

Have you noticed something new in the village recently?

We hope that you have spotted a new commemorative wheel up behind the war memorial beside the church. The wheel was commissioned with the remaining Heritage Lottery funding left over from The Waistcoat Festival 2014. The aim was to create a lasting legacy of the project and something which would tell all our visitors the story of the Handley fire in 1892. The wheel sits nicely behind the existing 100 year commemorative stone.

The festival team commissioned Sixpenny Forge to make the wheel and would like to thank Richard Jesse and Naomi Booth for the design. We are super excited about it so please go and have a look and take your visitors to see it.

We are left with £178 remaining funds which heritage Lottery have agreed for us to keep and ringfence for The Waistcoat Festival 2016. We are also delighted to let you know that the Waistcoat Festival raised **£2423.23** for the Community Fund. Please do write to the Community Fund at the Parish Office if you have a project idea that needs funding.

Your Waistcoat Festival Team will begin meeting this year to plan next year's festival so if you have any ideas you would like to tell us please email

sixpennyfestival@yahoo.co.uk

Sixpenny Handley gets new Wheel to Commemorate the great Handley Fire of 1892



A Pentridge Mystery

see page 4

“What We’ve Got” Organisations in our Parish

see page 16

Have a voice – Stand for elections NOW

see page 6

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
Treasurer	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 June 2015

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

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**

Cake with that?

After the very successful Lent Lunches it seems our Parish has loads of opportunities to meet up for coffee, tea and just occasionally a cake in the next couple months! Take a look at the noticeboard (with your diary in hand) and see what takes your fancy - Woodyates & Pentridge coffee morning, cuppa & a chat in the Parish Office, coffee & craft at the Walnut Tree, coffee morning and afternoon tea to raise money for the flowers for the celebration of Craft and Flowers in June, the choice is yours!



It has been lovely to work with Jenny Gordon and Rich Jesse on the last project funded by The Heritage Lottery Fund, the wheel, which you can see on the cover. Something that will last for a long while and share a little of the story we all discovered for the Waistcoat Festival last year. I know preparations for the next Waistcoat Festival will be starting shortly, so do contact the festival team sixpennyfestival@yahoo.co.uk if you can help out.

I'm so enjoying the first signs of spring this year, the children have been happily in the garden with the door open since they came back from school, it seems like a real luxury! The snowdrops have made way for the daffodils and that means it will be soon time for the bluebells and wild garlic at Garston Wood. If you are interested gardening see our features on page 35 or you could help with the National Plant Monitoring Scheme (see page 37), or visit the plant sale in Gussage St Michael in aid of the Breast Cancer Care Unit in Salisbury - see page 5.

Today was the Solar Eclipse so whilst feeling very warm on the inside due to bacon sandwiches and hot chocolate I sat with friends out in the chilly greyness and glimpsed the moon passing the sun. Last time I was 19 and had just started my first job, we stood out in that back garden and saw it through the cloud then too... time flies, I wonder where I will be for the next one?!

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

A Pentridge Mystery

Something strange happened on Pentridge Hill the other week. Amazingly a neighbour of mine saw on her walk a pair of children's 'wellies' - little mauve 'wellies' high on the hill. They weren't scattered as if dropped, but set to the side of the path neatly, as if put there deliberately and carefully. The boots were near to the Dew Pond. Perhaps some little mite whilst searching for sticklebacks had got her feet really wet - BUT surely she wouldn't have walked home in little bare 'tootsies.'

My friend was perplexed and so much so that we talked about her find - worried too about the possible young owner being in trouble. I questioned her! "No, I saw no children." "No, the hill was quiet and lonely." A dog perhaps I thought, but a dog would not have placed them so neatly - side by side. We were both quiet for a while - both thoughtful. Little children are careful of their special footwear, and these are surely that. NO - it has to be Fairies - after all Pentridge Hill is beautiful enough to house them.

My friend was sceptical and then stated quite seriously - "They had gone by this morning though I searched everywhere". That did it! Of course the Fairies has taken them. They had put them there too probably I explained, just to have fun with us walkers.

"But what use would they be to them AND in any case where did they get them from?" my friend questioned.

I was quick to answer. "Fairies have 'special' powers, didn't you know? I expect some tiny creature has magicked them and is even now dancing happily around our Hill in her very small mauve 'wellie' boots. Indeed, what a pretty picture that makes and somehow adds magic to the beauty of our 'special' Hill.

Anyway - the 'wellies' had gone - vanished! It's four days now and still no sign of them. No mention either of their sighting from any other hill walker. SO - of course the Fairies have them! Or perhaps a little Elf has spirited them away!

My friend remains sceptical, but there seems to be no other explanation. OR IS THERE?!!!

Margaret Quinn

Elizabeth Oxer

There will be residents of Sixpenny Handley who will be saddened to hear of the death of Elizabeth Oxer. She and her family lived in the village between 1984 and 2009. Elizabeth loved working with children and for twenty years was a classroom volunteer at Sixpenny Handley First School.

alan.oxer@btinternet.com

lucy.oxer@btinternet.com

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.

Noticeboard

Cross Roads Cafe

(Drop in for a Cuppa & Chat)



AT THE PARISH OFFICE

Every Wednesday 1030 to 1200

Starting 15 April 2015

More Info or help call David

552721 or 07776 078295

Full details on page 17

Sixpenny Sessions presents



Stone Donkey Pilots
'real foot stomping music which quickly becomes infectious'
Funky blend of Blues and Rock
Winner of the Salisbury Music Awards - Best Band

with



Pete Robson
- Blues -

Friday 17th April

Full details on page 12

Sports Association Quiz Evening

'Two Brains are better than One'
[At the bowls club house]

Saturday 16 May
2015

Full details on page 8

Downsman Noticeboard

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



Community

Litter pick

Your Village needs you



**Saturday 18th April
2015**

Time: 1.30pm onward

Meeting point:

Town farm workshops

Full details on page 10

Pentridge and Woodyates

Coffee Morning

Saturday 25th April

10:30am – 12:00



Full details on page 8

Plant Sale May 23rd

Gussage St Michael Village Hall

10:30am - 1pm

in support of the Stars Appeal
for the new Breast Cancer Care
Unit which is to be built at
Salisbury Hospital

Margaret Wickham

01258 840403

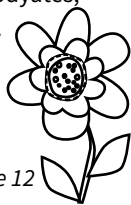
Coffee Morning & Afternoon

To raise money Flower & Craft
display in June .

Thursday 16th April, 10.30 to 12
noon at Stella Symes, 14 St Mary's
Close

&

6th May at Margaret Quinn's, 4
Cobley Close, East Woodyates,
2.30 to 4.30pm.



Full details on page 12



16th April

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Doors Open 7pm



Start 7.30pm

Great prizes to be won,
Tea and homemade cakes.

21st May, 18th June

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



a celebration of flowers & craft

June 6th & 7th

floral displays

music

cream teas

11am-5pm Saturday

12pm-5pm Sunday

St Mary's Church

Sixpenny Handley

Saturday 6th 2pm - 5pm FETE

Stalls, plants, pets corner
traditional crafts and games
refreshments & much more...
in aid of St Mary's Church

Full details on page 9



Once a month in Sixpenny Handley
Village Hall we hold a day center
with a 3 course lunch for £5.00
followed by entertainment

Please contact
01258 841321
Transport, interest clubs
and help also available

full details page 44

SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL

JUMBLE SALE

Sat 25th APRIL

Doors open at

2.30pm

Full details on page 17

Bereavement Support Group

INFORMAL SUPPORT GROUP
WITH TEA, COFFEE AND A CHAT

2nd Monday of the Month

10:30-12pm

Parish Centre, Blandford

07790 803 156



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

Why not become a Local Parish Councillor? Local Elections will be taking place on Thursday 7th May 2015

Have a voice – Stand for elections NOW.
 Many people wish to become involved in
 local governance but do not know how to
 begin.

The Finance and General Purpose
 Committee
 The Planning Committee
 The Community Fund Committee

What is a Parish council?

A Parish Council is the collective voice of its
 community.

Did you know that your local councillors
 are consulted on nearly everything that
 happens in your area?

They take an active part in influencing what
 services are and are not provided and that
 affects you and your family!

Our responsibilities include;

- The administration of Sixpenny
 Handley Recreation Area which
 includes the Sports Pavilion, Football
 Pitch, Skate Park and Children's Play
 Area.
- Provision of some street furniture
 including Benches and Bus Shelters.
- Consultation on all planning
 applications within the Sixpenny
 Handley and Pentridge area.
- Ability to provide grants for
 organisations.
- Liaison with Dorset County Council
 with regard to Rights of Way and
 Highways.

The Parish Council represents the concerns
 and aspirations of our local community.
 They are not a voluntary organisation,
 not a charity nor (a common mistake)
 anything to do with the Church. Despite
 being strictly audited each year, the Parish
 Council are the most non bureaucratic
 and the cheapest kind of local authority in
 existence.

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish
 Council will have 8 councillors representing
 Sixpenny Handley, 2 councillors
 representing Pentridge and comprises 3
 committees dealing with various functions
 and activities:

What can we do?

As Parish Councils were created in law, they
 can only act within the law by exercising
 powers and functions which have been
 conferred on them by Statutes (i.e. Acts of
 Parliament). Anything a Parish Council tries
 to do outside these powers is ultra vires,
 in other words, outside the law. It is how
 and which of the powers entitled to us that
 our councillors decide to use, that makes
 a vibrant forward thinking Parish Council
 and can bring positive benefits. The basic
 responsibility of the Parish Council is to
 make the lives of our local communities
 more comfortable by representing the
 whole electorate within the parish,
 delivering or coordinating services to meet
 local needs and striving to improve quality
 of life in the parish.

The Parish Council does not receive any
 Government funding or income from
 business rates but are primarily funded
 at present from a small percentage of
 the Council Tax charge made by District
 authorities to local householders.

What does a Councillor do?

A Parish Councillor signs a Declaration
 of Acceptance of Office and thereby
 undertakes to observe an ethical Code of
 Conduct when dealing with matters on
 behalf of the community. A councillor also
 completes a register of interests.

Listening: One of the most important
 tasks of a Parish Councillor is listening to
 and understanding the views of people
 in their community. Many public bodies
 or organisations acknowledge this is the
 hardest information for them to capture
 and they in turn use the skills and local
 knowledge of the parish council for advice

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

to assist and inform their services.

Meetings: Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge
 Parish Council holds a meeting of the full
 council once a month and committee
 meetings are scheduled in-between.
 Meetings are held in the evenings at the
 Parish Office, Town Farm Workshops.

Representation: Each councillor is
 expected to serve on one committee and
 may be asked to serve on certain groups
 or attend functions on behalf of the parish
 council. Councillors act as ambassadors for
 their community keeping everyone aware
 of local needs and concerns and reporting
 back on District, County and regional
 changes.

Extra skills and training:

No individual councillor is responsible for
 any single decision. This is democracy at
 its best. Training is available for Councillors
 from the local Association (Dorset
 Association of Town and Parish Councils),
 the Clerk of the Council and support can be
 found from colleagues.

cont'd page 7

from page 6

Applying to become a councillor

Parish Councillors are elected by the public and serve a four year term in office.

If you wish to stand as a councillor you must satisfy these requirements:

- You need to be over 18 years of age
- A British citizen, a qualifying Commonwealth citizen, or a citizen of any other member state of the European Union
- On the Electoral Register for the council area for which you wish to stand,
- A local government elector of the parish; or a person who during the whole of the twelve months before nomination as a candidate occupied land or other premises as owner or tenant in the parish; or has, during the same period, resided in that area or within three miles thereof; or has during the same period, had a principal or only place of work in that area

You cannot stand for election if you:

- Are bankrupt and an Order or Interim Restriction Order has been imposed.
- Have, within five years before the day of the election, been convicted in the United Kingdom of any offence and have had a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of over three months without the option of a fine
- Work for the council where you are intending to stand for election (but you can work for other local authorities, including the principal authorities that represent the same area).
- Have been convicted or reported guilty of a corrupt or illegal practice by an election court, or have been disqualified from standing for election to a local authority

Procedure for applying:

Nomination forms can be obtained from the Parish Office or East Dorset District Council Offices in Furzehill, online at www.dorsetforyou.com/elections or www.electoralcommission.org.uk.

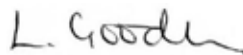
Close of Nominations – 4pm on Thursday 9 April 2015. Elections' Offices will let you know who is standing in your area and if the election is contested.

Close of Withdrawals – 4pm on Thursday 9 April 2015 The deadline for withdrawing a nomination.

Publication of Statement of Persons Nominated – 4pm on Friday 10 April 2015. However in some areas this may be available online earlier. This will be displayed on the Internet only.

Notice of Poll – Tuesday 28 April 2015 – This is usually displayed on the Internet before this date.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01258 840935 or talk to a Parish Councillor.



Lisa Goodwin, Clerk to the Parish Council
www.sixpennyhandleyparishcouncil.btck.co.uk



Frogmore Design
Interior Design & Painted Furniture

Experience shopping in our Barn
Showroom in Sixpenny Handley
open every Friday 10am to 2pm.

Frogmore Barn has a wide range
of beautiful items for the home
and a selection of personal gifts
We also offer an individual interior
design service from a single room
to a complete house makeover.

Initial consultation free

Frogmore Barn open every Friday
from 10am to 2 pm

Frogmore Farmhouse,

Frogmore Lane, 6d Handley

Tel: 01725 552910

email: frogmoredesign@tiscali.co.uk

website: www.frogmoredesign.com

Noticeboard

Bag2school Tuesday 21st April 8.30-9am.

Items can be dropped off at school a few days beforehand or contact Maureen Swan (552561) to arrange collection. Please donate unwanted clean, adults and children's clothing, paired shoes (tied together or elastic band), handbags, ties, belts, hats, soft toys and jewellery. Unfortunately they no longer accept duvets, bedding, household linen, towels, curtains, carpets cushions, bric-a-brac etc...

Village Hall Annual General Meeting

The Village Hall
Management Committee
AGM will be held on
Wednesday 23rd April
2015 at 7.30pm. All are
welcome
Support your village hall.



MEN'S Breakfast
11th April 2015
10am at Cashmoor Inn, DT11 8DN
Only £5.95 for an English Breakfast with a hot drink included
Come along and get to know some new people and enjoy some great food!

If you would like more information or transport please contact Chloe Mutton on 07790803156 or chloe.mutton@pramacare.co.uk



Sports Association Quiz Evening

'Two Brains are better than One'
[At the bowls club house]
Saturday 16 May 2015

By kind permission of the Bowls Club a quiz evening is being held to raise much needed funds for Sixpenny Handley's Sports Association.

As the title implies, the format will be for teams of two, the questions being general knowledge based. In futhermore, additional points can be scored by answering a set of twenty clues which will be issued at the start of the quiz and may be worked on throughout the duration of the quiz.

The entry fee will be five pounds per person [proceeds going to the Sports Association] and will include light refreshment in the form of tea/coffee/biscuits. The Bowls Club bar will be open for both alcoholic and soft drinks, proceeds from these sales going to the hosts.

Owing to limited seating entries will be restricted to twenty teams, thus early application is strongly advised. All enquiries to Bill Chorley, either by telephone [01725 552776] or email wr.chorley@gmail.com.

Pentridge & Woodyates Coffee Morning



**Saturday
25th April
10:30am-12:00**

An opportunity for the residents of Pentridge and Woodyates to get together and have an informal chat over coffee and refreshments in our newly refurbished village hall; also a chance to discuss how we would like to use the hall in the future. Any suggestions regarding meetings, clubs or other activities that you would like, would be much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you and hearing your ideas.

All enquiries to:
Jill: Tel: 01725 552050
Or
Margaret: Tel: 01725 552358

Transport can be arranged if necessary.

Guitar Lessons

**acoustic/electric
lead/rhythm/improvisation
blues-pop-rock etc.**



**half price taster lesson
over 35 years experience**



**Dave Gray
01725 552503
07751 566342**

Toby Daniels

Dip WCF

Registered Farrier

*Appointments for the
weekend are available*

Telephone: 07515 445469



**HAWTHORNS
TAXI**

**AIRPORTS - SEAPORTS - STATIONS
LONG AND SHORT JOURNEYS
FOR BOOKINGS CALL
MALCOLM DENNETT
07751638723**

'Country Life'

A celebration of Craft and Flowers



'Country Life'

A celebration of Craft and Flowers
@ St. Mary's Church, Sixpenny Handley
6th and 7th June

Saturday 11-5pm with a Fete and Cream
Teas from 2pm
Sunday 12-5pm with Cream Teas

St. Mary's Church will host a celebration of the best of country life on 6th +7th June with floral displays in the church taking centre stage.

All the displays have been designed by local groups and individuals.

On the Saturday there will be also be a traditional fete with the best in traditional crafts, plants, stalls, books, cakes, jams, preserves, live music, Raffle, Tombola,

Bouncy Castle, Pets corner and traditional games from 2pm – 5pm. There will be additional parking at Church Farm Campsite.

On Sunday there will be cream teas on the lawn and the floral displays are open from 12pm – 5pm.

Everyone Welcome!

Entrance is donation only with proceeds to the upkeep of St. Marys Church and new heating.

Anyone for Coffee?

To raise the money for the flowers there will be a coffee morning on Thursday 16th April, 10.30 to 12 noon at Stella Symes, 14 St Mary's Close and afternoon tea 6th May @ the home of Margaret Quinn, 4 Cobley Close, East Woodyates, 2.30pm to 4.30pm.



DOUG LUCAS LOGS FOR SALE

FULL OR HALF TRANSIT LOADS

Also sacks, netted logs,

kindling, coal

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Mob: 07765 426662



D. J LOGS

Quality Barn Stored Seasoned Logs

- ~ Discounted Double Loads
- ~ Single/Half Loads
- ~ Netted Logs
- ~ Kindling
- ~ Coal
- ~ Firelighters

Contact Darren or Lucy: 01725 553 167



Community



Litter pick

Your Village needs you



Join us for a litter pick and help make Sixpenny Handley a cleaner, safer & tidier place.

Date: Saturday 18th April 2015

Time: 1.30pm onward

Meeting point: Town farm workshops.

For more information please contact:

Paul Styles-Sixpenny Handley Mini-Market

01725 552544 / paulstyles@btinternet.com

All equipment kindly supplied by Sixpenny Handley Parish Council.

Organised by Handley Mini-market, 1st Woodcutts Scouts & Sixpenny Handley Parish Council.

Mobile Library

Visits on Thursday Fortnightly

April 9, 23

May 7, 21

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



Dementia Friends

Interested in learning more or becoming a Friend?

Contact Erica Pretty on 07825 145726

or go to

www.dementiafriends.org.uk

SELL YOUR 'HANDLEY' HOME ON THE DOUBLE!



Dual marketing through our Fordingbridge and Salisbury offices means a quicker sale at the best possible price.

Call us today for your free valuation on 01425 200690



www.bassets.co.uk



THE WALNUT TREE

GALLERY

52 High Street Sixpenny Handley Dorset SP5 5ND Now open 9am-5pm Monday-Saturday

Coming up in April...

Tea on Tuesdays for the Over 65s...

Every Tuesday we will be giving
10% off all coffees, teas, cakes and
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WEDNESDAY COFFEE MORNING

9.30-11.30AM

DURING TERM TIME

STARTING WEDNESDAY
15TH APRIL 2015

COFFEE & DANISH
£3.50

MUMS & PRE-SCHOOLERS

Wednesday Coffee Morning & Meal Deal

11.45am-2.45pm

during term time

Activities and snacks for the children

Starting Wednesday 15th April 2015

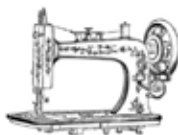
Coffee & cake £3.50 Soup & roll £3.50 Pizza Slice & Salad £3.50

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class
or
social gathering,
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requirements.



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NEAL'S YARD REMEDIES

OPEN DAY

Wednesday 8th April
from 10am to 7pm

Come and talk to Celia Hodgson,
our local Neal's Yard Consultant.

This will be an opportunity
to ask questions, try products
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Sixpenny Sessions presents



Stone Donkey Pilots

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Winner of the Salisbury Music Awards – Best Band

with



Pete Robson
– Blues –

BBQ Food to raise funds for 1st Woodcutts Scouts



Friday 17th April

From 8pm
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Tickets: £7

Supported by: 

Proceeds to Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge Community Fund

from Styles Newsagents, The Walnut Tree Gallery
or www.eventbrite.co.uk

Find us on: 

Sixpenny Sessions date for your diary!

Sixpenny Sessions are delighted to bring Stone Donkey Pilots to Sixpenny Handley on Friday 17th April @ 8pm.
Supported by Pete Robson (Blues)

BBQ Food in aid of 1st Woodcutts Scouts - order your food on arrival and it's ready for the interval - sweet cakes and treats for after too as well as a range of beers from Sixpenny Brewery.

2013 Salisbury Music Award Winners for Best Band, Best Folk/Blues and Best Song, Stone Donkey Pilots bring their own unique blend of folk and blues. Unearthed from the depths of Salisbury Plain and driven by rhythms as old as the hills, Stone Donkey Pilots are drenched in the music that inspires them. The band started after Paul Blake and Steve Gee got together over a few beers and a Djembe. From there on in it was all down to chance encounters that formed the band you see today. They set off in to Salisbury where they met Pete Leonard at an open mic. Helen Russel joined after telling the band they needed a violin and Richy Senior completed the sound after impromptu invitation to join them on stage in front of a live audience.

Catch a listen here: <http://www.stonedonkeypilots.co.uk/music/>

Don't forget to bring some extra cash for the usual raffles and Penny's infamous 50/50 game where you could win a cash prize!

We look forward to seeing you!

Gig proceeds to Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge Community Fund.

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Sat 25th APRIL

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Entrance 20p

Items for sale may be brought to the Hall between
10am & Midday on the day. For collections
beforehand ring Tony on 552704.

Sorry, no large furniture

RNLI

Thank you to Margaret Durrant for the organisation of the Lenten Soup lunches at St Mary's church and for including the RNLI as one of the designated charities. We raised almost £200 which was very good. Thank you to those who came and supported us.

Sheila Bradley

**Polling Stations -
General Election
7th May**

The Polling Station for Sixpenny
Handley will be in **Sixpenny Handley
Village Hall**

The Polling Station for Pentridge will be
in **Pentridge Village Hall**

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Sixpenny Handley First School



Music Extravaganza at Sixpenny Handley First School

On Friday 27th February the children were treated to a very special musical day. Local musician Alec James and his band visited the school giving a concert in the morning followed by class workshops. Children and staff rock and rolled in the school hall to the live band – such a fabulous experience. Alec and his wife Pearl have very kindly donated £3,000 to the school which has been used to purchase new musical instruments, including some outdoor ones for the school grounds, as well as a new music and PSHE (personal, social and health education) scheme called Jigsaw. Band members totally surprised the school on the day by donating a brand new drum kit, keyboard, trombone, acoustic and electric guitar and amplifier - Following the day, the band moved all their instruments to the village hall for an evening of dancing and supper, raising further funds for the



school. The day proved to be a truly memorable experience for the whole school.

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'The Shed', Church Farm, High St, Sixpenny Handley

Sixpenny Handley First school welcomes a new teacher...



'My name is Mr Read. I am delighted to be the new teacher in the Bumblebees class and after the first two weeks they have made me feel very welcome.

I am married and a dad of two beautiful children that are my main drive to teaching young children and preparing them for the future.

I love to be in the outdoors and have a strong background in outdoor education. I particularly enjoy sailing and white water Kayaking.

The most famous person that I have met and sailed with is Ben Ainslie and worked alongside a lot of the 2012 British sailing team. I am keen rugby player.

My biggest achievement after getting married and having children is climbing Cotopaxi, a dormant volcano in Ecuador.'

World Book Day



On Friday 6th March, Sixpenny Handley First School celebrated World Book Day. This is a national event designed to promote a love of reading. Parents and grandparents were invited into school for a 'Tea, Toast and Tales' event where children and adults alike enjoyed books and breakfast. This was a really successful start to the day so thank you to everyone who attended. Throughout the day, the

children visited different classrooms to share some of the teachers' favourite books and take part in different activities such as drama and art. The children left with a £1 book token which they can use to buy a special 'World Book Day' book or put towards a book of their choice. Happy reading everyone!



Friday 13th March ... Comic Relief 2015 at Sixpenny Handley First School

'Make your face funny for money' was the theme of Comic Relief 2015. There was a sea of red and white and an array of funny faces! Staff and children brought in a donation to take part and the class who raised the most made Mrs Hewitt's face 'funny for money'!! The winning class was the Grasshoppers and they turned her into a Cat Dog Punk! We raised just over £200 and had a super day!



Netball Festival



The Scorpion Class (Year 4) once again enjoyed a successful trip to Cranborne Middle School for the annual netball festival. This year 3 teams were taken to compete in the tournament. The 1st team eventually lost in the final after a superb performance. One of the team managed to score 10 goals on the way to the final and said it was an amazing experience to play at Cranborne. Everyone was extremely pleased to walk away with medals and can't wait for the Rugby festival next term. Well done Scorpions!



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Donhead St. Andrew



Sixpenny Handley Community Land Trust

The community working together for the future of the village



Further to our article in the December edition of the Downsman we would like to share progress with you since then.

Community Meeting held on 28th January

As many of you will be aware, we held a meeting in the Village Hall on 28th January to give an overview of the SHCLT Affordable House Build project so far, including detailing the land that has been identified for purchase, and how, in principle the scheme works.

The turn-out for the meeting was good, with nearly one hundred attendees.

Following a presentation, given by the SHCLT Board and Steering Group members, we held a Q&A session which included some lively debate and clarification of several points. We then had a show of hands to ascertain support for the project to continue. As you can see from the photo below, there was nearly unanimous support to go ahead.

If anyone would like a copy of the presentation given, please contact Jenny Chapman (telephone: 552070)

Formation of the CLT

You will be pleased to know that "Sixpenny Handley Community Land Trust Limited" is now an incorporated Community Benefit Society, Register Number: 7069. This means that you, as a part of our community, can purchase a £1 share in the CLT, become a Member and have a vote. We are very encouraged that we already have a significant membership. Approximately fifty people paid their £1's at the Community Meeting on 28th January



and a few more have signed up since then. Many thanks to those of you who have registered your interest with James, our Treasurer, and paid your £1. James will be issuing Share Certificates shortly. If you are interested in becoming a Member, please contact James Reed (telephone: 516390).

Next Steps - Affordable Housing Project

There is a lot of work to do including:

- negotiating with EDDC re purchasing the land at Common Road;
- obtaining quotations to survey land etc;
- obtain a grant for an architect and instructing an architect;
- instructing a solicitor;
- meetings with EDDC and possible Housing Association partners to understand housing policy and negotiate detailed allocation criteria;
- deciding upon a HA partner;
- setting-up a website;

- deciding upon type and tenure of homes to be built;
- ensuring SHCLT governance opposite the FCA is in place.

If you have expertise that could assist with any of the above, please do get in touch – you would be most welcome to join the Steering Group, or perhaps just help us on an ad-hoc basis.

Most Importantly...

The whole point of this project is to build homes for local people. 'Word-on-the-Street' is that there is a need for both shared-ownership and rental properties.

Therefore, we need to know:

- who in our community are interested in the properties;
- what type/size (no of bedrooms) property you would need;
- whether you wish to rent or purchase via shared ownership; and
- whether you are currently on the EDDC Housing List or are struggling to

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Village Hall 100 Club

January 2015

1st 130 Mrs. Chambers
2nd 57 Mr. Burke
3rd 142 Mrs. Gray

February 2015

1st 131 Mr. Gibb
2nd 44 Mrs. Sewell
3rd 80 Mrs. Shepherd

**Shared Ownership Comparison Costs:
Sixpenny Handley**

Property	Size (m2)	House Value £	Equity share %	Equity £	Mortgage per month [Note1] £	Rent per month [Note2] £	Combined costs £	Required income - assuming costs are < 30% of income £	Required income - assuming costs are < 35% of income £
2bed 4person house	80	£202,363	30%	60,709	374	325.00	699	27,960	23,966
			40%	80,945	512	278.00	790	31,600	27,086
			50%	101,182	650	232.00	882	35,280	30,240
	90	£227,658	30%	68,298	426	365.00	791	31,640	27,120
			40%	91,063	581	313.00	894	35,760	30,651
			50%	113,829	737	261.00	998	39,920	34,217

Sales values in £/m2 from Zoopla £2,530

Note 1: The assumed deposit is 5% and interest rate is 6.5%

Note2: The rent on SO homes is assumed to be set at 2.75% of the unsold equity (pa)

get on it.

The following table might be helpful to those of you thinking about shared-ownership.

Please note – these are purely indicative figures, you should obtain your own financial advice.

You DO NOT have to be on the Housing List to apply for a shared-ownership home.

For those of you wanting to rent a home, you DO need to be on the Housing List.

On 17th December last year the Dorset Home Choice Allocation Policy came into force. Although we understand this has caused some confusion, interestingly, part of this policy relates to ensuring people are allocated homes in their village. This may mean therefore, that if you have not been able to get onto the Housing List in the past, you may now be able to due to a village connection’.

“Village Connection

- Being permanently resident therein for at least four years immediately prior to such occupation
- Having currently resident close relatives (i.e. parents, children, brother or sister) who have lived therein for at least four years

- Having permanent employment and having been employed therein for at least 12 months prior to such occupation
- Other special circumstances which create a link to the given parish”

Please see the following website for further information:

<http://homechoice.dorsetforyou.com/DorsetHomeChoice/>

Ultimately, once we build these homes, we need to fill them with members of our community.

PLEASE GET IN TOUCH. Feel free to call any of us listed below.

Sixpenny Handley CLT Board

Simon Parker: 552554,

James Reed: 516390,

Matt Gibbons: 07825666412,

Jenny Chapman: 552070

Kevin Knight
Horologist

Clock and Watch Repairs

Tel: 01722 331969

Mob: 07900 928451

kevindavidknight@gmail.com

Crossroads Cafe



The trial event advertised in the last issue was held on 18 February at the Parish Offices and was a resounding success. With a brilliant turnout the room was filled with the buzz of conversation. With this response it became apparent from conversations that it was needed and should become a regular feature of community life; an opportunity for all age groups to informally meet for a cuppa and a chat and possibly learn a thing or two. Very recently Dame Esther Ranson has had quite a bit of publicity in the media concerning her new charity “The Silver Line” which is to combat loneliness by providing opportunities for telephone chats. One only has to call 0800 4 70 80 90 and break that lonely feeling or receive a regular call for a chat.

Here we have the opportunity of meeting on a regular basis starting from 15 April doors open from 1030 to 1200 every Wednesday. We look forward to you coming along and being part of the conversation over a cuppa. If you would like to help make this really work we would love to hear from you.

David Salmons

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. In this issue we are looking at the organisations which help run different parts of the village but aren't social clubs, they provide a service.

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Location:	Throughout our Parish
Contact:	<u>John Curtis, Chairman (see Parish Directory)</u>
Meetings:	Coordinators normally meet quarterly

Our local Homewatch scheme was set up in the 1990's to raise crime awareness in our Parish, to encourage simple crime prevention measures, to provide reassurance and to assist Dorset Police by reporting suspected crimes. It is part of a nationwide network of similar schemes. Sixpenny Handley Homewatch has a Chairman, John Curtis - who provides a focal point and link to the police - and half a dozen Coordinators, each responsible for Homewatch activities in a specific area of our Parish. They are listed, with their contact details, in the Parish Directory in this magazine and they meet quarterly, usually with a police representative from our Safer Neighbourhood Team, to review recent crime patterns and discuss prevention. Articles are provided for each issue of the Downsman, keeping parishioners up to date.

Early in its development, our Homewatch made two important decisions which have served it well:

The first was that as we are a fairly close-knit rural community already, we would not have a 'membership' as such, as most schemes do. Instead, the principle would be that everyone in the Parish is considered 'in' unless they specifically tell us they don't want to be. Homewatch is really about no more than awareness, being a good neighbour and acting with common sense, so in practice just about everyone has been happy to play their part.

Secondly, the Downsman was revived at about the same time we were founded and it was decided that if the magazine was delivered to each home by the local

Homewatch Coordinators, and their even more local Sub-Coordinators, this would not only be a good way of getting us to 'walk our patch' six times a year but would also help residents to know who their local Homewatch person was should they have anything to report or want someone to keep an eye on things whilst they were away, for example.

In the early days, we ran a number of Homewatch Barbecues that we believe helped to bring villagers together during a period of rapid house building and expansion, when there were far fewer village clubs and activities than there are now. Long term residents met newcomers, often for the first time, and important funds were raised that enabled the whole parish to be signed as a Homewatch Area. Maintaining these signs, now with Parish Council funding, is an important part of our ongoing work.

Happily, Dorset has a low crime rate and our part of Dorset a lower one still, so compared to many Homewatch schemes ours has a relatively easy time. We hope that the existence of the scheme, the signs and the articles in the Downsman act as reminders to keep everyone crime aware, encouraging individuals to look out for themselves and their neighbours and to report anything suspicious to the police.

It would be claiming too much to suggest that the low crime rate in our Parish is entirely down to the existence of the Homewatch but we can be pretty sure that as a community we would be worse off without it.

Sixpenny Handley Allotment Association

Location:	Brushy Bush & Common Road, Sixpenny Handley
Postcode	
Contact:	Chairman, Mr BMJ Curtis 01725552397 bmjcurtis@aol.com
What we do:	We are responsible for the letting and the management of the two Parish Council allotment sites
What to expect:	You will be put on a waiting list and advised when and if a plot becomes available
Who can join:	Parishioners and anyone within 3 miles of the Parish Boundary
How to join:	Contact the Secretary, Steve Barrett 01725 552121

The Downsman

Location:	6 Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley SP5 5PA
Contact:	editor@thedownsman.org.uk
Meetings:	Before each issue
What we do:	Create & fund this magazine.
What to expect:	We have one meeting per issue, to check finances, advertisers, problems and important content/events that need to be in the next issue.
Who can join:	Any interested parties. We always have representatives from the Parish Council.
How to join:	If you would like to contribute or join email me!

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council



Location:	6 Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley SP5 5PA
Contact:	Lisa Goodwin - Clerk 01258 840935 or Ciona Nicholson Assistant Clerk 01725 552211

Meetings:

Full Parish Council, Finance & General Purposes Committee and Planning Committee meets monthly, 7:30pm in the Parish Office.

Parish Office is open 10am-12 Tuesdays; 8:30 - 10am Fridays and 7 - 7:30pm prior to a scheduled meeting.

What we do

Parish Councils are consulted on nearly everything that happens in your area. Members are able to comment on planning applications, highway matters, public access matters and is the 'grass root' tier of Local Government.

What to expect:

Councillors have a duty to serve the Electorate and represent the views and needs of the whole community responsibly and openly; they are bound by a strict code of conduct. The Parish Council is funded through a Precept (request for money) on the District Council and this charge is part of the bill for Council Tax. There is a range of powers for the Council to spend public money. A council must do what the law requires it to and can undertake an activity only when a specific Act of Parliament allows it.

Who can join:

Elections are being held 7th May 2015. Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council consists of 10 Parish Councillors split between two wards. 8 for Sixpenny Handley and 2 for Pentridge. If more than either 8 or 2 stand then there will be a contested election. If less than 8 or 2 stand then all those who stand will be automatically elected and any vacancies may be filled by co-option.

How to join:

Procedure for applying: Nomination forms can be obtained from East Dorset District Council Offices at Furzehill, online at www.dorsetforyou.com/elections or www.electoralcommission.org.uk or from the Parish Office. Closing date 9th April 2015.

Sixpenny Handley Community Fund

Location:	Parish Office, 6 Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley SP5 5PA
Contact:	Clerk @ The Parish Office
Meetings:	As required but at least every 3 months
What we do:	Manage funds raised from community projects. Support Sixpenny Sessions and Waistcoat Festival
Who can join:	Two members from the Parish Council and up to five other interested people
How to join:	Email: sixpennyhandley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk Clerk to the Council (Lisa Goodwin) 01258 840935 Assistant Clerk (Ciona Nicholson) 01725 552211

Sixpenny Handley Community Land Trust



Registered No: 7069

The Community working together for the future of the village

Contact:	SHCLT Board : Simon Parker: 552554, James Reed: 516390, Matt Gibbons: 07825666412, Jenny Chapman: 552070
Meetings:	Monthly Steering Group meetings held at the Parish Office, with special meetings as and when required.

What we do:

The SHCLT's first project is to build some affordable homes for local people.

What to expect:

We will keep the community updated by putting articles in the Downsman, sending out flyers and having community meetings. Please also feel free to ask any member of the Board or Steering Group questions.

Who can join:

Anyone who lives in and around the Parish of Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge, or who have a family or business connection.

How to join:

The 'Sixpenny Handley Community Land Trust' is registered under the FCA as a Community Benefit Society. If you would like to become a Member and have a vote, please contact James Reed. Members of the community are also able to join the Steering Group, attend the monthly meetings and help make decisions on the progress we are making. We would also welcome ad-hoc expertise from the community regarding any aspect of the affordable house build. Please see the separate 'Update' article in this copy of the Downsman.



WI News And Information

NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

February Meeting

Having covered the business, the evening continued with members having a chance to try "Kurling". No not hairdressing but a dry mat exercise based on the ice sport of "curling" seen at the Olympic Games. The mats were laid on the floor and instead of a polished granite stones we sent solid plastic stones with ball bearings set in them towards the mats. The aim was to get as near to the centre as possible, or knock someone else's stone out of the area. Because it was not on ice, we didn't do the frantic brushing that is usually required (thank goodness). It was also possible to send the stone towards the target with a 'pusher' on a handle so some members didn't have to get out of their chair!! The evening was great fun so if you are given the opportunity to try it, do so!

success with the hall packed with customers for the goods and refreshments. It was hard work for a few hours but the result was a gratifying profit of £736 which made it a worthwhile effort. Thanks to everyone who contributed, helped or spent cash.

March

March was committee nominations month; after this was completed we were given a mouth watering demonstration of cake decorating especially for Easter which put my poor efforts to shame. We learnt about different icings and how to use toothpicks and other everyday items for shaping petals etc.

P Emery



Coming soon:

13th April: A look back at the WI Archives and Fruit Cake competition

11th May: History of Egyptian Dance

Be Discovered

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Village Hall Annual General Meeting

The Village Hall Management Committee AGM will be held on Wednesday 23rd April 2015 at 7.30pm.

All are welcome
Support your village hall.

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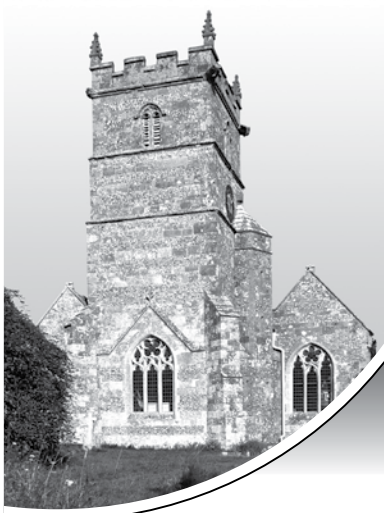
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The Seeker

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April ~ May

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)

Bishop Graham writes

Deep conversations sometimes happen in unusual circumstances. Over drinks recently, a lawyer asked me quietly about innocent suffering. How can a God of love and power allow it? I said that there is no satisfying answer this side of heaven, but that there are hints and signposts in the celebrations of Christmas and Easter. By now we were moving through to dinner and there was little time to elaborate. I mentioned that a lot depends on our view of God.

If we see him as sitting on the edge of the universe, peering down on us and twiddling his thumbs, then there is little hope of hints and signposts. But if we allow the heart of Christmas and Easter to shape our view of God, then things change perspective. He was intrigued. Over coffee, we continued. At Christmas, Christians believe that God became a vulnerable baby. He was nearly killed by Herod's troops, but escaped to Egypt. Our view of God should encompass God himself becoming vulnerable to innocent suffering.

Some say: 'If God made the world with all this suffering, then he should clear it up and pay for it.' In reply, we may only point towards the cross: 'We believe that indeed is the heart of Good Friday.'

It is the linking of the messages of Christmas and Easter which opens up imaginations. Who was it who was born and died? One baby among many? One man among many?

If Jesus was - and indeed is - God as a real human being, then God himself has experienced innocent suffering. We discussed these ideas and agreed to meet again. May God expand our imagination!

Bishop Nicholas writes

Those who have seen the letter from the Bishops for the General Election as an attack on politicians have misread it, or perhaps not even read it. The letter does not tell people what to think about this policy or that, or how to vote; but the privileges of living in a democracy mean that we should use our votes thoughtfully, prayerfully and with the good of others in mind, not just our own interests.

As bishops we support policies which respect the natural environment, enhance human dignity and honour the image of God in our neighbour... (Para 2)

Pursuing the common good is a Christian obligation and is expressed in how we approach our role as voters as much as our personal priorities. We belong together in a creation which should be cherished and not simply used and consumed. (Para 5)

The letter encourages us to identify and talk about the big issues - such as the role of the state and the way we belong together. The letter suggests that in our own country we have become a 'society of strangers', people who live in parallel rather than the connected lives of people who belong together. I think we are struggling to give an account of what it means for us to be English British, European and Global citizens. The letter is entitled 'Who is my Neighbour?' It is the question asked by the lawyer in Luke's Gospel who wanted to justify himself and prompted Jesus to tell the story of the Good Samaritan. It is a story about the despised outsider being the person who teaches good religious people how to be disciples who love God and love our neighbour as ourselves.

The Bishop's letter is available on the Church of England website



**News items
and articles welcome!**
**Please drop them in to
the Vicarage, or email;
ask@handleychurch.org.uk**

FROM THE REGISTERS



**The funeral took place of
Robin Gourlay**

**The wedding took place of
Andy and Emma Kershaw**

For Sale...

If you are buying or selling a house in Sixpenny Handley, remember that you do not have to pay for a search for *Chancel Tax*. This was an historic tax that might be payable by property built on land that was once owned by the church. This tax is out of date and cancelled. If you need written proof to go with your documents, please contact the church office.

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£345 raised so far!



For those who meet Jesus at the tomb on that first Easter Sunday, it is literally the first day of the rest of their lives. Everything is turned upside down. Everything is new.

The Easter story can be difficult to grasp, all that talk of empty tombs and angels. But we all have little glimpses of this sort of thing when we go through something that changes our life completely. Things change, and in no time it is quite hard to remember what things were like before. And we usually meet these sorts of events with a range of emotions. For those women at the tomb, we are told *'they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy'*.

Think of the biggest change you have experienced in your life and multiply it up by the biggest number you can think of. This is the difference Easter makes.

But the Bible tells us the story very simply. It is dawn on the first day of the week. There is an earthquake and an angel. And the angel says *'Do not be afraid... He is risen... Go quickly and tell...'*. Precise words that reassure, and yet are really urgent. And the women hurry away, and as they go they meet Jesus himself, and he gives a simple *'Greetings!'* and again *'Do not be afraid!'* and *'Go and tell'*.

Everything is over in just a few moments. And everything is different. The world is new. It will never be the same. And ever since, everything has been different.

The Resurrection comes at the end of all four Gospels, but they do not end with an *'and they all lived happily ever after'*. No. Easter is just the beginning. What happens next is recorded in *The Acts of the Apostles*. It is the next chapter. But even that doesn't end either. The story goes on and on. It is now about us, you and me. We are part of the Easter story. It is the first day of the rest of our lives...

Your friend and vicar, Mel



**Join us as we remember the
Greatest Story Ever – Easter –
the story of God's Love**

Maundy Thursday

Remembering the Last Supper
(6pm at Gussage St Andrews)

Good Friday

The Story of the Cross around
Sixpenny Handley, starting at
Oakley Lane (11am)

Telling the Easter Story in words,
music and pictures (6pm St Mary's)

**See back for full details of
all our Easter services**

An Evening Prayer

When the day returns,
call us with morning faces,
and with morning hearts,
eager to labour,
happy if happiness be our portion,
and if the day is marked with sorrow,
strong to endure.

R L Stevenson 1850-94

F • E • A • R

There is no doubt that the first Easter Sunday was a shock. Every account we have of it – and the Bible gives us lots of different accounts from different people – describes disbelief, confusion and fear.

Fear and confusion are two things we are generally not prepared to admit to. Most of us grown-ups feel we should always know what to do and admitting we are scared can often seem rather weak. And children might feel it is just... not done...

But you might know the phrase *'Do not be afraid'* is said to occur in the Bible 365 times: one for each day of the year. It is how we react to it that matters...

I came across this idea – that **FEAR** has two meanings;

Forget Everything And Run
or

Face Everything And Rise.

WORDS WORDS WORDS

One of the basic assumptions we all tend to make about life is that words explain things. When we visit a museum we are often faced with a strange display of things we don't understand. Words come to our rescue – little labels pinned in just the right place. We look things up on our computers or in dictionaries, guidebooks... words, words, words!

Words have the function of taking the mystery out of our surroundings. Do this. Go there. This is what it means. And we are grateful. To say we are 'lost for words' usually means something bad.

We need words, and when we come up against a question, we feel we have to offer an answer. Like white-coated scientists extolling the virtues of a particular washing powder, we furrow our brows in professional intensity and try to say the words that make everything clear.

Truth, we believe, should be understandable. The plain truth. The simple truth. The function of our words is to make things clearer, to solve mysteries, to offer explanations. But what if truth is not always so willing to be defined? What if we get to the stage where truth has a life and will of its own, and resists our attempts to capture and hold it, and it keeps wriggling away just when we think it is in reach?

What if the word truth did not refer at all to a disembodied package of ideas and concepts, but pointed to a person? What if the mystery of it all is all part of the adventure, calling us and leading us farther and farther into ever-deeper realms of exploration?

If this is so, then we need to use words, not to solve everything, but rather to point us on to the next clue, the next level, the next mystery, the next wonder. On, like a trail of breadcrumbs through a forest, on as markers and signs rather than points of arrival.

What if words do not solve the mystery but point deeper into the mystery and beauty of God? Words like these are sometimes called 'poetry'. And if, like me, you tend to think 'I don't get poetry', remember that we sing poetry all the time. We call them hymns, or choruses or worship songs. So perhaps the role of worship is not so much to make all things understandable, but to declare all things beautiful. And mysterious. And of God.

It is about love, and love is not about understanding. It is about being. It is about seeing beauty in all things. It is about God's presence in all things. It is about a baby laid in a manger. It is about angels singing to shepherds and wise men travelling from afar. It is about a man on a cross. It is about hope in darkness. It is about rising to new life, and life overcoming death because God so loved the world. And love is our response.

Mel Durrant

Saturday Afternoons

From 25th April our Saturday afternoon drop-in at St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley starts up again. If you are passing – or would like to have a chat with someone trained to listen – pop in for a cup of tea from 2.30pm (weddings permitting!) This is in addition to the drop in in the Post Office café on the first Wednesday of the month and the Walnut Tree on the last Wednesday of the month, when Paul or I will be available to talk about anything at all.

Fairtrade Eggs

Don't forget to make sure your Easter chocolate has either the Fairtrade or Rainforrest Alliance logo to ensure it comes from a good source. How we spend our money makes a difference and says everything about what sort of people we are. And look out for the Real Easter Egg Company, making the only Easter eggs that tell the Easter story!

Teddy Bear Anniversary

Come along to our celebration of another year of Teddy Bears! On Sunday 17th May the 11 o'clock Service will be celebrating our pre-school drop in. Come along for some stories, songs and cake!

Flower Festival and Fayre

There is no Waistcoat Festival this year, but make a date for the Sixpenny Handley Church Flower Festival and Fayre over the weekend of 6-7th June. The church will be full of flowers and cream teas and cakes will be available on both days. On the Saturday there will also be all the fun of the Fayre around the church and Vicarage garden. And we will finish Sunday evening with our own Songs of Praise.

Annual Meeting

It is the time of year to hold our Annual Meetings. Join us at St Mary's on Sunday 19th April at 6pm (in place of the evening service) or at St Rumbold's on Tuesday 22nd April at 7pm. If you would like to help with the running of our churches in any way, please come along!

We have a group going to...



Lee Abbey is a beautiful house and community on the rugged north Devon coastline. Visitors often comment that it is a 'thin place', in the sense that God is felt to be very near. It is a great place for families, as there are lots of things for different ages to do. We are planning a visit over the weekend of 12-14th June. Please have a look at the brochure, the website or talk to us 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

▼ **Drop into St Mary's!** — on most Saturday afternoons from 2.30pm during British Summer Time for a cup of tea and a chat with someone trained to listen.

* **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 Easter and Spring!

SUNDAY SERVICES	St Mary's Sixpenny Handley Informal service includes children's time				St Rumbold's Pentridge	Gussage St Andrew
	9.30am	☕	11.00am	6.00pm	11.15am	9.30am
April 5 th	HC	(10.30am)	#	#	HC	#
April 12 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC
April 19 th	HC		Informal	APCM	MP	#
April 26 th	MP		Inf + HC	Evensong	#	HC
May 3 rd	HC		Informal	Evensong	HC	#
May 10 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC
May 17 th	HC		Informal	Evensong	MP	#
May 24 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC
May 31 st	HC		Inf + HC	Evensong	MP	#

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

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday — 2nd April

6:00 pm Holy Communion, Gussage St Andrew

Good Friday — 3rd April

11:00 am Stations of the Cross around Handley

2–3:00 pm Quiet Time, St Rumbold's, Pentridge

6:00 pm Readings and music, St Mary's

Easter Sunday — 5th April

9:30 am Family Communion, St Mary's

11:15 am Holy Communion, St Rumbold's

Teddy Bear Anniversary



Sun 17th May

Join us for a bit of cake!

April

See side panel for key to symbols

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

Sat 11 10.00am Men's Breakfast, The Cashmoor Inn

Sun 19 6.00pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting; St Mary's

Tue 21 7.00pm Annual Parochial Church Meeting; Pentridge

May

Updated weekly on our website

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

Thur 14 2.45pm Mothers' Union 'Flight into Egypt', Handley

7.30pm Ascension – Holy Communion, Gussage St Andrew

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Suspicious Phone Call

A patient who had had a short stay in hospital received a phone call at home supposedly from the Consultant's secretary saying that the Consultant wanted him to take some medication, could he please provide bank card details. The caller provided him with a lot of convincing evidence to back up his claim. This was a fraudulent call. Please be aware that the hospital will never ring you and ask for card details. If anyone receives a call like this please hang up immediately and call the police. Reports of similar activity have been received from 3 different Practices in the area.

The Care Quality Commission

We have been led to believe that the Care Quality Commission who regulate anything to do with health care are going to be visiting a number of Practices in this area in March. If they are here when you come in please do not be alarmed and please feel free to talk with a member of their team and answer their questions honestly. They are not trying to catch you out but they do want to know your experience of the Practice. At some stage after the visit we will be given a rating which will be displayed in the waiting room and posted on our website.

Remote Access

It is now possible to book appointments with a doctor, or cancel them if no longer required, order repeat medication, answer Practice questionnaires such as the Friends and Family Test and see what information is included in the Summary Care Record held nationally, all from the comfort of your own home and at any time of the day or night. To do this you will need to request a user name and password from the Practice and bring in some proof of identification. The secure website that you can then access is straightforward to use. If you have previously signed up for any of these services they are all now available to you. There is no need to submit a further request.

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. 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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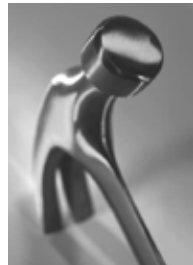
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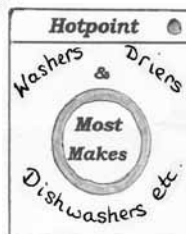
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Sixpenny Handley Bowls' Club

The bowls' club has enjoyed a very active winter season with two teams playing in regional short mat leagues and regular club sessions on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons in the village hall. The league teams have had mixed fortunes with one team currently placed third in their league and the other not doing quite so well but all players have enjoyed the competitive element of the leagues and the social element of the club sessions. Those two elements came together on 22nd February in our annual short mat singles competition which this year was won by Vic Howard.

The short mat season is now drawing to a close as the outdoor season approaches, with the first competitive outdoor match taking place on 27th April.

As well as playing bowls, the club has also been busy socially. Members and friends enjoyed a social supper at the clubhouse on 19th February, a 3-course meal with choice of starter, main and dessert, washed

down with purchases from the bar. A short quiz kept people occupied between courses. Normal social evenings take place fortnightly on a Thursday during the winter months when members and guests meet for a chat, a drink and games of cards, dominoes and darts.

The club is holding a Horserace Night on the 18th April which promises to be a lot of fun and throughout the outdoor season (April to September) there will be a number of other social and fund-raising events.

The club is always keen to welcome new members so if you feel like taking up a new pastime, why not try the game of bowls? It is an intriguing game, which, in common with many other games and sports that on the surface seem quite simple, is endlessly challenging. We are holding an Open Day on 30th May if you would like to come along and try, but, of course, if you would like to join us before that you would be most welcome. Or you can join the club as a social member to take advantage of

our busy events schedule. The club has a Liaison Officer, the aforementioned Vic Howard, who introduces new members to the culture of the club and arranges practice sessions for new players. If you would like to know more please contact the president, Paul Chalmers 07964769159 or 01725516316; the secretary, Colin Chambers 01725552796 ; or the Liaison Officer, Vic Howard 01725552180



Mothers' Union

In February we had a talk from Susan Pendrey about the work of the charity Alabare, Christian Care and Support. It was particularly interesting to learn about the wide range of care which is available to help ex-service men and women, including some possible accommodation.

On Sunday, 7th March, we held a coffee-morning with unusual quizzes and we had an excellent morning. There was a great deal of laughter.

It was impossible to pick out winners because after a while there was a considerable sharing of the answers! We raised £100 for the Overseas Fund of the Mothers' Union. Thank you to all who came and supported us. It was lovely to see so many.

Our March branch meeting was a quiet one with John Cullingford leading us in a Lenten Meditation – a contemplative session, which was much appreciated.

On Wednesday, 25th March the deanery is celebrating Lady Day with a service in St Mary's at 2.30pm, taken by our Vicar, Mel. Everyone is welcome to come.

Our next monthly branch meeting is on 9th April at the usual 2.45pm, at 15, Paddock Close, at which we will hear about the work of the Trussell Trust.

Enquiries to:
Sheila 553133 or Mary 552041

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Group Scout Leader
John Curtis
01725 552397



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

1st Woodcutts News

www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk



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



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



Age 14-18
Wednesday 7.30 - 9.30pm
Anthony Brown
01725 552814

The Scouting year at 1st Woodcutts is starting to ramp up now we can begin to see longer evenings, warmer weather and Spring just round the corner.

Beavers: To celebrate the Chinese New Year on 19th February (it's the year of the goat/sheep), the Beavers had a go at eating with chopsticks, solving Tangram puzzles and making Chinese style bookmarks.



Scouts



It has been a cracking start to the year for the Scouts. The Troop nights have been packed with exciting and varied activities. The Scouts sampled haggis on Burns Night (not to everyone's liking!) and had a go at writing a short story in Scottish. Keeping on the international theme, the Scouts then celebrated Australia day. With Anthony's help, the young people carved Bullroarers, the small wooden tool the Aborigines use to communicate. The Scouts also tried their hand at Aboriginal style painting, playing the didgeridoo and sampled kangaroo, crocodile and ostrich steaks – yum. More recently the Scouts have been practising their map reading and first aid skills. These are important abilities the Scouts must have in readiness for the night hikes and camps we have planned for the coming months. The Scouts have also been learning how to use a pen knife safely



(all good traditional Scouting stuff!) and how to prepare and cook a simple meal. The leaders enjoyed sampling the many versions of omelettes the young people created – double yum.

In one of his last activities in the Scout Section before moving up to Explorers, Harry Slade took the individual Gold Medal at the Scouting District Shooting Competition, held at West Moors Scout HQ at the end of January. Our congratulations go to Harry, who held his nerve to the end against some very determined competition. We now look forward to the lighter evenings and longer days to get out and about and continue enjoying the challenges and adventures Scouting brings.

Rugby



Members from all sections, family and friends of the group enjoyed another fantastic day of rugby during the

Woodcutts annual outing to London Irish. The group joined 1200 Scouts and Guides to watch the premier league match at the Majedski Stadium. It was another exciting game, with many national standard players on the pitch.

The day was made more special for Woodcutts as Digger the Dog, the official mascot of London Irish, wore the group neckerchief throughout the game and then joined us for a photograph after the match. We look forward to the trip again next year and sampling more of the warming stadium pies!



ASU

We are getting closer to being able to offer air rifle (and hopefully, later, air pistol for the older members) shooting in our HQ. Peter Briggs (1st Woodcutts Active Support Unit Manager) and Nick Ross (Assistant Cub Scout Leader) both completed their NSRA Tutor training at the start of March and, by the time you read this, rifles should have been purchased, target holders should

have been made and work should be progressing to construct a safe and secure temporary range within the main hall. Four members of the ASU took advantage of a recent First Aid training course held at the HQ. Whilst regular First Aid training is mandatory for all Leaders in the Scouting movement, it's not mandatory for all other helpers, so it was very satisfying to see so many members turn out until late into the evening two weeks running to get this qualification.



Paul Styles, our ASU Coordinator, is organising a major Litter Pick around the village, led by ASU members, on the 18th April to get our environment looking clean and tidy for the season ahead. All members of the Group, and anybody else reading this, are encouraged to join in – keep your eyes peeled for details of where and when to meet. Details will be posted on the 1st Woodcutts website, on notice boards around the village and on our Facebook group, for those members who use such media.

Any adult who would like to support and contribute to the work of the 1st Woodcutts Scout Group should get in touch with Peter Briggs, the ASU manager, on 01725 552026 or by email to peter.briggs@firstwoodcutts.org.uk.

Family Camp

Plans are firming up for our first HUGE activity for 2015, our biennial Family Camp, to be held at Buddens Scout Centre over the first May Bank Holiday weekend. As you would expect from a 1st Woodcutts camp, this is going to be a blast, with the added bonus that parents and non scouting brothers and sisters get to join in the fun too!

Exact details of all the activities on offer are still being kept under wraps, but rest assured there will be something to appeal to every taste and almost certainly

something new for you to try.

Keep an eye on the notice boards, the website and the Facebook group for details as we get nearer the magic date.

Website, Facebook Group and Twitter feed

To help everyone (including the Leaders!) stay in touch with activities and events at 1st Woodcutts, we are keeping our Website (www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk) up to date with the latest news. For even more up to the minute information, parents and members of the Group should join our Facebook Group, search for 1st Woodcutts on Facebook or go to <http://www.facebook.com/groups/1stWoodcutts> (please note that membership of this group is limited to those with a current active connection to the Scout Group). Finally, the Group has a Twitter feed, @1stWoodcutts, for those that Tweet.

We hope to use the Facebook and Twitter feeds to pass on daily reports of future camp activities, starting with Family Camp, for those who can't be there. Watch those online spaces!

Additional facilities at the HQ

Thanks to your kind contributions and donations over the last year, we are looking to improve the facilities at the HQ even further. As well as equipping ourselves for airgun shooting, we are about to receive sets of pioneering equipment (stand by for a flurry of bridge building, shelter construction and anything else that can be put together from wooden poles, rope, knots and lashings). We will also be equipping the toilets with new hand dryers, putting up a large noticeboard outside the door to keep parents informed of planned activities, tiling the kitchen, building a new fire circle so we can have more and better camp fires and connecting the HQ to the Internet and Wi-Fi.

Holiday dates

Easter holidays mean there will be no meetings in the weeks beginning the 30th March and the 6th April.

Cards

Whist!!

In past years when few competitive rounds remain to be played in the annual competition, players holding a place in the top three or four slots could be fairly confident that it would take a total disaster to drop them out of the ten prize money positions. This year it is a very different story and although Sylvia Morrison has a reasonable cushion of 28 points over her closest rival, Sylvia Thorne, such have been some of the swings of fortune witnessed these past six months that anything may yet happen. Thus, at the end of round 12, the two players here mentioned had aggregate scores of 1930 and 1902 points respectively with Stuart Haskell, the reigning champion, at 1899 points still very much in contention to retain his title.

Meanwhile, Sylvia Thorne's '183' which since round five has been the highest individual score was trumped in round twelve when Doug Haskell returned '184' but memories of two years ago when Doug was pipped in the final round by Barry Park may yet be repeated.

So, there is much to be played for and by the time The Downsman next appears I will be able to report the names of those who triumphed.

Bridge!

I am pleased to report that the weekly sessions held at the Sports Pavilion retain its popularity and at the end of February Alan Smith collected a well deserved prize for returning the highest aggregate score for the month with 7800 points. I managed to reach an overall total of 6150 [despite a lowly 970 in the first week] with Tim Stevens 5860 and Vic Hatton 4690 placed third and fourth respectively. No triumphant 'slams' to report for the few that have been bid have been defeated by excellent defending.

Bill Chorley

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What is it?

The National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS) is organised and funded by BSBI, CEH, JNCC and Plantlife. The aim is to collect data to provide an annual indication of changes in plant abundance and diversity.



Why is it needed?

Thanks to volunteers, we have a very good understanding of changes in the populations of birds, butterflies and bats. Plants are the foundations of ecosystems, but currently we do not have a good measure of changes in plant populations.



How will it work?

This is a scientific survey, so you will be randomly allocated a convenient 1km square to visit. The visit involves recording plant 'indicator species' in plots. Within your 1km square you will record around 5 plots.



Who can take part?

Anyone interested in nature who can identify plants, or who is keen to learn. Different levels of participation ensure that all who are keen can participate: you do not have to be an experienced botanist. There will be training materials provided and the opportunity to attend workshops throughout the year.



For more information visit: www.npms.org.uk



Volunteers Needed

The new National Plant Monitoring Scheme (NPMS), launching in spring 2015, will for the first time enable scientists to take an annual stock take of the UK's wild plants and their habitats, but to do this we need the public's help.

To take part please visit www.npms.org.uk



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

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Sixpenny Handley Homewatch



The early spring period brought the usual small number of reported crimes locally. There were two dwelling burglaries in Sixpenny Handley, a theft from a motor vehicle and an incident of criminal damage. Devastating though these incidents are to those involved, it is important to remember that our area of Dorset has one of the lowest crime rates in the country. There was a total of eight reported crimes in the whole of East Dorset during February. Police forces in cities and even in towns closer to home (Ferndown for example) long for figures like those. Irrational fear of crime can be a problem in itself, especially among the elderly and those living alone, but in our community criminal activity is very rare and we should remember that. With sensible cooperation and everyone keeping their eyes open and reporting suspicious activity to the police on 101 (but always 999 if a crime is in progress or life in danger), we can make our Parish safer still. It's a balance between

taking sensible precautions and avoiding a siege mentality.

If you want to meet members of the Dorset Police Safer Neighbourhood Team who look after us – five officers in all – they have someone waiting to talk to you at the Parish Office at the crossroads between 10am and 11am on the first and third Thursdays of every month. That's 24 regular opportunities a year to meet with the police to report concerns or seek advice about crime prevention. A service well worth using. It is necessary to say that these 'surgeries' do sometimes have to be cancelled if there is an emergency of some sort.

Dorset Police have also asked us to make you aware of a current telephone scam of persons reporting to be from your bank or the Police. They will tell you that your bank card details have been used fraudulently.

They will then suggest that you hang up and ring the bank/Police back to ensure the call is genuine. Don't be fooled - they stay on the line. They then tell you to read out or key in your pin.

They will then send a taxi/courier to you to collect your bank card. With this and your pin, they spend your money. Just remember: Your bank or the Police will NEVER ask for your PIN or bank card - don't give them to anybody! If you have been a victim of this crime call the Police on 101 quoting Op Luna.

Finally, as the lawnmowers and strimmers come out once more, please remember not to leave valuable tools unattended, even briefly, and check on those shed padlocks and alarms. The highest percentage of crimes in our area are thefts from sheds and outbuildings, so it really does make sense to make sure they are always secured.

Dorset Wildlife Trust

North Dorset Group April 2015 Talk
The Silent World of Bats

Bats are noisy. When they're out foraging for food at night they shout; very loudly and often.

But to us, they are silent as they flit low over water or along hedgerows and woodland edges. We can't hear at the frequency at which they communicate when echo-locating the insects they feed on.

Although we can't hear them, we will see them in Dorset, as the county is home to all of the 18 bat species in the United Kingdom. North Dorset is especially fortunate to have all of our most common species: Pipistrelle (two types), Long-eared (brown and grey) and Serotine (concentrated mostly in north Dorset). You are also likely to see Daubenton's (also known as the water bat) skimming low over rivers and ponds, Noctules (the largest of all UK bats), and the Lesser Horseshoe bat (its larger relative, the Greater Horseshoe

is rarer) which feeds around sheltered wooded valleys.

Bats aren't blind; they won't get stuck in your hair and if they roost in your home you are unlikely to notice they are there. But they are important predators of night flying insects, many of which are serious agricultural pests. Bats have often had a 'bad press', but now is the time to re-think our attitude towards them, dismiss the myths and consider creating gardens and landscapes that will help them to survive, because, although Dorset is home to all the UK species, many of them are very rare indeed, and deserve our protection. Renowned bat expert, Nick Tomlinson, will give an illustrated talk on 'The Silent World of Bats' on Wednesday 15th April at 7.30pm in Fontmell Magna Village Hall (SP7 0JU). The cost is just £2 (including coffee/tea & biscuits) and there is no charge for children. This is the last talk of the season, but do look out for news of our walks throughout the summer.

A date for your diary: Saturday 16th May, 5am Dawn Chorus Walk near Child Okeford, followed by a farmhouse breakfast. Numbers are limited, so please contact Anna Aubrey on 01258 471339 to book your place. Cost £12, payable in advance, please.

Are you good with people? Enthusiastic about local wildlife? Looking for work that is flexible? If so South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL) is looking for self-motivated people to recruit members for Dorset Wildlife Trust. Hours negotiable. We welcome applicants of all ages. Sales experience an advantage. Access to a car essential. For more information go to: www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/memrec

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Gardeners Notes

April

- Start growing salad leaves (regular planting for continuous supply)
- Sow sweetcorn in paper toilet tubes
- Protect seed pots from the cold with cloches
- Continue to plant out potatoes
- Sow herbs
- Sow courgette, pumpkins, cucumbers etc..

Whether allotments or gardens consider how to get the most out of your planting low level and climbers and how these could work together especially in small spaces, which also to benefit each plant by promoting insects.

Check through your seed packets regularly to ensure planting on time.

Ordering your seed packets into months and types can help.

May

- Earth up the soil around potato shoots
- Feed young plants and house plants with fertiliser
- Sow lettuce, beetroot and rocket
- Plant out tomatoes/ cucumbers, peppers etc.. into larger pots/ grow bags
- Regular watering as greenhouses dry up your pots and seedlings

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CATCHPOLE LAW.....on law

How to receive tax efficient rental income from property held jointly by spouses/civil partners

Rental income received from property held jointly by couples, by which we mean spouses and civil partners, is treated for tax purposes as if it is received in equal shares (i.e. 50:50). If couples wish to agree a different division of rental income to be more tax efficient there are certain procedural steps they must take. If one of the individuals is a lower or basic rate tax payer the couple can declare that the rental income belongs to the lower or basic rate tax payer thereby utilising the lower or basic rate tax payer's personal allowance and only paying the lower rate of tax on the rental income.

How can this be done?

To agree an unequal division of rental income, HMRC require:

1. Evidence of an unequal beneficial interest in the property
Evidence can be provided in the form

of a declaration of trust. This is a simple legal deed which is signed by the couple and sets out their interests in the rental income. It shows how income is apportioned and actually received. It is the beneficial interests that are relevant to HMRC for income tax and capital gains tax purposes and the declaration of trust deals with this.

2. A Form 17
Form 17 must be signed by the couple and lodged alongside the evidence with HMRC within 60 days of being signed.

How much will it cost?

The legal costs associated with advising about how to adjust the beneficial interests and for preparing the necessary documents are tax deductible and the amount of income tax saved by adjusting the beneficial interests usually outweighs the legal costs.

Can this arrangement be changed in the future?

Should a couple's circumstances change, the declaration of trust and Form 17 can be redone to reflect a different apportionment of the beneficial interests and rental income.

Do I really need legal advice? Can I bypass legal advisers?

You will need legal advice to prepare the declaration of trust and consider the wider capital gains tax implications of adjusting the beneficial interests and to understand what happens if you were to separate or die. If you would like further advice please contact Catchpole Law and we would be very willing to help you.

CBA Services.....the budget

By the time you are sitting down with your cup of tea reading this, Spring will have sprung, tax planning should have been considered before the tax year 2014/15 comes to an end on 5 April 2015 and George Osborne has delivered the last coalition Budget.

I have summarised briefly below the Budget details for individuals but if you have any queries on the Budget or any other tax issues, then please feel free to give me a call.

Personal allowances

From 6 April 2015 the personal allowance for individuals will be £10,600. The additional personal allowances for those born before 6 April 1938, between 6 April 1938 and 5 April 1948 no longer apply from 6 April 2015.

However, after 6 April 2015 an individual born after 5 April 1935 can transfer £1,060 to a basic rate tax paying spouse/civil partner.

Income tax rates

The higher rate tax threshold of 40% will apply where your taxable income reaches £31,785 after your personal allowances (see note above). Additional higher rate tax of 45% will come into charge on income over £150,000.

For those individuals whose income exceeds £100,000 will continue to see their personal allowances reduced on a £1 for £2 basis.

Annual Tax Return

Digital account will replace the need for some individuals and small businesses to complete annual tax returns. These accounts will allow HMRC to use information it holds to calculate your tax liability without the need for you to complete an annual tax return. A digital account will be introduced from 2016.

Savings

A new "help to buy ISA" for the first time buyers will be available from this Autumn. If the first time buyer saves to up £12,000 towards their first home the Government will provide a bonus of up to a maximum of £3,000, so for every £200 a first-time buyer saves the Government will provide a £50 bonus, which will be added on the

purchase of the property. This can be used on a house purchase of up to £450,000 in London and £250,000 outside.

Pensions

The lifetime allowance (LTA) for pension contributions will reduce from £1,250,000 to £1,000,000 from 6 April 2016. There will be transitional protection for those pension rights which are already over £1,000,000. Please discuss this with your pension provider if this point is relevant to you. The maximum contribution into your pension scheme with tax relief has remained at £40,000.

Inheritance tax

As announced in 2013 Budget the nil rate band threshold for inheritance tax has been frozen to £325,000 until 2017/18.

The Government will be reviewing the use of "Deeds of Variation" for tax purposes.

Few details of the proposed review have been published yet.

Capital Gains Tax

The annual exemption has increased to £11,100 for 2015/16.

There are a few changes regarding assets which are used in your own business. If you need this information please let me know.

From 6 April 2015, a property will only be regarded as the main residence if you spend at least 90 midnights in that property

Please contact Catherine at CBA Services on 01258 840306 or 01725 552955, if you have any queries regarding the Budget

or if you need assistance with your bookkeeping, accountancy or tax issues.

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

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Book Review

One of the acclaimed films of 1998 was Robert Redford's direction of *The Horse Whisperer*, starring the director and Kristin Scott Thomas. Set mainly in Montana, the film had been adapted from the novel of the same name written by Nicholas Evans and published in 1995 by Delacorte Press. And it is Montana which sets the scene for his fourth book *The Divide* first published in the United Kingdom by Bantam Press, 2005.

From the opening pages the sheer scale and beauty of Montana is revealed; a father and son set out in the pre-dawn for a day's skiing in the mountains and at first all goes well.

The morning sun lights the virgin snow while the shadows hide the valleys and the lower slopes yet to be lit. Then, disaster; the

father skis onto a slope where the top surface has a covering of ice and in a split second he loses his balance and falls, one of his skis coming adrift as he tries desperately to arrest his slide towards the lip of a drop. His son can only watch in horror as his father disappears from view and with nerves and imagination in turmoil of what he might find, gradually makes his way to where he saw his father slide over the edge, the final yards being marked by a splatters of blood.

To his immense relief he hears his father's voice but before he can continue the lip of frozen snow on which he is standing gives way and he falls into the same crater of ice and snow into which his father has tumbled. Apart from a nasty gash to his cheek his father is un-hurt and gradually the pair begin to make their way out. And it is then that they make an awful discovery; first a hand and then, as they scrape away the covering of snow from the ice, peering up at them is the face of a young girl. The events that follow form a story of gripping intensity; the body, duly recovered by the local sheriff and his team, is identified as that of Abbie Cooper who is wanted by the FBI for murder and a series of eco-terrorism offenses. Tightly written, Nicholas Evans weaves an intrinsic plot of the breakdown of the marriage of Abbie's parents Ben and Sarah Cooper, an event

that precedes Abbie's disappearance and her meeting, and eventual infatuation, with Rolf whose Rasputin-like influence is the catalyst leading to her downward spiral and death.

Central to the long trail that follows the finding of her body are the many strands of family life; betrayal of trust as the Cooper's outwardly happy marriage falls apart; the terrible secret borne by Josh, Abbie's younger brother, through to a semblance of redemption and understanding between Ben and Sarah. *The Divide* is a classic read. The publishing house Osprey has over many years produced a series of aviation books covering aircraft types that have seen service with the air forces of the world. One that I was given a few months ago, and number 14 in their series of combat aircraft, features the Handley Page Halifax. Titled *Halifax Squadrons of World War 2*, and written by Jon Lake, provides the reader with an overall view of one of the mainstays of Bomber Command's bombing offensive from its introduction to service in late 1940 through to victory in May 1945. For various reasons the Halifax never achieved the plaudits given to the Lancaster but in its Mk.III form it proved a superb aircraft for its time. Profusely illustrated with black and white photographs [many well known but, nevertheless, well produced], the strong feature of the book are the twenty coloured plates depicting two side views per plate of the Halifax in all its guises. The series, as a whole, provides a worthy introduction to anyone who wishes to pursue an interest in Royal Air Force history.

Bill Chorley

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The National Trust, Mompesson House, Salisbury, 2015 Exhibition

'Sense And Sensibility Revisited: Did Jane Austin Know The Portman Sisters Of Mompesson House?'

In the early part of the nineteenth century Edward Berkeley Portman, MP for Dorset, whose family home was at Bryanston, settled his mother and three sisters at Mompesson House in Salisbury's Cathedral Close. Towards the end of the twentieth century, to be precise 1995, Mompesson House became one of the principal venues for the film *Sense and Sensibility*, now acknowledged as one of the finest film adaptations of Jane Austin's novel* of the same name. Although unlikely to have been considered at the time of filming, the fictional family of Mrs Dashwood and her three daughters has parallels with that of Mrs Portman and her three daughters for in the accepted ways of the early nineteenth century, inheritance of wealth passed to the male line which in the case of the Portman's was Edward. Now, twenty years on from the making of the film which starred Emma

Thompson [who wrote the screenplay], Alan Rickman and a host of stars too numerous to mention but who are now household names, a sumptuous exhibition commemorating the Portman's, Jane Austin and the film will be the highlight for visitors throughout the 2015 season.

Among the highlights will be some of the costumes worn at the time of the filming, historic Regency outfits and accessories along with drawings and scripts relevant to the Portman family and the Dashwood's. As to the question in the exhibition title; the answer will be revealed to all who visit Mompesson House in 2015.

* *Sense and Sensibility* was published in October 1811, by which time the Mrs Portman was well established at Mompesson House. Note. Mompesson House is open to the public Saturday through to Wednesday [closed Thursday and Friday] from 11 o'clock to 5 o'clock with last admission to the house at 4.30p.m. There is a delightful garden and



tearoom where light snacks and beverages may be purchased. Entry to National Trust members is free; for non-members please consult the Mompesson House website.



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The award winning 16th and 17th century stylish Inn at the heart of the village of Cranborne Dorset.



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At Last!

So far this year the weather has generally not been kind to sailors, with one or two exceptional days. But this changed for the first Club weekend cruise, to Cowes. We were booked in at Cowes Yacht Haven, they kindly advised us that dredging works would be starting at 02:00, so we rebooked to Sheperds Wharf, who looked after us very well.

An early start to catch the tide, and a run to Cowes, in strong winds 22kn +, with just the Genoa, gave us a SOG of 8kn, and an easy sail. Six yachts turned up, with three members arriving by ferry, as their yacht was still laid up. We were thus 19 for dinner in The Island SC, and a good evening it was, one of our members was celebrating her birthday, a basket of flowers turned up, which gave rise to spontaneous 'Happy Birthday' song.

The next day, a stroll around Cowes waiting for the tide, and then the return, on the wind, two reefs in, and 26kn wind, a

Gone Sailing

fast beat back to Lymington.

Interestingly three yachts were only two up, so would have been room for more, (always plenty of opportunities with LTSC).

Reflections and Recollections

A most popular race was Cowes - Dinard, a RORC race which jog joined in. Early morning start, one night at sea, and arrive in St Malo the next day. Interesting navigation and pilotage in these rock strewn waters. West of Guernsey, leaving; Casquets to Port, Les Hanois to Port, negotiating Plateau des Minquiers, and approaching St Malo, 'Chenal de la Petite Porte, La Balue in line with Gd Jardin 129 deg. And then locking into St Malo, the contrasts always intrigue, arriving with full thermals and waterproofs, once in the lock very hot, and rapid strip to shorts and tee shirts, whilst waiting for the lock, time to admire the colourful spectacle of many racing yachts, with battle flags flying from the forestay.



Get Afloat

A number of initiatives this year, encouraging all to get on the water. LTSC; Saturday 18th April 10:00 - 16:00 Open Day, 9th & 10th May Push the Boat Out, Sunday 2nd August Open Day, Bath Race, BBQ, Beer Tent etc. Bath Road Lymington SO41 3SE, www.ltsc.co.uk. RYA; Push the Boat Out 9 - 17 May at a club near you, On Board for 8 - 18s, Sailability for Disabled Sailors, www.rya.org.uk.

Why?

I have been writing this log, (since the Olympics) to encourage all to take up sailing, not sure how successful I have been in that respect. If you have not tried it, and being a seafaring nation, you really should! Has anyone been enthused? Please let me know.

Sailing: relaxed and laid back, exciting, challenging, satisfying, always learning, traditional skills, and electronic techy bits, out in the elements, good friendships, foreign travel, world girdling if you want, not expensive, fun! fun! fun! Wow, I think I'll take it up!

Cast off

As always, happy to talk about matters nautical, hope all this gets you on the water, soon be time for the sunblock.

Adam



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IPAF Licensed Operator - Comprehensive Liability Insurance included



Bright Sparks Nursery

Situated in Ebbesbourne Wake Village Hall

Just: 10 minutes from Sixpenny Handley, 5 minutes from Broad Chalke & 10 minutes from Tisbury

Enrol With Us From Age 1

Completely Renovated Playground Area

What Can We Offer You?

Unique village setting with outside space & large playing field

9 until 4 Monday-Thursday
9 until 3 on Fridays

£4.00 per hour for 1 yr olds
£3.50 per hour for 2 yr olds
£3.30 per hour for 3-7 yr olds

Holiday Club available during school holidays

One of the few local nurseries who take children aged 1 year

Owned and run by Angela, Karen & Nicky for the past 12 years

A secure, loving and fun environment for your child

Come and take a look or request a prospectus

Contact Angela, Karen or Nicky on 01722 781069 or send us an email to brightsparksare@aol.com

Noticeboard

Swim and Play at Sandroyd

Fridays 9.30am - 11.00am
For babies and toddlers in our heated indoor pool with our qualified instructor
Afterwards join us for a play and snack at The Walled Garden, Sandroyd Pre Prep

BOOKING ESSENTIAL – MAXIMUM 12 PER SESSION
Tel: 01725 516264
Email: office@sandroyd.com

Stay and play for toddlers and their parents at The Walled Garden, Sandroyd Pre Prep
Tuesdays 9.30am - 11.00am

Babies to School Age Children



Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Happy Nappy meets every Monday in the Village Hall from 10am - 11:30am

Toys, Singing and Fun for Babies and Children

...with coffee, tea and a chat for adults at our friendly group...

Children 50p, Adults £1

Emma Reeks 0777 909 58 63
Karen Adams 01725 552391

Teddy Bears Drop-in



Thursdays 10:30–12 noon, in term times.
Carers and small children are welcome for a chat, coffee and play in St Mary's Church



The Little Pennies
Pre-School
Registered Charity no. 1137622

www.thelittlepennies.co.uk
info@thelittlepennies.co.uk
Tel: Margaret 01725 552608

Sessions
3-5 years
Monday to Thursday:
8:45am-11:45am
&
11:45am-2:45pm

2-3 years
Friday:
8:45am - 11:45am

"Children are happy and feel exceptionally safe [and show] excellent behaviour and good manners"
Successful OFSTED report 2010

Fees & Funding

3-5 years
£9.90 per session
£3.30 per hour
(funding available for 3-5 year olds)

2-3 years
£12.00 per session
£4.00 per hour



Purpose built pre-school at Sixpenny Handley First School

Clayesmore for your child

Try
our Prep
taster days
& nights



OPEN DAY

9 May 2015 10am-2pm
(Last tours at 11.30am)

Just call to arrange a visit at any time and discover
more about our exciting boarding and day education.

Prep 01747 813155 Senior 01747 812122

www.clayesmore.com



Bus routes throughout Dorset and Wiltshire



www.chalkevalleyplayschool.co.uk

admin@chalkevalleyplayschool.co.uk

Tel: 01722 781072

Registered Charity no. 1029398

We take children from the age of **20 months up to 5 years** and offer **after school care**.

Monday to Friday 8am-6pm term time only.

Purpose built building in the grounds of
Broad Chalke Primary School.



Health Visitor @ Happy Nappy

The health visitor Tina Taylor hopes to
attend the first Monday of every month
from 10.30 to 11.30

There are a few bank holidays coming up in
the next few months so I aim to attend on
Monday 30th March but I will be unable to
provide an alternative date for May Bank
holiday as my colleague is on annual leave.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that any mothers
who want to see the health visitor, bring
their red book as this is the record of the
contact I make with them. I am only able to
plot the child's growth with this book which
provides evidence of growth and therefore
identifies any potential problems early.

I look forward to maintaining this useful
link with you and I will continue to
encourage new mothers to come to Happy
Nappy.

Tina Taylor

What's On

Date	Function	Page	Day	Club or Group
15 Apr	Cross Roads Cafe @ Parish Office	17	Mon	Happy Nappy : Village Hall 10:00 - 11:30 Weekly in Term Time
16 Apr	Bingo @ Village Hall	5	Mon	WI Meetings : Village Hall : 2nd Monday of Month
16 Apr	Flower Coffee Morning	12	Mon	Pilates : Village Hall Term Time : 16:30
17 Apr	Sixpenny Sessions @ Village Hall	12	Mon	Scouts : Scout Hut 19:00-21:00 : Term Time
18 Apr	Community Litter Pick	10	Tue	6D Handley Tennis Club Session 7pm (Summer)
23	Village Hall AGM @ Village Hall	20	Wed	Cross Roads Cafe Parish Office 10:30am - 12
25 Apr	Jumble Sale @ Village Hall	7	Wed	Whist : Village Hall : Fortnightly
6 May	Flower Coffee Morning	12	Wed	Beavers, Cubs, Explorers : Scout Hut : Term Time
7 May	General Election Polling Station @ Handley & Pentridge Village Halls	6 & 13		Yoga : Village Hall Term Time : 11:30
16 May	Sports Assn Quiz @ Bowls Club	8	Thu	Mothers' Union : 2nd Thursday in the Month 14:45
21 May	Bingo @ Village Hall	5	Thu	Teddy Bears Drop-in : Church 10:30 - 12:00 Weekly in Term Time
23 May	Plant Sale @ Gussage St Michael	5	Thu	Bingo : Village Hall 7:30 : 3rd Thursday not August
6 & 7 Jun	Flowers & Craft Display & Fete @ St Mary's	12		Line Dancing : Village Hall : 10:15
			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 hold a day center with a 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