

The Downsmen

August 2010



Down on the farm

Open Day at Myncen Farm was a great success with all!

Picture courtesy of Simon Meaden

The Parish of Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge

Including: Woodyates, Deanland and Minchington

Published by Sixpenny Handley Parish Council

Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Parish Councillors Sixpenny Handley

Chairman	CLlr D Lockyer	552492
	CLlr Mrs R Adams	553032
	CLlr Mrs P Bailey-Wright..	552771
	CLlr D Chick	552557
	CLlr A. Gibb	552704
	CLlr S Meaden	552715
	CLlr T Reynolds	552995
	CLlr R. Ferguson	552222

Pentridge

	CLlr Dr. J Gillespie Smith	552576
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Vice Chairman	CLlr Mrs M New	552539
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<u>Clerk</u>	Gill Martin	552297
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	Parish Office	552211
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<u>District Councillor</u>	CLlr S Tong	01258-840061
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<u>County Councillor</u>	CLlr T. Palmer	552321
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	 Fax: 552405	
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<u>Member Parliament</u>	Robert Walter...	0207 219 6981
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Rights of Way Liaison Officers

Sixpenny Handley	Mrs M New	552539
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Pentridge	Mrs M. Jones	552358
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The Downsman Team

Editor	Margaret Cornish	553199
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Production	Brian Hansford.....	552468
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Churches

Church of England	St. Mary's, Sixpenny Handley	
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	St. Rumbold's, Pentridge	
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	St. Andrews, Gussage St. Andrew	
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Vicar	Rev Mel Durrant, The Vicarage	
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	60 High Street, Sixpenny Handley	
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		552608
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Roman Catholic	Church of Our Lady of Lourdes &	
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	St. Cecilia, Blandford Forum	
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Priest	Rev. Father Dylan James	
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	The Prestbury, 55 Salisbury Street,	
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	Shaftesbury.....	01747 852125
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	Drs. Nodder, Morgan & Taubman	
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	Dean Lane Surgery ..	552500
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Doctors**Sixpenny Handley Village Hall**

Chairman	Carole Wyatt	552572
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Vice Chairman	Tony Gibb	552704
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Treasurer	Paul Skinner	552785
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Bookings	Jaqui Blake	552306
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Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point		
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	John Curtis	552397
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Co-ordinators

Area 1 - Dean Lane	Don Penrose	552022
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2 - Lower Handley	Chris Stokes	552672
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3 - Upper Handley	John Clarke	552674
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4 - Deanland & N.E.	Charles Nodder	552292
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5 - West & South	Simon Meaden	552715
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Other Areas (These are separate Homewatch Schemes)

Pentridge	Roy Elford	552911
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Woodyates	Mrs A Adams	552675
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<u>Police</u>	Wimborne Station..	01202 222222/
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		07825 521735
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Sixpenny Handley Allotment Holders Association

Chairman	John Curtis	552397
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Secretary	Jane Laing	553146
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Sixpenny Handley Horticultural Show

Chairman	Brian Hansford	552468
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Secretary	Carole Wyatt	552572
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Entries	Tony Gibb	552704
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Schools

First School	Handley First School	552356
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Middle School	Cranborne Middle School	517348
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Upper School	Queen Elizabeth's School	
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	Wimborne	01202 885233
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The Chase Pre-School

Chairperson	Sarah Stonton	516939
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Secretary	Andrea Meyer	552392
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The Chase Pre-School Link Group

Contact	Tilly Stevens	552046
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Happy Nappy Club

	Samantha O'Neill	552088
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	Katie Keeble	552177
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	Sarah Styles	552544
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1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Group Scout Leader	John Curtis	552397
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Explorer Leader	Andy Turner	552735
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Scout Leader	Rob Easton	552038
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Cub Leader	Andy Young	553166
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Beaver Leader	Denise Turner	552735
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1st Sixpenny Handley Rainbows

Unit Guider	Jacqui Tarran	552008
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Sixpenny Handley W.I. (Formed in 1922)

President	Mrs Maggie Staplehurst	552795
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Secretary	Mrs Bobbie Carter ...	552042
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Sixpenny Handley Mother's Union

Leader	Jean Mayne	552692
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Secretary	Mary Macleod	552041
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Chase Community Friends

Chairman	Vic Hatton	01258 840671
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Secretary	Maureen Penrose	
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Sixpenny Handley Sports Association

Chairman	David Cross	552640
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Vice Chairman	Patrick Taylor	552187
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Secretary/Treasurer	Tracey Lownds	552414
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Bookings	Bea Boyland	552805
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Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

President	Brian Hansford	552468
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Secretary	Bea Boyland	552805
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Treasurer	Patrick Taylor	552187
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Handley Sports Club

Chairman	Mark Young	552741
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Secretary	Brian Hansford	552468
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Team Manager Div 2	Mark Young	552741
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Asst. Team Manager	Stuart Haskell	
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Handley Sports U11s and U12s

Manager	Adam Day.....	01258 452481
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Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club

Chairman	Tracey Lownds	552414
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Membership/Treasurer	Sue Smith	552225
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Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

Evening Captain	David Cross	552640
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Secretary	Frances Churchill	552868
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Citizens Advice Bureau

Wimborne Branch		01202 884738
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Ferndown Branch		01202 893838
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Out of Hours Service		08444 772022
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Welcome to the latest edition of *The Downsman*.

Editor: Margaret Cornish, Parish Office, Unit 5B, Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley
Email: editor@thedownsman.org.uk

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council

Parish Office: Unit 5B Town Farm Workshops	Opening Hours: Tuesday 10am – 12 noon Thursday 6pm – 7-30pm	Phone: 552211 Email : sixpennyhandley@dorsetparishes.gov.uk
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Please email editor@thedownsman.org.uk
 to ensure your articles and news reach us
 (preferably in Word, please — not pdf)

Advertising Costs

The rates to advertise in **The Downsman** are:

Full page - £16

Half page - £10

Quarter page - £5

Our offer of book 6 but only pay for 5 insertions continues with the annual rates (6 issues) being **£80**, **£50** and **£25** respectively.

The magazine offers excellent value in reaching your local customers.

We currently deliver **The Downsman** to approximately
 700 households within the parish.

Due to problems with production the Downsman Committee have decided they can no longer entertain the insertion of flyers in future copies.

The next edition of this magazine will be published on the
1st October 2010
Copy Deadline is Wednesday 15th September
We would also ask that contributors make every effort to meet the deadline which is required to allow for printing, production and distribution

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

This publication does not endorse the products or services advertised within.

CLERK'S CORNER

Another very good Street Fair – congratulations to the Committee who organised it. It was a shame we didn't have a nice sunny day; however the rain did not stop the people coming.

Thank you, also, to the people who attended our Annual Parish Meeting. This was very informative and the parish associations were able to update us on their plans for the future and also on what they had been doing in the past.

We have, at last, fitted the bollards at the entrance to the Sports Pavilion to prevent cars driving up – these are able to be removed in the case of emergencies so contact your local Sports Club for instructions. The broken window in the Sports Pavilion is about to be repaired at last - please let this be the last one!

We are sorry to have to report damage to the new bus shelter. Please let us know if you see anyone causing this.

Recent Planning Applications

3/10/0416 - 11 High Street - Change of use from shop to flat with new window and internal alterations.
3/10/0466 - The Surgery, Dean Lane - Single storey extension.
3/10/0480 - 9 Common Road - Installation of Air Source Heat Pump.
3/10/0550 - Whitey Top Farm, Pentridge - New Agricultural Barn.
3/10/0567 - Barn & Yard opposite Chase House, Deanland - Change of use from Agricultural use to Builders Storage.

Results of previous planning applications

3/10/0261 - Pentridge Village Hall - Single Storey Extension – Permitted.

Gill Martin

CLAUDE ATHOL KROON

Norma, and all of his family, would like to thank everyone for the cards, messages and friendship following the sad loss of Claude.

Although only resident in Sixpenny Handley for a short time, Norma has been shown kindness that only comes from living in such a caring, friendly village.

Our thanks go to you all

Endorse It In Dorset Festival 2010

The Endorse It In Dorset Festival 2010 will be held on the weekend of 06/08/10 to 08/08/10. If you wish to contact us with any queries, complaints and comments please call on 0776 5687 445 during the event and 0797 3737 935 before and after the event. You can also email before and after the event to g@lgofestivals.com.

Thank-you

VILLAGE HALL

The winter **ARTSREACH** programme is now beginning to take shape. Having requested a wide variety of shows, we have been told that our bid was slightly over ambitious! The winter programme will start on **7th October** with Forest Forge performing their latest play, "For The Record" (see separate advert).

We hope to resurrect the film nights in those months where there is no live production. These will be supported by a licensed bar.

Alison Dunford and Jaqui Blake have kindly worked hard to pull together a programme of **Family Films** which will be shown once a month on Saturdays or Sundays. This is an experiment and will rely on your support if it is to continue. Children must be accompanied. If anyone else wants to come and watch a good animated classic they will be very welcome! See separate adverts and notices which will also be circulated through the school.

Following the departure of the Chase Pre-School from the village hall there will be plenty of time available for other groups to use the excellent facilities. If you are interested contact the Bookings Secretary on 552306.

ANNUAL CYCLE FOR THE DORSET HISTORIC CHURCHES

This event is scheduled for **SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER**, and although it has primarily been a 'CYCLE' ride in the past, it is an opportunity for **walkers** and **horse-riders** to take part. The idea is to visit as many of the ancient churches in our area between **10.00 am to 6.00 pm**, carrying as much sponsorship as can be raised. The money is then divided between the Historic Churches Trust and the local participating church which you wish to support.

Please put the date in your diary, contact me if you would like to take part or wish for more details, turn some sweat into profit, or be a willing sponsor for those who pedal, stride or ride!

Contact: **John Cullingford, 01725 516453** or look for posters around the village. Information packs will be available at the back of the church.

THANK YOU

Steve, Lee and Louisa would like to thank everyone who supported our recent charity events.

The **Spinal Injury Fish and Chip Supper** in May raised £530 to be split 50/50 between The Duke of Cornwall Spinal Treatment Centre at Salisbury District Hospital and The Spinal Injuries Association.

The **Crocus Walk for Breakthrough Breast Cancer** in June raised £119, despite only having one villager turn up – Thank you Bill Chorley! The other walkers consisted of family members and campers.

The **Barn Dance** in July for St Mary's Church was a great success and a fun evening was had by everyone involved.

We are looking forward to a successful and prosperous summer season, both for us and fellow local businesses. Thanks again to those of you that continue to support us.

DOG WASTE

Would dog owners please **NOT** deposit bags of dog mess in the black waste bins in the parish. Any bags must, by law, be placed in the special bins for dog waste which are red. It is not fair on those in our community who kindly empty the black waste bins of their own free will.

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall presents



The Autumn season of
Family Films

Saturday 11th September, 2.00 pm

'Flushed away'

Certificate: U. Running Time: 85 minutes.

Computer-animated comedy 'Flushed Away' tells the story of a pampered pet mouse who is flushed down the toilet from his penthouse apartment in Kensington beneath the streets of London, where he has to learn a whole new way of life.

Sunday 10th October, 10.00 am

'How to train your dragon'

Certificate: PG. Running Time: 98 minutes.

A hapless young Viking who aspires to hunt dragons becomes the unlikely friend of a young dragon himself, and learns there may be more to the creatures than he assumed.

Tickets available in advance from the Post Office Stores, or on the door

£2.50 per person, under 2 years free

Children need to be accompanied by a named adult

Doors open at the village hall 20 minutes before film showing

Everyone welcome

Future Family Film dates:

Saturday 20th November, 2.00 pm and Sunday 5th December, 10.00 am

Look out for film titles in the October issue of the Downsman

The Sixpenny Handley Community Fund Committee**THANK YOU!!****Sixpenny Handley Street Fayre - Saturday May 29th 2010**

Third time unlucky this year, the weather being very British, it seemed as though the day was going to be a wash out. Luckily it cleared and stayed mostly dry for the whole afternoon which was, once again, a very successful occasion for all to enjoy. The Street Fayre is becoming a regular slot in the Communities calendar as were the Carnivals and Flower Shows of the past. We are so very grateful to everyone who helped in so many ways and supported the many stalls, Community Groups and Charities hoping to raise as much money as possible for their cause. It is also a day when the Community meets up, talks to each other and joins in alongside the many visitors that come.

To thank everyone individually has been done before but we hope you feel it is no less meaningful for us to say '**THANK YOU EVERYONE**' collectively the list is endless and so very much appreciated - without you all The Street Fayre could not take place. It does have to be mentioned, however, how much we appreciated vehicles being removed so promptly and willingly from the High Street in order to allow for the setting up of stalls, and for the tolerance of the residents along the High Street for their day being totally disrupted and bombarded with noise and chatter.

The funds raised by the Community Groups and the Community Fund have been very pleasing. Chase Community Friends and St Mary's Church made approximately £800 each; Liz Coombes for Breast Cancer made roughly £300; the WI £150 and Bronia's stall for Africa £400. We haven't got all the figures in yet but would hope to publish them as soon as possible and The Air Ambulance promised to let us know how much was collected after the day so let's hope it was a good amount.

The Community Fund made approximately £1,380 from the BBQ, raffle, tombola, programme advertisements and some of the Community Groups chose to donate everything they made in order to apply for grants from the fund at a later date. Some others privately made a donation and The Shed also gave as a result of their successful evening once the Roebuck closed having been open practically all day cheers John!!

The Village Book loan of £1,200 has been fully paid back to the Fund already and currently has put in £165 from current sales. There is a further £1,155-worth of books to be sold in aid of the fund so please buy your copy if you haven't already and 'Thank You' to everyone who has bought one to date.

Letters have been sent to those who are eligible to ask for grants from the Community Fund and a decision on the grants made will be published in due course and again at our Annual General Meeting, the date of which will be announced later in the year.

We are always seeking new faces and especially new ideas of how to improve on 'The Day' so please join us. We only meet when needed and understand that people are busy and have other commitments, but everyone is welcome and support always appreciated.

Finally, our sincere thanks again to everyone who helped in some way, who entertained us, who exhibited, who joined in, but mostly, thank you for coming and making The Sixpenny Handley Street Fayre a great success; please come again next year!!

If you wish to join in please ring any of us below:

**Simon Meaden 01725 552715, Ros Adams 01725 553032, Tracey Lownds 01725 552414,
David Chick 01725 552557, Maureen New 01725 552539**

forestforge
theatre company

touring
season 2010-11

FOR THE RECORD

by Joyce Branagh

Directed by Kirstie Davis
Designed by Michaela Kemp

What happens when the
needle gets stuck in the groove?

A new play inspired by Radio 4s Desert Island Discs

SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL – THURSDAY 7 OCTOBER 2010, 7.30pm
Tickets available from: 01725 552704

www.forestforge.co.uk



News And Information

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

On May 21st a large group of members, with some husbands in tow, gathered at Norden Station on the Isle of Purbeck to join the steam train on its unique journey through six miles of beautiful Dorset scenery on its way to Swanage. On our arrival at the 'seaside' we all went our separate ways; the weather was excellent with blue skies and wall to wall sunshine and so a great day was enjoyed by all.

May 27th, the Beacon Group Spring meeting was held at Iwerne Minster. The speaker was Lt. Col. Malcolm Torrent and his talk was 'Royal Occasions'. The meeting began with him playing Jerusalem on his cornet. Col. Torrent was the band master for the Life Guards and he spoke of how his music career began and the playing at occasions such as Royal Ascot, Investitures, Royal Tournament, Trooping the Colour and many more. There was an exhibition of military badges and buttons and it was certainly an interesting evening.

The Garden meeting this year was held on the 14th June at the home of the President, Maggie Staplehurst. The weather was good and the entire evening was spent in the garden. A treasure hunt ensued, with some of the members diligent and relentless in the search for clues, and others (no names mentioned!) using a little skulduggery to obtain results! Jan Gibb was the prize winner – a benevolent one indeed – as she at once awarded each and everyone a consolation prize. Coffee and delicious cakes followed – plus some entertainment from the ducks! Everyone agreed it was a fun evening and thanked Maggie for her hospitality.

The Group outing to Cranborne Manor Gardens was held on July 1st. The beautiful and historic gardens originating in the 17th century surround the splendid, ancient manor house, now the home of Viscount Cranborne. After exploring the gardens, tea and cakes were on the menu and the afternoon was enjoyed by all.

The speaker at the July 12th meeting was Mrs Anne King and her talk, 'A Paddle on the Piddle', was an interesting session, illustrated with slides. She was very knowledgeable about the subject telling us how the River Piddle rises next to Alton Pancras Church and flows south to Wareham and finally to Poole harbour. Many villages are named after the 'Piddle' – Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Piddlehinton, Piddletrenthide, Briantspuddle and so on. All but two of those names now contain 'puddle' rather than 'piddle'; local tradition states that the villages were renamed to avoid embarrassment before a visit by Queen Victoria. However, there is no firm evidence of this. Certainly an interesting area, which maybe we all should rediscover!

Dates for the Diary

August 9th: American Supper chez Patsy O'Connor

Sept 8th: W.I. Quiz

Sept 13th: The Banks of Newfoundland: Mr Bonny Sartin

Anyone who would like to attend a meeting or would like more information, please contact the Secretary, Mrs Bobbie Carter. Tel 01725 552042

Rita Taylor (Committee Member)

RNLI (Lifeboats)

On Saturday and Sunday, **August 28th and 29th**, our 'Front Path Stalls' will be set up as usual, selling Christmas cards (never too early!) and gifts, etc. This event takes place at 46 High Street, Sixpenny Handley from **10.30 am – 4.00 pm**. We do hope that it doesn't rain this year!

The RNLI Country Fayre is to be held at Spetisbury Manor on **Saturday 7th August, 11.00 am – 5.00 pm**. The Manor is at the south end of Spetisbury on the A350. This is a new venue for us. Posters and flyers will be around giving details.

There was a special day at the end of June at the Lifeboat College, Poole. Mrs Kathy Underwood, Chairman of our Blandford branch, was awarded a Gold Medal for her services to the RNLI. She works tirelessly with an exhausting schedule of giving talks to many groups over a wide area, as well as being involved in countless other activities. We are very proud of her and all congratulate her on this high award.

Sheila Bradley (Secretary)

FLU and PNEUMOVAX CLINICS 2010

The Government has recommended that the **priority** groups for this year are:-

Everybody **aged over 65**,
Anybody suffering from a chronic disease eg those at risk from
Chronic respiratory disease or asthma requiring repeated steroid inhalers
Diabetes
Chronic heart, liver or kidney disease
Immunosuppression,
Frontline Health and Social Care Workers

We shall be running **CLINICS from** the first week of October see website, village magazine, newsletter, posters and repeat medicine slips nearer the time.

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

If you are a priority (see above) please try and come to one of these clinics.

PLEASE NOTE THIS DOES INCLUDE THE SWINE FLU VACCINE



THE CHASE GARDEN CLUB

Interested in gardening and meeting new people? Then why not come along to the "Chase Garden Club". We meet on the last Thursday of each month at 8 pm in the Sports Pavilion.

Activities include; Guest Speakers, Presentations, Raffle & Plant Sales and during the summer there are visits arranged to local gardens of interest.

To round off the year there is an annual dinner in January.

New members are most welcome, as are visitors.

Subscriptions; annual subs are £15 per person, or alternatively there is visitor charge of £3 for indoor meetings and £2 for garden visits.

Garden visits entail a modest entrance fee but does include refreshments.



For more information please telephone;

Gill Carter 01725 552030, Joan Saltmarsh 01725 516352 or Louise Walford 01725 516384



CARDS



Whist The 2010-2011 Whist Competition will get under way at the Village Hall on Wednesday, September 1st. The format mirrors that for previous contests in that play will commence at 7.30 p.m. and there will be eighteen competitive rounds, the concluding drive being scheduled for May 11th, 2011 followed by the prize giving on May 25th. The player returning the highest aggregate score will receive £30 followed by step-downs in prize money to 10th place. In addition, £5 will be awarded for the highest score returned in the competition regardless of overall placing [it will be recalled that the winner of the 2009-2010 contest, Betty White also carded the highest individual score]. Thus, the table of competitive dates reads:-

September 1st, 15th and 29th; October 13th and 27th; November 10th and 24th; December 8th; January 5th and 19th; February 2nd and 16th; March 2nd, 16th and 30th; April 13th and 27th and May 11th.

The Christmas Whist Drive will be held on Saturday 18th, 2010 and as mentioned above the prize giving drive will be held on Wednesday, May 25th 2011.

Last season the drives attracted, on average, between eight and nine tables in play and though this is just about sustainable after payments for rent and prizes [the prizes for the whist are duplicated for the draw, so if you miss out on a good whist score, then your draw ticket may well reward you] has been taken into account, additional support really would be welcome. The costs for the evening's entertainment are extremely modest; £1.50 for your whist card and 50p for a strip of five draw tickets - and there are no limits as to how many strips you may purchase!

Bridge The highlight for the local bridge enthusiasts in the past two months has been a competition to raise funds to help with the maintenance of Gussage St. Andrew church. Organised by John Davis and hosted by the Tarrant Gunville Bridge Club [six tables would have been difficult to fit into the Sports' Pavilion] the evening was a great success with a hundred pounds raised. In addition to the bridge, superb refreshments were provided and here a vote of grateful thanks goes to Bobbie Carter, Chris Haskell and Jean Mayne who made certain that all were *well fed and watered*. Of the bridge itself, the standard of play was high with three small slams bid, and made, but the surprise of the evening was the excellent performance of Doug and Christopher Haskell who, on their own admission, have been away from the tables for the better part of five years. Within the first four deals they were back in the groove bidding and making the first of their two small slams. From that point on they accelerated away to emerge as the runaway east-west winners with an overall score of 5,490 points [which included another small slam success].

The north-south victors, with 3,590 points, were John York and Betty White and it will not have escaped the regular readers of this column that along with Doug and Christopher, both are stalwarts at the whist tables.

Meanwhile, the Tuesday afternoon bridge at the Sports' Pavilion has continued to flourish. Recently, John Davis and Tim Stephens bid and made a small slam in diamonds and it is now common for the overall winner of a session to return a score well in excess of 3,000 points.

Bill Chorley
01725 552776

Village Hall 100 Club Winners

May

1st	£25	63	Mr D. Goddard
2nd	£15	90	Mr L. Smith
3rd	£10	27	Mr S. Preedy

June

1st	£25	69	Mrs D. Leverton
2nd	£15	52	Mr D. Penrose
3rd	£10	111	Mrs Clark

The 100 Club is run in aid of the Village Hall.

If you would like to join for £1 a month, please contact Bea Boyland on 552805.



Could you be a Governor?

If you are interested in helping children's education, and can volunteer some of your time, you could become a school governor in Dorset.

Sixpenny Handley First School
needs a Community Governor. You need no formal qualifications, but enthusiasm, team skills and commitment are important.

For further information or to discuss becoming a governor contact either Dorset Governor Services on 01305 224156 or the school on 01725 552356.

Closing Date: Friday 1st October 2010

To apply contact:

Mrs Jayne Alford
Clerk to the Governors
Sixpenny Handley First School,
Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 5NJ

COUNTRY RAMBLES

The wildlife of today is not ours to dispose of as we please. We have it in trust. We must account for it for those who come after. KING GEORGE VI

First, an update: the pair of Robins that utilised the old Swallow nest decided that it wasn't for them after all and left after about a week.

A fortnight ago we were happy to cut and bale four fields of hay without a sign of a drop of rain; as I write this, we are still waiting for rain to green up the pasture. It will take a lot of rain to penetrate down into the ground and swell up the crops. The knock-on effect of the dry period is that the grass has not grown and the stock have very little grazing. I think that a bale of hay may be very expensive this year. The dryness also effects ground nesting birds that rely on the moisture in the ground to keep the shell of the eggs in good condition for hatching.

Our neighbour has four cats. They are fed regularly and are well looked after. They don't go anywhere near the feral cats in the barn that kill to live and wage a constant war on the rats and mice around the buildings. Killing is, however, in the cat's make up, and two of her cats are very good at it - to my knowledge they have killed all the young doves and two broods of blackbirds. The deaths only highlight how many predators the song bird population has against it, and the successful raising of a brood is something to be enjoyed and celebrated.

On the 5th June a fox entered a house in East London through patio doors and attacked the Koupparis twins. Since then, there has been a TV documentary and there has been a call to reduce the number of urban foxes. Boris Johnson said, "People like to think foxes are a wonderful addition to the flora and fauna of London but they are undoubtedly a pest." The population of urban

foxes is estimated to stand at about 500,000 in the UK and is thought to be rising. A study in Bristol estimated that eight percent of pets living in gardens were killed by foxes. This whole situation was brought home to me when we visited my son in London this last week end. I have lived in the country all my life and I can count on one hand the numbers of times I have seen a fox during the day. When I looked out of the kitchen window of my son's first floor flat there, laying on the grass in the garden, was a dog fox, which apparently stays in the garden all day, everyday, only moving a few feet when my son gets his bike out of the shed. In the garden next door a vixen had raised a litter of cubs and they were happily playing in the flower borders. Over the course of the day we saw seven different foxes, all of whom were happily living in the confines of an urban garden. I think the problem of urban foxes is not just the numbers, but the fact that they have no fear of humans, so if they smell something tasty through a ground floor door they will enter the building. I only hope we never have rabies in the UK because, given the density of the fox population, it will spread like wildfire.

July is the best butterfly month in the calendar, the time when the greatest number of species can be seen on the wing. The conservation headlands of uncut grass round the fields and the Buddleia we have planted in the hedge are major attractions. The flashing golden wings of both large and small skippers are now a common sight in hay fields, along woodland rides and on waste ground. But my favourites, the Tortoiseshell and the Peacock, are happy in the garden environment.

Richard Harwood

CHASE COMMUNITY FRIENDS



On Friday, 11th June, 49 of our regular Social Day Centre guests and helpers enjoyed a summer coach trip to Weymouth, followed by cream teas at Pine Lodge Farm, Bockhampton. A happy day was enjoyed by everyone.

Our established team of well qualified, dedicated and highly experienced staff welcomes you to Bright Sparks.
We have a lovely rural setting with ample indoor and outdoor space, enabling the children to explore and investigate their environment.
Watch your children blossom into happy, confident learners.

"Every Child Matters"

9am - 12 noon or 1pm
12.00 - 4.00pm Mon-Thurs
Fri - 3.00pm

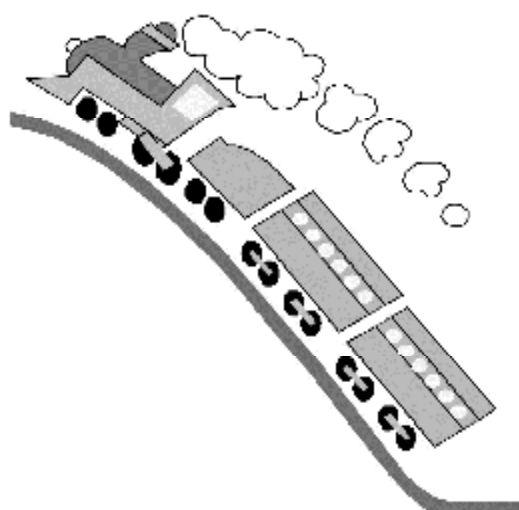
1yrs - under 8 yr olds

Nursery registered funding, 3 & 4yrs

1-2 yr olds £3.50 per hour
3-7 yr olds £3.00 per hour

Holiday Club Available

Bright Sparks



Nursery

Ebbesbourne Wake, 10 mins from Sixpenny Handley
Established 1990

**"Bright Sparks Nursery school, provides high quality care for children.
The children make good progress in all areas of the learning."
*Ofsted report March '06***

Your child's well being is paramount.

**If you require any further information, to request a prospectus or to arrange a visit
please contact Angela, Karen or Nicky on 01722 781069
Email: brightsparksare@aol.com / Web site brightsparksnursery.net**

The village school of Sixpenny Handley: 1934 - 42 inclusive

The village school was built in 1873, coming into service in 1874. It was an elementary school for 5 to 14 year olds, financed by Dorset County Council. This superseded the Old School situated by the side of the church, which was installed in 1841. Prior to that there was no school, nor education.

The Principles of the school were a Mr and Mrs Wright who lived in the adjacent school house for many years. They also had a backup of several teachers who lived locally. Mrs Wright looked after the musical needs of the school.

After morning assembly and calling of the registers, a pupil would read a paragraph from the Bible. This was then followed by Mrs Wright playing the piano whilst we sang a couple of verses from a hymn which was often "Onward Christian Soldiers" or "He Who Would Valiant Be". Good rousing stuff to start the day!

Empire day on May 24th was always commemorated at the school. The pupils put on a patriotic concert at about 11.00 am for mums and dads to attend. The children would dress up in various costumes depicting the countries of the Empire, and perform with poems and sketches. Patriotic songs were played on the piano by Mrs Wright, to which we all had to sing. Most prevalent were the 'National Anthem', 'Jerusalem' and 'Rule Britannia'. This was a time when Britannia really did rule the waves! Kidnapping and piracy, which happens on the high seas today would, in those days, have received short shrift. How things have changed!

A vivid recollection of mine was the school refreshment facility which amounted to an enamel mug chained to an outside water tank at the rear of the building for all to

use. The toilet block was nothing to boast about as there was no mains water in the village, buckets being the order of the day. These were emptied periodically into a kind of mobile container and transported by a local resident across the road to the allotments the other side of the road where the contents were disposed of. How primitive was that!

Mr Wright was keen on physical fitness, although this was rather limited as no equipment available. This usually meant jumping up and down and waving your arms about, and a few knees full bend thrown in, followed by running around the perimeter of the sports field.

Mr Wright's pride and joy were the school gardens. Boys from the top class were paired off and allocated a plot of land to cultivate and grow crops which they were allowed to keep. The gardens were situated on the site of the local allotments, not far away, but visible from the school. You always had the feeling that 'Old Bill' was watching, and often he was. The gardens were well kept, and a credit to all concerned.

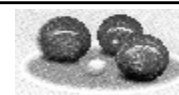
Bill Wright, as he was usually referred to, was not known for a sense of humour, nor did he participate in village events, but kept rather aloof from other people. However, in my opinion, he was a very good teacher, a disciplinarian, and would do his utmost for anyone showing a bit of promise.

I left school at the age of 14 years with no qualifications whatsoever, but have managed to survive. Thanks to the RAF for teaching me a trade.

Peter Bailey



SIXPENNY HANDLEY BOWLS CLUB



I must start by congratulating some of you. Well done, Doris, Don and Patrick for getting a HOT SHOT (9 shots) in one of the matches. This has not been done in a very long time! And congratulations to Brian, our President, for reaching the finals in the County Singles! We are all doing very well. At the time of writing we are top of the MTL league, and the men's team is keeping up with the rest.

In June, six of us went to the Gala Day in Victoria Park, which was very successful as usual. It is always very nice to meet up with old and new friends.

We had our Open Day in July. There were not as many people as we would have liked, but the sun was shining and the people that were there did enjoy themselves.

We hope some of the people who tried our game might come back for more!

The day of the Street Fayre started off with rain, but luckily it cleared up in the afternoon and lots of people visited our stall and everybody had a good time.

It was a very hot day when some players from Bishops Caundle visited us. They are only used to playing indoors, so it was quite a challenge for them to play on our green and it took them a while to get used to it. They did very well and we all enjoyed tea and the draw afterwards.

I hope we will be successful during the rest of the season and that the sun keeps shining!

Bea

'THE SHED'
CHURCH FARM
CARAVAN AND CAMPING PARK

High Street, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, Wilts SP5 5ND.

PROPRIETOR: Steve Judd.

TELEPHONE: 01725 553005/01725 552563

EMAIL: churchfarmcandcpark@yahoo.co.uk or theshedchurchfarm@yahoo.co.uk

WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK SPECIAL LUNCH -
OAP's £4 FOR 2 COURSES, £4.50 FOR 3 COURSES
1230pm - 230pm

WEDNESDAY STEAK NIGHT 6-9pm

FRIDAY NIGHT - FISH & CHIPS, etc
6pm - 9pm
Eat in or Take Away.

WE ARE NOW OPEN FOR LIGHT LUNCHES FRIDAY &
SATURDAY.

BREAKFAST - SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAYS 0830am - 1030am

SUNDAY LUNCH - ROAST DINNER
1230pm - 9pm

Bookings appreciated between 1230pm - 230pm
Only £6.95!

*We will be open more in High Season - Please come to 'The Shed' or check
on the website for revised opening hours.*

Licensed bar now open.

*We also cater for tailor-made functions!
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details.*

www.churchfarmcandcpark.co.uk

MAJOR ROAD WORKS AT WOODCUTTS

Thursday, July 1st, is a day to remember for all the inhabitants living down the lane known as 'Between Gates' here at Woodcuts. The experience for me personally started around midday as I turned off the main Salisbury/Blandford road at the junction just north-east of the Inn on the Chase onto the road which is named Straight Lane on the Sat Nav. Immediately in front of me was a truck laden with various tools, wheelbarrows and a pile of tarmac. This truck drove leisurely northwards up towards the Handley/Shafsbury road until it came to the left hand turn into 'Between Gates'. Without stopping it made its way down to a point just past our cottage, where it stopped. It had left room for me to pull into my usual parking place and as I got out of the car to enter our garden the truck driver called out to me to ask if this was the lane leading to Champs Farm. When assured that it was, he thanked me and turned his vehicle round and started back up the lane. For the next hour he and his mate proceeded to fill six pot holes that a council worker had previously randomly selected and indicated in need of repair by drawing white lines around them with his aerosol paint.

What are we to expect next? Will it be a white line down the middle of the lane? Could it even be double yellow lines down each side of our busy thoroughfare to prevent injudicious parking, which, if practised, would create a complete traffic snarl-up with unimaginable chaos, when rush hour traffic would come to a grinding halt! Twenty six people live in this suburb of Woodcuts including Meg (Madge) and myself, as well as several dogs, cats, chicken and goodness knows how many rabbits, so it is important to keep the traffic rolling. As useful as the yellow lines would be, there would appear to be little use for the white line down the middle of our lane, as in wet summers and most winters we already have a green one.

What would be handy and very practical would be a roundabout at the junction of the lane 'Between Gates' and the lane down to the School House, just outside of number 1 Priory Cottages. This would prevent unauthorised turning on the grass opposite our front gate, where we often park our 4x4. In fact, this although initially expensive, could save us money. Two weeks ago an unidentified car turned around at this spot when our car was already parked there. Our vehicle received considerable damage while this particular car manoeuvred and turned and drove away without leaving a visiting card.

As mentioned above, our car is a 4x4 and many people ask why someone as interested in and having such a love for the countryside and the environment generally as I have should drive such a vehicle. The reason is quite simple; most of my working life was spent in farm management and it is essential to all farmers and farm managers to be able to look over hedges to see how

every other farmer's crops are doing as they travel the countryside. The reason for the 4x4 is not only to give that extra height to be able to see over the hedges but also to be able to get back onto the road after driving into ditches while looking over the hedges. If you have an interest in the countryside generally, you also let your eyes wander to look at a woodland carpet of bluebells, or to see if the cowslips are in flower or to identify a bird that catches your eye, all of which are legitimate reasons for running off the road.

Talking of birds brings us to the red kites in our area. In the last edition of the Downsman I said that it wasn't known if, in fact, there was a pair of them here. Since then I have been reliably told that there has been a pair seen nesting in Rushmore Park and there have been several different sightings of individual male and female birds. Added to this, Roy, who lives at the end of the lane and gets up at some ridiculous hour of the morning to be at work in Salisbury by 5.00 am, has seen three kites flying together over his cottage early in the morning; so we can only assume that one has, in fact, fledged. There are some suggestions that this pair have been around Rushmore for two years or more.

Whilst on the subject of birds I must mention the huge number of swallows already collecting just north of the Cashmore area, as if ready for their late August/September migration. The telephone wires, which are their preferred perches seemed weighed down with them on occasions. Are they thinking of going early because of the very dry summer and a shortage of food?

It is not only the birds that are suffering because of the dry summer. Farmers, too, are particularly affected. Those with livestock have seen first cut silage yields some 30% lower than usual and hay cuts as much as 40% lower. Grazing is also seriously affected with resultant milk yields down, with poorer performances than expected for beef and sheep. Perhaps a wet autumn will allow a late October cut of silage to be taken, as it is in Ireland. If not, stock numbers will have to be reduced or more expensive food will have to be imported, pushing up prices of the human foodstuffs of dairy produce and meats in the shops. The arable men aren't any better, off with anticipated crop yields lower than average. This will push up grain prices and increase imports and decrease our food security as an island nation. With more and more people living in the UK this can only mean a greater dependency on imports.

One crop that will probably not be too seriously affected will be the potato as most growers would normally rely to a large extent on irrigation systems. Hopefully in this case, and in the case of many vegetable crops which also depend on irrigation, there will not be a problem.

And on the subject of

Continued on page 19

Good news!

Dorset trees & hedges are branching out!



- D.T.H .Landscapes & garden maintenance-

Thanks to the loyalty of an ever increasing local client base, I have had a very successful year and have been able to invest in new tools and equipment.

Apart from an intimate knowledge of my trade, I believe that the success is due to honour and loyalty. My business strategy is based on the John Lewis partnership ideal whose strap line is; *"Never knowingly undersold"*. My focus has always been on client satisfaction and as I have your best interests at heart, my strap line is *"Root & branch solutions"*.

Just like the John Lewis partnership, anyone who works with me will own a part of the business and, as a consequence, will be highly motivated to ensure client focus. I am not a 'Jack-of-all-trades' so I have invited key experts to join in the enterprise. One is an old friend with a great deal of building experience who will take care of the hard landscaping and the other is my life partner who has had a great deal of horticultural experience and will deal with the soft landscaping. I have an intimate knowledge of lawn care and now have the tools and equipment to carry out total lawn maintenance *from just green to bowling green*.

As *Twigsnapper* (my alter ego) I will continue the tree tips feature which has also gathered momentum of late, the most recent question being, "What's making the webs in the hedges locally?" The answer is an ermine moth. But my favourite question of all time is, "Why did God make Sycamores?" Well.... I'll have to get back to you on that one; I'm still waiting for an answer!

Paul McDermott

Email: paul.mcdermott5@virgin.net

Tel: 01725 552985 0777 171 09 19

potatoes, I must tell you about 'Old Bob'. 'Old Bob' was always 'old' as far as I was concerned as a youngster. He was, I suppose, what would today be called a yokel. He had never travelled more than twelve miles from his home in the village of Blackmoor and for him to travel on the bus to Petersfield, just eight miles away, was a huge adventure. His main interest in life, after his work on the farm, was his abnormally large garden which he tended with great love and care. At that time we all started work at 7.00 am, but Bob would already have done an hour of digging or whatever seasonal task was necessary before that. In the wintertime he would have a lantern alight hanging on a forked, hazel stick so that he could see to work away in the garden, any time from five in the morning or until eight o'clock in the evening.

His main passion was growing potatoes. He had a family of his wife and three daughters but he grew prodigious

amounts of 'spuds' as all country people called them. To get into conversation with Bob you had to be prepared to talk about 'spuds', but you soon learnt not to ask him in the autumn time, when it came to his potato harvest, just how his crop had done. He had a stock answer to all. "Well, some's as big as marbles, some's as big as peas, and all the rest is little uns." The number of times I heard him say that were innumerable and despite expecting it, I always laughed. 'Old Bob' was a true countryman and despite counting myself a true man of the soil, I'll never have the understanding of all things natural that he had. I am eternally grateful to 'Old Bob' and all the other countrymen I worked with and knew who taught me so much.

On this note, I will say goodbye and God bless.

Ted Cox (July 2010)

THANK YOU

Denise and Simon Meaden would like to thank everyone who attended the open farm Sunday in June and everyone who helped before, during and after the event. The weather was kind and the event was enjoyed by many.

Simon Meaden



Mobile Library Schedule - Visits on Thursday Fortnightly

Woodyates – Cobley Close	2.25 – 2.40
Back Lane/St Mary's Close	3.00 – 3.20
Roebuck Inn	3.25 – 3.45
Dean Lane	3.50 – 4.05
Sheasby Close	4.10 – 4.30

August 5th, 19th
September 9th, 23rd **October 7th**

MR. AND MRS RICHARD CARLYLE-CLARKE

invite you to a

SPECIAL OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE IN THEIR GARDEN

THE BARBER OF SEVILLE

sung in English by

THE GARDEN OPERA COMPANY

THURSDAY, 26TH AUGUST 2010

GARDEN OPEN AT 5:00PM FOR PICNICS

PERFORMANCE STARTS AT 6:30PM

45 MINUTE INTERVAL

Proceeds in aid of the local homecare charity

PRAMACARE

Registered Charity Number: 801907

Ticket price: £25 (For groups of 8 or more people: £23)

Please make cheques payable to The Tollard Trust – send with SAE to address below

Tickets:

Contact Jackie Carlyle-Clarke

Telephone : 01725 516323

Email : tollardopera@gmail.com

Venue:

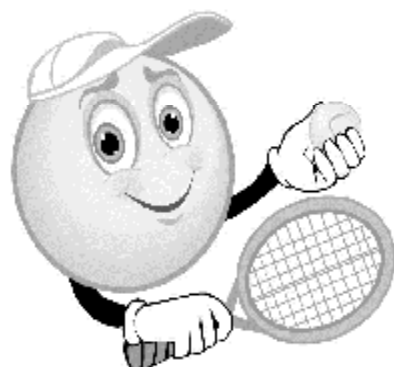
Tollard Green Farm,

Tollard Royal,

Wiltshire, SP5 5PX

Event kindly supported by Blackmore of Shaftesbury printers see www.Blackmore.co.uk

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club



Sunday 10am to 12noon

Adult Club Session

Come along and have a game of doubles

Starting Sunday 18th April.

New members welcome, for further details please
contact Tracey Lownds 01725 552414

THE NORTH DORSET BUSINESS GROUP

An opportunity for like-minded business people to meet in a relaxed, social setting for chats and insights

In April I was delighted to make the move of home and office from Wimborne to Sixpenny Handley. However, attending breakfast clubs and professional events in the Bournemouth/Poole conurbations seemed such a chore on top of a day's work with a 90 minute round trip.

With that in mind, I am anxious to discover if there is sufficient interest to establish a regular meeting point for people who are either working in business, community organisations or local authorities who live or work within easy travelling distance of Sixpenny Handley. The key words are "de-isolation", "informality" and "beneficial" for you to attend. The Club will be known as the North Dorset Business Group (NDBG).

How might the NDBG benefit you?

It might be that amongst the members of the NDBG you may find help for your business plans, business development and product promotions, or need help in areas such as Personnel, IT, Finance, PR, Projects, HSE, Quality, Legal , etc. It would be fantastic if, from amongst our members, we could establish local relationships for mutual business benefit, providing a forum where professionals can mix with the local businesses to help make a positive impact on local businesses and community organisations within the immediate area. I like the phrase "de-isolating" and that's what we will be about.

Here's some unanswered questions. "What's the format of the meeting?" "Where shall we meet?" "How often?" "When shall we meet?" "Where's the value to me?" "What will it cost?" "What will make it an "imperative" event to attend?" These are open questions that can be addressed and answered at our first meeting and will help form a framework for our twelve month programme.

First Exploratory Meeting:

When: Monday 6th September
Time: Arrive from 17:00 to start by 17:30
Where: Rushmore Park Golf Club, Tollard Royal, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP5 5QB.
This is signposted from the B3081 between Sixpenny Handley and Tollard Royal. The Clubhouse offers ample free car parking.
Frequency: You won't have to attend every month or stay all evening, but it is hoped that many will want to.
Agenda: Let's introduce ourselves and come prepared to offer ideas for what could become a very beneficial group.

Call to Action:

Please let me know if you wish to attend which will give me a chance to manage the logistics. All communications for the NDBG are as follows:

Contact: John Cornish
Telephone: 01725 553199
Email: john@microplanning.co.uk
On-line: www.linkedin.com "North Dorset Business Group"

I look forward to hearing from you shortly.

John Cornish

About John Cornish: John has lived in Dorset all his life with a long career in the high-tech electronics industry and is now Managing Director at Micro Planning International Ltd. He gained an MBA from Bournemouth University in 1995, and is a Fellow of The CIM, a Chartered Marketer and a Member of the APM.

The Roebuck Inn

01725 552002

Tuesday Night: Steak Night Special

7.00 pm to 9.00 pm

8 oz Pan Fried Rump Steak
served with French Fries, Mushrooms, Onion & Tomato. £6.95

Thursday Night: Fish & Chip Night Special

6.00pm to 9.00pm

A generous portion of Cod in a Homemade Beer Batter served with Chips, Peas & Salad Garnish. Eat in or Take Away. £6.95

Or

Homemade Beef Pie of the day served with French Fries & Fresh Vegetables. £6.95

Sunday Lunch

12.00pm to 2.00pm

Traditional Sunday Roast. A choice of Tender Roast Beef or our Succulent Roast Pork, served with Fresh Vegetables, Yorkshire Pudding & Roast Potatoes. £6.95

**A selection of Homemade Puddings all baked on the premises
£3.25**

**The Roebuck Inn
22 High Street
Sixpenny Handley
Salisbury SP5 5NR**



TWIGSNAPPER'S TREE TIPS



Phytophthora: from the Greek meaning plant killer

It is with a sense of urgency and growing concern that my feature is written this time.

We are seeing the development of a potentially devastating pandemic that would make the Dutch Elm pandemic look like a mere bagatelle: just a historical footnote.

Phytophthora is a genus of a fungal family with many members, each in turn being difficult or impossible to treat. The great potato famine of Ireland was caused by Potato Blight (*Phytophthora infestans*). Phytophthora root-rot kills nearly as many trees and shrubs as Honey Fungus. We are now seeing English oak trees as well as horse chestnuts, under threat of annihilation from Phytophthora bleeding canker.

As yet, I have only come across bleeding canker in horse chestnuts, but according to forestry research notes, oak decline is spreading throughout the country with the nearest confirmed outbreak in the midlands. There is a degree of inevitability that oak decline syndrome will be here in Dorset within the year.

My industry is now in the frontline of a war that we cannot afford to lose. I have had success in keeping this disease at bay over the years because of my in-depth knowledge and an understanding of the trees' own defence systems.

It is vital to inform your local arborist about any bleeding cankers and general ill health in all tree species as early diagnosis and treatment is essential and together we can help to avert catastrophe.

Is my Ceanothus dead?

This was a question from Linda of Sheasby Close who noticed that her lovely blue flowering shrub had shrivelled brown leaves and looked generally bedraggled.

To check whether or not any shrub is actually dead you must scratch the bark. If it is moist and white or a light green colour underneath the bark (the cambium layer), it is alive. If the cambium layer is a dry, brown colour this part of the shrub is dead. However, if the stem still has moist, fresh cambium, then it may be possible to prune back to living tissue to save the plant.

Ceanothus doesn't like an exposed position and is intolerant of wind and frost. In Linda's case the Ceanothus was, indeed, very dead, so what had killed it?

Until I winched out the whole shrub to expose the roots for examination, I couldn't really tell. It then became very clear that it was the great arboricultural nemesis, Phytophthora root rot. The genus Phytophthora has become a significant and insidious pathogen of the last few years as it contains a large number of species that causes foliage blights, fruit rots and bark cankers in a wide variety of plants. These are fungus-like organisms whose spores are spread by water. These spores can remain dormant in soil until coming into contact with an appropriate food source. After Honey Fungus, Phytophthora is the most common form of root and stem-base decay in a wide range of trees and shrubs.

Paul McDermott
Director, Dorset Trees & Hedges
 07771 710919 / 01725 552985

ROB'S COLUMN

How to pick the perfect pressie

Planning a gift. How to pick the right gift by recognising hints from a loved one.

Good facial expression: intense face gazing. They'll continue to scan long after the gift has been mentioned, watching to see you got the hint.

Bad facial expression: you mention the gift idea and they perform a horizontal right-left eye dart, suggesting a desire for escape, plus a thin smile.

Good vocal tone: a man's tone will dip with pleasure, a woman's will rise slightly and become rather breathless.

Bad vocal tone: a man's voice rises, attempting to be polite, but then dips. This tends to be followed by a glassy-eyed stare out of the window or at the TV.

Good body gestures: the hands rise up in celebration. In women this is often a hand-clasp. The hands are pulled in, miming receipt of the gift.

Bad boy gestures: mixed messages like a head-nod to agree, combined with folded arms to suggest a lack of acceptance.

Good working: specific, as in, "I'd love a monogrammed double suit carrier with external pockets and tie rack."

Bad wording: a plea aimed at your benefit, as in, "A soup blender?" "Yes, that would be absolutely fantastic, but are you sure you want to spend that much?"

Giving a gift: how to know you've picked a good one

Good facial expression: a quick glance at your face using a softened, happy eye expression, then eyes fixed on the gift.

Bad facial expression: eyes flickering to the upper right before answering. This is so they can access the part of the brain to do with lying.

Good body gestures: the gift is brought closer to them even hugged to their body. Bad body gestures: lots of over-done arm waving, use of hands to speak, wide eyes and over-exaggerated smiling.

Good wording: less means more. When we're really pleased we keep wording concise like, "Thank you so much. It's exactly what I wanted."

Bad wording: questions like, "What is it? How did you choose this?"

Forget all this and just come to Rob's Auction in October (we will get it right for you). If you are sorting out the house or have any items you could donate to the auction, please give me a ring. Tel: 01725 552340.

My Desk

All that I ask is a desk
With blotting paper white
Changed every night.
No litter, but the good
Company of cool wood.
A glass ink pot so clean
My pen can wade therein
Up to her waist and not
Be liable to blot -
Also laid in her place
A crystal pencil case,
And in the glassy bed -
Pencils. New, sharpened,
Nothing to vex the soul
In the neat pigeon-hole.
And, finally, there must
Be not a speck of dust.

The Village Book is now on sale in the village shops. Price £5. Over 300 copies have been sold so far, so don't miss out. Go and get your copy before it's too late. Profits are going back into the village.

Many thanks to Ros, for all her hard work.

I know a young lass called Kath,
Who got dolled up and had a bath.

Off to the party she did go
Singing, hi ho, hi ho.

The night went on,
The drink went down,
And soon she was near to the ground.
But fun was had, and she's not bad,
I think it was just a passing fad.

There are two sides of the balance sheet;
the left side and the right side.
On the left side there is nothing right,
and on the right side there is nothing left.
Income - Expense = Total nil

I used to collect coins as a hobby, but
I soon gave it up. I couldn't make
head or tails of it.

Summer Sun

Great is the sun, and wide he goes
Through empty heaven with repose;
And in the blue and glowing days
More thick than rain he showers his rays.

Though closer still the blinds we pull
To keep the shady parlour cool,
Yet he will find a chink or two
To slip his golden fingers through.

The dusty attic, spider-clad
He, through the keyhole maketh glad;
And through the broken edge of tiles
Into the laddered hay-loft smiles.

Meantime his golden face around
He bares to all the garden ground,
And sheds a warm and glittering look
Among the ivy's inmost nook.

Above the hills, along the blue,
Round the bright air with footing true,
To please the child, to paint the rose,
The gardener of the world, he goes.
Accr. R.L. Stevenson

If you live in a grass hut and fall behind
with the rent, are you turfed out?

Two men out walking through a
graveyard with their dogs. One man
turns to the other and says,
"Morning." The other man replied,
"No, just walking the dog."

They do what they want
They rarely listen to you
They're totally unpredictable
When you want to play
They want to be alone
When you want to be alone
They want to play
They expect you to cater to their
every whim
They have hair everywhere.
Guess what it is.
(They're cats).

Did I mention about the book on sale and Rob's auction in October? All profits go to the village.

**Thanks.
Rob**

1st Woodcutts News

15th July 2010

New Scout Hut by Easter 2011



Going, Going, Gone!

1st Woodcutts have held their last meetings in the old hut. Three quarters of the necessary funds have been raised, allowing the Scouts to finally start building purpose-built headquarters fit for the 21st Century.

After nearly 30 years of use by the Scouts, the old hut will be razed to the ground early this September; the Scouts hope to be in the new HQ well before Easter.

No rest for the Scouts

Whilst the new HQ is being built, the Explorers, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers will continue to meet in the village using other facilities. Negotiations are currently taking place to secure alternate venues for each of the sections to meet.

Being Prepared (Help!)

On August 21st the scouts will be clearing out the hut ready for its demolition. Most of the contents will be carefully loaded into a container for use over the summer and whilst the HQ is being built. Some of the contents from the hut will go into storage ready for the new HQ and a few souvenirs will be kept.

We need some help with this, so if you'd like to help just turn up any time from 10.00 am.

Bring a picnic for lunch and then later in the afternoon we will fire up the barbecue and feed you with beautifully grilled burgers and sausages.

First Phase

By the end of September the foundations will have been laid, and early October will see the steel frame erected. A fully watertight building should be on site by Christmas. The New Year should see the final fitting out of the HQ.

Raising Funds

Although the majority of funds are in place there is still some work to do to ensure there are resources to allow the HQ to be fully fitted.

So, fundraising and grant applications continue. A donation of £10,000 was recently received and has boosted the coffers. A garden party, held by local councillor and farmer, Tim Palmer, helped raise a further £600.

The recent Scoutfest music event at the village hall raised £700; thanks to all involved including the bands, middlenamekill, My Pet Alien, Robb Blake, Gambling Hearts and City Stereo, who all gave their time for free. Also to Dave Styles for his PA and sound expertise, and Wayland's Sixpenny Brewery for the delicious beer.

1st Woodcutts Scouts, Handley Common, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury. SP5 5NJ

<http://www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk>

continued on page 26

1st Woodcutts News

15th July 2010

Larmer Tree Festival

Larmer Tree Festival

By the time you read this, a hardy band of volunteers will have given up some of their annual leave and five of their early mornings and weekend lie-ins. The crew will have been up at the crack of dawn in order to litter-pick at the 20th Larmer Tree Festival. They will also have been directing the car parking on the Wednesday afternoon and evening for the yearly Jools Holland show. Another bunch of volunteers will have been manning the "Larmer Express", a shuttle service ferrying festival goers between the main entrance and the festival arena. We will let you know how much they raised in the next newsletter.

Other Activities



Endorse it in Dorset

Once again, the lovely 'Endorse It' folks have shown their support for the local community by inviting the scouts to run the festival shop. Festival goers will have the chance to purchase a range of essentials and goodies from the 1st Woodcutts festival shop.

Handley's very own music festival takes place from the 6th to the 8th August. If you would like to come and buy anything from the shop you'll need to come to the festival. Punk legends, The Damned, headline this year's increasingly popular festival. Tickets are available through the festival website www.endorseit.co.uk.



Summer Camp

Although the Scouts do not meet during the summer holiday period, scouting does not stop. August Bank Holiday weekend will see the Scouts head off to Harry's Island campsite in the New Forest. Whilst there, the Scouts have planned loads of outdoor activities, including back-woods cooking, wide games and also hope to do pony trekking and mountain biking.



Age 6-8
Wednesday 5 to 6pm
Denise Turner (Willow)
01725 552735



Age 8-10½
Wednesday 6 to 7.30pm
Andy Young (Akela)
01725 553166



Age 10½-14
Monday 7 to 9pm
Rob Easton
01725 552038



Age 14-18
Wednesday 7.30 - 9.30pm
Andy Turner
01725 552735

Group Scout Leader
John Curtis
01725 552397

1st Woodcutts Scouts, Handley Common, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury. SP5 5NJ

<http://www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk>

Sixpenny Handley First School News

This term, the Robins have been learning about different countries and cultures. They have enjoyed 'visiting' France, singing songs in French, as well as making salt dough baguettes and patisseries to sell at their boulangerie. They have 'sped off' to India where they discovered the sun is like a ferocious tiger and the monsoon rain is like a waterfall from the sky. They have painted crocodiles, snakes, elephants and monkeys, as well as comparing baguettes with naan bread, tasting dhal, chapattis and mango. Next stop is China; I wonder what they will find there?

The children in Year 1 have been learning all about Incredible India! We started our learning by flying off from Sixpenny Handley to Mumbai using Google Earth! We have learnt all about the animals that live in this fantastic country and have made a large peacock for our classroom! We have also used clay to create elephants and some tiger faces. It is a super theme and we are all enjoying it! Last week we learnt about the weather and discovered that sometimes there is lots of rain and these are called monsoons. We are hoping to taste some Indian food on our special India day in a couple of weeks.

Our King Henry VIII Banquet Day!

Kestrels class have been busy finding the answer to our question...Who's the King of the castle? To celebrate the end of our theme we held our own Banquet Day. We all came to school dressed up in Tudor costumes. Our teacher, Miss Starmer, was King Henry VIII! We baked Queen of Hearts jam tarts and enjoyed tasting them with Mums and Dads at the end of the day. We even brought in our own Tudor lunch and drank out of goblets! We learnt some Tudor dances and showed them to the whole school in our Royal Class Assembly. We enjoyed our theme so much that we even went to visit Portland Castle. Did you know that Henry VIII built this castle?

We are now enjoying our new theme . . . on your marks, get set . . . GROW!



Tag Rugby Festival

On Friday, 30th April, the Woodpeckers class from Sixpenny Handley entered a Tag Rugby tournament organised by the Local Authority. In the competition there were 35 different teams from around the county and all the children demonstrated excellent sportsmanship. Sixpenny Handley came 2nd on the day by only one try. The Years 3 and 4 children all played really well and were very tired by the end of the day! Super team work, Handley. Well done!



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Sixpenny Handley Churchyard - A Personal View

Several years ago, in about 2005 / 2006, I made a visit to the Handley churchyard. With me was a colleague, Mrs Margaret Yeatman (nee Pullman). We are both longtime members of the Somerset and Dorset Family History Society, with the purpose of visiting churchyards to locate family headstones, record the inscriptions, and take photographs, if possible.

Entering the churchyard a gentleman came up to us who said we were walking on the grass, and had trodden on some trefoils (type of clover). We were slightly taken aback and bemused by this, but the gentleman went on to explain that this was now a natural habitat for wildlife and had been sectioned off as habitat for various types of wildlife creatures. I did point out that standing in that part of the churchyard, looking out over the former Handley common, it was possible to see a mass of fields, hedgerows, and in the distance, woods that had been there for hundreds of years. Ah, but that was different; the fields had been cultivated, although he omitted to mention the hedgerows and woods. However we were allowed to carry on with what we had intended, but we had to be careful.

But back to the purpose of our visit: from previous information we knew that there were two Pullman headstones situated in the lower part of the churchyard, close to a low wall which used to border what was known as a timber yard and which is now housing. Walking over a thick mass of decaying grass, and possibly many graves, the first headstone was easy to find, except that a large sapling had grown out of the grave. The second was much more difficult to locate: we finally found it under a great mound of ivy.

My friend, Margaret, formerly a Pullman, was born in Woodcutts, but never lived in Handley. However several of her ancestors did, one being known as Blind Jim Poolman who, from the age of 17, played the organ in Handley church for 44 years.

We then moved on to my great grandparents, George and Emma Bailey. Their grave is situated much higher in the churchyard, close to one corner and adjacent to a large patch of nettles, destined to become a haven for slowworms. We left the churchyard with rather mixed feelings.

Then in early May of this year, I had a visit from my grandson who had just returned from Afghanistan. As he was interested in where his forbears came from, and never having been to the village before, it was decided to have a pub lunch and explore the village. I showed him the house where I was raised – No. 5 Common Road and also 7 Chase Crescent where we once lived. However, overcome by curiosity I made a second visit to the churchyard. On entering through the Lichgate I was pleasantly surprised to find that the grass had been trimmed in the immediate area and was tidy. Further on, however, was a much different picture. The lower part where we had searched years before was completely overgrown with cow parsley at a great height, although across the middle someone had trimmed a walkway through the long grass close to a group of recent graves, some of whom I had known personally.

I feel that the title of 'Living Churchyard' is a misnomer. An appropriate title would be 'The Wilderness'. How is this going to benefit the ecology and environment of the village, set deep in the countryside, I wonder? I have no aversion to wildlife - everything deserves a place - but is this the right place?

This is not common land, but church land which, in my opinion, is supposed to be sanctified and hallowed ground and should therefore command a certain reverence and respect which I, personally, feel is lacking.

Peter Bailey

Are they lucky for you?

By Rob

Touching wood	Finding a penny	Seeing a shooting star
Making a wish on a roast chicken wishbone		Throwing salt over your shoulder
Saluting a magpie	Wishing on a loose eyelash	Seeing a black cat
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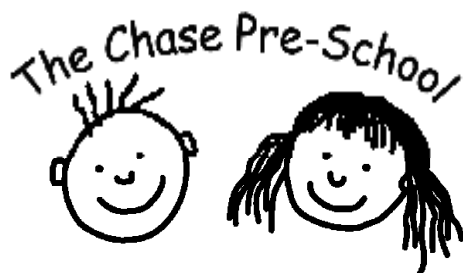
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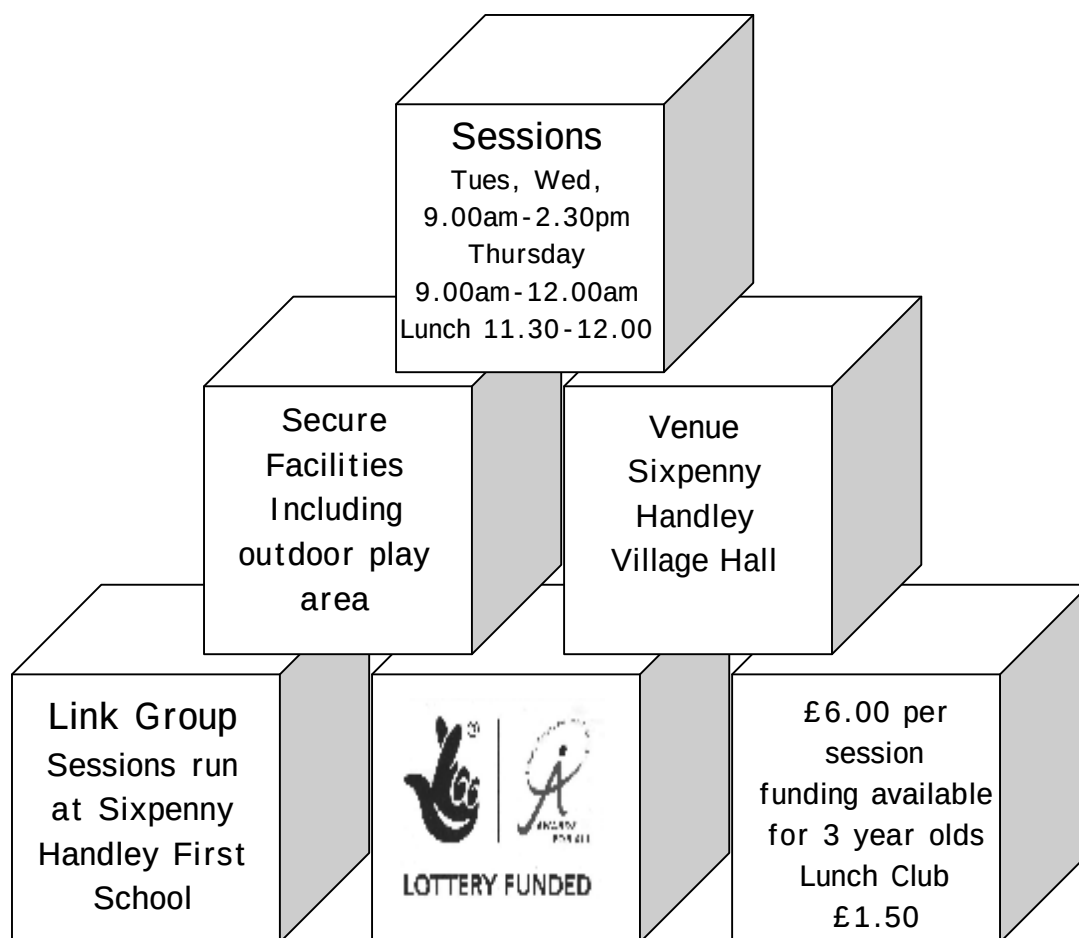
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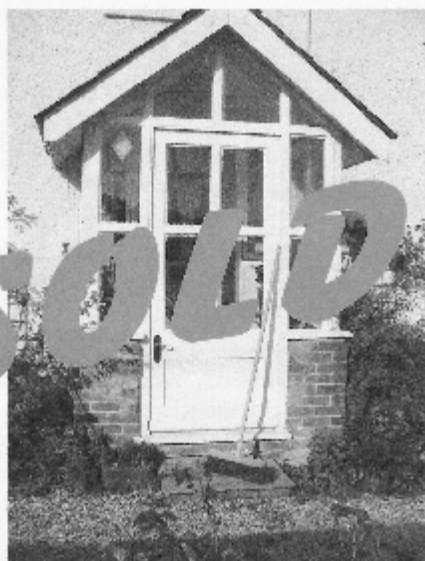
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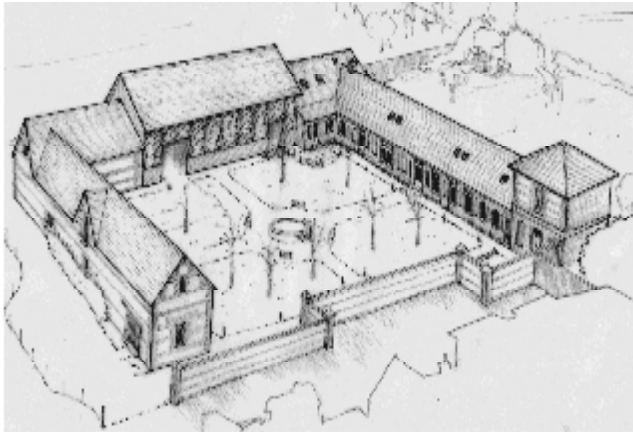
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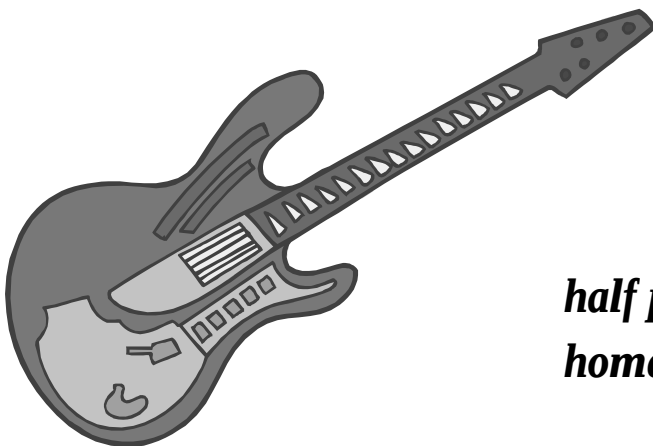
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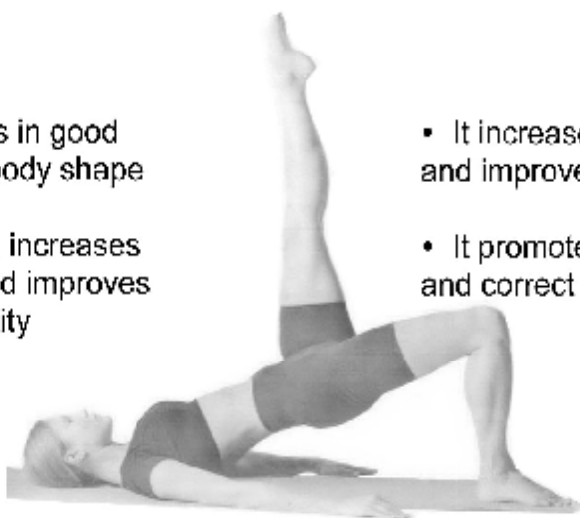
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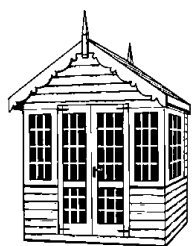
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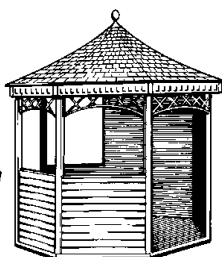


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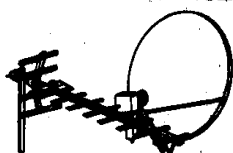
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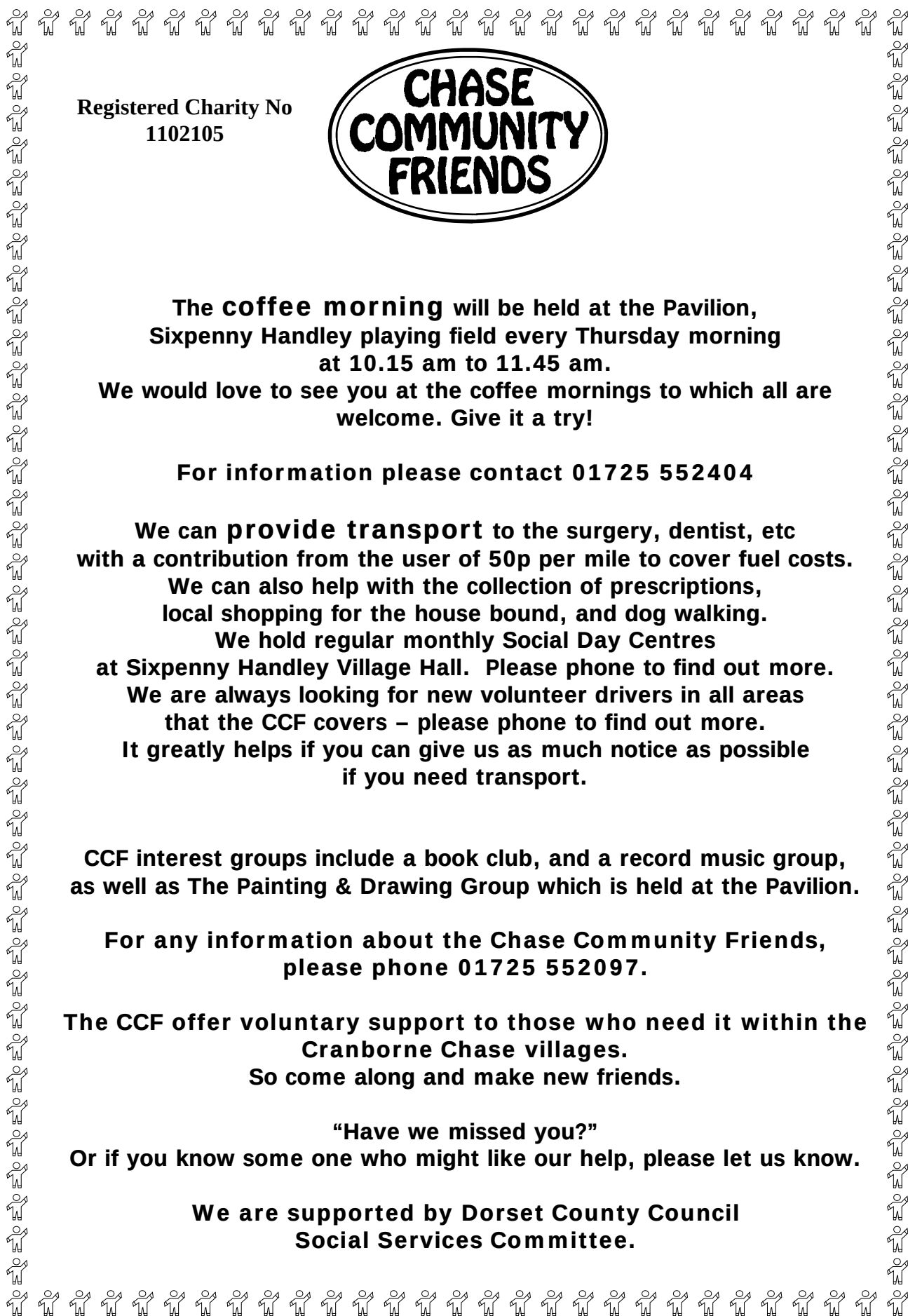
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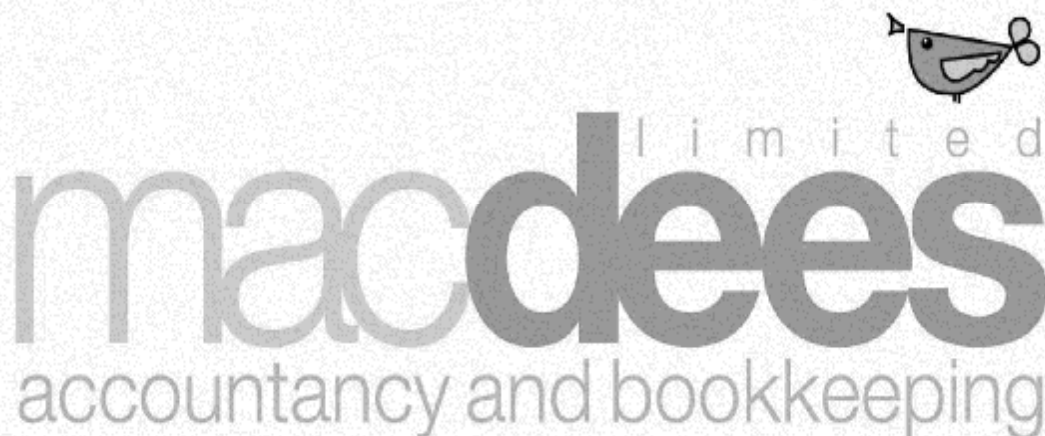
**The CCF offer voluntary support to those who need it within the
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DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
5 Aug	Mobile Library	19	6 Sept	North Dorset Business Club	21
6 Aug	Endorse It In Dorset	4	8 Sept	W.I. Quiz	9
9 Aug	W.I. American Supper	9	9 Sept	Mobile Library	19
19 Aug	Mobile Library	19	11 Sept	Cycle for Dorset Historic Churches	5
26 Aug	Chase Garden Club	10	11 Sept	Film: "Flushed Away", Village Hall	6
26 Aug	Barber of Seville, Tollard Green Farm	20	13 Sept	W.I. Talk	9
28	RNLI Front Path Sale	9	15 Sept	Copy Deadline	3
29	RNLI Front Path Sale	9	23 Sept	Mobile Library	19
			30 Sept	Chase Garden Club	10
			1 Oct	Next Issue	3