



Sixpenny Handley Village Hall 'Raise the Curtain Appeal'

You can support us by visiting our
Crowdfunder page,
please watch our video and donate today!!
[Crowdfunder.co.uk / raise-the-curtain-appeal](http://Crowdfunder.co.uk/raise-the-curtain-appeal)

Or buy a fabulous car sticker. The self
cling stickers are a must for all Handley
residents. £3 or two for £5
Stickers are available now @ The Walnut
Tree and Styles Mini Market



 **X12** 

Bus Service to Sixpenny Handley?

page 6

NEW! The Downsman Business Support Group

page 4

Play Tennis & Have Fun!

Dust off those old trainers, dig out the
tracksuit and come and enjoy playing tennis
in the beautiful surroundings of Sixpenny
Handley Recreation Ground

page 14

An Evening with 'The General' @ Pentridge

Talk on General Pitt-Rivers a 19th
century army officer and adventurer

page 8

Parish Councillors Sixpenny Handley

Chairman	Cllr C Taylor	553148
	Cllr D Adams.....	552284
	Cllr R Adams.....	553032
	Cllr B Boyland	552805
	Cllr P Chalmers	516316
	Cllr S McLean	552910
Vice-Chair	Cllr J Reed	516390
	Cllr G O'Brien	552467
	Cllr A Turner	552735
Pentridge	Cllr Ms J Henry.....	553036
Clerk	Lisa Goodwin.....	01258 840935
Assistant Clerk	Ciona Nicholson	
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	Simon Hoare	02072 192787

Rights of Way Liaison Officers

Sixpenny Handley	J Reed.....	516390
Pentridge	Mrs M Jones	552358

The Downsman Team

Editor	naomi@naomiboath.co.uk	
Treasurer & Distribution	Tony Gibb.....	552704
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
-------------------------	--------

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Chairman	Carole Wyatt	552572
Vice Chairman	Paul Styles.....	552544
Treasurer	Paul Skinner	552785
Bookings	Ros Adams	553032

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point		
John Curtis	552397	

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
Dementia Friend Champion Hazel Kileen		552980

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	Jane Scott	01725 516294
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		
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.....	552211
------------------------------	--------

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

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

Handley Sports Club

Chairman & Treasurer	Mark Young.....	552741
Secretary & Team Div 3 Manager - Adam Day		01258 452481

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club

Chairman	Elizabeth Nodder.....	enodder@hotmail.com
Membership/Treasurer	Stephanie Chick.....	552557

Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

Evening Captain	David Cross	552640
Secretary	Frances Churchill	552868

Citizen's Advice Bureau

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

Next edition

The next edition will be published on
1st April 2016

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

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

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

Advertising

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

Advertisement Costs

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

Advertisement Sizes

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

*without frame which will be added by us.

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

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

All in one year...

What a start to 2016 - it feels as if everyone is making plans for the new year... and even better they want you to get involved!

2016 is Waistcoat Festival year, the date was set at the wash up of the last festival and the preparations are well underway for a spectacular day... we are looking to get as many groups, individuals and businesses involved as we can, so do take a look at page 11 to see what is going on!

Now Pentridge has completed it's refurb, it looks as if it's time for Sixpenny Handley to catch up - they have launched a Crowd-Fundraiser webpage where you can donate or if that is too much for a January afternoon get yourself a car sticker from the Walnut Tree or Styles Mini-market... I did enjoy designing those - see how many you can spot around the village!

Local businesses seem to be on the let's-get-on-with-it start to the year too. The Downsman Business Support group inaugural meeting is 4th February, so do get there if you can!

If you are looking for a new challenge this year, Little Pennies are looking for volunteer help page 8, pick up rusty racquet and get into tennis, page 14, take part in the School Quiz night, page 36, or the Community Litter Pick, page 21, offer to help someone, take them to the Crossroads Cafe, CCF or Soup lunch ... it doesn't matter what your challenge is, but it is nice to mark the changing year by doing something in the community and getting out of the gloomy indoors, meeting others and feeling better!

There is so much packed into this issue, I don't feel I have started to cover the events and opportunities we have available in the parish this winter. But for those who like to get out of the village on our local bus service the future is not looking so good. I have included a couple of pieces on page 6 and 7. There is time for you to contribute to the discussion, but not long, so please go for it soon!

Last thing is to welcome Anthony Brown who has written a new column for us - 'Musings of a Handley Woodsman' so have a read on page 26!

Naomi Booth

editor@thedownsman.org.uk

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

Directory	2	Seeker	21
Letters to the Editor	4	Health & Beauty	22
Noticeboard	4	Gardening	27
Parish News	6	Rob's Column	35
Clerks Corner	6	Gone Sailing	37
Village Hall	9	Book Review	34
Mobile Library	7	What's On	44
Totally Local	17		

To the Editor

Synergy Grants

Sixpenny Handley has been successful with two final grants - one for Waistcoat Festival and one for Pentridge Village Hall.

Christmas Decorations & Art Exhibition

I would like to congratulate who ever put up the wonderful Christmas decorations in the bus shelter in Sixpenny Handley, they made the place look great.

And also the art exhibition in the Parish Office was brilliant. It is lovely to see the talent of the people in Sixpenny Handley.

Simon Meaden

Open Farm Sunday June 5th

Just a date for your diaries, Open Farm Sunday is this year being held at Myncen Farm, Minchington.

A new bench for the Tennis Club

Bassets Sales & Lettings are delighted to have donated a bench to the Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club, after being made aware the club desperately needed seating for the courts.

As an independent and family run business, we understand the responsibility we have to support our local causes and charities, and to give something back to the communities in which we work. Every year, each of our four offices is given a budget to support a range of local charities and projects. In addition to this, all of Bassets team members are contracted to work a minimum of one day per year working in our local community.

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club is a vital part of the village community and an asset to the sporting facilities. We are optimistic that the new bench will encourage more people onto the courts as well as new members, spectators and supporters. For further information about the Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club, please turn to page 15

Iraq Donations

Thank you to all who generously gave clothes & bedding to send to Iraq. 103 bags were filled! Look for more details in the next Downsman.

Margaret Durrant

The late Cyril (Cyd) Rudd

I would like to thank the residents of St Mary's Court, and many other friends in Sixpenny Handley, for their warm tributes, cards and kindness, following the sudden loss of my father, Cyril Rudd, following a short illness over the Christmas period. We have been overwhelmed by your kindness. I would also like to thank all those who attended the funeral on Wednesday 20th January. My mother, Violet, is now residing in Blandford Grange Nursing Home, as her dementia has worsened over recent months. My thanks to Wendy Davis, Sonia Starr, Tracy Rimen and Hazel Killeen for their help over the recent difficult times. My thanks also to Richard Adlem and Mel Durrant for their care and attention at this very sad time.

Jan McGuinness (daughter)

AXE THE DORSET COUNCILLORS NOT OUR BUS SERVICE!

As a regular user of our local Bus Service to Salisbury, I am outraged at the underhand tactics of various elected Councillors to ramrod, condone, or acquiesce to the hardly publicised intended total closure of our Sixpenny Handley Bus Service No X12. The so-called Public Consultation conveniently closes for them February 8th, with buses ending April 1st! "April Fools Day" for the Councillors, Bean Counters and Government who preach Rural Development but practice this Rural Strangulation. This folly will affect us all in the life of our area, the healthcare access for the young and old and the value of our properties and businesses. Unless everyone concerned urgently calls, writes, emails and speaks up now to SAVE OUR BUS SERVICE AND COMMUNITY, on behalf of us the Voters and Taxpayers, we will lose this valuable necessity.

Leonard Holihan

VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB

Would you like to help our Village Hall and at the same time have a chance to win some money?

Join the 100 club

for £12 a year (or £1 a month if you prefer) the number you chose will go in a draw every month for £25, £15 or £10

Please help us to make some more money for the refurbishment of the Village Hall, and contact me Bea Boyland on 01725 552805 or beaboyland@btinternet.com

Village Hall 100 Club

November 2015

1st £25 16 Mr. Jesse
2nd £15 107 Mr. Jermyn
3rd £10 24 Mrs. Mereweather

December 2015

1st £25 41 Mr. Wootton
2nd £15 81 Mr. Jackson
3rd £10 93 Mr. Durrant

HOUSE FOR SALE

3 Bedrooms

SIXPENNY HANDLEY

£245,000

- Central location
- Off road parking for two cars
- Master with en-suite, walk in Shower
- Fully fitted kitchen including Dishwasher, Fridge freezer & Washing machine
- Oak flooring downstairs & fitted wool carpet upstairs.
- Lounge with French doors to garden.
- Out building / wood store.

Call Anthony & Clair on
T: 01725 552814

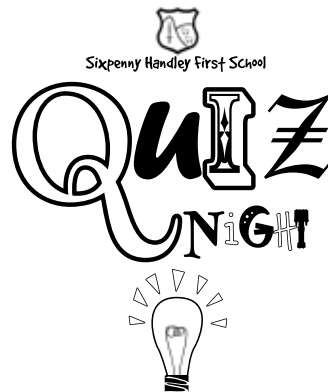
M: 07920031314 M: 079 2003 1360

Downsman Noticeboard

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

"The Downsman Business Support Group"

At The Barn, Frogmore Farmhouse, Frogmore Lane, Sixpenny Handley
Thursday 4th February
12.30 - 2.00pm



Friday 26th Feb

See page 36

COFFEE MORNING, BRING AND BUY

SATURDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY, 2016
IN PENTRIDGE VILLAGE HALL
10.30AM - 12 NOON

DONATIONS OF CAKES AND BRIC A BRAC WILL BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED. THERE WILL ALSO BE A RAFFLE.

ENTRANCE £1.00 TO INCLUDE TEA/ COFFEE AND BISCUITS.
PROCEEDS TO
ST RUMBOLD'S CHURCH.

Community Litter pick

Your Village needs you.
Join us again for the community litter pick and help make Sixpenny Handley a cleaner & tidier place.

Saturday 2nd April
Meet time: 1.30pm
Meeting point: Town farm workshops.

St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley
17th, 24th Feb 2nd, 9th, 16th March
WEDNESDAYS during LENT



SOUP LUNCHES

A cup and a chat from 12.30pm
Soup served at 1.00pm - Bring & Buy table



Each week the work of a charity supported by local people will be highlighted

See article in *The Seeker* or phone 01725 552608 for more information or to offer help. Help with transport can be provided.

SIXPENNY HANDLEY WI JUMBLE SALE

Sat 27th FEB

Doors open at 2.30pm
SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL
Lots of Stalls - Teas - Raffle
Entrance 20p

Items for sale may be brought to the Hall between 10am & Midday on the day.

For collections beforehand ring Stella on 552236 or Jan on 552704.
Sorry, no large furniture



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



Talk:
An Evening with 'The General'
February 25 @
7:30pm - 10pm
Pentridge Village Hall

See page 8



Clerk's Corner

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

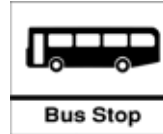
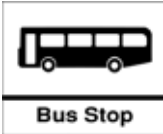
Unit 6, Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5PA

Email: sixpennyhandley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

Clerk to the Council (Lisa Goodwin) 01258 840935

Assistant Clerk (Ciona Nicholson) 01725 552211

Dorset County Council Rural Bus Review 2016 X12 – 300 – 400 Services affected



Dorset County Council is proposing to save £500,000 from their subsidised bus network. Reductions in Government funding and growing pressures on their budget mean they can only continue to subsidise bus services that support their priority of economic growth. Most of the savings will be made by removing funding for services in rural areas that run around once a week. To prevent rural isolation, Dorset County Council will be encouraging the development of more community-based transport schemes for social or leisure purposes, which can be more responsive to people's needs and will enable them to work with health partners to support their Health & Wellbeing priority.

A four week consultation runs until 8th February

You can see a list of affected services and have your say by completing the survey at www.dorsetforyou.com/2016-rural-bus-review or pick up a paper copy from the Parish Office.

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

You are invited to the
Annual Parish Assembly
for Sixpenny Handley
& Pentridge
including

Future of the Village Post Office

Wednesday 23rd March 2016 7pm
Sixpenny Handley
Village Hall

This is your Community Meeting
so please
come along, listen
and ask questions

Sixpenny Sessions

The real Johnny Cash experience

CASH CONVERTED

Supported by DJ Hutch

Sat 27th February

Doors open 8pm
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Tickets: £7 in advance £8 on door
from Styles Newsagents or www.eventbrite.co.uk

Supported by:

Proceeds to Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Raise the Curtain Appeal

Find us on:

Severe Cuts To Rural Bus Routes

Dorset County Council (DCC) have a £7.5M hole in their budget in addition to all the other cuts imposed to date as a result of central government subsidy cuts over the last 6 years. County are looking to save £500,000 by severely cutting rural bus routes with emphasis on once a week services and cross border. To that end, the initial proposal is that all the services at 6dH will cease with effect from the start of April 2016 - that is in less than 3 months time.

Being 11/12 miles from the nearest metropolis 6dH&P is more isolated than most other rural communities. The X12 bus route (Weymouth to Salisbury) allegedly only goes as far as the county boundary at East Woodyates! Salisbury being out of county is not recognised as a Dorset county destination and so DCC intend that the X12 will stop at Blandford. Residents in Dorset are being given a chance to have their say on how the proposed changes would

affect them. A four week consultation was launched yesterday and will run until Monday, 8th February. The consultation document is available on line at <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/travel-dorset/2016-bus-review>. Last time the response from this community other than the Parish Council input was virtually non-existent but it is vital that we do much better this time if anything is to be retained after 1 April. You may not use the bus yourself right now but many others do and you may well need it in the future when you are no longer allowed to drive. Tempus fugit. Any response needs to be factual and objective, emotive pleas will have little impact.

The Demand for Bus Routes Survey conducted by Dorset County Council during the previous bus subsidy review two years ago showed very clearly that Salisbury rather than Blandford Forum is the focal market town for communities living in the northern half of Cranborne Chase and to penalise Council Tax payers for a geographical reality is totally unacceptable. Contrary to the above the X12 is still running and provides several services daily Monday to Saturday. Those on Sundays and Bank Holidays were cut at the last review in 2013/14. The first and last schedules of the weekday service are primarily used by people going to/from work - mainly in Salisbury. Tuesdays and Saturdays are also relatively well used being Salisbury market days and for weekend shopping and trips out etc. When the East Dorset District Council (EDDC) Local Plan in conjunction with Christchurch Borough Council was being developed and finally approved neither Salisbury which is in Wiltshire nor Blandford which is in the North Dorset District were considered as having any relevance to the EDDC Local Plan because they are both Out-of-County/District. As a result those two very important centres with their associated linking highway - the A354 - were completely disregarded when assessing the logistic infrastructure needs of Cranborne Chase and its communities. The bus subsidy is gratuitous, not a statutory requirement and it has to be

acknowledged that there is a need to reduce the bus subsidy budget. There is some scope for further reductions to the X12 service but they have to be sensible and constructive. To eliminate all rural bus services in the northern area of Cranborne Chase would be an act of irresponsible vandalism causing a very severe impact on the area. Moreover, it would also make another mockery of all the current political hype about rural deprivation and the need for its recovery. It is noted that although not mentioned, cessation of all services would also further budget reduction by eliminating the need to pay for the free bus pass travel on the services under threat.

It is all very well our representatives in Westminster and County Hall exhorting us to set up voluntary community transport schemes but getting volunteers on the Chase is like getting blood out of stone. I gather that Chase Community Friends (CCF) who have been a bedrock service over the years is having some difficulties as present drivers gradually cease to be available. Maybe we need a cataclysmic catalyst to get us all off our butts! If they really do chop the X12 then DCC achieve a double whammy as the costs of the statutory free bus passes will also be saved.

Those of you big on social media could help enormously by alerting others through Facebook/Twitter etc. Thank you.

David Lockyer

Sixpenny Handley Mini-Market

*Extensive range of groceries
In-store bakery
Chilled & Frozen Food
Local Bread and Milk Daily.
Fruits & Vegetables.
Off-licence:
wines, ciders & ales*



Mon - Fri 7am - 7pm
Saturday 7:30am - 7pm
Sunday 7:30am - 1pm
Tel: 01725 552658



12 High St, Sixpenny Handley,
Salisbury SP5 5NR

Mobile Library Visits on Thursday Fortnightly

February 12, 26

March 12, 26

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

An Evening with 'The General' @ Pentridge

We are delighted to welcome Adrian Green, Director of Salisbury Museum, to spend an evening with us in our charming village hall on 25th February. A local authority on General Pitt-Rivers, Adrian will tell us more about this former 19th century army officer and adventurer, noted for his weird and wonderful collections.

From his early army career, to an unexpected inheritance of the Rushmore Estate (one of the wealthiest in Britain), Pitt-Rivers, or 'The General' as he was commonly known, set to work to transform his estate.

He embraced the new idea of the science of archaeology and conducted his excavations with military precision. He created a museum at Farnham for his workers, an art gallery at Tollard Royal and in addition he created the Larmer Tree Gardens, which attracted people in their thousands. Today the gardens continue to draw people from far and wide, providing a tranquil setting to enjoy the famous music festivals and and meander amongst the Victorian pleasure grounds.

After his death, thousands of the artefacts he discovered were transferred to Oxford and the Salisbury Museum. It is therefore fitting that Adrian Green is coming to Pentridge to share his knowledge about this inspirational and innovative Victorian.

The ticket price for this event is £7.50, this includes a glass of wine (available from 7pm).

The event will raise funds for Pentridge Village Hall.

For more info, please view on our website: <http://pentridgedorset.co.uk/event/talk-an-evening-with-the-general/> or email info@pentridgedorset.co.uk

YOUR PRESCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

Little Pennies Preschool, Sixpenny Handley, is asking for volunteers to help with sessions from Jan 2016

Have a little spare time?
Enjoy being with children?
Love your community?
Preschool needs you!

When: Monday to Friday
9:30am to 2:30pm (term time only)

Flexible times to suit you.

What: Preparing snacks and generally supporting staff whilst having fun.

Who: Everyone, not just for Mums and Grans!

The Little Pennies Pre-School

Interested and would like a little more info? Please call:
 Ruth or Becky 01725 552997 or Margaret 01725 552608

Thank you from Little Pennies Staff and Children VOLUNTEERING IS SUBJECT TO DBS CLEARANCE.

We are open to all! You don't have to be a member to come and enjoy the fantastic facilities we offer in a truly idyllic location



- ✓ No Joining Fee & 6 Months ½ Price on all membership categories
- ✓ Beginners Membership. 6 Lessons with PGA Professional, 10 rounds of Golf £50 Credit in Clubhouse – Just £250



Book now for our Saturday Night Supper Club!
 Fantastic Menu & Live Entertainment for just £29.95pp
 Call for more information

Rushmore Golf Club | Tollard Royal | Wiltshire | SP5 5QB

01725 516391

www.rushmoregolfclub.co.uk

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall 'Raise the Curtain Appeal'

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall has launched a Crowdfunder Appeal to raise £5000 towards refurbishing the stage at the village hall. This funding will go towards installing new lighting rigs, a new PA system and mixing desk, restoring the stage flooring and re-locating the storage currently on the stage.

Over the last two years we have worked hard to bring back live music and theatre to Sixpenny Handley. Our events are really growing and our last Artsreach event saw a whopping 90 people turn out for 'Strictly Balti'!! This is fabulous support for our work. However we are constantly hampered by our antiquated equipment and small stage. We would like to update our facilities so we can bring you bigger and better events.

You can support us by visiting our Crowdfunder page, please watch our video and donate today!!
Crowdfunder.co.uk / raise-the-curtain-appeal.



**You can support us by visiting our
Crowdfunder page,
please watch our video and donate today!!**

Crowdfunder.co.uk / raise-the-curtain-appeal

Car Stickers

You can also help by buying a fabulous car sticker for your car. All funds go towards the Raise the Curtain Appeal. The self cling stickers are a must for all Handley residents. £3 or two for £5.

Stickers are available now @ The Walnut Tree and Styles Mini Market.



Raise the Curtain Appeal

**WE'RE
RAISING FUNDS**

Help us reach our target

£5,000

by 18th February 2016

'Raise the Curtain Appeal' - Our Village Hall needs money to update our stage and lighting equipment so we can host live music and theatre.

PLEDGE NOW

Crowdfunder.co.uk / raise-the-curtain-appeal

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall News

**Skilled Illusionists Morgan and West coming this Spring!
With Beanstalks, Magic and a Johnny Cash tribute band
it's all happening at Sixpenny Handley Village Hall this season.**

Artsreach return with two shows this Spring, don't miss the delightful puppetry of The Magic Beanstalk, a great end to the half term week and with a tasty hot dog little ones can stay for tea too. Morgan and West bring their unique blend of magic and comedy in March with Parlour Tricks.

Thank you to all who came to our December Sixpenny Sessions and danced the night away with the raucous (and a little loud) Blackwater County, quite a few hearing aids were tossed away with gay abandon that night!! 'Fairytale of New York' was a real highlight.

Saturday 27th February

@ 8pm for 9pm start

Sixpenny Sessions return for their first outing of 2016 with the South's Premiere Johnny Cash tribute band 'Cash Converted' who deliver that unique vocal and guitar style, loved by country music fans everywhere! Supported by his full band Mark Carter-Cash and introducing the lovely June Carter on Vocals, they will cover the rockabilly years of the 50's right through to the melodic, soulful tunes of recent years. Supported by DJ Hutch. Tickets £7 Advance or £8/Door Tickets available at Styles Mini Market and Eventbrite

**Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
available for hire.**

Our prices:

Half day (9am-1pm) or (1pm-5pm) £36

Whole day (9am-5pm) £66

Childrens' party's £11 hr or £9 hr for local residents.

Evening bookings subject to £10 charge for premise alcohol licence (if required).

Reduced hourly fee available for regular bookings.

**BOOKINGS: Ros Adams 01725 553032 or
email 6dhandleyhall@gmail.com**



The Magic Beanstalk by Light Theatre

**Thursday 19th February @ 4pm
(60 min show)**

The Magic Beanstalk by Light Theatre- Jack, his mum and their cow Daisy are in trouble. Their house is leaking, the phones cut off, there's no food in the fridge – and they've got NITS! Something's got to change and what happens next is an exciting adventure for all girls and boys who believe in magic.

For children between the ages of 5 – 11, and their families. Hot dogs will be served after the show.

Adult Ticket £6 U18's £5 and Family £20

Reserve your tickets now -

Jen 07751 525200



Parlour Tricks by Morgan and West

**Saturday 12th March @ 7.30pm
(90min show with interval)**

Parlour Tricks by Morgan and West – Time travelling magic duo Morgan and West bring us a new show chock full of jaw dropping, brain busting, gasp eliciting feats of magic. Be sure to wear a hat – Morgan and West might just blow your mind!

Family Friendly recommended for age 7+

Adult Ticket £8 U18's £6 and Family £25

Reserve your tickets now -

Jen 07751 525200

More armless fun is on the way!

Sixpenny Handley Waistcoat Festival - 21st May 2016



This year's theme is Bread and Cheese taken from the story of the little boy who buried his bread and cheese lunch in his front garden so it would escape the fire. We will be making bread and cheese in lots of projects all over the village culminating in a large community fondue at Church Farm Campsite!

Join us from 12:30pm for the usual fabulous stalls with local produce and crafts, live music in collaboration with Larmer Tree, traditional crafts, beer, cider and a whole lot more. Back for another year is the lovely children's garden at St. Mary's Court where you can make a Handley hare, hang out and listen to storytelling. There will be fabulous food from the Scouts BBQ, veggie food by Flaming Peaches street food, children's lunches at The Walnut Tree, cream teas at the church and traditional grub at the Roebuck Inn and Hanlegas.

Alongside the usual shenanigans of the Water Bucket Challenge, the Best Waistcoat Competition and performances from Sixpenny Handley First School we are planning an extra special performance in the High Street and processional parade to Church Farm Campsite. We want to celebrate the enormous effort made by the women of Handley to put out the fire that day in 1892 and are calling on all the

12:30-5:00pm The High Street
5-9pm Church Farm Campsite
Processional Parade @ 4.30pm and Lighting of the Fire Beacon 8pm - late

Roll up your sleeves and don your best waistcoat once more and help us commemorate the great fire of Handley 1892 when we take over the High Street for the 2nd festival of buttoned up, sleeveless attire!

women of Handley to get involved in a choral project for this performance!

This year festivities will continue from 5-9pm at Church farm with the community fondue, more street food and more fiery entertainment culminating in a very extra special lighting of the fire beacon to commemorate the great fire in Handley in 1892. You will not want to miss it!!

THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS TO GET INVOLVED!

Stallholders wanted!

If you are interested in having a stall, please contact Penny penny_mansergh@hotmail.co.uk There is a reduction for Community stallholders and those booking before Jan 31st. Application forms are available to download from the website. www.Sixpennyhandley.com

Women of Handley and Pentridge wanted!!

Calling all women of Handley and Pentridge- we would love you to take part in an extra special project celebrating the hard part played by the women of Handley in putting out the fires. We have planned a choral project (no singing experience necessary) to create a special performance in Handley High Street at 4.30pm on 21st May. There will be 3 rehearsals possibly on Saturdays this Spring, children welcome too. If you would like to take part please give your name to Naomi Booth naomi@thewebbooth.co.uk

Sponsors & Raffle Prizes Needed

Could you or your business help us by offering to be a sponsor or giving a raffle prize.... if so please email Penny penny_mansergh@hotmail.co.uk or speak to Paul in the shop.

Thank you, we look forward to seeing you all buttoned up and beautiful -

Paul, Jenny, Naomi and Penny



WI News And Information

NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

On Thursday 5th November, 15 members travelled to Wimborne to visit the museum for a vintage tea and to see the 100years of WI Exhibition. The tour of the Priest House was followed by the "tea" – excellent. A great selection of sandwiches, huge scones with jam and cream – a pot per person and some delicious cakes – all presented on glass cake stands. Pots of tea kept coming and the china tea cups, saucers and plates were very varied and pretty.

Just as we thought it was time to go home we had a lovely surprise when one of the volunteers asked if we would like to view some slides of Sixpenny Handley prior to the fire which demolished most of the thatched cottages.

The WI 100 years exhibition was well presented and informative showing just how much talent of past and present members there was and is.

On 26th November 38 members from various Institutes from across the



county came to a Resolutions meeting in the Village Hall. This year there were 8 resolutions for members to vote on and information on each was provided followed by lively discussion.

On 14th December Bobbie Carter

welcomed a large gathering of special guests from Group Institutes, members and their guests. Bobbie had written, produced and directed this year's play entitled 'A Little Play' Ha Ha. Some members dressed as nursery rhyme characters as Bobbie appeared to read a bedtime story to her

LARMER TREE

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

12th February	Canapés & Nibbles Cookery Course
19th February	Ghost Stories by Candlelight
26th February	Game Cookery Course
4th March	Bread Making Cookery Course
6th March	Mother's Day Lunches
11th March	Cake Making Cookery Course
20th March	Wedding Fair & Garden Open

To book please telephone, or for more information visit our website

01725 516971

www.larmertree.co.uk

... more WI

daughter. It was full of humour and well received by the audience. A selection of songs and carols were performed by members and Bobbie finished by reading a very moving poem. Everyone enjoyed a very impressive, delicious buffet.

The new year meeting started with John Coombes from Ringwood who produced a fantastic slide, video and music show. A gifted photographer, his slides varied from the minute carpet moth, through local walks to 60 waxwings visiting a garden – a wonderful spectacle with a unique sound. We hope he will come again.

Future Meetings:

8th Feb Mrs Ros Liddington:
"Of Corset Art".

27th Feb Jumble Sale –
Doors Open at 2.30pm

Mar 14th Games Evening.
Committee Nominations

If you are interested in our meetings or would like further information please don't hesitate to contact the Secretary, Margaret Jones on 552358. You will be made very welcome.



SIXPENNY HANDLEY WI JUMBLE SALE Sat 27th FEB

Doors open at 2.30pm
SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL
Lots of Stalls – Teas - Raffle
Entrance 20p

**Items for sale may be brought to the Hall between
10am & Midday on the day.**
For collections beforehand ring Stella on 552236 or Jan on 552704.
Sorry, no large furniture

Michelles Hair Design
Unisex Hair salon
50 High St.
Sixpenny Handley
01725 552733

***New opening
hours!***
***Late night opening
now Tuesday.***

Monday 9.15 - 2.00
Tuesday 9.15 - 7.00
Wednesday Closed
Thursday 9.15 – 2.00
Friday 9.15 – 2.00
Open every other
Saturday morning.

Toby Daniels

Dip WCF

Registered Farrier

*Appointments for the
weekend are available*

Telephone: 07515 445469

THE WALNUT TREE



GALLERY

52 High Street Sixpenny Handley
01725 552836



www.thewalnuttreegallery.co.uk

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club Membership Form

With the lighter evenings gradually approaching we would like to encourage as many people as possible to use the facilities. Annual Membership will now run from 1st February 2016. (As this date has changed, members renewing from 2015 will pay less this year). Below is a membership application form to complete and return to Steph Chick as soon as possible (plus cheque or BACS payment amount & date).

We will be changing the key on Monday 1st February 2016.

We offer lessons to adult and junior members of all levels, including "rusty racquets" sessions. To take part in any coaching sessions you must be a paid up member of the Tennis Club.

Any queries about membership please

contact Steph on 01725 552557. Please send your membership form and cheque back to Steph and a key will be posted to you so you can COME AND PLAY!!!!

**Membership Secretary & Treasurer: Stephanie Chick, Little Bredy, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, SP5 5NU.
Tel: 01725 552557, email: david@davidchick.co.uk**

Chairman: Elizabeth Nodder, The Surgery, Dean Lane, Sixpenny Handley. email: enodder@hotmail.com

Name..... Email address.....

Address.....

Postcode..... Telephone no.....

Membership category	Annual subscription New Members	Renewal Sub for existing 2015 members	Name Of Member(s) (plus Date of Birth for junior members)	Quantity	Amount enclosed
Adult	£35.00	£26.25			
Junior (under 18) on 01/02/16	£10.00	£7.50			
Family (2 adults & up to 3 juniors)	£75.00	£56.25			
Non playing Adult Member	£10	£7.50			

Please note junior members will not be issued with a key, unless an Adult is a member/non playing member.

Disclaimer: Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club accepts no liability whatsoever for loss, damage, illness, accident or injury to players, spectators, other persons or property on the club grounds and courts.

Signed BACS paid/Cheque enclosed for

BACS payments to: Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club, Barclays Bank Sort Code 20-96-96, Account number 53438384



Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club



Use the fantastic village facilities, meet new friends, get fitter & above all

PLAY TENNIS & HAVE FUN!

Dust off those old trainers, dig out the tracksuit and come and enjoy playing tennis in the beautiful surroundings of Sixpenny Handley Recreation Ground

Annual Family, Adult, Junior & non-playing Memberships available

New for 2016: Rusty Racquets Evenings

A fantastic opportunity for adult members to brush up on old tennis skills & meet other members



We also offer lessons for adults & juniors of all levels

Contact Steph Chick for membership details:
01725 552557 or david@davidchick.co.uk



Different in so Many Ways

Proud to Support the
**Sixpenny Handley
Tennis Club**



Salisbury
Sales 01722 415141 | Lettings 01722 820580



www.bassets.co.uk



Bassets Estate Agent



@basset1

Bowls Club Report

Let's hope it's not tempting fate to report that Handley short mat bowls team have won all their matches up to the new year and are lying second in their league. The Tanners team have had more mixed fortunes and are currently fourth. Congratulations to all the players concerned.

On 13th December the club held its annual Hamper Day short mat bowls competition in the village hall. It was very well enjoyed, the prize winners being (4th) Peter Martin, (3rd) Anne Naylor, (2nd) Pat Oxford and the overall winner, Colin Chambers. A few days prior to that event members gathered in the cheerfully decorated clubhouse for a Christmas party, with quizzes, silly games, a bit of singing and plentiful food and drink. A good evening was had by all.

The club's Presentation Lunch was held at The Langton Arms on 6th December. Members enjoyed the opportunity to meet and chat over a drink, followed by a three-course meal and the presentation of trophies for the various internal competitions that had taken place over the summer.

On Friday 4th March, the club is very pleased to be hosting an evening of music and singing. We are very excited to be welcoming to the clubhouse two very talented young musicians, Clare Sutherland, who is studying voice at Royal Holloway and Jo-Jo Shim, who is studying keyboards and strings at the Royal Academy. They will be performing a varied programme of music and it promises to be a very enjoyable evening. Tickets are £6 to include light refreshments and the bar will be open for those who would like to savour a glass of wine whilst being royally entertained. The event is open to anyone though priority will go to bowls club members. If you would like a ticket, please contact Val Martin on 01725 552607, but be quick, numbers are limited and this will be a popular event.

Finally, many congratulations to one of our members, Doris Day, who celebrated her 90th birthday during December.

If you would like any further information about the club and its events or if you are thinking of joining, then please contact our President, Paul, on 07964769159 or our secretary, Colin, on 01725 552796.

Driving In The Dark?

Do you dislike driving on unfamiliar roads or driving in the dark?

If so, it may be time for some driver refresher training.

For just £5, drivers aged 70 and over can take part in a two-hour theory session to update their driving knowledge.

The sessions are organised by Dorset County Council and are run by a road safety professional in a friendly, non-threatening environment.

Subjects such as staying fit to drive, new driving techniques, changes to the Highway Code, negotiating roundabouts and junctions safely, and dual carriageway and motorway driving will be covered.

There is also an option for a practical refresher drive at a later date. This 90-minute one-to-one practical driving session takes place on local roads and includes town and country driving. This aims to improve defensive driving techniques, hazard awareness and better road positioning, as well as providing tips that can help reduce fuel consumption and vehicle wear and tear.

Bookings are being taken for courses across the county for the New Year.

For further information and to book a place on the theory discussion session please go to: www.dorsetforyou.com/roadsafety/gold or call the road safety team on 01305 221031

Dates for the theory sessions

Gillingham Riversmeet Leisure Centre - Wednesday 3 February
Wimborne Allendale Centre - Wednesday 10 February
Poole Upton House - Monday 15 February
Sherborne Digby Hall - Wednesday 24 February
Bournemouth LV Streetwise - Tuesday 1 March
Dorchester County Hall - Thursday 3 March

Healthwatch Dorset,

Health and care service watchdogs, Healthwatch Dorset, invite the public to find out more about the organisation and get your voices heard.

Healthwatch Dorset board is meeting on Wednesday 27th January from 1.30pm at Wimborne Community Learning & Resource Centre in King Street. This event is open for local people.

Healthwatch Dorset works with people across Bournemouth, Poole & Dorset to discover what's really going on in our health and social care services.

If you have any questions for the board, Healthwatch Dorset kindly asks that people

please get in touch before the meeting. To find out more please go to the Healthwatch Dorset website: www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk

You can contact Healthwatch Dorset by calling 0300 111 0102 (calls cost the same as 01 or 02 numbers). Write to us free at Freepost RTJR-RHUJ-XBLH Healthwatch Dorset, 896 Christchurch Road BH7 6DL

Twitter @HwatchDorset & Facebook or by visiting your local Citizen Advice Bureau

Totally Locally....

It was a slightly damp December morning, in deepest, darkest Newtown, when I first met up with Lou Stuart to find out more about her business "Chalke Valley Nordic Walking". In no time at all I was giving Nordic Walking a try, and I loved it!

So, here's what I discovered.....Nordic Walking is a year-round activity that can be done by pretty much anyone. You don't need lots of expensive equipment to get started - a good pair of walking shoes is all you'll need (Lou supplies the poles), and there are a variety of walks right on your doorstep.

With groups of no more than 15 people, Lou works with each member of the group to find the Nordic Walking "gear" that's right for them. Whatever your level of fitness you'll be able to take part. It's great for upper body strength and a wonderful way to return to fitness post injury or illness. It will even help you to burn calories in a fun way, if that's what you need after the festive season.....fresh air, walking and talking seems to be the order of the day, so much better than going to a gym (not that I ever did)!

Lou was formerly an Occupational Therapist in the NHS, and is now a qualified Nordic Walking Instructor - which means that she's qualified in key aspects of fitness instruction, anatomy, physiology and sports science. She's a lovely teacher and so easy to talk to, so for one of my new year's resolutions I've signed up for the next Learn To Nordic Walk 4-week course which starts on Thursday February 25th.

If you fancy giving it a go, you can book a free taster session on line or, easier still, Lou offers lots of drop-in sessions where you can simply turn up on the day. More details are on her website, but here are the February dates for taster sessions starting from Sixpenny Handley Village Hall:
Mondays at 2pm: 8th, 15th or 22nd February
Thursdays at 10am: 4th, 11th or 18th February

Chalke Valley Nordic Walking



To find out more, please look at www.chalkevalleynordicwalking.co.uk, email Lou at loustuartnw@gmail.com or phone 07557952682.

If you run a business in The Downsman's catchment area, and would like to see it featured in this column, please contact Sarah Taylor direct at tenandsix@yahoo.co.uk.

Thank you for reading.....

Sarah



Come and try the fastest fitness activity in the country! Nordic Walking is an enhancement of ordinary walking - it make it twice as effective!

Nordic Walking uses poles to in order to add two major benefits to walking

- The use of poles means the upper body muscles are used as well as the legs
- The poles help to propel the walker along - this means you work harder than usual yet the support given by the poles makes it feel easier

When: FREE taster sessions available any Friday 10 am , ring to confirm.

4 week learn to Nordic Walk Courses in Sixpenny ,(+ Broadchalke and Salisbury)

Wonderful weekly workout walks in & around Sixpenny Thursdays 1.30 pm

Where: Sixpenny Handley by the Village Hall

To book: Phone : 07557 952682

loustuartnw@gmail.com

www.chalkevalleynordicwalking.co.uk

Crossroads Café

Our café continues apace having been closed for the Christmas and New Year holidays. It continues to provide a wonderful opportunity to get out, meet others and engage in conversation on matters of interest in the community. The final meeting in December was a bit of a party with decorations, festive goodies, raffle and sale of jewellery. The proceeds of the raffle which included shopping vouchers for the butchers and hairdressers raised £65 which it had earlier been agreed would be used as a contribution towards the cost of providing a Teaching Assistant at St Joseph's School in Rokon, South Sudan.

The latest topic that generated a fair bit of heat hit the headlines on Wednesday 13 January being the start of the consultation to remove the bus service from Blandford to Salisbury. As the survey is on line there was an opportunity for those without internet access to register for a printed copy to be provided by the Parish Office on which to submit their response (8 registered). The consultation period is for 1 month only, ending on 8 February, so any readers who haven't made their views known have very little time when you read this.

Do come along and try it out and if you are occasionally able to give a helping hand that would be great and very welcome.

David



NEW! Downsman Business Support Group

Would you be interested to meet with other local business owners to discuss opportunities, challenges and to offer mutual support and encouragement?

If so, then please join us for the first get-together at

**The Barn, Frogmore Farmhouse
Frogmore Lane (corner of Back Lane
and Frogmore Lane)**

Sixpenny Handley

On Thursday 4th February 2016

between

12:30pm and 2:00pm

Any questions ... please ask Catherine
Chapman or Sarah Taylor at
downsmanbsg@gmail.com



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



MAIDMENT & CARTER LTD.

BUILDING CONTRACTORS

- CARPENTRY & JOINERY
- BRICKWORK
- STONEMASONRY
- PLUMBING
- ELECTRICAL
- DECORATION
- ROOFING
- DRAINAGE



- KITCHENS
- BATHROOMS
- INSURANCE WORK
- UPVC DOORS, WINDOWS, FACIAS ETC
- FITTED BEDROOMS
- QUICK RESPONSE
- FREE ESTIMATES
- FULLY INSURED



All Aspects of Building Work Undertaken - Extension & Renovation Specialists
For your peace of mind, we only employ the services of time quality tradesmen

IN-HOUSE DESIGN & BUILD SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE FOR NEW BUILDS, FROM PLANNING THROUGH TO COMPLETION
Directors: Paul Maidment & Julian Carter Unit 3c, Sunrise Business Park, Higher Shaftesbury Road,
Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 8ST

Tel/Fax: 01258 45 45 22 Email: mandcltd@btconnect.com Web: www.maidmentandcarter.com

R&R

Building Contractors Ltd

01258 721565 or 01202 821901

Roger: 07879 453757 Ryan: 07753 458958

info@randrbuildingcontractorsltd.co.uk
www.randrbuildingcontractorsltd.co.uk



**DO YOU HAVE SOME HOME
MAINTENANCE NEEDS, OR
A JOB THAT NEEDS
DOING?**

Call Mike to discuss your requirements or for a
free quotation - remember no job too small,
just ask!

PHONE HOME MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Home: 01725 552335 Mobile: 07710 468752

J O S E P H P E A C O C K
PAINTER & DECORATOR

07967 664446

INTERIOR * EXTERIOR * FREE ESTIMATES
SHAFTESBURY

Home Handyman

Painting, Decorating

And

General Maintenance
around the home

Keith Orman

Tel: 01725 552293

Mob: 07941652690

No job too small

PATRICK ROSE

**QUALITY PAINTER
AND DECORATOR**

Free quotes
& advice

Fully insured

TEL: 01258 857116
MOB: 07989 373735

**WASHING MACHINES,
ELECTRIC COOKERS
STORAGE HEATERS &
DYSONS**

FIXED FAST

**+ PHONE POINT
INSTALLATION**

L E D UPGRADES

**PORTABLE APPLIANCE
TESTING**

OVENOLOGY

01258 426971



S WALLWORTH
ELECTRICAL SERVICES
DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL

FULLY QUALIFIED ELECTRICIAN
EMERGENCY REPAIRS
INSTALLATIONS - RE-WIRES
ELECTRICAL REPAIRS & TESTING
EXTRA SOCKETS & LIGHTING
NIGHT STORAGE HEATING
ELECTRIC SHOWERS

SPECIAL RATES FOR OAPS

FREE QUOTATIONS

SIMON WALLWORTH
31 DEAN LANE, SIXPENNY HANDLEY
SP5 5PA
TEL: 01725 552545
MOB: 07826 928759
S.WALLWORTH@HOTMAIL.CO.UK



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
Jane Scott
01725 516294



Age 14-18
Thursday 7 to 9pm
Anthony Brown
01725 552814

Occasional Helpers

The leaders of the Cubs and Scouts sections are looking for parents or any other adults who would like to help out occasionally during section meetings. To be an Occasional Helper, all you need is to have passed a criminal record check with the Disclosure and Barring Service – if you've been to one of our Family Camps in the last 5 years, you'll already have this; if you don't have a current check, we can easily arrange that for you – it's quite painless, honest! That's it! Simple! It's not a formal role in Scouting, so you won't need to do any training, wear a uniform or make a promise, just arrange with the leader of one of the sections to turn up when and if you can and help out, take part in the activities of the section and, above all with 1st Woodcutts, HAVE FUN! The contact details for our leaders are in the header at the top of this page – give them a call, or have a word before or after a meeting and join in!



Cubs celebrate 100 Years

In 2016 Cub Scouts across the world will be celebrating their Centenary Year. It was in 1916 that Baden-Powell, after being pestered by the younger brothers of the Scouts, formed the new organisation for 8 – 10 year olds. Whilst it is not possible to accurately state the number of members of the Scout Association across the world, it is now estimated to be in the region of 40 million and active in 216 countries. To think, this started less than 20 miles from Sixpenny Handley on Brownsea Island!

So what better way to celebrate the 100th Birthday of Cubs, than to have our own special camp and party on Brownsea. The Cubs will be enjoying 3 days of action packed adventure over the May Bank Holiday and will be joined by the other sections of the Group and friends of Woodcutts for a big birthday party on the Sunday. The Explorers, ever looking for a new and challenging ideas, will not be taking the traditional ferry to the island (far to boring and straight forward) but will be making their way over under their own power, using kayaks and paddle boards. We look forward to reporting back on the exciting camp and lots of stories of fun and friendship.

Summer Camp 2016

Over recent years the Scouts and Explorers have enjoyed camps on Guernsey, in England and last year in Wales. So, the challenge was set..... why not a Summer Camp in Scotland? Never one to back down from a challenge we quickly scoured for suitable locations and activities for our annual week of adventure. It turns out that Scotland is further away than you think (we are reasonable at map reading, not-so great at geography) and the logistics of getting 35 of us there is going to be challenging, but as we said, we are not ones to back down from a challenge! We have chosen the National Scout Activity Centre at Meggernie as our base for the week. The Meggernie Outdoor Centre is

located amongst the magnificent Highland scenery of Meggernie Estate, Glenlyon in Perthshire and perfectly situated for us to visit the capital city of Edinburgh and for adventures into the glen for mountain walking, grass skiing and loads of other challenging activities. Again, we look forward to updating you on this week of adventure and tales of daring-do!

Scouts

The Scouts met at 1st West Moors Scout HQ on the 4th of January to take part in their qualifying round of the East Dorset District air rifle competition. Once again, our young people proved themselves crack shots, with some superb scores recorded. Our two highest scorers, Margaux Fauvel and Tamas Nevill go through to the final – let's hope that once again they can bring home the gold for 1st Woodcutts!

Subscriptions

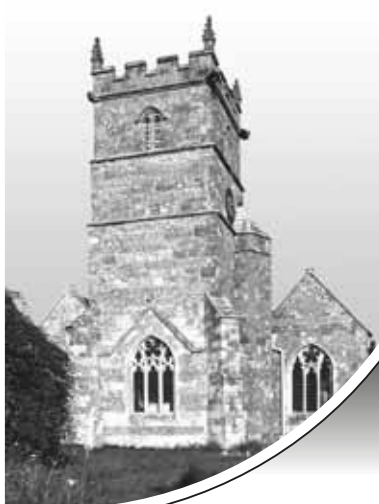
Just a quick reminder that subs for this term of £27 are now due. Once again, we are accepting payment by electronic funds transfer through your Internet or mobile banking service or by cheque or cash.

**COMPTON
SMITH**
CLASSIC INTERIORS

Designer Paints · Wallpapers · Fabrics · Curtain Poles · Curtains · Upholstery · Lamps
Architectural Ironmongery · Interior Design Service · Handmade Furniture



10d Wincombe Business Park, Shaftesbury, SP7 9QJ Tel: 01747 850150
www.comptonsmith.co.uk



**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*

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)

The Seeker

www.handleychurch.org.uk

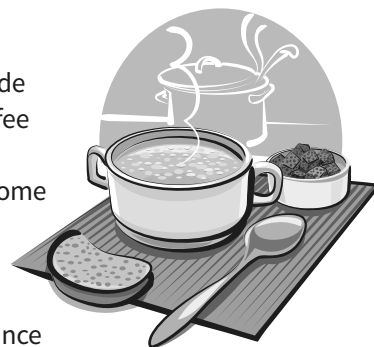


Feb 2016

Lent Soup Lunches – from February 17th

Come and enjoy two varieties of delicious homemade soup with homemade bread, followed by tea or coffee in St Mary's Church, Sixpenny Handley.

The meal will be served at 1.00pm but you are welcome to come from 12.30 for a cup of tea and a chat. The lunches run every Wednesday until March 16th



As well as good food and company there will be chance to find out a bit more about some of the charities supported by people in our villages. Pictures and information will be on display about each week's charity, as well as any updates from previous years. The main aim is to raise awareness of the fantastic (and hard!) work done by so many people in our community. We would also like to give them some financial support, so each week there will be a small Bring and Buy table, which will also have a few homemade cakes and jams, and goods linked with that week's charity. Transport can be provided, so please do come and bring a friend or neighbour. Phone 01725 552608 for more information or to offer help.

The Lent Course – Film Club!

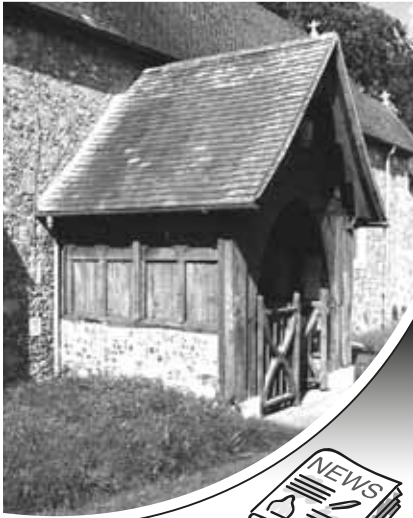
We are trying something completely different this year. Come along to St Mary's at 7 o'clock on Mondays during Lent for our Film Club. We shall begin with *'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe'*, the story of four children discovering the wonderful land of Narnia. We hope future presentations will include *'Shadowlands'*, *'Chariots of Fire'* and *'The Miracle Maker'*. There is no charge, and there will be coffee and biscuits and a chance to discuss what we are watching. Please phone the vicarage for more details – or just turn up on Monday 15th February!

Please Remember this Forgotten Crisis

It's a humanitarian crisis that has reached its third anniversary, but you could be forgiven for not knowing about it. There's little mainstream media coverage of the plight of the people of the Central African Republic (CAR), one of Africa's poorest nations.

Hundreds of thousands of its citizens remain far from home after fleeing fighting which erupted in December 2012 and plunged CAR into a spiral of violence. Please pray for the work of charities such as Tearfund, who remain committed to helping those caught up in this crisis. To combat disease, they are trying to meet basic needs by improving water supplies, sanitation and hygiene awareness of tens of thousands of people, as well as help people improve their livelihoods and their ability to grow their own food.

Thank You – to everyone who has responded with clothes and bedding for Internally Displaced Persons in Iraq (IDPs – another form of refugee). At the time of writing we are collecting a lot and will deliver it to the collection centre. Remember that there are always lots of ways we can help people who are less fortunate than ourselves.



**News items
and articles welcome!**

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

Thanks!



FROM THE REGISTERS



**The funerals took place of
Clara Sims, Terry Lawley,
Sheila Bradley, Urte David,
Victor Orman and Erik Vaughan**

**Baptisms took place of
Ruby Warner, Millie Davies**

**Renewal of wedding vows
Tracy and Paul Rimen**

Remember – We are here for you. If you would like to give your child a good start in life, talk to the vicar about a christening. If you are getting married, you can get married in your local church if you live in the parish or have some other link. And if a loved one dies, please talk to the vicar about how the church may be able to help. Contact Mel for more information.

A Shedload of Stuff...

The metal shed in St Mary's churchyard is in need of replacement. If you can help please get in touch.



Lent starts early this year. After your pancakes on February 9th, Ash Wednesday is the time to start preparing for Easter.

Given the great fuss that is made of Christmas, perhaps it is not surprising that less is made of Easter. All those presents and decorations that (at least nominally) celebrate the arrival of baby Jesus stand in strong contrast to what happens to him at Easter. Hot cross buns and a few chocolate eggs do not compensate for the very different tone of the story about death on a cross!

And Lent is (famously) a time to give things up. Ask anyone about Lent and they will know two things; pancakes and giving things up. But giving up is often about giving up something trivial – like sugar in coffee, or trying to lose a bit of weight. Things you should really do all the time anyway.

People sometimes tell me what they are giving up and expect me to be impressed. Now, it is good to give up sugar and it is good to lose a little weight. The problem is that this is only *part* of what Lent is about. In doing these things it is so easy to look in the wrong direction – into ourselves rather than out to others and up to God.

So let us try to use this Lent to prepare ourselves and to redress the balance. Let's use it as time for a new and closer look at the way we live our

lives for others, looking at our lives through the eyes of God. It is a time to make sure we are caring for others as well as ourselves. And it is a time for prayer.

Unfashionable words like *repentance* and *reconciliation* are at the heart of Lent. To go into Lent giving up something is only of value if it is part of a change of heart – perhaps the money saved can be used to help people who are less fortunate than ourselves, and the action supported by increased efforts at prayer.

Or we might choose, this Lent, to *take something on*. You might think about coming along to the Lent Course, or exploring some form of daily prayer, if you don't have one already – the website 'Sacred Space' might be a good place to start.

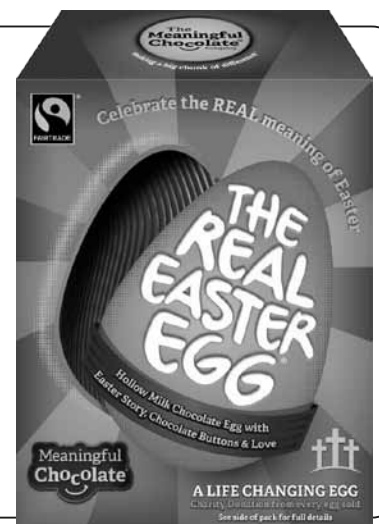
It might mean more practical service, maybe more effective witness, or possibly the offering of previously unused gifts – and part of that may even (dare I say it) include contributing financially to the projects we have going on here in St Mary's, St Andrew's and St Rumbold's.

Lent is about giving something *back*. Mervyn Peake, who wrote the Gormenghast novels, said '*to have lived at all is miracle enough*.' Lent prepares us for Easter, and only Easter makes sense of life. And death. Lent reminds us that we do not earn our place in heaven: Jesus has already done that. And we do not earn God's love. Love cannot be earned. All we can do is respond to the love that is already there. And eat chocolate! Have a lovely Easter.

Your friend and vicar, Mel

As Sure as Eggs is Chocolate

It is not long before we will be buying Easter Eggs – crème eggs have been in Styles since before Christmas! – so remember to look out for the Fairtrade or Rainforest Alliance logos on the chocolate you buy, to help people less fortunate than ourselves and make sure no child labour was used in the production of the food we buy. And don't forget the Real Easter Egg, fairly traded and with the only egg to tell the Easter story, produced by the Meaningful Chocolate Company.



The Surprise of Easter

Mel Durrant

People are surprised by Jesus. Yes, we may be able to understand something of Jesus' suffering on the cross, awful as it is. Just turn the news on in the evening and there is someone suffering horribly, somewhere in the world. But the Resurrection is beyond us. We cannot get our heads around it.

And it seems to have always been like this. In the Bible's telling of the story, people always have difficulty in recognizing the risen Jesus. It is like he is no longer their dead friend; he is almost a living stranger. Perhaps we shouldn't be surprised, the Resurrection turns all our expectations upside down – dead people, after all, usually stay dead!

We celebrate Easter for 40 days, all the way to Ascension Day, sometimes called Whitsun, White Sunday. This is the day when we think of Jesus going back to heaven in bodily form. And for all this time we remember Jesus, risen from the dead, with his friends and followers, helping and teaching them to spread the Good News of God's love, and preparing them for the time when God will be with them in a different way, with them in the Holy Spirit. Easter is big and dangerous stuff.

Sometimes our understanding of God can be a little like the child at breakfast asking his father if God is everywhere.

'Of course,' says the father.

'Is God in this room?'

'Without doubt.'

'On this table?'

'Er, yes.'

'In this empty cup?' persists the boy.

'Well, if you put it like that, yes.'

The boy covers the cup with his hand.

'Gotha!' he cries triumphantly.

This is not what it is about! Instead, the last verse of the song 'Lord of the Dance' puts it well.

*They cut me down and I leapt up high.
I am the dance that'll never, never die.
I'll live in you if you live in me.
I Am the Lord of the Dance, said He!*

It is difficult stuff. On the other hand, it is also so easy to take the Bible story for granted; we know that Easter follows Good Friday as morning follows night. But those who were there did not know what was coming next, and we need to hear their stunned wonder. The challenge, then as now, is to hear the story as true and life-changing.

The dead body of Jesus has not been stolen or resuscitated; Jesus was transformed. And there is a new relationship with God. Now the world now makes sense.

The Resurrection transforms a weeping woman, Mary Magdalene into a dynamic evangelist. Later it will turn a Doubting Thomas into a great missionary, a humiliated fisherman into a great church leader, and a persecutor of Christians into a great evangelist. This is the transforming power of News as Good as it gets.

The Resurrection comes at the end of all four Gospels, of course. But they do not end with an *'they all lived happily ever after.'* No, Easter Sunday was just the beginning. The story goes on and on. And it is now about us. We are part of the Easter Revolution. We can hear the story for ourselves. After all, today is the first day of the rest of our lives...

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

Happy Birthday to Us!

by Catherine Kyte of The Mothers' Union

I was talking to someone recently about plans for a family celebration. 'Oh yes,' she said, 'take every opportunity to celebrate! We should celebrate everything we can.' And she's right. It is good to mark and honour achievements; it raises our spirits and gives us a boost to carry on in our lives – and it's always good to have an excuse for a party!

This year we are marking 140 years of The Mothers' Union – and we have a lot to celebrate. From small beginnings when one woman, grandmother Mary Sumner, brought together the mothers of her village to begin to support them in their family life, we've grown into a global membership of over four million members who are sharing God's love practically as they support families and communities in their particular context.

Throughout 2016 we're going to take every opportunity to celebrate the faithfulness of God to us over the years. We'll honour the faithful witness of members, past and present; and we'll strengthen our determination to be a relevant influence for good in the 21st century as we continue to trust in God for our future.

A longer version of this article is in Families First Magazine, the MU magazine, copies of which are available in St Mary's Church.



Lee Abbey is a beautiful house and community, with its own wood, cliff and beach on the rugged north Devon coastline. Visitors often comment that God is felt to be very near. There are lots of things for different ages to do, and there is no pressure to attend any of the events. It is also a lot of fun. We are planning a trip over the weekend of 25-26th June. Two nights full board in this beautiful place with activities, teaching and worship (and *lots* of food!) is from £136 per person. Please have a look at the brochure, the website or talk to Margaret Durrant if you are interested in coming – but hurry, places are very 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 alternate Thursdays at 7.15pm. Details from Mike on 01725 552 720.

Come and meet friends

*** Drop into...** the Post Office Coffee Shop on the first Monday of the month 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 on alternate Thursdays for chat, laughter and biscuits, some talk around serious themes with a Roebuck steak on the first Tuesday of the month! Phone Paul Skinner (552 785).

☕ Men's Group – A beer and a chat usually on the last Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. 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 Mary (552 041) for details.

Join us for our Spring and Easter services

SUNDAY SERVICES	St Mary's Sixpenny Handley				St Rumbold's Pentridge	Gussage St Andrew	
	Informal service includes children's time						
	9.30am		11.00am	6.00pm	11.15am	9.30am	
Feb 7 th	HC	(10.30am)	Informal	Evensong	HC	#	
Feb 14 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC	
Feb 21 st	HC		Informal	Evensong	MP	#	
Feb 28 th	MP		Inf + HC	Evensong	#	HC	
Mar 6 th	Mothering Sunday			10am	Evensong	HC	#
Mar 13 th	MP		Informal	Evensong	#	HC	
Mar 20 th	HC		Informal	Evensong	MP	#	
Mar 27 th	Easter Sunday			9.30am	#	HC	#

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

Make a Mothers' Day – 6th March

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

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

10th February

Holy Communion and Ashing
6.00pm
St Mary's



The Easter Story

Thurs 24th March, 6 pm
Holy Communion, St Andrew's



Good Friday 11 am The Story of the Cross, Handley
25th March 2 pm Quiet Time, Pentridge
6 pm Readings and Hymns, Handley

February

See side panel for key to symbols

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

Sun 7th 1.00pm Church Lunch – details on weekly notice sheet

March

Updated weekly on our website

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

☾ Lent Soup Lunches at St Mary's – 12.30pm

✕ Lent Course Film Club – 7.00pm at St Mary's



Dorset Health and Care Consumer Champions, Healthwatch Dorset, are set to launch a new young people's project.

Healthwatch Dorset is launching a new young people's project called "Be Yourself: Everybody Else Is Taken" for anyone aged 11-25. This new project has been set up so that young people across Bournemouth, Poole & Dorset can share their thoughts about health and wellbeing in a creative way.

The project is being launched at a series of school assemblies and college sessions across Dorset in January 2016. Emilia

Chase from Healthwatch Dorset explains:

"As the Healthwatch Dorset Young People's Officer it's my job to help children & young people have a voice and express how they feel about health & care services. We're encouraging anyone between the ages of 11 - 25 to tell us about their experience of mental health, disability, caring for others or the struggles they face with identity, in a digital and creative format. We want to hear about both good and bad experiences.

You can write a poem, story, diary entry, blog or vlog. Create a film, a piece of drama, dance or send in photography or

illustrations about your experiences. Be as creative as you want and we'll use all the entries to help us improve local services."

Entries can be sent in to Emilia at beyourself@healthwatchdorset.co.uk and there's more details about the project here along with some entries Healthwatch has already received: www.healthwatchdorset.co.uk

Healthwatch Dorset are also planning an event in the spring to showcase some of the entries to health and care professionals. Your entries will remain anonymous, unless you wish to identify yourself in your entry. This project is about breaking down barriers and making positive changes to the way local services are run.

Healthwatch Dorset is your local health & care watchdog. To find out more, visit our website: healthwatchdorset.co.uk or call us on 0300 111 0102.



Community Litter pick

Your Village needs you.

Join us again for the community litter pick and help make Sixpenny Handley a cleaner & tidier place.

Saturday 2nd April

Meet time: 1.30pm (Aim to finish by approx 3pm)
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.



cardio condition and core

A Hi Low Aerobics class including body conditioning and focus on core strength for a complete workout



Suitable for all abilities
First class Wednesday 3rd Feb
Wednesdays 10am Handley Village Hall
(term time only)
To book call Nataile on 07503 169081
nataliepidgley@googlemail.com

Sarpenela

NATURAL THERAPIES CENTRE

We offer an extensive range of natural therapies and spa body treatments from Hot Stone Massage to Aromatherapy, Reiki Healing to Reflexology, Spa Body Wraps to Organic Fruit Facials.

Visit us for a treatment, enjoy a day retreat or stay with us at the Farmhouse, where we offer you luxury B&B accommodation to complete your Sarpenela experience.

Gift vouchers also available

01725 516942

info@sarpenela.co.uk

www.sarpenela.co.uk

Sarpenela, Farnham, Blandford, Dorset DT11 8DG

Far from the madding crowd...

5 Star Luxury Bed & Breakfast

Farnham Farm House

John & Pat Benjafield welcome you to their farmhouse and working farm in this beautiful, unspoilt village of Farnham - Hardy's Dorset.

Tel: 01725 516 254

E-mail: info@farnhamfarmhouse.co.uk

Visit www.farnhamfarmhouse.co.uk

AVON

Your local independent representative

Clair Brown

Delivering to your door

01725 552814 079 2003 1360

www.angelbright.co.uk

... More than just Makeup ...

Julie James

ITEC. SNHS Dip (Meditation)

Holistic Therapies

Therapeutic Massage
Hot Stone Massage
Colour Therapy
Meditation Classes
(all levels, beginners welcome)

Sixpenny Handley & Fordingbridge
Home visits, daytime, evening & weekend
appointments available
07775 937996



Interested in learning more or becoming a Friend?

Contact Erica Pretty on 07825 145726

or go to

www.dementiafriends.org.uk

Anne Reed, B.A., M.C.S.P., S.R.P.
**Chartered and State Registered
Physiotherapist**

Treatment for:

- Sports Injuries,
- Spinal and Neck Pain,
- Arthritis,
- Headaches
- Acupuncture,
- Ergonomic Advice,
- Massage

Home Visits and Evening Appointments

Telephone: 01725 552518

Trouble afoot

PODIATRY -CHIROPODY



JOHN CULLINGFORD BSc(hon) Podiatry
MChS, SRC, HPC registered
FULL FOOT SERVICE AVAILABLE
AROUND CRANBORNE CHASE
Please Phone 01725 516453
Mob. 07796 848693
HOME VISITS WELCOMED
CLINIC AVAILABLE



**Successful, Driven
People Required**

International Health & Beauty
Company expanding in the UK &
Europe

If you want to earn an extra income
without compromising your current
career/business please contact
Arlene Wills for more information

Tel: 07552 318970

Email: arlene.beealoe@hotmail.com

Forever Living Business Owner
Aloe Vera drinking gels, supplements,
skincare, personal care and cosmetics

Mobile Beauty Therapist-Vikki Hyler

FULLY QUALIFIED

NVQ3 BEAUTY THERAPIST

SINCE 2001

Fully insured

Serving Sixpenny Handley and
surrounding villages for the past 4
years

TREATMENTS

GELLUX UV NAILS gel polish	£20
SWEDISH MASSAGE	from £15
MANICURES AND PEDICURES	from £15
PHD WAXING using the latest hygienic applicator system	from £7
EYEBROW AND EYELASH TINTING	from £7
FACIALS	from £15
MAKE UP	£20

**TREATMENTS IN THE COMFORT OF
YOUR OWN HOME**

Call me, text or imessage me on
07918 821530

Facebook page-Sixpenny Handley
mobile beauty by Vikki

Claudine's Fitness
FOR MEN AND WOMEN



Enjoy fitness routines designed specifically with you in
mind in a fun, relaxed environment.

Claudine is a member of fitness professionals. As a
certified instructor of pilates and HIIT, she teaches a
variety of fitness classes for men and women of all ages
and abilities.

Class Timetable

Monday	09:15	FP	Broadchalke Sports Hall
Monday	10:15	HIIT	Broadchalke Sports Hall
Monday	13:45	Pilates	Broadchalke Sports Hall
Monday	16:30	Pilates	Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Monday	19:00	MM	Bishopstone Village Hall
Tuesday	09:15	Pilates	Coombe Bissett Village Hall
Tuesday	14:00	Pilates	Radnor Hall
Tuesday	18:00	Pilates	Britford Memorial Hall
Tuesday	19:00	Pilates	Britford Memorial Hall
Wednesday	09:30	Pilates	Bishopstone Village Hall
Wednesday	18:00	Pilates	Bishopstone Village Hall
Wednesday	19:00	HIIT	Bishopstone Village Hall
Wednesday	19:30	Pilates	Bishopstone Village Hall
Friday	09:15	FP	Broadchalke Sports Hall
Friday	11:00	Pilates	Bowerchalke Village Hall

Pilates - Improves balance, flexibility, core and back strength, and joint mobility.

Fitness Pilates (FP) - Claudine's best of all disciplines, but not as intensive as HIIT.

High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) - Getting you fitter faster without equipment.

Men on Mats (MM) - Fitness pilates for men. Girls are welcome too.

For more information call Claudine on 07788 587937



Sixpenny Handley Homewatch



During December there were five thefts from outbuildings around our parish. Most were in pretty obscure rural locations and the police think that some at least will have been linked to poachers, who continue to use their dogs to chase deer and hares on private land in the area and who have also been killing quite large numbers of pheasants with catapults and ball bearings throughout the winter. Dorset Police have mounted a considerable campaign against these individuals, sometimes involving the police helicopter and dog unit, and several arrests have been made. Poaching is listed as a wildlife crime priority, not least as its perpetrators are often linked to other forms of rural crime – hence thefts from outbuildings and farm diesel tanks. The good news is that at last police forces countrywide seem to be recognising this and providing the resources necessary to counter it. Dorset Police told us at a recent Homewatch co-ordinators meeting that the

last 12 months have seen more arrests for poaching in our area than over the last 20 years put together. That is partly because there have been quite a few incidents but mainly the result of a much-improved police response.

Linked to the above, the police have asked us to say how much better crime reporting appears to have been in recent months in our area. Whereas shed breaks and poaching were often met in the past with a shrug of the shoulders and not much more, now people are much quicker to phone the police, meaning the crime can be logged and perhaps linked to others. Patterns of criminal behaviour can thus be better detected, leading to more arrests and higher penalties in the courts. Police resources are allocated on the crime statistics too, so please keep phoning in any crime, however apparently trivial.

Our local police team, PC Tom Clements and PCSO's Andy Clements and Steve Willis are all delighted that in the last budget police funding was not cut as had been widely feared. We have, however, lost PCSO Lou Hamilton from our patch as she has moved to Devon. Generally, however, crime remains very low in Sixpenny Handley parish and we see more of the police now than for many years, so at their recent meeting with the police representative, your Homewatch team thanked Dorset Police for their efforts. Lets continue to do all we can to help them.

One thing you may be able to help with is to stop fly tipping in our area. Our quiet lanes and remote lay-bys and gateways make this a destination of choice for disreputable contractors who prefer to dump waste in our countryside rather than paying to leave it at one of the council-run dumps. Householders will soon be charged to dump at these facilities too, so we can predict that incidents of fly tipping will

increase. It is a crime to dump waste in this way and it costs a lot for the council to clear up. Please call the police on 999 if you see fly-tipping actually in progress or on 101 if you come upon dumped items that you think may not have been reported.

Exhibition: Dorset Yeomanry at Agagia, 26th February 1916 January 29th 2016 – June 3rd 2016



Dorset County Museum and The Keep Military Museum, Dorchester, in conjunction with the Dorset Yeomanry have assembled a small exhibition to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the famous charge of the Queen's Own Dorset Yeomanry against a mixed Turkish and Senussi force in the Egyptian Western Desert. The charge, the last Regimental charge in battle by the British army, routed the enemy and was a key element in preventing the Turks and their German allies from capturing the Suez canal; a vital link with India.

A complementary display of military ephemera will be staged at The Keep Military Museum at the same time. Dorset County Museum and The Keep Military Museum are offering a joint ticket to see both displays with an individual ticket price saving of £1.50.



Church... but not as you know it!

The Filling Station is a new way of expressing faith.

We meet in an informal setting, offering an opportunity to make new friends, build or renew our faith and meet with God.

'There are no strangers in the Kingdom of God, just friends we have not met yet'

Your local Filling Station meets on
Second Thursday of each month (next meeting 8 October)
at 7.15 for 7.30pm at
Durweston Village Hall
Church Road, Durweston,
DT11 0QA
More details contact (Pastor) Martyn
01202 042172
www.thefillingstation.org.uk



www.ABBAS FENCING.co.uk

DECKING, PERGOLAS AND A LITTLE BIT MORE...

01725 552149



Happy New Year

From

YEW TREE GARAGE

Blandford Road
Sixpenny Handley
Salisbury SP5 5QP

Your Local Garage
(Establish 1981)
provides

Full Servicing
MOT's
Repairs
Welding
Air Conditioning
Re-gas & Servicing
Tyres, Batteries & Exhausts

**For all your motoring
needs call
01725 552550**

Email: yogi_patel28@hotmail.co.uk

Colin Pearce Car Repairs Ltd



Unit 1, Pinewood Park Business Centre
Blandford Rd, Coombe Bissett, SP5 5RF



Trust my Garage

in conjunction with Tisbury Motors, SP36HF

We offer the following services:

Diagnostics up to Main Dealer level on most vehicles, key coding, ECU re-coding
MOT tests on Class 1,2,4 and 7 vehicles & campers
Servicing Repairs on all types of vehicles, welding aircon, types, batteries, exhausts
We can also re-map your vehicle to give you more power
Free local collection and delivery service available

Tel: 01725 519300

Mob: 07970 789836

Kevin Knight Horologist

Clock and Watch Repairs

Tel: 01722 331969
Mob: 07900 928451
kevindavidknight@gmail.com

Care 4 Cats

*Cranborne Chase
Rural Pets & House Sitting*

Susan H. Collins

susie29q7@gmail.com
01722-718114
07807774338



Musings from a Handley Woodsman

I like to think of myself as a woodsman, a man of the woods; but I am reluctant now to do so. Handley has a history of woodsmanship stretching back generations and I feel a little uncomfortable sitting within this title while I still have so much to learn. I can't even claim I come from Handley as I grew up in Silverstone in Northamptonshire. Silverstone is obviously famous for its Motor racing circuit, but its name is derived from Silva as in silviculture the original term for forestry. Silverstone is in the heart of Whittle wood forest and next to the village is the largest wooded part of this. There are now no sawmills in the village but when I was a child there were four. I grew up surrounded by wood and I loved it. The smell of fresh sawn oak still reminds me of playing in the saw dust, I used to spend hours just lost in the woods and suppose I still do.

I have a background as an educator and love nothing more than introducing children and adults to woodland as a places of beauty a natural resource a place to relax, to enjoy, to feel settled.

The modern age has obvious advantages too numerous to mention; but there is something just under the surface, something innate, primal, a connection or belonging when it comes to woodland. This is of no surprise as the people who first colonised these islands after the last ice age, following the march of the trees northward. It is if you like our natural habitat.

It's only during the industrial revolution that we began to lose this connection to the woodland, but strangely in this digital age we are drawn back to the natural materials used in the past. There is more and more interest in the crafts, produce and fuel resource that the woodland provides. We are also finding more ways to spend time in the woods for leisure and learning. We are perhaps trying to reconnect with our natural habitat.

In this column I will talk about all sorts of things woodland related, to feed this reconnection. From produce and its uses old and new to some of the experiences I have had trying to get established, seasonal observations, new ideas for old products, poems, wild food, woodland recipes etc. etc.



I do hope that you enjoy my ramblings, if you have any subjects you would like me to include please do not hesitate to contact me. Feedback would also be greatly appreciated, as this is my first foray into article writing.

Anthony

Happy 2016

I am running an adventure walk approx 2hrs, moderate pace with rests) from Tollard Royal Golf Club 16th Feb. It's a Nordic walk for those that have done a course. (Fancy doing a course? See page 17). The Golf Course does a great lunch at a reasonable price. *More on page 17.*
Time :10am to 11am approx.
Hope to see you there!

Lou Stuart
Nordic Walking Instructor

Conygar Coppice



EDUCATION / LEARNING

- Bushcraft parties
- Forest school sessions
- Walks & talks
- Green woodworking

WOODLAND PRODUCTS

- Bean poles & pea sticks
- Dorset hurdles
- Sussex gate hurdles
- Coppice materials
- Woven hazel fencing
- Firewood
- Hedge laying

STRUCTURES

- Garden furniture
- Bespoke timber structures
- Composting toilets

Call Anthony on
01725 552814, 07920031314
www.conygarcoppice.com

Gardeners Notes

February

- Clear ground ready for planting
- Warm up soil with cloches/ fleece ready for planting
- Start chitting potatoes in seed trays
- Plant out shallots
- Check seed packets for when to plant
- Using deep pots/toilet rolls start to sow sweet peas

Egg trays and cartons are perfect for chitting your potatoes in.

March

- Start sowing cucumbers, peppers and tomatoes
- Sow bedding plants
- Plant early potatoes
- Transfer seedling to cold frames
- Continue to check seed packets so you don't miss their growing season

Plan your planting and layout early enough giving everything the space it need

Mr R. A. CLOUGH

FENCING CONTRACTOR

All types of Fencing including:
Close board
Chain link
Post and Rail

Free Estimates

Telephone 01725 519 604
Mobile 07778 603 559



Paul McDermott Cert.HE.Arb
Tree Surgery contractor
01725552985 / 07771710919

BEN COOMBS

Reliable Handyman
for
General Maintenance
Painting and Decorating
Gardening, etc.
Reasonable rates

Ring 01725 552362

ANDREW BAVERSTOCK

Farnham, Dorset

Garden machinery service and repairs

Tel. (01725) 516311

Mob. 07813 252078

Please phone without obligation
to discuss your requirements



RETIRED SOLICITOR OVER 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE HOME VISITS



WILLS ▪ PROBATE MATTERS
POWERS of ATTORNEY

FIXED REASONABLE FEES (NO VAT)

FOR A FREE CHAT CALL JOHN EDGE

01202 883293 or 07415 512148
or email johndedge007@gmail.com

IF YOU DONT NEED MY SERVICES YOU ALMOST

CATCHPOLE LAW

A local law practice with specialist focus on:-

- * *WILLS AND ESTATE PLANNING*
- * *POWERS OF ATTORNEY*
- * *PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION*
- * *VARIATIONS OF ESTATES*
- * *TRUSTS*
- * *INHERITANCE AND CAPITAL GAINS TAX ADVICE*
- * *DEATH IN SERVICE AND PENSION TRUSTS*
- * *CHARITIES*
- * *RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WORK*
- * *CARE OF THE ELDERLY and more...*

APPOINTMENTS IN THE OFFICE OR AT YOUR OWN HOME

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS, PLEASE TELEPHONE 01258 840507
to speak to Michael Catchpole, Alison Marsh, Tamasine Hankey or Carol Scott**

Principal: Michael Catchpole, Solicitor
Hill House, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP5 5NT
Catchpole Law is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA No: 513783)

CATCHPOLE LAW.....on law

Stamp Duty Land Tax on Second Homes

In the Autumn Statement 2015 it was announced that from 1st April 2016 higher rates of Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) will be charged on purchases of additional residential properties above £40,000, for example, second homes or buy to let properties.

The higher rates will be 3% above the current SDLT rates. Outside the higher rate charge will be purchases of caravans, mobiles homes or houseboats.

The current SDLT rates are set out below, as are the increased rates:

Value of Property	Current SDLT rate	Higher SDLT rate
Up to £125,000	0%	3%
Next £125,000 (£125,001 – £250,000)	2%	5%
Next £675,000 (£250,001 – £925,000)	5%	8%
Next £575,000 (£925,001 – £1.5m)	10%	13%
£1.5m +	12%	15%

Example: if you buy a house for £275,000 the total SDLT will be £3,750:

0% on £125,000 £0
2% on £125,000 £2,500
5% on £25,000 £1,250

If the same property were bought as a second home for £275,000 the SDLT increases to £12,000:

3% on £125,000 £3,750
5% on £125,000 £6,250
8% on £25,000 £2,000

If you are thinking of buying a second home or a buy to let property you may want to act as soon as possible to avoid the increase in SDLT.



Boiler Servicing & Maintenance Gas, Oil & LPG

Full Heating Systems
Installed or Upgraded
Power Flushing
Boiler Replacements
Oil Tanks
Landlord Gas Safety Checks
Gas Cookers & Hobs

T: 01747 828689
M: 07974249287

Donhead St. Andrew



Ten & Six

Unique Quirky Headwear

Designed & Handmade
in Woodcutts,
Sixpenny Handley

www.tenandsixcrafts.co.uk

*All occasions &
budgets catered for*

Recognizing a Stroke

A stroke is a medical emergency. If you, or someone else, shows any signs of having a stroke you need to seek immediate medical attention.

FAST test

The FAST test can help you to recognise some of the most common symptoms of a stroke:

FACIAL WEAKNESS: Can the person smile? Has their face fallen on one side?

ARM WEAKNESS: Can the person raise both arms and keep them there?

SPEECH PROBLEMS: Can the person speak clearly and understand what you say? Is their speech slurred?

TIME TO CALL 999.

If a person fails any one of these tests, get help immediately by dialling 999.

DOUG LUCAS LOGS FOR SALE

FULL OR HALF TRANSIT LOADS

Also sacks, netted logs,

kindling, coal

FREE DELIVERY

ALL AREAS

Tel: 01725 552636
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

Chalke Heating

Martin Miller: 01722 780734

E-mail: martin@competentcraft.co.uk

Independent AGA/Rayburn Specialist

Saving you money for all types of oil fired heating and cooking

Service, Maintenance and Repair that keeps your central heating safe, clean and efficient

Boiler : All makes
Cookers : Rayburns - AGA - Alfa - Stanley - Esse



CBA Services.....on tax planning

Firstly and most importantly the team at CBA Services wishes all the readers of the Downsman a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

By the time you will be reading this, your Tax Return for the year ended 5 April 2015 should have been submitted to HM Revenue & Customs together with paying your balancing payment on account for 2014/15 and your first payment on account (if applicable) for 2015/16. In addition to this notification should have been made to the Child Tax Credit Office of your income for 2014/15. If these have not been undertaken and you need assistance, please feel free to give me a call.

Tax planning prior to 5 April 2016

The end of the current tax year (2015/16) is coming to a close, so here are a few planning ideas which you should consider:

- Ensure you have made the maximum annual pension contribution in 2015/16 which is £40,000. In the 2015 Autumn Statement it was announced that The Government is considering the responses from the consultation paper on the future of tax relief on pension contributions and this will be announced in the Budget 2016.
- If you are a higher rate tax payer if you make a donation to charity you will receive relief at higher rate, so if you made, for example, a donation of £1,000 (net) you could save at least £250 of tax and the charity gets £1,250 as a donation.
- If you are a sole trader/partner/employee any capital expenditure incurred after 1 January 2016 you could claim annual investment allowance of up to £200,000.
- If you are considering selling a capital asset and have not utilised your capital gains tax annual exemption of £11,100 you may wish to do this before 5 April. This saving could be doubled if you have a spouse to which you could transfer half the investment.

- Have you invested the maximum of £15,240 (of which all can be either cash or shares) into your ISA?
- Each tax year you could gift up to £3,000 and any unused portion from the previous tax year can be used, so if you have not used up your allowance from 2014/15 this can be utilised before 5 April 2016.
- Going to reach state pension age before 6 April 2016? You can now top up your state pension by paying a new class of voluntary National Insurance contributions (NIC) Class 3A. To pay the top-up runs until 5 April 2017. Paying it could provide between £1 - £25 extra per week.

Other matters

Looking forward to the new tax year (2016/17) I thought I would recap on the changes that will be introduced:

- The band of savings income is subject to a 0% starting rate of £5,000. This

will include dividend income.

- The current annual investment limits will remain at £15,240 for ISAs and £4,080 for junior ISA. The tax benefits of ISAs will be extended throughout the administration period following an investor's death.
- Personal service companies, from 6 April 2016 will no longer be able to claim all travel expenses from home to the workplace.
- From 1 April 2016 for purchase of a second home stamp duty land tax (SDLT) will be increased by 3%.

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

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



Tax and Accountancy help for Individuals and Businesses

CBA Services offers friendly Tax and Accountancy advice. A bespoke service tailored to each client's needs at a realistic cost.

Individuals, Trusts and Estates	Businesses
• Income Tax Advice • Self-Assessment Tax Returns • Capital Gains Tax Planning • Inheritance Tax Planning • Child Tax Credits • Notice of Coding Issues	• Accounts • Company Secretarial • VAT Returns • Payroll/PAYE • Bookkeeping • CIS (Construction Industry Scheme)

If you find you need help in dealing with the complexities of HM Revenue & Customs and would like a free hour's consultation, then please give us a call.





CBA Services
Unit 3d, Manor Farm Business Centre
Gussage St Michael, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 5HT
Telephone: 01258 840306 / 07895 913546
Email: cchapman.cba@gmail.com
Website: www.cba-services.co.uk

Dorset POPP Wayfinders

As we enter a New Year it might be time to reflect upon how things might be changed as we get older, how things might be made better for us, our families and friends. If you are over 50 years of age there is an organization which could help you.

The Dorset "Partnership for Older People Programme" (POPP) has been set up to improve the lives of the over-50's in this county. It is jointly funded by the County Council and NHS Dorset, and works in partnership with other statutory bodies and charities to deliver this aim. The current provider of the service is the Dorset-based charity "Help and Care" (www.helpandcare.org.uk).

Each town or group of villages throughout Dorset have been allocated two POPP "Wayfinders" – people whose job it is to give information to individual clients. It is a free, impartial and completely confidential service for those who ring in and request it.

Wayfinders are not "counsellors" or "advisors"; they do not intrude, but simply give you the information you need over a vast range of subjects – so that you can make your own mind up. Typical requests for information might be:

- How can I get affordable transport to the doctor or hospital?
- Caring for my elderly mother is getting too much for me – what can I do?
- We want to get out a bit more – what clubs and activities are there locally?
- Can somebody check if I'm on the right benefits and allowances?
- I need somebody to chat with
- Is there a reliable, local, plumber/gardener/handyman who won't overcharge me?

You will have gathered by now that while Wayfinders are not necessarily individual experts on any individual subject, they ARE highly experienced at knowing whom to turn to for help, and where the experts are on almost any subject under the sun. They will research for you, and give you an open and confidential answer to your query, together with any pamphlets or information leaflets on the subject. In

short, Wayfinders are a sort of One Stop Information Shop, free at the point of delivery.

This is actually a win/win situation for Dorset residents. Because while helping people in this way, as an additional benefit, cost savings of hundreds of thousands of pounds have been made for council tax payers by funded projects and falls prevention activities which have reduced hospital admissions, care home placements and helped with a reduction in the need for health care and other services.

Your "One telephone number does it all" POPP Wayfinders for the area are Richard Thomas on 07971 338 384 and Alan Pearce on 07971 338 381 and they will be pleased to give you the information you need either on the spot, or they will go out and gather information for you, or refer you (with your permission) to an expert who will be able to give you the help you need.

Remember: Dorset POPP is a "One call does it all" service!

Foundations of Archaeology

The Foundations of Archaeology Project celebrates the work of the pioneering archaeologists who first identified the rich upland archaeology of south Wiltshire and north east Dorset.

The project will train up volunteers to help further investigate and evaluate archaeological sites centered on three focus areas associated with these pioneers.

We have lots of volunteer opportunities starting Autumn 2015 to late Spring 2017 – including practical conservation on ancient sites; learning to undertake archaeological surveys; and following in the footsteps of the first archaeologists. No previous experience necessary – all ages welcome.

Stay up to date at: <https://foundationsofarchaeology.wordpress.com/>

Low Cost Digital TV Aerials CRANBORNE AERIALS

- Low Cost Digital Aerials supplied and fitted
- Freesat supplied and installed
- Extra TV Points fitted
- Sky Dish alignment and re-installation
- DAB Radio Aerials supplied and fitted



FREE
SIGNAL TEST
FOR FREEVIEW
DIGITAL RECEPTION

FREE
ESTIMATES
GIVEN

Local Family Business
Please call Martyn

Tel: **01725 517941**
Mob: **07876 126438**

We Are Open 7 Days a Week from 8.00am to 9.00pm



HAWTHORNS TAXI

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

wessexinternet.com Tel: 0333 240 7997

Sixpenny superfast
50Mb/s rural broadband is here!

Internet Packages from £25

Up to 24x
Faster Upload than ordinary broadband

We've expanded our coverage of Sixpenny Handley

Using state-of-the-art 'Fibre to the Mast' technology, Wessex Internet can deliver superfast speeds of up to 50Mb/s to Sixpenny Handley. With our newest mast now in place we can see more homes than ever. To find out if we can reach your property visit: wessexinternet.com/SixpennyHandley

wessexinternet
superfast rural broadband

Cards

Whist!!

For the Christmas drive a shade over ten tables were in play and at the end of the evening Pam Cole emerged victorious with a score of 176, three points ahead of Kingsley White who had a similar margin of difference between himself and Susan Combs.

As is customary, the distribution of prizes well exceeded the parameters for the championship rounds and, thus, it was few in number that left empty handed. Meanwhile, the 2015- 2016 competition resumed on January 6th with a change at the top of the table. Briefly held by Chris Haskell, Olive Meaden is the 'new' leader with an aggregate of 1294 points, ten better than her nearest rivals - Ness Park and 'Your Scribe', a lowly 142 relegating Chris to fourth overall. On the other side of the coin of fortune, a magnificent 180 [highest score for the evening] elevated Doug Haskell from ninth to fifth and an aggregate total of 1273 points. Sixth and seventh places are

held by Stuart Haskell and Silvia Morrison with the remaining contenders in the 'top ten' being John York [1265], Barry Park [1262] and David Brine [1260]. However, to date [and the contest is now at the halfway stage] no one has bettered John Berville's 184.

Bridge!

An excellent Christmas buffet-style lunch rounded off 2015, while the New Year got under way on the 5th with sixteen players in attendance. Of late I have changed the format of play; instead of changing partnerships at the end of four deals, I have introduced a system where the couple that commence the afternoon's play remain together for the duration of play; this is an assured method for improving their bidding process. To conclude, it gives me pleasure to report two small slams; the first being made by Ray Wise and Susie Prance at the final meet of 2015, while the second came on the final deal on the afternoon of the 5th when Tim Stevens opened with

2 No Trumps [signaling 20-22 High Card Points [HCPs]] and with the values in my hand coming to 11 HCPs, plus the bonus of a long suit in diamonds, I had no hesitation in bidding 6 No Trumps which Tim made with ease. A very satisfying start to the year!

Bill Chorley

T.V. — VIDEO — DVD
Hi-Fi REPAIRS & SERVICE

IAN HARRIS
MIPRE

- Advice on repair of your existing equipment
- Assistance in setting up and supply of new items
- Loan sets available

Call me, your local expert with over thirty years experience.

Tel: 01747 870822
Mobile: 07921 194816

Book Review

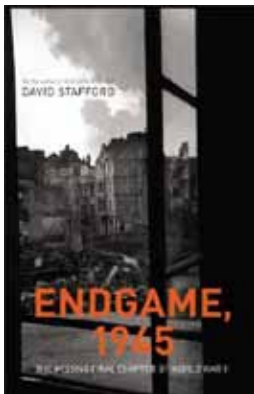
Sunday, May 16th, 1943, evening. Evenson was over, the churches empty; in the remaining light of day birds were making their final calls before settling in the hedgerows and all was still across the flat Lincolnshire countryside, home to No 5 Group, Bomber Command - that is apart from Scampton. Situated north of Lincoln and just to the west of the A15 that runs almost straight as a dye northwards to Scawby, from here came the now familiar sound of several sharp bangs followed by the stuttering roar as one Merlin engine after another burst into life. Soon the air was pulsating as the Lancasters of the newly formed No 617 Squadron* made ready to depart on their historic mission to breach the Ruhr dams. Since the last day of March crews had been engaged on ultra low-level crosscountry training flights, first by day but increasingly of late the emphasis had switched to the hours of darkness. Now all was ready; photo-reconnaissance missions had established that the waters of the Möhne, Eder and Sorpe dams were at near maximum height; furthermore [and worryingly so for those about to set off] moon conditions were deemed just about perfect for this was to be no run-of-the-mill operation with the Lancasters flying upwards of eighteen thousand feet. Tonight they would be sweeping across Holland and into Germany at almost ground-level. Nineteen crews, split into three groups, had been briefed and now were carrying out final checks. First to go as leader of the second wave assigned to the Sorpe dam should have been New York born Jo McCarthy but on boarding Chuck-Chuck and getting ready to taxi, coolant [glycol] was seen leaking from the starboard outer engine. What happened next is brilliantly recorded by George 'Johnny' Johnson in his biography 'The Last British Dambuster'. Now in his 90s but with memories of nine decades of life still sharp, his story is truly inspirational. Born in rural Lincolnshire, George lost his mother before he reached school age and in a farm labourers cottage now dominated by an uncaring and often brutal father and equally indifferent elder brothers his sole provider and comforter lay with his sister

Lena. Further salvation came from the headmistress of his elementary school, a Miss Boast, who saw potential in George, despite the many shortcomings of his home life and it was through her intervention that at the age of eleven he was accepted as a pupil at Lord Wandsworth College agriculture college in Hampshire. It was his making and the ethos of life at the college would stand him in good stead throughout his air force service. Volunteering in the summer of 1940, George's first months of service was a hotchpotch of postings that culminated in crossing to America for pilot training at which he was unsuccessful. On returning to England and further postings of a nondescript nature, he trained first as an air gunner and later as a bomb aimer and by the time he joined No 617 Squadron he had flown twenty-eight sorties with No 97 Squadron. With the war over, and now married and raising a family, George remained in the air force and on completing a navigator's course was appointed to a permanent commission. On leaving the service in 1962, he trained as a teacher and for much of his remaining working life dedicated himself to teaching children that would now be described as having 'special needs', followed by applying for and being accepted to take on the challenging task of instructing adults housed at Rampton Secure Hospital for psychiatric patients. Today he still responds to invitations to speak of his time with No 617 Squadron and, as the title of his book implies he is the last of the British airmen who flew that night and survived - the sobering fact is that of the nineteen crews who departed on that balmy May night over seventy years ago, eight failed to return resulting in fifty-three killed and three shocked and dazed survivors who would spend the remainder of the war 'behind the wire'. Civilian deaths included not only local inhabitants living in the towns and villages beneath the Möhne and Eder dams but foreign workers forced by the German authorities to bolster their agriculture production and a number of prisoners of war, similarly employed. A figure of one thousand two hundred and ninety-four in total has been quoted by the eminent historian Martin Middlebrook, by far the highest number of fatalities in Germany as a result of a raid by Bomber Command in

the war so far.

One of the enduring images carried by the television news channels for the greater part of 2015, were scenes of column after column of refugees streaming north through the Balkan states towards Austria and thence in the majority of cases into Germany. On nearly every face was etched lines of despair mixed with hope for a future better than that left behind in countries like Syria, Eritrea, Iraq, Afghanistan and many other such places where war, oppression and the constant fear of death had driven so many to the most desperate of measures imaginable. Western Europe had not witnessed such scenes for seventy years though seventy years ago the refugee crisis was not being measured in tens of thousands but in millions and this traffic of human misery was criss-crossing lands ripped apart by the most destructive war in history. It is their plight that forms the backdrop for one of the most harrowing books yet penned that deal with the last months of the Second World War and its immediate aftermath. At times the narrative reads like a well plotted detective novel as the author follows the fortunes of the principal characters involved; a private soldier fighting his way up the spine of Italy with the United States Tenth Mountain Division; a young British commando slogging his way through northwest Germany towards the Baltic; a German Jew attached to the Special Operations Executive parachuted into Austria in the final weeks of the war; a New Zealand intelligence officer who following the official surrender of German forces in Italy found himself caught up in the standoff between Allied forces approaching Trieste and Tito's partisans that had occupied the city and were now set on making the port a part of Yugoslavia. A radio reporter for the BBC following in the wake of the allied armies driving deep into Germany; a Canadian fighting with the Cape Breton Highlanders; a paratrooper with the Eighty-second Airborne Division, all are an integral part of this outstanding book. But it is the torment of the young Fey von Hassell, German by birth but married to an Italian aristocrat and mother of two young boys, Corrado and Roberto, that has all the elements of high drama. Fey's

father, Ulrich von Hassell, described as an urbane diplomat who until his dismissal in 1938 for expressing views inconsistent with Nazi policy was German Ambassador in Rome. In the autumn of 1944, and at the time unaware that her father had been executed in one of many purges ordered by Hitler, she was taken by the SS and forcibly made to hand her children into their care. This was followed by transportation to the infamous concentration camp at Buckenwald and with the Allied armies closing in on this cauldron of inhumanity, taken at the eleventh hour to the equally notorious camp at Dachau. It is her 'story' and the subsequent search for her children that fully absorbs the reader in this quite remarkable treatise on the last days of the Third Reich. Titled 'Endgame, 45' and most skillfully written by David Stafford, himself a former diplomat, it is a book that goes far beyond the standard treatment given by many to the end of the Second World War.



* No 617 Squadron formed at Scampton on 21 March 1943, commanded by the legendary Wing Commander Guy Penrose Gibson VC. Unlike the majority of squadrons formed during the war years and disbanded soon after, '617' has earned a special place in Royal Air Force history. Since 1945, it has been equipped with the Lincoln, Canberra, Vulcan and Tornado. Disbanded in 2014 following service in Afghanistan, No 617 Squadron is scheduled to reform in 2016 as the first Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II squadron.

Bill Chorley

Rob's Column

Birds rely on us in winter
When frost and ice around
As often they strive and struggle
To find natural food around
Putting out scraps, nuts or bread
And a bowl of water too
Will help them survive the winter days

Life, it is a precious thing, be you young or old
Your early years, they soon pass by
Then babes in arms you hold
The middle years see changes
When family leave the nest
Soon, silver threads among the gold
The twilight years can be the best

Two old pals sit chatting on a park bench
"You know its times like these that I wish
I'd listened to what my mother always told
me" said one.
"What was that?" asked the other.
"I don't know- I wasn't listening".

I walk into a room and can't remember
what I came in for
(I hope it never happens in the bathroom)

I went to a really emotional wedding the
other day
The bride cried
The bride's mother cried
Even the cake was in tiers.

If life were like a cake
It would be a treat
With the right ingredients
Then it will turn out sweet
A little understanding
Some wisdom in the blend
A heart open and kind
Yes you've made a friend

Always a surprise
We know it's going to happen but it's
always a surprise
When green tips poke out of the earth and
point towards the skies
First the dainty snowdrops, then the crocus
white and gold
Then the early daffodils
Preparing to unfold.

At the gates of lent they stand, the heralds

of the spring
Before the blackbird and the thrushes
really start to sing
While winter fires still crackle and its fogs
hang in the air
They seem to come up overnight and take
us unaware.

We never grow accustomed to this annual
miracle
Year by year we see it but it's always
wonderful
We never quite believe it till it's there
before our eyes
Every year it happens but it's always a
surprise.

Patience Strong

Remember, life is short
Break the rules, forgive quickly
Love truly, laugh uncontrollably
And never regret anything
That makes you smile

Happy New Year !!

Two parrots sitting on a perch
The first one says to the other "Can you
small fish?"

A friend is like a bird that sings
And brightens each new day
The light which friendship often brings
Can help you on your way

Just got a seasonal job shifting leaves.
I'm raking it in.

Imagine you're an astronaut
Floating up in space
Looking down upon the world
And all the human race
That's a thought on which to dwell
Treat the earth and people well

Why did the scientist install a knocker on
his door?
He wanted to win the Nobel prize

I asked the bank manager "could you help
me out?" He answered "Certainly, which
way did you come in?"

When it's a dreary day, right from the start
A call from a friend can really lift your heart
A chance to have a gossip and share all the
news
It's the greatest recipe to chase away the
blues.

St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley

17th, 24th Feb 2nd, 9th, 16th March
WEDNESDAYS during LENT



SOUP LUNCHES

A cup and a chat from 12.30pm
Soup served at 1.00pm - Bring & Buy table



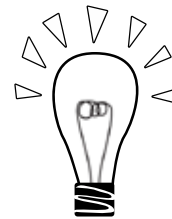
Each week the work of a charity supported
by local people will be highlighted

See article in *The Seeker* or phone 01725 552608 for more
information or to offer help. Help with transport can be provided.



Sixpenny Handley First School

QUIZ NIGHT



Friday 26th Feb

Doors open 7:30pm quiz starts 8pm
Tickets from the School office

T: 01725 552356 E: office@sixpennyhandley.dorset.sch.uk
Adults only - bring your own drinks

COFFEE MORNING, BRING AND BUY

SATURDAY, 6TH
FEBRUARY, 2016

IN PENTRIDGE VILLAGE HALL
10.30AM - 12 NOON

DONATIONS OF CAKES
AND BRIC A BRAC WILL BE
GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.
THERE WILL ALSO BE A
RAFFLE.

ENTRANCE £1.00 TO INCLUDE
TEA/COFFEE AND BISCUITS.
PROCEEDS TO
ST RUMBOLD'S CHURCH.

MINSTER STONE MEMORIALS



VISIT OUR LARGE SHOWROOM AT
OLD ROAD WIMBORNE BH21 1EJ
(NEXT TO THE GREEN MAN PUB)
PHONE OR EMAIL FOR FREE
BROCHURE & PRICE LIST

ALSO
MEMORIAL
CLEANING &
REPAIRS

WIMBORNE
01202 883224

www.minstermemorials.co.uk

RICHARD ADLEM MBE

practising as

HANDLEY FUNERALS



Private Chapel

Monumental Mason

Telephone Handley 01725 552496 or 07766 039557

Park Cottage, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, SP5 5NJ

*Richard has no association at all with I.N. Newman LTD, trading as
'Richard T. Adlem Funeral Director', and should not be confused with them.*



RnR

After the master class in ColRegs, perhaps time to go sailing. I am indeed fortunate, in that during the Summer I sail mostly on a Sweden Yachts 390, and in the Winter mostly on a Sweden Yachts 42, both comfortable, stylish, and fast!

RLYC Needles Relief

Wind SW F6 to 8, HW Portsmouth 11:47 GMT 4.7m, yacht Sweden 42, crew 5 guys (40 - 70) one girl (didn't ask)
Needles Relief, is a fun race, organised by RLYC (all in aid of RNLI). Is a tradition celebrating the days when Needles Light (occ [2] WRG 20s 24m 17 - 13M) was manned and Christmas boxes were taken out to the resident lighthouse keepers, this of course developed into a race. Lighthouses are no longer manned, but fully automated, however the race tradition continues.

The start line was from RLYC (opposite the ferry terminal), and a bit tight, so yachts were started at one minute intervals, our start was 09:22. Yachts can motor down river within the speed limits of 4kn, and 6kn beyond the wave barrier, until level with the starting platform. The course was then: through Hurst Narrows, North Head to port, back through Hurst, Nr 2 George Hotel to Starboard, finish south of Nr 9 Royal Solent ODM.

Strong winds from SW meant double reefed main, and one reef in the jib. A flooding tide and short tacking up mainland shore towards Hurst, keeping in shallow water to cheat the tide, tack out to 8m depth, tack back to 4m depth. (thankfully a self tacking jib!). Through Hurst with tide bubbling under us at about 3kn, and then a fetch to North Head, rounding North Head we were able to free off and reach back through Hurst, an alarming moment when the helm reported a lack of feel in the steering, quickly discovered that when rounding North Head our tactician had been thrown against the binnacle by the lumpy bumpy seas, and had inadvertently pressed the autohelm, order was restored, and off we went. Try as we might we could not catch

Gone Sailing



the yacht ahead. As we approached the last mark, the yacht ahead misjudged the tide and wind, and was pinned onto the mark, no damage done but took awhile for him to get off, we meanwhile gave a good space and rounded OK.

We moored in Yarmouth, and paid our dues to the Lifeboat bucket, before heading to the Royal Solent to watch the display. Lifeboat, Inshore Lifeboat, Air Sea Rescue Helicopter, displayed aeronautics and seamanship, transferring man on stretcher from Lifeboat to helicopter.
A pub lunch and then a fast return under jib alone and 40 kn of wind - phew! Another great day out

Over lunch our tactician mentioned that he is in the process of selling his Granada 35 in UK, and buying a 50' in Italy. Interestingly in UK seller pays brokerage fees, in Italy the buyer does! (moral sell in Italy and buy

in UK?). So, he is looking for lots of crew to sail from Italy to UK, and from UK to Canaries, then on the ARC, and spending maybe two years in Caribbean, so lots of crewing opportunities, long or short legs, maybe a gap year?

Sails for Sale

Sunsail have very kindly donated a large quantity of sails to RNLI, they are off their 40' yachts, and there are still some left. If you do not have a 40' yacht, there are still many uses they can be put to; sailing clothing firms make expensive jackets from old sails, sailing bags are made from old sails, sun/rain awnings (SPF unknown). Contact me thro' Downsman if interested.

Afloat in 2016

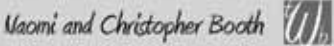
New members are always welcome at LTSC, www.ltsc.co.uk, open days in April and August but you do not need to wait for those, also RYA Push The Boat Out week in May www.rya.org.uk/get-afloat. Still in thermals, sea boots and woolley 'at, but looking forward to warmer times.

Adam



- Bespoke websites
- Design for print

Tel: 01725 552430
Email: chris@thewebbooth.co.uk
Visit: www.thewebbooth.co.uk





Bright Sparks Nursery

Situated in Ebbesbourne Wake Village Hall

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

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



The Little Pennies
Pre-School
Registered Charity no. 1137622

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

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

Fees & Funding

3-5 years
 £10.80 per session
 £3.60 per hour
 (funding available for 3-5 year olds)

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

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

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

**Purpose built pre-school at
Sixpenny Handley First School**



Noticeboard

6d 4 all

Sixpenny Handley Youth Club Sports Pavillion

Age 10 - 16 welcome

Dates Autumn 2015
 2nd Oct, 16th Oct, 30th Oct,
 13th Nov, 27th Nov 11th Dec

Contact Liz 01425 654467, Vicky 01725 552549, Graham 01725 516973

Babies to School Age Children

HAPPY NAPPY

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

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

Clayesmore for your child



CLAYESMORE
DORSET

Try our
Prep taster
days and
nights



OPEN MORNING

12 March 2016 • 10am-12.30pm ... including a feast of fun activities in the Pre-Prep!

Prep and Senior Schools share a beautiful Dorset setting, friendly boarding facilities and a real family feel.
Just call to arrange a visit at any time and discover more about our excellent boarding and day education.



Prep 01747 813155 • Senior 01747 812122 • www.clayesmore.com



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.



Swim and Play at Sandroyd

Fridays 9.30am - 11.00am

For babies and toddlers with
our qualified instructor

Afterwards join us for
a play and snack at

The Walled Garden,

**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

Do you need a babysitter?

Experienced and caring mother
and grandmother is available for
babysitting in Sixpenny Handley
and surrounding villages. For
enquiries and bookings please
call or text

**Ros Adams on 01725 553032
or 07780209558**

What's On

Date	Function	Page	Day	Club or Group
4 Feb	Downsman Business Support Group	4	Mon	Happy Nappy : Village Hall 10:00 - 11:30 Weekly in Term Time
6 Feb	Coffee Morning @ Pentridge	5	Mon	WI Meetings : Village Hall : 2nd Monday of Month
17, 24 Feb	Soup Lunch @ St Mary's	36	Mon	Scouts : Scout Hut 19:00-21:00 : Term Time
19 Feb	Magic Beanstalk @ 6d Handley Village Hall	10	Tue	6DH Handley Tennis Club Session 7pm (Summer)
25 Feb	Talk @ Pentridge Village Hall	8	Wed	Cross Roads Cafe Parish Office 10:30am - 12
26 Feb	Quiz Night @ First School	36	Wed	Whist : Village Hall : Fortnightly
27 Feb	WI Jumble @ 6d Handley Village Hall	13	Wed	Beavers, Cubs, Explorers : Scout Hut : Term Time
27 Feb	Cash Converted @ 6d Handley Village Hall	10		Yoga : Village Hall Term Time : 11:30
2,9,16 Mar	Soup Lunch @ St Mary's	36	Thu	Mothers' Union : 2nd Thursday in the Month 14:45
12 Mar	Parlour Tricks@ 6d Handley Village Hall	10	Thu	Teddy Bears Drop-in : Church 10:30 - 12:00 Weekly in Term Time
2 Apr	Community Litter Pick	4	Thu	Bingo : Village Hall 7:30 : 3rd Thursday not August
			Fri	Chase Community Friends Lunch Village Hall : 2nd Friday in the Month
			Sun	St Mary's Church 9:30 Traditional 11:00 Informal 18:00 Evensong Alternating weeks St Rumbold's 11:15 Gussage St Andrew 9:30



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