

The Downsmen

**NEWS AND INFORMATION
MAGAZINE**

Parish Plan Questionnaire Issue

**Your chance to tell them
what you want**

**It's easy
Just complete the pull out
section and send it in.**

**PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY
WITH PENTRIDGE**

February 2006

**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

Vice-Chairman

Dr. Judith Gillespie Smith 552576
 Mr. R. Ferguson..... 552222
 Ian Davies..... 552076
 Christopher Snape..... 553001

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

Vicarage

..... 552608

Curate

Rev. Wendy Griffith... 01258 840557

Roman Catholic

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

Priest

Rev. Fr. Ciaran McGuinness, W.F.
 The Prestbury, Whitecliff Mill St.
 01258 452051

1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Scout Leader

Rob Easton..... 552038

Cub Leader

Esme Isaacs..... 517203

Doctors

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

Schools

First School

Handley First School..... 552356

Middle School

Cranborne Middle School 517348

Upper School

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

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Chairman

Gordon Oxford..... 552591

Secretary

Paul Skinner..... 552785

Treasurer

Ian Davies..... 552076

Bookings

Julie Richardson..... 519438

Sixpenny Handley Allotment Holders Association

Chairman

John Curtis..... 552397

Secretary

Tess Reith.....

The Chase Nursery Link Group

Contact

Jane Laing..... 553146

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point

John Curtis..... 552397

Co-ordinators

Area 1 - Dean Lane

Don Penrose..... 552022

2 - Lower Handley

Chris Stokes

3 - Upper Handley

John Clarke..... 552674

4 - Deanland & N.E.

Charles Nodder..... 552292

5 - West & South

Simon Meaden..... 552715

Other Areas (These are separate Homewatch Schemes)

Pentridge

Roy Elford..... 552296

Woodyates

Roy Warner..... 552665

Police

Blandford Station. 01258 452101

The Chase Nursery

Chairperson

Ciona Nicholson..... 553040

Secretary

Jane Laing..... 553146

Sixpenny Handley W.I. (Formed in 1922)

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

Handley Sports Under 9s

Manager

Adam Day..... 01258 452481

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

Laura Loncar..... 552651

Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

Treasurer

Ian Davies..... 552076

Secretary

Juli Spendley..... 01202 822818

Happy Nappy Club

Hilary..... 552866

Becky..... 552545

Jill..... 552159

Maureen..... 552561

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

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 April 2006

Copy Deadline is 20th March 2006

Parish Plan for Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge

THIS IS YOUR VILLAGE* IN YOUR PARISH

*includes Sixpenny Handley, Dean, Deanland, Gussage St Andrew, Minchington, Pentridge, Woodcutts, Woodyates.

Would you like to see a comprehensive Parish Plan which will:

RETAIN ALL THAT IS GOOD?

IMPROVE WHAT CAN BE BETTER?

INFLUENCE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT?

A Parish Steering Group (PSG) has been formed with these aims. It is independent of, but sponsored by, the Parish and District Councils. Unless we produce our own local plan, one will be imposed on us and we may not like it. This is URGENT. Action is required NOW. We want this plan to reflect what you want. We cannot know this unless you tell us. The members of the PSG with their areas of responsibility are shown below. FUNDS are available. Let us ensure they are well spent on what we want and need for the community.

Please complete the pull-out Questionnaire in the centre of this magazine by Tuesday 14th February (or as soon as possible thereafter) and return to one of the following locations in Sixpenny Handley:

Styles Newsagent/Shop Post Office

Parish Office

(or post to Parish Office, Unit 5B, Town Farm Workshops, Dean Lane, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury SP5 5PA.)

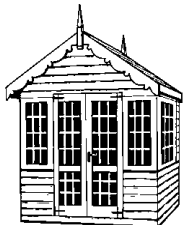
PSG

Chairman	Leonard Holihan	Tel:552491	Vice-Chairman	Michael Palmer	Tel:553138
Treasurer	Rosalie Adams	Tel:553032	Secretary	Cynthia Dawkins	Tel:552786
Environment	Ted Cox	Tel:552801	Transport	Chris Stokes	Tel:552672
Youth	Alistair Broadway	Tel:552973	Church	Graham Smith	Tel:552149
Health	Mark Morgan				

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WE NEED YOUR VIEWS.**

Views expressed in this magazine are those of our correspondents and do not necessarily reflect the opinions held by the Editor or Members of The Parish Council.

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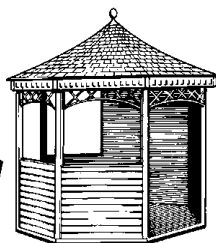
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Community Champions in East Dorset

Chairman of East Dorset District Council, Cllr Mrs Queenie Comfort, launching the 2006 Community Service Awards said. "Among our community there are many heroes who deserve recognition and this is the opportunity for members of the public to put forward the names of those people whom they consider worthy of an award"

"I urge you to take this opportunity to have their kindness, caring or work recognized".

You are invited to submit your nominations in any of the following categories:-

Contribution to Art/Culture

Contribution to Sport/Leisure

Young Person's Contribution to the Community (under 18 years)

Adult Person's Contribution to the Community (age 18+ years)

Achievement in the face of adversity/disability

Contribution to the upkeep of the Environment and Conservation

The 2006 scheme sees the introduction of an exciting new category specifically designed to encourage nominations in the field of conservation and the environment. So, put your thinking caps on and if you know of anyone who has a special interest in, or fits the bill, for any of these categories, then please do not hesitate to send in your nomination. Forms will be available at various outlets throughout the district from early January and can also be obtained at the Council Offices at Furzehill, Wimborne. Please telephone (01202) 886201 Ext. 2324 for further information. The closing date for receipt of nominations is Friday 3rd March 2006.

Once again, these awards would not be possible without the support of local sponsors – Hall & Woodhouse, Porsche Centre Bournemouth, East Dorset Housing Association, Community Magazine, Meggitt Plc and Blandford Office Furniture Limited and our grateful thanks go to them.

100 Club Winners – November

1st Dr Geddes 2nd Mrs Symes 3rd G Turner

100 Club Winners – December

1st withheld* 2nd Mrs J Haines 3rd Mr S Judd

* subscriber decided not to renew

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



News and Information

NATIONAL
FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

In early December a group of members enjoyed a highly amusing evening with Pam Ayres at the Tivoli Theatre, Wimborne.

A week later we attended the Beacon Group Carol Service, held at Melbury Abbas. The West Dorset Accordion Band played at our Christmas Meeting with guests coming from Group Institutes, our neighbours Cranborne and Edmonsham and our Link Institute, Lyndhurst.

During the month, Christmas presents, (kindly 'shopped for' by Trish Chorley) were given to people in the parish who are either, completely house bound, or in a nursing home. We try our very best to keep the gift list up to date, however we would welcome every ones, assistance to accomplish this.

In January we welcomed Mrs Joyce Wareham, who began her talk with a very brief history of man's struggle to make fire which eventually lead to the invention of the match. Joyce then showed us some of her collection of over 800 match strikers, in all shapes and sizes and made in various materials, including glass, china, brass, wood and horn.

The most eye catching were china figurines which incorporated candlesticks on the back of which were the ridged strikers. Their quality depended on where they would reside - upstairs, downstairs, in my lady's chamber!

Stella Symes won both the monthly competitions having fitted 46 articles in a match box, and her orchid was the flower of the month.

Dates For Diaries

Mon. 13th February	Mrs A. Wilson	Dorset Landmarks
Sat. 25th February	Jumble Sale (full details	may be found elsewhere in this
		magazine)
Mon. 13th March	Mr G. Harbottle	Dorset Wildlife Trust
Fri. 17th March	Hall Fund Raising Event (full	details may be found elsewhere in
		this magazine)
Mon. 10th April	Annual Meeting	Mrs M. Lockyer
Tues. 25th April	Spring Council Meeting	Weymouth

Institute meetings are held in the Village Hall on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7.30pm



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Notes from Priory Cottage 2006

Woodcutts Traditions

As I begin this article, on the morning of the 30th December 2005, the rain is pouring down and has completely washed away yesterday's snow. It is a typical December day as far as I can remember, in fact quite traditional for the time of year. This morning's papers are making much of the fact that it has been the coldest recorded December for the last decade. They also state there is more cold weather to come. Can you believe it? There is a tradition in this country of cold weather in the winter believe it or not. The other important point to remember is that a meteorologist will never consider trends over a period of time less than thirty years. Recently we have seen a lot of press concerning the Gulf Stream, of it being turned at lower latitudes because of the cold, fresher (lacking in salt) water from the thawing Arctic Ice Cap. No weather forecaster will commit himself on the evidence of part of one year or even yet of a decade..

The recording of the temperatures, flow rates and exact points of the return of the thermohaline conveyor belt of currents world-wide, have all in the past been far less accurate than today's and of course on a much smaller scale. The Gulf Stream is part of a global system and cannot be isolated from all other ocean currents. So, as far as I am concerned I am not packing up and moving south, I don't think it will be much different the other side of Wimborne anyway. In fact I am not prepared to bet on there being white Christmases in the near future.

One tradition I am involved in is the New Years Honours List, not of course that of the UK, but that of Woodcutts. There is only one honour being bestowed this year, and that is almost by way of an accident, or perhaps the term miss-spelling would be a more appropriate phrase. The person to be honoured is my wife Meg (Madge), who becomes a Grand-Dam. This honour was conferred on her by a grand-daughter, who mistakenly sent a Christmas card to Granddam instead of Grandma. "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings." Another recipient of an award was Mrs. Win Kirby, who received central heating earlier this winter, after some eighty odd years living in the same house without it.

The next topic is far from traditional, it is that of deciduous trees in the upper reaches of the Chalke Valley bearing leaves at Christmas time. Included in this category are maple, hawthorn, elderberry and hazel, to name but a few. Other people from other places in the area will have their own stories to tell, so please contact us about the coldest December for ten years, yet with leaves on trees which should have fallen weeks ago.

Another of the traditions of Christmas is the dressing up of children to perform in Nativity plays, with little boys dressed as the Three Wise Men. We have just spent Christmas with three such boys, aged two, five and seven. (Just three of our eleven grand children.) There is an old country saying about boys, namely:-

One boy's a boy,
Two boys are half a boy
And three boys are no boys at all.

Believe you me, at Christmas, this is not a valid statement. At times to us, aged beings, it seemed that a whole infants school lived in the house, but who would be without them, grandsons I mean not schools. Please pay attention.

While I have your attention, I am putting aside my coffee to write about the Glastonbury Thorn. The original tree is long gone, it was supposed to have grown from a staff thrust into

the soil at the Abbey, by Joseph of Arimathea. He was the person, who was responsible for removing Jesus from the cross and burying him. Many cuttings were taken from the original tree and this year, villages in the Cranborne Chase received a plant to commemorate Tree Week. Ours is planted in the Sixpenny Handley churchyard. As a very special blessing, the original and the cuttings from it, are supposed to flower twice a year, once in the spring and again at Christmas. Having been away for Christmas, I will today look to see if tradition has been kept and that Our Tree is in flower or at least still in leaf. I shan't be going for a while, I hope you don't mind waiting?

It is now New Years Day, I hope you have had a good sleep as it is now 8.15pm. I have visited the churchyard, and was surprised to see some of last years leaves on our specimen but as yet no blossom. However there are buds that are breaking, so I will keep my eyes open and report back. After all in the last 2005 years the date of Christmas has changed many times, even under present conditions there are still five days of Christmas left. May I wish you all a very Happy and Prosperous 2006. God bless.

Ted Cox 1.02.2006 (That is the first time I have written 2006 in earnest) Ted



DOUG LUCAS
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Logs, lighting wood,
wood chip and mulch,
stakes, posts, rails, wattle hurdles, panels
and all types of fencing
supplied and erected.

Also gardens cleared, gravel paths and
driveways

Mobile Library Schedule - Visits on Thursday Fortnightly

Woodyates – Cobley Close	2.25 – 2.40	Handley – School	3.00 – 3.20
Handley – Roebuck Inn	3.25 – 3.45	Handley – Dean Lane	3.50 – 4.05
Handley - Sheasby Close	4.10 – 4.30		

February 9th & 23rd; March 9th & 23rd

Dorset Governor Services



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- support teaching and learning
- be a friend to the school
- help to solve problems

For more details, contact:

Sixpenny Handley First School
Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury SP5 5NJ
Tel: 01725 552356



Handley Sports Club '100 Club' Draw Number One - January 2006

1st	£20	035	Dave Morgan, Holmlea, Blandford Forum
2nd	£15	130	Richard Adlem, Park Cottage, Sixpenny Handley
3rd	£10	048	Ken Jeanes. Sheasby Close, Sixpenny Handley
4th	£5	078	Mrs M.C. Penrose, The Orchard, Sixpenny Handley



Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

The parish Homewatch scheme has been strengthened by two new volunteers coming forward to act as co-ordinators. Simon Meaden will be looking after the rural areas to the West and South of the parish, while Chris Stokes is kindly taking over the lower part of the village itself. We would like to thank them both for getting involved.

Dorset police are also looking into improving Homewatch schemes throughout the Blandford district. Inspector Lumley chaired a meeting at Blandford on 19 January, at which our Homewatch was represented by Don Penrose. The general feeling is that the local Homewatch schemes are working well but that no-one, including the police, should be complacent. There are still too many crimes which are the result of laziness - failure to lock a car or to padlock a shed door. We can all do that little bit more to raise crime awareness and keep Sixpenny Handley safe and secure.

Incidents over the Christmas and New Year period were happily few in number, although there were two reported incidents of criminal damage to vehicles. It was encouraging to see the parish Christmas tree at the crossroads survive unscathed, then disappointing to see the bus stop sign uprooted. Now it is back in place perhaps those responsible for the vandalism will reflect just how pointless their actions were.

Plans for 2006 include replacing and cleaning the Homewatch signs around the parish as necessary. We will also be having more formal meetings with Dorset Police, and in particular their crime prevention department.

Finally, a 'thank you' from the Homewatch to Alan Vincent for his dedicated service in editing 53 consecutive issues of the Downsman. The magazine has been a huge help in building a sense of community and in getting our messages to you, the readers. Most copies are delivered by the Homewatch co-ordinators and this provides us with a perfect opportunity to get round our patches six times a year. We hope it also helps you to put a face to our names. Good luck to Alan's successor.



Dave & M. Swift Plant

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MOB: 07766 733530
FAX: 01725 552553



- Did you get five signatures ?

Hopefully you read the article in the last edition of the Downsman concerning Richard Adlem's petition to the House of Lords. Firstly, many thanks to all those who have already obtained their five signatures; the response has been very encouraging and Richard is extremely grateful to all those who have been willing to show their support.

But we are still short of our target, and need more signatures. So if you have not yet done so, would you be willing to sign the attached petition and perhaps get other members of your family or friends to do so? Ideally, we are hoping to get five signatures from every household in the village. The forms can be handed in at any of the village shops or the pub in the High Street, or to the Doctors' surgery or Handley Garage in Dean Lane.

For those who missed the last issue of the Downsman and do not know what this is about, in essence

PETITION

To the House of Lords

We, the villagers of Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge and the neighbouring communities humbly and earnestly petition Your Lordships to grant Richard Adlem a hearing to investigate the evidence of Judicial Prejudice in the case of *IN Newman Limited v. Richard Adlem* as detailed in the submissions.

1.	2.
3.	4.
5.	6.

the legal battle into which our village funeral director, Richard Adlem, has been dragged has been widely reported on television, in the Journal and in the Sunday Telegraph. Richard has been sued by IN Newman, the Salisbury Funeral Director, for using his own personal name, because they claim they bought all rights to use his name as the result of a contract to which Richard was not a party, and which he knew nothing about. Of course, Richard denies absolutely that IN Newman in Salisbury have any rights to pretend to be connected with him, and that by doing so, they are misleading bereaved families into believing that they are dealing with the real Richard Adlem in person when of course they are not.

In the High Court, Richard naturally won his case because the claim was ridiculous and outrageous. But then the Court of Appeal overturned the decision of the High Court, in an extraordinary judgment, and we believe that we have discovered evidence that the supervising Court of Appeal Judge shared commercial interests with the barrister acting for IN Newman, which he did not declare. The judgment was so littered with inaccuracies, we believe that it was prejudiced, and when Richard's 200 page written statement was returned to him by the court office, he discovered that it had not even been opened and the seals were all intact! Richard appealed to the House of Lords, but they refused to hear

the case, solely on the grounds that “it does not concern a matter of public interest”.

If judicial prejudice does not constitute a matter of public interest, then what does? Of course, it would be very embarrassing to the Law Lords if it was shown that the Court of Appeal Judge had been prejudiced, and there is little doubt that the House of Lords decided to dodge the issue rather than face up to it. But judicial prejudice goes to the heart of British justice, which sadly no longer enjoys the full confidence of the public, following several recent scandals in the courts.

Richard intends to take this to the European Court of Human Rights. Our first action is to submit a Petition to the House of Lords protesting that this IS a matter of public interest to OUR community. We need everyone who reads the Downsman to help, not just by signing the Petition, but by obtaining just five other signatures. Please do whatever you can to support Richard in these difficult times.

And remember, Richard of course continues to arrange funerals as he has always done. To make sure there is no mistake, he advertises now as “*Richard Adlem in person*”. Do not be misled by advertisements in the Salisbury Journal for *Richard Adlem Funeral Director*, which are all in fact placed by Newmans, and have nothing at all to do with Richard and be careful not to confuse the telephone number which makes use of a Handley telephone number answered in fact in Salisbury.

Many thanks to you all.

Nick Sherman

For further information telephone 552491, 552332 and 552496.

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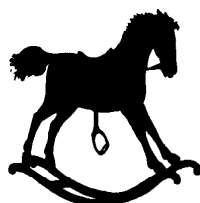
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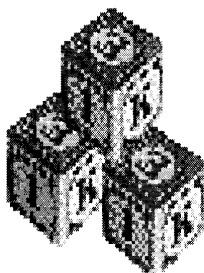


Happy Nappy meets every Monday at
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New Born Babies to School Age Children are welcome

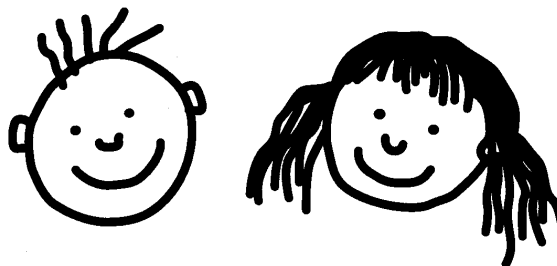
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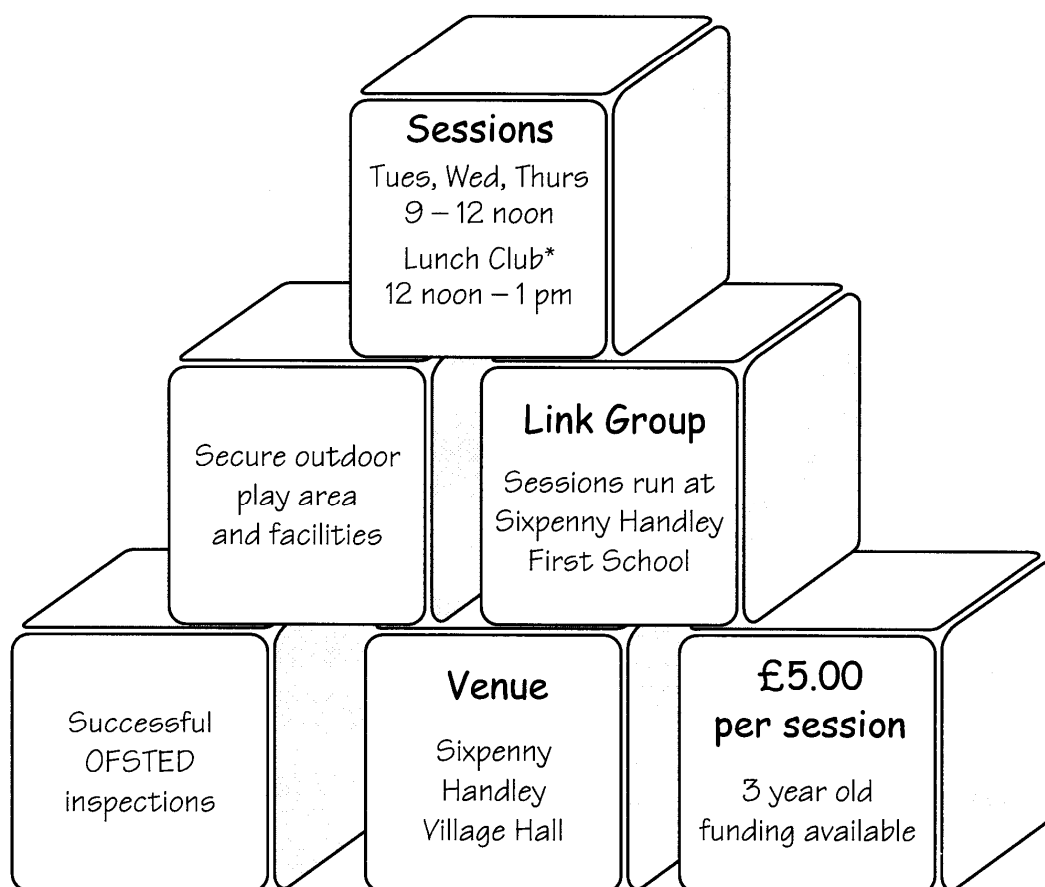


For more information phone
Hilary 01725 552866 Becky 01725 552545
Jill 01725 552159 or Maureen 01725 552561

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Secretary: Jane Laing.....01725 553146

*Thursday Lunch Club finishes at 12:45 pm

The Childrens' Own

As we move into February, we are told that there is some really cold weather to come in the near future. We expect that most of you will say, "I hope we get some proper snow." Perhaps we will, but not as much as they have had in Russia, where it has been much colder than we have had here since the last Ice Age. Just think of having ice and snow all year round.

Mr. Pippin doesn't like the cold and is already looking for the signs of spring. If you want to know what to look for, turn to the next page

Now Quiz of the month:-

- 1.) Where would you find a helter-skelter?
- 2.) What is the colour of the dragon on the flag of Wales?
- 3.) In the Olympics, what kind of medal does a winner receive?
- 4.) Is a triangle a wind, string or percussion instrument?
- 5.) What famous hero is said to have killed a dragon?
- 6.) Is the Mona Lisa a ballet, a book or a painting?
- 7.) What is the name of the river that runs through London?
- 8.) What large animal became stranded in the above river in January?
- 9.) In what country do Dutch People live?
- 10.) Does a sailboat go faster or slower in windy weather?

Parish Plan

Did you know that the people who organise the villages you live in, are planning to make it better for you all? Would you like to see things changed? Do you use the play area near the village hall? Is your school as you would like it. Why don't you tell Mum and Dad, your teacher or some one else you know well, what you would like the parish to be like, giving you more play opportunities, places to meet your friends clubs or sports facilities?

Answers to the December Quiz.

1.) 7 reindeers 2.) It was the day that the Alms boxes in the churches were emptied and the money divided between the poor. 3.) 2006 4.) The Robin. 5.) Three 6.) 12 days of Christmas. 7.) Dick Whittington, Mother Goose, Puss in Boots and lots more. 8.) The Elves 9.) The Fairy Queen. 10.) Money.

Before you turn over the page, Mr Pippin has a prayer for you to say during Spring:-

Please Father protect us and our families as we await the Spring, with all its new life. Help us to appreciate and understand our world, so that we can help to save it and leave it as we find it for all who come after us. Amen

Now an old one as you go to bed:-

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take. Amen

8 GALATIANS



As you can see from the word search the subject of this issue is the Spring. The picture shows a bird on the nest, a butterfly, a tree in flower and a mother rabbit with her baby. What should we be looking out for as we await the Spring.

The first and easiest thing to see are the wild flowers. We can't really count the snowdrops as they are here in winter, sometimes while the snow is on the ground. When the snow goes the snowdrop remains, leaving a reminder of the snow in its colour.

The next coloured flower to look for is the beautiful, pale, yellow primrose.

She is the Princess of Spring. The 'prim' part of her name comes from the same origin as

prime or first. She is the first rose of spring. Other yellow spring flowers are the daffodil, the celandine (which if on a warm, sheltered, but sunny bank might even beat the primrose.) and the aconite. Red or pink flowers to look out for are the herb Robert, red campion and honesty. While blue flowers that tell us spring is here are the blue (and white) violets with the bluebells just a little later.

You must also watch the trees as their buds change colour from dull greys and browns, to yellows, light browns, reddish browns and reds and then as the buds get really large the greens of the leaves as they appear.

Birds too will be preparing for Spring. They put on bright new coats and start building nests. The blackbirds and pigeons are big enough to spot with nesting materials in their beaks, while the rooks in their rookeries don't let you forget them, they are screaming for all their worth, while they repair and rebuild last years nests.

Animals too can be seen acting in a spring-like way. Baby rabbits will appear playing in the sun, while the mother deer will go off alone to have their babies, but these remain hidden to all but the very lucky people until they are able to run about.

So you see there is a lot to see in this wonderful countryside you live in, so as the evenings lengthen and the sun gets warmer, leave your television, you computer or your game-boy and get out and see the world changing around you.

Now to a less serious subject. Mr. Pippin found this silly rhyme in an old book, do you know what it means?

"A man in the wilderness asked of me,
How many red strawberries grow'd in the sea?
I answered him again as well as I could,
So many red herrings as swim' d in the wood!"

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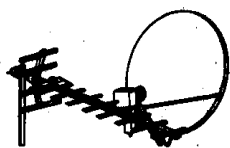


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ROBS COLUMN

Thoughts for the Day

I used to have an open mind
But my brains kept falling out

I used to have a good brain
But the recall button doesn't work now.

If you can't see the bright side of life
Polish the dull side.

Winter Days

Sitting in front of the log fire is the best way to spend a winters night, reading a poem

Logs to burn logs to burn
Logs to save the coal a turn
Here's a word to make you wise
When you hear the woodman's cries
Never heed his usual tale
That he has good logs for sale
But to read these lines and really learn
The proper kind of logs to burn

Oak logs will warm you well – if they're old and dry;
Larch logs or pinewood smell, but the sparks will fly;
Beech logs for Xmas time;
Scotch logs it is a crime for anyone to sell;
Birch logs will burn fast
Chestnut scarce at all;
Hawthorn logs are good to last if cut in the fall;
Holly logs burn like wax – you should burn them green;
Elm logs like smouldering flax, no flame to be seen;
Pear and apple logs will scent your room;
Cherry logs across the dogs –
Smell like flowers in bloom;
But
Ash logs, all smooth and grey,
Burn them green or old
Buy up all that comes your way;
They are worth their weight in gold.

Nights are beginning to draw out, so its time to think ahead, walking around the village with Jess I've noticed the dog mess is on the increase again.
Please all dog owners, remember to go out with your poo bags. Nobody likes to pay fines so make sure its not you.

The Dog Warden will be visiting this area soon.
Hopefully the parish will be purchasing some litter bins for the village.

Have pride in the village
Pick it up or take it home.

We must believe in luck. For how else can we explain the success of those we don't like?

Catch Phrase

NUR 4th
(Run back and forth)
N
I
P
(Pin up)
B
O
B
(Bob up and down)

Rob



Handley Sport Under 9's – Mini Soccer

Pictured are Handley Sports Under 9's who enjoyed their best game of the season beating Milborne St Andrew 3-0 with goal a from Tom Brown and a brace from Joshua Davis.

We are still on the look out for new players to join us for games left this year and to strengthen for next year! We are also on the look for sponsors for our new kit for the season. We have match day jackets already very

kindly sponsored by Maidment And Carter Building Contractors , so would you like to see you're company's name on the new kit - if so please contact Adam Day on 01258 452481 for more details.

We would also really appreciate lots of support from the village at all of our home games!

The remaining Home fixtures are:

Jan 29th	Piddle Valley Pumas
Feb 12th	Blandford Terras
Feb 19th	Sherborne Town
Mar 5th	Gillingham Town

Private Lionel Thorne (9910)
5th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment

In respect of the many bitterly fought actions on the Western Front which claimed the lives of thousands of British soldiers, many of whom have no individual grave marker to commemorate their death, but whose passing is confined to the myriad of memorial panels dedicated to the missing, it is, therefore, unusual to be able to pinpoint to within a relatively small area the spot where an individual died. This, however, is the case regarding Private Lionel Thorne of the 5th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, who fell in action on the 26th of September, 1916. As readers of these profiles will be aware, the Battle of the Somme had begun on the 1st of July of that year with great hopes of a decisive breakthrough of the German positions, but this had not been the case and since that terrible day both sides had been engaged in a series of hard fought actions, the British striving to reverse the setbacks suffered on that first day, while the Germans were content to fight a defensive battle, holding the ground deemed to be strategically important and retiring only as the dictates of the fighting demanded.

Thus, as the heat of high summer gave way to the cooler shades of autumn, this shell pitted landscape, home to the beleaguered frontline troops, continued to soak up punishment from the daily artillery duels, the rolling thunder from the heavy guns being heard many miles distant from those unfortunates unable to escape the consequences of these murderous barrages. And, in ever increasing numbers, tanks were entering the equation of '*modern warfare*', their presence being witnessed across the broad sweep of the battle lines. Cumbersome in appearance, noisy and exceedingly smelly when in action and still prone to frequent mechanical failure (and veritable death traps when stranded in no-man's land) the tank provided a much needed psychological boost to the British infantryman, particularly when committed to assaults on the universally detested German wire which was notoriously difficult to destroy (as thousands had discovered to their ultimate cost on the 1st of July) by conventional shell fire.

In mid-September the British Fourth Army, supported by the Reserve Army, Canadian Corps and a New Zealand Division, went into action twixt Thiepval and Combles, the frontal area of operations being approximately 10 miles in breadth. At various strategic points wave after wave of soldiers were thrown into battle. Quite early on in the fighting the enemy were cleared from their long held positions in High Wood and as the hours passed a handful of devastated villages, villages that existed in name only (their last civilian inhabitants having long since fled) were taken but, in the main, the stalemate of recent months remained unbroken. For both sides the cost in lives had been heavy, but still the generals were eager to keep the battle going.

And so we approach the sad demise of Private Thorne. On the 26th of September, elements of the 5th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, moved against Monquet Farm, located near Courcellette, a village west of the Albert to Bapaume road. It had been down this road that the Canadians had advanced, with tank support, on the 15th. From Pozieres they had made good progress, driving the Germans from the ruins of a sugar beet factory and, by nightfall, expelling the last of defenders from what remained of Courcellette. In the days (and weeks) that followed, intense pressure was maintained and, I believe, it was in these shell torn fields to the west of Courcellette that Lionel Thorne fell, in company with at least seven of his fellow Dorsetshires. Subsequently, all eight bodies were recovered, and identified, before being buried in Regina Trench Cemetery, a typical battlefield burial place which now contains 2,265 graves, indicative of the slaughter that took place within a few square kilometres of ground (approximately a kilometre to the south and a little over this

distance to the north-east are located two more predominantly Canadian cemeteries; Courcellette British Cemetery with 1,956 graves and Adanac (Canada spelt in reverse) Military Cemetery with 3,172 graves). However, this little band of men probably lay out in the open for several weeks as Regina Trench, the name bestowed by the Canadians on a German trench system that ran east to west across their front, did not fall until early in the day on the 21st of October, and it was not until the winter that the ground that had borne witness to such close quarter combat was consecrated and interments commenced. Even then, the nearest Germans were with a few kilometres of the cemetery's north-west boundary.

Little is known of Lionel Thorne's pre-service life. His entry in the Commonwealth War Graves Commission register is devoid of next of kin detail, so it is not known if he was married, or whether his parents were still alive. It is known, however, from information recorded in his service records, that he was born in the village and enlisted at Blandford, and at the time of his death he was living at Woodyates.

Bill Chorley

THE VERY ENGLISH ART OF CHANGE RINGING

The art of change ringing was established in the 17th century as a result of Church Bells being provided with wheels which allowed bells to be rung full circle in a controlled manner. However the three bells at Sixpenny Handley, recast in 1881 with the earliest dating originally from 1584, and the four bells at Pentridge, dating from 1857, can now only be struck by hammers or clappers which limits the resonance of the bell, and means they cannot be rung full circle; at Gussage St. Andrew there is only a single bell in the wooden cote.

Over the centuries Church Bells have rung out to announce events of National importance. They are rung half muffled to mark occasions such as the deaths of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and Princess Diana, and annually for Remembrance Sunday. They have also been rung victoriously for such events as the end of World War II and earlier for Battles such as Trafalgar and Waterloo, and many other historic landmarks. This year will give the opportunity to ring to celebrate the Queen's 80th birthday.

Have you ever heard and enjoyed the sound of bells drifting across our hills and valleys? Have you wondered how this lovely sound is produced or who or what is ringing those bells?!

If you ventured into the Church at Tollard Royal on a Wednesday evening you would find ringers from all walks of life enjoying the sociable side of ringing whilst making progress with their skills. Ringers throughout the country include boys and girls from the age of about 11 up to those who retired from work many many years ago. Younger ringers often move on to join a University Change Ringing Society whilst others may only ring for Services and practice in the Church where they learnt. Like riding a bicycle – once learnt, never forgotten!

As there is no opportunity to learn to ring in your village the Ringers of Tollard Royal would like to extend an invitation to you to visit us on a Wednesday evening at 7.45pm to see us in action and have a chat and see if you would like to have a go. Returning ringers would also be very welcome. Alternatively give Jackie Carlyle-Clarke a call on 01725



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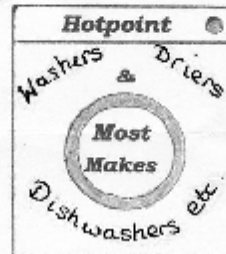
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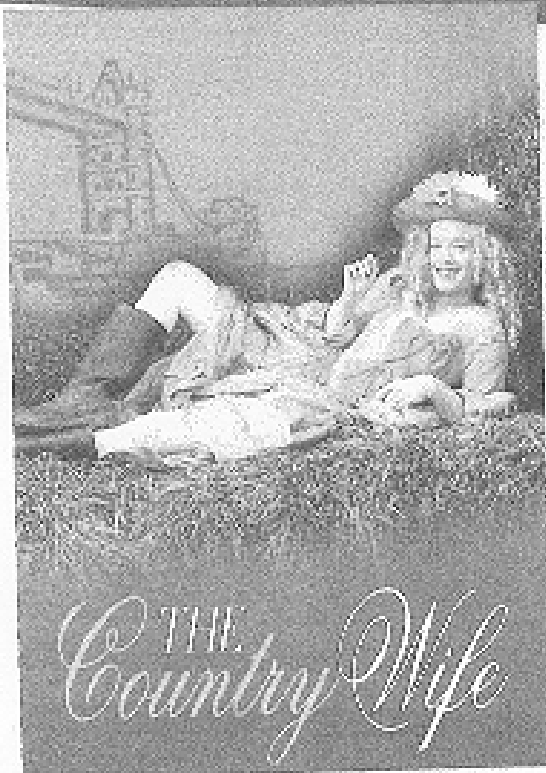
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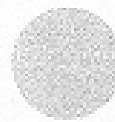


THE
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By William Wycherley in a new adaptation by Steve Gooch

When Margery Pinchwife leaves her cloistered existence in Hampshire for a taste of city life, she is determined to enjoy herself to the full, in spite of a husband who believes that "Good wives and private soldiers should be kept ignorant!"

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This production will form part of the FOREST OF PINE, FISHES & TREES festival taking place in Ipswich 20th March to 2nd April 2006

Photographs by Ian Clardy

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Tickets £6 Adults £4 under 18
£16 Family
Box office 01725 552 591 ask for Pat
FOREST.FORGE ARTSREACH

Village Hall News

Hello Again

I hope you all enjoyed your Christmas and New Year celebrations. Pat and I went to the Dance Club's New Years Eve party at the V. H. we had a wonderful time dancing well into the New Year (good job it is only once a year getting a bit old for that now). Val Martin organised this event and donated the proceeds plus a bit more from earlier dances to the V.H. with express instructions that the money is spent on new curtain track.

This will improve the look of the place inside as the present tracks are beginning to look a bit tired. Thank you Val and Caroline for your generosity.

The new windows were fitted on Jan 2nd to the entrance side of the hall. Comments so far are favourable. They should stop the draught inside. (Fingers crossed they don't get broken).

Let's go back to the film show on Dec 9th; a bit of a disaster only 18 people saw Tom and Jerry, and Millions. Both were good films. Hope it was my timing that was wrong (too close to Christmas to many other things happening on the same night). All was not lost as we had the grand Xmas Draw at the show.

Main prizewinners: £100 went to Gwen Jesse, £75 to Angus Macleod, £50 to Mervin Sparks and there were 12 other prizewinners. Congratulations to them all. Thanks to Paul for his first ever-small lotteries draw.

On Jan 4th 85 people enjoyed the pantomime "Tom Thumb" presented by Forest Forge. How 4 people and a few props can create such an entertaining evening amazed us all. Thanks to all who helped to make the evening a great success. Forest Forge will be back in March with an adult play called "The Country Wife" (Three stages and the audience facing one another) we look forward to that

Forthcoming events:

Feb 10th Helena Torpy (violin) and Steve Turner (accordion) will entertain us. This will take place in the CHURCH at 7.30pm tickets £5. This is an ARTREACH event

March 9th "The Country Wife" This new version of the William Wycherley classic restoration comedy, adapted for Forest Forge by Steve Gooch. Starts 7.30 pm Tickets £6. **This performance is not suitable for persons under 16**

March 31st Film Show "Mrs Henderson Presents" 12A the story of the Windmill theatre and especially its role in keeping Our Boys amused during WW2. Inoffensive British fun, starring Judi Dench, Bob Hoskins, Will Young and Kelly Reilly. Doors open 7.00 pm start 7.30 pm price £4

BOX OFFICE number for all the shows 01725 552 591

The Burns supper organised by Angus and his wife Mary had 64 people sat down to Haggis, Neeps and Tatties; the occasional Kilt was seen around the room. The meal was excellent. Bobby's singing seems to go from strength to strength. Toasts were proposed and drunk by Ian, David and Sheila. Thanks to everyone for a wonderful enjoyable evening. The Kilt was made and sponsored by Summerlock Upholstery many thanks

The Executive committee meets on February 6th at 7.30pm

The Management committee meets on February 20th at 7.30pm

Gordon Oxford, Chairman

P.S.

Into Spring With the Live W.I.res on Friday 17th March a cabaret night with a Ploughman's super (you have seen the kilt now come and see the dancing. I didn't see that coming)

Jan Gibbs has all the details on 01725 552 704.

Helena Torpy and Steve Turner

In Concert at

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Will people who want to use the volunteer car drivers
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Thank You

To all in the village who knew **Jean Haines** who died so suddenly on Christmas Day 2005. Her family have been very touched by the many tributes from her local friends and also for the support that was so evident on 6 January. As Richard said at her funeral, Mum "loved village life and, as with everywhere she lived, she drew enormous pleasure from living in a small community. She was a great "joiner" as friendship – indeed people – were of huge importance to her."

*Helena & Richard Bridgman
Jessica, David & Laura Platt*

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.

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council

Parish Office Unit 5B	Opening Hours: Tuesday 10am – 12noon	Phone – 552211/553001 Email –
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The following **planning applications** have recently been examined by the Council:

1. 3/05/1639 Burley Road Farm Erection of stock building, milking parlour building, construction of slurry store and formation of existing access.
2. 3/05/164231 High Street Demolition of existing bungalow (office), construction of three houses & garaging

Minutes of the relevant meetings are available at the parish office, but all other detail has been returned to The Planning department at East Dorset District Council. If you need further information on any of these applications, it is available at Furzehill.

Overhanging Vegetation

"All landowners are reminded that overhanging vegetation is a hazard and is your responsibility. Please ensure that the entire width of the highway is clear for the free passage of pedestrians or vehicles, as appropriate, and that no streetlight or road sign is obscured. A minimum headroom of 2.1m (6'9") above pedestrian areas and 5.2m (17'0") above the carriageway and area immediately adjacent for a distance of 0.45m (1'6") is required. In addition, please ensure that all vegetation is cut back vertically. Thank you for your cooperation".

Dorset Police - Eastern Community Support Unit

The unit will visit Sixpenny Handley on Saturday 25th February and on Saturday 25th March. Its team can give invaluable advice and would welcome your visit.

Dorset County Council Mobile Library Service

The Council complains that support for the library service at Woodyates is slipping. The vehicle stops at Copley Close every other Thursday at 14.25. Next visit February 9th. Use it and don't give the council an excuse to take it away.

Clerk's Corner

The Parish Plan Steering Group met at the village hall on Monday 16th January. Its leader, Leonard Holihan, decided that the meeting would be open to all parishioners. In all 39 members of the Parish were present. Unfortunately the date clashed with the periodic Homewatch meeting, so there could have been more. Ben Low and Simon Bowes both attended and declared that our youth has already raised nearly £400 towards one of its "good causes". This is a terrific start and we should congratulate all involved. Ted Cox gave a presentation of his concept of an extremely ambitious recycling system which he is convinced can be made to work, employ and make a profit as well as a contribution to "the war effort". His paper is reproduced elsewhere in this issue.

Leonard has asked me to make clear that all who applied to join the Steering Group were successful! For various reasons some have not yet become involved and Leonard will shortly contact everyone to ensure that they are in the picture. People are still applying to join the Group and are being accepted, so the Group will expand. The next full meeting is due in mid-March.

The Steering Group Committee has finalized its initial questionnaire, enclosed with this issue of the Downsman and asks, nay begs, that households give five minutes of their time for its completion. Our Parish Plan must be representative of the electorate, and indeed, also of those too young to vote, or it will carry no weight. Pimperne has produced a superb presentation of its Plan and boasts 91% Parish involvement. Their boast invites competition. Can we beat 91%? There is talk of incentives - possibly a draw to win free admission to the Flower Show! Ideas please.

My learning curve might be represented by some gigantic fairground big dipper!!

A belated Happy New Year to everyone.

Christopher Snape, Clerk to the Parish Council

MAD MARCH REELING

on

Saturday 4th March, 7.30pm

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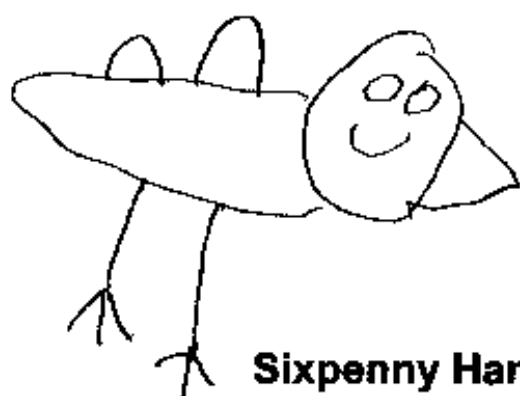
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■ Chicken Bread Beef Jam Cheese Duck Cakes Lamb Chutney Pork ■	
Pies Eggs Veal Ham Goat's cheese Biscuits	FARMERS MARKET VERWOOD Ferrett Green Fourth Saturday each month from 9 'til 1 28th January 22nd April 22nd July 28th October 25th February 27th May 26th August 25th November 25th March 24th June 23rd September 23rd December <i>Mrs Pook's</i> <i>West Country Food Fairs</i> for further information call: 01258 881274 ■ Vegetables Pickles Sheep's cheese Fruit Goose Olives Puddings ■
	Sausages Bacon Marmalade Venison Game



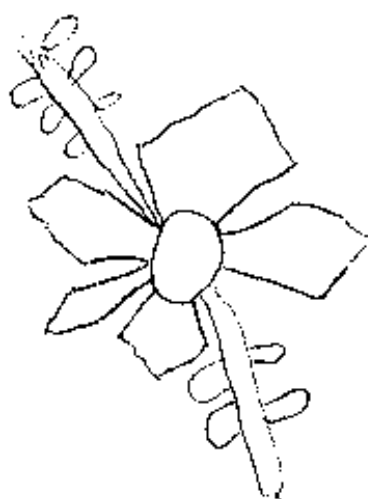
blackbird



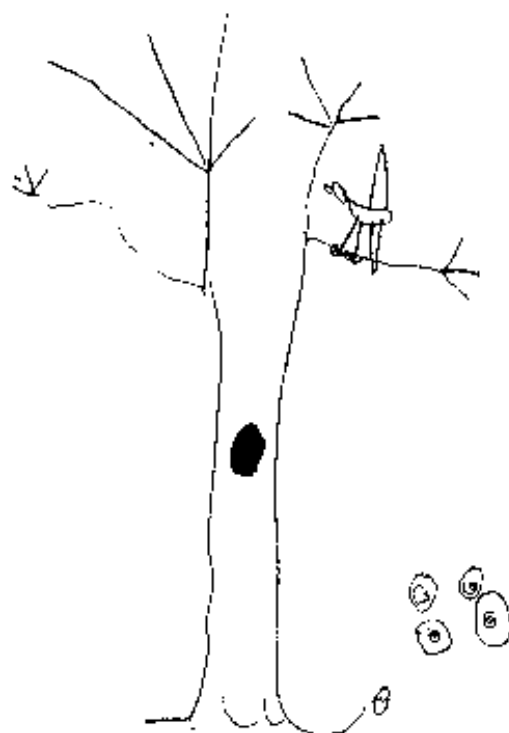
Sixpenny Handley First School News

After a term of part-time attendance in school, the Reception children in class 1 now attend full time. They have all settled well into the school environment, making friends with other class members as well as older children throughout the school. This term's topic the Earth and the Elements has the children currently looking at what is under the ground. They have enjoyed creating a display of an under ground scene with plant roots and tunnels to various creatures homes.

On-going throughout the Reception year is the children's Nature Diary, this gives them the opportunity to observe and record their school environment through the changing seasons. They have discovered that the golden hues and crunchy leaves of autumn have given way to bare trees and withered brown sunflowers and that the bulbs planted in October are now beginning to show new green shoots.



Pet Winkie



In Class 2 the children have been experiencing the fun of writing to penfriends. It has been so exciting to receive a letter from someone living a long way away in another country. The penfriends (who are aged 9 or 10) live in a town called Wilbraham which is near Boston, Massachusetts. They have written really interesting letters telling us all about their families, their school and what they are learning about as well as hobbies and their favourite sports. They send photographs of things they do at their school:

making gingerbread houses

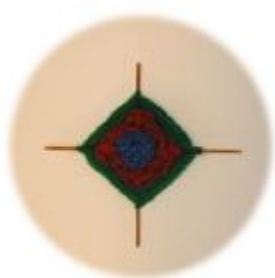


visiting a museum called Deerfield to learn about colonial life in 1850



and playing parachute games in their school hall.

At Christmas they sent bookmarks for everyone so the Class 2 children are making a small gift to send back. They have really enjoyed making God's Eyes by winding carefully chosen coloured wool around two crossed sticks.



What a wonderful insight into the lives and culture of children in a different part of the world whilst learning the dying art of letter writing!

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SIXPENNY HANDLEY SURGERY

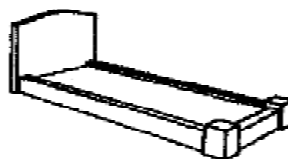
RICHARD ADLEM In Person



To speak to Richard himself about funeral arrangements or memorial stones, please telephone him at any time on 01725 552 496 only, or visit him at his home near St Mary's Church, opposite the village school.

Richard has no association at all with IN Newman Limited, trading as "Richard T. Adlem Funeral Director", and should not be confused with them.

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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.

JUICING FOR HEALTH

Fresh fruit and vegetable juices have been used for centuries in Nature Cure clinics the world over with great success. They are best drunk in small quantities as they contain so many goodies you don't really need a large quantity daily!

Once you have tried making your own fresh fruit and vegetable juices you will never go back to buying cartons of juice. To make your own juice you will need to invest in a centrifugal juicer, which is too expensive and widely available. Preferably you should use organic fruits and vegetables when available. Raw freshly made fruit and vegetable juices are a wonderful way providing vital nutrients to keep in good health and are a wonderful way to cleanse the body of toxins. Fruits and vegetables are packed with enzymes, vitamins and minerals which are quickly absorbed into the blood stream and they also contain pure water, which is a solvent, and therefore helps to cleanse the body. The juices should be diluted with bottled or filtered water as they are too strong when neat for the body to cope with. Simply wash the fruits and vegetables thoroughly and chop into suitable sized pieces - there is no need to peel or core - all parts can be used!

All fruit juices are extremely cleansing although the high acid contents in citrus fruits may irritate people with lymphatic constitutions. The following vegetable juices are nourishing and cleansing, although as with food, do not take or drink large quantities (i.e. more than two or three medium glasses as day).

Carrot juice is quite thick and is a bright orange colour. Carrot juice is the mainstay of mixed vegetable juices as its sweetness combines well with other less palatable juices. Drunk on its own it has a slightly spicy taste and is delicious with a few sprigs of fresh chopped herbs. Carrot juice is renowned for its ability to cleanse the liver of excess fats and can aid digestion, it is very high in beta carotene and rich in the minerals calcium and magnesium. Carrot juice is delicious mixed with ,apple juice or fresh ginger root..

Beetroot juice helps to build up red corpuscles in the blood. It has a cleansing effect on the liver and may, if taken on it's own cause slight nausea therefore it is best mixed with other vegetable juices, such as carrot, at a ration of 1 part beetroot to 3 parts other vegetable juices.

Celery juice is high in magnesium and iron, necessary to nourish and maintain optimum fluidity of the blood. Celery is pleasant to drink but can be mixed with carrot juice.

Cabbage juice is extremely cleansing and helps heal acid irritations and ulcers in the stomach and intestines. However, it may cause the generation of gas and so you may wish to combine a small amount with other vegetable juices.

Cucumber juice is one of the best diuretics known, promoting flow of urine. The high silica content makes it useful to strengthen hair, skin, nails and gums.

Tomato juice is rich in sodium, calcium, potassium and magnesium and is nutritious and cleansing. Spinach juice made using raw spinach helps to cleanse and tone the entire intestinal tract.

Apple juice is known as an excellent liver and kidney cleanser. High in a range of minerals that include iron, magnesium, potassium and sulphur, and rich in vitamins B, B 1, B2 and B6 and beta carotene, apples help to purge the intestinal tract. Apple juice is the only fruit juice that can be mixed with vegetable juice without producing side-effects such as bloating and flatulence and it can make unpalatable vegetable juices taste better.

Pear juice is very cleansing to the colon as pears are slightly laxative and diuretic. Pear juice contains moderate amounts of vitamin C, folic acid and niacin (both B vitamins) and also the minerals potassium, magnesium and calcium.

Pineapple juice contains a powerful enzyme, bromelain, which has the ability to neutralise over acidic fluids inside the body. This means that pineapple juice can help rebalance the body's pH balance and help with acid digestion. Pineapples are rich in Vitamin C and folic acid, and minerals sodium, magnesium and potassium. (Peel the fruit before juicing). Excellent if you have a sore throat, cold or flu!

Peach juice is smooth, and a satisfying drink that is an excellent intestinal cleanser, juices peaches with their skins on. Peaches are a good source of beta carotene, vitamin C and folic acid and minerals calcium, phosphorous, potassium and magnesium.

I hope you will give some of these juices a try and enjoy better health as well as the superb taste of the juices. What better start to the New Year?

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy New Year.

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

Master Herbalist, Naturopath, Iridology, Nutrition, Indian head Massage and Acupressure & Tui'na therapist. Sheila has her clinic at the Centre for Complementary Health Care in Blandford and also at Sixpenny Handley. For appointments or further information please telephone 01725 552265.

Handley Sports – Senior Football

Division Three North and East

The Div 3 Team up to the moment are having a good season as the following League Table shows. Owing to the reorganisation of the County League next season the team must finish no lower than sixth place to be in a good situation for the new season. Since this table was printed they have dropped a place but a good win this week has kept them in contention and still up with the leaders.

LEAGUE TABLE							
POS		P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Ferndown Sports	13	10	2	1	38	32
2	Stourpaine	13	9	2	2	26	29
3	Handley Sports	13	8	2	3	22	26
4	Gillingham Town	11	8	1	2	23	25
5	Corfe Mullen United	11	7	2	2	27	23
6	Child Okeford	15	7	1	7	2	22
7	Sturminster Marshall	14	4	1	9	-25	13
8	Linthorpe	13	3	3	7	-17	12
9	Stalbridge	9	3	1	5	3	10
10	Shaftesbury	11	0	2	9	-34	2
11	Milborne St Andrew	13	0	1	12	-65	1

The Parish Plan

This Article suggests just one way in which the Parishioners can work together to protect Our Environment

SHReD

Who or what is ***SHReD***? The letters of the name come from the initial letters of the village of Sixpenny Handley, the initial letter of Recycling plus the 'e' followed by the capital **D** of Direct, i.e. an abbreviation of ***Sixpenny Handley Recycling Direct***.

The Project

Initially the project was envisaged as a means of recycling the garden waste of the parishes of Sixpenny Handley (S/H) and Pentridge. It was to be on a site within easy reach of the village of Sixpenny Handley, where villagers could bring their own and perhaps their neighbours' garden waste. A simple 'bring system', managed by local volunteers, which would be self supporting, with

the possibilities of monetary contributions from the 'bringers', and income from the sale of the resultant compost, mulch and perhaps wood chips to be used in the village gardens.

A steering committee of six volunteers was formed and Sixpenny Handley Composting association (SHAC) was born, which in due course became a member of the national Community Composting organisation. From then on, like Topsy it grew. Each system that was visited in Devon, North Dorset and the Bristol area was an eye opener, after which it became more and more obvious that this was only the tip of the "Recycling Iceberg".

Parish Plan

Now is an exciting time in the village, when moves are afoot to produce a new 'Parish Plan' for Sixpenny Handley. This is a wonderful chance to help the community, especially in the realms of selective employment with the less able and youth in mind. With the environment particularly benefiting from recycling, and generally with a steady approach to a more sustainable future for our locality.

The Current Project

It is now intended that the following will be recycled at the village site, but with one major change to the original plan. The system will now be solely a collection system, thereby making it far easier to monitor and control the site.

Items and materials to recycle will be as follows:-

1. Garden waste.
2. Garden tools and equipment.
3. Furniture (with some exceptions eg. mattresses, old upholstered sofas and chairs.) and bric a brac.
4. Books
5. Electrical goods that are working and scrap except fridges and freezers.
6. Clothes, curtains and carpets.
7. Paper and cardboard.
8. Aluminium foil and scrap metals, ferrous, copper and aluminium
9. Mobile phones and ink cartridges.
10. Wood, including old building timber, felled garden trees and prunings.

At the outset "Kitchen Waste" will not be collected, because of the very strict regulations and high cost of the necessary equipment to treat it.

Possibly some items, eg. clothes and bric a brac collected initially, will be passed to a neighbouring charity to process, as premises will not be available to deal with them.

How is such a large project to be funded, staffed and organised and why?

As a community, Sixpenny has little to offer in the form of employment, the more able are able to travel a field to find work, others aren't. Included here are the following :-

- 1.) Those with mental illness
- 2.) Those with learning disabilities.
- 3.) Teenagers looking for part-time and school holiday work.
- 4.) Retired people hoping to supplement their pensions.
- 5.) Organised, official groups wishing to help the community, eg. the Scouts.

If the above can do organised worthwhile, environmental work and receive both satisfaction and a wage for doing so, they, the community and the environment benefit.

Obviously a suitable site has to be found, (hopefully this hurdle has been overcome), a plan has to

be made, (this is also well underway), volunteer and paid organisers need to be found, (some are already available, but many more will be needed), money has to be raised, (a professional is actually currently helping,) and all the legal, statutory and communal must be met. The latter is again hoped to be in hand.

What form will the organisation take?

The project will have a charity base, as most community projects are. Led by local people, for local people!

Other Players.

Since the project has been in the formative stages, the Dorset County Council and East Dorset District Council have been very much involved and extremely helpful.

The national group of which **SHReD** (under its original names SHAC) is a member, namely Community Composting, has supplied almost all the legal, technical and practical advice that could be possibly needed. The Environment Agency has been informed of the intention, the local Agenda 21 group knows, most of the local landowners and of course your local Parish Council are updated about the project.

The Parish Plan Again

With the revitalised Parish Plan taking shape, it is hoped that **SHReD** will be a major player in this scenario, helping individuals and community alike to live a better, healthier and more environmental friendlier life. Sustainability is the future!

The Future Project

It is hoped that as time passes that the production of compost will lead to its use on site. It is proposed that in the second year a poly-tunnel be purchased.

Here salad vegetables, can be grown and sold through the existing retail outlets in the village.

Together with annuals and perennials, the former grown from seed, the latter being salvaged from garden waste (as will small trees and shrubs used to landscape the site)

Another possibility, to utilise the van purchased for the collection rounds more economically, house clearance and small removals could be undertaken. (The prospective insurers are all aware of these proposals.) These activities are already actively taking place in a set up, which has been operating for seven years, at Sturminster Newton. If they can why can't Sixpenny Handley do it? That is the question we must ask. There are many grants and donations to be had, and since the project set up costs could be as high as £50,000 everything available will be needed.

The Site

The site currently being looked at is at New Barn, just north-west of the village of Sixpenny Handley, on land owned by the Dorset County Council and farmed by Mark Hatherley, who's suggestion it was. For this, the committee is extremely grateful to Mark. For the exact position of the site, its OS reference is 9887 1740, it is in fact the extreme south-west corner of the land originally known as Handley Common.

Because this site has a thin top-soil over chalk, and is at the top end of the catchment area of the River Allen, it will be necessary to concrete the major part of the surface area, with provision to collect both rain water and seepage water in a watertight tank. This water will be recycled to maintain the correct water content of the 'compost in the making'.

Ted Cox



SHORT MAT BOWLS

The game of Short Mat Bowls originated in Ireland some 60 years ago as a way for the outdoor bowlers to keep their hand in during the winter months. It has since developed into a sport in its own right with 26,000 registered players in England alone.

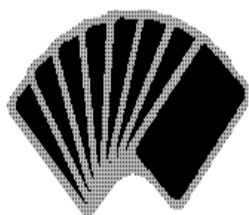
The game was originally played on the wooden floors of village halls until someone suggested that it might be better if they used some form of carpet. Most off-cuts seemed to come in 6ft widths and most halls were 40 to 45 feet long, hence the size of mats on which we now play. The wooden block was introduced to add more skill to the delivery and to prevent players firing directly at the head.

Players may use any bowls recognised by the major bowls disciplines. i.e. Flat Green, indoor or Crown Green.

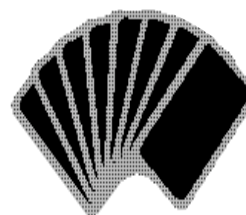
Access for All. Played in Village Halls, without ditches or banks to negotiate, short mat is probably the most easily accessible of all bowls disciplines for disabled players.

SUITABLE FOR ANY AGE RANGE FROM 12 YEARS TO 80!!

The Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club compete locally in the Blackmore Vale League Divisions 2 and 5 and the League tables for this season to date appear over the page. We need more new players or players who have experience to join us as we do have problems finding enough players on some occasions. You can also join the social activity and of course the exercise which is beneficial as it is fairly gentle. If you are interested and wish to come along and try it then please contact Pat Oxford on 01725 552591 for more details.



Whist at The Village Hall 2005-2006 Competition



Round 8, played on the 11th of January, witnessed nine full tables in action and at the close of play the majority of the 170 plus scores had been returned from competitors languishing in the mid-section to bottom half of the single league, presently standing at 48 players. Thus, Mary Penny's 177 elevated her from 38th to 26th with Dora Scammell moving up from 40th to 33rd on the strength of an excellent 176. Roger Bates (172) advanced to 28th place from his previous standing of 35th, while Chris Haskell returned 172 and leapt from 18th to 8th and into the prize money bracket.

Of those in the higher order, only Ruby Jacobs (174) was able to consolidate her position, gaining five places in the process to lie in 5th spot with an aggregate score of 1266, 16 points adrift (though well within sight) of the present leader Ruth Hastings. Sandwiched between Ruth and Ruby are Sylvia Thorne 1276, and currently highest individual round

scorer on 177 plus 9 (Mary Penny's 177 had a 12th hand deal of plus 4), John York 1275 and Gerald Trickey 1271. Gerald had enjoyed an electric first 12 hands which scored him 90, but the run of cards then deserted him and he finished the evening on 163.

Interestingly, the quintet of players occupying the first five positions have all missed a round, thus having to take the mandatory '141', this being the lowest score carded at the opening round way back in September. Fred Denham 1266 6th, Doris Day 1258 7th, Mary Braithwaite 1255 9th and Marge Poolman 1253 10th are the only competitors in the top 10 who have played in each of the eight sessions.

Looking back to the Christmas Drive, this was a very well supported event with an abundance of excellent prizes, both for the whist and the two draws. It was, therefore, no surprise that the dispensing of the prizes took nearly as long as the playing of the 24 hands! In respect of the whist, Brenda Innes (currently in 11th place on 1252 points) pipped Sylvia Thorne by the narrowest of margins – namely a single point.

Bridge

For myself, and I suspect all bridge players, that magical moment is when you gather your cards in from the deal and assess the value of your hand. It is, at this point of the play, that I watch the eyes of the other players and particularly those of my partner for much can be revealed, even before the first bid is made. Some register satisfaction, others take on the air of disappointment, and it is at this stage of the bidding sequence that I have been able to make a rough guess as to how the auction is likely to proceed. I can, therefore, imagine George Marskell's feeling that he was on to sure thing when, at a recent Tuesday afternoon play, he doubled, for penalties, Chris Napier's bid of 4 Clubs for George was in the seemingly enviable position of holding 18 HCPs. Under normal circumstances, and providing his partner held a few useful points, 4 Clubs should be an unobtainable contract but, as I have so often stressed, the most successful hands, particularly in suit contracts, are those where the distribution of cards present declarer with a near unbeatable run of play. And this proved to be the case when Chris's partner (Gerald Trickey) tabled the dummy which consisted of some useful trumps and a long suit in which Chris had a shortage. From that point onwards, George's 18 HCPs proved to be of little value as Chris cross-ruffed her way to victory. Fortunately, the fortunes of bridge rarely desert a player for long and a few weeks later George, partnering Tim Stevens, picked up hand after hand where the cards flowed like wine into their cups and they ended the afternoon with at least three rubbers safely made and masses of points.

At this point, I should add that players should never, when circumstances seem to be right, hold back from doubling a contract, though the term *double* has various interpretations. Thus, readers of Andrew Robson's bridge column in *The Times* have been treated to a lengthy discourse of the term *double* and how it should be used to maximum advantage.

Meanwhile, with much of 2006 still to come, I invite new players to join us, at the Sports Pavilion, each Tuesday afternoon, commencing at 1.30 p.m., and participate in what most be one of the finest card games in the world.

Bill Chorley



Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club



The highlight of the month of December was the club's Annual Presentation Luncheon held at the Crown Hotel, Blandford. About 60 members and friends attended and enjoyed the occasion. Presentation of trophies and certificates were made to the following winners and runners up by the Club President Patrick Taylor.

Award	Winners	Runners up
Mens's Champion	Gordon Martin	Colin Chambers
Ladies Singles	Vanessa Rowe	Ethel Crawford
Two Wood Singles	Colin Chambers	Clifford Miles
President's Cup	Gordon Martin	Clifford Miles
Novice Championship	William Steele	Dawn Toomer
Open Mixed Pairs	Geoff Toomer & Cliff.Miles	Peter Martin & Bill Steele
Open Mixed Triples	Tony Groves, Dawn Toomer & Peter Martin	Cliff Miles, Bea Boyland & Graham Maidment
Open Mixed Fours	Gill Martin, Patrick Taylor, Sarah Churchill and Gordon Martin	Vanessa Rowe, Phyll Chown Malcolm Gerry and Geoffry Toomer
Short Mat Singles	Colin Chambers	Clifford Miles
Short Mat Pairs	Tony Groves & Peter Martin	Cliff Miles & Ethel Crawford

Tony Groves and Peter Martin receive their certificates at the luncheon, for the Short Mat Pairs Winners.



Clifford Miles and Graham Maidment receive their certificates from the President Patrick Taylor (Left) for Runners up – Open Triples competition.



The Short Mat Leagues

The Div. 2 Side are doing very well and are at the moment top of the League and the Div 5 team - 'The Tanners' are about halfway as shown in the following league table:-

<u>DIVISION TWO</u>				<u>DIVISION FIVE</u>			
SIXPENNY HANDLEY	7	36	+107	CERNE GIANTS	8	41	+181
PIMPERNE	8	30	+42	HAZELWOODS	8	33	+86
CAMELOT A	7	20	+12	STURNEWTS	9	32	+47
HAZELNUTS	5	18	+10	STALBRIDGE EAGLES	11	31	-52
BOURTON C	6	15	-5	TANNERS	10	30	+63
STALBRIDGE HARRIERS	6	15	-56	BUCKHORN WESTON	9	25	+4
STURLINGS	9	15	-73	BISHOPS	10	24	-52
CAMELOT C	6	13	-37	THORNFORD SWALLOWS	8	22	+11
				MILBORNE PORT B	9	8	-288

The 2006 Season.

The Club has a busy fixture list for the 2006 season which starts on the outside rink in the middle of April but there is nothing to stop members or possible members using it to practise for the new season. More about this next time. Ring the Secretary on 01725 552468

New Members Welcome at any time

A History Lesson – (or *So that's where that comes from!*)

Some interesting facts about the 1500's

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour. Hence the custom today of **carrying a bouquet** when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it. Hence the saying, "**Don't throw the baby out with the bath water.**"

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and off the roof. Hence the saying "**It's raining cats and dogs.**"

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how **canopy beds** came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying "**dirt poor.**"

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence the saying a "**thresh hold.**"

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme, "**Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old.**"

Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could "**bring home the bacon.**" They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and "**chew the fat.**"

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leech onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered

poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or "**upper crust**."

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding a "**wake**."

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a "bone-house" and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the "**graveyard shift**") to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be "**saved by the bell**" or was considered a "**dead ringer**."

Now, whoever said that History was boring !!!

Sorting Guide			
BAG		BOX	
If possible, please flatten cans and plastic bottles. Please take tops off all plastic bottles as these are often made of a different type of plastic. Tops also make the baling process more dangerous. Food and drink cans should also be flattened whenever possible. Do not attempt to flatten aerosols as these contain compressed gases. For your benefit, please rinse all bottles, cans and milk containers... they smell if stored for two weeks!			
 Please fold bag over to keep the contents dry. Please look after this bag - it is reuseable. Damaged bags will be replaced.		 You may put your house name or number on the box if you wish.	
✓ Yes Please Newspapers Magazines (stapled or glued) Junk Mail Office/Note Paper	✗ No Thank you Catalogues Telephone Directories, Plastic or Paper Envelopes Drink and Milk Cartons Cardboard, Cereal Packets, Tissue Boxes etc. (we cannot send card to the paper mill, please use the containers at Brook Rd Civic Amenity Site, Wimborne or Safeways Car Park, Verwood)	✓ Yes Please Glass bottles and Jars (any colour) Plastic bottles (such as bottles which contained water, milk, lemonade, detergent, washing up liquid, shampoo etc. - but not the tops) Food tins (including pet food) Drinks cans Aerosol cans (polish, air freshener, hair spray etc.)	✗ No Thank you Window glass Pyrex Visionware Drinking Glasses Plastic containers for: Yoghurt, margarine and ice cream Engine oil Pesticide or plants Plastic bags Light Bulbs Aerosol cans (paint, solvents)
• contracts@eastdorset.gov.uk • Recycling Information Hotline 01202 886201 (ext. 2338/2352) • www.eastdorset.gov.uk •			

Sixpenny Handley Flower Show

Are we going to see the demise of the Annual Flower Show? That is a question which if the answer is Yes then it will be a disappointment to those who have worked very hard over the last 29 years to put on an Annual Event which has been generally well supported both from the Parish and from a very large catchment area which was very gratifying to the organisers. As Chairman of the Show Committee since its inception in 1976 I shall be sorry to see it go. The organisers who started in its early years are now becoming unable to do so much. Our policy in 1976 was give the village an afternoon's entertainment, allow gardeners to exhibit, something in which the organisers were interested and if we managed to make a profit which we usually did then we donated it to a good cause after making sure our funds were kept viable.

We are experiencing problems with lack of exhibitors and a reduction in the number of people who attend our event. Some of the reasons may be that gardens are smaller: people do not need to grow so much as the supermarkets provide: lack of time. Then on the plus side TV and radio put on such a large number of garden shows and you would think this should provide lots of encouragement. **We are sending out to exhibitors who have exhibited during the last two years or so a questionnaire to try and get some guidance on what to do next.**

Our event is a traditional show with Marquee and other entertainment very similar to what happened in the village in the 1930's and therefore is a bit different to that reported in the press which happens in many village halls and unless you realise there is entertainment when you see the advert could be a further reason for low attendance.

A few years ago we started a Spring Show which allowed people to show off their daffodils etc. as there are many new varieties which make excellent blooms. **This year we have had to cancel it because we just do not have enough helpers to stage properly.** But what of this years Summer Show - We need some help. You don't have to spend a lot of time sitting at committee meetings. We would need you during show week perhaps Tuesday to Saturday. You don't have to be superfit. Some have helped before. Will you help again? Some of the main points of our questionnaire are as follows:

Do we need a flower show? :	Should we do it every year?
Is August the right time to stage it:	Should we make it a longer day
Should it be just Horticultural? :	Change the name or title?
Is more catering necessary? :	More stalls and of what type?
Should there be more entertainment? :	A smaller show schedule?
Any other suggestions :	Is Saturday the right day now.?
Are there enough children's activities:	Would you like to help us ?

We would be delighted to receive any comments on the above. You can send them to Carole Wyatt, 6 St Mary's Close. Sixpenny Handley. Salisbury. SP5 5NH or to me at 44 Sheasby Close. Or you can go modern and email me. brianjohnhansford@yahoo.co.uk

Please let us have any comments quickly as if we are to go ahead for the summer the organisation does have to be started NOW and there are only five of us altogether and that includes Chairman/Secretary and Treasurer who has resigned once and is hanging on by a thread.

Brian Hansford

SUPPER AND TALK

**IN AID OF
ST RUMBOLDS CHURCH
PENTRIDGE**

**AN INFORMATIVE TALK BY MUCH TRAVELLED, HIGHLY REGARDED AND
ENTERTAINING
HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER**

MARGARET OWEN

(A RESIDENT OF PENTRIDGE)

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IRAQ
AFGANISTAN
RWANDA
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AT

**THE BARN
MANOR FARM HOUSE, WOODYATES
FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
7.PM FOR 7.30PM**

TICKETS £12.00

**MARY FERGUSON 01725 552222
JANE KING 01725 552231**

The Downsman

DON'T FORGET WHAT'S ON!!!

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Feb-02	Chase Community Friends	3	Mar-08	Whist at the Village Hall	4
Feb-08	Chase Community Friends	3			5
Feb-08	Whist at the Village Hall	4			
Feb-09	Mobile Library Visits	1			
Feb-10	Torpy & Turner in Concert	3	Mar-09	The Country Wife	2
Feb-12	Mini Soccer Home Game	2			9
Feb-13	WI Meeting	0			
Feb-14	Chase Community Friends	3	Mar-09	Mobile Library Visits	1
Feb-17	Supper and Talk	5			0
Feb-19	Mini Soccer Home Game	2			
Feb-20	Chase Community Friends	3			
Feb-22	Whist at the Village Hall	4	Mar-10	Chase Community Friends	3
Feb-23	Chase Garden Club	4			2
Feb-23	Mobile Library Visits	1			
Feb-25	WI Jumble Sale	2			
Feb-25	Police Support Unit Visit	3	Mar-13	WI Meeting	0
Feb-26	Chase Community Friends	3			6
Mar-	Mad March Reeling	3			
Mar-	Chase Community Friends	3			
Mar-	Mini Soccer Home Game	2	Mar-14	Questionnaire Return Deadline	0 3