

The Downman

**NEWS AND INFORMATION
MAGAZINE**



**PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY
WITH PENTRIDGE**

June 2003

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

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	Mrs E. Miles.....	552768
	Miss E. Waller.....	552305
	Mr. A. H. Gibb.....	552704
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	Mr. R. Ferguson.....	552222
	<u>Vacancy</u>	

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	Mr. Tony Henderson.....	552279
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		Fax 552405

District Councillor

	Mrs P.K. Bailey-Wright..	552771
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	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Advertising	David Bailey-Wright.....	552771

Churches

Church of England	St. Mary's, Sixpenny Handley	
	St. Rumbold's, Pentridge	
	St. Andrews, Gussage St. Andrew	
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Curate	Rev. Wendy Griffiths..	01747 828495
Roman Catholic	Church of Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Cecilia, Blandford Forum	
Priest	Fr. John Rice.....	01258 452051

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Cub Leader	Esme Isaacs.....	517203

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	Dean Lane Surgery.....	552500

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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

Joint Chairmen	Pam Wood.....	552608
	Rob Jesse.....	552340
Secretary	Tony Henderson.....	552279
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Chairman	John Curtis.....	552397
Secretary	Mrs S Curtis.....	552397
Treasurer	Mr R Parsons.....	

The Chase Nursery Link Group

Contact	Hazel Killeen.....	552980
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	John Curtis.....	552397
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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

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Woodyates	Roy Warner.....	552665
	Blandford Station. 01258	452101

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Playgroup Leader	Mary Best.....	552390
Secretary	Gill Hutchins.....	552159

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

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Secretary	Mary Macleod	552041

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

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Secretary	Gill Martin.....	552297

Handley Sports Club

Chairman	Mark Young.....	552741
Secretary	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Sunday Secretary	Stuart Haskell.....	552498
Team Managers -Sat.	Mark Young.....	552741
-Sun	Barry Hibberd.....	01258 840198

The Wednesday Club

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

Chase Community Friends

Chairman	Dr. Geddes.....	552395
Secretary	Vic Hatton	01258 840671

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club

Chairman	Michael Catchpole.....	552879
Secretary	Adam Macmillan-Scott....	552249
Membership/Treasurer	Kay Mills.....	552727

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

	Louise Wolstenholme.....	552388
	Kyla Scougall.....	552437
	Karen Slade.....	552944

Sixpenny Handley Sports Association

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

Sixpenny Handley Flower Show

Chairman	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Joint Secretaries	Carole & Denis North.....	552955

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Welcome to the latest edition of The Downsman.

All your contributions to.....

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

Telephone – 01725 552788

E-mail: downsman@sixpennyhandley.org

The next edition of this Magazine will be published on the
1st August 2003

Copy Deadline is 20th July 2003

New Parish Council

Following the recent local elections
the Parish Council is now made up of the following Councillors

Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Cllr Mrs P Bailey Wright

Cllr Mr P Kellock

Cllr Mr R Ferguson

Cllr Mr A H Gibb

Cllr Dr. J Gillespie Smith

Cllr Mrs E Miles

Cllr Miss E Waller

Would you like to contribute to the running of the village? Have your say about what happens in the village?

There are three vacancies on the council at present, two for the Sixpenny Handley Ward and one for Pentridge. Please see the notice on **Page 11** if you are interested in becoming a councillor, or contact the Clerk – Tony Henderson – 552279.

District Councillor Election Result Handley Vale Ward

Name of Candidate		Number of Votes	
BAILEY-WRIGHT, Pauline Kathrine	Liberal Democrat	415	Elected
PACKER, Phyllis Jean Joan	Conservative	307	

Front Cover Picture

Nice new pavement to the Parish Office, but why couldn't the council have found a couple more yards of tarmac and provided a hardstanding for the bus-stop? *Ed.*

Your District Councillor, Pauline Bailey-Wright, will be holding her surgeries at the Sixpenny Handley Parish office between 6pm - 7pm before the full Parish council meeting. Details of dates will be placed on the Parish Office notice board. Please do not hesitate to come along and meet her.



News and Information

NATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

Mr K Eldred treated the April meeting to a talk on the American Hospital at Kingston Lacy. Mr Eldred has a wealth of information and stories connected with the hospital, which many visitors to Kingston Lacy must be totally unaware ever existed. A dedicated American medical team accomplished remarkable surgical achievements and all that remains there in the fields today are a few buildings and probably a few ghosts. No one at the meeting will forget the 'Passion Wagons' which ran from Wimborne to the hospital for the weekly dances, in fact there may be some readers who remember them well! Perhaps it would be prudent not to mention the ladies who camped in the woods (woops).

The flower of the month was a Lily of the Valley exhibited by Doreen Leverton and Heather Eynon won the most interesting exhibit of American memorabilia with an ammunition box.

The WI members enjoyed their Annual Birthday dinner at the Queens Head on May 1st. A big thank you goes to Bobbie Carter who organised it all and made sure that we all got the dishes we had chosen and even provided personal reminders for those who had forgotten what they had ordered ~ thank you Bobbie.

A talk by Dr J Hoyle at the May meeting on the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance was illustrated with slides, which gave an insight into the incredible work that the Air Ambulance teams provide for us in this area. The Air ambulance provides a life saving service for the population of the two counties and costs around £750,000 a year. The service relies largely on voluntary contributions and Dr Hoyle demonstrated to the meeting how much we owe these dedicated people and, that without our support, the Air ambulance would not be flying. The Service is now self-funded ~ if anyone is interested in more information, please telephone 01823 351114.

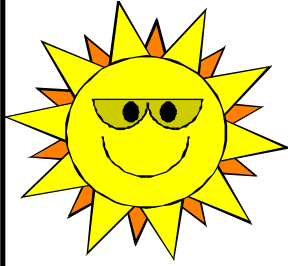
The flower of the month was a rose grown by Nora North and Win Judd won the exhibition with Grandma's Cough Remedy (recipe only).

The Speaker at the June meeting will be Mr B Ducker – the talk is entitled My Life in Prison ~ An Officer's View. The exhibition will be an old key.

The July meeting is a garden meeting chez Mrs Margaret Quinn, with a flower arranging demonstration by Mandie Phillips. The exhibition will be a Nosegay.

The WI meets in the Village Hall on the 2nd Monday of every month except July and August at 7.30pm.

Carole North



Sixpenny Handley First School

Summer Fun Evening & Barbecue

To be held in
the Village Hall on
Friday 4th July 2003
from 5.30pm - 8.00pm

Please do come along and enjoy a little
entertainment by the children, followed
by our annual summer fundraising event.
Cake Stalls, Tombola, Raffle, Plants,
Children's games & lots lots more!

All welcome.

Proceeds towards school funds

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CASSEROLED RUMP IN RED WINE... £7.95
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 In our red+white onion gravy

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SARDINES ON TOAST £3.50
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ROLL MOP HERRINGS £3.50
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 With a seafood dressing

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GARLIC MUSHROOMS AU GRATIN £3.50
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FROM THE SEA

LEMON BATTERED SCAMPI £8.50
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POACHED HAKE & HOKI £8.50
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 With cheese & vino sauce

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THERMIDOR £9.50

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 Served with all the trimmings!
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GREAT SUNDAY ROAST

REAL ALES OF THE MONTH 6X—RINGWOOD
 **

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- Issues related to Community Care



Thereby Hangs a Dorset Tale

It is a good few years ago now since I first came across *Highways and Byways in Dorset*, a book originally published by Macmillan in 1906. Its author is Sir Frederick Treves, the eminent surgeon, most readily associated in the public mind today with the story of the Elephant Man, since it was Treves who took him on as his protégé at the London Hospital, featuring prominently, therefore, in the film made of Joseph Merrick's life. Sir Frederick's distinguished medical career culminated in his being appointed Sergeant Surgeon to King Edward VII: but he held the strong conviction that no surgeon should continue operating after the age of fifty. So, true to his principles, he retired at that age. It was then that he took the opportunity to devote himself to travel and to writing.

In *The Tale of a Field Hospital* he described his experiences in South Africa in the Boer War. His other interests were as wide-ranging as Uganda; the West Indies; Palestine; and Lake Geneva. In addition, being an admirer of Robert and Elizabeth Browning, he wrote of those places in Italy with which, in their married life there, they had been associated.

However, he never forgot Dorset, the county of his birth. So in retirement he cycled over 2000 miles researching the book which was eventually published as *Highways and Byways in Dorset*, the pleasures of which were added to by the engaging drawings contributed by Joseph Pennell. I had never thought to own a copy of this book. You can imagine my delight, therefore, to find that a paperback version of the 1906 edition of this classic had been issued in a series entitled, *Wildwood Rediscoveries*, copies of which had been bought up by a bookshop in Westover Road, Bournemouth, and were being sold at a bargain price.

It was on re-reading the book that I came across a discrepancy which might well puzzle others who use *Highways and Byways in Dorset* as their guide in exploring the county, and which I now take the trouble to explain. For having at one time been for sixteen years Incumbent of Sixpenny Handley with Gussage St Andrew, and Pentridge, I naturally turned up first the pages devoted to those parts of the county I knew best.

On first knowing the hamlet of Pentridge I had been impressed with the fact that it had been immortalised as *Trantridge* of Hardy's *Tess*. Treves, I was now reminded, had caused me a disappointment though when I discovered that his assertion of another claim to literary fame for Pentridge was not in fact true. He had somehow got it wrong about William Barnes's birthplace. It was indeed at a Rushay Farm that Barnes was born, but this was over in the Blackmoor Vale, in the parish of Bagber, near Sturminster Newton.

Treves was right enough, though, about the Pentridge connections of the family of the poet, Robert Browning, his earliest known forebears having lived in the parish, and being shown in the registers and other extant records to have been Churchwardens and Poor Law Overseers there. (See my article entitled, *The Brownings of Woodyates*, in the *Dorset Year Book*, 1972-73.) Many visitors to St Rumbold's Church, by the village green in Pentridge, would therefore be on the look-out for the plaque described by Treves as reading:

*To the memory of
Robert Browning
of Woodyates, in this parish, who died November 25, 1746
and is the first known forefather of
Robert Browning, the poet.
He was formerly footman and butler in the
Bankes family.*

But the puzzle would come when they found that the tablet on the north wall of the little church lacked the final intriguing sentence of the inscription as quoted by Treves. It is thereby hangs a tale.

The explanation, to cut a long story short, is found in a paper read to a meeting of the Society of Genealogists in November 1937, by Sir Vincent Baddeley, himself a descendant of the Browning family. His paper was reprinted in the March 1938 edition of *The Genealogists' Magazine* under the title, *The Ancestry of Robert Browning, The Poet*. There Sir Vincent describes how it was through the agency of Doctor F J Furnivall, a figure prominent in the literary world of the late nineteenth century, that the plaque was first erected, carrying the inscription just as stated by Treves. Only in addition it bore the quotation from Browning's poem *Pippa Passes*: "All service ranks the same with God", together with the explanation, "This tablet was erected by some of the poet's friends and admirers. 1902".

Doctor Furnivall was a man of restless industry and some learning, who delighted in controversy and the promotion of heterodox views and fads. He was, for instance, a supporter of the new spelling, an avowed Republican and, unfashionably for his time, a violent agnostic if not outright atheist. He it was who had inaugurated the Shakespeare Society and the Shelley Society, finally in 1881 founding the Browning Society, of which he was himself the President. Now one of Doctor Furnivall's pet theories was that men of genius were descended either from Jews, or else from some strikingly humble origin. In the year of the poet's death, then, he began, with somewhat misplaced enthusiasm, to investigate Robert Browning's family origins. In February, 1890 he read a paper to the Browning Society on his findings. They were by no means all fantasy. In fact he frankly admitted his disappointment at being unable to establish any Jewish element in Browning's

ancestry. Nothing daunted, however, just because the poet's paternal grandmother, Margeret Tittle, was born in the West Indies, Furnivall decided that she "had dark blood in her".

The Doctor's appetite for conjecture still unsatisfied, he began to elaborate on the fact that Robert Browning's first known ancestor was an earlier Robert Browning, who died at Woodyates in the parish of Pentridge, Dorset, in 1746, in a house we know at least afterwards to have been a coaching inn. Furnivall had somehow got it into his head that this Robert Browning was once head butler to Sir John Bankes of Corfe Castle. Now there had been only one Sir John Bankes, and he died in 1644, well before this Robert Browning would have been born even. Moreover, Corfe Castle was virtually destroyed by the Parliamentarians in the Civil War, being an uninhabited ruin at the time of the supposed chief-butlership, Kingston Lacy having become the family's home.

Nevertheless, Doctor Furnivall seized on this quite unsubstantiated notion with his unfailing enthusiasm, averring that, "Household servants naturally take to publics (sic) when they set up for themselves or start their children"; and adding, "No doubt he went through the usual stages of page, footman, and under-butler, before he became chief-butler.

As a radical and democrat I of course rejoice that the descendant of a Dorsetshire footman has been buried with solemn pomp in Westminster Abbey". A witness testified in 1931 that Furnivall had subsequently had to publish a repudiation of his footman theory soon after he first aired it. Certainly, when Sir Edmund Gosse came to write the article on Browning in the 1901 edition of the *Dictionary of National Biography*, there was no mention of it.

It was then in April, 1902, that Doctor Furnivall wrote to a literary journal of those days, *The Academy*, a letter headed, "Browning's Footman Ancestor", reviving the theory. This letter finished by asking, "Will anyone subscribe to put up a brass to the footman founder of the Browning family in Pentridge Church?" Copies of this letter were sent round to Furnivall's friends, and sufficient funds seem to have been forthcoming.

That was how it came about that, when staying the weekend in Pentridge in the autumn of 1930, Sir Vincent Baddeley found on the north wall of the little St Rumbold's Church there the marble tablet with the wording as recounted in Treves' guide-book to Dorset, completed by the further two lines as described above. An incensed Sir Vincent enlisted the support of the Churchwardens and Church Council of Pentridge in applying to the Chancellor of the Salisbury Diocese for a legal faculty to have the wording amended. All reference to Furnivall's footman theory was excised: and there was added the one sentence, "He married Elizabeth Pethebridge, who died 1759, and their son, Thomas (born 1721) of Woodyates Inn, was the poet's great grandfather". This is the wording that will be found by anyone visiting Pentridge today. If previously mystified by the discrepancy with the version given by Sir Frederick Treves in *Highways and Byways of Dorset*, he or she now has the explanation.

Who would, has heard Sir Vincent's story told.

Anthony J Lane

(Originally Published in The Dorset Year Book 1990)

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PARISH COUNCIL OF THE
PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY WITH PENTRIDGE

VACANCIES FOR THREE COUNCILLORS

1. The following vacancies exist on the above Council, caused by insufficient candidates standing in the recent local elections.
 - a. Sixpenny Handley Ward Two Vacancies
 - b. Pentridge Ward One Vacancy
2. A by-election to fill these vacancies will be held if, within 14 working days (not counting Saturday & Sunday) from the date below, ten electors for the ward give notice in writing claiming such an election to the returning officer.
3. The address of the Returning Officer is East Dorset District Council, Furzehill, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 4HN.
4. If no such notice is given the Parish Council will fill the vacancies by co-option. Persons interested in filling these vacancies should make an application to the Parish Clerk at the address below as soon as possible

Dated: 19th May 2003 Signed A E Henderson Parish Clerk

Mr A Henderson
Parish Office
Unit 5b
Town Farm Workshops
Sixpenny Handley
SP5 5PA

THE ORIGINAL
RICHARD T. ADLEM

FUNERAL DIRECTOR
MONUMENTAL MASON

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GRANDAD GETS HIS MONEY FREE

(Headline in the Post Office Information Newspaper)

Feeling tired after lunch and knowing that a spell on my reclining chair was a good idea, I lay full stretched and with Lucy cat lying full length on my body. My thoughts turned to my growing awareness that I must now accept that I was old and so was Lucy. Had I not that morning gone to the P.O. for my pension and seen the newspaper heading glaring out at me in large capitals, "Grandad gets his money free"? The new pension system had started! I found myself rather resenting the "Grandad ", partly because the feminist side of me wondered what had happened to "Grandma". My dignity was generally battered. Was this how I was seen now? Was I just a grey-haired lady in a queue? How could it possibly be called a "free" gift of money for Grandad? Then the queue began to enter into its usual chatter and we became as always a real group of real individuals.

Dwelling on these morning adventures as I lay on my chair, I had just reached the point of acceptance that age comes upon us, and that was that, when there was a thud on the window. This had once been a familiar sound as the window is 12 feet wide, but with butterfly stencils now in place it only rarely happened and the warning was heeded in time. However, I told Lucy we must get up and went to look out. I saw a tiny chaffinch on the lawn with wings outstretched and beak unnaturally wide open as if gasping for air. I went out quickly (!) with sorrow already in my heart. Gently I picked it up, cupped in both hands to secure its movement. The beak closed and two black eyes regarded me. I stroked the head with one free finger, and the head began to move in a fairly lively movement. Clearly things were not yet desperate, and so I put it on the ground next to a low wall upon which the warm sun was directed. It promptly flopped in dejection, and so I picked it up again and held it whilst I talked to it, and love passed between us. I put it down again and this time it stood firmly and looked around to get its bearings. I decided to remove my body in case I became a cause for fear, and to watch from inside. I realised that it had been blown by a strong wind sideways into the window and so had avoided more serious hurt.

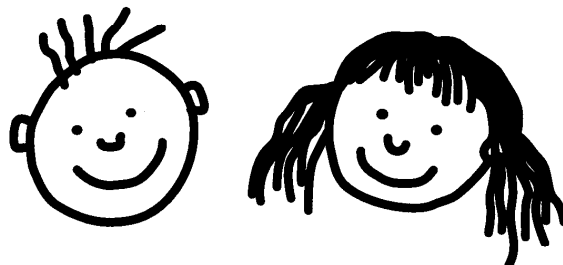
It was clearly puzzled about what to do next in the wind. After about five minutes it spotted the Hyperican shrub close by and betook itself into its base. Later I went out to see if I could see it, but it had gone.

As I had held it and stroked it I had once more marvelled at the wonder of its plumage. This was a small young bird but already had its full colours. Every minute feather had its place in the patterns in pink, white blue, black, grey. What a Creator who had envisioned such beauty and put a warm living body inside it!

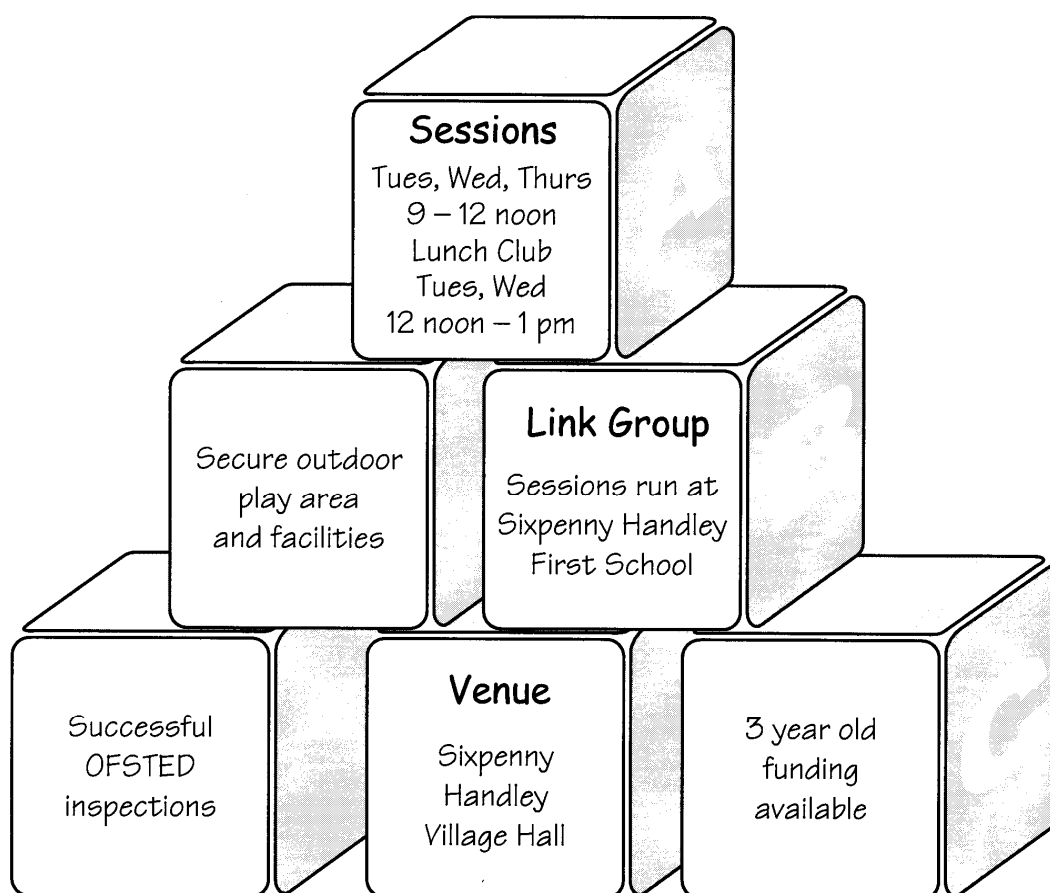
I got back in my chair, filled with joy at the beauty and the happy ending. I realised that, yes, I was old, but, yes, I could still hold a frightened bird in my hand and help it back to life. I could still be moved by beauty and catch a glimpse of the Creator behind it. SO come on all you "Grandads!"(and Grandmas).We're not done yet! Line up and tell the Government that we're still here and we still count. We don't care about trifles like PIN NUMBERS.

Just give us our money and let us get on with this business of living
Marie Sanders

The Chase Nursery



We aim to provide a safe happy caring environment where children of 2 years 9 months - 5 years of age may flourish



“A welcoming setting with cheerful, confident children all enjoying a good range of activities”

Early Years Advisory Teacher 28/1/2003

Pre-school Learning Alliance member 3780
Registered Charity no. 1033941

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Nursery Leader: Mary Best01725 552390

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

BAFSD FUNDRAISING IN 2002

The charity trustees appointed a fundraising committee to help raise funds for our first project to help Clive Frampton and his family.

In our first full year of fundraising over £28,000 has been raised. This remarkable achievement has been entirely due to the sterling efforts of the fundraising committee and the generosity and support of village residents, mainly in Chalke Valley West and Sixpenny Handley.

The money has been put to good use for the purchase of essential equipment and to help conduct important alterations to the interior and exterior of Clive and Jane Frampton's home in Bowerchalke.

The charity will continue to accept donations to help with necessary maintenance of equipment for Clive. The trustees are able to consider any future request for support within the objects of the charity.

BAFSD's annual return to The Charity Commission will be posted by May 31st 2003, copies of the accounts will be available for inspection in the Bowerchalke and Broad Chalke village post offices on request.

From all the trustees our grateful thanks for your wonderful support.

Contacts: Chairman Austen McRoberts 01722 780031; Treasurer Ray Collins 01722 780357; Secretary David Floyd 01722 780639.

Charity Commission www.charitycommission.gov.uk

We would like to say thank you to everyone for their generosity, and especially the members of the BAFSD and all those who have been involved with fundraising.
Clive & Jane Frampton

ROB'S COLUMN

In sun and showers luxuriant may come forth
 And spread her riches as of nothing worth.
 Cowslips and daisies, buttercups and crowds
 Without a name as if they dropt from clouds.
 On green and close and meadows everywhere,
 So thick, the green did almost disappear
 To gold and silver hues, and blooms did vie
 With the rich grass luxuriant mastery

The simple shepherd in his early hour
 With almost every footstep crushed a flower
 The winds did all they could, though oft in vain
 To raise and form them on their stalks again
 Yet some were crushed so much they could not rise,
 Finding in poets heart a room for sighs,
 And those his dog beat down did hardly mind,
 But formed again as happy as the wind,
 Leaving a lesson sad with every day
 That harm fall most in man's destroying way
 And who could think in such a lovely time
 And such a spot where quiet seemed in prime
 As ne'er to be disturbed, That strife and fear,
 Like crouching tigers had howled havoc here?

OVER 40'S JOKES

My Doctor said I look like a million dollars –*Green and wrinkled*

Middle age is when you would do anything to feel better except give up whats hurting you.

Middle age is when your clothes no longer fit and it's you that needs the alterations.

PUZZLES

What is twice two thirds of three quarters of ten?

In what sport do all the players except one move backwards?

Is there anything from which you can take away the whole and still have some left?

Sixpenny Handley Summer Flower Show on August 16th.

Attractions include Crazy Golf, Archery, Fun Dog Show and a variety of stalls and side shows. The show schedules are now available from PO Stores Handley or by telephoning Carole North ~ 01725 552955. No offer of help on show day will be

YOGA AT THE VILLAGE HALL

There is an excellent Adult Education Yoga Class at the Village Hall every Thursday at 1.15 pm. The class is suitable for all ages and abilities, so do come along and give it a try.

A Sixpenny Handley Web Page and Email Directory

The last issue of the Downsman included an invitation to "Join the push for Broadband". I wonder how many people in Sixpenny Handley actually took the trouble to support the petition (www.broadband4britain.co.uk/heroes/cranbornechase).

Last year, it was suggested that we should try to compile an e-mail directory of people in the community who can be contacted through the internet. Sadly, there was not enough response to make it worthwhile.

But let's not give up that easily.

A new Website for the Sixpenny Handley parishes is being launched. The idea is to enable members of the community to promote local organisations and events on the internet. There will also be a bulletin board where services and items for sale can be advertised free of charge.

More than half the families living in the community must already subscribe to the internet and therefore have e-mail addresses. We all use the telephone directory from time to time, so why not something similar for local e-mail addresses? So there will also be an Email directory.

Perhaps some people are worried about security or cannot see the benefits. So let's answer those questions.

Firstly, security. The Email directory will be password protected. The password will be changed regularly and sent electronically only to those people who have submitted an entry to the Email directory. Access will therefore be restricted, which will mean that there will be little or no security risk. Subscribers (it would be a completely free service) would have the option of either including or excluding their snail-mail address and telephone number from the e-directory, but they would be required to provide those details to the system administrator for security screening. Email addresses will not be used for any unauthorised purposes or shared with anyone who does not have the password.

Secondly, the benefits. An Email directory could be used for many different things. Obviously, person-to-person communication would be the primary purpose. But an e-directory would also allow groups of people with common interests to keep in touch. It could help organisers of village activities to manage them better. It would enable suitably registered local committees to publish events like the Flower Show, and keep subscribers up-to-date with latest developments. It would enable a much quicker distribution of local information about things like planning applications, the closure of the B3081, power cuts, Neighbourhood Watch alerts, or "help wanted" for the Chase Community Friends. It could enable local businesses to advertise special offers. And, without wanting to sound dramatic, it would even provide a basic network for local co-ordination in these times of terrorist threats, even in a rural community like ours. Remember the Scout motto: Be prepared!

So, if you are interested, why not visit the website www.sixpennyhandley.plus.com, and complete the subscription form on line. Alternatively, send an email to mail@sixpennyhandley.plus.com and a form will be sent to you, or complete the coupon on the opposite page and send it by snail mail to: Maple Tree Cottage, Deanland, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5PD.

If you want to advertise a local organisation, or an event, or have anything else which you would like to see included in the Sixpenny Handley WebPages, then email details to web@sixpennyhandley.plus.com.

We will keep you informed of progress in the next edition of the Downsman.

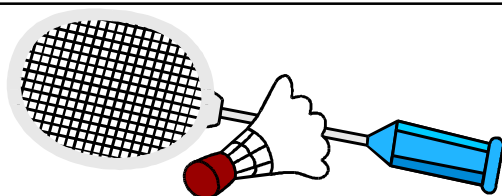
Nick Sherman

(N.B. The Parish Council are not involved in this initiative)

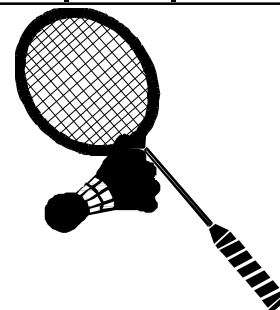
A Sixpenny Handley Web Page and Email Directory
Subscription Form

Mr/Mrs Title	Initials	Name	Address
			Telephone Number
			E-Mail Address

Please indicate which of the following facilities you wish to have :	Yes / No
Include email address in password protected directory	
Include telephone number in directory	
Include postal address in directory	
Permit access by local organisations	
Permit access by local businesses	
Permit access by Parish Council	
Permit access by Parochial Church Council	



**BADMINTON
AT THE
VILLAGE HALL**



We are now up and running on a regular basis on either Thursday or Friday evenings between 7 and 9 pm.

The dates for June & July are as follows:-

Thursday 5th June; Friday 13th June; Thursday 19th June; Friday 27th June;

Thursday 3rd July; Friday 11th July; Thursday 17th July;

Everyone who comes will get several games, mostly doubles, but some singles too. So do come along - everyone from beginners, through rusty, to excellent, is welcome. The cost is £2.50 for an evening session.

For more information phone Ron Wood on 552608 or Ann Tulloch on 552520.



HAPPY NAPPY

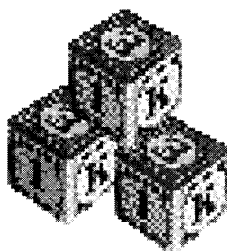


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or

Tel: 01725 516942 – Sarah Lownds for Retreat & Therapies

e-mail – sarpenela@btopenworld.com

Farnham Farm House

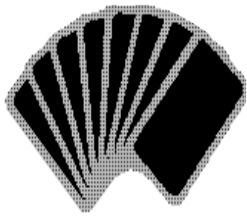
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Whist at The Village Hall

In true championship fashion, Marge Poolman secured her second (and consecutive) whist championship at the Village Hall on Wednesday, May 14, with an excellent score of 175, a total which was only bettered by your correspondent who, following a remarkable evening of good fortune, carded 184. In third place, on the night, came Ivy Coulson (visiting us from Kent)

with 174, piping Doug Haskell by a single point.

Thus, after seventeen highly competitive rounds, Marge ran out a clear victor with an aggregate score of 2733 points, just five points short of her magnificent 2001-2202 championship score of 2738. In second place came her husband, Sam, with 2645 (an increase of eighty over his last season's score, when he finished sixth), followed closely by Bill Chorley on 2644.

The second division title (players who completed sixteen rounds) was taken by Doug whose final round score of 173 ensured him fourth prize for the evening and an aggregate total of 2596. In second place, 32 points adrift, came the 2001-2202 champion, Dora Scammel who, until the last two rounds, had always been in contention to retain her title. A really close fought battle for third place between Chris Haskell and David Green (until the last round David was in the ascendancy by a whisker) was eventually settled in favour of Chris who returned 165 and an aggregate of 2560, eight points clear of David. It is interesting to note that David, who last year finished second in Division Two, had a better overall aggregate in this championship, but had to be content with fourth.

Doris Day won Division Three with 2409 points, twenty-three ahead of Ruby Jacobs who, in turn, was seven points ahead of Arthur Austin. As with the contenders of the second division, the competition in "three" was no less keen, particularly amongst the middle order where changes in order were a feature throughout the championship.

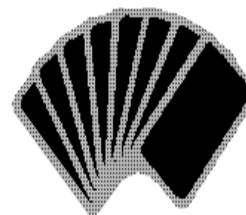
Thus, the final positions read as follows:

Division 1		Division 2		Division 3	
Marge Poolman	2733	Doug Haskell	2596	Doris Day	2409
Sam Poolman	2645	Dora Scammel	2564	Ruby Jacobs	2386
Bill Chorley	2644	Chris Haskell	2560	Arthur Austin	2379
		Davis Green	2552	Ruth Hustings	2363
		Len Diggins	2501	Edie Langley	2359
		Geoff Peach	2447	Doreen Leverton	2354
		Sylvia Day	2407	Wilf Jacobs	2347
				Daisy Noble	2342

As a measure of the high scoring qualities of the various division leaders, Marge averaged 160.7 points per round, Doug was on 162.1 and Doris on 160.6, thus, had Doug played in all seventeen rounds, it seems likely he would have taken the title ahead of Marge, while Doris would have finished in third place.

Finally, it was on the 17th, and final competitive round, that Bill managed to return 184 (still eight short of Peter Braithwaite's 192 posted in the 2001-2002 series), thus securing the overall highest score for the championship. This score was only achieved by the excellence of his partners; noteworthy being Doris Day, with whom he opened his evening with an eleven; Dora Scammel (whose 182 had held good since round eight) with twenty-four netted over three hands; Ivy Coulson with two scores of eleven in the six hands shared together; Sylvia Day and Marge Poolman, who joined him the last few hands.

Bill Chorley



Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Local crime figures for the first quarter of the year were well down on 2002, which is excellent news. No consolation, however, for those unfortunate few in the Parish who have suffered thefts from vehicles, and damage- albeit relatively minor- to private property. We are lucky in Handley. Compared to other villages within 15 miles, our recorded crime rate is less than one tenth. Perhaps we owe that to everyone's vigilance and to our relatively close-knit community.

The village Homewatch co-ordinators were dismayed to learn in April that our excellent Detached Beat Officer, Fen Luckham, has been promoted to other duties. This is good news for Fen, however, so we wish her good luck and look forward to meeting her replacement.

Dorset Police have warned us all to watch out for Credit Card frauds of all types. There are new security measures in the pipeline but with increasing Internet sales, there has been a worldwide increase in crime of this type. Look after your the cards themselves and be very careful that the numbers are only divulged to reputable businesses and over secure internet connections.

Other, less professional scams currently operating in Dorset include, believe it or not, a clairvoyant who will sell you the winning lottery number for £13.

More serious is a con trick whereby people receive a phone call at work, purporting to be from the Post Office and asking them to confirm their home postcode and address. Their home then gets burgled soon after during office hours, when they are assumed to be at work.

Another nasty one begins when you get a phone call from a 'telephone engineer testing the line'. You are asked to dial 90 and the hash key and then hang up. This actually gives the caller full access to your phone line, to make costly international calls at your expense! Do not press 90# for anyone.

Remember that the summer brings the usual influx of visitors to our area, a few of them ill-intentioned. Beware of anyone trying to get into your home by asking for a drink, to use the loo, etc. etc or pretending to be an official of some sort. The rule is simple: if they are not expected - do not let them in.

The replacement Homewatch signs are now all in position around the Parish

Finally, the Police Caravan is next in the High Street on Saturday 21 June. They will be delighted to meet you for a chat about any aspect of crime prevention. Give them a cheery wave. If they like coming they may come



100 Club Winners – March

1st Julie Richardson - 20 2nd R Jermyn - 107 3rd Mrs Johnson – 13

100 Club Winners – April

1st Mrs Berry - 128 2nd Mrs Parker - 17 3rd Flower Club - 66

If anyone would like to join the Club or know more about it, please contact
Carole North on 07125 552955

SIXPENNY HANDLEY SPRING FLOWER SHOW 2003

12th APRIL 2003

A big **THANKYOU** to everyone who helped, exhibited or just came along on the afternoon, from the Spring Flower Show committee. The Village Hall was a riot of spring flowers, stunning flower arrangements and a feast of delectable cookery. If you

Village Hall News

AGM

Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting of Sixpenny Handley Village Hall Management Committee, held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 29th April 2003

The following organisations were represented:

WI	Win Judd	CCF	Alec Hunt
Flower Arranging	Maggie Staplehurst	Bowls Club	Gordon Oxford
Happy Nappy	K Slade	Chase Nursery	Gill Hutchins, J Lloyd
Flower Show	Denis North	100 Club	Carole North

The following officials were present:

Joint Chairman	Rob Jesse
Joint Chairman	Pam Wood
Caretaker	Julie Richardson
Secretary	Tony Henderson
Executive Committee	Ian Davies
	Steve Pharo

There was one member of the public present

1. Apologies were received from Roger Watkins, Carole Wyatt, Stella Symes, Jenny Whaddon and Ian Geddes.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th April 2002 were approved and signed as a correct record.

3. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

4. Financial Report

Rob Jesse asked that the minutes record his appreciation for the work carried out by the Treasurer over the past year, and the committee's wishes for a speedy recovery from his recent illness. The Secretary was asked to write and thank Alan Oxer for auditing the accounts.

The Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet were then distributed for inspection. Pam Wood highlighted the fact that income from fees alone did not quite cover normal running expenses, and that fund raising of one kind or another was required to ensure funds were available to carry out improvements and major repairs.

Gordon Oxford asked why, if the loss on the telephone was so large, the telephone could not be dispensed with. Rob Jesse replied that there were times when we were legally required to have a phone, and it was a good idea to have one for minor emergencies etc. The loss would not be so great if users were to put the appropriate amount in the honesty box, and all organisations were asked to remind their members to pay for any calls that were made.

It was proposed by Denis North, seconded by Alec Hunt and unanimously resolved that the accounts as presented should be accepted.

Rob Jesse thanked Denis and Carole North for their work in running the 100 Club, which is

an important source of income for the village hall.

5. Election of Committee Officials

It was proposed by Steve Pharo, seconded by Denis North and unanimously resolved that Rob Jesse and Pam Wood be re-elected Joint Chairmen.

Both the Treasurer and the Secretary had indicated their willingness to continue, and as there were no other volunteers they were unanimously re-elected.

Both Ian Davies and Steve Pharo had indicated their willingness to continue on the Executive Committee, and as there were no other volunteers they were unanimously re-elected.

Responsibility within the Executive Committee would continue as follows:

Fund Raising Events Rob Jesse & Julie Richardson

Grant Application Pam Wood & Roger Watkins

Maintenance Ian Davies & Steve Pharo

6. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8pm

Other News

I am afraid that hire charges have had to go up by 5% for the financial year 2003-04 to cover rising costs.

The Youth Club are unable to get enough helpers to restart the club so they have decided to close it down.

Heating Boiler

We have received numerous estimates and the Management Committee have decided that both boilers need replacing and the order had been put in, so hopefully they will be installed by the winter. (The Hall Fund has received extra funding for the boilers)

Fund Raising

Jumble Sale – Raised over £400 - many thanks to all the helpers who gave their time and effort.

Flower Show – 12th April - A very small profit of £15 was made – again thanks for the support and Julie's hard work. (Every little bit of money helps)

Events for the Future

The Hall Committee propose to hold a Fun Run of 1-2 miles or 4-5 miles, on the evening of the August Flower Show. Entry Forms and more details in the next Downsman. (If interested contact Rob)

Also after the Flower Show and Run there will be a BBQ with a folk band from Wimborne playing for the rest of the night. Tickets and information etc to follow. Watch for posters. If you can offer any help on the day please contact a Committee Member.

In addition the following events are being investigated

Music Quiz in September – by Chase Nursery.

Children's Halloween Party by Julie,

Horse Racing by Chase Community Friends.

It is intended to run a Xmas Draw again with some special event needed for the draw night.

A Pantomime has been booked for January 2004.

Rob

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Quiz Night Sunday 8.00pm

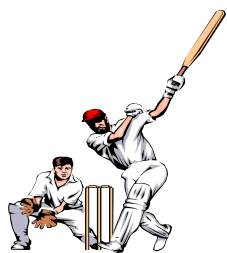


Pool Team/

Real Ales

Darts Team

Large sunny beer garden



SIXPENNY HANDLEY CRICKET CLUB **THE START OF A NEW SEASON**

The lovely weather in April promised a fine start to the cricket season, but such are the vagaries of this country's weather that a drop of twelve degrees in the temperature welcomed the friendly cricketers to their first match of the season.

On a miserable, dull Sunday, Sixpenny Handley went out onto the Recreation Ground to battle against Dewlish, in a match originally listed to be played away. Handley won the toss and decided to bat, but a shock was in store at the very first ball. The normally reliable stalwart of each Handley innings, Andy Wright, received a ball which stayed low – not an unusual occurrence on this wicket – and took away his middle and off stumps. Handley's innings was then steadied by the careful batting of the other opener, Simon Ellingham. With the wind starting to strengthen, Handley settled into a fairly constant scoring rate. Simon was eventually out, and Dan Newman and Clive Spendley stayed at the wicket until the end of the innings. By the time tea was taken and Dewlish's innings had started, a fine drizzle had begun, but undaunted by the damp conditions, which created problems for both bowlers and fielders alike, Handley won the match by holding Dewlish to a lower score.

The second match of the season was cancelled because the opposition failed to turn up, but the third match against Breamore provided some excellent cricket in spite of the cold conditions.

Breamore batted first and reached 189 in the allotted 40 overs. Their opening batsman scored 102 of these runs and retired to allow the younger players a chance to bat. In reply Handley started well with the openers providing a good first wicket partnership. Andy Wright was eventually out and he was soon followed by Adam Fradgley and Martin Green who both made reasonable contributions. But the backbone of the innings was provided by opener Trevor Edwards who carried his bat - making a century in the process. And with a sparkling display of batting from Tom Blacklock, returning to the team this year. Handley soon overhauled Breamore's total with overs to spare.

GARDENING CLUB

Garden Visits in June and July – non-members welcome

Two speakers who gave the Club most inspiring and helpful talks earlier in the year will be opening their gardens especially for us; they normally only open for the National Gardens Scheme.

Thurs. 26th June - Toad Hall, Shillingstone, nr Blandford. One acre plantsman's country garden with several different growing habitats, and different styled areas including Italian, rockery, water, decking, vegetable and wild.

Thurs 31st July -The Scented Garden, Littlebredy, Dorchester. Lovingly restored one-acre walled Victorian garden in tranquil setting. Colour themed beds and borders which contain many unusual plants. National collection of lavenders. Featured in *Gardens Monthly* in 2002.

On both occasions we are to meet at the garden at 6.30pm for a 6.45pm start.

For further details, please telephone Hilaire Walden, 01725 5522634

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Sixpenny Handley First School News



During our topic of 'Journeys' in the Spring term the children learnt to appreciate different cultures and discovered so much about the world from videos, books and many other sources. These included a visiting storyteller from Australia as well as local head teachers who lived and worked in Africa last summer and came to share their experiences and artefacts with us. Class 2 loved their visit from Aki who talked to them about living and growing up in Japan.

In addition, a member of our school staff visited family in Ecuador and brought back wonderful materials, photographs and everyday items which we sketched and enjoyed trying on!



We feel as if we have 'visited' many continents during our far-reaching project. This topic has certainly opened our eyes to the wider world - we might be fortunate enough to visit some of these places one day, perhaps, endowed with a little more understanding and sensitivity.

As a stimulating finale to this busy term, we released nearly two hundred helium-filled balloons. We have been excitedly awaiting news of our biodegradable balloons as the labels are returned from, hopefully, distant places. There are prizes to be won for the longest distance travelled by a balloon, just to add to our anticipation!

The Dorchester and Weymouth area has been the final destination of about a

dozen of our balloons to date so we can judge which way the wind was blowing when we released our great cloud of brightly coloured balloons into the Spring sunshine amidst great excitement back in early April.

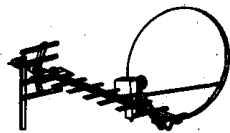


The quiz night in school on Friday 16th May was a great success with more teams than ever vying to prove their superior knowledge of obscure facts and trivia! Ron Wood, our quizmaster, once again came up with an amazing array of questions to tantalise us all during the evening. It was good fun and also raised over £240 for the school funds. This is a popular annual event so do try to come along and join us next year.

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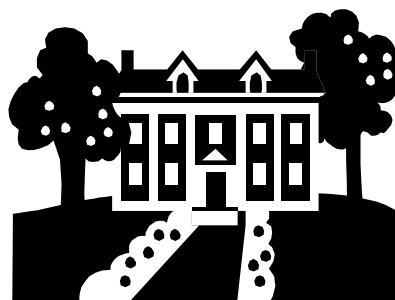
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£10	No. 30	Mr N.J. Adams, Victory Tours, Sixpenny Handley
£10	No. 33	Mrs M. Harris, 3 Manor Farm Cotts, Gussage St. Michael.
£10	No.185	Simon Wallworth, Sixpenny Handley

Draw Number Six

£20	No. 139	Gwen Watkins, 11 St. Mary's Court. S. Handley
£10	No. 114	Mr G.A. Burke, 1 Littlefield Lane, S. Handley
£10	No. 51	Mr. Stuart Haskell, 7 Common Road, S. Handley
£10	No. 34	Mr. Graham Ortt.

Thank You

Goddard

Ena, Derry and family would like to say a big thank you to all family and friends for the lovely cards and messages, received at a very sad time, also for donations to the Salisbury Hospice.

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone at the Surgery and so many friends and neighbours, for the kindness, sympathy and support during and since Nancie's recent illness.

This meant a very great deal to Nancie, and has been of comfort to me since her death.

Thank-you all. Robin Raban-Williams.

Extracts from The Garden.

The Impacts of Climate Change on Gardens in the UK.

Some of the best loved features of UK gardens are under threat as a result of the impact of climate change, according to a recently published report commissioned by the National Trust and Royal Horticultural Society, in partnership with the UK Climate Impacts Programme. Climate change will affect millions of domestic gardens in the UK and could ultimately threaten the long-term survival of some historic public gardens and parks and their plant collections.

Within the next 50 to 80 years, the quintessential "English country garden" and the great British lawn could become increasingly difficult and costly to maintain, and some traditional garden features may have to be replaced by new ones, more suited to changing conditions.

The study has been commissioned at a time when the vulnerability of gardens to the vagaries of the weather is becoming increasingly apparent. The impact of climate change is likely to lead to: more reduced frosts; earlier springs; higher average temperatures all year round; increased winter rainfall, leading to more flooding; hotter drier summers, increasing the risk of drought.

Annual Rainfall Levels Soar.

A total of 14 percent more rainfall than the long-term average was experienced in the UK in 2002, according to the Met Office. In the South East of England rainfall was 32 percent higher than normal, compared with 20 percent in the North of England and 18 percent in South West England and South Wales.

The RHS Gardening Advice Service received more enquiries about waterlogged soil than any other subject last year, especially in late spring and early summer. Most of the enquiries related to waterlogged lawns and plants dying in spring as the soil dried out.

Chris Prior, Head of RHS Plant Pest and Disease Science, said: 'Waterlogging deprives roots of oxygen. When soil is cold the roots are dormant and waterlogging has little effect, but if the soil is warm enough for the roots to grow actively, a lack of oxygen can kill them.

Later autumns and earlier springs are extending the growing season for plant roots into the wetter winter months, making damage more likely. Following the wet winter of 2000-01, some trees failed to produce leaves in spring because the roots were dead. Others had sufficient vigour to produce leaves, but the weakened roots could not cope with water stress in the first hot days of summer, and the trees either expired suddenly or lingered on in a weakened state and died in 2002.'

Chris predicts that this pattern of waterlogging is likely to continue. Other problems include the leaching of nutrients and damage to the soil structure, said RHS Soil Scientist Paul Alexander. 'There is also an increased incidence of water-tolerant weeds, such as sedges and rushes, and diseases favoured by wet conditions, such as phytophthora,' he said.

Bluebell Survey.

Bluebells for Britain is a national survey, organised this spring by Plantlife and the Botanical Society of the British Isles, and supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The survey aims to discover how native *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* (bluebell) has been affected by hybridisation with the introduced *H. hispanica* (Spanish bluebell), which is widely grown in gardens.

Up to half the world's bluebell population can be found in the UK, thriving in areas of deciduous woodland, but bluebells are now under threat globally.

Ian Davies



Supported by Dorset County Council Social Services Committee.
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.
- 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.

CCF interest groups include Book & Music Groups

For any information concerning Chase Community Friends,

Please contact CCF co-ordinator, on 01725 552097.

We are always looking for new volunteer drivers in all areas
that the CCF covers - please phone to find out more.

Will people who want to use the volunteer car drivers
please give as much notice as possible

WEDNESDAY CLUB PROGRAMME

June & July

11th June	Thorngrove Garden Centre - Container Gardening.
25th June	Mrs Mary Tuck - "Project in India with Slum Children".
9th July	Mr Bill Chorley - "Round the World Cruise - Part II".
23rd July	"David Barnes entertains".

SUMMER BREAK

Start again 17th September

RUNNING THE LONDON MARATHON



Every year in mid-April, I would watch some of the 30,000 people giving-their-all in the London Marathon from the comfort of my armchair; and dream of being there myself. 26.2 miles is a very long way - the equivalent of running to Salisbury and back in just a few hours - but if they could do it, then I was sure I could too. The subject was raised last summer, and Dave (to my surprise) said he would like to do it too.

We decided to run for a locally based charity called Round Table Children's Wish. Although based in Bournemouth, it operates throughout the country. Round Table Children's Wish grants final wishes to terminally ill children when medical science has done its utmost, and all hope of recovery has gone. Each wish, truly the child's own, is fulfilled while the child is healthy enough to fully enjoy it, so that the child and the immediate members of the family share the experience and have happy memories to last them forever.

Our places were confirmed at Christmas, and on April 13th 2003 we were lined up with 32,742 other people ready to run. I have never felt both nerves and excitement like it - the whole area was buzzing with people, the noise incredible. Our thoughts turned to "can we really do this?" Having never run the full 26.2 mile distance in training, it was suddenly quite a daunting thought. However, we always said we would do it - even if we had to crawl, but it would be good to finish on 2 feet!!

Thankfully there was very little waiting, and soon we were off. The nerves subsided and were replaced by excitement and enjoyment of actually competing. We had our names on our running tops, and right from the very start people were shouting "Come on Dave and Steph". We were continually looking at first to see if we could recognise anyone, as we thought that they must actually know us - but no. The hundreds of thousands of people who lined the route were all calling out as many names as possible to encourage us all on and keep us going. It was quite the most incredible and wonderful situation, and certainly boosted us along our way. We gained inspiration too from some of the amazing costumes. We were running alongside two Rhino's, and the Wombles were not far away. These people were running at the same pace as us, yet being weighed down with heavy and hot outfits. Later on in the race, we passed a team of people carrying a lifeboat (we had covered 21 miles by this stage, and they were on the other side of the road approaching 14 miles).

At the Cutty Sark (having run only 7 miles), news filtered through that Paula Radcliffe had broken the world record. It felt quite special to be running in the same race as her, but quite daunting that we had only covered 7, miles when she had done 26!! (She did start 45 minutes before than us though!)

The first 18 to 19 miles were fine, but then came "The Wall" as it is called. We did not "hit" it as some people say they do, but we gradually ran into it - the pain in our legs grew and grew, and all our bounce disappeared. As each foot touched down our bodies just shuddered rather than sprang! To cap it all, the cobbles around the Tower of London, which the

marathon is renown for, arose at 22 - 23 miles (just when we least wanted them).

At Big Ben the noise level raised again - under a mile to the finish, and our minds took over. We rounded the corner at Buckingham Palace onto The Mall and the view of the finish line greeted us. The adrenaline sent our legs into overdrive for our final dash for the line. Eventually, after 4 hours 58 minutes of pounding the London streets, we completed our ambition. Our minds were suddenly on Cloud 9, tears of joy and relief welling up; but our bodies and legs could hardly hold us up - a mix of complete physical exhaustion and emotional exultation.

I remember thanking the lady who gave us our medals over and over again. She probably thought I was a little mad, but I was just so thankful that we had successfully completed an ambition of a lifetime. We had set our hearts on getting around, and at last we had triumphed.

We wish to say a huge "Thank you" to everyone who contributed so very generously to RTCW, especially those who we have not thanked individually, (who sponsored us at John Clarke's and Peter and Joy Stainer's). It really has meant such a lot to the charity, and was a huge boost to keep us running on the day. We had tremendous support from family and friends, both in London, and from armchairs in Dorset!! For this we are really grateful.

We have now raised over £4500 for Round Table Children's Wish, which is totally amazing. It is so very much more than we had ever imagined, hoped or expected to raise. It will certainly help to give some very deserving terminally ill children and their immediate families a "wish" for them to remember and cherish.

Running the London Marathon was absolutely brilliant. We feel that a second journey to the same place could not possibly bring that same jubilation and satisfaction; and also the commitment to train, especially as we have young children, is very time consuming - but certainly worth it once!

For those of you who are reading this and think that one day you would like to run it (or wish you had a few years ago!), here are some facts:

- Paula Radcliffe's world record time was 2:15:25 (almost exactly the same time as it took us to get halfway around!)
- Of the 32,742 competitors, 32,563 finished.
- The oldest male competitor was 93, the oldest female was 85.
- The last person to finish on the day of the race, finished in 8 hours 33 minutes.
- **IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO HAVE A GO!**

David and Stephanie Chick



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Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

We had a lovely couple of hours on our Open Day at the end of April – but when we stopped for tea the weather decided to change and unfortunately the rain stopped play continuing after tea.

It was really nice to see so many visitors come and have a try too – please come again, contact me on 55297 if you want to know when we will be on the green next. If you didn't manage to come on the 27th April but you are interested, again give me a ring.

Our 'A' team in the Blackmore Vale League has had another success, because the top team of Division 1 came from Somerset and the Dorset Short Mat Bowls Association had invited the Blackmore Vale League to take part in their President's Cup (but the team had to be from Dorset), we were asked to represent them. The three short mat leagues in Dorset took part and our team won! We were very pleased because last year our league came third out of three!

We have played our first two matches in the outdoor mixed Triples League – one against Tisbury at home and the other against Downton away (each match gave us 12 points out of a possible 14), so this is a really good start – our next one is home against Salisbury Victoria Park on Tuesday 27th May, we will be hoping to continue this run.

However, our friendly matches have not been so successful – we have played three and lost two. Cranborne (Away) – lost; Verwood (Home) – won; Lyndhurst (Home) –lost.

On 21st June, we are hosting the Mixed Triples League Gala Day, when players from 8 clubs will be taking part to win a trophy. It starts at 10.30 am and will go on for the whole of the day. Spectators are welcome. Please let us have a nice sunny day!

Don't forget to give me a ring if you want to come up to the bowling green and have a go.

Gill Martin

Local Craftsman supports the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance Can you help with sponsorship?

Local craftsman Dick Pettis is building a Shepherd's Hut to be raffled at The Great Dorset Steam Fair in August in aid of the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance (Registered Charity 1078685).

Assisted in the organisation of the project by Nora Churchill, Dick is looking for sponsorship to cover the cost of materials, giving his time and skills free of charge.



All monies received in excess of that required for materials will be donated to the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance Service.

If you are willing to help out then contact Liz Coombs at the Post Office shop who is managing the book of sponsors and donations for materials.

You can also support the project by buying raffle tickets at the Steam Fair – even if your garden is too small there is a cash alternative of £500, with additional prizes supplied by Dorset

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Saturday 21st June

At The Manor

2pm

Skittles; stalls

grand draw

cream teas

face painting

childrens play area

Shaftesbury Town Band

and lots lots more

(more details contact
Louise on 01747 828878)

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Parish Council

Parish Office	Opening Hours:	Phone – 552211/552279
Unit 5B	Tuesday 10am – 12am	Email - office@sixpennyhandley.org
Town Farm Workshops	Thursday 6pm – 7:30pm	

The following applications have recently been examined by the Council

If you would like to know more about any of these applications call into the parish office.

Patel, Yewtree Garage Erection of advertising sign	Meaden. Myncen Farm Archeological Study Centre
Cooper 1 High Street Erect 2m Board Fence	Tilbury, 11 Sycamore Close Addition of a conservatory
Judd, Church Farm Erection of four dwellings	

Please note change of opening hours from Friday morning to Thursday evening

Best Kept Village

The Parish Council has entered both Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge in the
Dorset Best Kept Village Competition.

Do your bit to help keep the village clean and tidy.

Please do not throw your litter in the road.

If you put up a notice anywhere, please remember to take it down after the event.

Our villages have done well in previous years,
but with a bit of effort and care –

	East Dorset Community Police Van	
The Community Police Van will visit Sixpenny Handley on the following Saturdays:- June 21st, July 19th, Aug 16th, Sep 13th, Oct 11th		

The Sixpenny Handley Summer Flower Show on August 16th is supporting the Salisbury District Hospital ACE OF HEARTS APPEAL for a new cardiac unit.	 
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A Night on the Town, away from Woodcuts

It wasn't exactly a world tour, but it did mean venturing out in the evening. The venue was not far away, in fact, it was to the north of Sixpenny Handley, the village school, where a quiz night was to be held. By 7.30 p.m., a room, usually occupied by four to six year old children, was packed with grown ups, and I use these terms wisely. Tables and chairs intended for the use of infants do not lend themselves easily to grown-ups of both sexes, old and young alike and of various shapes and sizes. Despite the fact that it was an extremely enjoyable evening, I can't help wondering what the more regular occupants of those seats would have thought, seeing adults sitting in their chairs being examined by Ron Wood, the vicar, while eating fish and chips washed down by a variety of coloured liquids.

Despite being assured by the Rev. Ron before the quiz started, "You'll be alright Ted" I managed to prove him wrong. I'm afraid I can't remember the last time I watched a film on television, or when I last went to the cinema, probably nearly fifty years ago, to see "The Ascent of Everest". Maybe this is an exaggeration, but not much of one. As for pop songs, pop groups and pop stars, my education is completely lacking, come to that, I'm not sure I did very well on the other questions either. After the quiz I did have a chance to add my name to the roll for the new Reception Class, starting in September 2003. I just hope that when the others have their lunches, I will be able to have fish and chips and a bottle of red wine.

At least I'm computer literate now, mind you I've been able to spell it for quite a while, I just wish I knew how to use it, In case you are wondering why there is a gap above this paragraph, the silly thing started to type in italics, then I had to phone someone to find out how to correct it. The thing is, it is essential to be entirely dedicated to write for the Downsman, mind you the salary is not worth talking about, but one day possibly the Guardian or the Womans Own will recognise my talents.

In the meantime I must tell you what has been, (sorry about the delay, but I am now using two hands and 'must' developed 9 's' and what 3 't', sorry I can't put single letters in the plural.) happening in the area of Woodcuts.

Last time I wrote, the war in Iraq was menacing, but thank God that is mostly over now and many other things have happened to cheer us up. The cuckoo is here, first heard in this area at 4.20 a.m. on 8th May, In fact it has always been early in the morning that I have subsequently heard him. Two months ago I was recording the appearance of butterflies, including, Brimstone, Small Tortoiseshell, Orange Tip, Peacock, Large White, Small and Holly Blue, Small White ,Spotted Wood and just one Comma.

Since that time there has been little sign of butterflies because of a drop in temperature, this has been as much as 10 degrees centigrade; high winds (not necessarily the seasonal south westerlys); rain either as heavy showers or more persistent bouts with even the odd ground frost thrown in.

What ever is growing or not growing, there can be no doubt about grass. The last few weeks have seen it come along in leaps and bounds, in fact anyone travelling up across the common regularly, will have seen a silage cut already taken and safely ensiled to feed the cows next winter. How times change? It is only a few years ago, fifteen to twenty at the most, that a farmer who started in the first week of June to make his silage, was considered progressive and if he started in May he was truly exceptional. Now we have a local farmer who starts in the first week of May.

Obviously technology has moved on in the agricultural world, new grass varieties grown, new machinery which is more efficient, new fertilisers and fertiliser recommendations but it is still the individual farmer who has to put it all together to suit his conditions. He is still at the mercy of the weather, breakdowns of machinery, labour and or contractor upsets as well as personal problems, such as illness. He can't ring in sick, he has no one covering for him and cows still have to be milked, calved, fed and tended to. If he has young stock, pigs, sheep, chicken or any other type of livestock there is no lying in bed for him on a Sunday, so he badly needs an uplift occasionally.

Any type of animal kept for the benefit of mankind, whether as a pet or as a producer of milk, meat, wool or eggs deserves a decent and comfortable lifestyle. It is disconcerting to say the least, to hear of youths locally, ill treating free range chickens, chickens which if housed permanently would never see daylight. Simply because these harmless and helpless birds are free to roam, some element of village life believe it has the right to maim and kill them. It is despicable; perhaps we should erect stocks in the village so that these people could in fact have some of their own medicine.

It would be wrong to end on this sad note, so may I return to the subject of the village school. How lucky the village is to have such an organisation. The teachers, the governors, the parents, the helpers and of course the children have a lot to be proud of. In case anyone should wonder why I am so enthusiastic, I have two grandchildren at the school and I believe the proof of the pudding is in the eating. God bless you, and thank you for reading to the end.



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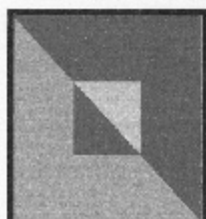
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STRESS AT WORK

Whether, as a direct response to external stimuli or as a conscious creative act, our evolution has depended on effectiveness and inventiveness. Work, in the modern society seems synonymous with survival, our work-space has been dramatically reduced, we are forced to work in unnatural surroundings and placed in artificially lit, poorly ventilated and cramped surroundings, often our work place is polluted and little opportunity for exercise. Many people see themselves as merely a cog in a wheel which will continue without them. There may be high levels of noise and risk, bright lights, social interaction may be poor and so, loneliness and boredom set in. Add to these the lure of status and power, and pressures to succeed and you have a set of conditions that will exacerbate your stress levels and eventually have disastrous effects on your health.

The effects of stress in the workplace are well documented. Stress can cause the straightforward symptoms of the 'fight and flight' response, general strain and tension or more serious problems such as high blood pressure, migraines, eating disorders, palpitations, anxiety attacks, insomnia, depression, ulcers and many more. The links between stress and cardio-vascular disease are especially well documented. The long-term effects of stress on the immune system are certain to be devastating. Stress is defined as a person's inability to adapt naturally to a given situation- this situation may vary tremendously from one person to another. You may experience a sudden change of emotions, become edgy, erratic, irritable, or unpredictable in your behaviour, relationships may become difficult, libido may be reduced, and you may experience feelings of tension and find it difficult to relax. Eating and sleeping patterns may become erratic and feelings of dizziness or anger may manifest. These are all signs of stress-response, your body responds by releasing adrenal hormones which prepare us for 'fight or flight', a natural response that we have inherited from our cavemen ancestors to protect us from danger. This is a healthy response, but prolonged stress causes the continued release of cortico-steroids, the stress hormones which suppress the immune system causing reduced resistance to illness. It is possible that immune deficient diseases such as ME could be better understood in this light.

Physical and psychological stress are always characterised by increased heart rate, high blood pressure, fast and shallow breathing, muscle tension, sweating, a state of mental arousal and adrenaline flow. All of these, if prolonged, can cause heart and kidney disease, stomach ulcers, ulcerative colitis, menstrual disorders and sterility. Links between stress and mature-onset diabetes have been suggested and connections made between emotional and mental disorders and addictive behavioural problems such as alcoholism, drug dependence, anorexia and bulimia. Allergic conditions such as asthma, arthritis and even cancer are linked to stress, the last two being called 'angry' diseases - anger being a common response to stress. Diet, exercise and environmental factors play a huge role in contributing to stress and a large number of degenerative diseases such as heart disease, still the biggest single killer in western society today.

On a more general level, symptoms such as tiredness, lack of energy and general irritability affect most of us; many of us have become used to this daily reduction on our performance. It is vital to your health to deal with stress and its symptoms in a sensible way by putting problems into perspective, spending time each week relaxing and recharging our batteries, and taking a good measure of active exercise to release stress and tension and help the body to remove toxic conditions caused in the body by stress. Take regular breaks at work, do some simple stretches or relaxation exercises or try some acupressure to help you calm down and certain herbs. Replace tea and coffee with herbal teas (see below) and plenty of pure water to create a healthy state within the body to help you deal with stress better.

Simple exercises you can do at your desk:

- Lift and drop the shoulders slowly while breathing deeply and rhythmically
- Rotate the shoulders, one at a time. Move your head over towards the shoulder, then back upright again. Repeat on the other side. Do this several times
- Reach your right hand over to touch your left shoulder blade and back and squeeze the shoulder. Repeat on the other side.
- Massage the back of the neck with your fingertips for one minute
- Gently knead the back of the skull with the fingertips of both hands

- Slowly slide your fingers across the forehead from the centre to each side.
- Press upwards using the fingers of both hands on the cheekbone area.
- Massage the top of the head with the fingertips of both hands.
- Regulate your breathing by slowly inhaling fully into the chest, then exhale, slowly. Close your eyes, visualise yourself somewhere that you love to be and experience the pleasure of this place. Do this for a few minutes then slowly open your eyes, stretch your legs, arms, and body. Wiggle your toes and fingers and come back to the workplace slowly, feeling energised, calm and de-stressed.

Do these exercises whenever you feel an energy slump coming on.

To support the body in times of stress the adrenal glands need supporting and balancing and the following herbs should be considered. **Borage, Siberian Ginseng, Liquorice, Wild Yam,**

If sleep is difficult to achieve or is cut short by unwanted worries and thoughts a herbal tea including some of the following should be taken at bedtime to help to restore natural and restful sleep patterns and soothe and balance the body so that peace of mind and natural sleep result. **Wild Lettuce, Lemon Balm, Skullcap.**

Also useful in the treatment of stress are herbs that treat the nervous system such as: **Skullcap, Lemon Balm, Mistletoe, Wood Betony, Black Cohosh, Cayenne.**

If stress is causing exhaustion, debility and depression the following nerve reviving herbs may be considered. **Damiana, Oats, Siberian Ginseng, Skullcap, Lavender.**

Where there is depression as a result of stress anti-depressant herbs might be considered **Gotu Kola, Damiana, Lavender, Oats, Rosemary.**

Sometimes just one single herb is all that is needed to relieve certain stress conditions, these include:

Motherwort (capsules or fluid extract) very helpful for women, Motherwort balances the nerves and emotions, and builds vital energy, useful if there are circulatory or heart problems and palpitations.

Lneflowers (tea) a nervine and circulatory relaxant that is beneficial where there is arteriosclerosis, hypertension, nervous tension and raised blood pressure it calms the nerves, reduces high blood pressure and promotes restful sleep. An excellent tea if taken just before bedtime.

St. John's Wort is sedative and soothing and reduces anxiety, tension, irritability and depression. St. John's Wort may not be taken with certain prescribed drugs as it may interfere with their action and may be dangerous in this situation.

Calcium taken as a supplement is very beneficial for stress related conditions as it supports nerve function.

Skullcap is the best nerve tonic and relaxant available for stress relief.

Iridology can accurately pinpoint the organs that are affected and to what degree, Acupressure is very effective in relieving the symptoms of stress and helps to balance the body and emotions by creating a balance within the body helping it to overcome the ill-effects of stress. Chinese massage along particular meridians (channels) on the body is beneficial in balancing stress in the body and helping to remove the stress symptoms and create balance within the body. Gentle finger pressure on certain acupressure points accompanied by deep breaths will be beneficial in times of stress and can relieve muscular tension, stiff neck and shoulder pain. Nutritional Therapy can help alleviate symptoms and reinforce good health.

A Stress Busting Programme unique to you encompassing all or some of the above treatments can be easily devised - for further information contact:

SHEILA RALPH M.H., BSY A(Irid.), BSY A(C.M.A., Ad. C.M.A.), BSY A(N. Th.)

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- For sale: antique desk suitable for lady with thick legs and large drawers.
- Now is your chance to have your ears pierced and get an extra pair to take home, too.
- We do not tear your clothing with machinery. We do it carefully by hand.
- Used Cars: Why go elsewhere to be cheated. Come here first.
- Wanted. Man to take care of cow that does not smoke or drink.

Whats in a Name?

The name Coca-Cola in China was first rendered as Ke-kou-ke-la. Unfortunately, the Coke company did not discover until after thousands of signs had been printed that the phrase means "bite the wax tadpole" or "female horse stuffed with wax" depending on the dialect. Coke then researched 40,000 Chinese characters and found a close phonetic equivalent, "ko-kou-ko-le," which can be loosely translated as "happiness in the mouth."

In Taiwan, the translation of the Pepsi slogan "Come alive with the Pepsi Generation" came out as "Pepsi will bring your ancestors back from the dead."

Also in Chinese, the Kentucky Fried Chicken slogan "finger-lickin' good" came out as "eat your fingers off."

When General Motors introduced the Chevy Nova in South America, it was apparently unaware that "no va" means "it won't go." After the company figured out why it wasn't selling any cars, it renamed the car in its Spanish markets to the Caribe.

Ford had a similar problem in Brazil when the Pinto flopped. The company found out that Pinto was Brazilian slang for "tiny male genitals". Ford prised all the nameplates off and substituted Corcel, which means horse.

When Parker Pen marketed a ballpoint pen in Mexico, its ads were supposed to say "It won't leak in your pocket and embarrass you." However, the company's mistakenly thought the spanish word "embarazar" meant embarrass. Instead the ads said that "It won't leak in your pocket and make you pregnant."

An American T-shirt maker in Miami printed shirts for the spanish market which promoted the Pope's visit. Instead of the desired "I Saw the Pope" in Spanish, the shirts proclaimed "I Saw the Potato."

Chicken-man Frank Perdue's slogan, "It takes a tough man to make a tender chicken," got terribly mangled in another Spanish translation. A photo of Perdue with one of his birds appeared on billboards all over Mexico with a caption that explained "It takes a hard man to make a chicken aroused."

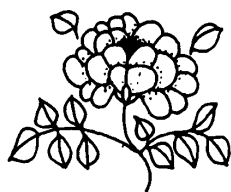
In Italy, a campaign for Schweppes Tonic Water translated the name into Schweppes Toilet Water.

More Bumper Stickers.

- I love work - I could watch it for hours.
- I finally decided I'll never make up my mind.
- I still miss my ex, but my aim is improving.
- He who laughs last thinks slowest.
- I never get lost, someone always tells me where to go.
- I've used up all my sick days. Today I'm calling in dead.
- Support your local rescue workers - get lost.

SIXPENNY HANDLEY GARDENS OPEN

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
28TH AND 29TH JUNE
2 – 5 PM**



**SIXPENNY HANDLEY IS ON THE A354 BETWEEN SALISBURY
AND BLANDFORD FORUM.**

**COME ON A GARDEN SAFARI TO 14 DIFFERENT GARDENS
FROM THE NEWLY PLANTED TO THE PLANTSMAN'S
PARADISE – AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN!**

TOURS OF AWARD WINNING CHURCHYARD

PLANT AND CAKE STALLS

CREAM TEAS

**TICKETS £3 ADULTS - ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN FREE
(NO DOGS IN GARDENS, PLEASE)**

PROCEEDS IN AID OF ST.MARY'S AND ST.ANDREW'S CHURCHES

The Downsman

DON'T FORGET WHATS ON!!!

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Jun-05	Badminton at The Village Hall	17	Jul-03	Chase Community Friends	31
Jun-05	Chase Community Friends	31	Jul-04	School Fun Evening & BBQ	05
Jun-09	W I Meeting	04	Jul-09	Wednesday Club	31
Jun-11	Wednesday Club	31	Jul-10	Chase Community Friends	31
Jun-12	Chase Community Friends	31	Jul-11	Badminton at The Village Hall	17
Jun-13	Badminton at The Village Hall	17	Jul-14	W I Meeting	04
Jun-19	Badminton at The Village Hall	17	Jul-17	Badminton at The Village Hall	17
Jun-19	Chase Community Friends	31	Jul-17	Chase Community Friends	31
Jun-21	Police Community Van Visit	36	Jul-19	Police Community Van Visit	36
Jun-21	Bowls Club League Gala Day	34	Jul-20	Downsman Copy Deadline	03
Jun-25	Wednesday Club	31	Jul-23	Wednesday Club	31
Jun-26	Gardening Club - Garden Visit	25	Jul-24	Chase Community Friends	31
Jun-26	Chase Community Friends	31	Jul-31	Gardening Club - Garden Visit	25
Jun-27	Badminton at The Village Hall	17	Jul-31	Chase Community Friends	31
Jun-	Gardens Open Weekend	43	Aug-16	Summer Flower Show	15
Jul-03	Badminton at The Village Hall	17			