, especially pensioners in an area like ours where house prices are high and services are few and far between. This Government, any Government of any colour, needs to take this on board. Enough is enough and if there isn't a change of thinking there will be more hardship and more and more cases of Council Tax Poverty in our communities.

For my part I will keep up the battle. Never give up and never give in should be our motto. There is always something that can be done and it's my job as your County Councillor to do it.

Cllr. Tim Palmer
Leader, Dorset County Council.

DORSET NEEDS MORE MAGISTRATES!

CAN YOU HELP?

You **DO NOT** need formal qualifications or a knowledge of the law

You **DO** need:

- **Common sense, integrity, sound judgment and a good knowledge of people**
- **Time to offer about 18 days a year plus time for training**
- **The desire to serve the local community**
- **To be aged between 27 and 65**

Magistrates come from all walks of life, different ethnic backgrounds, all sectors of the community and many different occupations. They are unpaid but can claim certain allowances. They are appointed by the Lord Chancellor through local Advisory Committees and the Dorset Advisory Committee (which includes Bournemouth and Poole) is looking for more magistrates, especially for the East Dorset Bench.

If you think you could give some time to help with the vitally important task of administering justice why not come and see what is involved by visiting a magistrates' court and observe a court in action? For further information and an application form contact:

Anthony Draycott
Secretary to the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Dorset
The Law Courts
Park Road, Poole, BB15 2RH
Tel: (01202) 711911

For information about the times of court sittings please phone —
01202 711926 for courts in the East Dorset area or 01305 831355 for courts in the West Dorset area

ST.MARY'S WINTER BAZAAR

TOY EXCHANGE

Have you good, unbroken toys that your children have grown out of?

If so, then the Toy Exchange at the Winter Bazaar is the place for you.

You keep 80% of the sale price of your items, and you get a chance to purchase other toys that your children would now like.

All items will have to be listed and priced beforehand. For full details of how to join in the scheme, phone Bobbie Carter on 552042.

WEDNESDAY CLUB PROGRAMME

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2002.

2nd October	John and Elizabeth Gradwell entertain.
16th October	The Bournemouth Salvation Army Fellowship Band.
30th October	The Wonders of Egypt - Miss E.A.Morris (slides)
13th November	Digging the Dirt - Martin Green
27th November	Something in the Garden - Mrs.R.Robbins
11th December	Christmas Lunch Entertainment by Mr.T.Trickett and accompanist.

There's no need to pay a fee to join this "Club" - anyone is welcome to come along to the **Village Hall at 2.30pm** on Wednesdays as shown above.
Just £1 for an entertaining talk and tea afterwards.
For information contact Heather Eynon on 552308.

Our 2003 program starts on 22nd January

Horses and Riders

It is not often that I put pen to paper, but I thought I'd like to thank Ted Cox for highlighting a problem, that I myself have experienced whilst out riding on a bridleway/byway. I appreciate that everyone has a right to use these, be it walkers, riders of horses, cyclists or drivers of motorised vehicles. While out riding with a friend on the bridleway between the Common and Deanland, we had the misfortune to meet a lad on a motorbike. Like us, he was out enjoying himself. We heard the noise of his bike coming from behind us. It is always our policy to try, either to move into a gateway or other suitable place, but this time there was nowhere else to go. So we continued straight ahead but at a pace considerably slower than the motorbike. The motorcyclist of course, was unaware that we were ahead of him.

Being on a horse, which believes it is being chased by a noisy monster, is to say the least, terrifying. Under these circumstances it will normally bolt, disregarding all in its path, be it a barbed wire fence, brick wall, vehicle or group of people. No amount of pressure on the reins, by the rider will stop it. A horse, in its natural environment will use "Flight from fright", this is instinctive.

We were extremely lucky that day, just managing to get into Dean Lane ahead of the motorbike. How we managed to get our two, panicking horses into the first driveway, I will never know. Neither do I know who was the most frightened, the horses, us, or the lad on the motorbike?

Due to this incident, we now have two horses, which at the slightest noise, be it from motorbike, tractor, car or any motorised vehicle are panic stricken. It takes years before you can call a horse "Traffic proof", but it only takes only one incident as we had, to change that. They never forget.

A horse does not have brakes like a bike or car; it is also unpredictable in unexpected circumstances. Hence it is our policy to always wear florescent tabards, whilst out riding. This ensures that we are always visible. However I must give credit to the majority of drivers, who do slow down, giving horse and rider a wide berth. I must also give credit to the young man involved, because after we had calmed the horses and on continuing on our way along Dean Lane, we entered the village, where he was waiting to apologise to us.

He certainly realised this incident could have had a tragic ending, simply because of all of us being in the same place at the same time, all doing the things we enjoy. So please remember there could be others around, when you are out and about, especially on any bridleway or byway.

"Brushy Bush" (September 2002)

If you are a parent, whose child has a motorbike, please ensure that he or she is aware of the difference between a byway and a bridleway. It is now an offence ride a motorbike on a bridleway, or indeed drive any motorised vehicle at all, on one.



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.

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 all practice patients, 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



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design and practical advice.**

FENCING AND WALLING

**For all types of fencing and walling
from garden to farm in all types of material.**

MAINTENANCE

**From garden to woodland, tree work, pruning and
reclamation. Exterior maintenance and renovation of
your home, barns, stables and buildings.**

GROUNDWORKS

**From site clearance, preparation,
drainage footings and concreting.**

Many references available

Call Tom Penny – 01725 552383

AUTUMN PREPARATIONS

Autumn - a time for reflection on the state of our immune system and what we should be doing to prepare our bodies for winter.

A healthy immune system is the key to all year round good health~ if the immune system is impaired this can lead to many common ailments both acute and chronic and ultimately degenerative disease. A healthy immune system depends on good diet, regular exercise and regular maintenance procedures to keep the body balanced and in good health and the immune system strong and ready to fight off germs and viruses.

A healthy immune system will also help reduce allergies such as hay fever by dealing with allergens before they can get a stronghold on the body; in fact, October is a good month to start taking action against hay fever attack next year by preparing the body's natural allergen resistance before hay fever threatens.

The best chance of keeping healthy and vital all year round is by carrying out a 3- month cleansing routine to boost the immune system for the whole year as well as providing immunity from the usual ailments that come with the cold, damp winter weather.

Determination to stay healthy is an important attitude to develop meaning that if, for instance, you notice a slight soreness in the throat, try relaxing, breathing deeply and saying to yourself 'I am really healthy' as powerfully as possible - this method does actually work, try it for yourself!

But immune system boosting isn't as simple as that and also involves a routine of dry brushing the skin daily with a good bristle brush (sounds worse than it is) to improve the circulation of both blood and lymph within the body to assist speedy removal of toxins that may reduce your health levels, exercising daily to improve the action of the muscles to help pump lymphatic fluid (which contains the white blood cells needed to fight infection) around the body so that all the major organs are supplied effectively with cleansing lymph.

Immune system boosting also involves taking certain herbal formulae to cleanse, tone, stimulate and support the lymph and immune system to help keep a healthy balance within the body to enable the body to fight off illness effectively- Echinacea is a good one to start with.

Attention to diet is vital ensuring that you eat the best foods for your immune system and avoid those that will put an extra burden on the body's eliminatory system.

Attention to stress levels is also important as stress can lower the body's resistance to illness and so it is important to embark on a regular relaxation routine to reduce stress accumulation in the body and gentle exercise to help ward off tension due to stress build-up in the body and increase vitality. Relaxation and exercise will also work effectively on the circulation lessening the chances of stress related heart problems.

A large part of the immune boosting programme and hay fever prevention is to cleanse the eliminatory channels to remove any toxins that will reduce the effectiveness of the immune system. Colon cleansing is the first step using a mild herbal formula to cleanse, tone, stimulate and balance the intestines preventing toxins from leaking back into the bloodstream via the colon walls. If the intestines are clogged or sluggish then toxic leakage into the blood is inevitable. This will in turn reduce the effectiveness of the liver to cleanse the blood increasing levels of toxicity in the blood and, eventually the body systems and tissues leading to reduced health and vitality and so the 2nd step is to cleanse the liver. If the liver becomes congested the lungs will become congested and this provides the ideal environment in the respiratory tract for germs and viruses to breed; the skin will also become clogged (the body's final route for throwing off toxins when all other routes are clogged is via the skin) and so herbs and dry skin brushing would be step 3.

So hopefully this scenario presents a good case for a cleansing routine and immune system boosting as a preventative action you can take against illness.

Contact me if you would like to embark on a 3-month immune system boost and together we can set up a programme designed specifically for you.

SHEILA RALPH MH., BSYA(Irid), BSYA(C.M.A., Ad. C.M.A.)

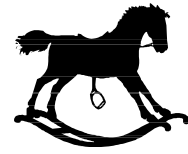
Master Herbalist, Iridologist, Acupressure & Chinese Massage Therapist.

Sheila is available for consultation at 6 Keats Meadow, Sixpenny Handley; Salisbury Homoeopathy Centre and The Centre for Complementary Health Care at Blandford.

Telephone 01725552265 for further information or to book a consultation.



HAPPY NAPPY



Teddy Bears Picnic

If you go down to the Village Hall today
your sure of a great day out!

That's what children from around the
village did on Sunday the 11th of August
and enjoyed apple bobbing, races, stories,
singing and of course teddy throwing!
Well after a rather large picnic you need
to get rid of your energy.



Church Services - October and November

ST MARY'S	ST ANDREW'S	ST RUMBOLD'S
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Services in italics are from the Book of Common Prayer

There is Holy Communion every Wednesday at 10:00am at St Mary's

October 6th Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Morning Prayer 6:00 Holy Communion		11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
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October 13th Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

10:30 Pets Service!	9:30 Holy Communion
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October 20th Twentyfirst Sunday after Trinity / St Luke

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Evensong		11:15 Morning Prayer
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October 27th Last Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion	9:30 Holy Communion	11:15 Family Service
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November 3rd Fourth Sunday before Advent

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 All Saints Service		11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
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November 10th Remembrance Sunday

10:50 Service of Remembrance	9:30 Holy Communion	10:50 Service of Remembrance
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November 17th Second Sunday before Advent

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Evensong		11:15 Morning Prayer
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November 24th Christ the King / St Andrew

9:30 Holy Communion	4:00 Patronal Festival
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December 1st First Sunday of Advent

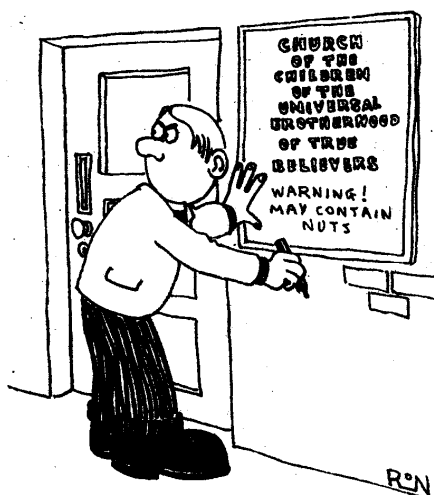
9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Advent Carols		11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
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ST MARY'S NEWS LETTER

It has been a busy time since the last edition. The six-week session dealing with ministry gave all those who attended something to think about - the two parishes in the benefice appeared to hold very different views on the shared ministry. This means in a way that there is an alternative available to all who live here and across the other side of the A354. Elsewhere in this issue is an article from Wendy our Curate which gives a useful explanation of some of the roles played and briefly how they fit in to the overall needs of a Parish/Community. All those who are into "TEXTING" can add some more abbreviations to their Text Lexicon.

Mobile phone Texting and 'E' mailing appear to be the younger generation's method of staying in touch - each has its own peculiar language. The subject of language and form of Worship were discussed with a view to changing The Prayer Book morning service (1662) (first Sunday of the month) to a more user friendly and language more appropriate to today. The change wasn't accepted. However a more appropriate form of Family Worship would be introduced at a later time (11 am) - new time, form etc., to be launched on 6th October. Times and dates for Christmas services were agreed and are to be published in the next issue - advance notice - an Advent Service of Carols and Readings will be held in St Mary's at 6pm 1st December:

St Gargyle's



Religious tolerance was not
Martin's strong point

The proposition that 'The Seeker' - Church's monthly magazine be incorporated into the 'Downsman' was agreed after a lengthy discussion. The format is to be as a centre section (on different coloured paper) so that it can be pulled out and either retained or whatever. Other communities around have done the same and found the change very successful- the first combined edition is to be published in February 2003.

The volunteers and helpers in the Churchyard are to be congratulated for having been awarded top honours, including the Bishops Prize, by Dorset Wildlife Trust (patron: The Bishop of Salisbury) for the best managed - the citation is on display at the back of your Church. The plaudits speak for themselves but one is aware that not all agree with what they see.

The late Terry Richards left a legacy of £10,000 to St Mary's and in line with Ron's thoughts "that it would be inappropriate to simply absorb it into general

funds for routine bill-paying" the PCC concurred. We all need to think about making good use of this sum - make our Church building family user friendly? Much thought and prayer will be needed and no doubt protracted discussions to find out what we CANNOT do in view of it having listed status. Any ideas?

Forthcoming events include an Organ Recital by Phil Burbeck on 5th October, entrance is free but donations would be welcome. Winter Bazaar at the Village Hall on 17th November. Advance notice for 2003 The Big Band sound The Band of the Royal Corps of Signals will be entertaining us with their Jazz Orchestra on 14th March. Sixpenny Handley Open Gardens Weekend 28/29 June.

David Salmons

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club



The outdoor season has almost finished, the last official date is Sunday 29th September, when we hold our last outdoor competition which this year will be a Two Wood Roll up for prizes. I am sure it will be enjoyed by all who are competing. Let us hope the weather keeps fine all day.



The season has been enjoyable but marred by the necessity of the Men's Dorset League team having to withdraw from the Dorset league owing to the lack of players. We do not yet know if we will be allowed back in for the next season. We expect to have two more players at our disposal.

We did complete our fixtures in the Westbrook Mixed Triples League but we have yet to see a final league table. We expect to finish about half way down or half way up. Whichever way you look at it.

This year the Club is required to host the End of Season and Presentation Event for the Westbrook League. It is an honour to do this and we shall be looking to put in some interesting entertainment for our guests on the 25th October.

Next year we shall be hosting the Annual Gala Day which is normally held on a Saturday in June.

Also next year will be the Centenary of the English Bowling Association. There will be special events laid on for this.

Members will be looking forward to the End of Season Presentation of Awards. This year it will be a Presentation Lunch and will be held at the Crown Hotel in Blandford on Sunday November 17th. Members can book in friends and family and any prospective members are welcome – up to the number of spaces available. Contact our Social Secretary – Val Martin on 01725 552607.

The Short Mat Bowls season is about to start. The Division 4 side have already played one match and lost it. The other side will be competing in the top Division this year and start their campaign on Friday 27th of September.

Weekly bowls sessions are also held, usually on Tuesday evenings or Sunday afternoon in the Village Hall.

Advance Notice

Our popular Quiz Night (the Christmas one) will be on November 23rd.

Any further information contact our Club Secretary on 01725 552297.

The 2002 Summer Rota for the **Dorset Police Eastern Division** **Community Service Vehicles**



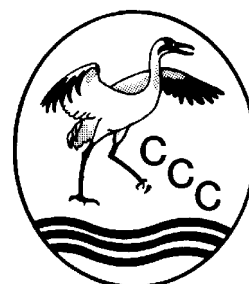
continues

This year we have on the vehicle a property marking kit which will be available for marking Tack, Mobile Phones and Cycles.

Our final visit to Sixpenny Handley High Street, between 9:30 and 11:30am will be on
12th October

Cranborne Chase Communities

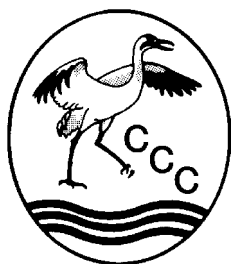
Many of the weavers from **Unit 8** submitted hand-woven items again this August in the section for work done by people with learning disabilities at the **DORSET ARTS & CRAFTS ASSOCIATION** Exhibition at Bovington. We gained lots of certificates, including two Silvers, but best of all, **SHANTI HARDING** won the **Seaborne Challenge Cup** for her beautifully woven bedspread commissioned and owned by Mrs. Gillian Wadge from Sixpenny Handley, who kindly lent it for the Exhibition. Shanti richly deserves the Cup, which will have pride of place on her shelf for a whole year.



We are planning another pre-Christmas **COFFEE MORNING** at the weavery in Unit 8 for **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH, 10.30 - 12 noon**.

Please do come along and see the work that is going on. Entry is free, refreshments will be available, and hand-woven items will be on sale. Everyone most welcome. For further details, please phone Helen on 552992

Helen English



We are looking for additional Care Staff particularly for weekend work.

We are a vibrant, busy community, 4 miles over the Chase.
We work with people with learning difficulties on four sites,
one of which is

Unit 8, Sixpenny Handley Town Farm Workshops.

Why not call in and say hello?

Please do phone if you are interested 01725 517458

Maureen Lockyer

FOOTBALL CLUB

The '100' Club is about to restart. Club members who already take part will be circulated with a reminder. Please reply promptly.

Neither side is doing very well and could do with an injection of one or two players to boost the standard both on Saturdays and Sundays.

The following are the fixtures for October 2002.

Saturday

October 5 th	Haymoor FC	v's	Handley Sports	Away
	(Junior Round One – Kick Off 2.30 pm)			
October 12 th	Handley Sports	v's	Bere Regis	Home
October 26 th	Poole Borough Res	v's	Handley Sports	Away

Sunday (Kick Off 10.30 am)

October 13 th	Handley Sports	v's	Hamworthy RBL Res	Home
October 20 th	Sturminster Marshall	v's	Handley Sports	Away

YOGA

IN DAMERHAM

ALL WELCOME !

IN TEACHER'S HOME STUDIO
DAY OR EVENING

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website: <http://home.btclick.com/yoga.damerham>

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**Traditional thatched cottage
in centre of Sixpenny Handley**

£29.95 single per night

£44.95 double per night

Telephone

01725 552739 or 07711 137474

Flower Show Winners

Section A: Vegetables & Fruit - Parish

Challenge Cup and Medal:

Robin Parsons

Best Exhibit:

Robin Parsons

Section B: Vegetables & Fruit - Open

Challenge Cup and Medal:

Mrs Mary Ford

Best Exhibit:

Mrs Mary Ford

Section C: Dahlias & Chrysanthemums – Summer Flowers - Open

Jill Coate Cup and Medal:

Dennis North

Non Chrysanthemum

Dahlia – Challenge Cup and Medal:

E Cutler

Best Exhibit:

E Cutler

Dahlia Silver Medal:

E Cutler

Section D: Floral Art

G O S Clarke Cup and Medal:

Mrs Eileen Miles

Flower Container: (Presented by Mr G S Clarke)

Mrs Sue Nowell

Novice Cup:

Sue Pillans

Section E: Cookery Open

Challenge Cup and Medal:

Mrs Joyce Waker

Second Prize:

Mrs E Cutler

Best Exhibit:

Mrs G Jackson

Section F: Childrens Classes

Show Medal 8 and under:

Jessy Meaden

9 to 14:

Alan Brookes

Show Trophies 8 and under:

Jessy Meaden

9 to 14:

Alan Brookes

Section G: Photography

Challenge Trophy and Medal:

P A Birch

Best Exhibit:

P A Birch

Section H: Winemaking and Home Brewing

Challenge Cup and Medal:

N Mansfield

Best Exhibit:

Mrs D Meaden

N Mansfield

Section J: Honey

Challenge Cup and Medal:

John Bunting

Best Exhibit:

J M Duffin

Section K: Hobbies & Handicrafts

Challenge Cup and Medal:

Gill Carter

Footnote – Are your children out late at night?

Was your child one of those out after 9pm last Thursday(19th) evening.
Shouting abuse and banging on the doors and windows of the Parish Office during the
meeting, and generally behaving in an infantile manner.

Do you know where they are tonight?

Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice
FLU AND PNEUMOVAX CLINICS
2002

The Government has recommended that as a **priority** this year:

- everybody **aged over 65** and other **at risk groups** (eg those suffering from certain conditions including asthma and diabetes) should be vaccinated against **influenza**.
- everybody **aged over 65** and other **at risk groups** should receive the **pneumovax** vaccination, if not previously vaccinated within the last 10 years.

We shall be running CLINICS on:

Sixpenny Handley
Friday 4 October 9.30-12.30
Friday 11 October 3.30-6.30
Tuesday 15 October 9.30-12.30

Broad Chalke
Monday 7 October 3.30-6.30
Friday 18 October 9.30-12.30

No appointment is necessary. We will try and keep waiting to a minimum.

If you are a priority patient (see above) and cannot attend any of these dates, please phone Sixpenny Handley and ask to have your name added to the reserve list.

You will be asked to phone again after 1st November to confirm whether we shall be running any further clinics.

The Downsman

DON'T FORGET WHATS ON!!!

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Oct-02	Whist at The Village Hall	10	Oct-30	Wednesday Club	32
Oct-02	Bridge Evening	11	Oct-31	Chase Community Friends	33
Oct-02	Wednesday Club	32	Nov-06	Bridge Evening	11
Oct-03	Chase Community Friends	33	Nov-07	Chase Community Friends	33
Oct-04	Coffee Morning	27	Nov-09	Music Quiz	25
Oct-05	Phil Burbeck Concert	03	Nov-10	Remembrance Sunday	37
Oct-09	Bridge Evening	11	Nov-13	Whist at The Village Hall	10
Oct-10	Chase Community Friends	33	Nov-13	Bridge Evening	11
Oct-12	Police Community Vehicle	39	Nov-13	Wednesday Club	32
Oct-12	Football Club Home Match	40	Nov-14	Chase Community Friends	33
Oct-13	Football Club Home Match	40	Nov-15	C C C Coffee Morning	40
Oct-14	W I Meeting	26	Nov-16 Church Grand Winter Bazaar	22	
Oct-15	Parish Office - First Opening	25	Nov-17	Bowls Club Presentation Lunch	39
Oct-16	Whist at The Village Hall	10	Nov-20 Downsman Copy Deadline	03	
Oct-16	Wednesday Club	32	Nov-20	Bridge Evening	11
Oct-16	Bridge Evening	11	Nov-21	Chase Community Friends	33
Oct-17	Chase Community Friends	33	Nov-27	Whist at The Village Hall	10
Oct-18 Buffet & Horse Racing	23		Nov-27	Bridge Evening	11
Oct-23	Bridge Evening	11	Nov-27	Wednesday Club	32
Oct-23	Bowls Club Quiz Night	39	Nov-28	Mens Group	26
Oct-24	Mens Group	26	Nov-28	Chase Community Friends	33
Oct-24	Chase Community Friends	33	Nov-30 School Christmas Fair	13	
Oct-30	Whist at The Village Hall	10	Dec-04	Bridge Evening	11
Oct-30	Bridge Evening	11	Dec-05	Chase Community Friends	33