



Parish Councillors Sixpenny Handley

Chairman	CLlr C Taylor	553148
	CLlr D Adams	552284
	CLlr R Adams	553032
	CLlr C Baker-Smith	
	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	
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	adverts@thedownsman.org.uk	

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. Morgan & Taubman

Dean Lane Surgery552500

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: steveludd@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 Curtis552397

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-School552997

Matt Reeks (Chairperson).....07825 054376

Becky Wallworth (Business Manager).....01725 552997

Happy Nappy Club

Lucy Barr	07508 691323
Laura Easter	07811 170201

1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Group Scout Leader	John Curtis	552397
Explorers	John Curtis	552397
Scout Leader	Rob Easton	552038
Cub Leader	Andy Young	01258 830861
Beaver Leader	Jane Scott	01725 516294
Scout Hut Bookings	Pete Wilkinson	
	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 Curtis552397

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

Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

President	Ron Jermyn	552424
Secretary	Colin Chambers	552796
Treasurer	Paul Chalmers	5516316

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 Cross552640

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 from
1st February 2017

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

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

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

Advertising

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

**Advertising deadline
10th January**

Payment must be made by the advertising deadline to be included.

Advertisement Costs

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

Advertisement Sizes

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

*without frame which will be added by us.

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

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

Christmas Wishes...

Writing this in mid-November I feel Christmas is a long way away and I am not really prepared... but many people have been thinking and planning for months. Hanlega's have sent around their lovely looking three-course Christmas Menu ready for parties to be organised, Sarah from Ten and Six has a wonderful range of quirky Christmas presents ready and is off to Christmas Markets all around the local area including the Regard Group Christmas Fair, at Town Farm Workshop, Sixpenny Handley on Wednesday 29th November should this make it to you a couple of days early! More local Christmas shopping is available in Cranborne Garden Centre and should you need to use the Post Office services in the shop there the opening times are displayed on the "To the Editor" page.



Something I would do if I was around is the Stargazing organised by the AONB in December - see Noticeboard - but as these things go that is our one night out with friends visiting the Christmas market in Salisbury. I hope it is a clear night for those of you who make it, but not too cold for all of us standing out in the night air! Talking of colder nights our Totally Local this issue focuses on DJ Logs and we have a new log advertiser in this issue so get stocked up with some local logs supplied by your local businesses!

Back to The Downsman - we are very grateful to Nick who has stepped in to volunteer as our advertising manager and we owe a huge thank you to David as he steps down from the role after five years or more. Thank you both very much - we couldn't produce this magazine without you!

Well done to Paul Styles and family going blue for world diabetes day to raise funds for the juvenile diabetes research foundation, JDRF - you all looked fabulous and by the looks of it raised a wonderful amount for the cause - see more on page 17 and do pop in and speak to Paul if you missed the opportunity to contribute and would like to do so.

Well I suppose that is Merry Christmas.. Thank you to all the Downsman team for working, advising, proof reading, writing, printing, collecting, delivering and all the other jobs you do, thank you to our advertisers, contributors and you our readers. See you in 2018!

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

Ron's New Book

Greetings to all at Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge- we do come back sometimes to see people, but not often on a Sunday when we might see more of you at one time. I thought some of my old parishioners would be interested to know I've got a new book out, published by Pendlebury Press. It's called *Outrageous Grace*, and it's subtitled "the Gospel the Church didn't want you to hear". It goes through chunks of the Bible and bits of the church's history to show that the original, simple gospel a five-year-old could understand has been suppressed over the centuries. It's got jokes in it, and cartoons, too! It's available from Amazon, at £7.99.

*Best wishes,
Ron Wood (1987-2005)*

A Trivial Crime?

Do you have teenage or pre-teen children who are allowed out after dark? Were they by any chance out on the streets of Sixpenny Handley on Monday 2nd or Tuesday 3rd October? Have you seen them with things you don't recognise – for example a small blue torch, a small black purse with or without small change, a pair of sunglasses in a black fabric bag? If any of this sounds familiar, will you kindly remind them, next time they decide to rifle through an unlocked car, to make sure they close the doors properly so as to save their victim from a missed appointment and a hefty call-out charge for a flat battery. And to all other absent-minded residents who occasionally forget to lock their car, may I suggest that you keep the courtesy light in the off position when it is not being used. A trivial crime? There is no such thing.

Gone Walkies



(Biscuit Bowl)

Pleased to say it has found its way home to the Crossroads Café none the worse for its travels. Thanks. *David Salmons*

Speeding Scam

We have been notified of a national scam involving the issue of a speed enforcement notice. RSS has been alerted to a scam being sent by email to unsuspecting members of the public trying to extort money from them for speeding.



This is being sent as if it's from different police forces.

There is an established process for issuing fixed penalty notices and this isn't it.

Martha Perry

Dorset Police speed watch officer



Cranborne Stores And Post Office

1 The Square, Cranborne,
Wimborne BH21 5PR
Hours of business
Monday* Friday 6am – 6pm
Saturday 6am – 5pm
Sunday 8.30am – 1pm
*Closed on Bank Holidays
Tel: 01725 517210

WADGE

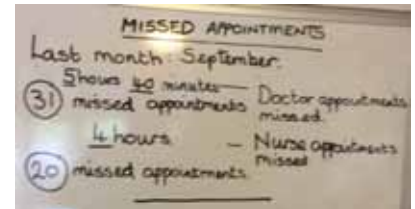
Chris

July 1937- September 2017

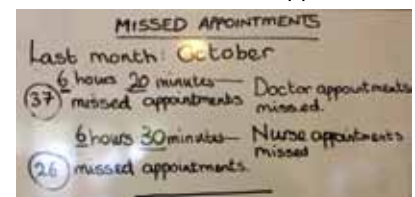
Gillian and family wish to thank everyone for their kindness and sympathy, cards, flowers and messages they received during a very sad and difficult time. To those who attended Chris's funeral in September and those who gave so generously to Parkinson's UK Salisbury branch in Chris's memory. Thanks are extended to Rev Mel Durrant, the staff at our Sixpenny Handley surgery. Salisbury District Hospital and Salisbury Hospice, and to Richard Adlam as they guided us through this period. Your support was, and still is, very much appreciated – thank you

Disappointing Statistics

In two visits to the Sixpenny Handley Surgery I was saddened to read these statistics especially when it is sometimes so difficult to obtain a timely appointment.



In conversation in the waiting room it was suggested that possibly this was partly due to having to wait as appointments were running late and then the disappointed patients leave. When asked on this point, Dr Mark Morgan, assured me that these figures were for NO SHOW patients, those who had made an appointment but for whatever reason didn't turn up. We are so fortunate here as it is relatively easy to see a Doctor whereas in other places one can wait for weeks to obtain an appointment.



Hope the figures displayed in future are a better reflection of how we value our Doctor's and Clinical Staff's time. Problems getting there can be solved by calling CCF, to book a lift, on 01258 84132 (See Back Cover). *David Salmons*

Sixpenny Handley Mini-market

Christmas opening hours

Christmas eve (Sunday): 8am-1pm
Christmas day (Monday): Closed
Boxing day (Tuesday): 10am-1pm
Wednesday 27th: 8am-7pm
28th, 29th & 30th: 7.30-7pm
New year's eve (Sunday): 7.30am-1pm
New year's day (Monday): 10am-1pm
01725 552658.

We'd like to thank all our customers for their support this year and wish you all a very merry Christmas & a happy new year. Best wishes from Chris & Bronia, Paul & family, Ros, Adam, Donna, Jacqui, Eileen & Pat.

Downsman Noticeboard

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

Christmas Shopping Event 2017
Wednesday, November 29th
5.30pm - 8.30pm

Units 5 & 8 Town Farm Workshops,
Dean Lane, 6D Handley SP5 5PA
Helen Ritson 01725 552992

£1 entry includes a free glass
of mulled wine, a mince pie and
access to a variety of stalls with
affordable gift ideas to get your

**"Christmas Shopping in
the Bag"**



21st December

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
Doors Open 7pm
Start 7.30pm
Complimentary mince pies & mulled
wine
Great prizes to be won,

Christmas Bingo

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



Interested in learning more or becoming a
Friend?

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

Help Line 0303 3033 100

Hazel Kileen
01725 552980

is our Community
Dementia Friend Champion



6d4all
youth club

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

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

The Downsman Business Support Group

Will be meeting again on
1 February 2018 at 9.30am
At the Parish Office,
Sixpenny Handley

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



Parish Library

Opening Times:
Tuesdays

10.00am - 12.00 am

Friday

8.30am - 10.00am

Wednesday

10.30am - 11.45am

(Crossroads Café)

Thursdays - 1st & 3rd of month

7th of December

21st of December

4th of January

18th of January

Crossroads Cafe

Wednesdays
10:30am - 12noon
Parish Office
Town Farm Workshops
All Welcome

Chase Community Friends

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 40



**LOVE gazing at the stars on a
clear night? Now you can do so
with the experts**

Saturday 9 December at Sixpenny
Handley 1st Woodcutts Scout HQ
(B3081, Sixpenny Handley, Dorset
SP5 5NW)

more on page 15

Christmas Mail Delivery

Latest Posting Dates UK
2nd Class 20 December
1st Class 21 December

Other destinations see detail
on website

<https://www.royalmail.com/sites/default/files/rm-latest-posting-dates-christmas-2017.pdf>



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

Members have prepared a document to approach East Dorset Council and Dorset County Council to provide a regular, timed Saturday Bus Service to Salisbury that suits the village. How this will be funded is the key issue and discussions with all who would benefit by the service ie neighbouring parishes will be approached. This month, members will finalise the budget and precept demand for 2018-2019 where all aspects of the Parish Council's responsibilities need to be considered and of course any future projects.

We are also taking some time to consider how to maintain the Common Road Allotments. Unfortunately the vacant plots become overgrown and very unsightly. Ideally we need to find new people to take them up and look after them! If you would be interested, please get in touch. We are also gathering quotes to refurbish the Clock on the Sports Pavilion. The building itself is very well looked after and of great benefit to residents along with the very successful Penny Tap. Repairing the Clock will improve the exterior appearance.

And finally, the audited Annual Return of Accounts for year ending 31st March 2017 have been approved and accepted. This document is available to view on the Parish Council website or on display in the Parish Office.

The minutes of the Parish Council meetings can be viewed on the Parish Council website www.sixpennyhandleyparishcouncil.btck.co.uk where you will find details of all the actions and topics currently under discussion. If you have any queries or would like to discuss a matter with members, we hold a public open session prior to our meetings where members of the public can raise items for consideration. Alternatively you are welcome to call into the Parish Office Tuesdays 10am-12pm.

Sandbags – If sandbags are an appropriate form of protection from flooding for your property, East Dorset Council will supply empty sandbags for residents to fill with sand obtained from a builders merchant. The sandbags should be kept dry and

separate from the sand until needed and kept out of sunlight during long term storage otherwise bags will decay. Sandbags can be collected from Allenview House, Wimborne. QE Leisure Centre, Wimborne and The Hub, Verwood. Detailed information is available at <https://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/flooding/east-dorset> or contact East Dorset Council on 01202 795096

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 who 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.

Report a Road Collision online

Members of the public can now report crashes using an online form to help Dorset Highways collect valuable information about incidents on our roads. The "Report a Collision Form" is available on dorsetforyou.gov.uk and works in the same way as the "Report a Road Problem" form. Road traffic collision data is validated and provided to DCC by Dorset Police, this data includes collisions that result in personal injury. Although this provides DCC with valuable information it doesn't give the complete picture of the incidents on Dorset's roads. Crashes reported using this new form will feed into the formal collision site investigation programme, and could inform future works if the site is found to be in need of improvement. Although an individual report may not necessarily result in immediate action, it will ensure that DCC are better informed than in the past. Please note, if you're reporting a collision

Opening Hours:

10.00am – 12 noon Tue,

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

that has resulted in damage and requires immediate attention, such as debris on or obstruction to the highway and/or damage to street furniture, then this must still be reported on 01305 221020. This will ensure immediate action can be taken to rectify the problem.

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

We need a Saturday Bus Service

The following outlines the need for a Saturday bus service based on initiatives being undertaken across the county to change health and social care in the community which in addition to the existing impact will be further on rural communities. It has been sent to all Parishes along the route as well as East, North Dorset District Councils and Dorset County Council. We await their response. Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge Parish Council felt that the loss of the No 20 Bus service between Blandford and Salisbury on Saturdays should be further investigated to see if it could be reinstated. To that end the following areas of County and District Policies should be considered as grounds for maintaining the service in addition to the fact that Sixpenny Handley is deemed a 'Community Hub' which in itself is immediately impacted given there is no public transport to/from the village on weekends. This can equally be applied to all Parishes, villages and hamlets along the route. Given the intended initiatives being briefed by County Council, the longer-term implications to consider are as follows:

Clinical Services Review (CSR) - The number of people living in Dorset is growing and is set to rise by around 50,000 by 2020. More people are living longer with more long-term conditions like diabetes and dementia. This will increase demand for, and pressure on, our health and social care system. The plans propose making Bournemouth an A&E Hospital, Poole an Acute Hospital and Dorchester to continue as a hybrid, with the closure of St. Leonards and Shaftesbury Cottage Hospitals and more care in the community deemed to be the way forward.

Impact

The parishes along the bus route are not exempt from this expected growth, albeit limited given the population sizes. Nevertheless a lack of public transport will have an impact, many due to health reasons may be unable to drive and therefore have a high dependency on public transport. This will be for attending appointments at hospitals and more importantly being able to continue their day to day lives. Not being able to carry out our 'normal' life will affect individuals health, we all want to be self-sufficient and

have a level of Independence. Reducing this opportunity is likely to lead to more people needing to move to be closer to the place of treatment if possible OR more likely will need to become inpatients and therefore increasing the burden on the health care system. The CSR will hopefully establish a model that can work for dispersed communities but with limited public transport the options for our parishes becomes more limited.

Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) - The other big-ticket item for Dorset is the STP. A local partnership made up of the Dorset CCG, 1st tier local govt (Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole) and the NHS Trusts (the 3 Hospitals, Dorset Healthcare University and the South Western Ambulance Service) have created a 3-tier template to provide services that will meet the needs of local people. 1) Prevention at scale: helping people to stay healthy and avoid getting unwell. 2) Integrated community services: creating community hubs with and without beds that combine health and care services. 3) One acute network: transforming acute services in Dorset so they meet the complex and specialist needs of the local population.

Impact

This really is a big-ticket item, not only are individuals already limited to when they can attend appointments on weekdays, the lack of a Saturday service has a significant impact. Going forward prevention at scale is going to be practically impossible for anyone who does not have their own transport and taxis would be expensive so how can people attend appointments and fulfil their daily life activities which would be a large part of staying healthy without public transport. The answer will be move to where you need to be for treatment etc, where this is a realistic option people will move. Many may not be in this situation and therefore marooned and isolated, which can only result in stress and anxiety which flies in the face of what STP is trying to achieve.

A by-product of this situation will be a move out of the communities, people who work at locations along the bus route, children attend schools primarily Blandford and Salisbury. Healthcare for at least our parish is provided from Salisbury and so anyone falling into these categories not only will leave the villages but potentially

the county so any funds collected by parish, district and county will be lost. The fact that public transport is limited will mean that future home owners are less likely to consider moving to the villages and therefore what is already a tight budget will become even tighter and impact all the way from Parish up to County funded services of which CSR and STP have dependencies.

Opportunity

So how can we address the issue. County have limited funds and have realigned the Damory Coaches contract to align with these funds. With the information provided by County earlier this year we identified that Mon to Fri excluding Tues (market day) there was an average of 84 people per day per month over 12 months. Tuesdays the average 109 people over 12 months and Saturdays the average was 75. These numbers are for the whole route in both directions so cannot be identified to a single parish.

The new contract is in place for 4 services per day (Mon to Fri) in both directions at a cost of £83,316 assuming this covers 52 weeks there would be a total of 2,080 (8x5x52) services which equates to approximately £40.05 per service.

Assuming this is the cost of the service it can be estimated to reinstate the Saturday service at the same frequency (4 services in both directions) for 52 weeks there would be an additional 416 (8x52) services which based on the above per service cost would equate to an additional £16,600 to be funded per year.

Therefore with the impact of future strategies stated above as well as the likely loss of funding should people move out of the area it is feasible to consider all levels of local government contributing to fund the Saturday services. Specifically, all Parishes along the route, both East and North Dorset District Councils and given County are providing limited funds to the NORDCAT trial Dorset County Council albeit a much-reduced contribution. This funding would be pro-rata for this year and would need budgeting from each organisation for subsequent years to align with the existing contract County have with Damory Coaches. Could representatives from each council raise this at their next meeting as an agenda item to discuss and provide feedback in order to establish what the next steps might be with a view to meeting our communities transport needs.

Are you prepared?

Preparing for the future is often something people put off thinking about. This autumn sees Dorset County Council launch an adult social care campaign called 'Prepare to live better'.

The campaign aims to educate people about the changing landscape of social care and encourage them to make provisions and plans for their future care needs.

Dorset County Council's Cabinet member for Health and Care Jill Haynes said:

"Prepare to live better is all about encouraging people to stay active and keep as independent as possible.

"We naturally become more independent as we progress through life. But as we get older, it is even more important to stay independent.

"When it comes to adult social care we want to help people stay in their own home for longer. By thinking about the future and preparing for the costs of care, you can

have more choice and control over the care you want."

Eight-five per cent of people aged 51 to 75 have no plans for how they will pay for their care. One of the hardest things is knowing when to talk about care, but it's never too early to have those conversations with family and friends.

In Dorset we have a high number of older people who are isolated and lonely. By coordinating the efforts of social care, health and other agencies, we are striving to help people remain happily independent in their own homes and able to make informed choices about their support needs.

Staff will be out and about over the next few months visiting towns across the county and talking to people about planning for their future. You can find out more about living better at dorsetforyou.gov.uk/livebetter

Bowls Club

The bowls club has enjoyed a most successful outdoor season, participating in the Percy Baker league and the Westbrook Mixed Triples League where we finished fifth. We also began a new initiative of an internal triples league which operated every Monday evening throughout the season. Teams were drawn at random each week ensuring that everyone played with, and against, lots of different people which helped to create a good sociable atmosphere.

Now the indoor winter season has begun and the club, as usual, has short mat teams in two divisions. The Handley team, having been promoted two years in succession, is finding life tough in their division, but players are enjoying the challenge. Club sessions take place on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons in the village hall. The club's social calendar continues in its normal glorious way, the latest event being a Beetle Drive which was a lot of chaotic fun. We are now looking forward to our Presentation Lunch on December 3rd and a Christmas party on the 17th.

The club is always open to new members and if you would like to join us please call the secretary on 01725 552796 or the vice-president on 07964769159.




SIXPENNY HANDLEY TENNIS CLUB

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.
- Open Saturday: A great opportunity for adult members to meet other players every Saturday for a practice session and play matches starting at 12.00 (weather permitting).
- Members of Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club can apply for British Tennis Membership for free.
- Junior tennis coaching sessions available during school term times, please contact Roni Peck Tel: 07747842700.

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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Suspect a stroke? Act FAST and call 999.

FAST

Face	Arm	Speech	Time
weakness	weakness	problems	to call 999

Stroke is a medical emergency.

By calling 999 early treatment can be given which can prevent further damage to the brain.

Keep this card in your wallet or purse.

Stroke Helpline 0303 3033 100
stroke.org.uk

Registered as a Charity in England and Wales (No 211015) and in Scotland (SC037789). Also registered in Northern Ireland (NI 23205), Isle of Man (No 945) and Jersey (JFPO 368).

Stroke
association

DRESSMAKING

-----XXX-----

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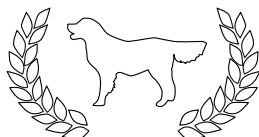
Crossroads Cafe

A fantastic and successful year nears its end during which the café has been open every Wednesday other than 4 January. Mother Teresa said on one occasion that the world's greatest disease is not Aids or Cancer or any similar thing - it is loneliness. We are here to socialise, it is Internet free so communication is the old way; chat, eye contact, a chuckle and all over a cuppa and biscuits. As we did last year a Christmas Raffle is to be held on 20 December with a Hamper and other goodies. The monies raised added to my Santa Claus fees, are to go to help fund a Teaching Assistant at St Joseph's School in Rockon, South Sudan. Of course a seasonal offering of mince pies should add to the festive spirit of the occasion.

The café will be CLOSED on 27 DECEMBER but will be back in business again in the New Year on 3 January when we hope to welcome some new faces. See you then and in the meantime do have a great festive time with family and friends.

David

PS: If you can't make it and want to chat to someone then call Silver Line on 08004 708090 - there is always someone to take your call.



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Totally Locally.....DJ Logs and "Leave it to Lucy"

In this month's article you're getting a two for one deal, as I'm featuring two local businesses based just up the road from me in Woodcutts - "DJ Logs" and "Leave it to Lucy" run by husband and wife team Darren and Lucy Derby. The couple have lived in and around Handley most of their lives - they, along with many of their family, attended Handley primary school and that history lives on with their boys attending the school now. They love living in this area, both of their businesses are truly local and reflect their love of the community.

First off, "DJ logs". Begun about 10 years ago, what started out as a small venture has grown from strength to strength. Covering roughly a 20 mile radius from Handley, DJ Logs supplies firewood from sustainable, locally sourced woodland. As well as firewood, they can also supply kindling, firelighters and coal - everything you need to light your open fire, woodburner or furnace! They'll even stack the logs for you for a small additional charge.

DJ Logs is registered under the UK government's Biomass Suppliers List (BSL), a list of woodfuel that has proven it meets the eligibility requirements for the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme. So if you have a biomass boiler, they can help you to demonstrate to Ofgem that the fuel you are using meets the RHI sustainability criteria.

Now to "Leave it to Lucy". By the time this article is published, Lucy's cleaning and ironing business will have just celebrated its first birthday. Lucy's aim is to deliver a service that will "focus on making things better" - doing jobs around the house so that her customers get more time to do the things they enjoy doing. Her working week is already very busy with cleaning work - she offers a regular cleaning service, as well as one-off house move type cleans. She also provides a collection/delivery service for all of your ironing needs - sounds pretty good to me! It's clear that Lucy loves her work, she hopes she's achieving her goal of

making life better for her customers, many of whom she now calls friends.

If you would like more information about "DJ Logs" or "Leave it to Lucy" please contact Darren or Lucy on 01725 553167.

If you run a small business in The Downsman catchment area, and would like to be featured in this column please email me at tenandsix@yahoo.co.uk.

Thanks for reading...

Sarah x



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The Penny Tap hosted its first Halloween Party

The Penny Tap hosted its first Halloween party on Halloween night.

We planned to host this on the actual day so that the children from the village and surrounding area had a focal point for the evening.

It was very well supported and a great success. The pavilion was decorated to enhance the scary theme of the occasion, though not too scary we hope?

Thank you to all who came along to make it such a fun filled night.

Thanks also to Clarke's the butchers for providing a wonderful bbq to feed us all.

Best wishes

Nigel



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

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Thurs- 4.30 - 7.00

Fri- 4.00 - 7.30

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WI News And Information

NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF WOMEN'S
INSTITUTES

Wed 23rd Sep

The DFWI Quiz was held in the Parish Office with Bobbie Carter was the as quizmaster. Two teams of five members each had a fun evening exercising their brain power.

Christmas Boxes

The Christmas boxes had to be ready much earlier this year but thanks to the generosity of members 16 boxes were sent to Blandford Rotary by 2nd October! There was also a bag of 'extras' which were used by the organisers to top up other boxes. Our efforts were much appreciated, as the coordinator took some items to a Nepalese orphanage.

Holistic approach to diet

On 9th October Paul Connery kindly stepped in at short notice for the monthly meeting and spoke to members about a holistic approach to diet. This is not a new thought, but Paul gave us a slant on what makes a good diet. Facts and figures, plus a human story held the interest of all.

DFWI Annual Meeting

On 19th October nine intrepid members braved extremely wet weather to attend the DFWI Annual Meeting at The Lighthouse Theatre, Poole. This year was very special being the centenary year. The speakers were excellent, amongst them our Dorset Chairman Marilyn Holehouse, National Federation chairman, Lynne Stubbings, and guest speakers Janet Street-Porter and Paul Connery. The afternoon session began with a parade of banners which was most impressive and quite moving. The Dorset Federation Choir performed three songs to mark the centenary and round off a remarkable day.

Beacon Group

On 26th October nine members attended the Beacon Group meeting at Shroton Village Hall where Mr Brian Pettit and his son gave a delightful slide show and talk about the Jurassic Coast. The photography was mesmerising and many members expressed a wish to see and hear other talks by the pair. A thoroughly enjoyable

evening.

"Ghosts of Hotels and Inns in the UK"

The November meeting on the 13th was well attended; the usual business included a report from the DFWI Meeting by our delegate Stella Olsen. The speaker for the evening was Mrs Daphne Atkinson who gave a talk on "Ghosts of Hotels and Inns in the UK" some of which she had stayed in and felt the presence of the supernatural herself. An interesting subject, but maybe not for the sceptics who have never experienced any paranormal occurrences or phenomena. The Flower of The Month competition was won by Stella Symes with a Camellia.

Forthcoming Events

24th Nov DFWI Resolution Meeting	6d Handley Village Hall
Fri 8th Dec Service	Group Advent Carol
	Melbury Abbas
Mon 11th Dec	Christmas Party and in-house entertainment.
Competition	Table Decoration in Red, Green and Gold

If you are a newcomer to the area or the WI and are interested in our meetings you would be most welcome. For further information please contact the Secretary, Margaret Jones on 552358.

Editorial Apology

There were mistakes in the last submission for which we apologise.



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.

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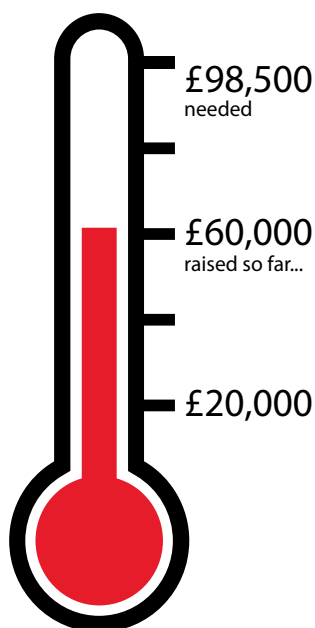


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Our trustees have, with your help, raised a staggering £60,000 of our £98,500 target but we cannot stop now!

Thank you to all who supported Rob's Car Boot in October and those who came down for a bacon buttie and helped us raise £341 for the hall. We hope it helped you de-clutter a little and we are set to repeat the event in the Spring – watch out for dates. The Village Hall refurbishment fundraising is still underway, thank you to those who made the effort to vote for us in the Aviva Community Fund online vote. Fingers crossed.

Building on last years success of My Big Fat Cow Pat Wedding we have another great night of entertainment from Artsreach. This time another immersive play/tea dance including a delicious traditional English High Tea and Bar. Please do don your best shirt and Tea Dress and join us for another fantastic evening of theatre and food. Tickets are now available online for all Artsreach events, though you can still reserve tickets through Jen on 077515 25200.

Our trustees have, with your help, raised a staggering £60,000 of our £98,500 target but we cannot stop now!

We are now calling on all user groups to hold one event each to raise money for our totalometer. If your group use the hall and have a great fundraising idea that you

Sixpenny Village Hall

More immersive theatre and tea dance this Winter – 'Think of England' and
An appeal to all Hall User Groups to help us reach our total on the totalometer!!



could run or would like to make a donation then please do get in touch with Jen, Paul Styles or Carole Wyatt. We can help you to promote your event.

We need your help to reach our target!!!

Thursday 25th January
THINK OF ENGLAND
Anonymous is a Woman Theatre Company

An immersive play/tea dance, ticket includes English High Tea. Bar available too.
7.30pm Suitable for Age 12+
The war office has employed Bette and Vera to travel the country hosting tea dances to boost morale amongst the local communities and RAF personnel. But how will the locals react when they discover the women's real purpose: to send the young men off to fight having experienced all of life's pleasures? Join the ladies at the village hall for an unforgettable dance, a rousing song and a real life, wartime scandal that threatens to destroy the women's lives and tear apart one already splintered RAF crew.

Artsreach Bookings are now online via their website <https://artsreach.co.uk/>

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall – available for hire priced per hour.

Local groups £8.50

Daytime events, childrens' parties, Christenings etc £9.00

Other daytime bookings, meetings etc £10.00

Evening events, local private parties etc £10.50

Evening events, bookings from outside the Parish £11.50

All bookings subject to £10.00 alcohol licence if alcoholic drinks are to be sold

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

Village Hall 100 Club

September 2017

1st £25 14 Mr. Miles

2nd £15 44 Mrs. Sewell

3rd £10 118 Mrs. Hayes

October 2017

1st £25 59 Mrs. Curtis

2nd £15 34 Mrs. Mayne

3rd £10 41 Mr. Wootton

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



LOVE gazing at the stars on a clear night? Now you can do so with the experts pointing out some of the hundreds of spectacular constellations in the pristine night skies above the Cranborne Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) at a series of special Stargazing Events.

Astronomer and Cranborne Chase AONB Dark Skies advisor Bob Mizon will regale the audience with stories of the astronomical wonders above their heads, while the AONB's director Linda Nunn will detail developments concerning the Cranborne Chase AONB's bid for prestigious International Dark Sky Reserve status. Afterwards, the audience will

join Bob and members of the Wessex Astronomical Society outside for a spectacular stargazing experience.

The series of stargazing events during 2017/2018 will be as follows:

Saturday 9 December at Sixpenny Handley
1st Woodcutts Scout HQ (B3081, Sixpenny Handley, Dorset SP5 5NW)

Thursday 18 January at Bishopstone Village Hall (Butt Lane, Bishopstone, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP5 4AA)

Thursday 15 February at Ansty Pick Your Own (Ansty PYO & Farm Shop, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP3 5PX)

Thursday 15 March at Sutton Veny Village Hall (High Street, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire BA12 7AP)

All events commence at 7pm and last for around two to two-and-a-half hours, depending on weather conditions. The cost for adults is £5 each (cash or cheque on the night/includes a free tea or coffee), with no charge for children. Bookings must be made in advance, tel: 01725 517417, or email: info@cranbornechase.org.uk.

Renowned night sky photographer Nigel Ball will be hosting a talk on the techniques used to capture fantastic night images and star trails using a standard digital SLR on Monday 19 February at Woodcutts Scout Hut. The discussion includes planning, equipment and top tips for success.

Timings and cost for the evening will be updated shortly. To register your interest, email info@cranbornechase.org.uk. For more information on stargazing in the Cranborne Chase AONB, log on to www.chasingstars.org.uk

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Cards

Whist

The genesis of the modern game of whist can be traced back to the 18th Century when a party of gentlemen who frequented a popular London coffee house [The Crown Coffee House in Bedford Row] entertained themselves by playing a version of the earlier game known as 'trump'. The exact date is unknown, but historians believe it to be around 1728 and it is thought that one Edmond Hoyle was one of the earliest participants for he is credited with introducing 'whist' to the fashionable 'young blades' of London society. Such was his persuasive success that in 1742 he published 'A Short Treatise on the Game of Whist' in which the basic rules for the game were set out and remained as the standard text for well over a century. Such was his influence on the game that when disputes arose at the table a player would reach for his copy of the rules as say "According to Hoyle....".

However, as with all such pastimes

variations of the principles as set down by Edmond resulted in Henry Jones, writing under the pseudonym 'Cavendish', publishing in 1862 'The Principles of Whist Stated and Explained' subsequently abbreviated to 'Cavendish on Whist'. Since then, whist has evolved through to the level of bridge, but that is another story. From the 18th through to the 20th century, whist thrived since when its decline in popularity appears to many to be terminal. That it still exists here in Sixpenny Handley we have to thank Doug, Christine and Stuart Haskell who for at least two decades have kept the game alive. Presently, the average number of tables in play has fallen to around six but by increasing fees to a still remarkably low £2.50 [draw tickets remain at £1 for a strip of five] the quality of the prizes for both the whist and draw have been maintained, as has a slightly reduced table of prize money distributed at the end of each competitive year. At the time of submitting the column to the editor,

five rounds have been played with Doug leading on 828 points from defending champion Olive Meaden on 811. Two others have broken into the 800s; Barry Park with 804 just two ahead of Stuart. Presently, the highest individual score is held by Sam Webber with 174, attained during the fourth round. Meanwhile, the noncompetitive Christmas drive will be held on Saturday the 9th of December.

Bridge

The Bridge Club now meet on Monday afternoons at the Parish Office, play commencing at 1 o'clock.

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Going Blue For World Diabetes Day

Thank you to our amazing community. We are overwhelmed by the support and donations given on Tuesday 14th November, when Paul went blue for world diabetes day and to raise funds for the juvenile diabetes research foundation, JDRF. They help fund research projects to find easier ways to manage this awful condition. Our son Josh was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes just over a year ago at the age of 4, it hit us all hard.

The most common symptoms are excessive thirst, excessive urination, fatigue/tiredness, weight loss, and pear drop breath.

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease that strikes both children and adults suddenly. It has nothing to do with diet or lifestyle. There is nothing you can do to prevent it. And, at present, there is no cure. In T1D, your pancreas stops producing insulin—a hormone the body needs to get energy from food. If you have T1D, you must constantly monitor your blood-sugar level, inject insulin, and balance insulin doses with your eating and activity throughout the day and night.

Insulin is not a cure for diabetes. Even with the most vigilant disease management, a significant portion of your day will be spent with either high or low blood-sugar levels. These fluctuations place people with T1D at risk for potentially life-threatening hypoglycemic and hyperglycemic episodes as well as long-term complications. Every day Josh has at least 6 finger prick tests and also has to endure cannula changes every 2-3 days for his insulin pump. The changes in his blood sugar levels affect how he feels, he can find it hard to concentrate or feel very lethargic.

No child of any age should have to go through this, he has amazed us with his resilience and sometimes it's all too easy in our daily routine to forget that this is not normal. He is our superhero for all he has to go through on a daily basis. This is why we are supporting JDRF, in the hope that new treatments will benefit all children and



adults living with Type 1 diabetes

Together you raised an astonishing £409 in the shop with a further £240 donated

online, £100 donated from C&B Styles and Josh's great-grandfather Roy Medcalf has generously donated £1,000 to the cause

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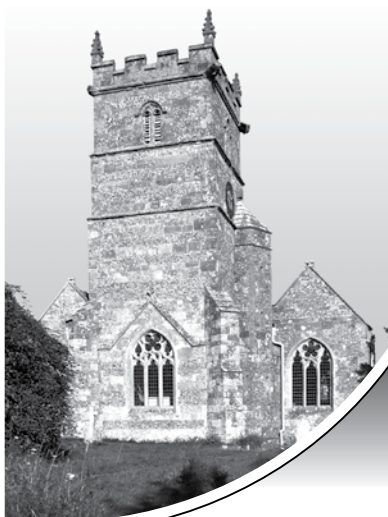
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**The church magazine
for St Mary the Virgin,
Sixpenny Handley
with Gussage St Andrew
and St Rumbold's,
Pentridge**

Who's who?

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The Vicarage,
Sixpenny Handley
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ask@handleychurch.org.uk

Curates

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

Churchwardens

*St Mary's with
Gussage St Andrew*

Sue Curtis 552 397

St Rumbold's, Pentridge

Mary Ferguson 552 222

Jane King 552 231

Lay Pastorial Assistants

Lydia Carter 552 720

Margaret Jones 552 358

Maureen Lockyer 552 492

Jean Mayne 552 692

David Salmons 552 721

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Also available in colour

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

The Seeker

handleychurch.org.uk



Dec 2017

Come to Church *this* weekend

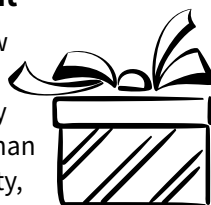
Here are twelve reasons I am inviting you to church this weekend;

1. Your family want you to come.
2. Gathering together is part of what it means to be a Christian.
3. You'll be prayed for and will be able to pray for others.
4. It's good to have your views and opinions challenged sometimes.
5. It will help you acknowledge and confess (and maybe even sort out) something wrong in your life.
6. It's a break from work.
7. It's where your real friends are.
8. It will help you put your life story into the great scheme of things.
9. It will remind you that you have nothing to fear.
10. Because gathering strengthens your faith.
11. It will give you support in times of need.
12. It will help you be a better member of your local community.

Why come to church this weekend? You'd be crazy not to, especially with all these reasons. Perhaps you can think of some more – we will have another dozen next month.

This Year's Present

When you don't know what to give, give something else. Many charities give more than a gift, they give dignity, hope and freedom.



You can buy ethical gifts from The Salvation Army, Christian Aid and many other charities. You get a card to give to your loved one telling them what you have done, and someone you will never meet gets a better life.

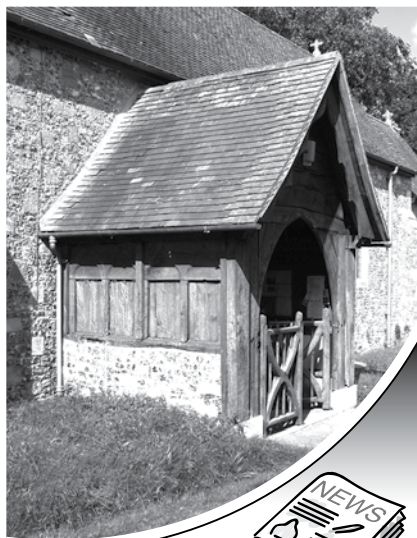
Eat the Christmas Story

The Real Advent Calendar is a great way to share the real meaning of Christmas. There's a line of the Christmas story and a chocolate behind each window. There is also a Christmas story and activity book. You can also buy the 12 Days of Christmas Truffles and angel tree decorations. Donations are made to The Leprosy Mission, Christians Against Poverty, Baby Lifeline and other charities - and the chocolate is Fairtrade. It is available from a range of shops.

Details at www.realadvent.co.uk/shop

(And please remember to make sure all the chocolate you buy comes with the Fairtrade or Rainforest Alliance logos!)





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

FROM THE REGISTERS



**The wedding of
Oliver and Crissi Kirby
Terry and Becki Davies**

**The funerals took place of
Chris Wadge, Brian Davies
and Roy Warner**



Mary and Joseph Posada
**At the beginning of Advent we
send Mary and Joseph off on
their journey around our
villages as they begin their
journey to Bethlehem. This is a
tradition from Mexico called
Posada, a word which means
Inn. Come along on to St Mary's
or St Rumbold's on Sunday 3rd
December to see them off – and
make sure they come to your
house on the way!**

The Golden Thread

A meditation for Christmas

The baby held in his tiny fist a golden strand of brittle hay, on which the lamplight gleamed. The mother bent over the wooded trough and smiled at the newborn. The baby loosed the corn from his fist, took her finger, and gazed into her eyes.

Later, in a home the family would flee, the toddler played on the wooden floor with a golden box, enjoying the rattle of coins within, a gift from a stranger, along with incense and anointing oil, whose presence made his mother's heart run cold.

Day by day, the boy grew up, with only occasional flashes of golden light to illuminate the normality of an ordinary life. And then the carpenter's son, beside the Jordan, as golden water splashes up, reflecting sunlight looked into the face of his cousin; they smiled and knew that everything had changed.

In the wilderness, he shared with the bees a sticky golden treasury of honey, and from the golden temple roof, the golden crust of new-baked bread, and gold crowns of the world's kingdoms, he scorned temptation. The desert light brought clarity to a story threaded through history and prophecy, leading to a road which only lead to pain.

From fast to feast, the lamplight of the Upper Room shone to illuminate another loaf of bread and cup of golden wine, shared by friends and betrayer who held in his pocket a fistful of coins. But nonetheless, a golden moment, in which eternity must hold a new creation in taut harmony with earthly time and space.

The golden cockerel crowed a third time, and by the light of a brazier, perhaps the worst betrayal of all played out.

Another dawn will bring the cross, a day within which colour leached away to grey until the moment when son and mother met in unbearable agony. No gold, no thread, a great unravelling.

A fracture in eternity at the moment of incarnation shines golden through the wounds of torture, cross and grave, revealed in resurrection light of day, recognised in a flowered garden. From scars, shine out the light of a new day.

God is woven into the weft of history, the golden thread appearing in our past and on into our futures.

A golden hope, a bright sadness, is woven through your life. Recognise for yourself the illuminated path, the golden strands of God that weave you into the very heartbeat of God.

Amen.

Psalms

O Lord you have set before me a tapestry of such beauty. You have woven the blue sky with clouds of white and sown a wind so I can hear its wild music.

You have given us senses to complete our joy. Eyes to see – ears to hear and our lips to sing your praises. So I thank you dear Father God for the beauty of these gifts.

You have sewn scenes of wonder on both land and sea. Now, as I watch the swallows gather on the wires ready for flight I thank you for the delight this gives me – For I can hear their small tweets of joy. As the wind lifts them to freedom – who knows where.

You have stitched the seals resting on the black, black rocks. And my heart now fills again with joy. To hear their wild singing on the evening air.

You have changed your tapestry through differing lights – The golden sun that stirs our souls with peace and our bodies with warmth. The silver threaded moon that calms our moods with its beauty – magical and clean. And you have sewn the dark, heavy clouds that bring rain to replenish the earth in growth.

You have stitched Summer with its myriad of wild flowers in fields and hedgerows, and woven our gardens with ablaze with colour. You have sewn for us gifts of food. An abundance of vegetables and fruit from an earth nourished by the falling rain.

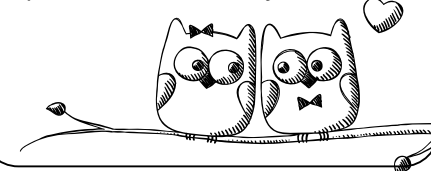
Your needles have worked to paint the Church as it nestles proudly In the hillside village. The air across the valley rings with the sound of its bells – Whilst moor sheep – sewn all around lift their heads at the sweetness of the sounds.

Your tapestry has been put before me always. I have walked within its beauty forever and have woven my days to its magic with, love. So thank you dear Father God for the joy and peace it has always afforded me.

Margaret Quinn

Thinking of a christening or a wedding next year?

Time to start planning ahead –
speak to the vicar today.



Dear friends...

Your friend and vicar, Mel

It will soon be time to decorate the Christmas Tree. Did you know that the decoration at the very top was originally a figure of the baby Jesus? In Victorian Britain this changed to an angel. Children would take the angel down after Christmas and dress him in doll's clothes. Not surprisingly, the clothes become more and more elaborate and the angel, well, become a girl.

And as Christmas pantomimes become popular, and featured good and bad fairies, the figure on the tree was given a magic wand, and the transformation into a fairy was complete. There were still angels hanging on the branches of the tree, though (along with the glass baubles and tinsel) to remind us of the angels who told the shepherds of the birth of the baby Jesus.

You may have a star on the top of your tree. The star (of course) represents the star that guided the Wise Men to visit Jesus, bringing with them presents of gold, incense and myrrh, which is where our tradition of giving presents at Christmas comes from. In fact, stars have knocked fairies off the top of Christmas trees for some years now. Apparently, some shops have stopped selling angel tree-toppers, as I read the other day that stars now outsell angels by ten to one! Whatever you have on the top of your tree, I hope you enjoy it and remember that Christmas is the biggest birthday party of the year! Happy Birthday Jesus!

You might have heard one of the names often given to Jesus, particularly at this time of the year. He is called Immanuel – which means *God with us*. It is a Hebrew title – you can tell that any name in the Bible with 'el' somewhere in it, is probably something to do with God. Immanuel. And Hebrew works backwards, they think the other way round to English, so *Imm anu El* is literally, 'Us with God' – but they mean it the other way round – *God with us*.

The more you think about it, the more amazing this

name becomes. When God gave us this *baby*, he was giving us himself. Mary's son was not Joseph's son (that's why he nearly divorced her). He was God's Son. Which means he was God. God living in this world. God walking on the pages of history. God with us!

And not only did God's Son come as a person, he came as a baby - completely vulnerable, completely dependent. The hands that crafted the stars at the beginning of everything now reach up for a cuddle. The one who sustains the cosmos needs to be cleaned and changed. This is how God comes to us – how he reveals himself. And we call it Christmas.

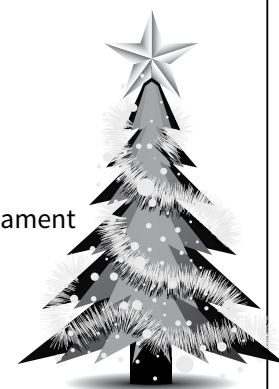
I heard the other day of a young man who had just started working, and he used his salary and all his savings to fly to Australia for the weekend. By the time he had checked in, flown, gone through security and customs, he only had five hours before he needed to check in again for his return flight. Why did he make the journey? To see his girlfriend. And what did all that effort say to the girl? *I love you*. I care about you. He could have sent a letter, (he *did* send letters) but it would not have said so much. Instead he gave himself. That said it all.

God gave us far more, and travelled far further – from the throne of heaven to a stable in the Middle East. And that journey went on to the cross and beyond. Why did he make the journey? Because he loves us. And the fact that God turns up, in such an amazing way, shows that God really loves you and me! Which means that nothing anyone else says or does can destroy that love: The love of God.

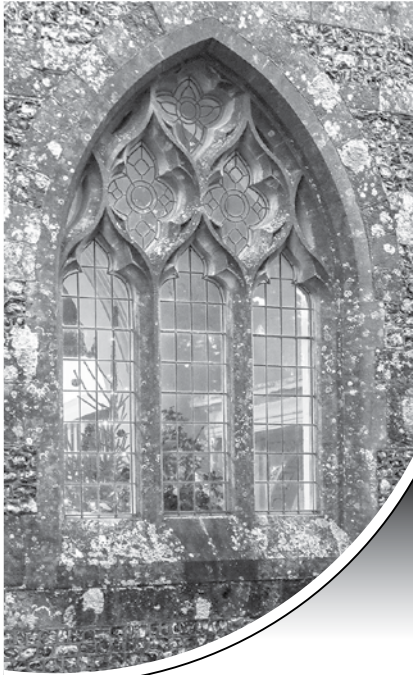
Each one of us is totally precious, however we may be feeling or however we may be treated by other people. Nobody is nobody to God. And if God loves us that much and comes to us that completely, that means that everything will be alright – in the end, everything will be alright.

We also celebrate with Twelve Days of Christmas. (We might not actually do the Twelve Days of Christmas – but we sing about them!) I came across this explanation of the famous song recently – Apparently it is Christian code, from a time when celebrations were frowned upon. And it goes like this;

<i>Twelve Drummers drumming</i>	— the twelve points of belief in the Apostles Creed
<i>Eleven Pipers piping</i>	— the eleven faithful disciples
<i>Ten Lords a Leaping</i>	— the Ten Commandments
<i>Nine Ladies dancing</i>	— the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
<i>Eight maids a-milking</i>	— the eight Beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount
<i>Seven Swans a-swimming</i>	— the seven-fold gifts of the Holy Spirit
<i>Six geese a-laying</i>	— the six days in the story of Creation
<i>Five Gold Rings</i>	— the five Books of the Law, the first five books in the Old Testament
<i>Four Calling Birds</i>	— the Four Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
<i>Three French Hens</i>	— Faith, hope and love (and the greatest of these is love)
<i>Two Turtle Doves</i>	— the Old and New Testaments
<i>And a Partridge in a Pear Tree</i>	— Jesus Christ Himself



You may need to look up some of the references to fully understand what is going on, but the main thing is that it is about a birthday, and birthday presents - and the presence of Jesus Himself – Immanuel, now and for ever.



✦ Bible Study Group

As we hope you see from *The Seeker*, the Bible is THE Book! Read it and understand more in good company on alternate Thursdays at 7.15pm.

Details from Mike on 01725 552 720.

Come and meet friends

L Church Lunch

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

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.

☕ 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
Dec 3 rd	HC	Evensong	HC	#
Dec 10 th	Informal	Evensong	#	HC
Dec 17 th	HC	Evensong	MP	#
Dec 24 th	HC	See below	#	#
Dec 31 st	Family HC	#	#	#
Jan 7 th	HC	Evensong	HC	#
Jan 14 th	Informal	Evensong	#	HC
Jan 21 st	HC	Evensong	MP	#
Jan 28 th	Informal	HC	#	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.

This year – get to the bottom of the story and not just the tree...

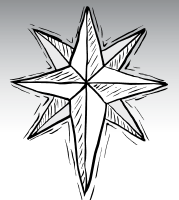
Tue 5th Dec 1.15pm Preschool Nativity, St Mary's
Sun 10th Dec 3.00pm Scout Christmas Celebration, St Mary's

Carols by Candlelight

Fri 15th Dec 6.00pm at Gussage St Andrew
Sun 17th Dec 6.00pm at St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley
Mon 18th Dec 6.00pm St Rumbold's, Pentridge

Christmas

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

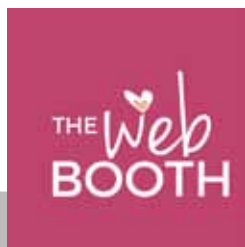


December							See side panel for key to symbols	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
31					1	2		
3 L	4	5	6	7 T ✦	8	9		
10	11	12	13 HC	14 T ☼	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		

Thur 14th 2:30pm Mothers' Union – Christmas meeting

January 2018							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					

Thur 11th 2:30pm Mothers' Union, AGM – and more!



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flourish."*

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Customer deposit	£0.00
Amount to be financed	£9,399.69
Duration of agreement	42 months
Optional final payment	£3,307.50
Total amount payable	£10,400.00
Representative APR*	0%
Interest Rate (Fixed)	0.0%
Excess mileage charge	3.6p per mile



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41 monthly payments	£196.71
On the road price	£14,685.00
Westover ŠKODA finance deposit contribution	£2,000.00
Customer deposit	£0.00
Amount to be financed	£12,685.00
Duration of agreement	42 months
Optional final payment	£5,522.50
Total amount payable	£15,587.61
Representative APR*	2.9%
Interest Rate (Fixed)	2.82%
Excess mileage charge	6p per mile



YETI OUTDOOR
1.2 TSi 110 SE DRV

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Personal contract purchase representative example for **New ŠKODA YETI Outdoor 1.2 TSi 110 SE DRV** based on 6,000 miles per annum

41 monthly payments	£248.35
On the road price	£20,255.00
Westover ŠKODA finance deposit contribution	£1,500.15
Customer deposit	£0.00
Amount to be financed	£18,754.85
Duration of agreement	42 months
Optional final payment	£8,572.50
Total amount payable	£20,255.00
Representative APR*	0%
Interest Rate (Fixed)	0.0%
Excess mileage charge	6p per mile



OCTAVIA ESTATE
1.6 TDi CR SE

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PERSONAL CONTRACT PLAN*

£340 PER MONTH

Personal contract purchase representative example for **New ŠKODA OCTAVIA Estate 1.6 TDi CR SE** based on 6,000 miles per annum

41 monthly payments	£340.42
On the road price	£21,790.00
Westover ŠKODA finance deposit contribution	£1,500.00
Customer deposit	£0.00
Amount to be financed	£20,290.00
Duration of agreement	42 months
Optional final payment	£7,727.50
Total amount payable	£23,184.72
Representative APR*	2.9%
Interest Rate (Fixed)	2.82%
Excess mileage charge	7.2p per mile

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*At the end of the agreement there are three options: i) own the vehicle: pay the optional final payment; ii) return the vehicle: subject to fair wear and tear, charges may apply; or iii) replace: part-exchange the vehicle. Available on a Solutions Personal Contract Plan. 18s and over. Subject to availability. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. With deposits from 0-30%. Deposits shown may be higher than the minimum; a lower deposit will result in increased monthly payments. Based on a 42-month, 6,000-mile per annum agreement. Excess mileage charges of 3.6p to 7.2p per mile apply dependent upon model. Offer available when ordered by 30 June 2017 from participating retailers. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other offer and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Accurate at time of print. Freepost ŠKODA Financial Services. We can introduce you to a limited number of lenders to assist with your purchase, who may pay us for introducing you to them. *No cash alternative. Private retail customers only. Available in conjunction with existing finance offers. 2 years' free servicing offer terms and conditions apply. Servicing includes labour and certain parts only. Requires servicing by a franchised ŠKODA Dealer at the intervals specified by ŠKODA. Offer available for new cars shown ordered by 30 June 2017 inclusive from participating retailers. E&OE.

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Research shows housing boom threatens future of AONBs

HOUSING applications and approvals within some of England's 34 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) have risen sharply over the last five years, while the proposed scale of developments has increased too, according to a report published on 15th November.

Cranborne Chase AONB is not listed among the eight AONBs which account for more than 79% of all housing approvals within AONBs despite having dealt with 17 schemes over the period.

Richard Burden, Landscape and Planning Advisor, said: "Cranborne Chase has approvals for houses tight to our boundary near Blandford, Shaftesbury, Warminster and Wimborne, in addition to 80 within the AONB in Tisbury and similar numbers in Blandford and Shaftesbury. "

This AONB is experiencing the replacement of small houses with large ones, which is rather disappointing when the adopted AONB Management Plan and Local Planning Authorities' (LPAs) Local Plans identify a need for affordable housing," added Richard.

"The purposes of AONB designation are to conserve and enhance natural beauty, and these areas are a limited and diminishing resource," said Cranborne Chase AONB Director Linda Nunn. "Furthermore, large scale housing development fundamentally changes these nationally important landscapes."

For more information on the Cranborne Chase AONB, log on to www.ccwwdaonb.org.uk.



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For more events visit their website

Tuesday 19th December

Festive Celebration – Sound, Song & Soul
Food with Sarah Lownds & Maya Chandler

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6.30 – 9.30 pm £15 Contact: info@sarpenela.co.uk Tel: 01725 516942

Thursday 11th January 2017

**Kindred Spirits Meditation Group with
Sarah Lownds**

This group is for like minded people to come together and grow with meditation and healing in a supportive safe space. 7pm - 8.30pm Contact info@sarpenela.co.uk Tel: 01725 516941

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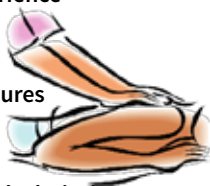
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Timetable

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

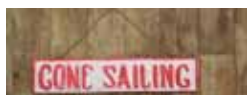
Pilates – Improves balance, flexibility, core and back strength, and joint mobility.

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Meteorological Observations

'Dreich is what we call it in Scotland' observed our Scots crew, on yet another murky, misty, drizzly, morning, which fortunately improved.

Hornet SC weekend

This weekend was blessed with somewhat better weather, with Southerly winds F3 - 4, we carried the big blue cruising chute most of the way to Portsmouth. Dropping the chute we sailed near to the mainland shore, only to find ourselves caught up in an RS racing fleet, actually there were three fleets of these fast dinghies sailing three different courses, a bit testing, but we managed to work our way through without incident. Continued to Hornet SC and moored under the submarine!

Left about 11:00 on Sunday and had a look at our new Aircraft Carrier, standing well off to avoid yellow buoys, guard vessels, and other security. The chute was deployed on the return, but whilst gybing, we got in a bit of a wrap, which took a while to sort out, and necessitated repacking on the pontoon when we returned. Any advice on gybing a cruising chute - gratefully received!. Which reminds me of a quote purported to be from Alf Garnett, 'I have a spinnaker old boy, do you know where I keep it? In my London flat, ha!' Well I think that is a bit of a waste, and learning to manage coloured sails is very satisfying, if sometimes a bit unnerving, and they do add boat speed.

Boat Show

With free (to RYA members), and half price (if signed up to newsletter), why not get tickets to preview day? Off we went, the preferred way to get there is, drive to Hythe, catch the ancient pier train, and then ferry, and short stroll to the showground. Found a few bargains which were on my shopping list, and an opportunity to view and examine some rather nice yachts.

Lobster Pots

The petition has had to be re-started, due to the election, so if you signed, please do so again, and if not please think about it. <https://petition.parliament.uk/>

Gone Sailing

petition/200001 , For yachts and small craft unmarked pot buoys are barely visible and can result in entanglement. Most props have rope cutters, but these may not always work, and the bread knife will have to be resorted to. In any event lives are put at risk, and pot gear probably lost. Please see Cruising Association Campaign information. www.theca.org.uk .

Ferry Drop

A simple trick we like to use is 'the ferry drop'. As you know, when dropping the main you need to be head to wind and release the halyard, and all should come down. When the wind serves we like to sail up Lymington river, back to our mooring, at some point up river we have to manoeuvre, flake the halyard, head to wind, throw off halyard, and thanks to roller mainsail sliders down comes the main. Our trick is to observe a ferry coming down river, these are very high sided vessels, and so 'ferry drop' is called by the skipper, all hands prepare, main is sheeted in, halyard is flaked, and prepared for release, timing is of the essence, we must be in the ferry's wind shadow, 'wait, wait, now!' the halyard is released, and the main comes down with a satisfying woosh!. We can now continue with the business of setting the fenders and opening the gate in the guard rails. Is the tide ebbing or flooding, and will we be blown on or off? Are considerations for a good mooring up.

Not a lot to do with sailing

But, like most who enjoy the elements, I have an interest in other peoples experiences, and this is how I came across 'One Man's Wilderness' an account of how Richard Proenneke spent time alone in the wilds of Alaska, building his own cabin (which is now a national monument), surviving seemingly comfortably, and hiking thousands of miles through the country. A quote from Anchorage Daily News 'One Man's Wilderness is the best modern piece of prose about Alaska, the one that gives the truest picture of what living in the bush today is like for the lone individual'.



Winter Drawers On

Well certainly some thermals and thicker fleeces are called for, the times of shorts and polo shirts are passed. But still some sunny days in winter, and nothing like sun gleaming off the sea to raise spirits. LTSC sail all year round, and what better Christmas present than membership of LTSC? www.ltsc.co.uk .

See you on a sunny day with a fair breeze - we are the yacht overtaking.

Adam

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Principal Residence Dilemma

"It is quite simple, our investments and savings are covered by our nil rate bands – the house which is our biggest non-income producing asset, can be gifted to the children and after seven years will fall outside our estates for inheritance tax."

What could be simpler – but a straight gift of the house to children does not work for inheritance tax as it will be caught by the 'Gift with Reservation' rules.

The principal residence is often perceived to be an ideal asset to gift on to the children because

- It is the most significant element of the estate
- It is non-income producing and future occupation is secured as it will be owned by the children.

The Gift with Reservation rules catch a straightforward gift of the house to children, quite simply because a benefit is retained (continued occupation and enjoyment). As a consequence, the gift is considered a non-event for inheritance tax purposes and the value of the property is subsequently brought into charge to tax, even if the gift took place over seven years previously.

Schemes have been developed to get round the problem, but each has its own drawbacks and the Inland Revenue have made it clear that they will look closely at each scheme and will attack them if they do not comply with the current rules.

If you would welcome further advice on this do get in touch with Michael Catchpole.

Book Review

In 2015, Bantam Press published the first volume in a promised trilogy of three books by the historian James Holland under the blanket title *'The War in the West'* and with the subtitle *'Germany Ascendent 1939-1941'*. The second volume, sub-titled *'The Allies Fight Back 1941-1943'* advances the history from Operation Barbarossa, the Axis invasion of Russia which commenced on the 22nd of June 1941, to the expulsion of all enemy forces from North Africa in mid-May 1943. As with his first volume, the author has not only consulted a plethora of official papers from the commanders of the time but draws on numerous personal accounts from participants who were at the 'sharp end' of the fighting. Brilliantly constructed, the successes and setbacks of this vast sweep of battle come to light along with the minutia of service life which anyone with a military background will applaud. It is a volume of generous size [720 pages including a very useful thirty-six page index] with a selection of maps

and two inserts of photographs [many appearing in print for the first time] each of eight pages.

My second offering first appeared in print in 1906, celebrating Admiral Lord Nelson's victory at Trafalgar, a shade over one hundred years previously. To mark what is probably the best known of all Royal Navy victories, the Dovecote Press at Wimborne reissued in 2005 *'The Three Dorset Captains at Trafalgar'* by A M Broadley & R G Bartelot in a limited edition of 750 copies, in hardback and with a most pleasing dust jacket. To the publishers credit, apart from a new foreword by The Lord Digby of Minterne, a direct descendent of Captain [later Admiral of the Blue] Henry Digby of HMS Africa with 64 guns the smallest vessel of the line at Trafalgar, and a well explained introduction by Maureen Attwooll, the publishers have stuck faithful to the original [the authors issued a revision of their work in 1909, retitling it *'Nelson's Hardy: his life letters and friends'*]. The

bulk of the text [chapters III to XXI] are concerned with Thomas Masterman Hardy, Nelson's Flag Captain and who was pacing the quarterdeck of HMS Victory with Nelson when a French sharpshooter high up in the rigging of the Redoubtable fired that fatal shot, mortally wounding the admiral. Only moments before Nelson had turned to his Flag Captain saying; "This is too warm work, Hardy, to last long." For students of naval history, the book presents a fascinating insight into the Royal Navy of the 19th Century, revealed through the copious correspondence of Thomas Masterman Hardy whose monument stands atop Blagdon Hill southwest of Dorchester. The third captain was Charles Bullen [later Admiral of the Blue] of the Britannia sailing in Nelson's weather column. The illustrations benefit from modern reproduction technology while the appendices 'A' through to 'K' are historical records in their own right.

Bill Chorley

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Things to note

By the time you will be reading this article the Budget will have taken place. If you need a copy of the highlights of this, please let me know. Alternatively it should be on our website.

By now you should have given your tax return information to your accountant to complete your Return, but if you are completing the return yourself by using HMRC software, please check to ensure your personal allowances are being set off in the most tax efficient way. This is especially relevant if you are a higher rate tax payer and receive savings income including dividends. Opposite is an example:

Class 2 national insurance update:

Since my last article it has been announced that for the self-employed individuals the Class 2 National Insurance Contributions will not be abolished from April 2018, but this will now be from April 2019. Again please ensure, if you are or have ever been self-employed that you check on your digital personal account with HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), that you have paid sufficient national insurance contributions as this gives you now an extra year to settle any of those incomplete years. Just a quick recap you need, as legislation is at present, 35 full years' contributions to be entitled to the full state pension.

If you are self-employed and would like to join the Downsman Business Support Group, then please come along to the next meeting which is held at the Parish Office on 1 February 2018 at 9.30am.

If you need assistance with any accountancy or tax related matters, please contact Catherine at CBA Services Limited on 01258 840306/07895 913546/Catherine@cba-services.co.uk

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.

Year ended 5 April 2017	Total	Non-savings Income	Dividend Income
HMRC calculation: £	£	£	£
Employment income	38,000	38,000	
Dividend income	<u>26,000</u>		<u>26,000</u>
	<u>64,000</u>	<u>38,000</u>	<u>26,000</u>
Less personal allowance	<u>(11,000)</u>	<u>(11,000)</u>	
Taxable income	<u>53,000</u>	<u>27,000</u>	<u>26,000</u>
Tax calculation:			
Non savings:	£27,000 @ 20% =	£5,400	
Dividend income:	£5,000 @ 0% =	£0	
	£26,000 @ 32.5% =	<u>£8,450</u>	
		<u>£13,850</u>	
Less: PAYE		<u>(£5,400)</u>	
Total tax due		<u>£8,450</u>	
Should be:			
Employment income	38,000	38,000	
Dividend income	<u>26,000</u>		<u>26,000</u>
	<u>64,000</u>	<u>38,000</u>	<u>26,000</u>
Less personal allowance	<u>(11,000)</u>	<u>(6,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
Taxable income	<u>53,000</u>	<u>32,000</u>	<u>21,000</u>
Tax calculation:			
Non savings:	£32,000 @ 20% =	£6,400	
Dividend income:	£5,000 @ 0% =	£0	
	£16,000 @ 32.5% =	<u>£5,200</u>	
		<u>£11,600</u>	
Less: PAYE		<u>(£5,400)</u>	
Total tax due		<u>£6,200</u>	
A tax saving of £2,250.			

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Dorset Wildlife Trust

North Dorset January 2018 Event

A date for your diary:

On Wednesday, 17th January 2018, DWT Conservation Officer, Emma Tomlin, will give an illustrated talk on the importance of 'Wet Woodlands' in our local environment. The talk will start at 7.30pm in Fontmell Magna Village Hall (SP7 0PF). Entry is just £2 and includes tea/coffee & biscuits. Everyone is welcome to attend our events and there is no charge for children under 16. Also available at this event will be a selection of DWT sales goods, free leaflets on the work of DWT and details of membership of this very important local environmental charity, which currently has more than 27,000 members.

Larmer Tree Christmas Fair

Friday 1st December 6.00pm to 9.00pm, Saturday & Sunday 2nd & 3rd 10am to 4pm
Larmer Tree Gardens, Tollard Royal, Salisbury, SP5 5PY

The delightful Larmer Tree Christmas Fair will take place during the first weekend of December. Larmer Tree offers an opportunity for a selection of talented local companies to highlight their products in the most unique location.

The Christmas Fair takes place within the Victorian Jubilee Hall and Pavilion but visitors also have the chance to walk through the beautiful gardens that were laid out by General Augustus Pitt Rivers back in 1880.

Entry charges are Adults £4.00, Seniors £3.00, and Children under 12 free of charge. The fee includes a warming welcome drink of mulled wine, mulled cider, or spiced apple juice.

Larmer Tree's fabulous in-house caterers will be providing delicious festive fare throughout the event.

On Friday evening the adorable Abbey Primary School Choir opens the fair. Over the course of the weekend, musicians, choirs, and entertainers drop in to spread festive cheer.

To keep the children entertained, Mr Merlin and Okey Dokey the Dragon will be performing magical shows. Tickets for these performances need to be booked in advance and can be purchased at a cost of £3 per child, by visiting the website www.larmertree.co.uk.

We'll also be joined by Alpaca Adventures and you can meet the birds of prey from Hawks in the Forest – vouchers for these exciting experiences make a brilliant Christmas gift.

As a tradition, we always like to support a charity at Christmas and this year it is the turn of SERV Wessex, the volunteer blood bikers for Hampshire, Dorset and Wiltshire.

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Gardeners Notes

December

- Protect your plants for winter (bringing in, fleece/straw)
- Start ordering and planning next years crops
- Clear the ground of fallen leaves and compost
- Clean equipment for winter
- Put out food for the birds

January

- Tidy up allotment and garden (composting leaves etc.)
- Plan your crop rotations
- Continue to dig over and prepare for the years crops
- Consider what you want to move in the spring
- Check over stored vegetables etc

Got spare veg/crops, consider those close to you neighbours, friends, family. they will be very thankful for fresh produce and it saves you wasting any.

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Project Uganda

Welcome to Project Uganda, a UK registered charity set up in 2000 to work in Rukungiri District, south west Uganda. In the last 17 years we have raised in excess of £185,000 all of which has been spent on project work in Uganda. With this money we have: helped build and equip a large vocational training centre, provide 24 student scholarships, purchase and install 5000 mosquito nets in boarding schools protecting 10,000 children, built a reservoir, greenhouse and water troughs, built 11 student washroom blocks and installed 5 rainwater harvesting systems with water tanks at some of the poorest boarding schools in the Rukungiri area. The charity is run by a small but dedicated committee. If you would like to find out more about the charity or would be interested in joining the team and helping with fundraising please contact Matt or Emma Gothard or e-mail us on info@projectuganda.org.uk



ANIMALS are DYING

NO CLEAN DRINKING WATER

For every £150 raised we can supply a family with a water tank and guttering allowing them to harvest free life saving clean water.

For every £2000 raised we can supply and install a rain water harvesting system with a 30,000lt ferro cement water tank to a school.

Uganda is currently experiencing severe water shortages due to prolonged and particularly hot dry seasons. This is causing huge problems for the people and animals. Many rivers, streams, reservoirs and water tanks are completely dry. The lack of clean water is causing the incidence of typhoid and cholera to increase. Schools who would normally have access to water now have nothing and are purely reliant on children bringing water from home, however, many homes have no water either.

This situation is becoming critical and with your help we now need to make a huge effort to install as many rain water harvesting systems into schools and homes as possible.

When installing rain water harvesting systems we currently use plastic water tanks, however, we are now being advised that these are not big enough to last through the dry season. We have therefore looked into improving this situation to ensure funds are well spent on lasting products that will benefit everyone for as long as possible.

Akampa Moses, Project Representative, recently visited a large secondary school in the process of building their own 30,000lt ferro cement rain water storage tank.

This system involves making a concrete base, forming the round structure for the tank with steel reinforced cement and chicken mesh, and then rendering the mesh with a sand and cement mixture. All of the products used in this construction are readily available in the local area, therefore, also boosting the local economy.

Bwanga Secondary School

This school was desperate for help as it had absolutely no washing facilities for the boarding girls at all! Girls were expected to wash behind the hedge next to the pit latrine shared with the female staff. The school had no water supply, forcing students to walk 1/2km to the nearest community tap.

St. Peter's Secondary School

This mixed day and boarding school has a population of 392 students. The girls washroom consisted of timber posts and rusty iron sheets with no roof and loose rubble for the flooring. There is no source of clean water at the school so students walk 1 1/2 km, crossing the main road, to fetch water for bathing, drinking and cooking.

During our visit we constructed for each school a large well ventilated brick washroom block with 10 individual washing cubicles, laundry area and rain water harvesting system with large storage

tanks. As always we employed local labour and used every stage of the construction process as an opportunity to teach new skills and share good building practice. We also sourced materials locally in order to boost the local economy. Akampa Moses gave handover ceremonies at each school on completion of the project, which also included information on the significant health benefits of using the washrooms for students.



The importance of promoting the sharing of skills and knowledge

During project visits we try to take every opportunity to share and teach as many new skills as possible to those working on and living locally to the projects.

Skills shared/taught during this years visit:

- new manufacturing techniques for furniture making
- how to build a wood burning stove
- ongoing training in all aspects of construction, tailoring, cooking, and design and construction of basic playground equipment, such as swings, seesaws and balancing beams
- the construction methods for making composting toilets as hygienic alternatives to traditional long drops

These initiatives have no cost implications to Project Uganda but follow our belief that teaching Ugandans new skills enabling them to find employment and improve health allows them to become self-sufficient, which is key to a brighter future

Fundraising events

Christmas Tree on display-St Thomas' Church, Salisbury-Dec
Barn Dance with 'Scrape the Barrel'—19th May '18.

Find out more at

www.projectuganda.org.uk
Speak to Matt or Emma Gothard
or e-mail us on info@projectuganda.org.uk

Rob's Column

The nights are drawing in again
Summer's slipped away
Another season unfolding
As autumn comes 'to play
A kaleidoscope of colour
Frost sparkling all around
The work of mother nature
Never ceases to astound.

A true friend is a blessing
So, cherish them with care
How good to have them in our life
And know they're always there.
The comfort when you're lonely
A joy when we are sad
What strength and inspiration
Of them we should be glad.

What a great turnout for Rob's car boot! Lots of sellers and buyers; money raised for the upkeep of the village hall; another next year. So, don't throw anything away as you could make a bob or two at Rob's car boot sale.

Cherish fond memories
Because along life's way
You will doubtless treasure them,
Be glad of them someday.
Laughter tears and jollity
The good times of yesteryear
Brought to mind to be replayed
Forever to hold dear.

What did one ocean say to the other ocean?
Nothing they just waved.

The sky he was ablaze, what a fantastic display from the Scouts. Around 800 plus people attended, well organized and something for everyone – stalls, food, drink, all sorts. Well done to all.

*Did you see the night rainbow?
First time we had ever seen it. Have you?*

October days are at an end
And so, you just might meet
A witch, a ghost, or superman
Walking down the street
Happy laughing children
Chanting trick or treat
Pumpkin lanterns all aglow
As Halloween we greeted.

A great night was had at The Penny Tap. Kids young and old joined in the fun. BBQ, pumpkin soup, well decorated venue - what more could you want? Make a date to be there next year if you missed it this year.

It's New Year's night around the land
Happy kids gather everywhere
Fireworks pop and rockets soar
Lighting up the air
As we remember the end of the year
We should also be aware
The pets can be nervy and fearful,
Do keep them in your care.

The new year is nearly upon us
The cobwebs blow away
Plenty to look forward to
Good times are here to stay.

Happy Christmas and New Year

Rob

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Age 10 - 16 welcome
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552549, Graham 01725 516973

Babies to School Age Children



**HAPPY
NAPPY**

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

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

**Toys, Singing and Fun
for Babies and Children**

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

Children 50p, Adults £1

Lucy Barr 07508 691323
Laura Easter 07811170201

Teddy Bears Drop-in



Thursdays 10:30—12 noon,
in term times.

Carers and small children are
welcome for a chat, coffee and play
in St Mary's Church



The Little Pennies
Pre-School

Registered Charity no. 1137622

www.thelittlepennies.co.uk
info@thelittlepennies.co.uk
 Tel: Becky 01725 552997

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

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

Fees & Funding
 3 & 4 year olds £10.80
 per session
 or £3.60 per hour
 (funding available
 for 3-5 year olds)

2-3 year olds
£12 per session

"Children are making
excellent progress from their
starting points. They gain
the skills they need for their
future learning
and in readiness
for school."
 Outstanding
OFSTED report
2016

**Purpose built pre-school at
Sixpenny Handley First School
with indoor/outdoor free flow play areas.**



What's On

Date	Club or Group	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	
Tues	Parish Library : Parish Office : 10am - 12pm	
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
	Parish Library 1st & 3rd Thu : Parish Office : 3pm - 4:15pm
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	Parish Library : Parish Office : 8:30am - 10am
Fri	Chase Community Friends Lunch Village Hall : 2nd Friday in the Month
Fri	6D For All - Youth Club : 6D Village Hall Alternating weeks 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

**CHASE
COMMUNITY
FRIENDS**

Invite you to

'Meet and Munch'

11am to 3pm
on 2nd Friday each month
at Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
£5 per person

The day includes:

1. Coffee and Tea
2. 3 course freshly cooked meal
3. Quiz
4. Entertainment
5. Transport (if required)



Why not come along and make new friends.

To Book Call: 01258 841321

We also provide:

- Transport to the surgery, hospital, dentists, etc.
(45p per mile to cover costs)
- Prescription Collection

Supported by Dorset County
Council Services Committee

Registered Charity: No 1102105

Volunteers needed to help at the 'Meet and Munch' as well as drivers – to volunteer call 01258 841321



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
John Curtis
01725 552397

Firework Spectacular

A massive thank you to all the people who made this year's Firework Spectacular the most successful yet.

A special thank you to Chris, Bronia and all the team in the shop and John, Neil and Andrew at Clark the Butchers for selling the tickets in advance. This means we raise funds before the evening and makes sure discounted tickets are available for members of the local community. Of course the evening can only happen with the kind support of Steve and Lee at Church Farm Campsite, who have allowed the use of their field for last 15 years. Then there are over 60 volunteers on the night; running the car park, working the gate, cooking burgers and pulling the pints.

This year the display raised over £7000 for 1st Woodcutts. These funds will be used to maintain the HQ (it costs £4000 a year to keep the HQ running) and to improve the kitchen with a new stove and cooking equipment.

Thank you to all those who continue to support the Fireworks Spectacular and make sure the Scout Group continues to go from strength to strength.



Fireworks photos by Andrew Chorley www.awdphotography.co.uk

Remembrance Sunday

On Sunday 12th November, 1st Woodcutts paraded up the High Street, led by members past and present of the Armed Forces.

There were a total of 101 Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, Leaders and members of the Active Support Unit on parade, making this the largest turn out in the group's 60 year history.

During the service the Beavers read messages they had written on poppies they had made during their recent visit to the Priest House Museum. During the visit the Beavers learnt about life in the Word Wars, handled artefacts and learnt what rationing meant.

Our thanks to members of the Parish Council who kindly organised the closure of the road, allowing the parade to happen safely.



Remembrance photos by Ash Mills www.ashmills.zenfolio.com/