

The Downman

**NEWS AND INFORMATION
MAGAZINE**



**PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY
WITH PENTRIDGE**

April 2005

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

Parish Councillors**Sixpenny Handley**

Chairman

Mrs P.K. Bailey-Wright... 552771
 Mrs E. Miles..... 552768
 Miss E. Waller..... 552305
 Mr. A. H. Gibb..... 552704
 Mr. G. Parker..... 552334
 Mr T Reynolds..... 552995
 Mrs V. Wyer..... 553031

Pentridge

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Dr. Judith Gillespie Smith 552576
 Mr. R. Ferguson..... 552222
 Ian Davies..... 552076
 Tony Henderson..... 552279

Clerk**Assistant Clerk**

Gill Martin..... 552297
 Parish Office..... 552211

Member Parliament Robert Walter.....020 7219 6981

County Councillor

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

District Councillor

Mrs P.K. Bailey-Wright... 552771

Rights of Way Liaison Officers

Sixpenny Handley

Pentridge

Ian Davies..... 552076

The Downsman Team

Editor

Alan Vincent..... 552788

Production

Brian Hansford..... 552468

Advertising

Gill Martin..... 552297

Churches

Church of England

St. Mary's, Sixpenny Handley
 St. Rumbold's, Pentridge
 St. Andrews, Gussage St. Andrew
 552608

Vicarage

Rev. Wendy Griffith... 01258 840557

Curate

Roman Catholic

Church of Our Lady of Lourdes &
 St. Cecilia, Blandford Forum

Priest

Fr. John Rice.....01258 452051

1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Scout Leader

Rob Easton..... 552038

Cub Leader

Esme Isaacs..... 517203

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Drs. Pelly, Nodder & Morgan

Dean Lane Surgery..... 552500

Schools

First School

Handley First School..... 552356

Middle School

Cranborne Middle School 517348

Upper School

Queen Elizabeth's School
 Wimborne..... 01202 885233

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

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Gordon Oxford..... 552591

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Paul Skinner..... 552785

Treasurer

Ian Davies..... 552076

Bookings

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Sixpenny Handley Allotment Holders Association

Chairman

John Curtis..... 552397

Secretary

Mrs S Curtis..... 552397

The Chase Nursery Link Group

Contact

Mary Best..... 552390

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point

John Curtis..... 552397

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Area 1 - Dean Lane

Don Penrose..... 552022

2 - Lower Handley

Vacancy

3 - Upper Handley

John Clarke..... 552674

4 - Deanland & N.E.

Charles Nodder..... 552292

5 - West & South

George Tozer..... 552330

Other Areas (These are separate Homewatch Schemes)

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Roy Elford..... 552296

Woodyates

Roy Warner..... 552665

Police

Blandford Station. 01258 452101

The Chase Nursery

Nursery Leader

Mary Best..... 552390

Secretary

Jane Laing..... 553146

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President

Mrs Jan Gibb..... 552704

Secretary

Mrs H. Eynon..... 552308

Sixpenny Handley Mother's Union

Leader

Jean Mayne..... 552692

Secretary

Mary Macleod 552041

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

President

Patrick Taylor..... 552187

Secretary/Treasurer

Brian Hansford..... 552468

Handley Sports Club

Chairman

Mark Young..... 552741

Secretary

Brian Hansford..... 552468

Team Manager

Mark Young..... 552741

Chase Community Friends

Chairman

Dr. Geddes..... 552395

Secretary

Vic Hatton01258 840671

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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 822818

Happy Nappy Club

Alison Goodfellow..01258830143

Tracey Hartles..... 516212

Christina Reynolds..... 552240

Sixpenny Handley Sports Association

Chairman

Toby Mills..... 552727

Vice Chairman

Tim Reynolds..... 552995

Secretary/Treasurer

Brian Hansford..... 552468

Sixpenny Handley Flower Show

Chairman

Brian Hansford..... 552468

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 June 2005

Copy Deadline is 20th May 2005

A number of articles from past issues of The Downsman have now been loaded onto the internet. These can be found at:

www.thedownsman.org.uk

Apologies

We believe that some of the magazines were wrongly collated for the last issue – Sorry.

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Parish Council

The following planning applications have recently been examined by the Council

1. Butcher, 49-53 High St. Convert existing outbuilding & rear conservatory
2. Harding, 41 High St. Three dormer windows
3. Goodwin, Rushay House, Pentridge. Two Storey Extension
4. Groves, 14 St Mary's Close. Demolish conservatory & build garden room
5. Taylor, Penbury Cottage, Pentridge. Demolish Outbuildings, build garden room & garage
6. Styles, 12 High St. Change of use, shop to dwelling & change window

If you would like to know more about these applications call into the parish office, or contact the clerk.

Mobile Library

The new timetable for the mobile library comes into force from 4th April. The new times of visits can be found on parish council notice boards.

Police Community Support Unit

The Community Support Unit will be visiting Sixpenny Handley at the following times:

Saturday 23rd April – 1000 to 1200

Saturday 21st May – 1000 to 1200

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

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Parish Council Leaflets

The Parish Council has recently received leaflets on the following:

Dorsetforyou.com – The local government web site
Mail Preference Service – How to stop unwanted mail
Green bag & box sorting guide
Dorset Heart Bike Ride

If you would like a copy of any of these please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council

The Council Requires a Clerk to the Council

- q Hours of work are flexible between the Parish Office / home.
- q Attendance at evening meetings essential (2+ per month).
- q Administrative, IT, Basic Accountancy skills advantageous.
- q Monthly salary based on £6 per hour plus any travelling expenses.
- q Ongoing training will be given.
- q The applicant will have the assistance of the current Assistant Parish Clerk.

**Applications, in writing, with up-to-date CV to be made to the
Chairman of the Parish Council,
c/o Parish Office, Dean Lane, Sixpenny Handley.**
Further details may be obtained from the current Clerk.

Your District Councillor Pauline Bailey-Wright will be holding her surgeries from 6.30 p.m. until 7.30 p.m. at the Parish Office, before the Full Parish Council Meeting.

Please come along and meet her.

Watch notice boards for dates of next meetings.

100 Club Winners – January

1st Mrs J Mayne 2nd Mr Orman 3rd Mr P Favier

100 Club Winners – February

1st Mr D Goddard 2nd Mrs Cullen 3rd Mrs Davidson

If anyone would like to join the Club or know more about it, please contact
Carole Wyatt on 01725 552572

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FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) *Staring*

JOHNNY DEPP, KATE WINSLET,
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SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE
HALL
ON

APRIL 29TH

AT

7.30PM (DOORS OPEN 7PM)

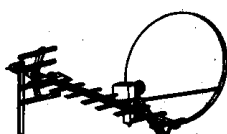
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Sixpenny Handley First School News

Way Too Many Drums!

Everyone was delighted when Laura Cousins of World Music Time came to visit, bringing **Way Too Many Drums** with her. It proved to be an extremely stimulating, lively experience during which all classes learnt about African culture and everyone enjoyed



lots of drumming, percussion, movement, singing and storytelling.

Did you hear us?

This exhilarating day reinforced

concepts of global citizenship and teamwork whilst encouraging participation for all.



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Six Years at Woodcutts

The first article that I wrote, some six years ago, about living in this wonderful place was entitled, "Beyond the Noise of Busy Man", and things have not changed much since. Apart from regulars like the postman, milkman and paper man, plus the weekly visit from the council's rubbish collection, there are the exotics like the coalman, oil tanker the Southern Electrical meter man. Of course the vehicles belonging to the locals also use our roads. These do the school trips, carry their drivers to work or to the shops or even simply for leisure, perhaps even a visit to the surgery to add spice to our existence.

From this, you probably think that nothing happens here at all, but it certainly does. For instance you will probably have noticed that I am typing slower than usually, this is because I have been updated, or at least the computer has. For me it's rather like a child beginning to use 'joined up writing', it takes a lot of thought, my mouth goes into all sorts of contortions as I battle with IT and XP. For the initiated, these letters mean a lot to them that knows, but for we poor rustics very little.

As a child I remember, if you didn't like some one, you referred to them as 'It', too inferior to be given a proper name. Now of course for them that understands, Capital IT stands for Information Technology. It is a good thing I am typing slowly isn't it, if you would prefer me to be slower, please give me a shout. I will try to explain as I go along. Another point about school days, we were taught that P came before X; not any longer, it's XP for the computer. Remember the good old days when P was always before X, as were Q,R,S,T,U,V and W. It's a good job we don't get that much traffic up here, how would I cope?

It is not only me that is confused, the fuchsia bushes, buddleias, some roses, green alkanet and many other fairly soft plants thought the spring was on the way and produced fresh, green leaves, only to find ten days of frost and snow. This certainly was a set back, those soft, green, new leaves are now shrivelled, grey-black and sagging waiting to fall off. (First week of March.)

However it isn't all bad news in the plant world, celandines and primroses are doing very well where exposed to the sun. Also the snowdrops, which have been flowering for two and a half months now are still valiantly holding up their virginal, white flower heads, almost in defiance. Daffodils, especially our original wild one, *Narcissus narcissus*, in its simplicity is having a wonderful season and is standing up to all the weather can throw at it, while showing that brilliant yellow it can call its own. The other bright colour that was showing here, was the warm, bright red of the cotoneaster berries. A single plant has been trained along our front fence, covering some sixteen feet by four feet. Up to Friday 24th. February its dominant colour was the red of its berries, by Tuesday 1st of March, after a four days of frost and snow showers, almost every berry had gone. Eaten mostly by blackbirds and robins, with the occasional visit from wood pigeons just to help out.

So it isn't only the plant world we must think about, what about the birds that were confused, mated early and are now in trouble finding food for themselves and their young families. Insect life in the form of bumble bees and butterflies that were on the wing in early February have simply disappeared. What happened to them, did they re-hibernate or were they frozen to death?

Life below ground level has not been seriously affected, mainly because of the high residual temperature of the soil. This is born out by the great numbers of mole hills that can be seen everywhere, suggesting a high worm presence. This also means a considerable, active slug population.

Anyone interested in slugs will know that they are lurking just below the surface waiting to greet the first cabbage plants, early potatoes and those first carrot seeds to germinate. It is an

unfair world, isn't it?

Perhaps these notes from the diary will compensate.

3.03.05 Although celandines have been in flower for some weeks, I saw the first real bank of flowers, looking a superb, golden yellow on a S.W. facing bank near the pond in Tollard. This was after ten days of frost and snow.

On Friday 4th. March I saw my first May Blossom in flower at the base of the Zig Zag on my way to Shaftesbury, later that day travelling between Winchester and Alton on the A32 there were large numbers of similar buds bursting, to be seen. Other flowers worth a mention were the white violet seen here, in flower the first week of February and a blue one seen in the second week but in Somerset not Woodcutts.

As for birds, we have a noisy, green woodpecker, which serenades us each morning from the largest and oldest ash tree in the neighbourhood. You only have to listen for a short time to understand its other name, the yaffle.

10th. March. Going to something much smaller, Meg and I were looking out of the kitchen window at breakfast time today, when a long tailed tit tried to join us through the glass. When it rebounded from the pane or pain, it must have been concussed, because it thought it was a humming bird, as it tried to hover just a few inches from the wall and had to complete some very complicated manoeuvre to regain composure and fly off. We were just thankful it wasn't a swan or a Canada goose.

Last year I remember writing about a particular robin, which graced our front garden. It was a little larger than your average robin, in fact virtually a 'giant among robins'. Well it is back again this year and in extremely good form, with a smart new red waistcoat. (It has just occurred to me that he might have used the colour from the cotoneaster berries.)

12th. March. The first tree of any size, seen in leaf this year. A wild cherry growing next to the river Allen, at Witchampton Mill.

Just one last note before signing off concerning water. I have been told that the water table at the south end of the village is extremely low for the time of the year. This information came from a very reliable source, where well water measurements have been taken over a number of years. This is after a summer wash-out last year. Does it mean that our rainfall is to come during the summer months in future, or are we to take evasive action if we are to avoid a drought.

Just to help you understand and allow for, future weather conditions I am including an updated version of my very accurate barometer, for you to copy and use. You may remember it from the past, but this updated version has the string attached with glue rather than unsightly metal staples. (This ensures that any electrical storms will not affect its accuracy.)

Once again may I say thank you for reading the above article. I hope it will promote some interest in our wonderful, but unpredictable countryside. If you it does please help to keep it healthy, watch out for news about a village composting system. You don't have to be green to be GREEN. Be with it, support IT.

20.03.05 This is in way of a P.S. Firstly, on the 18th. I saw Brimstone butterflies on the wing here.

Today I have seen an immaculately turned on Peacock butterfly. Obviously this years model, gracefully fluttering about in the garden. It looked so wonderful it reminded me of Old Shep, (Mr. Jock, Mr Robert Meehan, The Laird of Woodcutts etc.) as he turned out, a dapper young

man on his 95th birthday. We still miss him here!

Before I finish, I must mention the wonderful recovery our wild flowers have made, the banks of glistening yellow celandines, the beautiful soft, pale yellows of the masses of primroses and opposite our gate the tiny, dark almost royal, blue flowers of the alkanet when shaded from the sun, with what two weeks ago were black, hanging apologies for leaves, but now leaves of dark luxurious green. Their hispid almost upright foliage now completely recovered.

May God Bless us all.
Ted Cox (14.03.05)

**The Benefice of
Sixpenny Handley with Gussage St Andrew
and Pentridge**

**Parochial Parish Annual General Meetings
and Vestry Meetings
to Elect Churchwardens in each Parish**

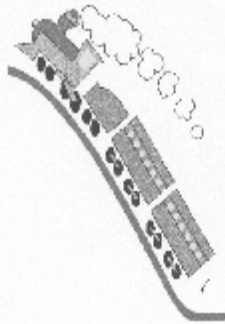
**The Parish of Pentridge will meet
In St Rumbold's Church on 17th April
After Morning Service of Holy Communion (BCP)
At approximately Midday**

**The Parish of Sixpenny Handley with Gussage St
Andrew
will meet in St Mary's Church on 24th April
at approximately 12 Midday
after Family Worship**

**Nominations for the Office of Churchwarden together with
A Secunder and the signed agreement of the Proposed
Person should be made in writing to be received
At the Vicarage 60 High Street
Sixpenny Handley Salisbury SP5 5ND
Endorsed "Churchwarden Nomination (parish....)
To be received two days before the appropriate meeting.**

**Qualifications for the Office and the nomination forms are available from
Parish Parochial Church Council Hon. Secretary's
Details in the Downsman centre Church Section**

***Eligibility to vote?*
Anyone on the electoral roll of the parish (Church)
Anyone who lives in the parish and whose name is on the register of
*Local government electors***



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d o w n t o e a r t h



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News from the troop

District Air Rifle Champion

Congratulations to Chris Masson for winning the District Air Rifle competition. All Scout Groups in the District entered the competition, with over 100 Scouts taking part. During the ten rounds of shooting Chris scored consistently high and eventually won with a very comfortable margin.



Trip to London

On 27th February 14 Scouts left very early to spend a day in London. We arrived at Richmond Station at 9.15am and caught the underground to Science Museum.



Once at the Science Museum the Scouts split into groups and spent the morning roaming around the 7 levels. Obviously there are too many things that they did to list here, but the Scouts did say that their favourite parts were the simulators and the interactive exhibits. Sam, Ben and Adam had the opportunity to write their own scripts and then record their own radio show.

Once we left the Science Museum we caught the tube, this time to the House of Parliament. We then walked to the London Eye and ate our lunch at County Hall. Not long to hang about as we had to catch the Duck Tour in the afternoon. The Duck is a World War Two amphibious landing craft that is now used to give tours around London. We caught the Duck by the London Eye. The tour took us past the Houses of Parliament, Downing Street, Horse Guards Parade, Florence Nightingales House, Nelson Column, past the Ritz and then Buckingham Palace. After the Palace we headed back over the river and towards the MI5 building. It is here that the Duck turns from a road going bus to a (slightly slow) tour boat. The driver pulled the ladder up at the back, pointed the nose of the Duck down the slope and then at full speed headed into the Thames. The river part of the tour took us up as far as Big Ben and then back to the MI5 building.

After the Duck tour it was back to Richmond Station and back in the cars to Handley. Thanks to Neil, Caroline, Alistair, Dee and Matt for driving and for helping us not loose (or gain) any Scouts when in the Big Smoke!!!!



To the Editor; On Sunday the 27th of February, my husband and I acted as Taxi driver to some Scouts from this village, along with a few other people. What an enjoyable day we had, we visited the Science Museum, had a Picnic lunch, followed by a walk along the river bank, and then a trip on the Thames in an old Army Duck. The Scouts were a credit to all those who work so hard with them, also to all their Parents, WELL DONE, and thank you for a really happy time. *Yours Mr and Mrs Broadway.*

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch



No home related crimes have been reported to the Homewatch since the last issue of The Downsman but there has yet again been serious vandalism on the recreation ground and disturbances near to the crossroads at the bottom of the village. An anti-social minority of youths is suspected of being involved. This is especially galling because our expensive sports and recreation facilities were put in

particularly to benefit the younger elements within the community.

The Police are fully aware of the problems and one beneficial consequence is that our Special Constable, Yogi Patel, is once again being allowed to patrol in uniform. (For some months he had been 'grounded' due to an ill-judged health and safety ruling). Every time Yogi appears in the village, the loiterers disappear. We all know the value of community policing and bobbies on the beat but this just proves it. Parishioners should be aware that all Special Constables carry out their duties entirely voluntarily, so thank you, Yogi, for your efforts.

As the weather warms up, can we remind you that a high percentage of thefts in this area is of mowers and other power tools. Don't leave them unattended even for a short time and please make sure that all garden sheds are fully secure. Inexpensive shed alarms are available from most hardware stores.

Finally, Dorset Police have again asked that people take care not to leave valuable or interesting looking items on view inside parked vehicles.

Minister challenged on Dorset's housing problem

On Wednesday 9th March Housing Minister Keith Hill met with Andy Lloyd, the Rural Housing Enabler for Dorset Community Action to discuss tackling Dorset's affordable housing problem.

Through Jim Knight MP, local Rural Housing Enabler, Andy Lloyd had a unique opportunity to enlist the support of housing minister Keith Hill in hearing the challenges of delivering affordable homes in rural Dorset.

Purbeck and West Dorset have great need for rural affordable housing which is not easy to deliver. This was brought to the attention of the Housing Minister. Even though the South West is very grateful for Government increasing overall Social Housing Grant by 40%, it is still crucial to ensure more of this goes to rural communities. Rural schemes are more expensive for housing associations to deliver. Therefore, the request was made to earmark cash to geographic areas, not just to those schemes that seem to require least grant. However, even though more money may get through to rural communities, the amount is still small in relation to the number of homes needed, on average 10 per parish. Andy Lloyd and Jim Knight suggested a new approach could be supported by government encouraging people to set up local housing funds - people want to help out, as witnessed by the recent tsunami experience, and what could be more worthwhile than local affordable homes? The Minister was interested to hear that the new Bridport Property Trust would be a suitable vehicle for this idea.

Another suggestion which Jim Knight supported was allowing market towns to benefit from the excellent 'exception site' policy which the government has recently re-committed itself to, which allows low cost land to be used just for local housing. Market towns have great need to catch up on affordable housing, which this policy, perhaps combined with local funds, could do.

Also a plea was made for the planning system to respond positively to innovation, particularly for community benefit. Many individuals and groups have very good ideas which may not fit exactly into planning policy. It is important that this resourcefulness is not wasted and that planning can support diverse needs.

The point was made that sustainable development, which the government is strongly promoting through new legislation, has many tangible benefits regards affordable housing. Along with the use of sustainable materials come the benefits of fast, more economic construction methods, and homes costing much less to heat. This could greatly reduce the cost per square metre for housing associations, thus allowing more homes to be built with less grant. Local Authorities in North Devon and Somerset are encouraging state of the art sustainable construction schemes for affordable housing for these very good reasons.

Andy Lloyd described some innovation taking place in Purbeck. Purbeck District Council Planners with Andy are piloting a new approach which should reduce the time taken to get top planning permission once need is established. This will be applied in Bere Regis on the 19th March and involves the whole community having an opportunity to express its views on suitable locations. This will be done with a planning officer on hand to make sure people make choices that fit in to policy and will mean that time won't be wasted approaching land owners whose land does not fit into policy or have community support. Although Bere Regis have experienced a delay due to tying in with the Councils Housing Roadshow, in future this will mean much smoother progress and less delay, one of the major problems in getting schemes up and started.

Andy Lloyd commented: *"The Minister understood the added costs in rural areas which means our bids for housing grant are sometimes not competitive. Moving the funding system so funds are allocated geographically rather than on grant efficiency could bring about greater success"*.

Jim Knight said: *"I am acutely aware of the pressures facing this area. When it comes to housing local people are having a hard time. The meeting provided an excellent forum to flush out problems and discuss new ideas. It was clear that solutions exist but action must be taken both locally and by Government to ensure these ideas are made a reality. I am very excited by the work happening locally via Andy's team at Doset Community Action, and Purbeck Planners trying to shorten timescales. It's important to embrace innovation by engaging all the relevant stakeholders including the local public. I am very confident we can start seeing these ideas transformed into low cost affordable homes"*.

DCA Press Release

Stolen Property

Ifor Williams calf/pig/sheep trailer, stolen from local farm.

This is an almost new trailer, with the sides and top made of unpainted aluminium, with the dimensions 6ft. x 8ft. x 4ft. high. It is one of the P6e series

The trailer was stolen from Burley Road Farm, Handley Common on Thursday, 17th. March, between 10.00 and 11.30 a.m. Were you on the road at that time? Did you see a vehicle towing a trailer of this type, in the area on that day? Did you see a vehicle parked outside this farm between those times? If you have any information which you think might help, please ring Mark or Suzanne on 01725 552164, or if you prefer the police. Thank you for your help.

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

OPEN DAY

Sunday MAY 22nd
at 2.30 p.m.

**If you have not had the opportunity
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First Woodcutts Scout Group

Parents of Cubs and Scouts are cordially invited to attend
The Annual General Meeting of the
First Woodcutts Scout Group

Monday 9th May at 7:15pm in the Scout Hut

There will be a meeting for both Scouts and Cubs that evening, starting at 7:00pm. The Scouts will be offering burgers and hot dogs to all attending that evening. We would like as many parents as possible to attend to offer your comments and feedback to the committee, demonstrate your support for the group and show your appreciation to the Cub and Scout Leaders who give up so much of their own time for the community.

RICHARD T. ADLEM

FUNERAL DIRECTOR

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Dr. Peter Atherton, Nursing in Practice September 2004

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Bingo Evening



Friday 8th April-7.30pm

Handley Village Hall

Great Prizes and Raffle.



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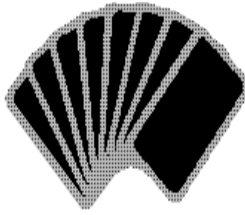
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FRIDAY 6th MAY
5pm – 8pm**

**ALL ENTRANCE FEES TO GO TO
Cranborne Chase Sporting
Chance Association**

**An International, annual sporting event for people
with learning disabilities. (Bryanston School 17 July)**

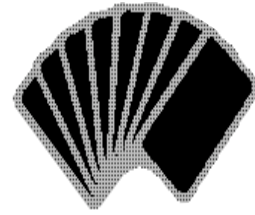
Reg. Charity No 1080832

For further information contact 01725 552492



Whist at The Village Hall

2004-2005 Competition



My prediction that this year's contest was likely to go down to the wire seems most likely to be borne out

and, at the time of going to print, with four rounds remaining none of the division leaders can feel fully confident that they will occupy their present positions by the start of the final drive on May 4th. Presently, and on completion of the 12th round, supported by 10 tables in play, your scribe managed to retain his place at the top of the 1st division (a position he has held following round 9, played on January 26th) with an aggregate total of 1923, 22 points clear of last year's champion, Doug Haskell. However, 12th round scores of 155 and 154 respectively by the top two were by no means impressive and Ted Meaden, who returned 175, now holds third spot with an aggregate of 1897 points. Chris Haskell, meanwhile, despite a creditable 163, drops from third to fourth overall with 1891 points and Dora Scammell, who had just managed to get clear of the bottom of the division, at the time of my last report, has continued her run of good scores and now lies fifth on 1886 points.

In Division 2, Betty White remains the leader on 1772 points, with John York second and Sylv Day third, though John has opened up a reasonable gap twixt himself and Sylv by 28 points, while, in turn, Arthur Austin has moved to within four points of Sylv, making the third spot highly contestable. At the halfway stage of round 12, John's scorecard had all the indications of making serious inroads into Betty's overall position of leader with 92 points garnered, while Betty had only managed 78, but the next 12 hands witnessed a reverse of fortune with Betty recovering to score 86, and an aggregate of 164, and John falling away to a somewhat mediocre 75 and a 167 total; such are the fortunes of this fascinating game.

Sadly, absentees from the 3rd division have reduced the number of eligible contestants to six. Thus, Bill Peach, who was in fifth place at the end of round 11, was elevated to *top spot* after returning 158 to give himself an overall total of 1555 points. Similarly, Wilf Jacobs moves from seventh to second place on 1544 points with Doris Day, down from Division 2, on 1535. But, as I have indicated, the *highs and lows* of this game can well have an impact on any of the division leaders and all concerned will need to exercise their skill to the utmost and trust that *Dame Fortune* will still be with them over the remaining rounds.

Bridge. An extremely rare achievement was witnessed at a recent session when Sheila Bradley and Trish Chorley won three rubbers without conceding a single penalty point. And, I am pleased to report, three tables in play is becoming *the norm* at our Tuesday meetings at the Sports Pavilion. And, of course, new players, whether they are familiar with bridge, or wish to learn, are always welcome, play commencing at around 1.30 pm.

Bill Chorley

Thank You – Hanna Burke and her Dad would like to thank all those, young & old – old & young, who kindly participated in Hanna's University project, which involved carrying out a survey about the community facilities in the village.

Village Hall News

Disabled Access

Start date is the 18th of April. The work should take about 2 weeks. The hall will still be open for business as usual but there will be restricted access through the front door. Please give me a ring if you have any problems at that time. The hall has received a grant towards the work from Dorset County Council.

Artsreach: THE LOST WORLD

Only just over 50 people attended what was probably the best show so far. It was serious, funny, and far-fetched. Everyone enjoyed a good laugh at a very professional show. Many thanks to all.

FUTURE EVENTS

Film Show

DORSET MOVIOLA will present **FINDING NEVERLAND (PG)**. This stunning film of J. M. BARRIE'S writing of Peter Pan with stars Johnny Depp, Kate Winslet, Julie Christie and Dustin Hoffman. This show is a one off trial if proved successful I will try for one show a month during next winter from October.

Now more information on this show.

Date: **Friday APRIL 29th.**

Venue: **Sixpenny Village Hall**

Time: **Doors open 7pm Start 7.30pm**

Price: **£4**

Tel: Pat on
01725 552591
For Tickets



DATES for your Diary

A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall will take place **MONDAY 25th APRIL at 7.30pm** this is an open meeting so I hope to see you all there.

AUCTION SALE

ROBS auction will be 22nd October - more details next time

Horse Racing

FRIDAY 28th October contact C.C.F for details

W.I.

W.I. will hold an event on Friday 18th November.

Hire of Table and Chairs

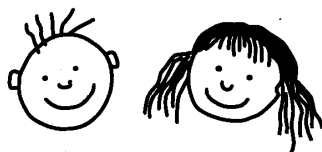
At the last Management meeting. It was decided that the Hire of Tables and Chairs should be allowed for short periods. The rate agreed is 50 pence per chair per day and £2 per table per day. These items can only be hired if they are not wanted in the hall. Ring Julie on 519438 for details.

NEW LICENCE LAWS

I have managed to get my head round the new laws. With the help of a young lady at E.D.C.C. I completed the forms with copies to E.D.C.C, the Police and me the present Community premises licence will carry on in the same format. The drinks licence has to be applied for each time we want to sell alcohol on a temporary events form. The snag is it will cost double the present fee.

Gordon Oxford, Chairman

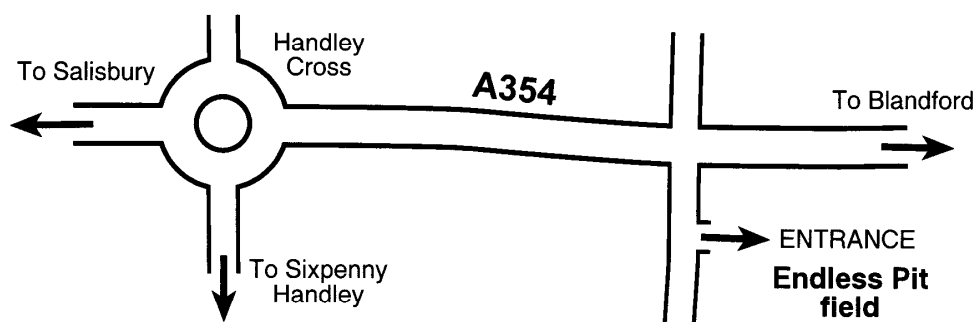
The Chase Nursery



car Boot Sale

Sunday 22nd May 2005

*Come and join us for our
bumper Summer Fundraise*



Pitches: £5

From 8 am onwards

**Buyers: 50p a car
20p by foot**

From 9 am onwards

Please support your local Pre-school
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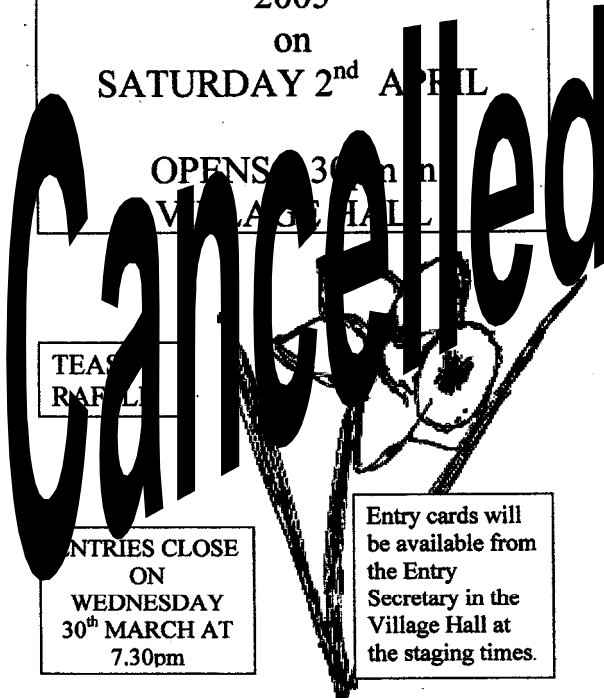
**SIXPENNY HANDLEY
SPRING FLOWER SHOW
2005
on
SATURDAY 2nd APRIL**

**OPENS 10.30am in
Village Hall**

**TEASER
RABBIT**

**ENTRIES CLOSE
ON
WEDNESDAY
30th MARCH AT
7.30pm**

**Entry cards will
be available from
the Entry
Secretary in the
Village Hall at
the staging times.**



Sixpenny Handley Flower Show

**Due to
Unforeseen
Circumstances
the
Spring Flower
Show
advertised for
Saturday April 2nd
has been
CANCELLED**

Handley Sports Club – “100 Club”

Draw No 7

£20	227	Steve Green, Southfields , Gussage St. Michael, Wimborne
£10	94	Peter Stainer, High Street, Sixpenny Handley,
£10	48	Ken Jeanes, Sheasby Close, Sixpenny Handley
£10	110	R. M. Edwards, Town Farm Place, Sixpenny Handley
£5	189	Neil Blachford

Draw No 8

£20	149	Nick Bainbridge, Broadstone Dorset
£10	168	P.T. Taylor, Deanland Sixpenny Handley
£10	110	R. M. Edwards, Town Farm Place, Sixpenny Handley
£10	103	Mr M. Catchpole, Hill House, Sixpenny Handley
£5	232	Norah North, St. Mary's Court, Sixpenny Handley

Draw No 9

£20	17	David Rowe, Town Farm Place, Sixpenny Handley
£10	139	Andy Field, Bournemouth
£10	149	Nick Bainbridge, Broadstone , Dorset.
£10	42	Lee Etherington ,Crichel, Witchampton
£5	168	P. T. Taylor, Deanland, Sixpenny Handley.

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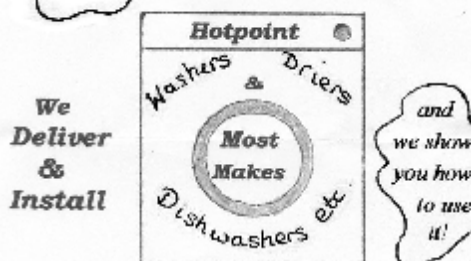
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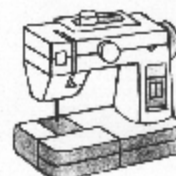
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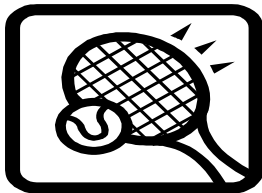
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Web site: www.sarpenela.com



SIXPENNY HANDLEY TENNIS CLUB

I had hoped to have been able to report the dates and details of the club's forth-coming fixtures in the Shaftesbury tennis league, but, unfortunately, I am informed that this information is not yet to hand. However, I should be able to give details of the outcome of the early fixtures in the next issue of *The Downsman*.

Meanwhile, Michael Catchpole (the Club's hardworking chairman} has advised me of events that, he trusts, members will support to the full:

Sunday, April 24th, *Season Opener*, which will be split into two sessions, the first getting under way at 10 a.m. and the second at approximately 2 p.m. The morning slot is aimed at the youth members of the Club, while the afternoon session is primarily for the adults. Lunch, I understand, will be available between the two sessions of tennis.

During the long summer days of **June**, two events will be promoted, the first taking place on **Sunday the 5th** and the second on **Sunday the 26th**. That for the 5th will take the form of a *Tennis Marathon* with members being 'encouraged' to be on court as early as possible and for the very early arrivals breakfast is promised (croissants and orange juice). Later, probably at around noon, a barbecue will be set up and it is hoped that tennis will continue until late in the evening. Slots (£10 per slot) for the *Marathon* should be booked in advance, contact details, etc, will be advised either through the medium of the Club's newsletter, or posted on the notice board in the pavilion. The event scheduled for the 26th will follow much the same pattern as that for April 24th, but members intending to make it a day out should provide their own refreshments. Titled *New Members Day*, this will be the ideal opportunity for new comers to the Club to get to know each other as well as meet with those who have supported the Club over the past decade.

Although essentially aimed at Tennis Club members, anyone with thoughts of perhaps joining the Club are most welcome to attend any of the events, outlined above, as committee members will be present to answer any questions that may arise.

Finally, with the lengthening of the daylight hours the Thursday night Club evenings should recommence and, I trust, these sessions will be well supported.

Bill Chorley

COMIC RELIEF

As a result of our efforts on Friday 11th March the Sixpenny Handley Surgery managed to raise the total amount of £71.

Thank you so much for your support.

THANK YOU

Tom Rose would like to thank everyone who sponsored him for the Free Hanging Abseil at Mannings Heath Water Tower on March 12th, in aid of The National Kidney Research Fund.
Tom raised a total of £82.



HAPPY NAPPY

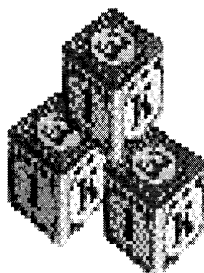


Happy Nappy meets every Monday at
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall at
10am.

New Born Babies to School Age Children are welcome

Come and join our very friendly group,
loads of
toys and fun!

- ❖ Children make new friends.
- ❖ Adults can meet for a chat.
- ❖ Tea and coffee available.
- ❖ Children £0.50p Adults £1.00.



For more information phone
Alison 01258 830143 Tracey 01725 516212
or Christina 01725 552240

Private Edwin Hobb (10312)
5th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment

The inscription at the base of the headstone reads, *Peace Perfect Peace*, while engraved above these three simple words is the name of Private Edwin Hobbs of the 5th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, who died on the last day of April 1915. Similar to my profile on Private Hector Card (see the December 2004 issue of *The Downsman*), Edwin Hobbs lost his young life (he was just 19 years of age) not in action, but while training to join the conflict, now in its ninth month and with no clear end in sight. A little over a week prior to Edwin's death, heavy fighting erupted in the Ypres Salient, where the initial assault by the British was partially countered by the German defenders releasing chlorine gas and allowing the prevailing wind to carry the toxic fumes towards the British lines. The psychological effects of this latest method of warfare far outstripped its military effectiveness, for it is the oft produced photographs of lines of gas stricken soldiers, many with their eyes bandaged and with an outstretched hand resting on the shoulder of the man in front, retreating through the mud towards the rear areas, that reminds us, even to this day, of the true horror of the Great War, 1914 to 1918.

From nearby Minchington, Edwin Hobbs's funeral was the first of three service burials at St. Mary's, all being concentrated in the north-west corner of the churchyard. It is likely that the service was conducted by the Revd Ernest Hasluck, vicar for Sixpenny Handley (with Gussage St. Andrews) between 1893 and 1925. No doubt as he went through the solemn ritual of the committal with the grieving family and friends at the graveside, his thoughts were with his own son, 2nd Lieutenant Sidney Vandyke Hasluck, serving with the Indian Army and soon to be caught up in the disastrous Dardanelles campaign.

As with all these offensives, so much was expected and so little accomplished – the principal fighting in the Ypres Salient lasted for about five weeks during which thousands died for a gain of eight square miles of what had become a shell blasted wilderness, while in the Dardanelles, or Gallipoli as it is more familiarly referred too, the Turks forced the Allied forces to withdraw, leaving thousands of their number dead, amongst which was the body of Sidney Hasluck.

Bill Chorley

Postscript. Concerning my profile of Sapper Arthur New (reported in the previous issue of *The Downsman*), it seems most likely that Arthur was brother to Tom New, destined to die in July 1917, while serving in Mesopotamia with the 2nd Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, and whose profile will appear in a later issue. For this data I am grateful to Angela Gray and Aubrey New, direct descendants from the son of the late Tom New.

THE CHASE GARDEN CLUB

The Chase Garden Club meets on the last Thursday of each month at 8 pm
lectures, slides, garden visits etc.

For more information phone
Peter and Sue Evans 01725 552270
or Gill Carter on 01725 552030.

Meeting dates:
April 28th; May 26th; June 30th; July 28th



Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

It is now getting very close when the Club will be opening the new season, in fact it is on **Sunday April 24th at 2.30 pm.** when we hope that as many members as possible will gather to discover how much of last season's expertise they have forgotten. Traditionally on this

occasion the weather is against much bowling but they will be able to have a cup of tea and a chat and discover how ready they are for the new season.

OPEN DAY

In the past we have used the start of the new season to host an Open Day to enable anyone interested in playing bowls to come along to try it. Owing to the earlier stage of the season the day selected is often stricken with poor weather we have taken this day into the season in May and this year it will be on **Sunday May 22nd at 2.30 pm.** and we are inviting all those who are "THINKING" of having a go at bowls to come along and actually do something about it. Refreshments and equipment will be provided. You will need to be there at 2.30 pm. otherwise you will find that the afternoon will be gone before you know it.

THE SEASON AHEAD

Needlessly to say the main activity will be playing bowls. The Men have a new challenge in Division 3 of the Dorset League. 12 matches on Monday Evenings will have to be played 6 Home & 6 Away. The men's Captain will be circulating members to assess possible playing strengths on these evenings so that a team can be selected and of course get some practice on our own green which has to form the basis of our campaign. Matches to start by 6pm.

The Mixed team, men and women in the ratio of 2-1 either way, play in the Westbrook Mixed Triples League which are against teams from around the Salisbury/South Wilts Area. Played in the evenings - Monday to Friday- fixtures arranged to suit Home & Away. Start time also by arrangement but not before 6pm. Fixtures to be completed by the end of August otherwise we fall foul of the daylight or we have to start very early in the evening.

We also have friendlies, and the dates have been fixed and all members can place their names on the list to play.

At the time of writing we have no Touring Side visiting but we are working on that as this special activity is a good money earner for the club.

Fixture Cards will be available by April 24th

CLUB SESSIONS

It has always been the practice for members to have 'roll-up' sessions amongst themselves. Club Days as we like to call them will be on Wednesdays start at 6pm. and Sunday afternoons at 2.30pm. - subject to fixture arrangements. Members of course can go and play or practice amongst themselves at anytime if they want to without any further cost.

INTERNAL COMPETITIONS

Members will also be playing in Club Competitions basically to establish our Best Bowlers in a competitive environment. Cups, Certificates and Prize Vouchers to be presented at our Annual Luncheon and Presentation which this year is on **Sunday December 11th** at the Crown Hotel, Blandford. Entries from Members by 24th April 2005. Entry Forms will be distributed.

QUIZ NIGHT

Our Spring Quiz Night will happen at the Village Hall on Saturday April 19th at 7.30 p.m.. Please Reserve your tables with our organiser Val. Martin on Tel: 01725-552607 as soon as possible. You can pay your money on the night.. Our Christmas Quiz Night will be on November 26th. - Don't be away on the day.

THE SHORT MAT SCENE

Disaster! Disaster! Disaster! (not Location/Location/Location). Both the Sixpenny Handley and the 'Tanners' teams have been relegated in the Blackmore Vale Short Mat Bowls League. Bearing in mind our successes in the past which were very good this is the only way to describe it.

Reasons - Not good enough now - too old (may be) - loss of concentration - unable to use our expertise - not enough practice- there are so many of them. It seems that other teams have now caught up with us and we desperately need new blood to bolster our team and more competitive friendlies if that is possible to sharpen us up.

However, I hope that the existing teams and their players will all be available and raring to go in October when the new season starts.

We have recently played a few friendlies - against Fordingbridge (lost) - Dinton (Win) and Kingfisher - Ringwood (lost at Ibsley) and last Sunday at Handley really a loss - 2 Rinks lost, one by only one shot and the 3rd Rink a Draw - better.

GREEN MAINTENANCE & EQUIPMENT

The Club has to purchase new equipment to enable the green to be kept clean. We did have a problem some time ago with a Youth skidding a bicycle on the carpet a mark which we have been trying to remove or is it a new one. A Rota has been drawn up for members to help with the cleaning, if you are unable to do it please let Angus Macleod know.

The Club has also purchased a large tent for the patio so that members will have somewhere to put their bags etc. and also somewhere to sit if the weather is poor.

We are wondering if we dare erect it when we notice the damage done by 'Vandals' to the Pavilion externally. The worst has been done on the Cricket Pitch side where 6 windows have been mindlessly broken and will probably cost in excess of £700 to repair.

The paving around the building has been broken and bits of concrete lying around which is very dangerous and also the down rain water pipes have been torn down and thrown about, everything needing replacement. The whole thing is very embarrassing when we have to entertain visiting teams and is dangerous when walking down the front steps. It looks as if the Council Tax payers will have to foot the bill as the damage is certainly not done by Sports Activities. Do parents know what their children are doing especially in the dark winter evenings??

NUTRITION IN SPORT

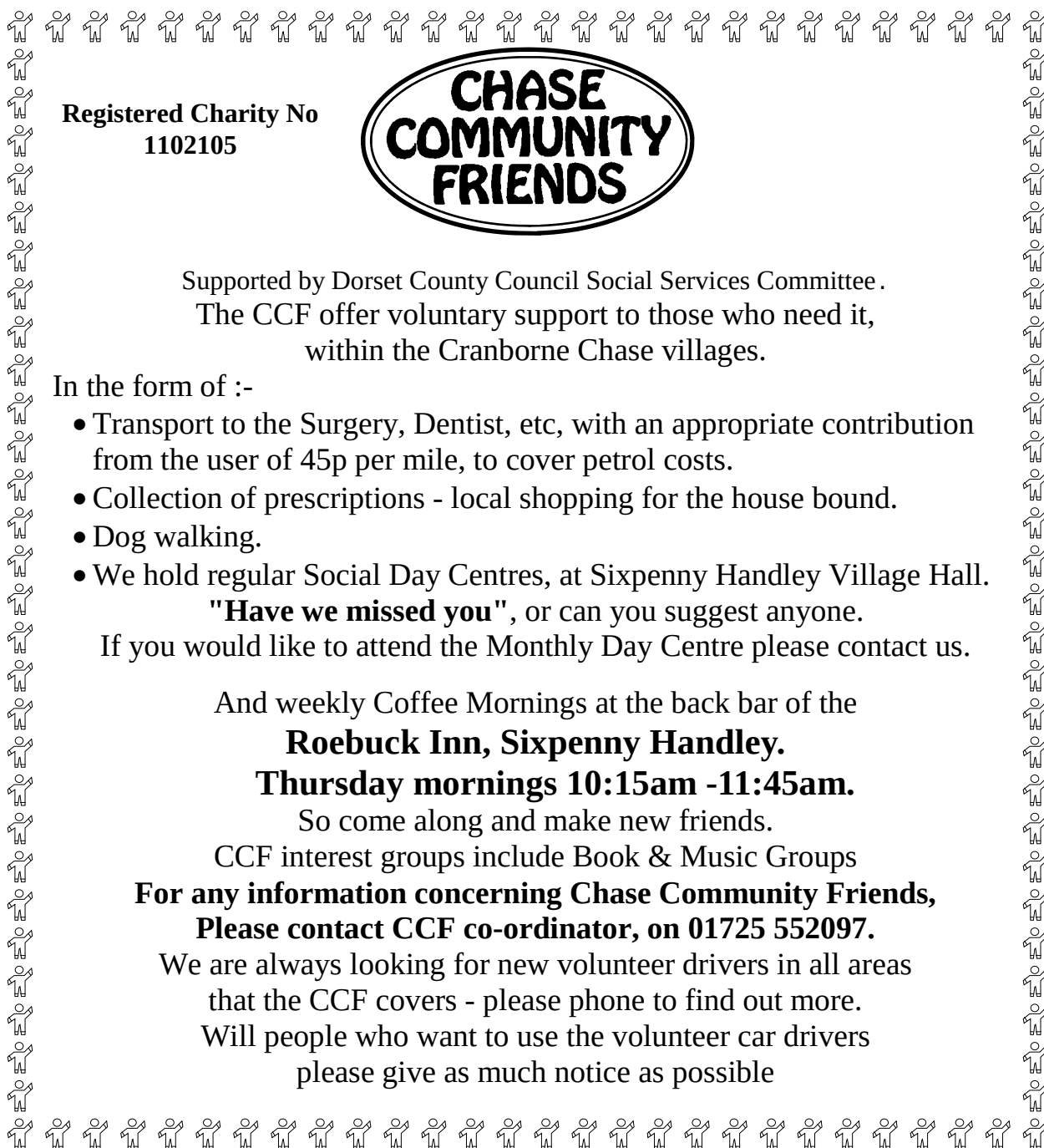
Bowlers have to spend a long time on the green in some matches e.g. two and half to three hours. It is interesting to note from the FC Business Magazine how footballers are fed to keep their energy levels up during what can be 2-3 hours match time (including preparation)

ROGER NARBETT has worked as the chef to the England football squad for nearly 16 years. It is his job to make all meals for the players appetising during training and around matches, both at home and abroad. He generally works on providing a diet made up of 60% carbohydrates, 25% fat and 15% proteins, increasing the carbohydrate content and reducing the fats as a game approaches.

A typical pre-match lunch, on a day when a match is scheduled for 8pm, will be eaten at 12.30pm. It will include vegetable crudities and low-fat dips, soup, grilled chicken or steamed Dover sole with pasta or rice and vegetables. low-fat rice pudding, fruit, and mineral water or apple juice.

Then at 5pm Narbett will serve a snack of poached eggs on toast, cereal, or , spaghetti with fresh tomato sauce. .

After the match he will always serve a meal within two hours of the final whistle, as within this period the muscles are more receptive to taking in carbohydrates than hours later. If the team are travelling a long distance. Narbett will provide baguettes, fruit cake and muffins on the coach, together with protein and carbohydrate drinks. or he will prepare pasta and salad back at the hotel.



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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.

"Have we missed you", or can you suggest anyone.

If you would like to attend the Monthly Day Centre please contact us.

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

ROBS COLUMN

Muddled Message:

HE RESTO PANDS PENDAS OCI ACHO URINH ARMLES SMIRT HAND FUN
LET FRI ENDS HIP REIGN BEJU STAND KIN DAN DEVILS PEAKOF
NOO NE

No it isn't Double Dutch, alter the spacing of the letters, add some punctuation, and the words read like so:

HERE STOP AND SPEND
Can you work the rest out?

Q: What do gardeners do in the winter-time?

Well what do they do?

One imagines them caged like canaries within the confines of their winter quarters, thirsting for the great outside – for the earth, the sun, the sky, for green things growing – whether they be crop or weeds.

I don't know what they do, but I know what we are told we ought to be doing! Washing and sterilising flowerpots, refurbishing frames, strengthening trellises and fences, collecting pea and bean sticks, painting the greenhouse – all sorts of grimly virtuous but boring and beastly jobs eminently unsuited to November rains, December gales and January frosts. But there is one job essential and worthy which is also seductively self-indulgent and that is going through the seed-catalogues, making lists and planning next year's garden, garlanding it with pumpkins the size of the harvest moon, neat rows of smooth carrot-fly-less carrots and turnips like tennis balls. Feet up, log fire blazing, we weave fantasies of a world that has no jays or pigeons, no slugs or snails, no spell of drought, no seeds that mysteriously refuse to germinate or are all devoured overnight by some evil herbivore.

But are you really justified in according such prestige to planning? Is it any use when, in the event you will be at the mercy of such variables as the weather, the unpredictable behaviour of living things and the terrible temptations to impulse buying in garden centres?

Here we are at the end of March and I'm all behind, so I must get going or it will be too late. I hope you're more organized than me.

A GOOD LAUGH

'Laugh and the world laughs with you, weep and you weep alone' – so the famous saying goes. There are many adages telling us that laughter is a good tonic but it is a sad fact that the older one gets the more one has to seek it.

We all remember those younger years when laughter came easily. A child will double up or even roll around the floor laughing at something funny.

Teenagers usually find that laughter comes readily, so why is it that the older one gets, the more elusive laughter becomes?

Is it that, once we mature, we are expected to behave more responsibly, or do we actually have more to worry about such as families, illness, finances etc? If this is the case, is it not a fact that, if laughter is a tonic, then we need more of it as we get older?

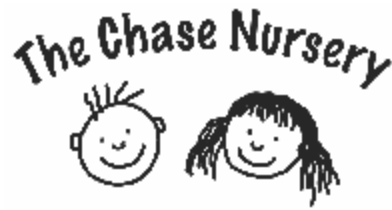
Any anyone what characteristic they would wish for in a partner and high on the list would be a sense of humour. We seem drawn to a happy smiling face which is the forerunner to laughter.

According to the definition in my dictionary, laughter is 'To express or manifest emotion especially mirth or amusement by expelling air from the lungs in short bursts to produce an inarticulate voiced noise'.

So, most of us are capable of the expression of laughter, all we need is something to trigger it off. Once laughter starts, it's amazing how infectious it can be?

Lastly if you watch the telly in the next few months and watch a series called 'Creature Comforts' I have done some voice-overs for the animals. So try having a laugh.

Rob Jesse



Staff and children of The Chase Nursery



We are delighted to announce that following a recent Ofsted inspection The Chase Nursery received an excellent report.

"The Chase Nursery provides nursery education which is of high quality. The children are making very good progress towards the early learning goals. Teaching is very good and is a strength of the nursery. Staff have a good relationship with the children and there is an excellent level of conversation between them. The children are happy and settled."

"Staff manage children's behaviour well and give them plenty of praise and encouragement..... they are skilled at supporting children's learning..... they create an attractive and interesting environment"

"Parents receive good quality information about the nursery and the activities provided for their children and are kept well informed about their child's progress."

Ofsted inspection report February 2005

On behalf of the committee we would like to thank our staff for all their hard work in making this possible, and for their continued efforts in making the nursery such a

Parish of Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge

Annual Parish Meeting

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Wednesday 8th June 7.30pm

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU AT SIXPENNY HANDLEY SURGERY

Tuesdays 9:30am – 12:00 noon - Gilly

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



VACANCY - JOB DESCRIPTION - VICAR

This is the third article on this change in the life of the Benefice and this time round the good news is that life continues in the parishes' thanks to all those who have stepped forward to help in maintaining care (visiting and listening), worship and prayer (maintaining pattern of services) and the myriad other activities that form part of church life. The not so good news is that the **BUSH TELEGRAPH AIN'T WORKING** too well - if you don't tell us then we cannot respond - this should surely be a normal neighbourly act. Please help us to help those that need help and thereby reduce the chance of heart ache and ill feeling.

Two meetings have been held of both parish PCC's and churchwardens with the Archdeacon, Rural Dean and the Diocesan Pastoral Committee (being in attendance at the first meeting only). The outcome, in a nutshell, is that it has been confirmed that the **BENEFICE** will definitely have a full time parish priest in due course.

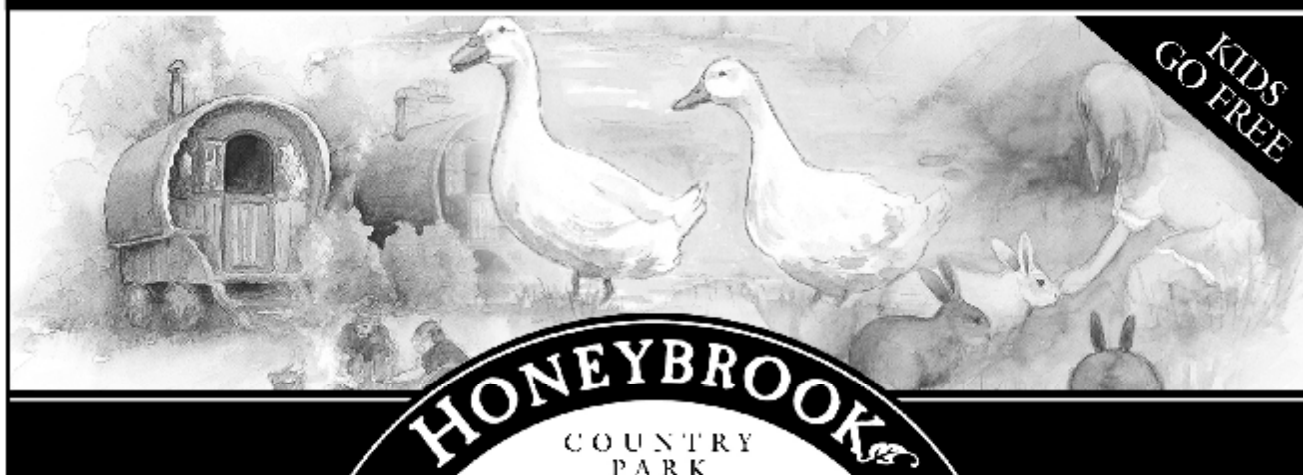
In the meantime we are to put together a Benefice Profile made up of the two Parish Profiles - that is a description of what a new person would find here from a community point of view as well as from the church's position. What we have to offer whoever comes here (attracted by the picture created in the profiles) and of course what we (that is the community and the church) want or desire of their priest. Both parishes have this task to undertake before the vacancy can be advertised. Also the two parishes who make up the benefice are charged with working much closer together for the sake of the two communities and especially so for whoever finds us attractive enough a proposition to take up their ministry here with us.

On both occasions in past reports, requests have been made for some input as to what you would desire in your priest - the only remarks so far 'no happy clappies or evangelicals' which really leaves the field wide open (thank you!). Should you have any views please let any of the following know; Rev Wendy Griffith, (Jean and Mary at Pentridge), Graham or me as well as any member of either PCC. Come to think of it any church member would be pleased to pass on your thoughts, so it's down to you. Time is short for we are advised by the powers that be that they want the vacancy filled sooner rather than later.

David Salmons

Good times make happy memories

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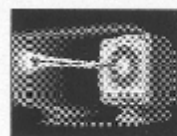
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The Childrens' Own

A very big welcome to all you children out there, we hope you are enjoying the new spring growth, the better weather and the anticipation of summer holidays to come. As the weather warms up, Mother Nature is very busy, her early flowers such as primroses, daffodils, violets and celandines are everywhere with their wonderful colours and beautiful shapes. The birds are nesting, butterflies such as the pale yellow Brimstone and the Red Admiral are on the wing, frogs and toads will be producing spawn in ponds where ever they can find water and the deer will be having their young; all this you can see as you go about the countryside. Even from the car windows you can take a lot in. but why not get together, and with your parents' permission, and possibly their presence, go walking in this wonderful world we live in. Take a note-book with you, or even a camera, so that when you return home you can discover the names of the trees, the birds, the butterflies and the wild flowers you have seen. It is far nicer than sitting looking at a computer screen, as I am now. Mr Pippen and his team are at work in the churchyard again, if you see them there, ask them to show you what lives there.

Now two short rhymes before I finish.

Topsyturney-World.

If a butterfly courted the bee,
And the owl the porcupine;
If churches were built in the sea,
And three times one was nine;
If the pony rode his master,
If the buttercups ate the cows;
If the cat had a dire disaster
To be worried, sir, by the mouse;
If mamma, sir, sold the baby
To a gypsy for half a crown;
If a gentleman, sir, was a lady,--
The world would be Upside Down!
If any or all of these wonders
Should ever come about,
I should not consider them blunders,
For I should be Inside-Out!

Robin. Wren, Martin, Swallow

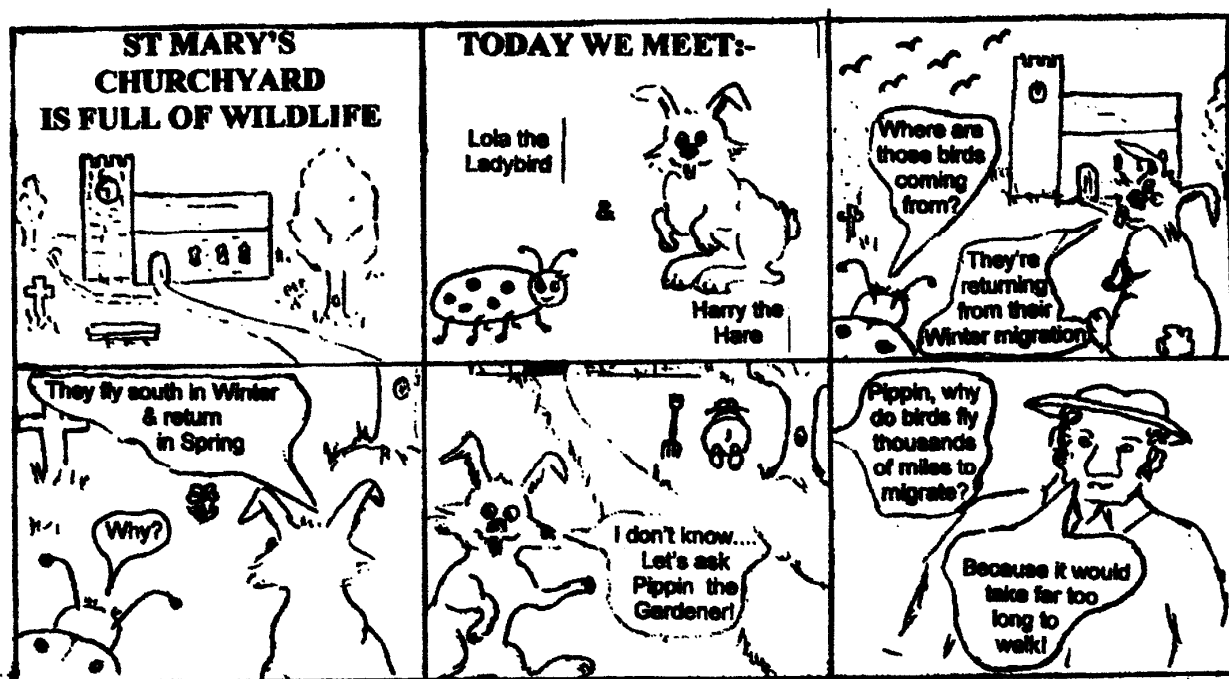
The robin and the wren
Are God Almighty's cock and hen,
The martin and the swallow
Are God Almighty's bow and arrow.

Does anyone know what a half crown is?

From Reverend Wendy:

Did you have lots of Easter Eggs? Did you eat them too quickly and then were you not very well? That's what I used to do when I was little! But do you know why we have Easter Eggs? Well, when Jesus died on the cross, he was only dead for three days. Then on the Sunday (the day we call Easter Sunday) he came back to life. The reason for this is that he is God's Son, so he is very special, and he died because of all the bad things we do. Everyone, except Jesus, does things that are not very good, but God does not punish us because Jesus had all the punishment for us. God and Jesus love you and me so much that he wanted us to live new, clean lives, he wanted us to start all over again. When a baby chick is born it pecks at the shell from inside until the shell breaks open, then this newly born chick comes out - its a new life. So we give eggs at Easter to remind us that when *Jesus* came alive again he made us new life, just like the chicken. Isn't that just fantastic!
Here is a good prayer to say just before you get into bed:

Thank you Jesus for dying for me,
help me to always be kind and good,
so that I can show people how much you love me and them also. Amen.



ABRAHAM	EYE
KINGDOM	SCRIBES
BARABBAS	FRANKINCENSE
LIGHT	SIDON
BETHANY	GALILEE
LOAVES	SIMON
CAESAR	GARMENT
MARY	SYNAGOGUES
CANAAN	GOLGOTHA
MYRRH	THIRTY
CAPERNAUM	HEROD
NAZARETH	TOOTH
CHRIST	HONEY
OLIVES	VIPERS
COCK	ISRAEL
PARABLE	ZEBEDEE
CYRENE	JEWS
PILATE	DAVID
JOHN	SABBATH
DEVIL	JORDAN
SALT	

A	Z	N	S	D	I	S	R	A	E	L	X	C	E	W	S
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J	C	R	T	H	J	I	E	B	A	N	P	A	H	H	O
Z	E	B	E	D	E	E	M	H	D	X	G	R	O	T	C
K	T	A	Q	P	I	L	A	T	E	O	O	M	N	E	L
C	S	R	E	G	J	R	O	Y	G	T	L	E	E	R	E
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A	B	X	R	D	I	K	S	V	B	O	W	V	O	E	M
G	E	R	U	C	A	P	E	R	N	A	U	M	T	S	A
A	H	B	D	F	H	T	A	B	B	A	S	H	H	K	P



News and Information

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

This year the WI movement in the U.K. celebrates its 90th anniversary. Dorset Federation has decided to hold Arts and Crafts Exhibitions around the County and Sixpenny Handley will be entering the one to be held at Shaftesbury on 25th July in the British Legion Hall.

In spite of the bitterly cold wind (and it being Valentine's Day!!) there was a good attendance at the February meeting. Our speaker was Connie Creighton, B.E.M. who kept us amused and entertained when she elaborated on the title of her talk '22 years on the road with Sooty'. From Harry Corbett's purchase of the puppet in Blackpool 56 years ago (cost 7/6d) its rise to fame and on to how Connie herself became involved in 'manipulating' Sooty both on TV and in the touring company. (She has a very arthritic hand to show for it). The British Empire Medal was awarded in recognition of Connie's work with the bear for children's charities. Sooty even made an appearance at the end of the talk and at refreshment time Connie's husband joined us – we discovered that he had 'worked' Sweep for 10 years (arthritic hand too).

Jan Gibb was the only person to bring a hand puppet for the exhibition and Jean Mereweather's Hellebore won Flower of the Month.

At the March meeting members were taken into Court (metaphorically speaking, of course) Our Speakers were members of the East Dorset Magistracy. Mr Howard Mackenzie-Cook and Mrs Bernadette MacDonald-Raggett very interestingly took us through a comprehensive summary of the workings of the law and Court procedure. Magistrates are unpaid volunteers who deal with 97% of all criminal cases and it was suggested by Howard and Bernadette that we make arrangements to visit a court and see for ourselves.

Jan Gibb's limerick about A Man of Law won the competition.

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A yellow polyanthus grown by Doreen Leverton won Flower of the Month.

4 members from the Institute have been invited to visit Prince Charles' garden at Highgrove on 21st April. They will be joined by members from the rest of our WI Group. As you can imagine there were plenty of ladies wanting to take up this invite, and the result of the ballot means Stella, Sue, Meg and Trish will be on the coach. Institute meetings: 7.30pm in the

Village Hall

April 11th: Annual Meeting followed by Bobbie Carter – Hints on Showing.

Annual Cup Competition – 3 rock cakes.

April 19th: Spring Council, Weymouth

April 27th: 83rd birthday meal

May 9th: Resolutions for A.G.M. in June

May 19th: Hillier Arboretum, Romsey

May 26th: Group Meeting Tarrant Gunville

Maggie Staplehurst

SCHOOL REUNION

July 23rd

Village Hall

Open to All

School will be open between 2 pm and
4 pm.

Village Hall open from 2 pm.

On show will be photographs of the
village, school days, village events, etc.

Cream teas and refreshments available.

7.30pm BBQ

Raffle, Music

Tickets available £1.50 in advance or £2.00 on the day.

We still urgently require any photographs, video, cine films of the school or
village events.

Please contact Josie on 01725 552622

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April 17 2005 London Marathon

Running for SENSE

Don't expect miracles but I am proposing to get round and any support would be welcomed. Here is a little bit about SENSE and the work that they do:

So much of our experience of the world comes through our eyes and ears. A tiny baby learns to recognise his mother's face, young people listen to their teachers, adults scan the job pages for their next move. But how could you do any of this if you were deafblind? It sounds daunting, impossible even. And yet, given the right services and support, each individual can develop their talents and choose how they wish to live their lives.

But there is still has a long way to go. For every deafblind person who is being helped to fulfil his or her potential, another remains marginalised and isolated. For every family that receives the support it needs, another is exhausted and overwhelmed. Sense's dream is that all deafblind people get the backing they deserve.

Causes of deafblindness include premature birth, birth trauma and exposure to rubella during pregnancy, which can cause babies to be born deafblind. Some genetic conditions, such as Usher syndrome, can also result in deafblindness. People can also become deafblind at any time through illness, accident or in older age.

Sense is seeking to generate awareness of deafblindness as well as raising funds to help deafblind people live more independent lives.



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Any donations towards my fundraising efforts will be gratefully received – please call the Sense marathon line on 020 7272 7858 or donations can be made by logging on to my fund raising page on the following Web page www.justgiving.com/marynewman

Thank you

Mary Newman

On Wednesday 19th January 2005 the **Wimborne U3A** group visited your village to see first-hand what we have been learning about Sixpenny Handley. We were all amazed at the activities which go on under the surface of what first appeared to be a very quiet Dorset village. It proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable morning and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking my good friend, Maureen Penrose, for the conducted tour around the village and also for allowing us to borrow and read several copies of the Downsman magazine, which we found fascinating. I would also like



to thank Mr. Alec Hunt and Mrs Rita Perrott for kindly giving us lots of helpful information on what life had once been like in Sixpenny Handley. Not forgetting Mrs Fury from the Roebuck for her very welcome cups of coffee. What a wonderful village to live in! *Thank you.*

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WE ARE WHAT WE EAT

Many of us have probably seen the recent television programmes on the disastrous effects a poor diet can have on our bodies and our health. Recently there have been investigations into the type of foods our children eat on a daily basis, either at home or as part of school dinners, and they are hardly nutritionally sound or conducive to good health, concentration, and good behaviour traits. Even scarier is the possibility that our children may die before we do due mainly to these unhealthy snacks and foods. After talking to quite a few people it has become clear to me that many of us do not know what foods are good for us and what are bad, or even which foods contain certain basic vitamins and minerals essential to good health. And so I thought I should write a bit about nutrition as a general guide to help those of us who are not clear on what a healthy diet means.

Good nutrition is the first step to good health. However, it is not just what we eat that is important. You can eat the best food available and still digest or eliminate it imperfectly, so nutrition is not just about food or minerals, vitamins and other nutrients - it is about the ability of the body to absorb and use those nutrients efficiently and then eliminate the waste - in other words it is about the whole digestive system.

Digestion begins in the mouth; if food is not chewed properly it cannot be correctly digested. The stomach and intestines are essentially a long tube inside the body, within which the foods we eat are broken down into nutrients to be absorbed and assimilated into the bloodstream, and then fed to the tissues throughout the body. The whole digestive process thus depends not on just the food we eat but also when we eat it, how we eat it and, on the condition of the digestive organs and their ability to metabolise (or burn up) food and to absorb the nutrients.

The metabolism and digestion generally slow down in the evening, hence food eaten in the evening will not be as efficiently digested as food eaten in the morning, therefore it makes sense not to eat a big, heavy meal late in the evening. Similarly, eating between meals retards digestion. The stomach does not function like a conveyor belt, it is more like a mixing bowl, in which foods are broken down and prepared for absorption through the small intestines. A normal meal may take between 2-6 hours to pass through the stomach but if you eat a snack between meals the stomach stops mixing and starts the digestive process all over again, so food that would normally pass through the stomach in a few hours stays in the stomach for up to 15 hours during which time it putrefies and ferments causing wind; it then passes into the small intestines improperly broken down, and nutrients cannot be efficiently absorbed.

Stress and emotions affect the digestive organs causing them to under-function when you are under strain. Who hasn't felt their stomach and intestines knotting up when suffering emotional turmoil? In these circumstances you can eat like a horse but the food won't be properly digested. Toxins can result and accumulate within the body, so you may end up with skin complaints, migraines, abdominal pain, constipation and a host of other symptoms. It is far better to wait until you are not emotional or stressed before eating.

Healthy digestion depends upon the actual state of your stomach and intestines and digestive organs.

Efficient and healthy digestion therefore depends on:

- The food we eat
- How and when we eat it
- The state of the digestive system.

Iris analysis reveals the state of the digestive system, and from there you can find out those foods that are best for you and those foods you would do better to avoid.

The food you eat should be as natural, unprocessed, varied and high in fibre as possible, food should

be eaten as close to it's natural state as possible, ensuring that a good percentage is organic and eaten raw where possible or cooked to a minimum. Your diet should contain fruit, vegetables, natural cereals, in preference to refined flour and sugar products such as biscuits, cakes and pastries, and avoiding high levels of fatty or fried foods and keeping caffeine laden drinks such as tea, coffee and cola drinks to a minimum. Artificial colourings, flavourings and preservatives should also be avoided; meats and dairy produce kept to minimum as these foods overload the digestion.

80% of your food needs to be alkaline as those of us with high levels of blood acidity are more likely to be ill or suffer degenerative diseases. Only 20% of your food should be acid forming. So what foods are alkaline or acid? A general rule is that nearly all fruit, vegetables and pulses are alkaline forming foods except butter beans, broad beans, asparagus, olives and mustard and cress. Meat, fish and butter are acid forming, skimmed and whole milk are alkaline. Some whole grains are acidic, such as oatmeal, wholemeal flour, sago and tapioca, most nuts are alkaline except walnuts and hazelnuts.

Refined or sugary foods will rob the body of nutrients, fast releasing sugar foods will create havoc with blood sugar levels leading to cravings for sweet and carbohydrate foods as blood sugar levels soar then drop dramatically after the 'sugar-high' experienced after eating sugar rich foods. Getting a good balance, remembering the 80%/20% rule is best for the body's nutritional needs that are obtained from a wide variety of foods consumed over the week.

Here are five quick ways to improve digestion:

- Eat 80% alkaline forming foods and only 20% acid forming foods. This means eating large quantities of vegetables, fruit, less concentrated protein foods such as beans, lentils and whole grains, instead of meat, fish, cheese and eggs.
- Eat fast-fermenting and acid fruits on their own as snacks. Most soft fruits, including peaches, plums, mangoes, papayas, strawberries and melons ferment quickly in the gut. Oranges, lemons, grapefruit and pineapple may inhibit digestion of carbohydrates although they are alkaline forming and are best eaten separately. Use these foods as an energy boost instead of 'quick-fix' sugary snacks.
- Eat animal protein on its own or with vegetables. Concentrated protein like meat, fish, hard cheeses and eggs require lots of stomach acid to break them down and stay in the stomach about 3 hours so do not combine with fast-releasing or refined carbohydrate foods or fast fermenting foods.
- Avoid all refined carbohydrates. Eat unrefined fast-releasing carbohydrates with unrefined slow-releasing carbohydrates. Fruits that do not readily ferment in the stomach, such as bananas, apples and coconut can be combined with slow-releasing carbohydrate cereals such as oats and millet grain.
- Do not eat until your body is wide awake. Do not expect to digest food when your body is sleepy; in the morning leave at least an hour if you can between waking and eating. If you exercise in the morning, then eat afterwards. Never start your day with stimulating tea, coffee or a cigarette. For breakfast eat only carbohydrate based foods such as cereal and fruit, just fruit on its own or wholegrain rye toast. In the evening leave at least 2 hours between finishing eating and going to sleep.

If you need more help on this matter or would like to have your nutritional needs assessed, give me a call and make an appointment for your individual nutritional programme.

Sheila Ralph. M.H., BSYA (N.Th.), (Irid.), (Ad. C.M.A), (I.H).

Master Herbalist, Nutritional Therapy, Iridology, Acupressure & Tui'na and Indian Head Massage Practitioner.

Sheila practices from her home in Sixpenny Handley and The Centre for Complementary Health Care in Blandford. For an appointment or for further information telephone 01725552265.

Sixpenny Handley Pupils Explore “@Bristol”

A truly excellent school visit to the learning experience known as @Bristol (formerly the ‘Bristol Exploratory’ science museum) was enjoyed by pupils from Sixpenny Handley First School last Thursday, 17th March. From arrival (and the first sight of some fascinating water-sculptures outside the building) to departure, our 8 and 9 year old pupils were challenged, excited and eager to learn through a wide range of activities, mainly around the theme of Forces – never has Physics seemed so much fun! Gravity, pushing and pulling forces, friction, air and water resistance, the properties of light and sound, levers, pulleys, gears and other mechanisms were so much more easily understood when represented by real machines designed to be used ‘hands-on’.



Arriving at ‘@Bristol’, the children view the first water feature (the dome of the ‘Imaginarium’ is visible in the background).

The staff, facilities and organisation at the centre were first-class. A learning workshop reinforced the children’s understanding of forces, and in the time spent in the exhibition hall they investigated functioning machinery of every kind, and used the interactive displays with enthusiasm.

In the classroom, staff from @Bristol provided a lesson on ‘Fantastic Forces’, involving the children in practical workshop activities, and ensuring that the fun had a firm scientific context.



Defying gravity...

Pushes and pulls

Even an hour spent in the main museum, exploring the hands-on exhibits, was not enough to satisfy all the questions and investigations raised by our young scientists. Among the most popular machines,

exciting mainly because of its size, is a large cage pulled up by child-and-pulley power, and braked on the downward fall by huge paddle blades.

The pulley cage exhibit

The media studio provided huge excitement, as the



children were able to take on the roles of a whole television broadcasting team, deciding camera angles and mixing sound, as well as appearing themselves on the television screen.

Camera woman in action!



The shining globe of the 'Imaginarium' was exciting from the outside, and inside did not disappoint, for there the children

experienced a vivid trip to the Mars

landscape, their senses engaged with all-round images and sound as they tumbled alarmingly down Martian crevasses or rolled at speed across the red desert to a Martian colony of the future – an unforgettable journey of the imagination!



Despite the relatively long journey, all agreed that a visit to @Bristol is well worth the effort, not only for children of school age, but for all those of enquiring mind and lively imagination! For Sixpenny Handley pupils, it was a valuable enrichment of the science curriculum in ways that would be hard to reproduce in the classroom.

Elizabeth Moreland
(Class 3 teacher)

What's In Your Bag?

IN DAYS gone by all an injured footballer needed to recover was a brisk sponge down with some icy water. All ills were healed and the battered player was hauled to his feet, ready to go again. The bucket and once-legendary magic sponge are now long gone (of concern was the potential transfer of infectious diseases from player to player by a blood-stained sponge); the 'trainers bag' is now far more substantial and appropriate than its former counterpart.

Contents of a "routine" Medical Bag

CREPE BANDAGES

ELASTIC ADHESIVE BANDAGE (various sizes)

ELASTIC/SELF-ADHESIVE/TEARABLE BANDAGES (various sizes)

ZINC OXIDE TAPE (inelastic) (various sizes)

DISPOSABLE NITRILE GLOVES

GAUZE SWABS

PLASTERS (non-allergenic/waterproof)

STERILE NON-ADHERENT WOUND DRESSINGS (various sizes)

TRIANGULAR BANDAGES

EYE PADS

SPRAY BOTTLE (for iced water)

SCISSORS (safety type)

SAFETY NOTICE (on the use of the contents)

The Downsman

DON'T FORGET WHATS ON!!!

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Apr-06	Whist at The Village Hall	22	May-12	Chase Community Friends	33
Apr-07	Chase Community Friends	33			
Apr-08	Scouts BINGO Evening	20			
Apr-11	W I Annual Meeting	41			
Apr-14	Chase Community Friends	33	May-18	Whist Prize Presentation	22
Apr-17	St Rumbold's AGM	11			
Apr-19	Bowls Club Quiz Night	31			
Apr-19	W I Spring Council	41			
Apr-20	Whist at The Village Hall	22	May-19	Chase Community Friends	33
Apr-21	Chase Community Friends	33			
Apr-23	Police Support Unit	03			
Apr-24	Bowls Club Season Opens	31			
Apr-24	St Mary's AGM	11	May-19	W I visit to Hillier Arboretum	41
Apr-24	Tennis Club Opener	28			
Apr-25	Village Hall AGM	23			
Apr-27	W I 83rd Birthday Meal	41			
Apr-28	Chase Garden Club	30	May-20 Downsman Copy Deadline	03	
Apr-28	Chase Community Friends	33			
Apr-29 Moviola	05				
May-04	Whist at The Village Hall	22			
May-05	Chase Community Friends	33	May-21	Police Support Unit	03
May-06	Cranborne Manor Gardens	21			
May-09	Scouts AGM	18			
			May-22	Bowls Club Open Day	17