

Parish Council Elections May 7th, 2015

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council consists of 10 Parish Councillors split between two wards. If more than 10 candidates stand then there will be a contested election. If 10 or less stand then all those who stand will be automatically elected and any vacancies may be filled by co-option.

It is preferable therefore, in the interest of democratic accountability, to have enough candidates ready to stand to enable a contested election to take place.

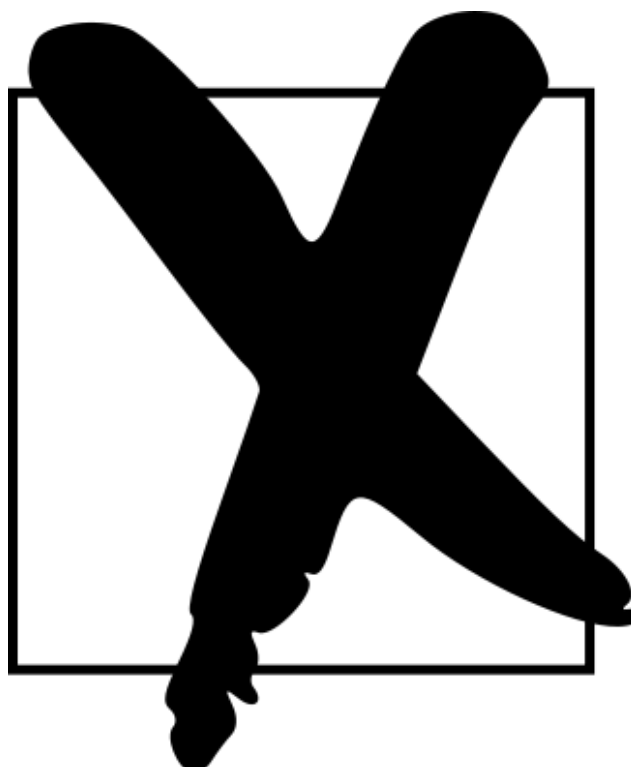
Further information about what the Parish Council look at: www.sixpennyhandleyparishcouncil.btck.co.uk

To find out more about standing as a Candidate for Election look at: www.electoralcommission.org.uk

If you would like to know more, contact us for an informal chat or call in at the Parish Office. Tel 01725 552211 or contact the Clerk on 01258 840935. Alternatively speak to a current parish councillor. Not yet registered to vote? For more information go to the Government website: www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

Parish Council Elections 2015

Candidates Wanted



Parish Council elections are due to take place on May 7th, 2015

If you want to have a say in what goes on in Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge and you want to represent the views of your neighbours and the Community then think about standing as a candidate for election to the Parish Council.

**Live Music
Throughout
February & March**

see page 5

**“What We’ve Got”
Venues in our
Parish**

see page 16

**Lunch out Again?
Coffee with
Friends?**

see page 5

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	Ros Adams	 553032

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

Nicholas Lee, 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	

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
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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 April 2015

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

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

Hey Ho..

On we go to a new year... I'm not really one to make New Year resolutions, but this year I have found myself making plans... now not all these plans will be accomplished I'm sure, but I have made a good start; The Web Booth website is being re-vamped for the first time since we started the company, and in web terms, that is a *long* time and I have started a new feature in the Downsman "What We've Got" and by this I mean what we have as a community. I chose venues to start with and found there are more than one or two - see page 16. So if you are thinking of hosting an event this year or starting a new club maybe take a look. If you are secretary of a social/sports/children's club or organisation be prepared, you too are on my planned list for the year!



What else do we have coming up? Well to warm those winter evenings it seems we have a wonderful array of live music to look forward to. Alec James is playing in aid of the First School and for a Jazz praise service, howdenjones and Phil Beer are also ready to entertain in February and March - so take a look at the Noticeboard page 5 for more details.

The other theme is coffee and lunches out, sounds great for these winter days. As well as the monthly CCF lunch, the Lent soup lunches start, the MU have a coffee and quiz morning and there is a new initiative, Drop in for a Cuppa ; again see the Noticeboard on page 5.

As to the front page, I know some of you will groan, but like it or not our community and society is run by people and most of them were once maybe just a bit like you too?! If you think you could be a Parish Councillor, don't just think it, ask some questions and see if you can help make our Parish into the best place it can be, for our families, our businesses and ourselves. I know a number of the current Parish Councillors have indicated they will not be standing for re-election so there is plenty of space for newbies on the team!

Best wishes with all your plans for the new year and don't worry, not all plans make it into reality... how does it go... We had our dreams, they did not all come true, but we are glad we had them...

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

Dear Editor

Despite the probability that the church represents a minority of parishioners these days, I am content to tolerate the inclusion of their newsletter in the Downsman, but not when Mr Durrant uses it to make preposterous assertions as he did in the latest issue. The claim, that as a result of Lenin's atheism more than 20 million people lost their lives in the Russian Revolution, is utter nonsense. The Revolution was an uprising against both a brutal, autocratic feudal system and a barbaric, imperialist World War. Lenin's atheism was quite beside the point. What Mr Durrant might profitably do, instead of playing god with history, is to research how many people over the ages have indeed lost their lives in battles and wars fought in the name of one religion or another. He might then reach the same conclusion as many others: that as a force for evil in the world, religion is light years ahead of atheism.

All spokespeople for religion should take care to remember that their beliefs are a matter of faith not a matter of fact. They then might avoid making the sort of silly and dangerous statements which characterise the more intolerant religious organisations operating around the world today. *Yours sincerely,*

Paul Chalmers

Phillip Brian Adams

My family and I would like to thank all the people who have shown us such kindness, and been so supportive since my husband Phillip's death.

As many of you know, Phill had metastatic prostate cancer and in the last few weeks had suffered greatly.

We travelled, accompanied by some of our family, to the Dignitas clinic in Switzerland and Phillip died very peacefully on 27th November 2014.

I would ask any of you who feel able, to support the Dignity in Dying bill, which is currently being debated in the House of Lords. It is my view that no one should have to travel so far from home when they are so poorly to have a peaceful and painless death.

Rosalie Adams

Ride and Stride

I have just heard from the Chair of Dorset Historic Churches Trust, that the magnificent sum of £80,000 has been raised this year through Ride and Stride.

Can I thank you and all those from your congregations who took part. I know that all ages were involved and it was in every way a corporate effort, not only raising important funds but also the profile of our churches.

Paul Taylor

Noticeboard

WEEKLY

DROP IN FOR A CUPPA

(FOR A CHAT AND/OR MORE)



TRIAL EVENT

AT PARISH OFFICE

1030 – 1200 Wednesday

18 February 2015

Full details on page 7



JAZZ PRAISE

Come along and have a good sing with

The Alec James Quartet

St Mary's Sixpenny Handley

Sunday 22nd February 6pm

Tea and Coffee served from 5.30pm

The Church of England in Sixpenny Handley with Gussage-St Andrew and Penridge
SP5 5ND - 01725 552608 - www.handleychurch.org.uk

C & B STYLES

Newsagents & Mini-Market.

12 High Street, Sixpenny Handley.

Monday – Friday 6.30am – 7pm

Saturday 7.30am – 7pm, Sunday 7.30am – 1pm.

In-store bakery for Fresh morning breads & pastries

Extensive range of groceries, Chilled & Frozen Food.

Local Bread and Milk Daily. Fruits & Vegetables.

01725 552658

Off-licence with large selection of Wines, ciders & Ales.

Debit cards taken with free cash-back facility. Paypoint facilities in-store.

Mobile Library

Visits on Thursday Fortnightly

February 10, 24

March 10, 24

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

Downsman Noticeboard

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

Friends of the First School
presents



27th Feb, 7:30pm
6D Handley Village Hall
Tickets £12 from Styles,
School Office or 552561

Full details on page 9

SIXPENNY HANDLEY
WI

JUMBLE SALE

Sat 28th FEB

Doors open at 2.30pm

SIXPENNY HANDLEY
VILLAGE HALL

Full details on page 8



Soup Lunches (& much more!) in

St Mary's Church,

Sixpenny Handley:

Each Wednesday during Lent

25th Feb, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th Mar

Served at 1.00pm,

cuppa & a chat from 12.30

Full details on page 8

Mothers' Union



**Coffee-and-Quiz
morning**

7th March, 10.0 am – 12.0

at Sheila's house,

46, High St.

Sixpenny Handley

Full details on page 12



19th February

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Doors Open 7pm

Start 7.30pm



Great prizes to be won,
Tea and homemade cakes.

19th Mar, 16th Apr

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



Sixpenny Sessions presents

Phil Beer

6th Feb, From 8pm Tickets: £14

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Full details on page 9



Once a month in Sixpenny Handley
Village Hall we provide a freshly
cooked 3 course lunch
for £5.00

Please contact
01258 841321

Transport, interest clubs
and help also available

full details page 40



howdenjones in Concert '

No halls barred' 2015

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall,

SP5 5NJ

Saturday 7th of March 2015

7 for 7-30pm. Tickets £8 . Sixpenny

Handley Newsagents or Reserve via

halltickets@sixpennyhandley.org

Full details on page 9

**Sixpenny
Handley
Village Hall
Spring Clean**

21 March 2015

9AM – 12

Any help would be most welcome.



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

Dorset's Best Kept Village Competition 2015...

Sixpenny Handley will once again be entered for the BKV Competition this year. Judging starts in May until July. The competition aims to encourage community effort in maintaining and improving the village environment and to stimulate pride in appearance and upkeep of all public areas and buildings. The Parish Council will plant bulbs around the village and keep the Sports and Recreational Facilities spick and span...if you have any ideas for improving the village to help us win then please let us know!

War Memorial...

A kind volunteer has stepped forward to restore the lettering on the War Memorial. First we need to add a name and weather permitting work will begin in the Spring.

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 – Noon.

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

Could I become a Parish Councillor?

See the special feature on the May Elections on the front page of The Downsman.

Subscribe to the Parish Council Information Network

Email us a sixpennyhandley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk to join.
 All email addresses will remain confidential.

February 2015

Have your say on changes to household recycling centres

Dorset residents are being asked for their views on possible money-saving changes to the county's household recycling centres (HRCs).

The Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) provides 11 HRCs for residents to recycle a range of household materials that cannot be put in their bins.

In response to continuing financial pressures on the DWP and its seven partner councils, the partnership is looking at a range of options to make its HRC service more cost-effective.

Residents are being asked to say how they might be affected by the following options:

- Closing one or more HRCs. (Potential savings up to £100,000 a year per site)
- Charging for entry at one or more HRCs instead of closing them. (Potential savings £65,000 a year per site)
- Closing all HRCs for two or three weekdays. (Potential savings up to £300,000 a year)
- Charging residents to dispose of non-household materials, such as DIY waste and tyres. (Potential savings £250,000 a year)
- Charging Dorset residents to use their HRCs in neighbouring areas, which the DWP currently subsidises. (Potential savings £70,000 a year)

Residents can read the consultation information and complete an online questionnaire at www.dorsetforyou.com/hrc. Those unable to go online can pick up a questionnaire from the Parish Office. The consultation will finish at midnight on Friday 13th February 2015.

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

L. Goodwin

Opening Hours:

8.30am – 10.00am Fri,
 7.00am – 7.30pm Thu
 10.00am – 12 noon Tue

For 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 553040

Are You Sick Of Junk?

Mail:

Register at the Mailing Preference Service:

<http://www.mpsonline.org.uk/mpsr/>

Or telephone: 0845 703 4599

Telephone Calls:

Register at the Telephone Preference

Service: www.tpsonline.org.uk/tps/index.html

Or telephone: 0845 070 0707

Both are free services.

You Do Not Need To Re-Register

£75

(or a trip to the magistrates)

That's the cost of not clearing up after your dog.

Bags are on sale in the village shop.

Please ensure you do not fall foul of the law.

6D Handley with Pentridge Community Fund

Happy New Year! As promised we have elected new members onto the Community Fund. At the meeting on 8th January Jen Gordon, Penny Mansergh and Ros Adams were elected to join the committee. Jen, who was instrumental in organising the Waistcoat Festival, Penny newly involved with Sixpenny Sessions and the return of Ros will all be a great asset to the community.

However it is with sadness that we say goodbye to Maureen New who has championed the community fund for the past few years and on behalf of the committee I would like to thank her for all her support and input during that time. We have kick started 2015 by supporting Sixpenny Sessions, who bring you the fabulous folk musician Phil Beer at the Village Hall 6th February so if you haven't got your tickets yet they are available from the village shop at £14 each. Future events are planned for April and June and bimonthly after that.

As mentioned before, we have funds available now to support other village or community projects so please send us your applications before our next meeting 10th February.

*Stephanie Court
Chair*

Weekly Drop In For A Cuppa

(For a chat and/or more)

Chase Community Friends weekly drop in coffee morning used to meet in the back room of the Roebuck Pub which was central with easy access and a popular part of the weekly routine, especially for our residents of riper years. With the change of venue to the Sports Pavilion access became too difficult and this weekly gathering sadly came to an end.



A new initiative to provide an opportunity to meet, chat etc over a cuppa is being considered.

This was shared with those attending the monthly CCF Day Centre last week. Overwhelming support was offered for such an event with easy access within walking distance. Come along to an exploratory session from 1030 to 1200 on Wednesday 18 February at The Parish Office, Unit 6, Town Farm Workshops. Come and join in a conversation to make this a regular reality.

David Salmons



gift shop & café

COFFEE & CAKE CARDS & PRESENTS

52 High Street Sixpenny Handley
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Trussell Trust

Trussell Trust Food for the period
November/December 2014

Fellowship - Hamper 36 General - 17 = 53
Church - Hamper 72 General - 150 = 222
Scouts - Hamper 8 General - 51 = 79
TOTAL ITEMS 136 218 = 354
TOTAL WEIGHT 40.1 KG 78.2KG = 118.2 KG

Thank you to all of you who have given so
generously over the Christmas Period for
those who have nothing.

Trish Chorley

Lent Soup Lunches

Soup Lunches (& much more!) in St Mary's
Church, Sixpenny Handley:
Each Wednesday during Lent 25th Feb, 4th,
11th, 18th, 25th March
Served at 1.00pm, but you are welcome to
come for a cuppa & a chat from 12.30

£3.00 for delicious homemade soup
(2 different varieties each week!) with
homemade bread, and tea or coffee with
homemade biscuits.

Each week the work of a charity supported
by local people will be highlighted, & all
proceeds given to it.
Bring & Buy table including cakes, jam,
books & gifts.
Transport can be provided.

See article in Seeker section or phone
01725 552608 for more information or to
offer help

Sixpenny Handley Sports Association



Following the resignation of the last Sport Association members and the public meeting
last December, a working group from the parish council assisted by volunteers has taken
it over until a new Association can be formed. If you are interested in sport, the use of the
superb facilities that this village has to offer or are prepared to help the working group,
Please contact David Lockyer on 552492.

It is YOUR recreation ground.



Upwood Holiday Cottages

Lime & Beech Holiday Cottages in
Deanland, Sixpenny Handley available
for weekly or short breaks all year
round for visiting family or friends.



Call for more details on 01725 552518 or visit www.hideaways.co.uk

Toby Daniels

Dip WCF

Registered Farrier

*Appointments for the
weekend are available*

Telephone: 07515 445469



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LONG AND SHORT JOURNEYS
FOR BOOKINGS CALL
MALCOLM DENNETT
07751638723**



SIXPENNY SESSIONS LIVE MUSIC

Sixpenny Sessions presents
Phil Beer

Friday 6th February
From 8pm
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Tickets: £14
from Styles Newsagents or www.eventbrite.co.uk

Supported by: 
Proceeds to Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge Community Fund
Find us on: 

Sixpenny Sessions is delighted to announce that the mighty Phil Beer will launch their 2014 live music schedule on Friday 6 February 2015 at the Village Hall, Common Road, Sixpenny Handley SP5 5NJ from 8.00 pm.

Phil Beer, the multi-instrumental half of the west country's award winning acoustic duo, Show of Hands, has been described as a true craftsman, a master musician and consummate performer. With a professional career of over 36 years Phil has a vast amount of material to draw on, and his solo gigs are quite simply a treat of past and current favourites from one of the most popular musicians on the acoustic circuit. Sixpenny Sessions committee member, Iain Laing, commented "We are absolutely delighted to welcome Phil Beer to Sixpenny Handley to kick start our regular events and well and truly put us on the village hall live music map."

Tickets cost £14 and are available from Styles Newsagents, High Street, Sixpenny Handley or via www.eventbrite.co.uk (+ £1.49 online booking fee). All profits go towards Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Community Fund.

For press enquiries and further information please contact us at:
sixpennysessions@gmail.com

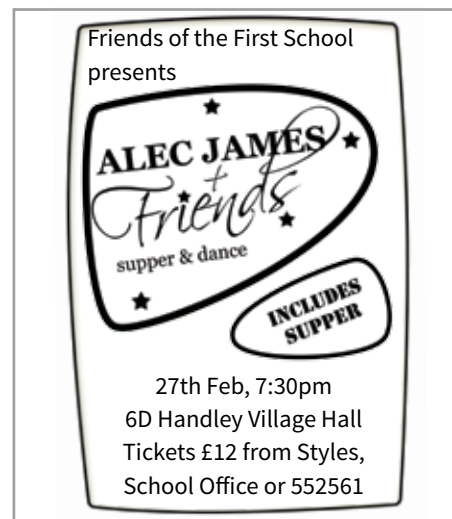


howdenjones in Concert
'No halls barred' 2015
'the beautiful music in beautiful places'
At Sixpenny Handley Village Hall, SP5 5NJ

Saturday 7th of March 2015
7 for 7-30pm. Tickets £8 . Available from
Sixpenny Handley Newsagents
or Reserve via
halltickets@sixpennyhandley.org.

Licensed Bar and Raffle
"Wonderful songs, gentle anecdotes and
delicious leg-pulling
...a gem of an evening!"
Quarndon Village Hall, Derbyshire.

Kate and Paul are musicians who continue travelling all over the country playing at Village Halls, Churches and Community Venues. In the past 3 years they created their 'beautiful music in beautiful places' Tour, and have been sharing their music and stories, often meeting friendly and fascinating people and visiting some wonderful, unusual venues in sometimes remote and always beautiful areas along the way. They write about life and their observations of it, often poignant, sometimes humorous, and gathering new material as they travel, captivate an audience in a unique intimate atmosphere. As contemporary musicians they enjoy exploring the acoustic sound of each unique venue and use no effects. Their show has been described as, 'relaxed and enchanting' and 'an absolute delight', 'their joy, talent and good humour were infectious', 'music for all ages'. With a variety of instruments including, guitar, fiddle, mandolin, bodhran and banjo, superb harmonies and great musicianship, howdenjones will promise to give you a foot tapping and thought provoking evening with plenty of smiles! You can hear examples of howdenjones music by visiting www.howdenjones.co.uk



Friends of the First School
presents
ALEC JAMES
Friends
supper & dance
INCLUDES SUPPER

27th Feb, 7:30pm
6D Handley Village Hall
Tickets £12 from Styles,
School Office or 552561

Alec James & Friends

60's, 70's and 80's rock and roll, disco at the village hall in Sixpenny Handley. Supper is included in the price of a ticket. There will also be a raffle and all fund raised go to The Friends of Sixpenny Handley First School. Please book your tickets in advance so we know how many to cater for. Tickets are available from Styles Newsagents, the School Office or Maureen 01725 552561.

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Mob: 07765 426662

The Downsman Accounts 2013/14

**The Downsman
for the year ended 31 March 2014
Income and Expenditure Account**

Income		4,130
Sales		
Expenses		
Purchases	1,546	
Postage and stationary	124	
Equipment repairs	768	
Accountancy	300	
Sundry	60	
Depreciation	49	
Profit on sales	(121)	
		2,726
Net profit for the year		1,404

This year the Downsman has completed building its reserves which would allow it to continue if printing prices increase or advertising decreases. We are very pleased to have been able to give the following donations:

1st Woodcutts Scouts: £100
Grace Jackson's Concert: £100
Handley Sports Association: £500
Chase Community Friends: £500

Chalke Heating

Martin Miller: 01722 780734

E-mail: martin@competentcraft.co.uk

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Sixpenny Handley Homewatch



Police Sergeant Nicholas Lee has replaced PS Nikki Loftus in charge of our Safer Neighbourhood policing team. PC Tom Clements and our three Police Community Support Officers all remain in post. One of these, PCSO Andy Flanagan, kindly attended a recent meeting of our Homewatch coordinators. He reported only three recorded crimes in the parish in the period September to January, which is about half the norm. Two of these were detected and court action against the suspects is ongoing.

Coordinators are aware, however, of other criminal activity in the Parish in the period which has not been reported. It is essential, please, that all crimes however minor are reported to the police as decisions about police deployment and funding are based on the reported crime statistics. Ongoing crimes should be reported by phoning 999. Other crimes should be reported on 101 and the police assure us that

waiting times on that line have been cut. Alternatively, you can send an email to ruraleastdorsetnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk which will get straight through to our local neighbourhood team.

Fly tipping is increasing, not least as charges for commercial disposal at council waste sites have increased. Black bags of domestic rubbish sometimes get dumped too when people have missed their collection date or had excess rubbish refused. If you see fly tipping in progress, call 999. If you find fly-tipped rubbish it should be reported via the DorsetforYou website on their easily found Fly Tipping page.

Still on the matter of reporting crimes – a bit of a theme this month – please don't forget that if you want to report any crime anonymously you can safely do so via Crimestoppers at any time. Their number is 0800 555 111.

And for those of you who like to get the reports of local crimes, suspect vehicles etc, please remember that Dorset Alert has now replaced the old Ringmaster system. It is a much better web-based service and anyone can register for the regular alerts. Just log on to do so.

Nearly a dozen local volunteers have now been approved for carrying our Community Speedwatch checks and you have probably seen them around the village using a speed camera funded by our Parish Council. Please drive within the limits, which are there to make our community safer. If you are logged speeding you will be getting a letter from the police and repeated offending could result in further action.

Finally, the police have a number of infra-red activated alarms which can be loaned for a period of three weeks to farms, businesses and private individuals who have reason to suspect they may be targeted by criminals. These devices helped foil an attempted theft on a butcher's premises in a nearby village over the Christmas period and they have worked to reduce crime massively in parts of west Dorset, so they are well worth considering, either to borrow or to buy. Details from our Safer Neighbourhood team on the email address above.

Please keep safe.



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Contact Erica Pretty on 07825 145726
or go to
www.dementiafriends.org.uk



Mothers' Union



Mothers' Union Coffee-and-Quiz morning

7th March, 10.0 am – 12.0

Sheila's house, 46, High St. Sixpenny Handley

MU branches are in 83 countries in the world and we do try to contribute regularly to the Overseas Fund at head office.

We are holding a coffee morning with 2 quizzes – from which you can choose the one that appeals to you. One of them is especially suitable for children, as well as adults. They are both lighthearted. There will be prizes, of course!

Absolutely everyone is welcome - of all ages. The cost is £1 for as many cups of coffee/tea/soft drink + as many biscuits and cake as you can eat! The quiz per copy will be also £1 and you only need 1 copy per family or per couple etc.

Please put the date in your diary and come along to have a fun morning and support a very worthwhile cause.

Sheila Bradley 553133

In January we held our AGM. This was marked by reading the Annual Report of all the events and talks which were held in 2014. We then had lots of time to join in a game of Bingo with words (relating to MU) instead of numbers. Numerous bars of chocolate were handed out to winners who completed certain combinations. We had a good laugh!

We always have a very interesting programme of speakers and good events to go to, thanks to Mary Macleod's sterling efforts.

Recently, two new members were enrolled and, if you are thinking of joining us, do come to a meeting to see what it is like. Contact phone numbers are below.

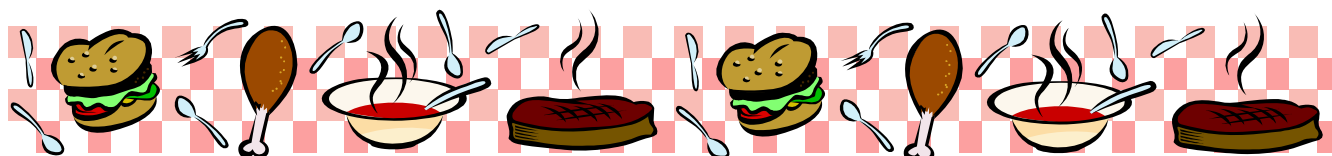
On 6th February we are meeting up with MU members from all over the diocese, for a 'Wave of Prayer', at St Mark's Church, Talbot Village, followed by a shared lunch. Our speaker, at the Branch meeting on 12th February, is Susan Pendry who is coming to tell us about Alabare Christian Care and Support for the Homeless. There is a mention of this organisation on the Salisbury Diocesan website.

Enquiries: Sheila 553133, or Mary 552041



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On 3rd December the other Institutes in the Beacon Group joined us in St Mary's for an Advent Carol Service. Two kind husbands helped with the parking and the weather held off sufficiently for a candlelit walk into the church, which was a sight to behold. The service, conducted by Mel Durrant, included each Institute giving a reading. The 6d Handley WI choir was in excellent voice accompanied by Margaret Durrant on the organ. It was a lovely evening rounded off with home-made mince pies, tea and coffee. JFG



On 8th December, Sixpenny Handley W.I. enjoyed their Christmas meeting. Apart from guests from other W.I.s in our group and Broad Chalke WI, we were pleased to invite Rev. Mel and Margaret Durrant, Rev. Paul Skinner, Shiela and Brian Bradley, Colin and Sue Taylor and Tony Gibb. The members provided the entertainment: "A rehearsal of a Nativity Play as performed by the children from a local school". Under the guidance of their prim schoolmistress played by Bobbie Carter, our President, there was a fair amount of silliness from the 'children', some waving to Mum in the audience, a lot of exuberant behaviour with the musical instruments and a considerable amount of thumb sucking! The scenery was beautifully created by Michael Carter and the costumes by Jean Mereweather. Fortunately, the meaning of the Nativity was not lost; throughout the performance the choir sang a selection of Christmas music. It was overall a very amusing and entertaining session. There then followed a large cold buffet provided by the members with of course a liquid refreshment. Carols were sung at the end of the evening, accompanied by Margaret Durrant on the piano. It was a very successful and worthwhile event enjoyed by all. Rita Taylor

WI News And Information

NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

January Meeting

A New Year and our first meeting: Dr Martin Green gave us an informative talk on the history of Cranborne Chase seen mainly from the air. Some of us had previously visited his museum (very interesting) so had an idea of what his talk would cover – ancient life and people in our area. Cranborne Chase has been important to humans for hundreds of years leaving their

marks and artefacts and burials, some of which Martin has uncovered over the years. His talk with slide show provided material for an extremely informative evening.

Phyllis Emery

Future Dates:

February 9th : Curling

March 9th : Cake Decorating for Easter

Feel free to visit us on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7.30 in the Village Hall.

For more call Margaret Jones 01725 552358



SIXPENNY HANDLEY WI JUMBLE SALE Sat 28th FEB Doors open at 2.30pm SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL

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Entrance 20p

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10am & Midday on the day.**

For collections beforehand ring Stella on 552236 or Jan on 552704.

Sorry, no large furniture

The Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice

Tel: 01725 552500

www.sixpennydocs.co.uk

Tel: 01722 780282

The Doctors and staff would like to thank you all for your Christmas gifts and wish you a happy and healthy New Year.

Staff News

This month we welcome Rosemary Mayho and Diane Orman to our reception team. Your understanding through this transitional time is much appreciated. Sadly we say goodbye to Dr Kate Duff-Walker at the beginning of February as she returns to Salisbury District Hospital to continue her training. We all wish her good luck for the future.

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.

A Big Request - Medication Ordering

We have had an unprecedented amount of orders for repeat medication, some of which have not been required and have been returned.

Would you please check your medicine cupboard before ordering to make sure you

only order what you actually need. Thank you.

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 and answer the Friends and Family Test questionnaire (see below) 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. You will be asked to show some form of proof of identity.

How was your experience today?

We would very much like to hear from you about your recent experience at either of our Practice Surgeries. Known as the Friends and Family Test, we have designed a form which asks you to rate your experience by selecting one of six answers.

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There is then space underneath to add comments if you so wish. We do appreciate that you are often in a hurry to get on with your life outside of the Surgery so it is possible to answer the questionnaire on line as well, details are at the reception desks. If you cannot see the form on the desk, please ask.

The survey will run for the foreseeable future and we are asked to report each month on the number and type of responses received, so please fill in a form as often as you are able up to one per visit.

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

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The Royal Navy

In 1914, the Royal Navy possessed a fleet of such magnitude that its presence was felt in every ocean of the world. One hundred years on, the part played by His Majesty's naval forces in securing an end to the fighting has, apart from the well documented actions at Jutland in 1916, tends to be overlooked but it was the successful blockading of the German ports, resulting in such deprivation to the population at large, that played a major part in bringing to an end the fighting on the Western Front in 1918.

Historians have long since argued for and against the effectiveness of the blockade; some point to the fact that German civilians frequently suffered shortages of food and other provisions, but it is a proven fact that as early as 1915, the Royal Navy's vigilance had reduced Germany's imports to fifty-five per cent of its pre-war level. This strategy of intercepting merchant vessels bound for countries in opposition

to our own was not new. As is recorded by The National Archives in its 'Spotlight on history', such stratagems had been employed by the navy since the early eighteenth century as it was perceived to be an effective means of maintaining British naval supremacy which, in the words of the report, 'was very much intact when war broke out in August 1914.' In order to implement the blockade, Britain had to be mindful of international law and tension did rise following the declaration in early November 1914, that the North Sea was deemed to be a British 'military area'. One can only imagine the flurry of diplomatic activity once this had been declared but, it seems, most neutral countries agreed that their vessels bound for Germany would first put in to a British port for their cargo to be inspected before being allowed to continue their passage, escorted under the watchful eye of the navy.

As a counteract to the blockade, Germany

declared the seas around the United Kingdom to be a 'war zone' and brought into play their submarine forces. This was successful only in part for when in May 1915, the Lusitania was torpedoed off the southern coast of Ireland with the loss of nearly two thousand souls - mainly civilian and including over one hundred American citizens - provoked an outcry, possibly unsurpassed in the war thus far. America, then neutral, did not immediately enter the fray; this would not happen until 1917, but the sinking of the Lusitania played its part in bringing the United States into the Great War and with it all the considerable resources at her disposal. The Battle of Jutland fought with great ferocity off Denmark between 31 May and 1 June 1916, can be likened to a clash between two juggernauts. As events were to prove, it was the first and only time in the Great War that the high seas fleets of the British and German navies fought each other. In terms of losses the Royal Navy suffered badly with fourteen ships destroyed; the loss of life being colossal, while the German fleet withdrew leaving eleven of their number beneath the waves and with an equal heavy loss in sailors lives. The English press was critical of the navy, but with the benefit of hindsight the navy had triumphed, though the reputations of some of its senior commanders had been damaged. Since those awful years of 1914-1918, when so many servicemen from both sides perished in a war that ended with an Armistice and not an all-out victory, and in the aftermath of the war that followed between 1939-1945, with the Axis powers convincingly defeated, the fortunes of the Royal Navy have declined. However, with Her Majesty the Queen naming the carrier that bears her name, the future for the navy's star might well again be in the ascendancy.

Bill Chorley

RICHARD ADLEM MBE

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What We've Got...

In the Downsman in 2015 we would like to take a more proactive approach to promoting our parish facilities, groups and clubs. I'm starting with the Venues available for your next function, meeting, club, wedding, birthday party, catered or uncatered, we have it all!

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall



Address:	Common Road, Sixpenny Handley
Postcode	SP5 5NJ
Contact:	Ros Adams 01725 553032 villagehallbookings@sixpennyhandley.org
Suitable for:	Sport, Live Entertainment, Social events, private hire
Capacity:	150 100 chairs 20 tables
Catering:	Kitchen with urn, cooker, hot cupboard, fridge, dishwasher. and microwave
Other Facilities:	Toilets, staged area, committee room, badminton, sound system, audio loop, screen
Disabled Access	Yes
Licencing:	Bar licence
Parking:	Yes
Cost:	Please contact Ros

For more...

You can check the hall availability online at www.sixpennyhandley.org/villhall2.html

Dates for your diary:

Spring cleaning 21/03/15 9AM – 12. Any help would be most welcome.

Village Hall AGM 22/04/15

Village Hall Jumble Sale 25/04/15

Sports Pavilion



Address:	Common Road, Sixpenny Handley
Postcode	SP5 5NJ
Contact:	Tony Gibb 01725 552704
Suitable for:	Sport Teams, small events, youth club
Capacity:	30
Catering:	Tea / Coffee No cooking
Other Facilities:	Showers
Disabled Access	Limited
Licencing:	No
Parking:	At village hall
Cost:	£10 per session morning / afternoon / evening

Handley Bowls Club



Address:	Common Road, Sixpenny Handley
Postcode	
Contact:	Paul Chalmers (president) Tel. 07964769159 or 01725516316 email davischalmers11@hotmail.com
Suitable for:	small parties, talks, presentations, fitness sessions etc
Capacity:	Seating for approx. 40 people.
Catering:	Facilities for making hot drinks, but no cooking equipment
Other Facilities:	Toilet facilities are located in nearby sports pavilion
Disabled Access	Disabled access
Licencing:	Bar licence
Parking:	Ample parking
Cost:	Price, for clubhouse alone, £7 per hour Available to hire for Bowls parties (prices on request).

Clubhouse alone for hire if village hall is already booked or if a smaller venue is required.

Pentridge Village Hall



Address:	Pentridge, Salisbury, Wiltshire
Postcode	SP5 5QX
Contact:	Graham Elford (bookings) 07882 264160
Suitable for:	Birthday parties, clubs, talks, weddings, meetings, art events etc...
Capacity:	60 seated lecture style, 45 seated at tables, 90 standing
Catering:	Small (newly refurbished) kitchen with oven, fridge, kettle
Other Facilities:	Toilet, wheelchair/ buggy access, scenic village green area to front
Disabled Access	Wheelchair access
Licencing:	No Bar licence (can be applied)
Parking:	Parking for cars in front of hall and village green area
Cost:	£7.00 per hour plus £50 deposit
Size	22 ft x 18 ft, narrowing to 20 ft x 16 ft approximately. Kitchen & toilet areas separate.

Pentridge Village Hall was refurbished last year and has been used for several events including birthday parties, meetings, talks, Bring & Buys, lunches, arts events and village socials. The kitchen is small and compact, but well equipped with good facilities. There is the added attraction of the village green to the front where children can play safely. With St Rumbold's Church only a short walk away, the hall is also ideal for weddings, christenings and funerals.

Parish Office



Address:	6 Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley
Postcode	SP5 5PA
Contact:	Mrs Ciona Nicholson 01725 552211 or sixpennyhandley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk or see www.sixpennyhandley parishcouncil.btck.co.uk for availability
Suitable for:	Meetings/Clubs
Capacity:	Approx 20 seated. Tables available.
Catering:	Tea & Coffee Making Facilities (no fridge)
Other Facilities:	Toilet
Disabled Access	Yes
Licencing:	None
Parking:	In Workshop courtyard or roadside parking
Cost:	£10 per session (morning, afternoon or evening)

The Parish Office is newly refurbished, carpeted with an open plan area for meetings or clubs to meet. Heated, with good lighting and dual access including disabled ramp at side access and double doors to Courtyard.

1st Woodcutts Scout Group HQ



Address:	Common Road, Sixpenny Handley
Postcode	No postcode British National Grid Reference ST980173.
Contact:	Web: www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk/hq_index.php Email: bookings@firstwoodcutts.org.uk
Suitable for:	Birthday parties, clubs, weddings, arts events, meetings, etc
Capacity:	Main hall: 80 seated, Meeting room: 10 seated. Disco/standing max capacity 150
Catering:	Fully equipped catering facilities
Other Facilities:	Toilets, showers, onsite-camping
Disabled Access	Yes, no steps, also facilities. The disabled toilet can be used for showering as well.
Licencing:	None
Parking:	Parking for 20+ cars
Cost:	All facilities £10 per hour or part thereof, min charge £20. Hire of field & parking with use of toilets £30 per half day and £50 for full day £50 deposit required.

St Mary's Church



Address:	High Street, Sixpenny Handley
Postcode	SP5 5ND
Contact:	Church Wardens or Vicar
Suitable for:	Perfect for light refreshments after a wedding, christening or funeral, also as a venue for Concerts etc.
Capacity:	Up to 200
Catering:	Tea-making
Other Facilities:	Toilet with changing table and disabled access, tables and chairs for up to 40, excellent sound and vision system
Disabled Access	Good disabled access
Licencing:	none
Parking:	Sorry – no parking on site but can be arranged locally
Cost:	Can be negotiated!
And don't forget St Rumbold's Pentridge and the chapel at Gussage St Andrew make wonderful venues for special days as well!	

Hanlega's



Address:	Church Farm The High Street
Postcode	SP5 5ND
Contact:	hanlegastheshed@yahoo.co.uk Lee: 01725 553005
Suitable for:	Catered birthday parties, meetings, wedding parties, live music etc.
Capacity:	Please contact us
Catering:	At Hanlega's our menu's are changed regularly, we also have a "Specials board" and we use fresh local produce. Hot or cold buffet or set menu for parties.
Other Facilities:	Camping, toilets and showers
Disabled Access	Yes and disabled toilet and shower
Licence:	Bar licence
Parking:	Ample parking
Cost:	Please contact us for pricing.
http://www.churchfarmcandcpark.co.uk/hanlegas.html	

The Roebuck



Address:	22 High St, Sixpenny Handley
Postcode	SP5 5NR
Contact:	01725 552002 john@roebuck-inn.com
Suitable for:	Parties, meetings, Sunday lunch, vegetarian options, controlled dogs welcome.
Capacity:	25-30 diners
Catering:	Home made food at a reasonable price. Sunday roast straight from the oven. Takeaway cod-and-chips Tuesday - Saturday evenings..
Other Facilities:	Garden area
Disabled Access	Yes, please contact us for more detail
Licencing:	Bar licence
Parking:	Pub carpark
Cost:	Please contact us

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Village Hall 100 Club

November 14

1st 49 Mr. T. Henderson
2nd 23 Mrs. J. Day
3rd 131 Mr. T. Gibb

December 14

1st 118 Mrs. P. Hayes
2nd 63 Mr. D. Goddard
3rd 78 Mr. T. Lawley



The Seeker

www.handleychurch.org.uk



February

2015

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

Who's who?

Vicar

Rev Mel Durrant
The Vicarage,
Sixpenny Handley
01725 552 608
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)

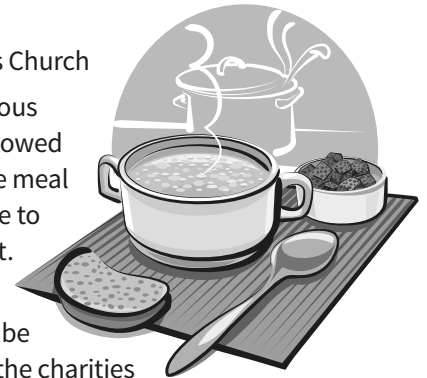
Lent Soup Lunches

For 5 Wednesdays this year again in St Mary's Church

For £3.00 you can have two varieties of delicious homemade soup with homemade bread, followed by tea or coffee and homemade biscuits. The meal will be served at 1.00pm but you are welcome to come from 12.30 for a (free) cuppa and a chat. See back page for dates.

As well as good food and company there will be chance to find out a bit more about some of the charities supported by people in our villages. Pictures and information will be on display about each week's charity. The main aim is to give updates and raise awareness of the fantastic (and hard!) work done by so many people in our community. We would also like to give them some financial support, so each week there will be a small Bring and Buy table, which will also have a few homemade cakes and jams, and goods linked with that week's charity.

Transport can be provided, so please do come and bring a friend or neighbour. Phone 01725 552608 for more information or to offer help.



The Lent Course — Prayer Evening

The best form of spiritual exercise is to touch the floor regularly with your knees. This year's Lent Course is an adventure in Prayer. There are many different ways we can pray and no one way is better than any other. We shall explore meeting God through prayer together. Come along, if you are new to prayer or a mature Christian who wants to go deeper, and join us for an exciting evening.

Look out for details nearer the time. We shall meet on Mondays through Lent in St Mary's Church, beginning on 23rd February from 7.30 to 9pm for five weeks. There will be coffee and a lot of fun as well as time for some deep thought and prayer. The evangelist Billy Graham said, *Prayer is the rope that pulls God and man together. But, it doesn't pull God down to us: It pulls us up to Him.* And the Dutch writer Corrie Ten Boom tells us, *Don't pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it.*

Teach us the secret of prayer –
when to speak and when to keep silent,
when to go on seeking and when to let go,
teach us how to pray.

Teach us the power of prayer –
its ability to challenge,
to encourage, to transform all life,
teach us how to pray.

Teach us the joy of prayer –
to express our worship,
discover your will, and hear your voice.
In the name of Christ. Amen

Nick Fawcett

adapted from Prayers For All Seasons; 1998

Come to **JAZZ PRAISE!**

at St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley
6pm Sunday 22nd February
for our first Jazz Praise.
Evensong with a difference!
Tea and coffee served from
5.30pm.





News items
and articles welcome!

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

Thanks!

FROM THE REGISTERS



The funerals took place of

Sheila Dias
Maurice Gulliver
Sonia Luckham
Sylvia Marskell
Avril Sherrington
Moireen Wyatt

It's a load of ...



... old shed!

The metal shed in St Mary's
churchyard is in need of
replacement. If you would like
to help with this, please have a
word with the churchwardens.

www.easyfundraising.org

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Dear
Friends



God is an Incurable Romantic. He uses romantic language to show how he feels about us. In The Song of Songs, which we sometimes hear at weddings, we read, *My beloved spoke and said to me, "Arise, my darling, my beautiful one, come with me. See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land."*

And what I love about the Song of Songs is that it is both about the love between a man and a woman, *and* a picture of the love that God has for us. God applauds our love, encourages our intimacy, and reminds us that *he* invented it! God loves us unreservedly. He gives himself completely in love, and invites us to do the same.

And it is not just *personal*, there is *community* as well. Jesus encourages us to play our part in quietly building community here and now. Love is about passing it on.

One of the things that got the early Church noticed was that when there were disasters like plague, war and famine, most people ran away. The Christians ran *towards*, to help in whatever way they could. It got Christians noticed. Look out today for the number of charities, schools, hospitals that have Christian roots. There are a lot of us about! It all comes back to making a difference, because that is what God calls us to do.

The story goes that Saint Valentine secretly married a soldier and his girl at a time when such marriages were banned, because it was thought that soldiers wouldn't fight to the death if they had a loved one relying on them. In the year 269 AD Valentine was caught and sentenced to death. The jailer's daughter was blind, and Valentine prayed for her and the girl was healed. The last words Valentine wrote were in a note to her. He signed it, *"from your Valentine."*

St Valentine had the right idea. He stood out and stood up for what was right. And Saint Valentine's Day in other countries is often seen as a celebration of a wider sort of love, not just romantic love like here. Cards are sent to wider members of the family, not just immediate partners.

We might say this is just yet another conspiracy from the greetings card and chocolate manufacturers – which in part I think it is – but perhaps we can extend the celebration as well. Tell someone you love them. And make the world a better place.

Your friend and vicar, Mel

Happy Valentine's Day

Q Why is lettuce the most loving vegetable?

A Because it's all heart.

Q Why did the banana go out with the prune?

A Because it couldn't get a date.

Q What did the boy bird sing to the girl bird on Valentine's Day?

A Let me call you Tweet Heart!

Q What did the boy octopus sing to the girl octopus?

A I wanna hold your hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand, hand!

Q Do skunks celebrate Valentine's Day?

A Of course they do, they're very sentimental!

Many stories and legends have emerged out of the First World War. Perhaps the most remarkable of all is the story of the Christmas Truce. By the beginning of October 1914, both sides had dug in for the winter. The Daily Mail organised puddings for the soldiers' Christmas dinner. Cadbury's sent chocolate. Companies took orders for cigarettes, sweets and Christmas cards. In Germany, there was a campaign to send small Christmas trees to the front.

But there was no official truce. In fact there were truces: dozens of informal, spontaneous outbreaks of peace all along the front. Some of them lasted hours, some days. It started on Christmas Eve, as the German soldiers decorated their trees. The campaign had been very successful and they had lots of them, all along the parapets of their trenches. An English rifleman, Percy Jones, wrote that "The German trenches... were illuminated with hundreds of little lights." While British officers decided what to do, a cry came up: "Englishmen, don't shoot. You don't shoot, we don't shoot."

Then came the singing. Across no-man's-land came the sound of Stille Nacht, Helige Nacht. The British lines listened, sometimes cheered, and returned with carols of their own, with God Save the King, or one of the Army's many bawdy parodies of popular hymns. Sometimes there were solos, including one by a member of the Paris Opera, who stood on the parapet to sing for both sides. Many carols are known in both German and English, and in some places trenches traded verses or sang together. As a sense of goodwill developed over the evening, individual soldiers began to venture out. Arms raised, holding cigarettes or sweets as gifts, men cautiously approached the other side. Souvenirs were exchanged.

Come the morning, neither side could be sure the truce would continue. Sometimes painted signs were lifted up with offers of peace, or letters were tied to stones and thrown into the enemy trenches. But it still always took someone to start things. Up and down the line, someone had to do something very brave: to be first to stick their head above the parapet and walk towards the enemy. One such man was Chaplain Adams, who ignored his commanding officer and approached the German lines. He went on to organise joint burial ceremonies for the dead.

Once one man had dared, others followed and soon men were in no-man's-land talking, bartering for keepsakes, swapping rations. One group chased rabbits together. Another roasted a pig and lunch was served. A German soldier who had been in a circus performed juggling tricks.

It had been common for Germans to come over to Britain to work and some soldiers had family on the other side, and passed on Christmas cards. One British soldier was surprised to meet his German barber and had a haircut. And there were games – impromptu bike races, boxing matches, football.

It is the football that has gone down in legend, but there was no organised match. Instead, there are numerous accounts of hats and coats thrown down for goalposts. Sometimes there was a ball – one game used an empty ration tin. In some cases the Germans watched the English play, and in a few instances the sides played each other.

This was a grassroots truce with no official sanction, and it had to end. In one section, the opposing officers stood on the parapets of their respective trenches, bowed to each other and fired a pistol shot into the air to signal the end. In another, the German officer came over and explained that he had been ordered to fire, and could they please keep their heads down.

News of the truce was suppressed or watered down. The newspapers in Britain got hold of the story in January, but in Germany and France it went almost unreported. And because it was officially denied, some have questioned whether the truce really happened, but we have enough diaries and eyewitness accounts to know that it did. For one Christmas, entirely spontaneously, there really was peace on earth. Christmas genuinely was a season of goodwill. "I can scarcely credit what I have seen and done" wrote Sergeant Bob Lovell in his diary that night. "It has indeed been a wonderful day."

As you read this, we are now half way between Christmas and Easter. Half way between a dirty stable and a terrible cross. But this is where God is, in the midst of chaos and destruction. In Jesus, God steps right into the world.

Jesus tells us of our dangerous God in unexpected places. Perhaps we need to rediscover the wonderful defiance of the message of Immanuel, God with us. For God is grounded in the world. He is alongside all of us, in all the messiness of life. And all that follows offers the promise of more to come. Have a wonderful day!



We are planning a stay at Lee Abbey over the weekend 12-14th of June. It is a beautiful house and community, with its own wood, cliff and beach on the rugged north Devon coastline. Visitors often comment that God is felt to be very near. There are lots of things for different ages to do, and there is no pressure to attend any of the events. It is also a lot of fun. Two nights full board in this beautiful place with activities, teaching and worship (and lots of food!) is from £136 per person. Please have a look at the brochure, the website or talk to Margaret Durrant if you are interested in coming – but hurry, places are limited!



✦ 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

L Sunday Lunch

Join us at Hanlega's, on the campsite, on the first Sunday of the month for Sunday lunch – Everyone is welcome.

✦ **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.

Join us this Sunday!

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
Feb 1 st	HC	(10.30am)	Informal	Evensong	HC	#
Feb 8 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC
Feb 15 st	HC		Informal	Evensong	MP	#
Feb 22 nd	MP		Inf HC	Jazz Praise	#	HC
Mar 1 st	HC		Informal	Evensong	HC	#
Mar 8 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC
Mar 15 th	Mothering Sunday 10am			Evensong	MP	#
Mar 22 nd	MP		Inf HC	Evensong	#	HC
Mar 29 th	HC		Informal	Evensong	MP	#

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

Ash Wednesday



18th February

Holy Communion and Ashing, 6.00pm, St Mary's

Make a Mothers' Day – 15th March

Join us for our annual (and very special) service on Mothers' Day at 10 o'clock. We can all show mothering love, and this is something to celebrate together as well as in our families.

Mums all over the world need our help and support. Through The Mothers' Union we can give ethical gifts and support their work helping some of the poorest communities around the world. Gifts range from just £4 to £100. If you would like to find out more about the work of Mothers' Union please visit their main website: www.mothersunion.org.

February

See side panel for key to symbols

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

Fri 6th 11.00am Mothers' Union Wave of Prayer
Wed 11th 7.30pm St Mary's PCC Meeting, Sixpenny Handley
Sun 22nd 6.00pm Jazz Praise with the Alec James quartet, St Mary's
Mon 23rd 7.30pm Lent Prayers, St Mary's
Wed 25th 12.30pm Lent Soup Lunches, St Mary's ☪

March

Updated weekly on our website

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

☼ Lent Prayers – 7.30pm at St Mary's (9th at Parish Office)
☪ Lent Soup Lunches at St Mary's – every Wednesday 12.30pm



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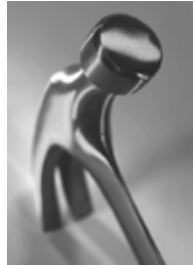


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Bottom: Ian Brewer, Jaydon Barry, Adam Day, Tom Brown, Josh David.

Photo taken before the match v Mere Reserves in the Junior Cup.



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Village Hall Notes

Did you know you can hire the hall for a party? Reasonable rates, contact the booking Secretary at villagehallbookings@sixpennyhandley.org. You can check the hall availability online at www.sixpennyhandley.org/villhall2.html and submit a booking request from the same page.

The hall committee is very grateful to Ros Adams who has kindly offered to take on the role of Booking Secretary from 1 Feb 2015. The email address is above or telephone 01725 553032 to check if the hall is free.

Dates for your diary:

Spring cleaning Sat 21st March
2015 9AM – 12. Any help would be most welcome.
Village Hall AGM Wed 22nd April
2015
Village Hall Jumble Sale Sat 25th April
2015



Group Scout Leader
John Curtis
01725 552397



Age 8-10½
Wednesday 6 to 7.30pm
Andy Young (Akela)
01258 830861

Meet the adventurers

During December the Scouts met some of the adventurers who live in our community. First off Andrew Donald and Chris Saltrick talked to the Troop about their mammoth ride from Lands End to John O'Groats on Penny Farthings. Yes, you did read that correctly the pair rode over 1000 miles on bikes from the 1880's. The Scouts were amazed that the huge 57 inch wheeled bikes did not have an effective brake and the riders had to use their legs to slow down on the steeper hills. The evening was rounded off with the Scouts having a go on the Penny Farthings, it was tough going for those with shorter legs (Rob!).



The following week the Scouts were joined by Charlie Sweeney who talked about his expedition to Everest Base Camp and his work with the Extreme Everest 2, a research project on how people respond at high altitude and how this could benefit treatment in intensive care units. Charlie explained the perils of altitude sickness and the impact the lack of oxygen had on his body. There was some great video footage of the trek, a particular favourite with the Scouts was the hair-raising approach that had to be made by the light air-craft to land near Everest. Charlie explained that making it to Everest had been an ambition of his since he was a twelve year old boy and challenged the Scouts to think about what adventures they would like to achieve. Thank you to Andrew, Chris and Charlie for taking the time to prepare fascinating presentations and joining us at Woodcutts.

1st Woodcutts News

www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk



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

Carol service

A fantastic year of Scouting at 1st Woodcutts concluded with the carol service held in St. Mary's church on 7th December, with a good turnout enjoying favourite carols, the annual review of the year photo slide show (despite some nervous moments getting the new projector to work with the laptop) and some top-notch Christmas jokes from the Vicar.



of 5 Chief Scout's Gold awards. The Gold Award is the highest award available in the Scout section and is gained by completing:

- The Promise Challenge
- The Community Challenge
- The Fitness Challenge
- The Creative Challenge
- The Global Challenge
- The Outdoor Challenge

and two of the following:

- The Outdoor Plus Challenge
- The Adventure Challenge
- The Expedition Challenge

Rob Easton, 1st Woodcutts Scout Leader had the following to say about each recipient:

Bee

Bee is always up for an adventure, be it on Troop nights, camp or weekend activities. She is one half of our first brother / sister combination to achieve their Chief Scout, with her elder brother Sam achieving the award last year. Bee is an accomplished athlete, swimmer and a crack shot with an air rifle.

Ella-Bella

Another of our early Beaver Scouts, Ella comes from a family with strong links to Woodcutts. Her father, Steve, was one of our Scouts and her Grandparents were great supporters of the group for many



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



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

years. Perhaps the most entertaining memory of Ella was her bringing her dancing skills to the Troop for her Hobbies and Entertainer badges. Ella tried in vain to teach the leaders the Lindy-Hop..... it was not a pretty site as Leaders arms and legs flew in every direction.

Harry

After presenting to the Scouts on his hobby of photography, Harry has become the Troops official photographer. Many of the pictures you will see of the Scouts have been taken by him and his natural talent is obvious. Harry has come all the way through Woodcutts, being one of our first Beavers, and is set to continue his adventure in Explorers.

Hec

Hector has many interest outside of Scouting, be it sailing, hockey at a county level and helping on the family farm. Hector is always great fun on camp and the first to offer a helping hand to the leaders and other Scouts. He also has an amazing ability to photo bomb most pictures!

Dependable Tam.

Why is he called Dependable Tam? Well, in all of his three and half years of Scouting at Woodcutts, he has only ever missed one Troop night. He has been on every camp, weekend activity and fund-raiser. With a track record like that, it is no surprise he achieved his Chief Scout Award so quickly!



After the service the Explorers, assisted by Anthony, their Leader, cooked an amazing Christmas meal for all of the adults involved in running the Group, with a choice of starters, roast beef with all the trimmings and a choice of dessert; there was even a special cheese board for Nigel. They did a fantastic job catering for a room-full of hungry people including the East Dorset District Commissioner, Jane Mearns.

Family camp 2015 is open for business!

One of the most exciting announcements made at the Carol service was the dates for the 2015 Family Camp.

Family Camp is a Woodcutts experience open to all Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and their FAMILIES! We want you the parents and scout brothers and sisters to join us on a weekend camp to experience Scouting first hand, meet all the leadership team, make new friends, try new activities and challenges and above all... Have Fun. For all those who came to FC 2013, you know how good this is, for those of you who didn't you need to sign up now to find out what you missed last time!

The 2015 camp will return to Buddens Dorset County Scouts camp site, approximately 5 miles from Wareham and will run from Saturday 2nd May to Monday 4th May.

Activities on offer are still being finalised, but are likely to include Air Rifle shooting, Archery, Climbing, Simulated Potholing, Orienteering, Crafts, Backwoods Cooking, Rafting and Dragon Boating. Not forgetting the most important things you get on a 1st Woodcutts camp: lots of Laughing, Eating and Having Fun.



Shooting

The mention of air rifle shooting just now reminds me that the Scouts held their first meeting of 2015 at West Moors Scout HQ, where they took part in the qualifying rounds for the District Air-Rifle Shooting Competition. The two highest scoring Scouts from each Group will go on to the finals to be held on the 25th January. This year our high scorers were Harry, with a final score of 153 and Tam with a final score of 113. Good shooting guys and good luck in the finals!

Hopefully the scores of all of the Group's Scouts will be even higher in next year's competition, as Peter Briggs from the Group Active Support Unit (ASU) is about to be trained as an NSRA qualified shooting instructor. Once he has his qualification, we will be buying some rifles and making safe target holders and backstops, allowing us to hold regular shooting sessions for the Cubs, Scouts and Explorers. Keep an eye open for a special 1st Woodcutts Parent's shooting competition and BBQ which we hope to hold in the second half of this year!

If any of you would like to get involved and help in any way with the many activities that we provide for our young people, take part in fund raising events or simply help maintain our facilities, please consider joining the 1st Woodcutts Active Support Unit. Over the last year, ASU members have assisted with the District and Survival Camps, helped set out and man the annual fireworks display, worked at the Handley Waistcoat Festival, built and put up nesting boxes with the sections, demonstrated hedge laying and got thoroughly covered in black wood stain painting the shed behind the HQ. By bringing in people with different skills, knowledge and experience, the ASU helps provide an ever more varied programme of activities for our young people and most importantly, it's great fun to take part. Absolutely no experience of Scouting is necessary. For more information, please contact Peter Briggs by email on peter.briggs@firstwoodcutts.org.uk or via the ASU page on the 1st Woodcutts' website.

Talking of the website

The 1st Woodcutts website, www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk,

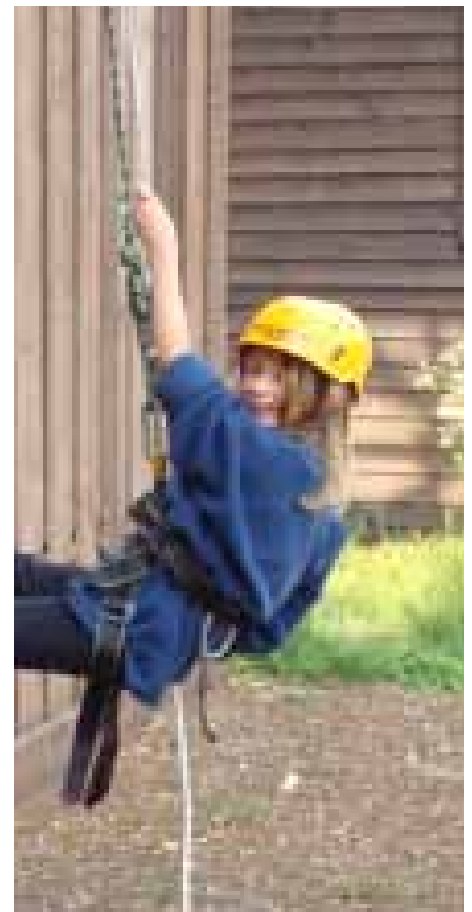
has been undergoing a bit of an update over the last few weeks. We will be looking to use the site more and more over the coming months to ensure you have the latest information about Scouting at 1st Woodcutts and to provide you with a record of what our young people have achieved over the year. Please check the site regularly to see how things develop.

Scout Shop opening times

We run a Scout Shop at the HQ on one Monday and one Wednesday each month for the sale of uniforms for each section and for the sale of 1st Woodcutts '57' branded T shirts and hoodie/fleeces. The dates for the first half of 2015 are:

Jan 2015: 19th & 21st,
Feb 2015: 2nd & 4th,
Mar 2015: 2nd & 4th,
Apr 2015: 20th & 22nd,
May 2015: 11th & 13th,
Jun 2015: 8th & 10th.

Opening times for 2015 are Mondays 7:00 to 7:30 and Wednesdays 6:00 to 6:30.



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Class Timetable - Autumn 2014

Monday 09:15	FP	Broadchalke Sports Hall
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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As you are all aware, Healthwatch gives people a powerful voice locally and nationally. At a local level, local Healthwatch works to help local people get the best out of their local health and social care services. Whether it's improving them today or helping to shape them for tomorrow. Local Healthwatch is all about local voices being able to influence the delivery and design of local services. Not just people who use them, but anyone who might need to in future.

I would encourage you to use the link below and complete the form to share your experiences, good or bad, about health or social care services in Dorset, Poole or Bournemouth. Tell us what you like and dislike. Please complete all the fields. The more detail you can give us (for instance if it's about a particular experience, what happened, where and when it happened and who was involved), the better able we will be to use your feedback to build up a picture of people's experiences of services. We will use people's feedback to hold services to account and to work with them to improve the way services are designed and delivered. We will never share with anyone outside Healthwatch your name or contact details without your express permission.

We would also appreciate it if you could complete the form on behalf of other people if they are unable to complete it themselves or encourage them to feedback to us directly.

<http://www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk/content/your-story-can-change-local-health-and-care-services>

*Chris Wakefield
Volunteer Officer
Healthwatch Dorset
0300 111 0102*

www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk

Trustees Needed For Environmental Charity

This is an interesting opportunity to help set up and run a new charity focused on the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The charity will help:

- Conserve and enhance the landscape of the AONB
- Ensure that traditional rural trades and crafts are kept alive
- Offer young people opportunities to gain practical countryside skills
- Encourage and enable people of all abilities to get out and explore
- And more

Skills needed: Fundraising/bid writing, project management, marketing/promotion, HR, finance/book keeping or business acumen.

Please contact Shirley Merrick on shirleymerrick@cranbornechase.org.uk or 01725 517417.

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Gardeners Notes

February

Continue to clear up garden
Start to warm up soil with cloches for early sowing
Start to sow some salad leaves/cress inside
Start to chit seed potatoes
Cover rhubarb with bins/buckets to force on young shoots
Start to sow sweet peas in deep tubes(toilet tubes)
Check over any remaining stored vegetables

March

Continue to chit your seed potatoes
Check over any remaining stored vegetables
Plant early potatoes outside
Start to sow cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers/chillies
Check over seed packets for sowing times

Never thought about composting? Consider this year to be the year to start. It is perfect for next years crops and could save you money.

Getting children interested young in gardening helps them to understand where things come from and appreciated more, they might even want to try what they help to grow. BONUS!!



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CATCHPOLE LAW.....on law

What happens if I do not have Lasting Powers of Attorney in place?

First, what are Lasting Powers of Attorney?

Lasting Powers of Attorney appoint someone (often a relative or close friend) to act on your behalf in the situation where you are unable to do so for yourself owing to either physical or mental incapacity. The person appointed is called an "attorney". Lasting Powers of Attorney are not just advisable for the elderly but for all of us. This was the topic of our August 2014 article; but what happens if you lose capacity and you do not have Lasting Powers of Attorney in place? What is the default position and who makes those important decisions on your behalf?

What is a "deputy"?

In the absence of a Lasting Power of Attorney (or its predecessor known as an Enduring Power of Attorney), no-one has the right to take decisions for that person who has become mentally incapable of

managing their affairs until a "deputy" is appointed by the Court of Protection.

As with Lasting Powers of Attorney, there are two types of Deputyship Orders:

- Property and Financial Affairs, which are used, for example, to pay bills, dealing with banking affairs and selling property; and
- Health and Welfare, which are used, for example, to take decisions about care and medical treatment.

Who becomes a deputy and how?

Anyone (although usually family members or professional advisors) who satisfy certain eligibility criteria and who want to take on the responsibility of a deputy must apply to the Court of Protection. If no-one comes forward, the Court of Protection will appoint a third party professional.

So why do we need to appoint attorneys if deputies are appointed in default?

- You choose your attorney – You ensure that a person you trust has

the authority to act as an attorney, rather than an unknown third party or someone you would not want to be appointed as your deputy.

- Consideration for those wanting to care for you – At what may be a difficult time for you and your closest friends and family, you alleviate any arguments about who should act and when they should act. You also minimise the stress for those who want to care for you if they do not need to apply (and possibly argue) to become your deputy.
- Peace of mind – As well as leaving written instructions, you can talk to your attorney in advance of losing capacity about how you would like them to act on your behalf and how you would expect them to take decisions in different scenarios. This personal touch can be more comforting for all involved.
- Costs for you and the burden for

continued 33

Cards

Whist

Despite a very disappointing attendance, the Christmas Whist Drive was much enjoyed by those who played and at the end of the evening, with a host of prizes displayed on the stage, it was Dave Welch who had the first choice by dint of a 12th round deal resulting in a plus nine against Kingsley White's plus seven, both having carded an aggregate total of 178 over the twenty-four hands. As is customary at the Christmas drives, prizes additional to the whist were split between two draws; the main draw and a mini draw. Clifford Miles took first choice for the main draw, with John York first to choose from the dozen or so goods on offer from the 'mini'. At this point, I wish to extend the grateful thanks from the Whist Club to everyone concerned with the provision of prizes.

The resumption of the 2014-2015 competition got under way on January 7th, and again the attendance was much reduced owing to illness and, I daresay,

continued from 32

those caring for you - The application process to become a deputy is more time consuming, exacting and expensive for you than the application process to appoint an attorney. It is estimated that the cost of applying to become a deputy could be as much as £5,000.00 payable from your estate. The cost of putting in place LPAs is much less than this. The ongoing administrative burden and safeguarding requirements on deputies is also greater and more cumbersome than for attorneys.

Further help?

The Office of the Public Guardian supervises and investigates deputies and attorneys and its website contains much helpful information. Catchpole Law is also very happy to have a "no obligation" conversation about how to put Lasting Powers of Attorney in place and what to do if you want to apply to become someone's deputy. We will be able to give you an estimate of the costs involved as well. Next month we will consider how to declare interests in joint property.

the inclement weather - a mixture of strong winds and squally rain showers. Stu Coombs, last to arrive, returned the highest score of the evening with 171, thus elevating him from 28th to 18th overall.

Going in the opposite direction is Geoff Peach whose evening resulted in an awful 128 and thereby dropping him to 25th; his 6th place at the close of the first round now being a fond but distant memory.

So, with eight of the seventeen rounds played, Sylvia Morrison heads the table with 1290 points, followed by Oliver Meaden 1272, Susie White 1271, defending champion Stuart Haskell 1264, Ness Park 1251 at plus ten, Sylvia Thorne 1251 at plus three, Amy Caines 1248, David Brine 1248 [did not attend the opening round], Sam Webber 1246 and Rita Austin 1245.

Bridge

Continues to flourish at the sports' pavilion, the highlights being two slams in

December; 7 No Trumps by your scribe and Alan Smith and 6 Clubs by John and Nora Davis. Meanwhile, The Queen's Head at Broadchalke might be a venue for bridge on Tuesday evening's; pre-Christmas three sessions were held but attendance was lowish with only two tables in play. However, now that the festive season has past, an improvement could be in the offing.

Bill Chorley

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Book Review

At the age of twenty-seven, Ian Rankin, a graduate from Edinburgh University, had had published his first Rebus book. Titled *Knots & Crosses* the Edinburgh detective became an instant success, since when a plethora of 'Inspector Rebus' novels have followed - and still continue to satisfy devotees of crime genre. I confess to only reading a few but one that I found extremely entertaining, both with regard to plot and no little humour, is *The Black Book* which was published by Orton in 1993 and is still widely available to this day. The basic plot centres on an Edinburgh villain 'Big Ger' Cafferty, a hotel fire of over a decade past, an unidentified body, an attack on one of Rebus's colleagues, Detective Sergeant Brian Holmes, and a host of devious characters all of whom are linked to the investigations that follow the assault on Holmes and a seemingly unconnected non-fatal stabbing of a man in a butcher's shop. As is now common in works of fiction, sub-plots are introduced as characters from past books are resurrected; in *The Black Book* Rebus's brother, Michael, recently released from a spell in prison for drugs offenses, has some prominence in the overall story and the antagonism between John Rebus and some of his senior colleagues provides the reader with a smile or two.

Another author whose first book proved an overnight success is Steven Michael McNab, better known to his followers as 'Andy' McNab. A veteran of army service in Northern Ireland and the first Gulf War, by which time he was a sergeant in the Special Air Service, 'Andy' McNab came to prominence with *Bravo Two Zero*, which tells the story of an eightman patrol deployed in January 1991 deep into Iraqi territory. For his part in this clandestine operation, McNab was Gazetted with the Distinguished Conduct Medal, thus adding to his Military Medal awarded while serving in the turbulent years associated with the 'troubles'. Since his entry into the world of penmanship, McNab's output has been prolific with *Bravo Two Zero* followed by two non-fiction works and twenty action-packed thrillers

built around an ex-Special Air Service trooper 'Nick Stone'.

The format for these works of fiction are not dissimilar to film-scripts of the James Bond movies of recent years. The pace is fast and furious; the locations described are either the most squalid imaginable or fantastically luxurious while his characters get the same treatment. One is left in no doubt as to who is the villain of the piece and no matter how ingenious he or she maybe, 'Nick Stone', at the end of the day, will prevail.

One of his recent offerings is *Silencer* which was first published by Bantam in 2013. Made up of seven parts, the action gets under way in Costa Rica with a government authorized assassination of a Colombian drug-lord [I leave you to guess who has been given the task of carrying out the deed]. The plot now fast-forwards eighteen years with 'Nick' now living in Moscow with his partner Anna who is about to give birth to their first child. Complications arise; the baby is premature; their friend and doctor Katya is kidnapped; 'Nick' falls foul of a couple of low-life's, though they are quickly dealt with and he is off on a mission to find Katya. This takes him to Moldova, Hong Kong, China, America and thence to Mexico. Along the way he has to endure various periods of acute discomfort - drugged, beaten up and once in Mexico and having reached his objective, he is shot by a Taser and thrown into a cell next to a trio of vicious dogs but when you are 'Nick Stone' one has to be prepared to put up with such inconveniences. It is, of course, pure hokum but 'Andy' McNab has that happy knack of telling a tale, very much tongue-in-cheek, which draws you along four-square behind the writer. I will certainly be dipping into more of his 'Nick Stone' adventures.

Bill Chorley

Does your Charity Need Support?



Do you have a local charity or perhaps a community event or project which you support?

Salisbury Rotary Club has supported lots of local charities and community activities in 2014 and is now looking to support even more during 2015 (both logistically & financially). Some of the community events we have run in 2014 include Spireworks, Contemporary Craft & Heritage Festival, Swimathon, Salisbury Beerex, and the Christmas Lantern Parade. If you know of a suitable project for 2015, or for more information, please contact Jan Paterson at janpaterson348@gmail.com.

Salisbury Rotary is also looking for community-minded people (whether working or retired) to help make even more of a difference to those who are less fortunate locally. If you can spare just 2 hours a month, then with your help, we can make an even BIGGER difference. For more information, contact our current President, Kevin Flynn, on 01722 430536 or salisburyrotary@gmail.com.

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Rob's Column

Remembering Those We've Lost

2014 was such a poignant year for remembering those who have fallen in battle. As it ends, perhaps we should pause to remember those who have lost their lives due to natural disaster, unnatural events and terminal illness. Great progress may have been made in the fields of industry, technology and medicine but, until man learns to live with himself, his surroundings and his neighbours, how many more lives will be needlessly lost?

From an article by Angus McGregor

Sweet is the touch of a loved one's hand
Happy the laugh of a child
Pleasant the look one can understand
And haunting the call of the wild
So many emotions we can feel
So many ways of making life real

The days grow darker, winds blow cold
As winter takes a firm hold
But instead of sitting by the fire
Get up – put on some warm attire
Venture out and you will realise
The benefits of some exercise.

What did the judge say to the dentist?
Do you swear to pull the tooth,
The whole tooth and nothing but the tooth?

The toughest part of a diet isn't watching what you eat
It is watching what other people eat.

If running make you healthy and being healthy makes you happy
How come you never see a jogger smiling.

The New Year's now upon us
The cobwebs blown away
Plenty to look forward to
Good times are here to stay

The Truth of The Road

Life's a road, a road that seems to run on smooth and straight
Until it takes a turn and you are face to face with fate.
You thought you knew where you were going when you made a start.
You travelled on quite gaily with a light and singing heart.

Soon or late you always reach a place where you must take

An unexpected turning and you have to make a break
With all the old familiar ways. But as your way you wind
You find that you have no regrets for what you leave behind.

So when changes come along upsetting present schemes
Welcome the experience though strange it first seems

The change that you so dread may be a boon and prove to be
The most important turning on your road to destiny.

Did you hear that Heinz are to roll out a satellite channel?
It must be Ketchup TV

I've just invented a car that has no reverse gear and no steering wheel
Pretty straight forward, really.

It's easy to feel cast adrift in this digital age
Emails, texts, and tweets, technology's all the rage
So ditch the phone for a night and change your situation
Go meet a pal and rediscover the lost art of conversation
(Better still read the Downsman)

The posties of the village would like to thank the parish for all the good will given to them at Christmas and to wish everyone a happy New Year.
Rob Jesse

The Family Information Service

Helping families in the local community

Dorset County Council's Family Information Service offers FREE support to parents and carers of children aged 0-19 (or up to 25 for young people with a disability) through its online directory and over the phone. They can access a wide range of information, including details of nearby children's activities, local childcare and parent support groups in their area.

The directory also lists clubs and activities for teenagers, as well as places where young people can go for help and guidance if they are going through a difficult time.

The Family Information Service can also support struggling families by pointing them towards help with childcare costs and other local services such as the Citizen's Advice Bureau and family learning.

There's even a handy e-newsletter, which is emailed every month. To subscribe visit www.dorsetforyou.com/parent-newsletter

For families who may be struggling to find the service or information they need, there's one to one advice to help access a range of support through our Family Information Outreach service. This includes advice on finding and paying for childcare. They will attend local groups and events in your community, subject to availability.

To contact the Family Information Service:
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E: familyinfo@dorsetcc.gov.uk
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Boat Speed?

Interesting sail recently. The tides were westbound am, and eastbound pm, with the wind in the North. Meanderers opted to fight the tide, and lunch in Newtown Creek. However by keeping in shallow water and avoiding the worst of the tide, we made good time, and decided on Cowes, as did another fast yacht. Mooring in Shepards Wharf, and a rendezvous in The Duke of York was agreed. A most comfortable pub, with lots of nautical stuff, and sofas.

We both left the marina at much the same time and the race was on! They opted for the Island shore, and we chose to cross the channel and hug the mainland shore. This paid off and we were well in front. Our friends then followed, and started to catch us up! This cannot be! Much looking at set of sails and tweaking ensued; pole out the jib, use spinnaker sheet to open the slot more, ease main halyard, they were still gaining on us, what to do? Radio silence was broken with good wishes, and an admission that they were running the engine! Phew!

Reflections and Recollections

A jog race to Alderney was sailed in very calm and sunny conditions. What little wind there was, died away, and with the tide due to turn, we would be swept back the way we had come! The Skipper decided to anchor (in mid channel, very deep!) The kedgie was brought up, and all warps, spare sheets, and other ropes laid out. It was decided that the Skipper should be

Gone Sailing

responsible for tying these together, and this he did, the whole was payed out over the bow, and just as the last length was tied on, bang, a bow wave, and the anchor had taken.

As it was calm and sunny, something to eat and drink, and a general tidy up. We then noticed a small coaster, and a risk of collision! The bearing appeared steady, we could not get the anchor up in time, and would be reluctant to loose it. The Skipper fired a white flare, and I have a photo of the crew in shorts and tee shirts, the Skipper firing the flare, and the coaster passing about two cables down our starboard side. Soon the tide eased, and the wind filled in, time to get the anchor up. We pulled at the warp, we all pulled, put it on the halyard winch, transferred it to the bigger sheet winch, (rolling hitch), inch by inch in it came, what was causing the problem? We could see the anchor, hooked on a pot buoy trot line. The technique for dealing with this is simple in theory, but a bit of a fiddle in practice. The anchor is hauled up, until with the aid of a boat hook, a line is passed under the trot line and made fast (about four attempts). The anchor warp is loosened, the anchor drops away, the other line is released. And away we sailed towards Alderney. Oh, the knots used were bowlines looped around each other, not one I would have used, but it worked. Has anyone been to the Divers Bar in Alderney recently? Do they still have a coin of The Realm epoxied to the stone floor, to confuse the unwary?



Get Afloat

Two Open Days at LTSC, probably early April, and late August, check www.ltsc.co.uk for confirmation.

RYA will be co-ordinating the National Push The Boat Out event, probably mid May, at a club near you, www.rya.org.uk. And the RYA OnBoard programme for ages eight to 18, www.rya.org.uk/go/onboard.

Cast Off

The early part of January has not been particularly good for sailing, so it can only improve, but still cup-a-soup in the (hopefully heated) cabin at lunch time, always room for another, see you there....

Adam



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Little and Lol

1. How many planets from our solar system can you name?
2. How many legs does an ant have?
3. How many times does the earth go around the sun in 24 hours?
4. If Jack had 2 oranges for his lunch, Mark had 3 plums and Jill had 1 banana, how many fruits did they have all together?
5. How many eggs in one dozen?
6. Alex has one brother, 2 girl cousins and one boy cousin. How many children are in his family?

Answers: 1. Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune 2. 6 legs like all insects 3. Once 4. 6 fruits 5. 12 is a dozen 6. 5, don't forget to include Alex!

What's On

Date	Function	Page	Day	Club or Group
6 Feb	Phil Beer @ Village Hall	9	Mon	Happy Nappy : Village Hall 10:00 - 11:30 Weekly in Term Time
9 Feb	WI Curling @ Village Hall	8	Mon	WI Meetings : Village Hall : 2nd Monday of Month
18 Feb	Cuppa @ Parish Office	7	Mon	Pilates : Village Hall Term Time : 16:30
19 Feb	Bingo @ Village Hall	5	Mon	Scouts : Scout Hut 19:00-21:00 : Term Time
22 Feb	Jazz Praise @ St Mary's Church	4	Tue	6D Handley Tennis Club Session 7pm (Summer)
25 Feb	Lent Lunch @ St Mary's Church	8	Wed	Whist : Village Hall : Fortnightly
27 Feb	Alex James @ Village Hall	9	Wed	Beavers, Cubs, Explorers : Scout Hut : Term Time
28 Feb	WI Jumble Sale @ Village Hall	8		Yoga : Village Hall Term Time : 11:30
4, 11, 18, 25 Mar	Lent Lunch @ St Mary's Church	8	Thu	Mothers' Union : 2nd Thursday in the Month 14:45
7 Mar	howdenjones@ Village Hall	9	Thu	Teddy Bears Drop-in : Church 10:30 - 12:00 Weekly in Term Time
9 Mar	WI Cake Decorating for Easter @ Village Hall	8	Thu	Bingo : Village Hall 7:30 : 3rd Thursday not August
19 Mar	Bingo @ Village Hall	5		Line Dancing : Village Hall : 10:15
21 Mar	Spring Clean @ Village Hall	5	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



Registered Charity No 1102105

Lunch

Once a month in Sixpenny Handley Village Hall we provide a freshly cooked 3 course lunch for £5.00, 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