



The

Downsman

The Parish of Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge, including Woodyates, Deanland and Minchington

Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

April 2017



Parish Clerk
&
Parish Council

The Book
Exchange

Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.00 am

Wednesday 10.30am - 11.30am
(Crossroads Café)

1st & 3rd Thursday
(each month)
3.00pm - 4.15pm.



Your
Parish
Office



Great space for local
groups to hire
&
Crossroads Cafe

Views expressed in this magazine are those of our correspondents and contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions held by the Editor or Members of Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council. This publication does not endorse the products or services advertised within.

Directory

Parish Councillors Sixpenny Handley

Chairman	Cllr C Taylor	553148
	Cllr D Adams.....	552284
	Cllr R Adams.....	553032
	Cllr B Boyland	552805
	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
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Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

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

Pentridge Village Hall

Chairman:	Tarka King Email: tarkaking@gmail.com	
Vice Chairman:	Stephen Luddington Email: stevelludd@aol.com	
Treasurer:	Colin Taylor Tel: 01725 553148	
Bookings	Graham Elford Tel: 07882 264160	
	Email info@pentridgedorset.co.uk	

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

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

Area 1 - Dean Lane	Don Penrose	552022
2 - Lower Handley	David Chick.....	552557
3 - Upper Handley	John Clarke.....	552674
4 - Deanland & N.E.	Charles Nodder	552292
5 - West & South	Simon Meaden	552715
Other Areas (These are separate Homewatch Schemes)		
Pentridge	Roy Elford	552911
Woodyates		

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

Sarah Styles	01725 552544
Laura Easter	07811 170201

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

Contact:	Sue Curtis	552397
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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

Sports Pavilion Bookings.....	552211
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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
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Citizens' Advice Bureau

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

Next edition

The next edition will be published on
1st June 2017

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

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

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

Advertising

Our advertising offers great value. The Downsman is currently delivered to over 700 households within the parish. Email: adverts@thedownsman.org.uk for more details. Payments must be made by the deadline date.

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**

Into the Woods...

But maybe not just the ones around Handley... although spring is well and truly gathering itself together. Most of my mind is in the woods of the fairytale imaginings of Lapine and Sondheim's *Into the Woods* which I am helping stage in Milborne Port over Easter...I hope your trips into the woods to see bluebells and wild garlic aren't as fraught with adventure as that wonderful tale, but give you something new to think about and admire in a different way!



Back to the Downsman though and in this issue we are highlighting the facilities the Parish has in its Parish Office on the crossroads at the bottom of Handley. I'm sure many of you have never visited the space. The Downsman is one of the many groups who hold regular and irregular meetings in the space - why not pop in and enjoy a cup of tea at the Crossroads Cafe, or exchange a book, details for both on page 29. If you would like to see it, come and take a look when it is open on Tuesday mornings or Friday morning or arrange a visit with Ciona. It costs £10 per session and you can book it on **01725 552211** or **01725 553040**.

I am thankful to Adam, our regular Yachting Correspondent, for also sending in details about what to do should you drive through the New Forest and see an animal in distress or have an accident with one. We all hope it won't happen to us, but I have often wondered what the procedure should be and was unlucky enough myself to have a deer run into the car whilst driving on the Cranborne road. Somehow the deer ran on and the car was drivable at least to get home. We are a one car family and it is times like this when you realise what a super community we live in. I need to say a big thank you to everyone (especially to Tracy) for giving my family and myself lifts around the countryside to meetings and clubs this week and to the Workshop for looking after the car - it really makes you appreciate what you have :-)

Do take a read of the Letters page, our village now has a defibrillator which can be used by anyone. It is registered with the Ambulance service and is available for anyone to use in a cardiac emergency. You would dial 999, as usual, and if appropriate you can send someone to come and access the defibrillator.

And do take a look at the members of our community doing something amazing for charity and see if you can support them...

Naomi Booth

editor@thedownsman.org.uk

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

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More about the parish can be found at www.sixpennyhandley.info

To the Editor

What do Sixpenny Handley Village, the Bowls Club and The Spinnaker Tower, in Portsmouth have in common?

The answer is Vic Howard.

In July 2011 Vic and I moved from Arundel in West Sussex to this wonderful vibrant, friendly and active village. It was less than 6 months after we moved in that we joined the Bowls Club. The club had no club house, only the framework of a marquee, minus its cover. Less than a year later and after a lot of fund raising the club had its own wooden club house which was built by the members and assisted by Vic. He has never wanted to be just a member, but he has wanted to get involved in the running of the club. So it was not long before he was Green Keeper and a Committee member. We have both enjoyed the camaraderie of the enthusiastic members and the great game of bowls. (Which is not just for the elderly, but the younger residents of Handley, if they would only give it a try).

But sadly in October 2014, Vic was diagnosed with Mesothelioma, which is lung cancer caused by Asbestos. This came as a terrible shock not only to Vic and myself, but also to the club. They have been a wonderful group of strong supporters and have encouraged Vic to continue with his bowling. He was given a course of chemo at Salisbury hospital, but this did not agree with him and it was soon stopped. Now he is receiving palliative care from Dr Morgan and the team at the surgery.

His main symptom is breathlessness, so no more D.I.Y. at home or very long walks through the New Forest, just gentle bowling and socializing at the club house.

But Vic wants to do more with his life and raise money for other cancer sufferers, so when the Salisbury Hospice newsletter arrived on our door step one morning last year he read an article about a fundraising idea for the hospice. This is what Vic is going to do on the 4th June 2017.....

He is going to ABSEIL DOWN the SPINNAKER TOWER to raise as much money for the Salisbury Hospice and HASAG. (Hampshire Asbestos Support & Awareness Group) who have been wonderful to us both. One of our good friends from the bowls club, Dave Adams said he will abseil with Vic.

I have set up two Just Giving sites for friends and family to donate to either charity, plus you can donate direct to Vic or Dave. Here are the details if you would like to help.

justgiving.com/fundraising/victorhoward
for the hospice

justgiving.com/crowdfunding/linda-howard
for HASAG.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for all your support

Linda Howard

Allotment Availability

There are two half plots available for this year on the Common allotment site.
All enquiries to Ros
rosal1eadams@hotmail.com

Defibrillator

At Sixpenny Handley First School we now have a defibrillator on the school site. This has been achieved by working alongside the 1st Woodcutts Scouts and the Parish Council. We have joined forces and purchased the defib, along with a heated cabinet, so it can be stored outside on the school playground for ease of access to the community. We have had it registered with the ambulance service and it is available for anyone to use in a cardiac emergency. You would dial 999, as usual, and if appropriate you can send someone to come and access the defibrillator.

**6D Handley Village Hall -
Wednesday 3rd May - ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING - @ 7.30pm
Sunday 7th May - Time TBC
ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN**

Noticeboard



6d4all
youth club

**Sixpenny Handley
Youth Club
6D Handley Village Hall
Age 10 - 16 welcome
[facebook.com/6d4all](https://www.facebook.com/6d4all)**

Dates: 31 March, 28 April, 12 May
Contact Liz 01425 654467, Vicky 01725-
552549, Graham 01725 516973

SOUP LUNCHES

Every Wednesday from
26th April - 21st May (incl)

from 12.30pm in St Mary's Church.

Transport can be provided, so please do come and bring a friend or neighbour. This year all proceeds will be donated to children's cancer charities, and support groups.



TEDDY BEARS' BIRTHDAY

Please come along to help us
celebrate

Sunday 14th May at 9.30am
in St Mary's Sixpenny Handley
There will be drinks and biscuits
as well as stories and songs - and
don't forget to bring your grown-
ups!

Downsman Noticeboard

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



Junco Shakers
Support from 'Johnny Boxcars Solo'

with The Penny Tap serving local ales & cider

Friday 7th April

Coffee Morning
Bring and Buy
Saturday 25th March
10am-12 noon
Pentridge Village Hall

In aid of St Rumbold's Church.
Entry £1 includes tea/coffee and biscuits.
There will be a raffle and a quiz

Contact Margaret Jones 01725 552358 c.mjones@btopenworld.com



SISATA PRESENTS SHAKESPEARE'S
OTHELLO
LIVE THEATRE IN PENTRIDGE. JULY 20TH

Tickets on sale now

Web: www.PentridgeDorset.co.uk
Email: info@pentridgedorset.co.uk




Sixpenny Handley First School Friends Association

Bag2School



Wednesday 17th May
9 am
Bring your bags to school from
Monday 15th May
Any questions or for collection
- please ask your
school collection organiser: Maureen Swan
01725 552561

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY
for
SIXPENNY HANDLEY & PENTRIDGE
7pm Thursday 20th April 2017
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Tea & Coffee served from 6:30pm

See page 6

Crossroads Cafe

Wednesdays
10:30am - 12noon

Parish Office
Town Farm Workshops

All Welcome



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

The Downsman Business Support Group

Will be meeting again on
Thursday 2nd February
9.30am - 10.30am
At Hanlega's Restaurant,
Sixpenny Handley

Catherine Chapman 07895 913546 or
Sarah Taylor 07852 324112
or email downsmanbsg@gmail.com

See page 19

Community litter pick




Help make Sixpenny Handley a cleaner & tidier place.

Date: Saturday 8th April 2017
Meet time: 1.30pm
(Aim to finish by approx 3pm)



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

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

for

SIXPENNY HANDLEY & PENTRIDGE

7pm Thursday 20th April 2017

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Tea & Coffee served from 6:30pm

The Better Broadband Subsidy Scheme.

The UK government is committed to providing every home and business across the country with access to a basic broadband service. If you can't get a broadband speed of at least 2Mb per second, you could qualify for a subsidised connection worth up to £350 to boost your internet speed.

Visit basicbroadbandchecker.culture.gov.uk to find out if you're eligible by filling out a simple application form.

Power Cut? A new national FREE phone number "105" has been launched by electricity network operators for customers to call should they need to report or get information about a power cut in their area.

Dialling 105 will put customers through to their local electricity network operator – the company that manages the cables, power lines and substations that deliver electricity into homes and businesses in their area. Customers can call 105, no matter from whom they choose to buy electricity from. Customers can also call

105 if they spot damage to electricity power lines and substations that could put anyone in danger. If there's a serious immediate risk, they should call the emergency services too.

All the activities of the Parish Council are open to inspection and for information from various sources;

- On the website at www.sixpennyhandleyparishcouncil.btck.co.uk
- On the 'Clerks Corner' page of The Downsman.
- On Noticeboards.
- By visiting the Parish Office, open Tuesday 10-12pm and Friday 8:30-10am.
- By attending Parish Council meetings which members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend.

L Goodwin

Opening Hours:

10.00am – 12 noon Tuei,

7.00pm – 7.30pm Thu

8.30am – 10.00am Fr

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

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 07495343720**

Fun Dog Show at The Pentridge Village Fete



Saturday June 10th from 1pm to 5pm
www.villagefete.pentridge.dorset.co.uk Sat Nav SP5 5QX

Bug Bites In Handley

Have you been bitten? This phenomenon is found not only here but is also present in Cranborne, Shaftesbury, Gillingham and Blandford to name but a few. Unlike the Blandford Fly this bug is not at all unpleasant. Indeed those who have been bitten report that it is in fact a pleasant experience. So how can you recognise this bug? It is best described as normally fairly round in appearance and most commonly black but other colours have also been seen. It can be found outside from spring through to autumn and perhaps to a lesser extent on carpets during the winter months. Although locally older people are more affected it is no respecter of age, indeed, the most famously affected individual at present is a young lady aged 22 years. Are you intrigued by this revelation. Then why not see if you can be bitten by the bug. I am referring of course to that fine old tradition of BOWLS. Interested? then why not pop along any Wednesday evening or Sunday afternoon

to the recreation ground where a warm and friendly welcome awaits. We will provide the equipment and support to get you started and once bitten you will want to come back time and time again. We look forward to seeing you.

For further information have a look at our website www.sixpennyhandleybowlsclub.co.uk or ring Dave Adams on 01725552284 or Ron Jermyn on 01725552424.

Beer Tent & Barbeque



Your Village needs you

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

Date: Saturday 8th April 2017

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.

IT'S THE LAW:

Report all accidents involving a pony, cow, donkey, dog, pig or sheep to the Police as soon as possible, and within 24 hours.

**POLICE (24hrs) – 999 (emergency)
101 (non-emergency)**

Road traffic accident involving a pony, cow, donkey, pig, sheep, dog or deer

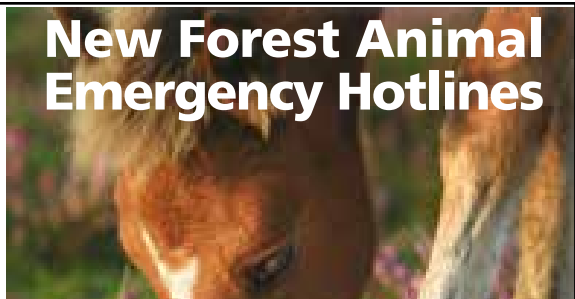
**VERDERERS' OFFICE
023 8028 2052 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)**

Sick, injured or distressed pony, cow, donkey, pig or sheep

**FORESTRY COMMISSION
0300 067 4600 (24hrs)**

Sick, injured or distressed pony, cow, donkey, pig, sheep or deer

New Forest Animal Emergency Hotlines



REMEMBER:

- Even if it runs off, the animal may have serious injuries.
- Forest animals have no road sense and have right of way!
- Drive slowly, especially at night, and give animals a wide berth.
- If you feed animals, they may stay by the road and be killed.

NPA 00453



Morion Broadband is a local provider of fibre speed, wireless broadband. Our recently expanded network brings coverage to the parish of Sixpenny Handley. Properties with a clear line of sight to the Morion transmitter above Pentridge can potentially take up the service.

Residential & Business Packages with download speeds from 10MB to 30MB available, no landline required, VOIP telephone compatible.

To find out if your property has potential connection, or information & enquiries:

**CONTACT: Kate Smith on
0800 756 3891 or
sales@morionbroadband.com
www.morionbroadband.com**

The Sixpenny Handley and Chalke Valley Practice

Tel: 01725 552500

www.sixpennydocs.co.uk

Tel: 01722 780282

Staff News

Dr Elizabeth Nodder will be retiring from the Practice on the 30th June 2017 after 27 years at the Practice. We thank her for all the work here and wish her a very happy retirement. We are delighted that Dr Gill Hawdon will be the new partner from July.

Lynne Godden retired this month as the Practice Manager. We wish her well for the future.

We are delighted to welcome Carolyne Bowes to our reception team. Your understanding through this transitional time is much appreciated.

Dr Charlotte Macpherson will be staying with us to complete her GP training.

Dispensary Changes

We will be rebuilding the dispensary soon to give our dispensers more space in which to work. We hope to keep disruption to a

minimum.

From 20th March the Dispensary opening times will be:

10.00 to 13.00 every day and

14.00 to 17.45 on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Arrangements can be made in advance with the receptionists to collect medication outside of these hours when the surgery is open but if you have to pay you must bring the correct change.

Online Appointments and Prescription Ordering

Please register to use these services. A registration form may be collected from Reception or downloaded from our website. Once completed just hand it to one of the Receptionists and you will receive information to access the site.

Text Reminders

Our computer system has a facility to

send you text reminders of appointments. Please ask at Reception if you would like to use this service. Please check that we have your correct mobile number.

Self Service Screen

Please use this to book in when you come to see a Doctor, nurse or phlebotomist. This saves crowding at the reception desk. If you need help please ask.

Patient Participation Group

We are always looking for more people to join our 'virtual' patient group. If you would like to do this please send an email to sppg@nhs.net and we will be in touch.

Useful Telephone Numbers

Sixpenny Handley Dispensary 01725 552589 (12 – 1pm)

District Nurses 01725 552792
Out of Hours 111

LOGON-WOODBURNERS LTD SALES & INSTALLATIONS

**DON'T GET LEFT
OUT IN THE
COLD!
GET YOUR STOVE
FITTED THIS
WINTER**





We're not turning
our backs now

Christian Aid Week 14 – 20 May 2017

British churches founded ChristianAid in 1945 to support refugees who had lost their homes and possessions in the Second World War. Twelve years later Christian Aid Week was launched to help fund this ongoing work of providing help for those displaced people and refugees in camps. The need today regrettably, sixty years later, is even greater than then. On this DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY YEAR it is hoped that your past generosity will be repeated using the familiar RED ENVELOPE which, same as in 2016, are to be delivered to but will not be collected from your home.

The great thing about Christian Aid is that it actually delivers, by having people on the ground, all over the world working in partnership with locals, other smaller

charities and certain governments too, ensuring that every penny of donations made, gets to where it is needed irrespective of faith or religion.

Should you wish to donate, the familiar Red Envelopes will be available. If not delivered to your home one can be collected from St Mary's Church or Sixpenny Handley Mini Market. Envelopes may then be returned to the Vicarage, Shop, Parish Office (letter box) or alternatively you can leave a message on either of my phones to arrange for it to be picked up. If you are able to help deliver the envelopes I would love to hear from you. One can also donate £5 by Texting GIVE to 70040 until 1 Jul (in the thank you message there will be an option to opt out) after making your donation. Thank you for your support

David Salmons
01725 552721 or 07776 078295



PLEASE NOTE the change of date of The BIG Session from Saturday 24 June to Saturday 8 July.

As reported in the last issue of the Downsman, your Sixpenny Handley Community Entertainments Team is already busy planning this year's BIG Session, a family friendly community day of live music and children's workshops. We would welcome your ideas as well as any offers of help.

Volunteers!

If you would like to be involved in this fun and rewarding project and to make a real difference to people within our community, then please contact us by email at: sixpennysessions@gmail.com

We've got a hippy theme for 2017!

Pentridge Village Fete 2017

- Fun dog show
 - Over the bales fun dog scurry
 - Hippy/60s themed fancy dress
 - Traditional crafts & games
 - Live music
 - Barbecue, Beer Tent, Cream Teas & Ice Creams
- ...and much, much more!

£1 entry – kids go free • Free parking
Dogs welcome on a lead

Saturday June 10th from 1pm to 5pm
www.villagefete.pentridgedorset.co.uk Sat Nav: SP5 5QX

Hippy/60s Theme Fancy Dress Competition at The Pentridge Village Fete



Saturday June 10th from 1pm to 5pm
www.villagefete.pentridgedorset.co.uk Sat Nav: SP5 5QX

Toby Daniels

Dip WCF

Registered Farrier

*Appointments for the
weekend are available*

Telephone: 07515 445469

Sixpenny Handley First School News

Fairtrade Fortnight Fun!

On Monday 6th March we celebrated Fairtrade Fortnight at Sixpenny Handley First School with a 'Fairtrade Break Off'! The day started with an assembly looking at the journey of chocolate...how it is made, where it all starts and how we can support the farmers on the other side of the world!

Each class was then set a fruit snack challenge...they had an hour to transform their Fairtrade fruit basket into the most exciting snack! There were some super ideas...banana boats, melon lollipops, grape caterpillars and fruit kebabs! We held a Fairtrade cake sale and had so many wonderful cake donations all on the theme of Fairtrade....using Fairtrade ingredients, showing the Fairtrade symbol, using the Fairtrade colours...they were all absolutely amazing, a big thank you to you all! At 10.30am our families were invited to join us for a Fairtrade break time, where they were able to have a Fairtrade tea or coffee, a cake and sample some of our Fairtrade fruit snack makes!

It was such an amazing morning with so many family members joining us and some super learning too about how we can support others. We then ran our regular Fairtrade tuck shop for the rest of the week, where the Rights Respecting Schools Ambassadors enjoyed serving the rest of the school in buying Fairtrade snacks such as fruit juice drinks, fruit, cookies, raisins and snack bars!

What a super way to celebrate Fairtrade fortnight!

Enrichment Day

On Monday 13th March, Scorpions class at Sixpenny Handley First School enjoyed a fabulous day travelling back in time to Tudor England. The children arrived, eagerly dressed in a wonderful array of beautiful dresses, Shakespearian ruffs and glistening crowns ready for the day. We were also joined on our adventure by the Year 3 and 4 pupils from St James' First School in Alderholt, who were just as excited as us. We were greeted by Ben from Treehouse Theatre Company, who talked



us through our day and how we would produce a 'play in a day'. The children worked together with Ben to learn a part in the play and find out about a turbulent and memorable period in our history.

After enjoying lunch and some games together, the children came together to perform their play, leading us through the Tudor period. Supported by a fantastic performance from Ben, the children told the story, beginning with Henry Tudor's reign in 1485, Henry VIII's 6 wives and ending with Elizabeth I's defeat of the Spanish Armada. Every child performed with confidence and enthusiasm and the staff were amazed at the amount of information the children learnt. The day finished with a huge round of applause and many offers of thanks for a brilliant day full of new learning and new friendships. We are looking forward to our next adventure together!

Defibrillator

At Sixpenny Handley First School we now have a defibrillator on the school site. This has been achieved by working alongside the 1st Woodcutts Scouts and the Parish Council. We have joined forces and purchased the defib, along with a heated cabinet, so it can be stored outside on the school playground for ease of

access to the community. We have had it registered with the ambulance service and it is available for anyone to use in a cardiac emergency. You would dial 999, as usual, and if appropriate you can send someone to come and access the defibrillator. They are very easy to use and it will 'talk' you through each instruction. You will find it located on the side of the school building, by the playground, as you access the school via the vehicle ramp. Thank you to the Parish Council and the 1st Woodcutts Scouts – it's great to work together for the community and provide a valuable and life saving resource. If you have any questions regarding the equipment then please do telephone us at the school on 01725 552356.

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Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club



"It could be you!"

Fancy hearing the sound of leather on willow in our village? Following on from the recent success of The Penny Tap, it has been suggested that the re-initiation of the Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club would be the next step in re-igniting the use of the pavilion. The consensus also seems to be that people would like to see cricket being played more regularly again in Handley. We are therefore inviting an expression of interest from people willing to participate in the noble game this summer. All-comers are welcome. Any age, any skill.

Either contact Bruno Brewin on brunobrewin@yahoo.com or 07790 325591, or come up to the Penny Tap to sign up. Howzat!?

Marathon Moonwalk



Jess Holden and Sue Hancock have decided that despite busy schedules they should take time out to remember those less fortunate than themselves. They have registered to take part in the Marathon Moonwalk 2017 as an opportunity to raise money for a very worthwhile charity for Breast cancer causes. This is a charity close to their hearts so please help them to help the cause by giving whatever you can.

Go to the walk the walk website, click on the donate tab at the top, sponsor a walker and type in Jess Holden which should bring up this picture. The more people who know about Walk the Walk, the greater their impact, so please also spread the word with your friends and family. Thank you in advance for your generosity, it means a lot!

Village Hall 100 Club

January 2017

1st £25 27 Mr. Preedy
2nd £15 111 Mrs. Clark
3rd £10 80 Mrs. Shepherd

February 2017

1st £25 81 Mr. Jackson
2nd £15 10 Mrs. Brinsford
3rd £10 29 Mrs Styles

If you would like to join the Village Hall 100 club please contact me, Bea Boyland, on 01725 552805

*Juddies Bar
At Church Farm
Open every night
except Monday.*



Dates & Venue for 2017

31.03.2017, 28.04.2017, 12.05.2017
26.05.2017, 09.06.2017, 23.06.2017
07.07.2017, 21.07.2017, 15.09.2017
29.09.2017, 13.10.2017, 27.10.2017
10.11.2017, 24.11.2017, 08.12.2017

We look forward to seeing any old and new faces at our new venue - Sixpenny Handley Village Hall.

Email: 6d4all@gmail.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/6d4all



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Hanlega's



FOOD OPENING HOURS

Wednesday: Steak Night 6-9pm Friday: 6-9pm

Saturday: 8.30-10.30 am, 6-9 pm

Sunday: 8.30-10.30 am, Lunch: 12.30-3pm Bar open Late

Don't forget Easter!

Please check our board for Opening Times and What's On.

Saturday Craft Fair.

Easter Sunday our Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Email: hanlegastheshed@yahoo.co.uk 01725 553005

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We are pleased to announce the return of SISATA to Pentridge this July. With outstanding reviews of their performance of Tess of the d'Urbervilles last year, we were delighted when they agreed to return to Pentridge with William Shakespeare's Othello.

Dorset born SISATA present Shakespeare's 'Othello' in a bold, bright and brilliant explosion of a performance, giving you a feast for all your senses. In a fast-paced telling of jealousy, love and ambition, four actors play multiple roles in this masterful debate on the human condition.

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Email: info@pentridgedorset.co.uk



 **Pentridge**
Village Hall

Totally Locally....

If you're a regular reader of The Downsman, you've probably seen the ad for "Sarpenela Natural Therapies Centre". I've certainly noticed it, but have never visited, so was delighted to get an invite from Sarah Lownds (Sarpenela's founder) to have a look around and feature them in this month's column...

Set in the grounds of Farnham Farmhouse - a beautiful 19th century country house, offering luxury B&B - Sarah established Sarpenela back in 2000. Returning to her childhood home after 11 years of managing spas in Muscat Oman, it seemed like the perfect location to build upon her passion and deep belief in natural therapies and a holistic lifestyle. Back then, Sarah converted part of the old stables into a treatment room and over the years the centre has developed and grown with the most recent addition being two beautiful wooden buildings called "The Studio" and "The Lodge". These new spaces have allowed Sarpenela to offer an even wider range of therapies and classes, there are also plans to develop the (already lovely) walled garden into an area for relaxation and contemplation. There couldn't be a better place for it!

I can't really describe it, but there's just a very lovely feeling as you walk through the door at Sarpenela, you can't help but feel relaxed and welcome. Talking with Sarah, the focus is very much on holistic treatment tailored to meet the needs of the individual. The range of therapies is staggering, you've probably heard of Reflexology, Acupuncture and Reiki healing but some are less familiar, such as Heartfelt Dance, Kindred Spirit Gatherings and Gong Baths. I must quickly tell you about the "Gong Baths" (something I'd never heard of) Sarah describes it as "a form of sound therapy where the gongs are played in a therapeutic way to bring about deep relaxation, meditation and healing". She was kind enough to give me a brief demonstration and I have to say it was an incredible experience!

Sarah is a trained and experienced Reiki

Sarpenela Natural Therapies Centre



Master/Teacher, Holistic Therapist, Meditation and Workshop leader. She also has a lovely team of therapists working alongside her, meaning that the centre can now offer individual therapies as well as welcoming larger groups for half or full day retreats.

I hope that's given you just a brief taster to another lovely place right on our doorstep. If you'd like to find out more, please take a look at Sarpenela's website www.sarpenela.co.uk, email at info@sarpenela.co.uk or phone on 01725 516942.

Thank you for reading!

Sarah x





WI News And Information

NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

On 1st February nineteen members visited Compton Abbas airfield for lunch and a tour of the hangars. After days of fog and rain, the skies cleared enabling us to enjoy the stunning views across the beautiful Dorset countryside. We spent a very pleasant afternoon having an informative talk about the aircraft on display, particularly the vintage models. Some members were even tempted to enquire about possible pleasure flights! Our next outing in May will be to Wimborne Model Town.

At the February meeting on the 13th Mrs Jacque McLean of Frogmore Farmhouse gave a fascinating account of her work as an interior designer. Explaining that the role was not just titivating a room, but the overseeing of tradesmen and total project management. To do this one needed to understand all aspects of a house from plumbing and electrical circuits through to painting and dressing. Mrs McLean

gave several ideas such as using room boards, collecting ideas from magazines and paying attention to detail in order to help members feel more confident about designing a room themselves. Good design will last! Her Barn at Frogmore Farmhouse is open on Friday mornings.

The Annual Jumble Sale took place on 25th February. The weather was inclement and numbers attending were lower than last year but it was a very successful day. Our thanks are extended to all those who donated jumble, helped on the day and who attended.

At the monthly meeting on 13th March committee nominations were taken. After the business and refreshments there was an opportunity to Kurl. Indoor Kurling is not too strenuous as it can be played sitting, standing, or using a special 'pusher'. As it played between teams it does generate excitement and sometimes

amusement over errant stones. A very enjoyable evening.

Forthcoming Events

10th Apr Annual Meeting

8th May Resolutions Meeting
Mrs Diana Goetz – "Shaftesbury"

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.



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*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.*

Sixpenny Village Hall

More great local music @ Sixpenny Sessions with Junco Shakers



Shadow puppets took over the Village Hall in the half term and our children certainly made some beautiful work. Check it out above! The show 'Malina's Dream' was a gentle and interesting tale for half term and we look forward to picking more Artsreach events for the Autumn at the programming showcase in May. Hightown Crows kicked off this year's Sixpenny Sessions with a stomping session and there's more great music on the way in April with Junco Shakers.

Our refurbishment bid has been submitted to the Talbot Village Trust and we wait eagerly to hear if they want to work with us, final decision in June 2017. Meanwhile we are due some annual events with the AGM on 19th April, (if your group uses the hall then please make sure one of your group attends this meeting) and our annual spring clean on Saturday 1st April from 2-5pm.

As always here are the dates for your diary!

Friday 7th April - Doors open 7.30pm for

8pm – Sixpenny Sessions

Junco Shakers – are a four piece band influenced by 50's rock n roll, skiffle and jazz artists. With acoustic guitars, double bass and the washboard topped off with gospel harmonies, Junco Shakers create their own music dubbed 'skifflebilly swing'. Based in Southampton Junco Shakers are quickly making a name for themselves as a must see band. Supported by Johnny Boxcars solo. **Tickets £8 advance from Styles Mini Market, Eventbrite or £10 on the door.**

Wednesday 3rd May – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - @ 7.30pm

If you use the hall, represent a group or hire our hall on a regular basis we would love you to attend our annual general meeting. This is where you will get to hear what progress has been made in the last year, our plans for the future and have your say on what you need in your village hall.

Sunday 7th May - Time TBC ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN– Calling all willing

SIXPENNY SESSIONS

Junco Shakers

Support from 'Johnny Boxcars Solo'

Friday 7th April

from 8.00 pm (doors open 7.30pm)
Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Tickets: £8 (£10 on the door)
from Styles Newsagents or www.eventbrite.co.uk

and able volunteers, we need window, floor and kitchen cleaners. Come and help us with our annual deep clean. Free cake and tea/coffee, community spirit and warm fuzzy glow for helping :-)

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Dates still available to book for your party or event.

Our prices:

Half day (9am-1pm) or (1pm-5pm) £36

Whole day (9am-5pm) £66

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

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

Reduced hourly fee available for regular bookings.

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

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club - More about

This is an accredited tennis club enjoying a friendly atmosphere and catering for all levels of play, situated in idyllic rural setting. The club is supported by a qualified and enthusiastic coach who can help to improve your game and level of fitness.

Family, Adult, Junior and Non-Playing Memberships available annually.

- Pay and Play : £7.00 per court, hour. Contact Church Farm Campsite Tel: 01725 552563.
- Rusty Racquets Evenings : A great opportunity for adult Rusty Racquets Evenings : A great opportunity for adult members to brush up on tennis skills and meet other members to brush up on tennis skills and meet other players.
- Members of Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club can apply for free British Tennis Membership
- Junior tennis coaching sessions available during school term times.

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club 2017 - Membership Form

With the lighter evenings approaching we would like to encourage as many people as possible to use the facilities. Annual Membership runs from 1st February 2017. Attached is a membership application form to complete and return to Steph Chick (plus cheque or BACS payment amount & date). Apart from members having access to the courts at all times, we also offer lessons to adults and juniors of all levels, including

“rusty racquets” sessions. You don’t have to be members to benefit from group coaching on offer, however members pay a reduced rate. Any queries about membership or coaching 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 any day!!!!

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	Name Of Member(s) (plus Date of Birth for junior members)	Quantity	Amount enclosed
Adult	£35.00			
Junior (under 18) on 01/02/16	£10.00			
Family (adults and children living at same address)	£75.00			
Non playing Adult Member	£10			

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

Are you happy to share your email/phone number with other members so that you can be contacted to play tennis with others: YES / NO (please delete as appropriate)

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 Date BACS paid/Cheque enclosed for

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



NEW SEASON NEW MEMBERS NEEDED

WE KNOW THE EXCUSES...

"I haven't played for such a long time" - don't worry, we have all levels of players and a dedicated session called Rusty Rackets, just for people returning to the game.

"I cannot justify annual membership" - its ok, you just pay and play for only £7.00 per hour. No membership needed.

"What will my children do" – we have an excellent play park within sight.

"I no longer have a racquet" - no problem, we have spare ones.

Contact
Kyla Scougall
P: 01725 552437
E: seankyla@btinternet.com

Membership Contact
Steph Chick
P: 01725 552557
E: david@davidchick.co.uk

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ON OUR FUN & INTERACTIVE
EASTER TRAIL

MONDAY 17TH APRIL 2017

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The Easter Trail At Larmer Tree

Easter monday 17th april 2017

The Easter Trail at Larmer Tree offers entertaining outdoor activity for children on Easter Monday.

'Come and meet the White Rabbit on our fun and interactive Easter Trail. Follow the clues and fill in the puzzles and see if you can find your way along the trail. Mrs Greenfingers and Miss Fox will also be on hand to help, entertain and guide you on your way on the Easter Trail.' Courtesy of Same Difference Outdoor Performance
Chocolate prizes will be presented to each child. You are welcome to enjoy some time in the garden after each session. Garden and Coffee Grove Cafe open 11am to 4.30pm serving delicious hot and cold refreshments.

Book tickets online by visiting our website www.larmertree.co.uk/easter-trail/

There are 3 sessions available, 11am, 1pm & 3pm. Children are charged at £4 each and one accompanying adult will be admitted free of charge. Normal garden entry fees apply to additional adults. It is advisable to book tickets in advance as numbers are capped for each session.

Outdoor fun for children of all ages. Sadly dogs are not permitted in the garden.



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Downsman Business Support Group 2017 meeting dates

Next meeting

Thursday 6th April 9.30 - 10.30am
at the Parish Office, Town Farm
Workshops, Sixpenny Handley

Future meetings: 9.30am on 8th June,
7th September & 9th November.

We're a friendly group of local business owners who meet every couple of months to network & support each other over a cup of coffee. We aim to promote each others businesses, share upcoming events & opportunities, discuss issues & problems and everything else in between!

For further information:

Phone: 07895 913546 or 07852 324112 Email downsmanbsg@gmail.com
or see our Facebook page.

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email: frogmoredesign@tiscali.co.uk

website: www.frogmoredesign.com



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

FIRST WOODCUTTS SCOUT GROUP 1957 – 2017

The Early Years Part Two

At the end of 1956, John Curd who was a nephew of My Step Father, offered to become Scout Leader. After going through all of the appointment process he received his warrant. During this interim period, Jimmy James Wimborne District DC, held a meeting of interested parties in the local School. He was hoping to form a Committee to support Scoutmaster John Curd and to raise funds to help buy equipment and pay for activities. At this meeting George Tozer agreed to become Chairman, Les Bagg Treasurer and Jean Woods secretary. Committee members were Miss Hooper, Miss Blythe (relative of Blythe of the Bounty) Mrs Churchill, Mrs Maidment and my Mum Betty Weeks. This enabled 1st Woodcutts to become a Scout Group in its own right and so on the 8th of March 1957 1st Woodcutts Scout Group was formed and we began meeting in the old War AG Nissen Hut on Handley Common - this of course is still where we still meet but in a much more salubrious building. Prior to that and after we had outgrown the coal shed, we would meet around a flagpole on Woodcutts Common at our first meeting at this site, we stood around the flagpole Mr Medway, who had been one of Baden Powell's original Scouts on Brownsea Island in 1907, presented us with our first union jack and scout prayer book, in the Winter by permission of the Landlord we were lucky enough to be able to use the old hall at Farnham which was a part of the Museum Hotel but not as it is now, part of the hostelry.

After two years John Curd decided that scouting was not for him, we were having a Christmas party in the old hut when he announced that he had had enough and flounced out. Jimmy James had been speaking to one of the Parents whose son

Chris Hardiman had recently joined the scouts, Gilbert, (later to us Scouts he was to be known as Skip Bert), Gilbert, we found out later had been a Scout in Wimborne when Jimmy was the Scout Master there. Anyway after John Curd left, Jimmy spied Bert across the room, he bellowed out, Gilbert, I have got a job for you and so Bert became our next Scout Master and in later years he became our first Group Scout Leader, (Bert and I became firm friends and were so right up until his unexpected death), shortly after this a Cub pack was formed, Bert's wife Kathleen Hardiman was Akela and Miss Cook was Baloo, I can remember two of the first Cubs, they will be known to you as current Village residents, namely, John Clarke and Steven Judd.

The summer camp was and should always be the highlight of the year, I can remember many happy camps; Brockenhurst, Charmouth, two at Studland, Chideock, West Bay on several occasions, Beer, Valonges in France, two visits to the Netherlands, Wales, Scotland (this one was memorable for the midges), several camps on Guernsey but the one that stands out for me was the one at Eype, we camped in a field adjacent to the cliff and of course below was the sea, we cut steps in the cliff and draped a rope down over giving quick access to the beach, our drinking water came from a spring in the middle of the field, the farmer had surrounded this spring with concrete, this was also the drinking place for the cows so you can imagine what else was up close to the spring, we had to boil all of our water whether for washing or drinking, this was one of the happiest camps that I can remember,

in the early days we used to put our kit and equipment into the back of Moreys

Gravel Lorry and then all climb in and sit on whatever piece of soft kit we could find, either Harold Churchill or Maurice Gulliver would drive the Lorry, Moreys never made a charge for this. Thinking of some of the things above, it was a good job that there wasn't Health and Safety in those days, incidentally, one of my old Scouts and now my brother in law Peter Perry visited the old Eype site about 10 years ago and we were pleased to see the spring watering hole was still in use.

More memories and ramblings in the next edition.

John Curtis



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advertise in this
magazine?**

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or 6 issues for £50!

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Michelle is moving on!

I would like to express my sincere thanks to those very kind and good people who have supported me over the past 12 years. In that time, I have taken in lost dogs, acted as an information centre, had my photo taken, so many times!, and ran up the high street on various Christmas Eves dressed as a fairy, elf and mummy Christmas!!

I have also done my own "Michelles match making" where I bought two of my clients together to find love for the second time in their life!

But now, it's time to move on, and with effect from Saturday 18th March I will be operating from my new salon in Verwood, where I will continue to provide the same friendly, professional hairdressing service.

I have had some really lovely enjoyable times in the salon and I thank all my clients, for making that possible. Hoping to see you soon. Michelle. X

Michelles Hair Design. Sixpenny Handley.
Contact me to make an appointment on
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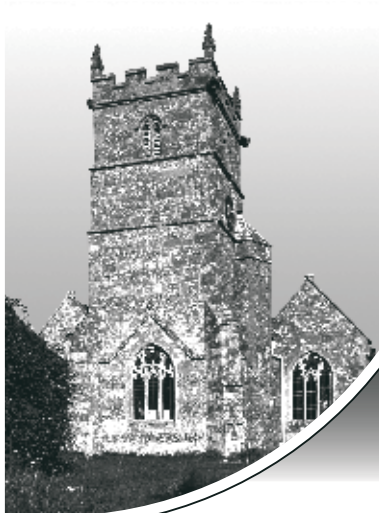
Wednesday Night

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Lots of prizes.
All money raised goes to local charity



Sunday Lunch

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with free ice cream desert.



**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

(Area code 01725)

The Seeker

handleychurch.org.uk



April 2017

Soup Lunches

This year we thought we would have our Soup Lunches in St Mary's after Easter, when the weather is better and we can celebrate good news together. We start on Wednesday 26th April and they will run for six weeks.



This year we shall be raising funds for charities linked with childhood cancers, such as CLIC Sargent and Salisbury Hospital STARS Appeal. Come along from 12.30 for a chat, with lunch served at 1.00pm. It will be the usual (and famous) mix of homemade soup and bread, followed by cake, tea, coffee and biscuits. Come and enjoy some great food in good company, helping a very good cause.

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

Saturday Afternoons – 2.30pm Drop-in

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

Teddy Bear 5th Anniversary – Sunday 14th May

Come along to our celebration of another year of Teddy Bears! St Mary's will be celebrating five years of our pre-school drop in at the 9.30am service. Come along for some stories, songs and cake - and don't forget to bring your teddy!



Annual Meetings

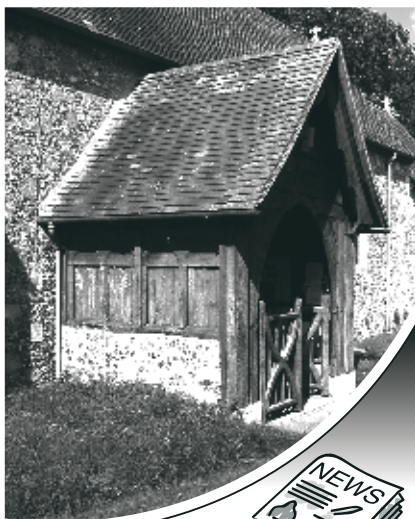
It is the time of year to hold our Church Annual Meetings. Join us at St Rumbold's on Tuesday 25th April beginning at 6.50pm and at St Mary's on Sunday 30th April at 6pm (in place of the evening service). If you would like to help with the running of our churches in any way, please come along!



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!

Please remember to look out for the Fairtrade or Rainforest Alliance logos on the chocolate you buy, to 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.



**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
John David
Robin Raban-Williams
Ann Adams
Michael Palmer

In full colour

A full colour PDF
of The Seeker is
available from
our website.



No Chancel Tax here!

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

Dear friends...

On Palm Sunday the crowd cheers as Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a borrowed donkey. For many of us it is such a familiar picture we don't think twice about it. But it is clear that Jesus has prepared his entry into Jerusalem carefully. He has sent two disciples off to fetch a donkey - having walked all the way from Galilee, he will ride the last half-mile or so in an overt declaration of who he is and what he is to do.

Then, coats spread on the animal, Jesus rides into the city, everyone waving palm branches and singing, *'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!'* and *'Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!'*

This is a direct quote from the Old Testament, from Psalm 118. Except they change it very slightly: they put the word 'king' where the original has just 'he'.

The people of Jerusalem will be in no doubt who is coming. And the reference to 'peace' is a sign that Jesus comes not as a warrior king on a mighty horse, but a peaceful king on a donkey.

The authorities are horrified, appealing to Jesus to stop the singing. They say it will upset the fragile balance of power that keeps them in authority. They have a very different idea of peace and they expect Jesus to agree with them. After all, this song refers to the Messiah, not a carpenter from Nazareth.

But Jesus doesn't agree with them. Not only does he accept the crowd's adulation and affirmation of his kingship, he says that if the crowd were silent, you would hear the very stones of the city cry out. It is as if the brickwork knows better than the inhabitants what is going on, and who is coming. Creation will recognize its Creator.

And so the authorities move on in their thinking. This man is dangerous. He is a threat. He must be rejected. He must be killed.

And, indeed, Jesus is a threat – but not in the way they think. He challenges them, and us, because

he says things can be better. He offers peace not war, love not power, forgiveness not threat. And so he is threatened himself, because the world cannot cope with this thing we call 'love'. And the threat of what is to come, the shadow of the cross, grows ever stronger.

We see so many forces of selfishness and greed, small-mindedness and narrow thinking in our world today. We all need to stand up and say this is not the world we want. We want a world of truth and love and support – the world I believe God wants us to have. Come along to church this Easter and celebrate the Good News that, whatever mess we make of things, God loves us and is with us. Always.

Your friend and Vicar, Mel



Lee Abbey is a beautiful house and community on the rugged north Devon coastline. Visitors often comment that it is a 'thin place', in the sense that God is felt to be very near. It is a great place for families, as there are lots of things for different ages to do. We are planning a visit in July. Please have a look at the brochure, the website or talk to us if you are interested in coming – but hurry, places are very limited!

Lent and Easter Flowers

Our churches are simply decorated through Lent. Then, between Good Friday and Easter Sunday, they are filled with colour and life as we celebrate the best news ever – the Resurrection.

If you would like to contribute to the Easter flowers, you will find a collecting box in the church, or you can leave a donation (suitably marked) in the wall safe by the door.



A LOOK AT THE CROSS

Mel Durrant

If you had to choose one object to represent supreme bravery, a supreme act of heroism in the face of terrible enemy fire, what would it be? Surely, the Victoria Cross. Or if you wanted to have an internationally accepted symbol of compassion? Surely you would choose the Red Cross.

The cross is the symbol of Christianity, of course. It is our 'logo'. The symbol of our faith is not a cradle, to remind us of the lovely Christmas story, or a crown, though Jesus was a king; but a cross, because it was there that he did something of such bravery and compassion that it made all the difference. Sometimes we have the figure of Jesus on the cross to remind us of his death, but more often the cross is empty, to remind us of his Resurrection.

A small boy, whose grandfather was a bishop and seeing a silver cross dangling round his neck, asked, '*Grandad, why do you always wear that key?*' His grandfather was just about to explain that it was not a key, when he paused and realised that it was indeed the most important key in the world, because it could unlock the gate of heaven and let us in.

I remember once seeing what I thought was rather an ugly building floodlit on some important occasion. The light completely transformed it into a thing of beauty. It is like that with the cross. We don't sing, as you might expect, '*When I survey the monstrous cross*', but '*When I survey the **wondrous** cross*.' So let us '*survey the wondrous cross*' for a few moments.

The cross shows us the Truth – the truth about ourselves and about God.

Imagine you are abroad on holiday. Everything is perfect. There is just one thing wrong; you are not well. By the third day you toss and turn, and then wake from a feverish sleep to see someone leaning over you. You recognise him as a well-known doctor from home. You realise there must be something very wrong, if this doctor has come all the way from England to see you!

This is how we should feel when we look at the cross. We begin to realise that there is something very wrong with us – what the Bible calls 'sin'. And the only cure is for Jesus to come to save us. If God could have sent an angel to put things right, we can be sure he would have done it. But, '*there was no other good enough to pay the price of sin*', and '*God so loved the world that he sent his only Son*'.

In the life of Jesus we see a wonderful example of how to live. In what Jesus said we have the most marvellous teaching the world has ever heard. But first of all we need more than a good example, and more than good teaching. We need a Rescuer, a Saviour.

Imagine you are floundering in the sea. You are out of your depth, and you cannot swim. It won't help if I jump into the water and give you a marvellous exhibition of swimming, even if I could. Nor will it be of much help if I shout instructions from a nearby boat. The day may come when you will be glad of an example, and swimming lessons, but right now what you need is a Rescuer – someone who will leap in beside you, perhaps at great risk to themselves, and get you home.

Of course I hope we try to follow the example of Jesus and pay careful attention to his teaching. But before we can do either, we need him as our Saviour. By dying on the cross, I believe Jesus shows his love and power, bares the penalty and pays the debt of human sin, and makes a way for us into the presence of God. I know this language sounds heavy and old-fashioned, but it is still important. It is still the most important thing I can tell you.

I am told that in Greece, everyone is given a boiled egg painted bright red at Easter. When you meet a friend, you say 'Christ is risen' and crack your egg against theirs, to let out the new life. I have said before that an egg looks a little bit like the stone over the empty tomb. And out of it comes a little chick, bright yellow – a symbol of new life springing up in the colour of sunshine.

Prayer Time Together

You don't have to be good, clever or holy to pray. Prayer is not about clever words, it is about paying attention to God. Jesus calls this 'purity' – 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God' (Matthew 5:8). St Mary's and St Rumbold's are open every day for prayer, but of course we can pray anywhere. And we never pray alone, for we are always praying in fellowship with the whole Church.

'Be still and know that I am God.' Psalm 46:10

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord, Amen.

The confession from Holy Communion

An Easter Prayer

Christ is risen: The world below lies desolate.

Christ is risen: The spirits of evil are fallen.

Christ is risen: The angels of God are rejoicing.

Christ is risen: The tombs of the dead are empty.

Christ is risen indeed from the dead: The first of the sleepers.

Glory and power are his forever and ever.

Hippolytus of Rome, c190-c236

An Easter Blessing

May the celebration of resurrected life bring new hope to our being,

May the victory over earthly death turn our eyes to the promises of heaven,

May the empty tomb help us to leave our sorrows at the foot of the cross,

So that God's hope, promises and forgiveness reign in our lives forever.

Amen.

Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Hebrews 13:1-2



✦ 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

🍲 Soup Lunches

Every Wednesday after Easter at 12.30pm St Mary's Church.

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

✱ **Drop into...** the Post Office Coffee Shop on the first Monday of the month from about 11 o'clock 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.

✦ Lent Course

7.30pm at St Mary's. Meet friends and explore what Lent and Easter are all about.

☕ **Men's Group** – A beer and a chat to finish off the month at 7.30pm. Details from David Lockyer (552 492).

✿ **Mothers' Union** – Tea, company and a good talk, usually every second Thursday of the month, from 2.30pm. Details from Mary (552 041).

SUNDAY SERVICES	St Mary's Sixpenny Handley		St Rumbold's Pentridge	Gussage St Andrew
	9.30am	6.00pm	11.15am	9.30am
April 2 nd	Holy Communion	Evensong	HC	#
April 9 th	Informal	Evensong	#	HC
April 16 th	Easter Sunday HC	#	MP	#
April 23 rd	Informal	Evensong	#	MP
April 30 th	Informal	Annual M	MP	#
May 7 th	Holy Communion	Evensong	HC	#
May 14 th	Informal	Evensong	#	HC
May 21 th	Holy Communion	Evensong	MP	#
May 28 th	Informal	Evensong	#	MP

HC Holy Communion **MP** Morning Prayer **SofP** Songs of Praise **#** No service
 Our Informal service is geared more towards families and includes activities for children.



Holy Week – is open week!

Come along to Sixpenny Handley church anytime between Palm Sunday and Easter to experience the story in a different way. Five scenes from the Last Supper to the Tomb will be set up around the church and you are invited to work your way around on your own. Follow the story and experience something of what is going on. The church is open all day.

Palm Sunday – 9th April

Maundy Thursday – 13th April

6:00 pm 'Last Super', St Mary's

Good Friday – 14th April

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

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

Easter Sunday – 16th April

9:30 am Holy Communion, St Mary's

11:15 am Holy Communion, St Rumbold's

April							See side panel for key to symbols
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
30						1	
2	3 ✱	4	5	6 T ✦	7	8	
9	10	11	12 HC	13 ✿	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20 ✦	21	22	
23	24	25	26 🍲	27 T ☕	28	29	

Wed 5th 10.30am School Praise Assembly, Sixpenny Handley

Tue 25th 6.50pm St Rumbold's Annual Meeting

May							See website for updates
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	1	2	3 🍲	4 T ✦	5	6 ▼	
7	8 ✱	9	10 HC 🍲	11 T ✿	12	13 ▼	
14	15	16	17 🍲	18 T ✦	19	20 ▼	
21	22	23	24 🍲	25 T ☕	26	27 ▼	
28	29	30	31				



Come and join us at The Penny Tap for a pint or two in the re-modelled Sports Pavilion @ Sixpenny Handley

Wed- 4.30 - 7.00
Thurs- 4.30 - 7.00
Fri- 4.00 - 7.30
Sat- 12.00 - 4.00

Takeaway Service Available

The Penny Tap



The Penny Tap @ Handley

The Penny Tap would like to clarify that whilst we are featuring beer from the Sixpenny Brewery on a regular basis, we are in no way affiliated to them and they continue to run their award winning brewery & bar from The Old Dairy in Holwell, Cranborne. The Penny Tap is now open in the Pavilion @ Sixpenny Handley. Come & join us for a pint of local beer or cider. See above for more details.



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Sixpenny Handley Book Exchange



Book Exchange Opening Times:

**Tuesdays 10.00am
-11.00 am**

**Wednesday
10.30am – 11.30am
(Crossroads Café)**

**1st & 3rd Thursday
(each month)
3.00pm – 4.15pm.**

This is a community led initiative following the withdrawal of the mobile library service in December. With the support of the Parish Council it aims to provide access to reading material using a simple exchange of books. Please pop along to one of the sessions to look at the wide selection books available.

Good condition book donations received 'with thanks' by arrangement only -
Exchange Library Volunteers:

Mrs Bea Boyland 552805
Mrs Stella Olsen 5524507.



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David

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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

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Sixpenny Handley Homewatch



Its good to be able to report another period of comparatively little crime in our Parish. We are lucky that Dorset is invariably low in the national crime statistics and Sixpenny Handley is usually low within Dorset. Its just one of the many benefits of living here. There has been to usual low level of shed breaks, tool thefts and poaching our area but nothing in the way of 'traditional crime' that we have not seen before.

However, in line with national crime trends, cyber crime involving the internet is increasing dramatically and this is a form of crime that respects no boundaries, so those living in remote rural areas are as likely to fall victim to it as anyone else. Our local Police Community Support Officer, Steve Willis, recently reported that someone was making phone calls purporting to be from BT Internet, asking people to call a number to update their details. If anyone calls you stating they are from a business or organisation, even a well known and

trusted one such as HMRC, Microsoft, the Police, or BT, asking for personal details or remote access to your computer, then however convincing and legitimate they may sound just say no thank you and hang up immediately. Never give out personal Information to cold callers. If you receive calls like this, then when you've hung up dial 1471 to get the number that they called from and then please report them to Action Fraud either online or by calling 0300 123 2040.

Technological change affects crime in other ways too. Following an increase in the penalties levied for using a mobile phone at the wheel, Dorset Police recently took part in a week-long crackdown against people using their mobile phones whilst driving. Ninety-two fixed penalty notices were issued as a result! The campaign ran from Wednesday 1 March to Tuesday 7 March with offenders being handed six penalty points and a £200 fine in line with

the new legislation. Drivers caught for this offence are no longer eligible for a driver awareness course and have to either accept the penalty points or take their case to court.

The changes have a particularly significant impact on new motorists, who will have to retake their test if caught within two years of obtaining their licence. More experienced drivers also risk going to court if caught twice, with a possible fine of up to £1,000 and at least a six-month driving ban. During an average week in Dorset, 17 tickets are issued to motorists for using a mobile phone at the wheel, so the 92 tickets issued during the campaign represent a 441 per cent increase. You have been warned!

Keep alert, keep within the law and keep reporting anything suspicious via the 101 phone line, or 999 if a crime is actually in progress.

Cards

Whist

Five tables, six tables and frequently with an odd combination between the two, that has been the reality for Sixpenny Handley Whist since the turn of the year. Frankly, it is a situation that is becoming more and more difficult to sustain, particularly when hall charges and the outlay in providing prizes is brought into account. It is fully recognized that the days of yesteryear when tables in play were well into double figures are gone [Sixpenny Handley is not the only village to witness a serious decline in the game], but if attendance could increase by a dozen or so, this would make a significant difference. At this point I wish to place on record the immense gratitude to Stuart Haskell, with support from Chris and Doug, for 'battling' on in the face of such a paucity of numbers. At the time of writing this column Olive Meaden continues to hold pole position with an aggregate score after eleven rounds [six remaining] of 1785 points, eighteen clear from Susie White who in turn is

four ahead of Sylvia Morrison. However, acknowledging the huge swings in fortune that the game can produce, the issue of the season's overall champion is far from being decided. Presently in the running for prize money, which extends to tenth place, are Betty White [1755], 'your scribe' [1752], John Berville and Stuart Haskell each on 1750, David Brine [1745], Sylvia Berville [1731] and Doug Haskell [1728].

Bridge

Play in the parish office on Tuesday afternoons' has settled in well and on the 7th of March those present welcomed the return of John Davis whose absence has been unavoidable of late. Partnering Nora, John's skill at both bidding and play has not diminished and by the tea break, at which point he elected to 'retire', no less than ten contracts had been achieved against Vic Hatton and Tim Stevens. The same afternoon saw a most unusual small slam bid where both partner could make the contract in either clubs or spades

[spades eventually prevailed for this would bring a higher score] against any lead.

Bill Chorley

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Farmland Conservation Project In The Frame For Awards 'Oscar'

THE South Wiltshire Farmland Conservation Project, an initiative aimed at improving bird and wildlife numbers and habitat on farmland in a 450 square mile area in and around the Cranborne Chase AONB, is one of three projects shortlisted for the Wiltshire Life Awards 2017. Listed in the category 'Conservation Project of the Year', the scheme has been running for two years and is a spin-off of the area's original South Wiltshire Farmland Bird Project. Led by Farm Conservation Advisor Tracy Adams, the new project is still seeking to enhance the habitat and foraging areas of vulnerable birds, namely the corn bunting, lapwing, grey partridge, yellow wagtail, turtle dove and tree sparrow, and consequently boost their numbers, but its remit has widened to additionally include wildlife, as well as protecting soil and water.

"We were already working closely with around 150 farmers, advising them on managing their farms for food production side by side with the six bird species," said Tracy. "We had good relations with them and wanted to capitalise on that, and funding from Wessex Water's Partners Programme allowed us to broaden our environmental remit."

The basic concept behind the South Wiltshire Farmland Conservation Project is to bring together groups of farmers or 'clusters' to work together on improving soil, water and biodiversity, as well as submitting wildlife records so that a better picture of the biodiversity of the area can be constructed. Beneficiaries of the scheme are set to include rare butterflies,

including the marsh fritillary, as well as the 19 species of bumble bee.

"We are looking to join up and fill in the gaps of foraging habitats," Tracy explained. "So, for example, by improving the network of nectar producing plants we are hoping to safeguard bumble bee species and increase their numbers."

"This is an exciting project that's all about bringing together groups of farmers and changing attitudes," continued Tracy. "A number of the farmers we work with are already participating in government funded agri-environment schemes, but our new cluster approach is the proverbial icing on the cake."

The cluster concept of environmental management was first trialled in 2012 by the farmer-led Marlborough Downs Nature Improvement Area. It was then piloted nationally by the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust (GWCT) in partnership with Natural England. It involves a group of farmers coming together to devise their own targets and record the progress of wildlife on a landscape, rather than a single-farm scale.

The Wiltshire Life Awards ceremony will be held on 24 March 2017 at The Corn Exchange, Devizes.

Downsman Support For Charities

The Downsman is a not for profit publication. The committee is pleased to be able to make donations this year to the following organisations:

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Pre-School Project
1st Woodcutts Scouts Diamond Jubilee

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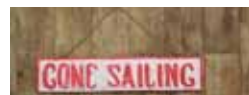
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Gone Sailing



Global Warming?

Well, it has been really awful sailing weather this year so far! But managed to get out a few times, and some tales to tell

Logistical Nightmare

Wind WNW F 5 -7, HW Cowes 10:19hrs 4.1m
From time to time marinas and moorings need to be dredged, they realise the necessity when berth holders complain about keels in mud at low water. And so Fortuna pontoon was to be dredged, the Beneteau 31 was moved to a mid river mooring, which makes getting aboard more difficult ... so, pick up skipper with dinghy and all the bits, drive to club and find out what is going on, and pick up regular crew, drive to town quay, pump up dinghy, skipper and rc paddle to yacht and prepare to sail. I drive back to club, park car, gather three kit bags and make my way to the club pontoon, they are already there, having got under way in record time, all aboard, life jackets on, and off we go. Towards Newtown Creek under reefed genoa and 7kn boat speed. We think that three other LTSC yachts are out. On the way the Bavaria 33 calls us on ch 77, had we heard the forecast for sea area Wight warning of F8 gale imminent? (imminent = within 6 hours) and they were heading back to Yarmouth, with a fall back plan of ferry for return to Lymington! Well this sounded a bit OTT to us, so we reviewed the situation - sea area Wight is big, and extends across to France, I usually research Met Office Cowes, and XC Weather for the Solent, and look at inshore waters for our area, which extend 12 miles offshore, which I feel is sufficient, we decided to continue. It is of course the skippers decision, and no one will criticise caution. We continued with a great sail into Newtown Creek, noting that a bar was forming at the entrance, tricky picking up a mooring with strong ebb, and wind gusting, veering, and backing, but third time lucky. Then lunch and a warming soup!
The return was sunny, with well reefed main and genoa, still windy, but easing a bit as we thought it would (no F8 ha!). The mooring up was the reverse of the



morning, skipper and rc had a hard task rowing against the strong winds, and had to seek a lee from the land.

Another use for guard rails?

The Beneteau 31 was three up for the Bembridge long weekend, skipper, rc, and a lady crew who organized the event. (I was on Sweden 390 a day later). rc went to board the yacht with his weekend kitbag, it is worth pointing out that Fortuna pontoon moors bows to, in clambering over the bow the kit bag fell off his shoulder and into the water! skipper grabbed the long boathook, rc pulled in a yacht downstream to stop the bag going to sea, and all was retrieved safely. But some of rc clothing was wet, and it being a fine and sunny day with pleasant breeze, rc hung his wet clothing on the guard rails to dry, rather spoils the symmetry of sail, but needs must! Skipper decides that before the commodore or any other member makes an adverse comment he should tell them. Ch 77 advised that under garments are hanging out to dry, due to an earlier ducking (and not a distress signal). The fleet decides to come and have look, perhaps to take photos for the 'best disaster' trophy, or maybe they thought the drying belonged to the lady organizer?

Wildlife

Under sail we do come across various wildlife from time to time, cormorants, kingfishers, flying fish, pigeons having a rest, and seals. The skipper of Beneteau 31 took this photo of a seal sunning himself in the Beaulieu River (hopefully it gets printed)

Sailing 2017

Once again seize the opportunity and go sailing, with Vendee Globe and Alex Thompson coming 2nd with Hugo Boss, and Ben Ainslie America's Cup Challenge, and the run up to the Olympics, why not 'have a go'? Plenty of opportunity, two open days at LTSC, 13 & 14 May, as part of RYA/ptbo with full open day on 14th (for later dates tba see website), RYA Push The Boat Out events 13 - 21 May, an opportunity to sail a dinghy or/and a yacht, subject to weather and availability. The Solent is one of the worlds' premier sailing areas, less than an hour from here. www.ltsco.co.uk, www.rya.org.uk/go/pushtheboatout.

Adam
(Yachting Correspondent
for Sixpenny Handley)

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Increase in court fees for grants of probate

You may be aware that, despite widespread opposition, the government proposes to increase the fees for the application of a grant of probate from May this year.

What is this fee?

When someone dies, the value of their estate is calculated and where appropriate inheritance tax (IHT) is payable. Once IHT has been paid, the executors of the estate apply for the grant of probate. The grant is the executor's authority to deal with the deceased's estate and is needed to dispose of investments and property etc.

The fee to apply for the grant is currently £155 when applying through a solicitor and £215 for a personal application. These fees

are the same and regardless of the value of the deceased's estate.

The proposed new fees will be based on the gross value of the deceased's estate as follows:

Value of estate	Proposed fee
£50,000 to £300,000	£300
£300,000 to £500,000	£1,000
£500,000 to £1 million	£4,000
£1 million to £1.6 million	£8,000
£1.6 million to £2 million	£12,000
More than £2 million	£20,000

These increases, which are subject to parliamentary approval, are obviously huge. Many estates may struggle to find the cash to pay them. If you are dealing with the administration of an estate, you should try to apply for the grant as soon as possible to avoid the increases.

If we can be of assistance, please contact us.

Book Review

If you 'Google' 'Latvian independence', Wikipedia responds "The declaration "On the Restoration of Independence of the Republic of Latvia" was adopted on 4 May 1990, by the Supreme Soviet of the Latvian SSR." In April 1992, the acclaimed Swedish author, Henning Mankell, published an afterword to his 1992 Inspector Wallander novel 'The Dogs of Riga' in which he goes some way to explain some of the difficulties that he experienced when placing his central character, namely Kurt Wallander, outside of his Swedish environment and in particular the town of Ystad. The book itself starts in a winter snowstorm with the two-man crew of a decrepit fishing boat heading back to Ystad from a smuggling trip when they spot an orange life-raft which on close inspection contains the bodies of two very well dressed men. On the spur of the moment the captain of the fishing boat decides to take the life-raft in tow, but with the intention of cutting it loose before reaching the harbour and having done so, and docked, he then makes an anonymous telephone call to the police to say that a life-raft and its cargo of two dead bodies would soon be washed ashore near Ystad. Needless to say, this anonymous tip off proves correct and it is not long before the Swedish Foreign Office becomes involved for the bodies are those of Latvian origin. This in turn, and much to the relief of Wallander and his team, results in a Major Karlis Liepa of the Latvian police arriving to assist in the investigation. Subsequently, the two bodies, now ensconced in lead-lined coffins and accompanied by Major Liepa return to Riga with the major promising to send a report to Wallander on the outcome of the case. The report never arrives for on the evening of the day of his return Major Karlis Liepa is brutally murdered. From this point on the narrative twists and turns as Wallander is invited to Riga to assist the investigation into the major's death. Provided with an office and a driver it is not long before Wallander detects that he is not in Riga to help the two senior colonels, Juris Murniers and Jazeps Putnis, solve the murder of the major but to recall everything that Karlis Liepa said while he was in Ystad for

it transpires that Major Liepa had for years been compiling evidence of corruption within the Riga police force at the most senior level. It soon becomes evident to Wallander that Liepa must have prepared a detailed file implicating either Murniers or Putnis but its whereabouts was a mystery. During his time in Riga he is covertly contacted by the major's widow, Baiba, and by members of a group anxious to free Latvia from the oppression of a state still under Russian influence. Reluctant at first to become involved, Wallander, who by now has returned to Sweden, eventually agrees to their pleas and having taken police furlough under the pretext of going to the Alps for a much needed skiing holiday is smuggled back to Latvia and the grim environs of Riga. The concluding chapters of 'The Dogs of Riga' require quite a stretch of the imagination and though Mankell succeeds in part in maintaining tension as Wallander locates the late major's incriminating file and the eventual exposing of one of the colonels the conclusion to the case was, in my opinion, rather obvious. However, I will leave it to the readers of this review for their own views for 'The Dogs of Riga' is now placed in the parish office where an excellent selection of books ranging from fiction to non-fiction now form the village library.

Bill Chorley

Dorset Wildlife Trust North Dorset Events

Brownsea Island is home to a myriad of wildlife species and has a variety of important habitats including reedbeds, lagoons, pine woods and flooded woodland.

The Dorset Wildlife Trust leases 101 hectares of the island from the National Trust. This nature reserve offers over wintering for many species, including avocets and godwits (black and bar tailed), and in summer you'll hear the sounds of chiffchaff and willow warblers and see an abundance of butterflies. Autumn is the best time for spotting our native red squirrels.

DWT's Brownsea Island manager, Chris Thain, is giving an illustrated talk on the wildlife of Brownsea Island on Wednesday, 19th April, at 7.30pm in Fontmell Magna Village Hall (SP7 0PF). A small charge of £2 is requested to help cover costs and refreshments (tea/coffee & biscuits) are included. There is no cost for children under 16.

Dates for your diary:

Dawn Chorus Walks on Saturday 13th and 20th May. Meet at Bere Marsh Farm near Child Okeford at 4.45am for a 5 am start. The cost is £12 and includes a full Farmhouse Breakfast afterwards. Numbers are strictly limited so booking is essential. Please contact Anna Aubrey on 07970903679.

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Chalke Valley History Festival - June 26th to July 2nd, 2017

Advanced Information

This year the Chalke Valley History Festival [CVHF] transfers from Ebbesborne Wake to a new venue at Broad Chalke, additional details as to the precise location will appear in the June issue of The Downsman. An exciting programme is in the offing, particularly for those with a love of gardening as the well known and respected television presenter Monty Don will be present, while from festivals past, Lord 'Paddy' Ashdown and Sir Tim Rice will be returning to enlighten us on their favourite subjects. From the History Festival Team's advance press release, I note that the historian Sir Antony Beaver will be speaking as will Andrew Marr and politician and jazz aficionado Ken Clarke.

Complementing the 'professionals' will be servicemen from conflicts of the past, while the many historical talks and arena events will remember the year 1917, a year that not only witnessed the Third Battle of Ypres but the overthrow of the Russian

Empire and the rise of communism, the consequences of which remain to the present day. Over the years the festival has attracted a myriad of aircraft which have been displayed magnificently and this year aviation 'buffs' can look forward to a rich diversity of types, though much will depend on the serviceability of some of these veterans as the festival approaches. However, it is hoped that the Lancaster, presently undergoing a major overhaul at Duxford, will grace the skies of the Chalke Valley along with a Me109 which, I am told, took part in the Battle of Britain and is now restored to flying condition; I have little doubt that a Spitfire will appear at some point in the proceedings.

I also note from the press release that replicas of a Great War training camp, a prisoner of war camp, an Anglo-Saxon settlement will feature along with the usual array of reenactments featuring "hairy" Vikings, the English Civil War, medieval

knights to name but a few.

The CVHF is now recognized as the premier history event in the United Kingdom and from personal experience I can vouch for not only a very professional approach regarding our history but a team of extremely helpful volunteers on hand to help smooth the running of a very busy week.

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CBA Services Ltd Spring Budget

By the time you are sitting down with your cup of tea listening to birds in the background and reading your April copy of the Downsman, tax planning should have been considered before the tax year 2016/17 comes to an end on 5 April 2017 and Rt Hon Philip Hammond has delivered the last Spring Budget as the main Budget is planned for either November or December.

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

Personal allowances

From 6 April 2017 the personal allowance for individuals will be £11,500.

Transferrable allowances

The maximum amount of free personal allowance that can be transferred before spouses is increased to £1,150 for 2017/18.

Couples can only make a claim if one partner has spare personal tax allowance and the other is a basic rate tax payer.

Income tax rates

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

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

Dividend allowance

From 6 April 2018 the tax free dividend allowance of £5,000 is to be reduced to £2,000. Director shareholders of small companies that have adopted the strategy of minimising the salary and maximising dividends will likely pay more Income Tax on their dividend income because of this change.

NIC increases

It was announced that from April 2018 there would be an increase from 9% to 10% in Class 4 NIC for the self-employed. Cessation of Class 2 would also be from

April 2018. However since the Budget this increase has been abolished.

Making Tax Digital

It was announced there will be a one year deferral from Making Tax Digital for unincorporated businesses and landlords with turnovers below the VAT threshold (£85,000 from 1 April 2017). This means that business, self-employed people and landlords will not have to start quarterly reporting until 2019 if their turnover is less than £85,000.

Capital Gains Tax

The annual exemption has increased to £11,300 for 2017/18. The capital gains tax (CGT) on the disposal of chargeable assets, NOT residential property remains at 10% on disposals that form part of the basic rate band and 20% on disposals that form part of the higher rate band.

When disposing of residential property the rates are increased to 18%/28% except the disposals on your main home as this is still

exempt.

Another matter which everyone should be aware of is have you registered for your own Personal Tax Account (PTA). By receiving your own PTA you are able to check and change your address through to completing your self-assessment tax return if you do not have an accountant or manager your tax credits. It is quick and straight forward. Go to: www.gov.uk/government/publications/your-personal-tax-account/your-personal-tax-account

Please contact Catherine at CBA Services Limited on 01258 840306 or 01725 552955, if you have any queries regarding the Budget or anything mentioned above or, if you need assistance with your bookkeeping, accountancy or tax issues.

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

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Gold Award for Best Lettings Agent for the second year running

Bassets Lettings has been awarded with the exclusive Gold Award for Best Lettings Agent for the second year running at the national Guild of Property Professionals Awards!

In an esteemed ceremony hosted by The Guild of Property Professionals, in association with The Telegraph, the annual awards recognise outstanding levels of customer care and industry expertise in its 800 strong network of independent estate agents.

Held on Friday 27th January 2017 at The Vox Conference Centre in Birmingham, Luke Skinner (Bassets Senior Lettings Manager) and Matthew Boatwright (Bassets Tisbury Director) were presented with their trophy by Marcus Whewell, CEO of The Guild, and property TV presenter Melissa Porter after a full day at The Guild Annual Conference. Quentin Thatcher, Head of Bassets Lettings, commented "To win the Gold Award for Best Lettings Agent for the second consecutive year is an outstanding

achievement for all of us at Bassets. We are honoured to be recognised for our hard work and dedication at a national level. I'd personally like to thank my team for always striving to go above and beyond what is expected to enable us to provide our clients with exceptional, personable and professional service."

Marcus Whewell, CEO of The Guild of Property Professionals, added, "The annual Guild Awards and Gala Dinner was another huge success. It was great to be able to unite and celebrate excellence within our network. Very many congratulations to all the award recipients who richly deserve their success."

The awards ceremony was sponsored by The Telegraph, who said "As the UK's best-selling quality daily newspaper, The Telegraph is looked to by its readers as a trusted source of expertise. It is therefore fitting that we are able to celebrate excellence in the property industry by sponsoring the awards ceremony at The Guild of Property Professionals."

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Gardeners Notes

April

- plant potatoes
- prick out seedlings that you have in pots
- dehead spring bulbs
- lay turf or sow grass seed
- keep checking over seeds to be sown,
- sow sweet peas in deep pots.

- Consider adding bug houses to your garden and vegetable plot they help to bring wildlife to your garden to prevent pests.

May

- May - tie in climbing plants
- keep on top of weeds
- over over potatoes as they appear
- water growing plants regularly
- keep checking over seeds to be sown
- sow salad seeds.....

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Per Ardua Ad Astra - A History

Citations for Major Edward Mannock's awards

Major Edward Mannock was the last air force officer from the Great War to receive the accolade of the Victoria Cross; uniquely, as it was to prove, for it was brought about first by dismay and then perforce by many of his fellow officers who had occasion to fly with this outstanding scout pilot. Following the Armistice in November 1918, the honours and awards committees drew up their final recommendations for appropriate kudos for those who had fought and died in the most horrendous war in history to date and on publication of their findings, much surprise was murmured abroad that Major Edward Mannock's achievements had not been recognized by the award of his nation's highest honour. At this point a detailed examination of his war service was instigated and, subsequently, on the 18th of May 1919, the Air Ministry in publishing its Weekly Dispatch officially credited Edward Mannock with seventy-three air combat victories, adding as a rider 'should be awarded the VC'. This was the fillip needed to take forward the desire that a Victoria Cross, albeit posthumous, should head an already impressive list of honours for bravery; a Military Cross and First Bar and a Distinguished Service Order with First and Second Bars. Now, as my sub-heading shows, I report the citations for these awards along with the necessary London Gazette credits. His first Military Cross was gazetted on the 17th of September 1917, supplement 30287: 'Temporary Second Lieutenant Edward Mannock, Royal Engineers and Royal Flying Corps; 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. In the course of many combats he has driven off a large number of enemy machines, and has forced down three balloons, showing a very fine offensive spirit and great fearlessness in attacking the enemy at close range and low altitudes under heavy fire from the ground.' Indeed, the balloons referred to in the citation were most strongly defended for aloft in a basket suspended beneath the balloon would be a highly trained observer trying to spot allied defensive positions, particularly those of the artillery. And in recognition of the bravery displayed by

these observers, many only took to their parachutes at the very last moment as a British scout aircraft bore down through a hail of ground fire and with its guns blazing. The First Bar to his Military Cross was promulgated in issue 30561 of the Gazette published on the 7th of March 1918, by which time Edward's substantive rank was still that of Temporary Second Lieutenant, supplemented by temporary promotion to Captain; 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He has destroyed several hostile machines and driven others down out of control. On one occasion he attacked a formation of five enemy machines single-handed and shot one down out of control. On another occasion, while engaged with an enemy machines, he was attacked by two others, one of which he forced to the ground. He has consistently shown great courage and initiative.'

Throughout this period, here recorded, Edward was attached to No 40 Squadron and flying the French designed Nieuport scout. His first tour of operational flying over, Temporary Captain Mannock departed the Western Front for some well earned leave and less arduous duties; however, in mid-February 1918, he was attached to No 74 Squadron, then working up with their Royal Aircraft Factory SE.5a scouts at London Colney in Hertfordshire. Commanded by New Zealand born Major Keith Caldwell MC, Edward on his arrival was appointed to command A Flight which he headed throughout his second tour of duty which effectively ran from the squadron's arrival in France on the last day of March 1918, through to the 18th of June 1918. During two and a half months of fierce aerial combat he is believed to have shot down or forced down out of control forty-two enemy aircraft. Thus, in the wake of this remarkable period in his service, awards in the form of a Distinguished Service Order followed by notification of First and Second Bars appeared in The London Gazette and in a rather confusing chronological sequence of 16th September 1918 [initial award on page 10869 and First Bar on page 10858 in the same paper] and 3rd August 1918 which reports the Second

Bar.

Placing them in order the citations read; 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during recent operations. In seven days, while leading patrols and in general engagements, he destroyed seven enemy machines, bringing his total in all to thirty. His leadership, dash and courage were of the highest order.' 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. In company with one other scout this officer attacked eight enemy aeroplanes, shooting down one in flames. The next day, when leading his flight, he engaged eight enemy aeroplanes, destroying three himself. In the same week he led his patrol against six enemy aeroplanes, shooting down the rear machine, which broke in pieces in the air. The following day he shot down an Albatross two-seater in flames, but later, meeting five scouts, had great difficulty in getting back, his machine being much shot about, but he destroyed one. Two days later, he shot down another two-seater in flames. Eight machines in five days - a fine feat of marksmanship and determination to get to close quarters. As a patrol leader he is unequalled.' Finally, the citation for the Second Bar which, I can only assume, found its way into the 3rd August 1918 edition of the paper with the initial award and First Bar undergoing amendment as it is appended '[The announcement of award of Distinguished Service Order, and First Bar thereto, will be published in a later Gazette.]' 'This officer has now accounted for 48 enemy machines. His success is due to wonderful shooting and a determination to get to close quarters [Lord Admiral Nelson of Trafalgar would have heartily approved of Captain Edward Mannock's methods]; to attain this he displays most skilful leadership and unflinching courage. These characteristics were markedly shown on a recent occasion when he attacked six hostile scouts, three of which he brought down. Later on the same day he attacked a two-seater, which crashed into a tree.' A truly remarkable record of achievement.

With the approval of His Majesty the King, a Victoria Cross was granted on the 18th

of July 1919, almost a year to the day since his death in action. The wording of the citation is at odds with some of the statements reported previously, but in several respects flesh out many of the references made to the latter part of his operational career; 'On the 17th June 1918, he attacked a Halberstadt machine near Armentieres and destroyed it from a height of 8,000 feet. On the 7th July 1918, near Doulieu, he attacked and destroyed one Fokker [red-bodied] machine, which went vertically into the ground from a height of 1500 feet. Shortly afterwards he ascended 1000 feet and attacked another Fokker biplane, firing 60 rounds into it, which produced an immediate spin, resulting, it is believed, in a crash. On the 14th July 1918, near Merville, he attacked and crashed a Fokker from 7,000 feet, and brought a two-seater down damaged. On the 19th July 1918, near Merville, he fired 80 rounds into an Albatross two-seater, which went to the ground in flames. On the 20th July 1918, East of La Bassee, he attacked and crashed an enemy two-seater from a height of 10,000 feet. About an hour afterwards he attacked at 8000 feet a Fokker biplane near Steenwereke and drove it down out of control, emitting smoke. On the 22nd July 1918, near Armentieres, he destroyed an enemy triplane from a height of 10,000 feet.' At this point the citation records the honours awarded in 1917 and 1918, before continuing; 'This highly distinguished officer, during the whole of his career in the Royal Air Force, was an outstanding example of fearless courage, remarkable skill, devotion to duty and self-sacrifice, which has never been surpassed.' Again, a rider has been attached; 'The total number of machines definitely accounted for Major

Mannock up to the date of his death in France [26th July 1918] is fifty - the total specified in the Gazette of 3rd August 1918, was incorrectly given at 48, instead of 41.'

Numerous books concerning the Great War, and in particular the part played by the air arms of the navy and army, and post-1st April 1918, the Royal Air Force, feature the exploits of Acting Major Edward Mannock VC; I will mention just two. The late Chaz Bowyer's 1978 record of the Air VCs published by William Kimber, and David Gunby's first class history of No 40 Squadron, published in 1995 by The Pentland Press under the title 'Sweeping the Skies'. And it is from David's work that I close this third installment of Royal Air Force history. On page 19, he records an extract from Edward Mannock's diary of April 19th, 1917; 'did some gun practice and in one dive from two thousand [feet] my right bottom plane broke and fell clean away. Managed to right the machine after desperate efforts with the 'joy stick' and landed slowly and safely half a mile away from [the] aerodrome. Such a thing has never happened before where the pilot has not been killed or injured by the fall.' He had been with the squadron for just thirteen days and on this occasion 'Lady Luck' had ridden with him.

Bill Chorley

Postscript. In my second installment a vital word was omitted in describing the fatal crash of Major James Thomas Byford McCudden VC. The 'missing' word was 'hundred' and the passage should have read 'and as a result stalled at around one hundred feet and spun into a line of trees'.

Next installment 'One Hundred Days'

Chettle Fete

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6D Handley Village Hall

Age 10 - 16 welcome

facebook.com/6d4all

Contact Liz 01425 654467, Vicky 01725
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3-5 years
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&
11:45am-2:45pm

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

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Cream Tea's at The Pentridge Village Fete



You never know who's thinking of you,
People don't know we're thinking of them,
Then shouldn't we let them know?
It gives the light on their face when we do.

You're getting old when you bend down to
tie your shoelaces and wonder what else
you can do what you're down there.

Do you find you get caught up
when gossip starts to flow?
You join in with the rumour mill
And chinwag to and fro,
The urge to blab you must restrain
For idle chat can calls great pain.

A woman came out of Iceland and dropped
a chicken on the floor.
She was fined £20.00 for fowling the
pavement.

Mother to Daughter Advice.
Cook a man a fish and you feed him for a
day,
But teach a man to fish and you get rid of
him for the whole weekend.

The teacher asked if anyone in class could
remember the formula for water.
"Sure," said one child "Its HIJKLMNO"
"It's what?" said the teacher,
"Well," said the child, "you told us last week
that it was a H to O".

It's time to go on holiday
So pack yourself a case,
The break's as good as any rest
No matter where the place,
Near or far, you'll get a boost
When you up and fly the roost.

Rob

Rob's Column

It used to be said that necessity was the
mother of invention
Then they invented the mobile phone and
invention became the mother of necessity.

When the sky outside turns grey
Please don't let it get you down
For when it turns bright again
Who wants to wear a frown?
We can see the seasons
Change in each and every day,
Blue skies always reappear
Then its sunshine all the way.

My mother, my friend, so dear,
Throughout my life you were there,
A tender smile to guide my way,
You're the sunshine to light my day

While life has its ups and downs
With setbacks along the way,
Things happen for a reason
Which we realise one day,
But looking on the bright side
And keeping hope in clear sight,
You'll find that things have a way

Of turning out just right.

THE WHY FACTOR
I seem to be suffering from a previously
undiagnosed ailment which I have
christened "Age Related Philosophy"
When I enter a room I often find myself
wondering "Why am I here".

THE WHY FACTOR (2)
Why is it we call it a television 'set' when
there is only one of them?
And why is it that when you transport
something by car it's called a shipment but
when its transported by ship it's called a
cargo?

Make a moment every week
To call up on an old friend,
Friendships make us happy
On each we can all depend,
Please don't let time sail on by
You know that it goes so fast,
A good pal is a precious gift
So, do make each friendship last.

What's On

Date	Function	Page
Mon	Happy Nappy : Village Hall 10:00 - 11:30 Weekly in Term Time	
Mon	WI Meetings : Village Hall : 2nd Monday of Month	
Mon	Pilates : Village Hall 4:30pm	
Mon	Scouts : Scout Hut 19:00-21:00 : Term Time	
Tue	Bridge : Parish Office	
Wed	Cross Roads Cafe Parish Office 10:30am - 12	
Wed	Whist : Village Hall : Fortnightly	
Wed	Beavers, Cubs, Explorers : Scout Hut : Term Time	

Day	Club or Group
Thu	Yoga : Village Hall Term Time : 9:30
Thu	Downsman Business Group : bi-monthly : 9:30 - 10:30
Thu	Mothers' Union : 2nd Thursday in the Month 14:45
Thu	Teddy Bears Drop-in : Church 10:30 - 12:00 Weekly in Term Time
Thu	6D Handley Tennis Club Rusty Raquets 6:30-7:30
Fri	Chase Community Friends Lunch Village Hall : 2nd Friday in the Month
Fri	6D For All - Youth Club : 6D Village Hall 03.02.2017, 03.03.2017, 17.03.2017, 31.03.2017 7:30pm
Sun	St Mary's Church 9:30 Traditional & Informal services 18:00 Evensong Alternating weeks St Rumbold's 11:15 Gussage St Andrew 9:30



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Lunch

Once a month in Sixpenny Handley Village Hall we 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 45p 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