

Christmas Bingo
18th December
Sixpenny Handley
Village Hall
 page 4

Handley
Carol Singing
22nd December
 Collection in aid of
 Marie Curie
 page 5

Christingle
24th December
4pm
 St Mary's,
 Sixpenny Handley

Burn Christmas off
with Bootcamp
 page 37



His Christmas Goose
 "You wait till I comes off dooty!"

CLT Affordable
Housing Project
Meeting
 Page 8

Pentridge Talk
by Tarka King
 Page 5

Sixpenny Handley
Community Speed
Watch
 Page 4

Parish Councillors Sixpenny Handley

Chairman	Cllr C Taylor	 553148
	Cllr D Chick	 552557
	Cllr A Gibb	 552704
	Cllr S Meaden	 552715
	Cllr T Reynolds	 552995
	Cllr Mrs S Court	 553077
	Cllr D Lockyer	 552492
Vice-Chair	Cllr J Reed	 516390
Pentridge	Cllr R Ferguson	 552222
	Cllr Ms J Henry	 553036
Clerk	Lisa Goodwin	 01258 840935
Assistant Clerk	Ciona Nicholson	 552211
Parish Office		 552211
District Councillor	Cllr S Tong	 01258 840061
County Councillor	Cllr Steve Butler	 01725 517412
	Email: steve.butler@dorsetcc.gov.uk	
Member Parliament	Robert Walter	 0207 219 6981

Rights of Way Liaison Officers

Sixpenny Handley	D Chick	 552557
	J Reed	 516390
Pentridge	Mrs M Jones	 552358

The Downsman Team

Editor	naomi@naomiboath.co.uk
Production	Brian Hansford 552468
Advertising	David Salmons 552721

Churches

Church of England	St. Mary's, Sixpenny Handley
	St. Rumbold's, Pentridge
	St. Andrews, Gussage St. Andrew
Vicar	Rev Mel Durrant, The Vicarage
	60 High Street, Sixpenny Handley
	 552608
Roman Catholic	Church of Our Lady of Lourdes &
	St. Cecilia, Blandford Forum
Priest	Rev. Father Dylan James
	The Presbytery, 55 Salisbury Street, Shaftesbury
	 01747 852125

Doctors Drs. Nodder, Morgan & Taubman

Dean Lane Surgery	 552500
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Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Chairman	Tony Gibb	 552704
Treasurer	Paul Skinner	 552785
Bookings	Tony Gibb	 552704

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

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

Area 1 - Dean Lane	Don Penrose	 552022
2 - Lower Handley	David Chick	 552557
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	 552911
Woodyates	Mrs A Adams	 552675

Police

Simon Hallam, Verwood Police Stn	 07825 521761
	 01202 222222
Police non-emergency number	 101

Sixpenny Handley Allotment Holders Association

Chairman	John Curtis	 552397
Secretary	Steve Barrett	 552121

Schools

First School	Handley First School	 552356
Middle School	Cranborne Middle School	517348
Upper School	Queen Elizabeth's School	
	Wimborne	 01202 885233

Little Pennies Pre-School

Chairperson	Margaret Durrant	 552608
Secretary	Lou Billington	

Happy Nappy Club

Jenny Chapman	 07830 188 589
Karen Adams	 552391

1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Group Scout Leader	John Curtis	 552397
Explorer Leader	Anthony Brown	 552814
Scout Leader	Rob Easton	 552038
Cub Leader	Andy Young	 01258 830861
Beaver Leader	Denise Turner	 552735
Scout Hut Bookings	Toby Cullen	
	bookings@firstwoodcutts.org.uk	

1st Sixpenny Handley Rainbows

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

President	Mrs Bobbie Carter	 552042
Secretary	Mrs Margaret Jones	 552358

Sixpenny Handley Mothers' Union

Leader	Sheila Bradley	 553133
Secretary	Mary Macleod	 552041

Chase Community Friends

Chairman	Vic Hatton	 01258 841321
Secretary	Penny Adams	 01725 552218

Sixpenny Handley CLT

Chairman	Simon Parker	
Secretary	Jenny Chapman	 07830 188 589

Sixpenny Handley Sports Association

Sport Pavilion Bookings	 552704
-------------------------	--------------

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

President	Paul Chalmers	 516316
Secretary	Colin Chambers	 552796
Treasurer	Paul Chalmers	 516316

Handley Sports Club

Chairman	Mark Young	 552741
Secretary/Treasurer	Brian Hansford	 552468
Team Manager Div 3	Mark Young	 552741
Team Manager Div 5	Adam Day	 01258 452481

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club

Chairman	Tracey Lownds	 552414
Membership/Treasurer	Karen Miller	 516340

Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

Evening Captain	David Cross	 552640
Secretary	Frances Churchill	 552868

Citizen's Advice Bureau

Wimborne Branch	 01202 884738
Ferndown Branch	 01202 893838
Out of Hours Service	 08444 772022

Next edition

The next edition will be published on
1st February 2015

**Copy deadline for the
next edition
15th January**

Please make every effort to meet the deadline so that we have time for printing, production and distribution.

If possible please email your articles to editor@thedownsman.org.uk.

Advertising

Our advertising offers great value. The Downsman is currently delivered to over 700 households within the parish. Email David: downsmanadverts@sixpennyhandley.org for more details.

Advertisement Costs

Size	Single edition	Yearly rate
Small Text Ad	£2.50	-
Small Square	£5	£25
Rectangle	£10	£50
Large Square	£25	£125
Half Page	£35	£175
Whole Page	£50	£250

Advertisement Sizes

Size	Image area*
Small Text Ad	30 words
Small Square	59mm
Rectangle V	59mm x 122mm
H	122mm x 59mm
Large Square	122mm
Half Page	186mm x 122mm
Whole Page	186mm x 248mm

*without frame which will be added by us.

If you need us to set your advert please add a one-off £5 fee.

**Sorry - we are unable to
include flyers**

Christmas time...

As you can imagine, the excitement in my house is already building for Christmas, and Christmas Day itself is not even half of it! School has been busy preparing not one but two Christmas performances. The Church is starting the Posada on it's journey around the villages ready for the big celebration Christmas Eve, Christingle when Mary, Joseph and the Donkey will be welcomed back to church. So I'm looking forward to welcoming in the tinsel, the friends, the family, the Posada, the chocolates and the whole Christmas season.



What do we have in this issue? Well there are thanks for those who supported the Fashion show in Aid of Cancer Care (page 4), the Trussell Trust (page 7) Big Joe Bone and Acoustic Night (page 13) and for those of you who used the services of the travelling knife grinder (page 7).

There are also local schemes looking for your help and opinions. The CLT (Community Land Trust) is moving forward and looking to hold a public meeting in January (page 8) and the Community Speedwatch is now equipped and ready for action (page 4). The village hall is still looking for a Bookings and Committee Secretary.

On the entertainment side, Accoustic Live is ready for a Christmas turn with the return of Ninebarrow and The Bimble Brothers (page 12/13), Tarka King will be talking in January about the recent history of Pentridge and keep an eye out for more information from the Friends of the First School who will be holding a music night with Alec James and his Swing band in February.

After Christmas, or even before in a preemptive fashion, you may be interested in the new fitness service run by Tim Bevington. Have a look at page 37 for more details.

Now I only need to wish Merry Christmas to all and a Happy New Year... and say special thanks to all the Downsman Team, proofreaders and deliverers for helping get this and every other edition out to you six times a year!

Naomi Booth

editor@thedownsman.org.uk

c/o The Parish Office, Unit 6, Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5PA

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To the Editor

Fund-raising Thanks

Liz Coombes and Stella Olsen thank everyone who contributed to another successful Travelling Trends Fashion Show held in aid of Breast Cancer Care.

Special thanks to our fabulous models Alisha, Claire, Gail, Jenny, Julia and Lucy, our helpers Ben, Carly, Jack, Jane, Kate and Katy.

To all the ladies who came and helped us raise a magnificent £720 we appreciate your continuing support for this very worthy cause.

Stella Olsen

Dog Owners

Would the dog owner who disposes of their bag of dog poo by pushing it down the roadside drains where it floats around and is likely to cause a blockage PLEASE STOP DOING IT!!!!Thank you.

Passionate about a charity?

Do you have a favourite charity for which you raise money for and about which you are passionate? Would you like a little help for your fund-raising? This year St Mary's Church held soup lunches during Lent and raised nearly £2000 which was shared between 5 charities which are supported by local people. We hope to do the same next year, but supporting 5 different charities. If you would like your favourite charity to be one of them please contact Margaret Durrant on 01725 552608 or by email durrant@talktalk.net.

Margaret



You are invited to join the Christmas Choir 2014!

As in previous years, we are expanding our regular Choir for the annual Carol Service which is on Sunday 21st December, 6 pm at St.Mary's Church.

Rehearsals are scheduled for the three Fridays in December, starting on December 5th, 7 – 8 pm at St.Mary's, same time for Friday 12th, but 7.30 – 8.30 Friday 19th.

Please come and add your voice to this joyful occasion. The music is not too hard to learn if you do not read music, but there are parts for those who can harmonise. Please contact either Margaret Durrant on 552608, or John Cullingford on 516453. We look forward to singing with you!

The Roebuck Inn

As many already know Ann at The Roebuck Inn has just endured 8 days in intensive care after major surgery, but she is now back at home and on the slow road to recovery. As regular customers of the Roebuck we will miss Ann's great meals particularly 'Fish and Chips' and Lamb shank (George's favourite).I'm sure everyone in Sixpenny Handley wishes Ann well and hope that John and Ann enjoy a Happy and peaceful Christmas with their family and can look forward to a healthy New Year.

Rita and George Taylor

Thank You

I would like to say thank you to all who helped me when I had a fall in the High Street on Monday 10th November especially to Mrs Ros Adams, Colin Napier and the staff from Half a Sixpence.

Doreen Leverton.

The Little Pennies



Pre-school



Come and join us Thursday 18th December for a festive evening of fun at the Little Pennies' Christmas Bingo. Lots of great seasonal prizes to be won with complimentary mulled wine & mince pies, tea and homemade cakes. Doors open at 7pm in the village hall for a 7.30pm start - Hope to see you there!

Community Speed Watch

The Sixpenny Handley Community Speed Watch is about to start its speed monitoring operations at three risk-assessed sites in the village. We now have 10 volunteers all approved by Dorset Police. The Speed Watch equipment is on order and is expected to be delivered by the end of November, however I still need 4/5 more volunteers to enable us to operate two teams of three at the same time.

If anyone is interested please contact Colin Chambers, SpeedWatch coordinator on 01725 552796 or by Mobile phone 07971456378

Items suitable for elderly or disabled person, no charge but will need to be collected by the recipient;

- 1 Stannah straight stair lift for left hand of stairs
- 1 Medley extra low single bed with mattress side and end rails and bed grab
- 1 bath seat (rechargeable)
- All in good working order

Contact Victoria
victoriajanereid@btinternet.com
07533 720 685

Carol Singing in Sixpenny Handley



Meet at Doctor's Surgery
Car Park 6 pm
Monday 22nd December
Collection in aid of
Marie Curie

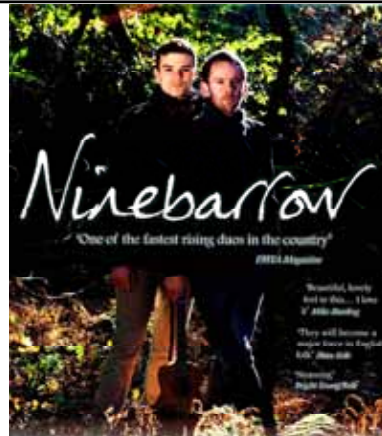
Details from John
Cullingford 516453
If you would like to request
a special Carol and a visit,
Please make contact!

Downsman Noticeboard

If your group is staging an event or needs help, use this free space to tell everyone!

*'Thirty years of
Pentridge life'
by Tarka King*

Wednesday 14th
January Pentridge
Village Hall 7.30pm
£7 on the door
includes wine and light
refreshments.
(Proceeds in aid of
St Rumbolds Church)



SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL
Saturday 6th DECEMBER
7 for 7.30 Licensed bar
Tickets £7.00 in advance from Styles - £8 on the door
www.ninebarrow.co.uk



Carols by Candlelight
Fri 19th Dec 6.00pm at
Gussage St Andrew
Sun 21st Dec 6.00pm at
St Mary's, Sixpenny
Handley
Mon 22nd Dec 6.00pm St
Rumbold's, Pentridge



Monday 22nd
December
Collection in
aid of
Marie Curie



Full details on page 4



Xmas Bingo 18th Dec

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Doors Open 7pm
Start 7.30pm
Christmas Bingo. Great seasonal
prizes to be won, complimentary
mulled wine & mince pies, tea and
homemade cakes.

15th Jan, 19th Feb

All proceeds to The Little Pennies Pre-School
Registered Charity no. 1137622



Christingle
24th December
4pm

St Mary's,
Sixpenny Handley



Once a month in Sixpenny Handley
Village Hall we provide a freshly
cooked 3 course lunch
for £4.00

Please contact
01258 841321
Transport, interest clubs
and help also available
full details page 40

Sixpenny Handley
Community Land Trust (CLT)
Notification of a Public Meeting to
be held at

7pm
Wednesday 28th
January 2015

in the Village Hall to ensure we
have sufficient community support
for the Affordable Housing Project

Sixpenny Handley
First School

Save the Date

Music night
with
Swing Band
Alec James Quartet

27th Feb 2015



Clerk's Corner

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council
www.sixpennyhandleyparishcouncil.btck.co.uk

Unit 6, Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley. SP5 5PA

Email: sixpennyhandley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

Clerk to the Council (Lisa Goodwin) 01258 840935

Assistant Clerk (Ciona Nicholson) 01725 552211

Sports Association Changes...

At a joint meeting of the Parish Council and the Sports Association on 20th October it was agreed that the Sports Association should be restructured with the Parish Council taking over the administration until a separate team could be identified. This will allow the individual Clubs to concentrate on their sports without the additional responsibilities of running the Association as well. The Parish Council wishes to thank the outgoing Committee for all their hard work and in particular to congratulate the Committee and the Clubs for achieving a Special Award for Recreation Ground Facilities in this year's Best Kept Village Competition.

It is intended to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting on 10th December in the Village Hall to formally appoint members of a new interim Committee and to propose a new constitution. This will be followed by an open public meeting to encourage wider participation in sports. The intention to broaden the membership of the Association and involve more residents of the Parish. All with an interest in sport will be welcome.

Volunteer needed ...

We are looking for a local volunteer to help restore the lettering on the War Memorial in the village next Spring. A steady hand and a few hours to spare is all that is needed! If you might be able to help, please get in touch with us by phone or call in to the Parish Office.

Parish Office...

Please note we have new office opening hours from 8:30am until 10am on Friday mornings and 7pm-7:30pm prior to scheduled meetings on Thursday evenings and we will continue to open Tuesday mornings from 10am - 12.

Dorset Councils...

Get the latest from Dorset Councils on roads, planning, waste, libraries, schools, jobs and more sent direct to your email inbox for free - www.dorsetforyou.com/e-news

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty...

We are very lucky to live in the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The AONB is currently looking at ways of promoting events happening within the AONB and revamping their website to include an events guide as well as interactive mapping featuring cycling, walking and riding routes. Details are also available on funding for Community projects. Take a look at <http://www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk/>

Could I become a Local Councillor?

With the 2015 Elections approaching would you consider becoming a Parish Councillor? As a councillor you can become a voice for your community representing the aspirations of the public. Parish and Town Councillors are the most local part of our democratic system and are closest to the public. Why don't you stand for your local council and see what difference you can make to your local neighbourhood. Some councillors chose to spend more time than others, but in the main it involves attending two monthly meetings and being a local councillor is an enjoyable way of contributing to your community and helping to make it a better place to live and work. Come along to a meeting to listen and get a feel for how the parish council works, take a look at our website, call in to the Parish Office for an informal chat or just ask your local councillor.

Subscribe to the Parish Council Information Network.

Email us at sixpennyhandley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk to join.

All email addresses will remain confidential.

If you do not have access to the internet or have difficulty finding what you need, please contact either myself on 01258 840935 or Ciona Nicholson, Asst Clerk on 01725 552211

Lisa Goodwin,
Clerk to the Parish Council

Opening Hours:

Tuesday 10am - 12 noon &
Friday 10am to 12 noon

For up to date

Parish Council

information visit:

www.sixpennyhandleyparishcouncil.btck.co.uk

The Parish Office Unit 6 Town Farm Workshops is available to Hire

Come and take a look when we are open on Tuesday mornings or Thursday evenings or arrange a visit with Ciona.

£10 per session

Book in with Ciona on

01725 552211 or 01725 552297

6D with Pentridge Community Fund

Since my last post I am pleased to report that there are now 5 people in the parish signed up to easyfundraising.org.uk/6dwithpentridgecommunityfund and our running total is now £8.39. I now appeal to all of you who are doing your Christmas shopping on-line to sign up and try and raise money for community. If we can reach £15 we can have the funds transferred into our account to spend.

As last reported the Waistcoat Festival, way back in May, was a huge success and has boosted the community fund to the tune of over £2000, so if you have a project that needs a little boost please let us know and we will see if we can help you achieve your aim. We are also taking on the running of The 6d Acoustic Live sessions from January and are aiming to provide live music on a regular basis here in the village for everyone to enjoy.

I will report again in February with details of the new committee and events for 2015. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas

Stephanie Court Chair Community Fund

Knife Grinder



Robin Phillips was kept extremely busy during his week sharpening knives, garden implements and even sheep shears at the beginning of October. So much so that he said that he would try to return to the village in 2015. Before he left he expressed his gratitude for the hospitality and all the work saying "It's some time since I was made to feel so welcome in a community, thank you very much."

The Trussell Trust Foodbank

Annual Report For St Mary's Sixpenny Handley

From the period of 1st November 2013 – 31st October 2014 St Mary's Sixpenny Handley has donated

- 272.5kgs to Salisbury Foodbank.

A family box weighs approx. 25kgs so you have donated enough food for approx. 11 family boxes (feeding 11 families of 4 for a minimum of 3 days).

Thank you very much for your support over the past year, the Trust really appreciates it and your continued support in the future.

If anyone wishes to donate food at any time, there is a red collection box on the back pew in the church, which is open during daylight hours.

*Trish Chorley.
Trussell Trust Co-ordinator*



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Dorset SP5 5ND

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Mobile Library

Visits on Thursday Fortnightly

Dec 4, 18

Jan 15, 29

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



Christmas Sale of Pottery

Sat 6th - Sun 7th December
10am - 4pm

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Sixpenny Handley Community Land Trust

The community working together for the future of the village

Notification of a Public Meeting to be held at

**7pm on Wednesday
28th January 2015**

in the Village Hall to ensure we have sufficient community support for the Affordable Housing Project



Further to our update in the August edition of the Downsman, we would like to bring you all up-to-date and share with you the progress of the affordable homes for rent project.

Formation of the CLT

After meetings and review it was decided the best vehicle for the Sixpenny Handley CLT would be a 'Community Benefit Society'. This is the body that will run the CLT and hold assets for projects. The following volunteers came forward to form the Core Group:

Founding Board: Simon Parker (Chair), Jenny Chapman (Secretary), James Reed (Treasurer), Matt Gibbons

Additional Board Members: Donald Penrose, Ros Adams, David Adams, Steve Barrett.

Monthly Steering Group: Simon Parker, Jenny Chapman, James Reed, Matt Gibbons, Donald Penrose, Steve Barrett, Colin Taylor, Ian Mereweather, Tim Reynolds, David Salmons, Vic and Linda Howard, David Lockyer.

Official paperwork is still to be put in place as we are waiting to have a meeting with Powerstock CLT before we commit to ensure we have answered all our queries and concerns.

Once the formal paperwork is in place it will be possible for others to buy shares in the CLT and become members of the Community Benefit Society for £1.00 per share – this membership and involvement would be available to everyone in our community.

Visit to Powerstock CLT

On 19th November members of the Sixpenny CLT will be visiting Powerstock CLT, who are somewhat further into the CLT experience than us, for a learning and Q&A session. We hope this visit will answer any open questions we have and help us plan our way forward more effectively.

Affordable Housing Project

As we explained in the August Downsman, the first project for the CLT is the provision of affordable housing within Sixpenny Handley for local people. These houses, if built, would be available to local people who are on the Council Housing List and meet the criteria for affordable homes. Furthermore, the CLT are able to define the criteria for 'local people'. To this end also, the CLT will be seeking expressions of interest from local people in advance of any development.

The CLT have secured a grant of £5,000.00

from East Dorset Council to cover the costs associated with any purchase of Exception Site land for the homes.

The CLT has thoroughly reviewed all possible Exception Sites and had discussions with various landowners. This review has concluded that there is just one possible site. This is the land owned by East Dorset District Council in Common Road that surrounds the current residential and school car parks.

Through our CLT meetings, and through expressions of interest, we will undertake a review of the Housing Needs Survey to ascertain the type and tenure of the affordable homes required.

If you would like to support this project, then please attend the meeting on Wednesday 28th January 2015, to ask any questions you may have and to express your view.

At this meeting we shall set out in detail the proposal so far with the land in Common Road and we will undertake a poll as to how the wider community wishes this project to move forward or otherwise.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there.

This is a community led project.

*Thank you.
Sixpenny Handley CLT*



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Village Hall 100 Club

September 14

- 1st 132 Mrs. Poolman
- 2nd 114 Mrs. Collins
- 3rd 9 Mrs. Rhodes

October 14

- 1st 80 Mrs. Shepherd
- 2nd 60 Mr. Salmons
- 3rd 19 Mrs. Olsen



New Years Eve at Hanlega's

‘Dancing to the Word’

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Donhead St. Andrew

Private Stanley Thompson McCoull [5252891] Gloucestershire Regiment

At this year's Remembrance Sunday service held at St Mary's the final name to be read out was that of Private Stanley Thompson McCoull. Presently, his name is not inscribed on the War Memorial, but I understand this will be rectified in the not too distant future. He is, however, remembered inside the church, and communicants approaching the altar rails may care to glance to their right for fixed to the wall is a small brass plaque bearing the words 'The Communion Rails were given in loving memory of Jim McCoull who died on active service, Italy 9 July 1945, age 30 years. Blessed be the pure in heart for they shall see God.'

Jim, I suggest, must have been a nickname for his details on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website makes no mention of this, but confirms the date of his death, and age, showing he is buried in Naples War Cemetery, plot IV, row K, grave 9 and that he died while serving with the Gloucestershire Regiment. His next of kin are recorded as Stanley and Florence McCoull of Seascale, Cumbria.

There are several points of immediate interest; not least is the absence of battalion detail; the address of his next of kin seemingly having no connection with Sixpenny Handley and thirdly, to my belief, the Gloucestershire Regiment had no battalions in the Mediterranean theatre at any time in the Second World War, though

he may have been attached to another unit. Therefore, further investigations are necessary and I would deem it a favour if anyone with any knowledge of Stanley and Florence McCoull, or of Stanley himself, living in the village [it was several years after the cessation of hostilities that the cemetery registers were prepared, and published, and it may well have been the case that his parents had moved to Seascale when contacted by the authorities for any brief detail that they may wish to add to his entry in the Naples War Cemetery register] to contact me, either by e-mail wr.chorley@gmail.com or telephone 01725 552776.

As a measure of the dangers facing our servicemen in July 1945, even though the war in Europe was over [though fighting was still continuing in the Far East as Imperial Japanese forces retreated through Burma and still contesting strongly the Allied advance through the Pacific islands], no less than one hundred and twenty-one service men and service women died, their resting places being spread in cemeteries right across the globe. Of this total, fifty-six were serving with United Kingdom formations, forty-one being directly connected to the army.

Bill Chorley



Experience shopping in our Barn Showroom in Sixpenny Handley open every Friday 10am to 2pm. Frogmore Barn has a wide range of beautiful items for the home and a selection of personal gifts. We also offer an individual interior design service from a single room to a complete house makeover.

Initial consultation free

Frogmore Barn open every Friday from 10am to 2pm

Frogmore Farmhouse,

Frogmore Lane, 6d Handley

Tel: 01725 552910

email: frogmoredesign@tiscali.co.uk

website: www.frogmoredesign.com

Chalke Heating

Martin Miller: 01722 780734

E-mail: martin@competentcraft.co.uk

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Cookers : Rayburns - AGA - Alfa - Stanley - Esse





Sixpenny Handley Homewatch



A recent meeting of the parish Homewatch coordinators reviewed recent crime statistics provided by Dorset Police, which confirmed our own experience that it was a quiet autumn crime-wise in and around the village. There were occasional incidents of poaching locally but not much else. It would be nice to think that this good news is associated with the more visible police presence around here than we had a few years back. Our thanks go to Dorset Police for their continued efforts on all our behalves.

May we offer just a few seasonal crime prevention reminders:

- If you are going away over the Christmas period, tell trusted neighbours and ask them to keep an eye on your property. You can also inform your local Homewatch Coordinator if you wish. In a tight-knit community such as ours, people

knowing you are away offers a greater likelihood of untoward goings-on being responded to and/or reported to the police.

- Don't leave a pile of precious wrapped presents round the tree in full view of the window.
- After present-opening, avoid leaving packaging from valuable items out for refuse collection in a way that could reveal there are expensive new items in the house.
- Keep a special eye out for elderly, infirm and potentially lonely members of our community over the festive season.

The Police have asked all those who own firearms – and being a rural community quite a few in our parish do – to be especially attentive to their security arrangements now that the national security state has been raised. It is important always to keep firearms safely,

in accordance with the law and in such a way that unauthorised persons cannot gain access to them. Dorset Police will, as part of a national campaign, be making unannounced visits to firearms holders if there is intelligence that such visits are necessary.

We wish everyone a very happy, crime-free and safe Christmas!



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Sixpenny Handley Village Hall



The last two months have been very frustrating in the village hall. Firstly we have had to search for tables which had been removed without permission, then a set of keys went missing for a month. Both caused considerable disruption for the other users of the hall which is regrettable. Anyone using the hall is to ensure that the keys are returned to the shop *immediately after use*.

Thanks to the efforts of Rob and all the Jesse family the auction was once again a most enjoyable success. There were a wide variety of lots which were generously donated; the enthusiastic audience came from as far afield as Weymouth. Several things went for silly prices but it all went to make a total in the region of £1800 to support your hall. Thank you also to all those who worked so hard to make it happen.

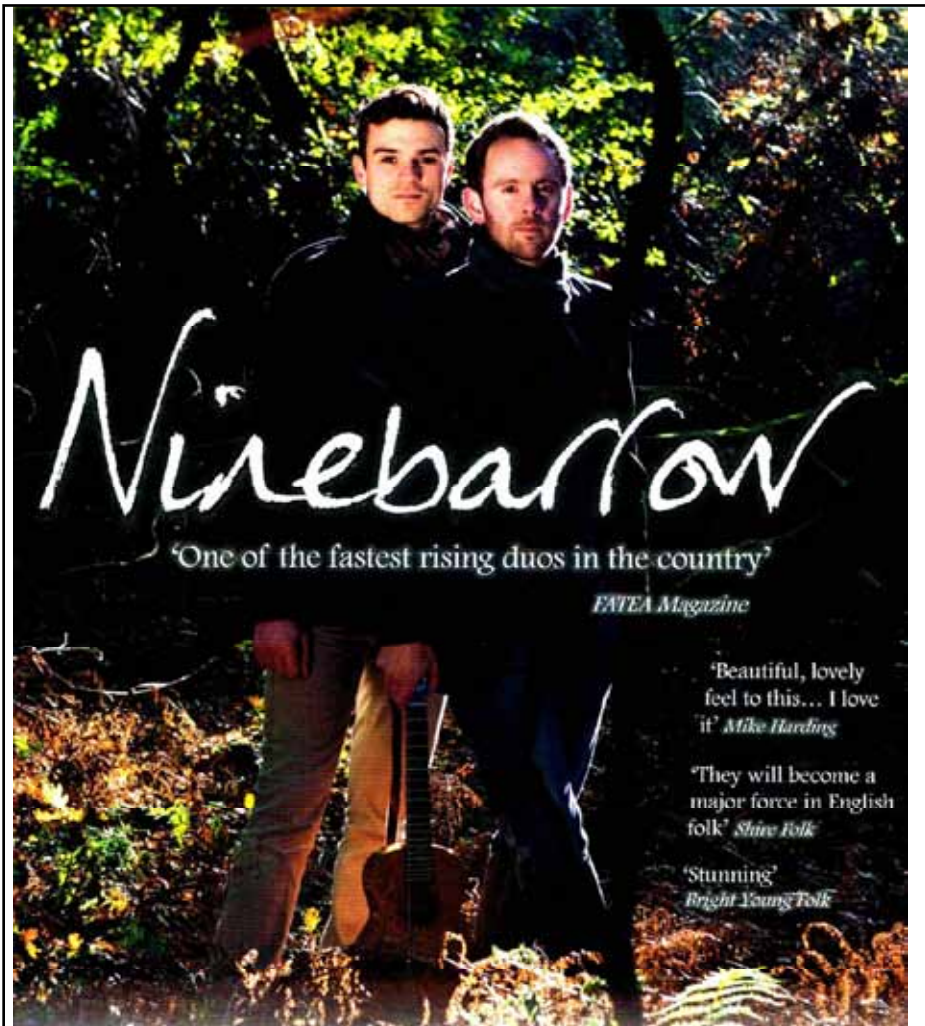
The village hall needs a new roof as it is rusting badly from the inside. The parish council is already, working with the hall committee, looking for suppliers to replace the roof; this will require some serious money.

Boot Camp hits the hall

With the onset of the inclement weather, those hardened folk who go to the boot camp are now seeking shelter in the hall. We are trying to find them a regular slot.

Live Music

Saturday 6th December is the next date for live music in the hall. Ninebarrow have a strong following in Dorset, lots of visitors are expected for what promises to be a lively evening. Tickets are available from Styles.



SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 6th DECEMBER

7 for 7.30

Licensed bar

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www.ninebarrow.co.uk

[f](https://www.facebook.com/ninebarrow) [@ninebarrow](https://www.instagram.com/ninebarrow)

Bookings

If you want to use the hall for an event or party, please do book early (we already have one for April 2016). The website now has a link for an online booking request. All Users are reminded that setting up / clearing up time has to be included within any booking.

HELP. The hall is still looking for a bookings secretary and a committee secretary. If you can spare a few hours any help would be much appreciated. Call 552704.

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October

Just a THANK YOU to everyone who came to Big Joe Bone. You marvellous people raised £265.15 + raffle takings for our Scout group, 1st Woodcuts.

We must also thank, Big Joe Bone & Hannah from Lily of Barbary for their fantastic performances, Dave Styles for the sound & stage set up, Cranborne Chase Cider for their generous cider donation! Sixpenny Brewery for their support, Salisbury Arts Centre for donating concert tickets, Jen, Steph, Penny, Rob & Anthony for running the event!.

Our next event is on Sat 6th December, Doors open 7pm, we are delighted to welcome the fantastic 'Ninebarrow' back. 'Ninebarrow' are an award-winning, Dorsetshire folk duo, who are impressing audiences across the country with their innovative and captivating take on the folk tradition. Jon Whitley and James LaBouchardiere combine breathtaking vocal harmonies and melodies, delivering original songs that are inspired and rooted in the landscape and history of the British Isles. They will be supported by 'The

Acoustic Live



Bimble Brothers' play a unique blend of original material inspired by traditional melody, and traditional song inspired by modern rhythms.

Details are: Sixpenny Handley Village Hall, Door open 7pm for 7.30 start. Licensed Bar, Tickets £7 advance available from Handley shop or reserve via Halltickets@

sixpennyhandley.org - Tickets available now! limited capacity, book now to avoid disappointment. Proceeds to Sixpenny Handley Village Hall.

This is our last event for 2014, lots of things planned for 2015!, We look forward to seeing you there.

Paul Styles



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Tel: 01722 780282

Health Matters

Medication Reviews

Medication reviews are a vital part of the care that you receive from us. They do need to be done thoroughly and will normally take the full ten minutes of a standard appointment. Please don't expect that a doctor will be able to discuss any other items of concern with you during this time. If you know you need to discuss other matters please either make a double appointment or book a separate time in which to see the doctor. Thank you for your understanding. When booking an appointment for your Medication

Review please check with the Receptionist if you need a blood test prior to this appointment.

EBOLA what should you do?

I am sure that you are all aware of the horrifying story unfolding in West Africa. It seems a long way away and indeed the threat to us is small unless we choose to visit one of the affected countries. But what if you meet someone who has just come back from there and following that you feel ill? What should you do? PLEASE DO NOT VISIT THE SURGERY. Instead please ring the surgery and speak to a doctor. If the doctor thinks that there is a chance that you might have contracted EBOLA the doctor will organise for you to be taken to hospital where they will take a blood sample to test for the virus. The most important thing to do is act quickly. If you have the virus you need to be isolated for everyone's benefit.

Do you depend on electrically operated vital equipment?

People depending on medical equipment can join a FREE Priority Services Register run by Western Power Distribution. In any event resulting in a power cut, they will seek to get power back to you or sort out some other means of assistance as a matter of urgency. If you would like to find out more about this, either for yourself or for a friend, please either ask at the reception desk for a flyer, or go online at www.westernpower.co.uk or call 0800 6783 105

Childrens' Flu Vaccine NEW 2014

All children aged 2, 3 and 4 on 1st September 2014 are eligible for a flu nasal spray (not injection)

We will be running clinics only at Sixpenny Handley Surgery

- Monday 3rd November 2-3pm
 - Monday 10th November 4-5pm
- Please ring the surgery on 01725 552500 or 01722 780282 to make an appointment.

Information

Booking Appointments Online

If you use the internet why not sign up for access to a secure website which will allow you to book an appointment with a doctor up to four weeks ahead. The process is straightforward and the system also allows you to order any repeat medication as well. It doesn't stop you from booking in all the usual ways it merely adds an additional one. Forms are available at the reception desk.

Useful Telephone Numbers

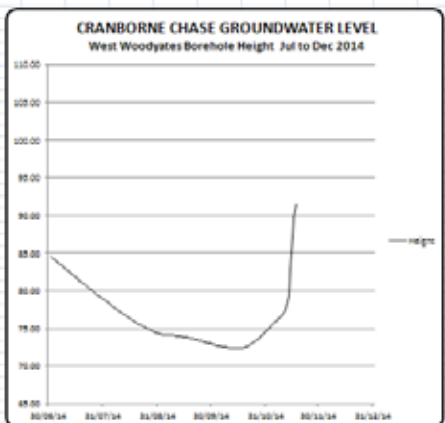
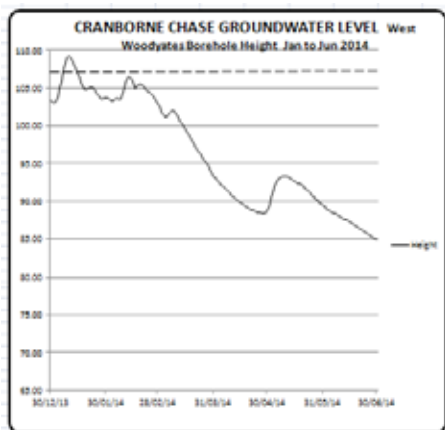
Sixpenny Handley Dispensary 01725 552589 (12 – 3pm)
District Nurses 01725 552792
Out of Hours 111

Useful web sites

www.sixpennydocs.co.uk The Practice website
www.nhs.uk NHS Choices – a web site for health advice

Groundwater Level

After the floods of last winter the ground did not dry out as much as in 2013. The water levels have started to rise slightly earlier this year but hopefully a few days / weeks without rain with slow things down.



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October

After the 'business' was dealt with, we enjoyed our break of tea and cake, before settling down to a demonstration on preparing an 'Autumn/Winter Hanging Basket'. We were amazed at how much was put in - from bulbs to top planting and learned a few 'tricks of the trade' from demonstrator from Thorngrove Garden Centre (who also support Scope). When he had finished the basket with the aid of some 'volunteers', Mr Francis gave us the answers to a quiz he had set and offered a plant to the highest scorer. Other plants were offered for sale before we went home.

November

In November we had a very interesting speaker, who is Dutch origin but lives and teaches locally. We had expected samples to be cross-stitch, but were shown an amazing array of styles and a phenomenal array of stitchery, even embroidered 'lace' on canvas. There were examples of invisible repairwork, and a book of crochet samples made by their grandmothers in an age when girls were expected to be able to make and mend for their households! It was all so interesting that most of us could have stayed for another hour or two!!

Christmas

After hosting the Group Carol Service in the church on December 3rd, we are looking forward to our Christmas Meeting on the 8th. This year we have in-house entertainment under the direction of our



President, Bobbie Carter, followed by a buffet provided by our members. If you would like details please contact Margaret on 01725 552358.



Sixpenny Handley W.I. joined again this year with Handley First School to support the Rotary Shoebox Scheme. Rotary is a worldwide voluntary organisation of business and professional people who are dedicated to helping others throughout the world.

The shoeboxes go to disadvantaged children in Albania, Montenegro, Tanzania, Moldova and the Philippines and the W.I. members contributed 12 boxes. Each box was covered in Christmas paper and packed tight with goodies and I certainly got a great deal of pleasure in putting my box together. I suspect however that the contents would not be appreciated by our young people, but maybe it will make us all realise how much we all take our lifestyle for granted. Let's hope that we and all the recipients of the shoeboxes enjoy a Happy and Peaceful Christmas.

Rita Taylor.

Dorset WI Council Meeting

Thirteen members attended the Dorset WI Council Meeting on 14th October. It was a mix of business, speakers, reports, awards and a showcase of local crafts. Three speakers were extremely entertaining: Sarah Challis, a Dorset author, who spoke about her books. Valerie Stevens who told us about her first year visiting the and reporting on work in some troubled lands around the world. Finally, Nicholas Owen, news reporter and journalist, spoke about his life and career.

On 23rd October eight members went to a Group meeting at Shroton where the highlight of the evening was the excellent Dulcima choir who performed a variety of songs. It was a most enjoyable meeting; everyone enjoyed the music and the delicious food provided by Shroton and Child Okeford WI.

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Group Scout Leader
John Curtis
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Age 8-10½
Wednesday 6 to 7.30pm
Andy Young (Akela)
01258 830861

1st Woodcutts News

www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk



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



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



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



Woodcutts Explorers Canal Boat Camp

You may have heard in the National Press about a Canal Boat that sank recently, well there is a link here but only in that the first ever Woodcutts Explorer Camp took place at Half Term on the same boat BUT we did not sink it, that was down to the people who picked the boat up after we had successfully completed our journey.

Normally we link up with the Scout Section, but this year due to work commitments and to give the Explorers a unique opportunity the first ever Woodcutts Explorer only camp was on a Canal Boat! With 100% Explorer Scout attendance and the chance of inclement weather, given the time of year, here is what happened.

We started out from Woodcutts with not too long a journey ahead of us and as we could not board the Canal boat until late afternoon stopped off at Winn Green. This also allowed us to see where we would be through the week although the haze prevented us seeing all the way to Bristol! The morning was spent amusing passing ramblers with a series of wide games, one of which went on for over an hour! I guess the explorers liked playing 'Sprouts'. We continued our route into darkest Wiltshire up the A350 stopping for lunch before heading into Bradford on Avon. Here we saw how other canal boats coped with the one and only lock for the week. Before long we were at the boat yard, boarding the boat which we found was a 'narrow' boat. With

all the kit stowed, pumpkin carving began as Preed, Si and I learnt how to handle the boat. We soon arrived at the lock and as there was no queue, the Explorers were straight into windlass winding, gate swinging and before we knew it we were through and down to the next level. The light was soon fading so it was time to moor up, pumpkin lanterns lit and the Pumpkin soup prepared we settled in for tea and our first night on board. Everyone found out that it wasn't just the boat that was 'narrow', the beds were too! The next day we woke to bright sunshine and after breakfast set the 'crew' about their tasks, cake baking for the off duty team whilst the other half of the Explorers got to grips with steering the boat, manning the swing bridges and walking the dog, Buster. We chugged along at a steady pace, stopping for lunch along the way. We did have a few bumps and grinds but that is canal boating for the amateur, although I have to say it was not the Explorers steering that caused the bumps. We finally arrived in Bath after crossing two Aqueducts both with 90 degree turns either side as well as managing to weave around the moored boats whilst dealing with the 'on coming' traffic. Did I mention the boat was 80 tons and nearly 70 feet long! In Bath we took in a few of the sites before letting the Explorers have some time on their own in the city, meeting up outside the Cathedral and 'Jack's Shop' which was

a photo opportunity not to be missed with 'Jack Jack'. We returned to the boat for a delicious beef stew and the cakes prepared by the Explorers during our journey to Bath. This was followed by a Halloween Movie quiz which was won by Niamh and Chip, clearly avid horror movie watchers! Day 3 started with a little rain, but nothing for the time of year. We left the boat and headed to the railway station where we caught a train into Bristol. From Bristol Temple Meads we headed into the harbour area, passing many of the old cranes and train tracks, now no longer in use but preserved as part of the city's history. Soon we were next to the SS Great Britain in its original dry dock. In the museum the Explorers had a go at steering the boat, typically in the wrong direction, Jack showed us a really good imitation of Isambard Kingdom Brunel after which we boarded SS Great Britain. In keeping with the Explorer tradition of not investing new members in an 'ordinary' setting our newest Explorer, Chip was invested at the Bow of the ship. Oli, Niamh and Preed then 'volunteered' to 'go aloft' and climb the rigging, 70' up and if that wasn't enough they then proceeded to traverse out to the end of the yard arm, not something for the faint hearted. Below decks we saw how the boat was operated, experienced where first class and steerage slept, ate and 'relaxed' as well as seeing what life was like for the horses and livestock in the hold. All this

complete with smells including the odd sea sick child – lovely... Back outside we had lunch by the harbour before going on a boat tour of the harbour learning more about the history as well as locating the odd ‘Banksy’ portrait. Back on dry land we headed straight to Banksy’s ‘Girl with the Pierced Eardrum’ his latest artwork before heading into the city to discover some of his early works. Eventually it was time to head back to the train station and our return trip, only 15 minutes but unlike the outward journey it had an extra stop which nearly saw me and a couple of Explorers taking a long walk. Thankfully we quickly realised and hopped back on board. The programme meal for tonight was ‘take away’ normally Fish and Chips, we broke with tradition and maybe started a new one by having Chinese, this turned out to be the favourite meal of the week. We managed to get this back to the boat in record time and after wolfing it down everyone collapsed for the night, yes we got the photos to prove it – Jack and Hayley crashed out next to the table. A good day had been had!

Day 4 and it was time to head back to our start point, so whilst everyone was tucking into breakfast we started chugging back along the canal. It was yet another sunny day and time for the remaining Explorers to have a go at steering, no bumps this time and again crossing the aqueducts in style. No one had fallen in yet - spoke to soon, Preed managed to lose his footing whilst we were pulling up, thankfully he only went in up to his waist and eventually did see the funny side. We were really canal boating now though! Time and the canal seemed to fly by; we were really motoring at 5 mph! Soon we got to our lunch stop at Avoncliff and the Cross Guns. As promised this was a planned refreshment stop and amazingly we were able to sip our coke and oranginas whilst watching a king fisher on the River Avon which runs under the canal here. Back on the boat we continued back through the lock and past the boatyard before mooring up for the night. Unfortunately there was no room for a camp fire but we had more cake to eat and the obligatory Chocolate drink, which had giant marshmallows on top, as we could not toast them on the fire. The evening was then spent recalling our favourite food, cake and activity. Most picked steering and crewing the boat,



second was ‘go aloft’ and all agreed they would go on a canal boat again, although we agreed everyone needed wider beds! As for the cake it was the Chocolate Red velvet, rocky road, crispy mallow, pumpkin cake that came out top – or have I just listed them all YUMMY!!! Thanks to Zoe for teaching the Explorers how to bake properly!!

As it was our last day we were up early, kit stowed, boat turned around, expertly by Si (AGAIN!) and we were back in the boat yard unloading and handing the boat back all Bristol fashion AND FLOATING of course. Going on the Kennet and Avon Canal would not be complete without at least seeing the Caen Hill Locks so that is where we had to go next, 16 locks, 32 gates, each lock with its own lake to maintain water levels. It is quite something to see. Lunch was eaten up on Salisbury Plain near an old WW2 Camp where you can see for miles and realise the size of Salisbury Plain. Finally we arrived back at Woodcutts after a really excellent week where tired Explorers met up with their parents and the leaders headed home for a well earned rest. What a great adventure, a big thank you to everyone who helped make this happen, the committee for supporting the additional funding, the Explorer camp leaders Si and Preed, Willow the boats cook, our expert cake baker and teacher Zoe and of course cabin boy Buster who kept us all entertained, even at 2 in the morning – a good guard dog. This was of

course my last camp and what better way to go out than with young people enjoying a trip on a canal and experiencing a bit of big city life.

So finally a MASSIVE thanks is to the Young People of Woodcutts Explorers for a great week.

Andy Turner

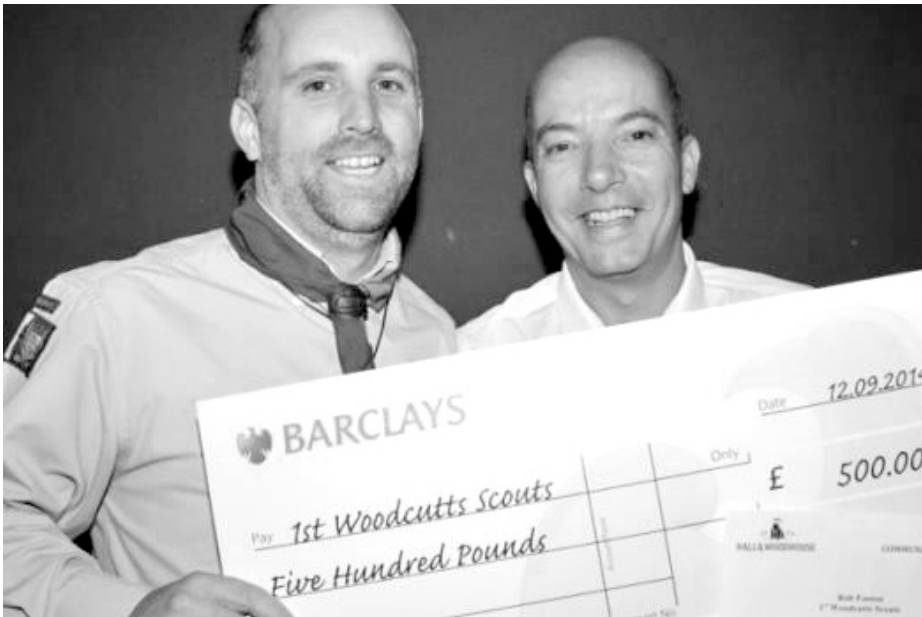
Fireworks & Remembrance Day Parade

We would like to thank all the people who helped us once again to put on a truly spectacular Fireworks Extravaganza. We could not do this without our sponsors, the helpers and, of course, you the public. This is our main fund-raising event each year and the committee have been considering ways to put the money to good use. There are always demands on funds, some of which are very mundane, but some of the ideas being followed up include rifle shooting equipment, computers for the HQ and more tents for camps.

A massive thanks to all of the young people in the Group and their parents for the attendance. A total of 90 young people and adults turned out in the beautiful late Autumn Dorset sunshine - a record number for the 1st Woodcutts Group.

Farewell and Thanks

It is always a shame when people who have been staunch supporters of the group decide to move on but it is part of Scouting. Explorer Leader Andy Turner has decided that he can no longer devote the



time he needs to his role. Andy has been with the group for over 10 years during which time he has worked tirelessly and selflessly for the group and was one of the key members of the rebuild project, driving it forward even when funding seemed to make the prospect of completion almost impossible. He started as a parent helper and then became Assistant Scout Leader before taking on the challenge of setting up our Explorers section. Andy's contributions have been many over the years and we only have space for a few memories. Of particular note was the time when he led an exercise session in the school that was to be aired on breakfast TV and, in his words, they confused him with Tom Cruise (the resemblance is outstanding) and earned him the nickname of Maverick. He arranged some great camps, the two most memorable being Sheffield and Snowdonia. In Sheffield he used his knowledge of the area to arrange a superb week of activities for the Scouts and Explorers. Unfortunately his local knowledge forgot the freight trains which passed by the campsite every hour throughout the night! And who could forget Andy's role as St George in the District St Georges Day celebration. He captivated the young people with his story and then slayed the dragon in front of the 600 strong crowd.

We also have to say goodbye to Steve

Clarke who has worked for a number of years as Assistant Cub Leader. Andy Young said: "I am sad to see him go as he has been with me since the early days of taking over the Cub Pack and has provided invaluable assistance and support throughout. He has certainly been instrumental in helping the pack to grow and become as well established as it is today."

Finally, a few words from our Group Scout Leader, John Curtis: "Scouting, as you all know, is supported entirely by volunteers who do not get a penny from the movement for all the time, effort and dedication that they all provide. Both Andy and Steve are excellent examples of the Scouting spirit who have helped our group for many years. They have both been instrumental in shaping the lives of many young people. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them both on behalf of the parents, the committee and all the young people and wish them well for the future."

Community Hero Award

Recently we were fortunate that one of our Leaders, Rob Easton was presented with a Community Hero award following a nomination from a scout parent. There were four community heroes this year, sharing the prize of £2000. The prize will be used to pay for a special activity at family camp next year, meaning that all members of the group will get to enjoy the award.

Bowls News

Our outdoor season is well and truly over, and what a lovely summer it was. We had two league teams and did fairly well in both, so now we have to try for the indoor leagues. Colin runs the Sixpenny Handley team and Pat the Tanners, and both have started off well. Keep it up.

The club has just enjoyed their Presentation Lunch (thanks to Val for arranging it all). Vic won the singles Short Mat Ann and Brian won Pairs Short Mat. Out doors Stella Olsen won Ladies Champion Paul Chalmers Men's Champion

We have now had our AGM, so there are a few changes on the management side. Paul Chalmers is our President and Treasurer and Dave Adams is Captain. Colin Chambers is our new Secretary - Good luck to them all, and I hope you will help them as and when needed.

Thanks to Paul who is running a Whist Drive on alternate Mondays. We also run a social evening on alternate Thursdays with Cribbage Dominoes and card games of your choice, which can get quite noisy at times but good fun.

*Best Wishes to all in Bowling from
Patricia your Fixture Secretary*

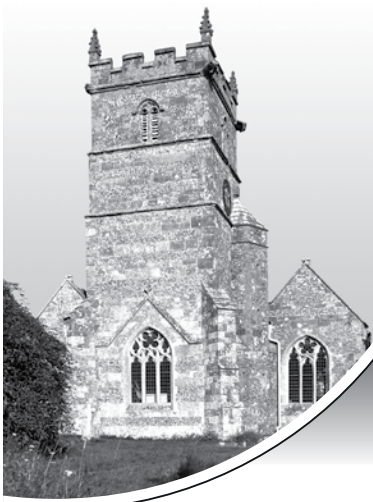
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The Seeker

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December

2014

**The church magazine
for St Mary the Virgin,
Sixpenny Handley
with Gussage St Andrew
and St Rumbold's,
Pentridge**

Who's who?

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Rev Mel Durrant
The Vicarage,
Sixpenny Handley
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ask@handleychurch.org.uk

Curates

Rev Paul Skinner
01725 552 785
Rev Dr Michael Foster
01258 830 764

Churchwardens

*St Mary's with
Gussage St Andrew*

Sheila Bradley 553 133
Roy Warner 552 787

St Rumbold's, Pentridge

Mary Ferguson 552 222
Jane King 552 231

Licenced Lay Minister

John Cullingford 516 453

Lay Pastorial Assistants

Lydia Carter 552 720
Margaret Durrant 552 608
Margaret Jones 552 358
Maureen Lockyer 552 492
Jean Mayne 552 692
David Salmons 552 721
Carole Wyatt 552 572

(Area code 01725)

Lent Lunches with a Heart



You may remember we held a series of Lent Lunches last spring, which included information and fund-raising for a range of charities supported by people in our villages. Over £1,800 was raised altogether, including funds for building a fishing boat for a community devastated by the hurricane in the Philippines, building school houses in Kotchakindo, Uganda, and the team on their expedition to Malawi, that included building a doctor's surgery. All these are pictured above. We also helped replace a slum house in Chennai, India, and supported the Trussell Trust in Salisbury. Many thanks to everyone involved. We hope to run similar lunches again during Lent in 2015 – look out for details nearer the time.

This Year's Present

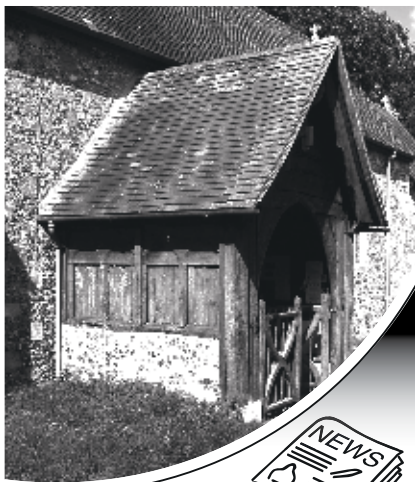
Do you still fancy giving someone the Goat? Or how about having a Hen Party? Or (Straw)berried Treasure, a Field of Dreams, Another Brick in the Wall, or some Health-Esteem? When you don't know what to give, give something else. Many charities give more than a gift, they give dignity, hope and freedom. Salvationarmy.org.uk and many other charities give a present that really means something to someone in need. You get a card to give to your loved one telling them what you have done. Someone you will never meet gets a better life.



You may have noticed 'Pramafair', a new fair-trade shop in Salisbury Street, Blandford. This is run by Pramacare, a Dorset-based Christian home-care charity.

Following the closure of Set Fair4Trade, the previous fair-trade shop in Blandford, John Simmons, Rural Dean of Milton and Blandford and a Trustee for Prama, was quick to spot an opportunity. "I felt that the Prama ethos of looking beyond the provision of basic support for people living at home aligned well with the Fairtrade ethos." Prama's CEO, Jeff Russell, clearly agrees: "We are always seeking ways to improve the lives for many in our community and to raise awareness of those living with dementia, so to have the opportunity to generate income through fair trading is ideal."

Prama are known for the extra mile they go in order to deliver additional services, often free or subsidised, to their clients and the wider community. Jeff continues: "PramaFair sells high quality fair-trade gifts, cards, jewellery, clothing and more - including the ever-popular bamboo socks! Ideal for the Christmas shopper who will have the added pleasure of knowing they are supporting a Christian charity that is going the extra mile to help the local community. With more income we can provide more subsidised care for those on low incomes and increase the range of added activities to tackle loneliness and isolation experienced by older people across Dorset."



**News items
and articles welcome!**

**Please drop them in to
the Vicarage, or email;
ask@handleychurch.org.uk**

Thanks!

FROM THE REGISTERS



**The baptisms took place of
Daniel Darby, Hamish Sullivan
and Owen Brown.**

A Christmas Prayer...

*Lord, you know what it means
to be vulnerable*

*A fragile young life, a
defenceless young babe*

*So may my heart be
vulnerable and open*

*This Christmas with Christ,
walking closer each day.*

Amen.

www.easyfundraising.org

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and search for our church and
follow the simple steps to sign
up. Each time you shop online
you'll earn us a donation, just
by making an extra click!

£300 raised so far!



We all know the other lyrics to some carols. We all know that 'While Shepherds watched their flocks by night' becomes 'While Shepherds washed their socks by night.' I didn't know until recently there are some other, equally good, misheard lyrics;

**Hark! the Herald Angels Sing,
Glory to the New York Kings.
Peace on earth and then he smiles;
God and sinners wrecked and styled.**

**Get Dressed Ye Married Gentlemen,
Let nothing through this May.**

Joy to the World, the Lord has Gum!

Deck the Halls with Buddy Holly!

And the saddest one, 'O Come,
Let Us Ignore Him...'

Too many people ignore the real Christmas. But it is so relevant. When Jesus was born the biggest issue of the day was wanting a different government and lower taxes. Does this sound familiar? And not much has changed elsewhere, either: The Wise Men came searching for Jesus, and every motel, hotel, Inn and B & B had a 'no vacancy' sign up. Everyone is just so busy at this time of year.

Indeed, 30% of all retail sales take place in the run up to Christmas. 50% of all parties are held around Christmas and the New Year. And one out of every ten gallons of alcohol is sold at this time of year. Clearly, Jesus is good for business. Now, there is absolutely nothing wrong with a good party, nothing wrong with having a good time, of course. The trouble is, we want a Santa and not a Saviour. We want the fairy tale and not the fact. We want a fight on EastEnders and a repeat of Morecombe and Wise rather than a reminder that God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.

Now, we all love Morecombe and Wise (although a little bit of 'God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen' on EastEnders wouldn't go amiss!) but too often we get the holiday without the holy. We get Christmas without the Christ. We don't want to hear that Jesus came into the world to save sinners. There is a lot of it about. You might have heard

about the school Nativity Play where Mary and Joseph are painfully making their way to Bethlehem, while on the other side of the stage, a shepherd is on his mobile, texting ahead to make a reservation. Back in the Jerusalem, we read that King Herod tries to trick the Wise Men into telling him where Jesus had been born because he feels threatened and wants to kill him. Jesus still forces a reaction in the hearts of men and women who can't accept the truth and the authority he brings.

And why? Because when you do away with Jesus you can put yourself as God. Vladimir Lenin, the father of Russian communism, said of Jesus, 'His kingdom is invisible. His rule is in the hearts of men, so he can't be tolerated.' As a result over 20 million people died during the Russian Revolution in an attempt to build an atheistic state. But you know what? Fighting God is futile. It is a battle you can't win. King Herod went on to commit mass murder trying to wipe out Jesus. He failed, just as Lenin failed, centuries later.

Let's go back to the Wise Men. Would you be willing to leave the comfort of your home, travel several thousand miles (by camel) following a star to an unknown destination? They were. They hungered for God. And, deep down, we all have a hunger to experience something bigger than ourselves. It is why tribes who don't know Jesus make gods out of mountains, trees and rocks. It is why the ancient Greeks had an altar to 'The Unknown God'. It is why some people get so obsessed with the latest car, clothes, tablet or phone.

Jesus divides history into two parts, BC (Before Christ) and AD (After Christ - the Year of our Lord). History is His Story! And we can meet him and we can find in him in peace. Real peace. The God of such precision and forethought has a plan for your life, a plan for a life that only you can live. And it is the only plan that will satisfy and bring you real happiness.

The Good News of Christmas is that we can seek God and find him. Find him by coming to that stable, and finding that he is already with us. After all, anyone can go to a stable. And as you do, you step into your life, the life he has had waiting for you all along. Life everlasting. Life right now.

Your friend and vicar, Mel

SUPPORTING THE SUDAN

Sudan has dropped from the news lately, but the situation is grave and your support is urgently needed. The emergency caused by violent armed clashes in South Sudan continues. Over 1.7 million people have fled their homes. 1.3 million are displaced internally and 452,700 have fled to neighbouring countries. This in turn means that many farmers missed the planting season and will not have a crop this year.

The UN aid programme has struggled to respond to a worsening food situation, under-funded, impeded by the rainy season and poor roads, and subject to violence from both sets of combatants who resent aid being given to their opponents. The UN says at least four million people are facing starvation. There are also reports of children once again being forcibly conscripted as soldiers. This brutalisation of children has led to many of the country's young people being disaffected and violent. Aggression within displaced people's camps is a major concern.

As peace talks flounder, we give thanks for the Episcopal Church of Sudan and South Sudan, which is consistently calling for reconciliation and unity, and pointing out how badly their young country is being let down after so many died to win its independence. Salisbury diocese has raised £26,900 of its £50,000 target for the South Sudan Crisis Appeal.

Please follow the news on the Sudan Link pages of Salisbury Diocese website, and pray for peace in this troubled land. We can contribute to the crisis appeal. Details are on the Salisbury Diocese website. If you especially want to help work with children, many of whom have been separated from their parents, you may like to consider buying cards and gifts from Unicef this Christmas.

A Prayer for South Sudan

*From burning villages and butchered lives
Good Lord, deliver South Sudan.*

*From the misery of flooded refugee
camps and the agony of famine
Good Lord, deliver South Sudan.*

*From the brutality of men of war,
and the death of her newborn
Good Lord, deliver South Sudan.*

*For all the prayers for peace, in South Sudan
and across the world,
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Eat the Christmas Story

The Real Advent Calendar is a great way to share the real meaning of Christmas. There's a line of the Christmas story and a chocolate star behind each window. Behind the final window is a 24-page Christmas storybook. A donation is made to The Funzi and Bod Trust and the chocolate is Fairtrade. It costs £3.99 Details of where to buy at: www.realadvent.co.uk/shop (And please remember to buy chocolate with the Fairtrade or Rainforest Alliance logos!)

HOPE ON THE BATTLEFIELD

The modern day soldier faces a very different battlefield to that of a hundred years ago, but the message remains the same. Gary Birch is padre to the 6th Battalion The Rifles, an army reserve unit. In May this year he used a reprint of Gospels given to soldiers in World War One to minister to soldiers and officers on exercise in Cyprus now. 'I led a field service and spoke about having hope in a hope-less world,' said Gary. 'I was able to talk about the booklets and the hope they gave to WW1 soldiers.'

Gary's message touched on the words of Field Marshall Lord Roberts inside the little books to encourage the soldiers to seek God. The words say: 'I ask you to put your trust in God. He will watch over you and strengthen you. You will find in this little book, guidance when you are in health, comfort when you are in sickness, and strength when you are in adversity.'

'Immediately after the service, the majority of them came and took a copy of the replica gospel,' said Gary. 'And a handful of them spoke to me about what I'd said and how thought-provoking it was.'

Over forty three million copies were printed originally. This year over half a million copies of the World War One anniversary Gospel have been printed and given away. I hope you were given yours at the Remembrance Day service and have been touched by its message of hope. If you haven't read it yet – why not just read the first page or two as an introduction and see how you get on?

Light for the World

A piece of string cannot stand up straight.

It lies in a curl where it falls.

A piece of string, if you try to light it, will smoulder and give off smoke and smell.

A piece of string, dipped and dipped again in melted wax, will absorb the wax and become surrounded by its firm set encasing. The more often it's dipped the more substantial it becomes, until it can stand, unaided, upright, firm. No longer string but candle.

That candle now lit will burn, giving off a clear light that pierces darkness; giving off a warmth and a reassuring glow in the dark.

The string is essential for the wax to release its heat and light.

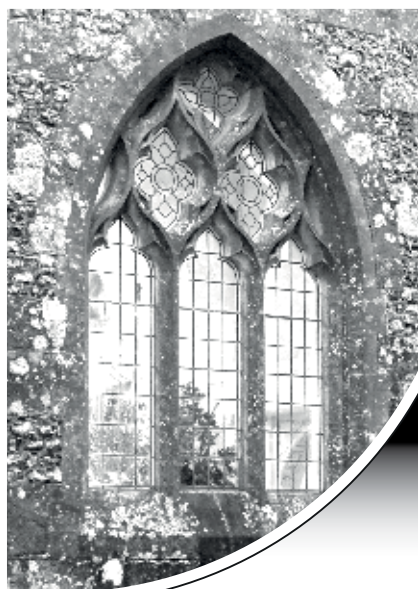
The string will be consumed as the heat and light is released.

All around me there are people whose lives are cold. I know people who travel through the shadow of dark times. On my own I have no warmth or light to offer.

Yet when I allow myself to be immersed over and over again in the Holy Spirit of God, I am infused and surrounded by a power, and I will be available to be consumed as that power burns through me, and warms and brings light to those around.

The more often I am immersed in the source of that great power, the stronger I will stand and the brighter I will burn, until I am all consumed and am fully absorbed into the very source of the power itself. To shine with God for ever.





✦ Bible Study Group

As we hope you see from *The Seeker*, the Bible is THE Book! Read it and understand more in good company on a Thursday evening once a month, 7.15pm. Phone Mike on 01725 552 720 for details.

Come and meet friends

✦ **Drop into...** the Post Office Coffee Shop on the first Wednesday from about 11 o'clock, or The Walnut Tree on the last Wednesday, for a coffee and chat with the vicar or curate.

T Teddy Bears

Pre-school children and their carers are invited to St Mary's on Thursday mornings during school term from 10.30am to noon, for fun, drinks and biscuits and maybe a Bible story or two. There is no charge.

◆ Fellowship Group

The Fellowship Group (usually) meet every Tuesday for chat, laughter and biscuits, some talk around serious themes and sometimes a Roebuck steak! Phone Paul Skinner (552 785).

☕ **Men's Group** – A beer and a chat usually on the last Thursday of the month. Details from David Lockyer (552 492).

☼ **Mothers' Union** – Tea, company and a good talk, usually on the second Thursday afternoon of the month, from 2.45pm. Phone Sheila (553 133) or Mary (552 041) for details.

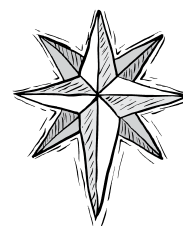
Celebrate Christmas and New Year with us!

SUNDAY SERVICES	St Mary's Sixpenny Handley				St Rumbold's Pentridge	Gussage St Andrew
	Informal service includes children's time					
	9.30am		11.00am	6.00pm	11.15am	9.30am
Dec 7 th	HC	(10.30am)	Informal	Evensong	HC	#
Dec 14 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC
Dec 21 st	HC		Informal	Carols	MP	#
Dec 28 th	HC		#	#	#	#
Jan 4 th	HC		Informal	Evensong	HC	#
Jan 11 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC
Jan 18 th	HC		Informal	Evensong	MP	#
Jan 25 th	MP		Inf HC	Evensong	#	HC

HC = Holy Communion | MP = Morning Prayer | SofP = Songs of Praise | # = No service

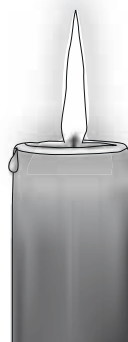
Celebrate the Reason for the Season — with friends...

Wed 3rd Dec 7.00pm WI Carols at St Mary's
Sun 7th Dec 2.30pm Scouts Christmas Celebration, St Mary's
Tue 9th Dec 2.30pm Mothers' Union Advent service, St Mary's
Wed 18th Dec 10.30am School Praise Assembly, St Mary's



Carols by Candlelight

Fri 19th Dec 6.00pm at Gussage St Andrew
Sun 21st Dec 6.00pm at St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley
Mon 22nd Dec 6.00pm St Rumbold's, Pentridge



Christmas

Wed 24th Dec 4.00pm Christingle, St Mary's
11.30pm Midnight Communion, St Mary's
Thu 25th Dec 9.30am Family Communion, St Mary's
11.15am Holy Communion, St Rumbold's, Pentridge



December

See side panel for key to symbols

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 ◆	3 *	4 T	5	6
7	8	9	10 HC ◆	11 T ☼	12	13
14	15	16	17 ◆	18 T +	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2015

Updated weekly on our website

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 ◆	7 *	8 T ☼	9	10
11	12	13	14 HC ◆	15 T +	16	17
18	19	20	21 ◆	22 T	23	24
25	26	27	28 ◆	29 T ☕	30	31

Thu 8th 2.45pm Mothers' Union AGM, and more!

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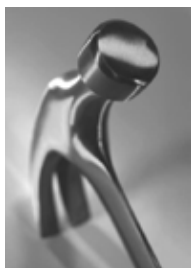
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Book Review

My two books for review have a common factor in that both feature vicars. In Sidney Chambers and *The Shadow of Death* by James Runcie* written in 2012 and published in paperback by Bloomsbury in 2014, The Reverend Sidney Chambers has a penchant for solving crime while The Reverend Philip Mouland in *The Rejuvenation Project*, a first novel by Sharon Starr and published as recently as October of this year by United Writers Cornwall, struggles to accept, or come to terms, with a society that seems determined to reject the centuries-old teachings of the Christian faith. Set in present time, *The Rejuvenation Project* opens with the startling announcement that medical science, by way of a technique perfected by Professor Marcus Deighton, can bring a dead person back to life. When the news breaks the tenet of Christian teaching is thrown into disarray. Rejuvenation is seized upon by the masses as the ultimate panacea; even the hierarchy of the established Church caves in as the groundswell of opinion against religion increases. For Philip Mouland the challenges to his faith brought about by rejuvenation are almost too much to bear. He is, however, not alone for not least of the opponents of sciences latest breakthrough is Marcus Deighton's daughter, Helen. Other characters are introduced, not least being the enigmatic Mary Field, leader of a group whose acronym M.A.D. stands for Man Against Doctors, and it is against this aspect of the book that I have reservations.

Innumerable pages are filled with the group's meetings, their minuscule numbers swelled by the arrival of Philip Mouland, his wife Caroline, their churchwarden Julian Devereux and Helen Deighton, whereas not a word is written about how the technique works, though we are led to believe that improvements are being made. Neither are we given an insight into the lives of those who have been rejuvenated. There are a number of spin-offs concerning some of the group's more eccentric members but it is not until the final chapter that we are

introduced to the person who was Marcus Deighton's first rejuvenated subject, namely John Chert and the twist in the tale. Despite my reservations Sharon Starr is to be congratulated on this the first of what I hope will be many more books to come.

In the *The Shadow of Death*, set in the austere days of the 1950s, the author involves his main character, Sidney Chambers, in so many cases of detection; murder, theft, kidnapping et al that by the final chapter some fall to achieve the impact that the reader might expect. I have little doubt, however, that there will be many more Sidney Chambers stories and the village of Grantchester on the south-western fringes of Cambridge will become a focal point for devotees of the Reverend Chambers but on the evidence of this example I fear James Runcie may not achieve for Cambridge what Colin Dexter did for Oxford in his series of Inspector Morse books.

* James Runcie, the son of Robert Runcie the former Archbishop of Canterbury, has many talents to his bow and as many of you will know, the Sidney Chambers

stories have been turned into Independent Television's Granchester series starring James Norton as Sidney

Chambers and Robson Green who plays the part of Inspector 'Geordie' Keating. The first series seems to have been well received and those that I viewed followed, in the main, the plot of the book.

Bill Chorley

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Cards

Whist

The 2014-2015 competition has now passed the one-third point regarding the qualifying rounds and at the completion of round six, Sylvia Morrison heads the table with an aggregate score of 977 points, six ahead of Sylvia Thorne who, in round five set the highest individual score [so far] at 183, thus bettering John Berville's 178 by a reasonable margin. Third in the overall classifications is Olive Meaden [965] followed by Suzie White [962] and the defending champion, Stuart Haskell, whose sixth round score of 167 lifted him from tenth to fifth. The remaining prize money contenders are Rita Austin [951], your scribe [934], John Berville [932], Chris Napier [931] and David Brine [931] who carded in round six a magnificent 180 which elevated him into his present place from twenty-fourth.

I have stated on several occasions in the past that it can be quite difficult to displace those who have reached the 'top ten', particularly the present holders occupying

the first six places and, who presently, have an aggregate of over 950 points. However, massive swings in fortune ever hover over the card table, so no one should be too dispirited at this stage.

But the most disappointing aspect of the current season has been the fall off in numbers for whereas in 2013-2014 the average attendance was around thirty-four thus providing for eight tables to be in contention, the average has now dropped away to twenty-six and a significant reduction to six tables. There are a number of factors, not least being the reluctance of the younger element to take up the game. Nevertheless, the quality of the prizes has been maintained and, it is hoped, the Christmas drive, scheduled for Saturday, December 13th, will be well attended. But to close on a positive note, and for the two partnerships involved a most satisfying outcome from the hand in question; round six saw Sylvia Morrison and Sam Webber take all thirteen tricks on the fifth deal while on the nineteenth a repeat performance, this time by Christine Haskell and Kingsley White. Their suffering opponents were, respectively,

Sylvia Thorne and Bill Peach and Susan Coombs and your scribe. Sylvia, however, made a good recovery, only slipping from first to second overall in the overall standings, but for the rest it was mainly downhill for the remainder of the evening.

Bridge

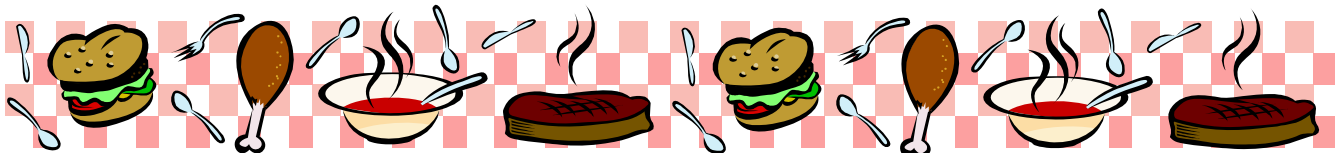
Since last penning this column, I have introduced a form of continuous competitive play throughout the session and though this often result in some players completing more deals than others, a method of adjustment at the end of play achieves an overall fairness. Also, prizes are now being awarded for the player returning the highest aggregate score over the month and at the end of September [five sessions] Julie Trickey was the inaugural winner with 12240 points. The October play featured four rounds, and this time it was your scribe who triumphed with 10740 points, greatly helped by bidding and making seven No Trumps, not vulnerable, with Alan Smith, thereby garnering 3200 points. Earlier in the month Gerald and Julie [Trickey] bid and made seven Clubs, again not vulnerable, scoring 2400 points.

Bill Chorley



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Handley Sports Club F.C. - September 2014

Here is a recent photo of the Handley Sports Football Team with their current sponsor Yewtree Garage.



(Back) Mark Young (Chairman) James Highfield : William Bartlett : Mark Hambly : Paul Russell : Andy Paterson : Jason Shearing : Liam Barrett : Louis Wallworth : Ally Riggs : Adam Day (Manager) : Brian Hansford (Secretary) : Yogish Patel (Sponsor)
(Front) Stuart Haskell (Assistant Manager) : Kristian Rex : Corin Lambe : Jaydon Barry : Ian Brewer (Captain) : Jack Leonard : Tom Brown

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Hi ladies,

I've got appointments available up until 19th December, the week before Christmas. Monday 15th - Friday 19th December is the busiest week of the year, as this is only a few weeks away please book in plenty of time to avoid disappointment.

I know you all like to have your nails looking fabulous and bodies hair-free for all those Xmas parties you have planned, I like to make sure everyone can get appointments, so please contact me as soon as you can.

Thank you Vikki
01725 552322

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Class Timetable - Autumn 2014

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Monday 10:15	HIT	Broadchalke Sports Hall
Monday 13:45	Pilates	Broadchalke Sports Hall
Monday 16:30	Pilates	Sixpenny Handley Hall
Tuesday 09:15	Pilates	Coombe Bissett Village Hall
Tuesday 14:00	Pilates	Radnor Hall
Tuesday 18:30	Pilates	Britford Memorial Hall
Wednesday 09:30	FP	Bishopstone Village Hall
Wednesday 18:00	Pilates	Bishopstone Village Hall
Wednesday 19:00	HIT	Bishopstone Village Hall
Wednesday 19:30	Pilates	Bishopstone Village Hall

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Need to get fit for/after Christmas?
Fitness & Nutrition with Tim on
page 37

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Gardeners Notes

December

- Start planning for next years crops
- Consider your crop rotations
clear up the rest of this years crops
and prepare for 2015
- Protect your delicate plants with
coverings
- Dig over areas with mulch/manure
check on your stored vegetables
for deterioration

*Dont forget to save your best potatoes/brussel sprouts/parsnips etc
for your Christmas Lunch...
...they always taste better after those first frosts*

January

- Continue to dig over the ground and
prepare for this years crops
- Tidy up gardens and allotments from
winter winds(leaves/branches)
- Get all your tools and pots washed and
maintained
- Dig up remaining root vegetables and
pick brassicas
- Check on your stored vegetables for
deterioration

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APPOINTMENTS IN THE OFFICE OR AT YOUR OWN HOME

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS, PLEASE TELEPHONE 01725 552788
to speak to Michael Catchpole, Robert Stone or Richard Wallace-Lower**

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Registered Office: Hill House, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP5 5NT
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CATCHPOLE LAW.....on law

As we approach December and the end of another year, we thought we would remind you of our legal articles which have been published in the Downsman. These are listed below. If you would like a copy do email us (alison@catchpolelaw.com) with your request.

- Have you thought about what would happen to your pet when you die?
- Passing of joint property under your Will
- Voluntary First Registrations and reduced Land Registry fees
- Buying a Buy to Let Property
- New rules on the deduction of liabilities for Inheritance Tax (IHT) purposes
- The Cost of Care
- Digital Assets – Estate Administration
- A Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) is not just for the elderly
- The Care Act 2014: funding and payment of services and fees

We will resume our legal articles in the New Year.

Next some news on the team and our office:

We are very pleased to announce that Tamasine Hankey will be joining us from 20th November. Tamasine has worked as a solicitor both locally and in London. She specialises in private client work and will be dealing with wills, probate and powers of attorney and we welcome her to our team.

We have taken on a new office – Unit 1 Manor Farm, Gussage St Michael. For the moment we will be operating from both Hill House and Unit 1 and will eventually be entirely in Unit 1.

Richard Wallace-Lower has decided to move on. We are sorry to see him go and wish him every success.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your support during this year and we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

CBA SERVICES.....on Tax Returns

By the time you are sitting down to read this, all paper Tax Returns for the year ended 5th April 2014 should have been completed. Returns now are required to be completed online. If you need a hand with this, then please feel free to give me a call.

Further to my last article in the Downsman I have been pondering what topic to base this article on and following a meeting I recently had with my different hat on (as the Church Treasurer), I thought an article on the potential ways to reduce your tax liability may be of interest.

Donations to charity

The cash amount donated to a charity is treated as being paid net of basic rate tax (after tax has been deducted) and the individual retains the tax deducted as the tax relief. Therefore, if you are a basic rate tax payer, no further tax relief will be received. However if you are a higher rate tax payer additional tax relief is given which will be claimed through your self-assessment tax return or through your notice of coding.

Eg. John Paul kindly donated £10 per month to his village Church. During the year to 5th April 2014 he is a basic rate tax payer, so will not receive any further tax relief on his net donation of £120 (gross donation £150).

However in the year to 5th April 2015 John Paul has received additional income which means he is now a higher rate tax payer. His total income amounts to £43,500, which after deducting his personal allowance of £10,000 leaves £33,500 taxable. The basic rate limit of £31,865 is increased by the gross donation of £150 and becomes £32,015. John Paul saves tax of £30. The Church will reclaim the basic rate tax of £30 and will receive the full £150 donation. The net cost however to John Paul would be £90 i.e. £120 net donation, less higher rate relief of £30.

Instead of donating cash to a charity, you could also gift shares/securities to charity. The net donation would be the market value of the shares/securities plus any incidental costs of making the gift. This disposal is exempt from capital gains tax, so in effect you receive both income tax and capital gains relief.

Allowable interest

Interest relating to let property is usually deductible from rental income. Interest paid on business borrowings is usually deducted from business income.

However, loan interest paid on a loan to the following may be available:

1. Buy a partnership share/introduce capital to a partnership/lend money to it, (providing the partnership is not an investment business i.e. rental partnership) and providing you are still a partner when the interest is paid, the loan interest will be included as a deduction in your Tax Return.
2. The loan is to purchase shares in or lend money to a trading company which is controlled by its directors or by five or fewer people, as long as at the time the interest is paid, you own more than 5% of the ordinary shares.
3. To purchase plant and machinery on which capital allowances are available for use in your partnership.
4. Personal representatives of a

deceased person to pay inheritance tax.

Pension contributions

Tax relief is available on pension contributions paid under an occupational or personal pension scheme. Occupational pension scheme contributions will reduce your taxable pay, whereas personal pension scheme contributions are paid net of basic rate tax.

If you are a higher rate tax payer higher rate relief is available on the personal pension scheme contributions.

Other deductions

There are a number of other deductions available but I have felt these are more obscure than those mentioned above. If you would like further details, then please let me know.

If there are any other topics you would like covered in my article then please let me know.

Please contact me, Catherine at CBA Services on 01258 840306 or 01725 552955, if you have need any assistance with your bookkeeping, accountancy or tax issues.

Whilst care has been taken in preparing this publication it is for information only. It is not, and should not be construed, as advice and accordingly no reliance should be placed on the information contained herein.

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Wessex Internet joins fellow Dorset Business Awards finalists

Wessex Internet joins fellow Dorset Business Awards finalists ahead of big ceremony.

Andrew Skipsey of Wessex Internet joined other Dorset Business Awards finalists at a reception held at The Guildhall in Poole on Tuesday. Andrew, pictured top 6 from the left, said "It was a great opportunity to meet other Dorset firms who all have a great story and I am sure we are up against strong competition in the Excellence in Innovation Award". The event organised by the Dorset Chamber is now in its 20th year and the finals are being held at the BIC on 27th November in front of almost 700 attendees at the black tie dinner.

Andrew continues "The Wessex Internet submission to the judging panel emphasised that the breadth of the service being provided to the growing Wessex Internet client base is crammed full of innovation, from the blends of



GALA: The Dorset Business Awards finalists at the Meet the Finalists event at Poole Guildhall

the technology we use to connect and manage subscribers to the innovative transformation for rural enterprises and households." Our testimony of how effective Wessex Internet is for subscribers is evidenced by incredible 100% client retention and 300% + per annum growth. Our service operates across hundreds of square miles of North Dorset and South West Wiltshire and provides up to 50mb internet delivered across the air without the need for a BT line."

The Dorset Business Awards are the county's flagship business event and this year had seen a record number of entries which is testament to the growing stature of the county as a hub of exemplary enterprises. Ian Girling, chief executive of DCCI, told the gathering: "I joined Dorset chamber a year ago and already Dorset Chamber was very well known for running business awards. It's always been something Dorset is very proud of. This is our 20th and it's the biggest yet, we've had a record number of entries, over 150!" To find out more on Wessex Internet visit www.wessexinternet.com.

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Business Wins National Award

Local estate agent, Bassets Sales & Lettings, a member of Salisbury's Chamber of Commerce, have been awarded with the 'Community Champion of the Year' award at the national Negotiator Awards 2014. The evening of 4th November 2014 saw the annual event, a glamorous gala dinner hosted by comedian Alexander Armstrong at The London Hilton on Park Lane, where the 30 awards were presented. With 360 entries this year, a record number, the event celebrates the finest people in property.

Bassets had already been shortlisted for the 'Community Champion of the Year' and 'South East Agency of the Year'. At the awards ceremony, Bassets was thrilled to be given the first award of the evening, the 'Community Champion 2014,' sponsored by Zoopla Property Group. The judges said: "This agency consistently supports a remarkable range of charities, by fundraising, supporting events and

generous donations of staff time." Managing Director of Bassets, David Clayton, said: "As an independent and family run business, we understand the responsibility we have to support our local causes and charities and to give something back to the communities in which we work. We are honoured to be given this award, and grateful to be recognised for the community work we do."

Every year, each of their four offices is given a budget to support a range of local charities and projects, both small and larger. In 2014, these included The Trussell Trust, Salisbury Foodbank, Lucy's Day Out, Fordingbridge Choral Society, Salisbury Rotary Club, Stars Appeal and Dogs Trust and soon to be Children In Need. In addition to this, all of Bassets employees spend a minimum of one day working in the community.



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Rob's Column

Firstly many thanks for the support at the village auction; over £1800 was raised. Thanks for all the donations of items and draw prizes.

When life is so hectic you can sometimes forget to thank those who help you and could not have done without. Thanks to all, Rob

If you're seeking happiness, stop and have a think
Set a goal that's positive and leaves you in the pink.

You'll find there's bound to be a way
To take yourself to better days
A laugh, a chuckle, a good old smile
With these you'll go the extra mile
Indulge in each one every day
They help to keep the blues away.

Put your favourite record on
No matter what the style
Then sing it loud and dance and clap
Let yourself go wild, music keeps the blues

at bay
So have a boogie every day.

I went to see the Doctors, I said "Doctor,
I keep thinking I'm a packet of thin Dry
Savoury Biscuits"
He said "You must be crackers"

Take my advice – I'm not using it.

A simple cup of good old tea can take your cares away. With each sip you settle down on busy hectic days, even better, share a brew with a friend who'll chat to you.

I would like to thank all the people connected with the revamping of the village signposts. It brings a bit of pride back into the parish.

Next, well done to the Scouts for a wonderful firework evening enjoyed by lots of people and what a good turnout at the Remembrance Day parade – it does show people care.

There's a thing that you can give to people that you know that is guaranteed to pick

*them up when they are feeling low:
It's worth so much and yet it's free
A simple cuddle spreads such glee*

Let There Be Lights

The moon is playing hide and seek
It dips and swings from peak to peak
A little silver coracle becalmed and then invisible
Plunged into an inky cloud
But suddenly serene and proud
Poised upon a wave's bright crest
How could I sleep, how could I rest
When there beyond my window pane
Through fitful storms of driving rain
I watch the fascinating play
Of glitter, gloom and starry spray

No magic television screen
Could capture such a lovely scene
And all I have to do is lie
And see the drama in the sky.
Thus it has sailed, that fairy barque
Through immeasurable dark
Since God first said
Let there be Lights
Sun for day and moon for the nights.

Patience Strong



Brrrr!

Finally had to dig out the thermals, no sense in getting cold on the water!
Cracking sail, recently, to Hornet Services Sailing Club (celebrating their 50th anniversary)
The tides suggested a midday start on Saturday, which was just as well, for rain was pouring earlier. I arrived on board, 'shhh' from the skipper, 'she has a hangover, speak in whispers'. A farewell Caribbean party, with too much rum punch was the culprit!
We set off, our hungover crew persuaded to take to her bunk, with lee cloth in place, all secure. The wind filled in from astern, and off Cowes, we thought it time to hoist the big blue and white kite, up went the kite, and up went boatspeed, a steady 9kn with bursts in excess of 10kn, we were slightly overpressed as the wind built, the racing experience of the skipper on the helm skilfully avoided broaching, but we both decided that it was time to drop the

Gone Sailing

kite .. hooray for snuffers .. the drop was no problem. The crew emerged from her bunk complaining about broaching and being thrown about, (better then!).

Using the Swashway Channel 'war memorial and SE edge of building 049 deg' and turn to port to join small boat channel into Portsmouth.

The rally was well attended with 12 LTSC yachts and a good meal in The Club.

Reflections and Recollections

The third jog race would have been Cowes – St Vaast, you should be acquainted with the delights of St Vaast from previous logs. We locked out early and anchored for breakfast before heading back to England, the new crew was washing up (bucket on deck and 50/50 hot water and sea water), he finished, stacked the washing up neatly to drain, and emptied the bucket over the side, we observed those plates that had been in the bucket gently side slipping through the crystal clear water, to the



bottom, too deep to retrieve, that cost him a few beers!

Bunkside Reading

Just found a slim volume 'The 1994 Pacific Storm Survey, the boats which survived it, and the lessons learned' – Kim Taylor. I find these accounts fascinating, and one can always learn from them. The way of obtaining this survey is interesting, 'on the following conditions, copies ... are hereby authorised:~ 1. not for profit, 2. payment of a fair sum. The author is happy to trust a fellow sailor's honesty, but for those who do not keep to the bargain, May all your passages be to windward, your groundings on a falling tide, and your crew continuously mutinous'.

Get Afloat

I am being asked, 'how can I start sailing?'
So, dinghy, keelboat, or yacht, cruising or racing?
I would suggest start with dinghy sailing on

tidal waters, a course at an RYA (www.rya.org.uk) recognised training school, which will give you an understanding of boats, wind, tides, sails, and safety.

Or, a yacht course, RYA Competent Crew, and Day Skipper, which will equip you with enough knowledge to be safe and useful on a yacht.

Alongside all of this, join a club, LTSC (www.ltsc.co.uk) have links with an RYA training school, and have club dinghys for members use, re yacht cruising, you will know by now about Wednesday Meanderers, Saturday Saunterers, weekend rallies, long weekends, and summer cruise. One member (with a Moody 40) who plans the two week summer cruise followed by six weeks cruising the coast of France, has advertised for members to join him for one week slots, or more. The opportunities are there, and I have not mentioned racing, where skippers are always looking for dedicated crew (and there is no finer way to hone your sailing skills)

Cast off

Light reading of a nautical nature as usual in PO coffee shop.

Winter sailing is very good, not many yachts out, quiet anchorages, and cheap moorings, as well as some lovely days, see you on the water, but take your woolly 'at.

Adam

Ode on binge drinking

As I lay there in the gutter,
Thinking words I cannot utter,
A lady passing by was heard to say,
'You can tell a man who boozes,
By the company he chooses,'
And the pig got up, and slowly walked away.

*These days of course it applies equally to girls, as well as guys.
You have been reminded.*

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What's On

Date	Function	Page	Day	Club or Group
6 Dec	Ninebarrow - Acoustic Live	12	Mon	Happy Nappy : Village Hall 10:00 - 11:30 Weekly in Term Time
18 Dec	Bingo	5	Mon	WI Meetings : Village Hall : 2nd Monday of Month
21 Dec	Sixpenny Handley Carol Service		Mon	Scouts : Scout Hut 19:00-21:00 : Term Time
24 Dec	Christingle in Sixpenny Handley		Tue	Sixpenny Handley Tennis Adult Club Session 7pm
28 Jan	CLT	8	Wed	Cards : Village Hall : Fortnightly
14 Jan	Tarka King's Talk	5	Wed	Beavers, Cubs, Explorers : Scout Hut : Term Time
27 Feb	Music Night - Alex James	5	Thu	Mothers' Union : Second Thursday in the Month 14:45
			Thu	Teddy Bears Drop-in : Church 10:30 - 12:00 Weekly in Term Time
			Thu	Bingo : Village Hall 7:30 start Third Thursday in the month (Excluding August)
			Fri	Chase Community Friends Lunch Village Hall : 2nd Friday in the Month
			Sun	St Mary's Church 9:30 Traditional 11:00 Informal 18:00 Evensong Alternating weeks St Rumbold's 11:15 Gussage St Andrew 9:30



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Lunch

Once a month in Sixpenny Handley Village Hall we provide a freshly cooked 3 course lunch for £4.00, followed by entertainment. Tea and coffee are provided during the day. Booking is essential.

Interest Groups

CCF interest groups include a book club, and a record music group.

Transport & Help

We also provide transport to the surgery, dentist, etc, with a contribution from the user of 60p per mile while in the car to cover fuel costs.

It greatly helps if you can give us as much notice as possible should you require transport.

We can also help with the collection of prescriptions, local shopping for the housebound, and dog walking.

Volunteers

We are always looking for new volunteer drivers in all the areas the CCF covers.

The CCF offer voluntary support to those who need it within the Cranborne Chase villages.

So come along and make new friends.

"Have we missed you?"

If you know someone who might like our help, please let us know.

For any information about the above please contact the Chase Community Friends on 01258 841321

We are supported by Dorset County Council Social Services Committee