

# The Downsman

## NEWS AND INFORMATION MAGAZINE

Give to me the life I love,  
Let the lave go by me.  
Give the jolly heaven above,  
And the byway nigh me.  
Bed in the bush with stars to see,  
Bread I dip in the river -  
There's the life for a man like me,  
There's the life for ever.

Let the blow fall soon or late,  
Let what will be o'er me;  
Give the face of earth around  
And the road before me.  
Wealth I seek not, hope nor love,  
Nor a friend to know me;  
All I seek, the heaven above  
And the road below me.

Or let autumn fall on me  
Where afield I linger,  
Silencing the bird on tree,  
Biting the blue finger.  
White as meal the frosty field -  
Warm the fireside haven -  
Not to autumn will I yield,  
Not to winter even!

Let the blow fall soon or late,  
Let what will be o'er me;  
Give the face of earth around,  
And the road before me.  
Wealth I ask not, hope nor love,  
Nor a friend to know me;  
All I ask, the heaven above  
And the road below me.

R.L.Stevenson

## PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY WITH PENTRIDGE

*October 2001*

**Including: Woodyates, Deanland and Minchington**  
**Published by Sixpenny Handley Parish Council**  
**Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch**

**PARISH DIRECTORY****Parish Councillors****Sixpenny Handley**

Chairman	Mr. B.M.J. Curtis.....	552397
	Mrs E. Miles.....	552768
	Miss E. Waller.....	552305
	Mr. P.G. Chick.....	552256
	Mr. S.Judd.....	552563
	Mrs P.K. Bailey-Wright...	552771
	Mr. P.J. Kellock.....	552849

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	Mr. R. Warner.....	552665
	Mr. J. Porte.....	552677

**Clerk**

	Mr. B.J.Hansford.....	552468
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**Assistant Clerk**

	Mr. Tony Henderson....	552279
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**Member of Parliament**

Robert Walter.....020 7219 6981

**County Councillor**

Mr. T. Palmer..... 552321  
Fax 552405

**District Councillor**

Mr. A. Humphries..... 517365

**Footpaths Liaison Officers**

Sixpenny Handley	Mr. P.J. Kellock.....	552849
Pentridge	Ian Davies.....	552076

**Downsman Editorial Team**

Editor	Alan Vincent.....	552788
	Brian Hansford.....	552468

**Churches**

Church of England	St. Mary's, Sixpenny Handley	
	St. Rumbold's, Pentridge	
	St. Andrews, Gussage St. Andrew	
Vicar	Rev. Ron. Wood.....	552608
Roman Catholic	Church of Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Cecilia, Blandford Forum	
Priest	Fr. John Rice.....01258 452051	

**1st Woodcutts Scout Group**

Group Scout Leader	Mr. Barry Howes.....	552583
Scout Leader	Rob Easton.....	552038
Cub Leader	Esme Isaacs.....	517203

**Doctors**

Drs. Pelly, Nodder & Morgan  
Dean Lane Surgery..... 552500

**Schools**

First School	Handley First School.....	552356
Middle School	Cranborne Middle School	517348
Upper School	Queen Elizabeth's School Wimborne..... 01202 885233	

**Sixpenny Handley Village Hall**

Chairman	Steve Pharo.....	552975
Secretary	<i>Vacancy</i>	
Bookings	Julie Richardson.....	519438

**Sixpenny Handley Flower Show**

Chairman	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Secretary		

**For The Kidz**

Chairman	Bronia Styles.....	552658
Secretary	Geraldine Vincent.....	552788

**Sixpenny Handley Homewatch**

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point

John Curtis..... 552397

**Co-ordinators**

Area 1 - Dean Lane	Don Penrose.....	552022
2 - Lower Handley	Mike Comben.....	552085
3 - Upper Handley	John Clarke.....	552674
4 - Deanland & N.E.	Charles Nodder.....	552292
5 - West & South	George Tozer.....	552330

**Other Areas (These are separate Homewatch Schemes)**

Pentridge	Roy Elford.....	552296
Woodyates	Roy Warner.....	552665
Blandford Station. 01258		452101

**Police****The Chase Nursery**

Chairman	Tracey Pain.....01202	885374
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**The Chase Nursery Link Group**

Contact	Hazel Killeen.....	552980
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**Sixpenny Handley W.I. (Formed in 1922)**

President	Mrs Margaret Staplehurst.	552795
Secretary	Mrs H. Eynon.....	552308

**Sixpenny Handley Mother's Union**

Leader	Pamela Wood.....	552608
Secretary	Sheila Smith.....	552149

**Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club**

President	Tony Groves.....	552236
Secretary	Gill Martin.....	552297

**Handley Sports Club**

Chairman	Tony Dale.....	552540
Secretary	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Team Managers -Sat.	Mark Young.....	552741
-Sun	Stuart Haskell.....	552498

**The Wednesday Club**

Chairman	Pamela Wood.....	552608
Secretary	Heather Eynon.....	552308

**Chase Community Friends**

Chairman	Dr. Geddes.....	552395
Secretary	Vic Hatton .....01258	840671

**Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club**

Chairman	Michael Catchpole.....	552879
Secretary	Bill Chorley.....	552776
Membership/Treasurer	Jon Carlisle.....	552271

**Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club**

Chairman	Simon Ellingham.....	552370
Secretary	Juli Spendley.....01202	822244

**Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club**

Chairman / Secretary	Maggie Staplehurst.....	552795
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**Happy Nappy Club**

Chairperson	Sam Leiber-Young.....	552600
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**S.H.E.D.D.S.**

Chairman	Godfrey Turner.....	552533
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**Sixpenny Handley Sports Association**

Chairman	Colin Chambers.....	552796
Secretary	Brian Hansford.....	552468

**Sixpenny Handley Allotment Holders Association**

Chairman	John Curtis.....	552397
Secretary/Treasurer	Sandra Repper.....	552769

**Welcome to the latest edition of The Downsman.**

**All your contributions to.....**

Alan Vincent, 5 The Parsonage, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5QJ

Telephone – 01725 552788, Office Hours - 01722 412202.

E-mail: [alan@num5.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:alan@num5.freeserve.co.uk)



The next edition of this Magazine will be published on the 1st December 2001  
Copy Deadline is **19th November**

**Sixpenny Handley Flower Show**  
**UNCLAIMED RAFFLE PRIZES -Aug. 18th 2001**

Ticket		
No	Colour	Prize
313	Blue MQ136W5K	AHAVA
347	Yellow MQ3S7W5K	Wine Rack
593	Blue MQ13 6W5K	Bergerac Wine
70	Blue MQ13 6W5K	Italian Wine Colli Lanuvini
297	Yellow MQ3S 7W5K	1/2 bot. Teachers Whisky
569	Yellow MQ3S 7W5K	Mulled Wine
56	Green EN 746W44	Cas'olare Sparkling Wine (Gate Ticket)

If you have any of the above Tickets please telephone Brian Hansford on 01725-552468 to arrange to collect

**Public Meetings**  
**East Dorset District Council**

Did you know that anyone can attend a decision-making meeting of the Council? Were you also aware that if you live within the East Dorset District you can make a presentation in the form of a question, petition or deputation. The only requirement is that it must be relevant to some matter in relation to which the meeting has powers or duties, or which affects the district or its inhabitants.

Want to know more? Then come along to a meeting OR contact the relevant officer OR visit our Website  
[www.eastdorset.gov.uk](http://www.eastdorset.gov.uk)

**Funding Help For Rural Projects**

Do you know of a project in your area that aims to help or benefit the members of your community? Could the project itself benefit from a grant to get it off the ground? If so, did you know that communities across rural Dorset can apply to local funds for assistance? These include Dorset's Community Projects Fund (CPF), and Rural Development Programme (RDP).

The CPF is aimed at small-scale projects across Dorset such as: playgroup equipment, local heritage restoration, social club/group equipment, new group startup, community information leaflets, voluntary and self-help initiatives. It can also contribute towards training costs in some cases. The RDP is aimed at larger projects within the Rural Priority Area (RPA) - West Dorset, Portland and parts of North Dorset and Purbeck. It has a more economic focus such as rural regeneration studies, ICT training initiatives, and community facility development.

The CPF will provide up to 50% funding of a small project provided it is matched by funds either from the project itself or from other funding sources. In the RPA this could mean a grant of up to £1000, or up to £500 in the rest of rural Dorset. The RDP offers a maximum of 50% project funding within the RPA, up to a maximum of £250,000.

Anyone wishing to apply for either CPF or RDP support, please contact Gareth Jones, Rural Development Officer on 01305 216410 or write to Dorset Community Action, The Barracks, Bridport Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1M  
Alternatively email on [gareth@dorsetcommaction.demon.co.uk](mailto:gareth@dorsetcommaction.demon.co.uk)

## Worship in October and November

<b>ST MARY'S</b>	<b>ST ANDREW'S</b>	<b>ST RUMBOLD'S</b>
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**October 7th** 17th Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Morning Prayer 6:00 Holy Communion
--

11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
--

**October 14th** 18th Sunday after Trinity

10:30 Family Worship
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9:30 Holy Communion
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**October 21st** 19th Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Evensong
--------------------------------------

11:15 Morning Prayer
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**October 28th** Last Sunday after Trinity

9:30 Holy Communion
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8:30 Holy Communion
---------------------

11:15 Family Service
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**November 4th** All Saints' Sunday

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Special Service
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11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
--

**November 11th** Remembrance Sunday

10:50 Service of Remembrance
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9:30 Holy Communion
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10:50 Service of Remembrance
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**November 18th** Second Sunday before Advent

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Evensong
--------------------------------------

11:15 Morning Prayer
----------------------

**November 25th** Christ the King

9:30 Holy Communion
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8:30 Holy Communion
---------------------

11:15 Family Service
----------------------

### A RE-CYCLING PROJECT -CAN YOU HELP?

The Church has signed up for a re-cycling project involving used cartridges from copying machines, computer and word processor ink cartridges and old mobile phones. If you or anyone you know regularly throws away such material please would you consider letting us have it at St. Mary's. When we have ten of any item we can send these off and we will get a small payment. It probably won't amount to a lot, but it seems much better than just throwing these things away.

### **HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE**

At their September meeting the Parochial Church Council discussed what might be an appropriate way to celebrate the Golden Jubilee in 2002. We decided that we would like to organise an event using St. Mary's Church during the Bank Holiday and Jubilee Weekend of 1st, 2nd and 3rd June, but that this must be something in which all the organisations in the village can take part

Accordingly, we have written separately to all the organisations listed in the Downsman to ask them to come to, or be represented at, a meeting in St. Mary's on the evening of the 25th October at 7.30 pm.

Ideas that have already been suggested are exhibitions of what each organisation has done over the last 50 years, a photographic history of the village over 50 years, a presentation by the School, a special presentation to those whose 50th birthday falls in 2002. And we are sure there are lots more! So please come along on the 25th October with all your own ideas, so we can have a really splendid celebration next year.

Let's all be Royalists for once!

### **The State of Woodcuts**

As my reader pointed out to me, there was no mention of Woodcuts in the last edition of The Downsman. Unfortunately because of more pressing issues, I missed the deadline. It was intended, in this issue, to explain in detail why this happened. I had written the copy at the end of August, but the happenings in the U. S. A. have caused me to alter it considerably. Sufficient to say, that the main reasons for our, i.e. the population of Woodcuts, preoccupation in early summer, were our negotiations with Geo. Bush, to become the 52nd. State of America. Hence the title The State of Woodcuts. Since I can't continue on this subject, may we leave it on a serious note. I am sure that all the readers of the Downsman will join in prayers, irrespective of their beliefs, for all those who have suffered in the USA and throughout the world. Also for those who clear up, may we support them in prayer.

As I can't write about the State of Woodcuts, I have decided to write about the state of Ted Cox instead. Recently on meeting people for the first time, they have looked rather oddly at me and said, "So you are Ted Cox". So I have decided to tell a little about myself.

Firstly I am very much sports orientated. I am cultivating a Bobby Charlton hairstyle, (soccer), my breath comes in short pants, (athletics), I love strawberries and cream, and my elbow hurts, (tennis), and I constantly have athlete's foot. Added to this, the fact that Madge, my wife, thinks I ought to go on a diet makes me an all rounder. Hopefully this gives a clear picture; perhaps not as pretty as the butterflies that have visited here this summer, so perhaps it would be more advantageous to talk of them. In the original copy written in late August, I mentioned the complete absence of both Lesser and Greater Tortoiseshells. It was in the village of Oddington in Gloucester, (Sorry for the delay, I had spelt Gloucester with an 'h' then delay with two 'ee', perhaps I ought to have mentioned my spelling, with my sporting prowess,), on September 3rd that I spotted my first Tortoiseshell of the year. Since returning home I have seen hundreds, where was the early summer flight this year? At least

they are back and in great numbers. Also in great numbers are the 'whites', who produce those beautiful green, black and yellow caterpillars, which prompt me to suggest to the village flower show committee that there ought to be a class for 'green lace'. (By the way, congratulations to all concerned on a very successful show this year.)

Other butterflies to be seen here for the first time by me, were Silver Washed Fritillary and Holy Blues, add to these Red Admirals, Spotted Woodmen, Marbled White, Peacocks, Brimstone, Painted Lady, Comma and numerous browns, it has been a successful year for this group of insects.

The 'piece de resistance' (it's the E. C. I'm afraid,) was not a butterfly as far as I am concerned but a flower. On Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> September the stubble field along the lane was being cultivated, in my usual nosy way, I perambulated along to view the latest, massive machines used. As I walked along the headland under the oaks and limes, which make up the south-west boundary, I noticed in the stubble, a plant I did not recognise. It is not suggested that all the British flora are known to me, but I have been looking at chalkland stubble for almost sixty years, so at least I ought to recognise most plants if not be able to name them. In this case I couldn't, it was fairly prolific, its prostrate stems everywhere. The leaves, about the size of an old penny, were light green, made lighter by the copious covering of almost white hairs. They were arranged alternately on the trailing stems. The flowers consisted three bright yellow petals on the bottom with two, chocolate brown, velvety ones above, the whole about 1.5cms across, and looking like a snapdragon.

Hurrying home to get my flora book, I turned immediately to the snapdragon family, the Scrophulariaceae, and there it was, the Round Leafed Fluellen, I hadn't found a new species after all. Apparently KICKXIA SPURIA its botanical name, was once a common, stubble weed, now quite rare. I didn't feel so bad after all, missing this beautiful, little flower all these years.

Another thing we haven't missed this year is the buzzard, he brought his family of five and they stayed. We are constantly reminded of their presence by the constant shrill cries of the young, who despite the fact that they can ride the thermals at great heights, still expect their parents to feed them. What a wonderful world we live in? We the inhabitants of the State of Woodcutts, have all we need, I don't expect we will bother about the American citizenship after all. God Bless England.

*Ted Cox 19.09.01*

## CHARITY CONCERT

**SATURDAY 3rd NOVEMBER AT 2.30 PM**  
**In ST. MARY'S CHURCH, SIXPENNY HANDLEY**

**THE FERNDOWN SINGERS AND FRIENDS**  
**PRESENT**

## AN AUTUMN CONCERT

**ENTRANCE FREE**

**DONATIONS**

Come for an afternoon of music and fun before the Clocks go back

**Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club**  
**Programme 2001**

October 15th                      A.G.M. and Practice Halloween  
24"x24"x24"


**The Wednesday Club**  
**Programme for 2001**

3rd October                      John and Elizabeth Gradwell entertain

**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU AT SIXPENNY HANDLEY SURGERY**  
**Tuesdays 9:30am – 12:00 noon Christine Pacey**  
**NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHAT YOUR ENQUIRY IS**  
**WE WILL TRY AND HELP - COST? – FREE**  
**FOR YOU?**

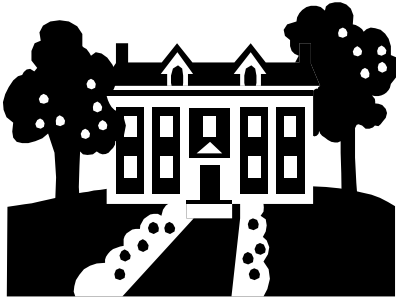
**For everyone, regardless of class, race, sex, sexuality, culture, income or benefits.**

- We will not tell anyone unless you say so
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\*\*\*\*\*

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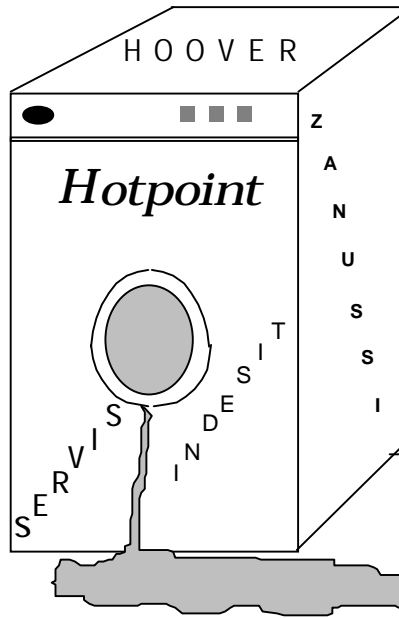
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## Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

### **BIG IMPROVEMENTS...**

Things really seem to be moving within Dorset Police. Three years ago, Sixpenny Handley Homewatch was so frustrated with the lack of support that we collected 600 signatures from the Parish and petitioned the Home Secretary for improvements.

Whether because of that (lets be honest – probably not but perhaps it helped), we now have an excellent Home Beat Officer in PC Fen Luckham, regular visits to the village by the Community Support Unit or ‘Police Caravan’ as it tends to be known. Dorset Police have bought their helicopter – which has been used locally to good effect, and the Ringmaster crime information service is keeping all the Homewatch Co-ordinators right up to date on reported and threatened crime in our area. We didn’t have any of this three years ago.

### **...AND THEY ARE WORKING**

Within the county as a whole, burglary is down 7%, car crime 10% and overall crime down 2%. Locally, the conviction of a single individual who pleaded guilty to hundreds of thefts in North East Dorset has made a big difference, while the recent Steam Fair (the biggest event in Dorset) seemed to go off without the usual spate of associated thefts in the area.

### **CHIP YOUR DOG**

In a further move to combat a steady stream of dog thefts (especially of the working strains, gundogs, terriers, lurchers, etc), Dorset Police are arranging low cost microchipping sessions locally for pet dogs. For just £15 per dog, trained personnel will insert a tiny electronic identification chip under the dog’s skin. Any thief will not even know it is there but the police, the RSPCA and others now all have scanners to identify the rightful owner from the chip.

Three dogs have recently been returned safely in East Dorset because of this technology. The chipping process is painless and only takes a few minutes. Vets charge many times this amount to chip a dog, so this is a good offer. However, Dorset Police say they are only offering the service just this once, so don’t miss out.

The sessions will be held within the ‘Police Caravan’ as follows:

Blandford Town Square:	Friday 26 October 1030-1300
Langton Arms, Tarrant Monkton	Friday 26 October 1400-1830
Gillingham, Waitrose Car Park	Saturday 27 October 1030-1600

### **MARK YOUR TACK**

If you have horses, please be aware that tack thefts are just starting up again in the area. Postcode mark everything and take saddles into the house. Rugs should have your postcode painted on in large white letters. With the fast escape route provided by the A354, we are vulnerable here. Watch out and take action now.

## NOTES FROM RSPB GARSTON WOOD

Nothing very eventful to record for this month; a quite unremarkable time except perhaps that some migrants are leaving a little later than usual.

Dormouse recoveries are approximately the same as last year, but the number of nests has declined and a dead young one (about 4 weeks old), was found in a nest with five other live babies. The cause of death is not known but it was not especially underweight for the age. A post mortem may establish the reason for the mortality.

The winter season of coppicing, organised by the South Wilts Group of the RSPB, begins on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October and continues until March. Dates are as follows:

### 2001

10 <sup>th</sup> October	14 <sup>th</sup> October	24 <sup>th</sup> October
11 <sup>th</sup> November	14 <sup>th</sup> November	
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	12 <sup>th</sup> December	30 <sup>th</sup> December

### 2002

9 <sup>th</sup> January	13 <sup>th</sup> January	30 <sup>th</sup> January
3 <sup>rd</sup> February	20 <sup>th</sup> February	24 <sup>th</sup> February
13 <sup>th</sup> March	17 <sup>th</sup> March	

The Warden, Jack Edwards, provides supervision and training. Meet at 9.30 a.m. in the car park. Bring a packed lunch if you can stay all day but do come even if you can only spare a shorter time. Gloves and tools are provided and the last meeting has a lunchtime barbecue for the volunteers.

This is a friendly, fun and worthwhile day out, please give us a hand if you can.



**A few places are left for the Bat and Dormouse Open Day to be held in the woods on the Sunday afternoon and evening of 21<sup>st</sup> October. If you wish to book a place - essential as numbers are limited - please ring Jack Edwards at 01929 553360.**

### **Your Top Ten Garden Birds?**

The Cornish RSPB Group has compiled a list of their most common garden birds and for the first year ever, the starling is number one. This is clearly nothing like the most regular visitor to homes in Dorset and so I thought you might like to compare your own sightings with their list. I have included a rough estimate of the numbers found in my own garden in Newtown. See what happens when you feed them enough! **The table opposite shows the birds counted in a one-hour birdwatch.**

The birds that would make up our top ten are the Marsh Tit and Moorhen, both common on the bird table here. Perhaps you would like to try a count of the birds in your garden for comparison.

*David Tucker, Voluntary Warden.*

<b>Cornwall's Top Ten Garden</b>			
<b>Number</b>	<b>Bird Species</b>	<b>Average Number</b>	<b>Newtown</b>
1	Starling	4.4	0.
2	Blue Tit	3.8	30
3	House Sparrow	3.7	26
4	Chaffinch	3.1	12
5	Greenfinch	2.4	24
6	Blackbird	2.0	6
7	Robin	1.6	4
8	Great Tit	1.5	20
9	Collared Dove	1.	6
10	Jackdaw	0.9	0

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### **HANDLEY SPORTS CLUB FOOTBALL FIXTURES FOR OCTOBER 2001**

Sat 6th	Lytchett RT	v	Handley Sports	A
Sun 7th	Handley Sports	v	Bishop's Caundle	H
Sat 13th	Handley	v	Holt Utd FC	H
Sun 14th	Handley	v	Marina Sports	H
Sat 20th	Handley	v	Milborne St. Andrew	H
Sun 21st	Handley	v	Weld Arms FC	H
Sat 27th	Allendale FC	v	Handley Sports	A
Sat 28th	Parkstone Snooker Club	v	Handley Sports	A

# Handley SPORTS CLUB 100 CLUB

## Draw Number 6

£30	211	Andy Hopkins, Witchampton.
£10	186	Stephen Dale, Alderholt Fordingbridge
£10	081	Chris. Wadge. Sycamore Close, Sixpenny Handley
£10	128	S. Judd, Church Farm Bungalow, Sixpenny Handley
£5	033	Mrs M. Harris, Crichel, Wimborne, Dorset.

## Draw Number 7

£30	231	Miss M.E.Hall, St Mary's Court, Sixpenny Handley
£10	201	Ruth Edwards, Town Farm Place, Sixpenny Handley
£10	002	Mr RA. Crouch. Sycamore Close, Sixpenny Handley.
£10	049	Mark Muspratt, Dean Lane, Sixpenny Handley.
£5	154	C.M. Green, Burley Road Farm, Sixpenny Handley.



The CCF offer voluntary support to those who need it,  
within the Cranborne Chase villages.

In the form of :-

- Transport to the Surgery, Dentist, etc, with an appropriate contribution from the user of 45p per mile, to cover petrol costs.
- Collection of prescriptions - local shopping for the house bound.
- Emergency garden care - child sitting - dog walking.
- We hold regular Social Day Centres, at Sixpenny Handley Village Hall.

And weekly Coffee Mornings at the back bar of the

**Roebuck Inn, Sixpenny Handley.**

**Thursday mornings 10:15am -11:45am.**

So come along and make new friends.

**For any information concerning Chase Community Friends,**

**Please contact CCF co-ordinator, on 01725 552097.**

**New volunteers always most welcome.**

# The Inn On The Chase

If you're in the mood  
for some damn good food  
The Inn on The Chase  
must be the place  
Come and see the piggies bar  
while you're there have a jar

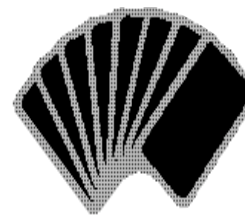
For the finest food in Cranborne Chase  
The Lantern restaurant is the place  
Sandwiches, Bar Snacks, we have the lot  
bring the kids, they won't be shot

With 3 real ales and lager too  
have we got a choice for you

All those families with children too  
Don't you worry we'll cater for you  
With darts, pool table, juke box too  
This really must be the place for you

Oh beg my pardon  
I forgot the Beer garden!

Telephone: 01725 552230

**Whist at The Village Hall**

For the forthcoming season of whist drives, held fortnightly at the village hall, there will be a major change in the manner of scoring for the championship. In seasons past, the winner has been decided on the final score, less the two lowest returns, or if a player had missed out on one round, then his or her lowest score would be deducted (for participants missing two drives, then all scores counted). Furthermore, the championship was split into two sessions; a pre-Christmas followed by a post-Christmas series. For 2001-2002, there will be just the one series with seventeen qualifying rounds. The highest total score returned by a player competing in all seventeen rounds will be rewarded by a cash prize of £15, with £10 for the second highest and £5 for the third best. Highest aggregate scores for players missing one round will attract prizes of £10, £5 and £2.50 respectively, while for those participants who miss two rounds, the highest aggregate scores will receive £5, £2.50 and £1.25 respectively. The all important rounds are:

5 and 19 September  
 3, 17 and 31 October  
 14 and 28 November 2001  
 9 and 23 January  
 6 and 20 February  
 6 and 20 March  
 3 and 17 April  
 1 and 15 May 2002

The Christmas drive, scheduled for Saturday 15 December, does not count as a qualifying round, while prizes will be presented at the final meeting of the season, Wednesday 29 May.

In addition to the awards outlined above, a prize of £5 will be awarded (on 29 May 2002) to the player returning the highest score carded during the qualifying rounds. It will be recalled that Mary Braithwaite posted a 188 in the past season and this will take some beating.

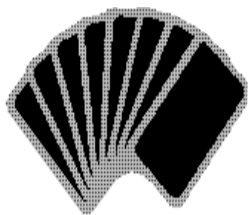
By the time this column appears, the first two rounds will have been completed and in my next column I will be able to show the leading contenders as at mid-November.

## **Sixpenny Handley Stores & Post Office**

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### Bridge at The Roebuck

During the past two months, bridge sessions at The Roebuck have witnessed much competitive play. At the most recent meeting (12 September), Sally David sitting North and partnering George Marskell (South) made a valiant attempt to land 7 no trumps, going off by one on the final trick having failed to guess which defender held the all important queen of diamonds. The auction had given no hint as to what the two defenders (Bill Chorley, East and Eric Turner, West) held as neither had made an interference bid. Thus, having successfully made all possible tricks in spades, hearts and clubs, Sally was faced with king, jack and a low diamond (I think it was the seven) in dummy, with ace of diamonds and two small cards of the suit in hand. At this stage, there had been two diamond discards from defenders, leaving a three-two split.

The problem now facing Sally, who had to lead from dummy, was which defender held the key card. If Eric held the queen, plus one and the remaining spade, then she could afford to play out a low diamond, cover with the ace and return to dummy's king, thereby dropping the queen and leaving the jack as the master card. On the other hand, if Eric held three diamonds, then the best line of play was to lead the jack from dummy and allow it to run. (As it transpired, Eric did hold three, topped by the queen, while Bill was sitting with ten and nine of diamonds and the last spade). After some deliberation, Sally led the small diamond, covering with the ace but when the queen failed to appear as she returned to dummy, the contract was lost by a single trick. Earlier in the evening, with Helen Goodwin partnering Eric and Bill sitting North with Sylvia Marskell, South, good defending twice held up Sylvia and Bill from proceeding to what at one stage looked like a straight forward rubber. Four spades, followed by three spades (both contracts made) left the scores at game and 90, but from then on it was a very different story as North and South tried to find a contract that would land them with the ten points required. Eventually they succeeded, but the opposition had, by this time, made some inroads into what had been shaping up to be a maximum score.

Although the whist season has commenced, bridge at The Roebuck will continue on a weekly basis. As ever, new players will be made most welcome.

*Bill Chorley*

**RICHARD T. ADLEM**

**FUNERAL DIRECTOR**

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## **FLU AND PNEUMOVAX CLINICS 2001**

The Government has recommended that as a priority this year:

- everybody aged over 65 and other **at risk groups** (eg those suffering from certain conditions including asthma and diabetes) should be vaccinated against **influenza**
- everybody aged over 75 and other **at risk groups** should receive the pneumovax vaccination, if not previously vaccinated within the last 10 years.

We shall be running CLINICS on:

### **Sixpenny Handley**

Friday 12 October 9.00-12.00

Monday 15 October 9.30-12.30

Wednesday 17 October 3.30-6.30

### **Broadchalke**

Thursday 11 October 3.30-6.30

Tuesday 16 October 9.30-12.30

No appointment is necessary.

We will try to keep waiting to a minimum.

If you are a priority patient (see above) and cannot attend any of these dates, please phone Sixpenny Handley and ask to have your name added to the reserve list. You will be asked to phone again after 1st November to confirm whether we shall be running any further clinics.



## The Happy Nappy Club



The Happy Nappy Club  
meets at the Village Hall  
on Monday mornings  
between 10 and 11:30am  
(during school term)

We will really welcome you and your children. We'd love you to come and visit us to meet for a friendly chat while your children play. You're welcome to bring along any friends or relations with you! This club is run to give mothers, carers and kids a chance to meet, so come and see for yourself.

**We have tons of toys here and plenty of room to play. There are slides, climbing frame, bikes, trikes, sit-n-rides, play tent, tunnels, books, puzzles, painting, playdough, play kitchen, dressing up clothes, and even a parachute! There is also an opportunity to join in with action rhymes at the end of the morning.**



Everyone is welcome - from babies and toddlers to children up to school age, with their mums, dads, nannies and minders! £1.40 per morning, refreshments inclusive.

**If you have any queries phone Sam on  
01725 552600**

### Dorset at War

As I write this piece, in respect of The Dorset at War series, I am mindful of the fact that when The Downman is delivered, Remembrance Sunday will soon be upon us. This year, with the horrifying events of this past week (September 9-15) that befell the people of America, Remembrance Sunday takes on an even more significant meaning. Essentially, it is a day when we pay respectful homage to those who laid down their lives in two world wars, in the cause of freedom. Mainly, our thoughts are with the men and women of the armed services, but millions of civilians died in those calamitous years of 1914-1918 and 1939-1945, and their sacrifice, too, is remembered. But above all we should be remembering why they died. In the second world war it was the evil forces of Nazism that in the dark days of 1940 dominated vast tracts of Europe and Scandinavia and a year later had plundered the Balkans ahead of marching towards Moscow, intent on denying any country that stood in their path the democratic right to pursue their own cultures and beliefs. The Jewish people, in particular, felt the full weight of persecution with millions dying in circumstances that even today we find hard to believe, least understand.

Thus, the infamous act perpetrated against the citizens of the United States on September 11 is a reminder that the free world still faces the same basic evils for which so many have died to prevent in the past.

And so, as we stand, heads bowed, for two mournful minutes this Remembrance Sunday, reflect not only what is past but what the future might hold. Our democracy was attained after many centuries of turmoil and strife. In the appeasement years of the 1930s, we came close to surrendering all that our forefathers had striven to achieve. Since then, thankfully, we have not had to ask our young men and women to put their lives at risk in a global conflict (though Korea, the Malaysian campaign, the Mau-Mau campaign in distant Kenya and the withdrawal from Suez, Cyprus, Aden, the retaking of the Falklands, the ongoing crisis in the Gulf and more lately "peacekeeping" activities in the Balkans and civil unrest in Northern Ireland have all taken their toll) and may this continue to be the norm.

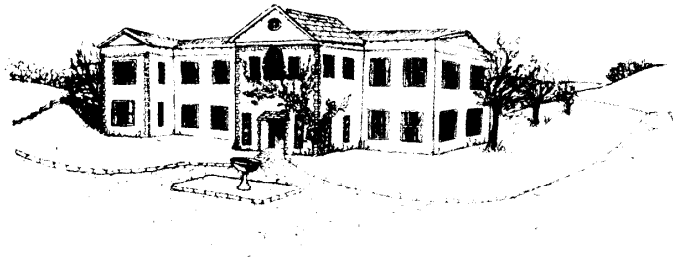
In closing, I am looking at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery register produced for Dorset and the Channel Islands. Published in 1960, the register indicates that in Dorset there are 689 war graves and a further sixteen commemorative plaques for servicemen that were cremated. Contained within the 689 graves are the bodies of service personnel serving with the United Kingdom forces, Canada, New Zealand, Belgium, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia and the then belligerent nations of Germany (thirty-six are indicated (mainly Luftwaffe) though I suspect that most have since been exhumed and taken to the large German war cemetery at Cannock Chase in Staffordshire) and Italy.

Freedom, as I say, comes at a terrible price.

*Bill Chorley*  
(to be continued)

~ Functions & Feasts ~

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Sixpenny Handley First School

# A Date For Your Diary!

Our Annual

# Christmas Bingo

will be held on

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2001

at

7.30 pm

in

The Village Hall

Proceeds in aid of school funds

**GRAND**

**WINTER BAZAAR**

**SATURDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

**2 PM AT SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**HOME COOKING**

**CAKES AND BISCUITS**

**PRESERVES**

**HOME MADE BREAD**

**CHRISTMAS CAKE RAFFLE**

**CHRISTMAS PRESENTS INCLUDING BOOKS AND CALENDARS BY  
"RON" AND THE SIXPENNY HANDLEY COOKBOOK**

**BOOKS AND PUZZLES**

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**GRAND RAFFLE**

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**IN AID OF ST.MARY'S AND ST.ANDREW'S CHURCHES AND MACMILLAN CANCER RELIEF**

## VICTORY TOURS

### *The buses of Sixpenny Handley*

A long established Dorset business is Victory Tours, based for many years in the quaintly named village of Sixpenny Handley up on Cranborne Chase in the north east corner of Dorset. A family business run by several generations of the Adams family, the origins of the business go back to the end of the First World War. Cyril Adams was a driver with the Victory buses in Salisbury, but that business was sold by its proprietor E M Coombes to Wilts and Dorset Motor Services in June 1921 after only fifteen months of operation. Cyril acquired a Thorneycroft bus instead of money he was owed and brought it back to his home village of Handley. He adopted Victory Coaches as his trading name when he set up in business with his father Albert Adams in that same year. (Confusingly another Salisbury operator Sparrow & Vincent also operated as Victory Motor Services from 1922 to December 1933 until selling out to Wilts and Dorset. Mr Sparrow would have known Cyril Adams as he too had driven for Coombes).

By the time road service licensing was introduced by the Road Traffic Act of 1930 the firm had grown and Victory Coaches were operating services from Handley to (a) Salisbury via Tollard Royal, Farnham, Handley and Martin on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays (b) Blandford via Farnham, Chettle and Pimperne on Thursdays and Saturdays (c) Blandford via Dean, Cashmoor and Tarrant Gunville on Thursdays (d) Wimborne Minster via Cranborne and Wimborne St Giles on Tuesdays (e) Wimborne Minster via Cranborne and Horton Inn. The latter service was taken over in 1931 from Frank Goddard, another operator in Handley in the 1920's.

Goddard had also operated a parallel route to the Adams service between Handley and Salisbury. Cox & Macdonald of Handley had also operated between Handley and Salisbury in the 1920's in a red painted Dennis bus. Even earlier were the operations of H R Bartley on this route with a Scout bus between 1911 and 1914. Bartley abandoned Handley and set up a Tidworth - Amesbury - Salisbury route instead.

A Saturday evening cinema bus from Handley to Shaftesbury was operating by 1934 and a Monday and Friday shoppers bus from Handley to Bournemouth via Tarrant Monkton, Tarrant Keynston and Wimborne Minster was started shortly after.

In 1946 the route of C A Oddy from Ashmore to Shaftesbury was taken over and extended back to work through from Handley. From 1947 to 1949 a Wednesday market bus was operated from Handley to Ringwood via Farnham, Gussage All Saints and Horton. One of the Blandford routes ('c' in the list above) was reorganised in December 1946 to start from Wimborne St Giles and operate via Gussage All Saints before rejoining the original route through Tarrant Gunville. The two routes to Wimborne Minster had already been merged into one, starting from Wimborne St Giles and running via Handley, Cashmoor, Gussage All Saints and Horton Inn. The main route into Salisbury from Tollard Royal and Handley acquired daily morning and evening workers journeys in 1948. The double-run diversion to Martin had already been discontinued by now, Martin being served exclusively by the buses of Charles Flemington of that village.

In January 1957 the Saturday afternoon services were withdrawn from the Wimborne Minster, Shaftesbury and Handley - Blandford routes. In the spring of 1957 the Shaftesbury service initiated a double run to serve East Melbury. In 1959 the Salisbury service was extended to include Ashmore on Tuesdays. The Bournemouth route lost its Monday service

in 1963 and in 1967 the Wimborne Minster route was withdrawn completely. Victory withdrew the remaining Friday operation to Bournemouth in 1983 (after a period of alternate week operation to Poole as well as Bournemouth) when the route was taken over by Stanbridge & Crichel and operated intermittently by them for a few more years (average passenger loading one per week for a thirty mile journey!).

On 10th May 1982, following deregulation of express services, a new Capital Link route was started from Handley, Salisbury and Andover to London twice a day. The morning workers journey into Salisbury from Handley was provided by the London express coach. The London service only ran for a couple of years. Also in 1982 Ashmore gained a Saturday morning shoppers service to Salisbury.

With the changes following bus deregulation in 1986 the daily workers services on the Salisbury route were discontinued and replaced by diverting the Wilts and Dorset 184/185 Weymouth - Dorchester - Blandford - Salisbury service off the main A354 road and into Handley village for the first time. The Victory service to Salisbury was now just a three days a week market and shoppers service, but still serving Tollard Royal, Ashmore and Farnham. The Thursday service was withdrawn and finally from 3rd April 1999 the main Salisbury route (now one return journey on Tuesday and Saturday only) was lost on tender and is now operated by Shaftesbury and District. They have amended the route slightly for operational convenience to start from Ashmore and serve Farnham and Tollard Royal on the way to Handley and Salisbury, whereas the traditional Victory route started at Tollard Royal and then served Ashmore and Farnham.

The business has been under the management of Nick Adams, Albert's grandson, for some years now. The parking site for coaches besides Handley church was sold for housing development and operations were moved from Handley to Stanbridge near Wimborne (to the old Stanbridge & Crichel yard) in 1998, although an office is still maintained in Handley.

There were now only the three Thursday market routes left in operation (two routes to Blandford and the Shaftesbury service). These finished during June 2000, with the Blandford services passing to Damory Coaches as a combination of the two routes, and the Shaftesbury route passing to Shaftesbury & District. After nearly 80 years, Victory Tours were out of the bus business.

The present day operations of Victory Tours include a wide range of private hire, touring, student and contract work.

*Peter Roberts*

*This article was reproduced from the web site [www.countrybus.co.uk](http://www.countrybus.co.uk) designed and written by Peter. Peter worked in the transport industry in Dorset for many years (at Stanbridge for example, but not for Victory) but moved to Lincolnshire last year after early retirement.*

*However he is still very interested in continuing the work of recording the history of the many private firms that used to run buses in different parts of the county of Dorset, so would be pleased to receive any additional information if any of our readers have relevant memories.*

*Peter Roberts, 22 Deira Close, Quarrington, Lincolnshire, NG34 8U*

*EMailto: [peter@countrybus.co.uk](mailto:peter@countrybus.co.uk)*

*Ed.*

# AUTUMN OFFER

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**'Flintwood', 6 Keats Meadow, Sixpenny  
Handley**

**TEL: 01725 552265**

**Cranborne Chase Communities** (for people with learning difficulties)  
Unit 8, Town Farm Workshops.

We will be holding our **Christmas Coffee Morning** here  
on **Monday November 12<sup>th</sup>, 10.20 - 12 noon.**  
Everyone is very welcome to pop in and see how our  
weaving and printing activities are progressing.

There will be hand-woven items, calendars and greetings and Christmas cards on sale.  
Free entry.

We would also like to say how much we enjoyed being involved in the village flower show  
on August 18<sup>th</sup>, despite the wet weather and to say a big thank you for the interest shown in  
our work.

Some of our residents are able to attend the family service at Sixpenny Handley church  
from time to time - they really do appreciate the warm and kindly welcome they always  
receive there and look forward to going along to the service.





# News and Information

NATIONAL  
FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN'S  
INSTITUTES

## August and September Report.

Handley had no meeting in August but members enjoyed an evening Guided walk around Old Sarum, with supper afterwards at a local pub, and also various members took part in the recent flower show by manning the cake and produce stall and various other jobs in the show itself and entering many classes in the show with winning results.

The September meeting was well attended when Mr and Mrs Last from Berwick St James gave a most interesting illustrated talk on 'Middleton Down' with slides of the beautiful butterflies, orchids and other flowers to be found in the nature reserve. They were thanked by Jan Gibb. Members have recently enjoyed an evening walk at Sturminster Newton and joining with other members of the Beacon Group, WI's. It has been arranged that Handley should be twinned with the Lyndhurst WI and a meeting for a walk and lunch with their members was arranged, which has now taken place and members were able to enjoy a little of the New Forest. A Skittles team has again been organised.

The Autumn Council meeting will be held at Weymouth Pavilion on October 30<sup>th</sup> when the guest speaker will be Mrs Mary Thyne and members wishing to attend should give their names to Heather Eynon before October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Autumn Group Meeting will be at Tarrant Gunville on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7.15 pm

Congratulations were given to Mrs Maggie Staplehurst on the birth of her new grandson. Refreshments were served by Elizabeth Coombs and Jo Weston. Flower of the month winners; Doreen Leverton and Joyce Waker (Joint 1<sup>st</sup>) Carole North (2<sup>nd</sup>) Peggy Holland and Joan Clarke (3<sup>rd</sup>). Competition for a 'Hedgerow Find' - Carole North and Win Judd. The next meeting will be on October 8<sup>th</sup> with Mrs J Anderson speaking on Parchment Craft. Nominations for new committee will be taken; the competition will be a 'Decorated Bookmark'.

## SPECIAL NOTICE

Christmas is approaching and WI send gifts to Handley residents who are now living in 'Homes' or are permanently living in Hospital and we would like to know of anyone in that position and would be very grateful for any names that we do not already have, as soon as possible please to Heather Eynon on Handley 552308 or any WI member. Thank You.

*Win Judd (01725 552237)*

# The Chase Nursery Link Group

**Link Group is different!** It's a chance for your child to receive a more formal pre-school session within the school building at Sixpenny Handley First School and make friends with the children they will start school with.

**Only Chase Nursery can offer your child this unique opportunity.**

Here's what Mrs Latcham, Headteacher Sixpenny Handley First School, has to say about Link Group,

*Chase Nursery Link Group provides an excellent introduction to education in main school for children who are due to start in our Reception class. Children are able to familiarise themselves with the buildings, meet the staff and develop their confidence in preparation for their first day at school."*

*Ofsted Inspectors, who praised the work of the leaders, have recently verified in their report, the high quality of education received by all children attending the Link Group. Teachers notice how well the children are prepared for school when they have attended the Link Group sessions."*

Link Group runs from January to July and children attend in the year they will start school in September. Places are limited and priority given to children who have been regularly attending pre-school sessions.

So, why not send your child to pre-school sessions now and give them a good chance of attending Link Group prior to starting school.

Pre-school playgroup held in Sixpenny Handley Village Hall Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings 9.30am – 12.00 noon. £3.75 per session. Optional extra hour on Tuesday and Wednesdays (£1 extra). Link Group held Monday and Friday afternoons.

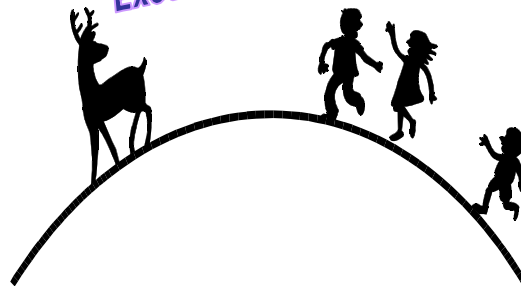
**P'hone Tracey (01202 885374) or Hazel (01725 552980) for further information.**

**January 2001 OFSTED**

Quality pre-school education at reasonable cost in a secure and happy environment.

**Excellent OFSTED Report**

# The Chase Nursery



## Care for the Trees

As your Postman for the central area of the village, I consider myself very fortunate to be able to admire this God-given area of outstanding natural beauty every day on my round. We are surrounded by beautiful countryside and woodland. Some of these woodlands are still cared for and managed as they have been through the ages by people who care about them. The forests and woodlands of this planet are its lungs - and therefore it's saviour. On this basis all trees are very important to us and future generations.

Recently I witnessed with sadness the partial destruction of two large native yews. Yews are extremely slow growing so it is possible they were several hundred years old. Yew trees can be as much as 1,000 years old. The world's oldest known artefact of wood is a spear of yew, about 250,000 years old, found at Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. Yew trees protected men while they rested from hunting, or built nearby, or preached the Christian gospel, so they have always been protected by men. It is not surprising that the sacred groves of the Druids were of yew, it being the only British tree to have kept its Celtic name Iw. It is said that the best explanation for yews in Churchyards (two in Welsh ones) is that they were there before the Churches. I have been lucky to have travelled the world, both in the Services, through work, or just travelling. I have witnessed first-hand what the destruction of trees does to a country. This might sound over-dramatic to us in this green and pleasant land, but how many old trees have been lost to us, just because they were in the way, or for financial gain?

I have seen trees in this village lost because of building, or they don't fit someone's gardening scheme. Occasionally the people who removed the trees then moved on! I wonder what gave them the right to deprive future generations of the history of these trees or the good clean air we breathe. It's no good talking about the demise of the rain forests of the world over dinner and then going down the garden and doing the same thing.

On contacting the District Council Tree Protection Officer I discovered that these old trees are not protected. Therefore any large tree in this village not covered by a Tree Protection Order (very few) is at the mercy of the owner of the land it sits on -and his conscience.

Please, if you see someone cutting down established trees, question their right to do it. A list of protected trees is kept by the Tree Protection Officer who can be contacted at East Dorset District Council. If you feel strongly enough, apply for TPOs on trees you think need protecting whether you own them or not.

Remember that these old trees were here long before we were and, looked after, will be here long after we have gone. In my opinion we have no rights over things God-given, as surely trees are. **Work round them!**

*Terry The Hat"*

## SIXPENNY HANDLEY FLOWER SHOW 2001

Another show is over and a successful one in spite of the weather. We have made a small profit so will be able to make a donation of £100 to Naomi House Children's' Hospice. Our thanks must go to the generous financial support from sponsors, to all our exhibitors and those who came to the Show and not forgetting the band of helpers on the day.

There were over 600 entries which filled both the marquee and the Village Hall to capacity.

Don't forget to put Saturday 17th August 2002 in your diary when we hope to have more space, more classes, more exhibitors and lots more entries.

If you can spare a few hours on the day, any help will be greatly appreciated, you can be a helper and an exhibitor! More details will be given in the Downsman nearer the time.

### Competition Results

#### Section A Parish Fruit and Vegetables

Harry Tucker Memorial Cup and medal	No 63 Robin Parsons
Best Exhibit Class A12	No 81 Mrs I L Russell

#### Section B Open Vegetables and Fruit

Challenge Cup and medal	No 30 Mrs Mary Ford
Best Exhibit Class B1	No 85 Mr E Cutler

#### Section C Dahlias, Chrysanthemums - Summer Flowers

Jill Coate Cup and medal	No 79 Mrs C E Reynolds
Challenge Cup and medal	No 85 Mr E Cutler
Challenge Cup Class C1-11 Dahlias	No 85 Mr E Cutler
Silver Medal certificate	No 85 Mr E Cutler
Best Exhibit Class C19	No 85 Mr E Cutler

#### Section D Floral Arrangement

G S Clarke Challenge Cup and medal } }	No 99 Pearl Coombes No 57 Liz Coombs
Flower Container: Best exhibit classes D1- 8	No 99 Pearl Coombes
Novice Challenge Cup	No 79 Mrs C E Reynolds
Best Exhibit	No 79 Mrs C E Reynolds

#### Section E Cookery

Challenge Cup and medal	No 35 Mrs Joyce Waker
Second prize	No 24 Miss M Penny
Best Exhibit, Class E6	No 24 Miss M Penny

#### Section F Children's classes

Show Medal Under 8	No 38 Rachel Allen
Show Medal 9 -14	No 28 Alan Brookes
Show Trophy	No 29 Charlotte Brookes

**Section G    Photography**

Challenge Cup and medal	No 43 Alan Vincent
Best Exhibit    Class G5	No 43 Alan Vincent

**Section H    Winemaking and Home brewing**

Challenge cup and medal	No 90 Mrs D Meaden
Best exhibit    Class H 6	No 90 Mrs D Meaden

**Section K    Hobbies and Handicrafts**

Challenge cup and medal	No 23 Maureen Smith
Best Exhibit    Class K6	No 99 Pearl Coombes

---

**THANK YOU**

I would like to take this opportunity through the Downsman to express my own, my wife's and my two granddaughters' heartfelt thanks to everybody in Sixpenny Handley and many outside who sent us cards and condolences at the loss of our son and father, Michael.

In particular we would like to say many thanks to the Doctors, Nurses and Carers who over the past years have cared for Michael and have given us such support at this sad time.

Also our Vicar, Ron Wood who spent many hours with Michael and has been a great comfort to us all since our loss. Thank you all and everybody for being so understanding and kind.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice, Betty, Corinne and Alison Gulliver.  
St Marys Close  
Sixpenny Handley

Thank you once again for your generous donations to the MS Society. Mr Adlem has sent a cheque for £525.

## Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club



Another successful Summer season is just coming to an end - last Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September we had our first finals day and this Sunday we have our second, which should mean for the first year we have managed to have all competitions played

on time.

The results of last week's finals were:

Men's Singles	Winner	Paul Noble
	Runner Up	Tony Groves
Ladies Singles	Winner	Vanessa Rowe
	Runner Up	Doris Day
President's Cup	Winner	Paul Noble
	Runner Up	Dave Rowe
Open Mixed Pairs	Winners	Graham Maidment and Gordon Martin
	Runners Up	Vanessa Rowe and Tony Groves

Our second year of taking part in the Wiltshire Mixed Triples League has finished with us in 4<sup>th</sup> place. We had some very good results at home, but definitely need a lot of practice playing on grass to get our results playing away better.

The Blackmore Vale Short Mat League has started again - both our A team and the Tanners have played and won their first matches, the A team beat Stalbridge Harriers and the Tanners beat Sturfries - both acquired maximum points of 6 each. By the time you read this they will have played their second matches - the A team playing Camelot B away on 21<sup>st</sup> September and the Tanners playing Hazelnuts at home on the 25<sup>th</sup> September. Watch out for the results in the Blackmore Vale magazine shortly.

We had our annual jumble sale on 8<sup>th</sup> September with a really brilliant result we took £608 and a donation of £17. Costs need to be deducted but a profit in excess of £500 will be our end result. Thank you everyone for the donations of jumble etc, support and work involved in such a success.

For our quiz fans preparations are now starting for our **Christmas Quiz** - this is being held on **1<sup>st</sup> December** - as we always have a good attendance for this one it will be necessary to get your tables booked.

*Gill Martin*

## Horticultural News - Reducing Peat Use

A report detailing the steps needed to phase out the use of peat in horticulture was launched by English Nature and the RSPB at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show.

The report, entitled *Peatening Out*, lays out a plan to remove the threat of destruction of lowland raised peatbog habitats within 10 years. A gradual changeover to peat-free growing media is outlined, involving the progressive dilution of peat with other materials. Green compost produced from municipal waste is one possible replacement, with woody materials from forestry and related industries used as dilutants to lower the pH and density of the media.

This would provide a market for the UK's estimated 5 million tonnes of compostable municipal waste per annum which will have to be redirected from landfill sites by 2010 under the EU Landfill

### **ST. RUMBOLD'S, PENTRIDGE**

Hidden in a downland fold between Pentridge Down and the Dorset Cursus, Pentridge is one of the most remote villages in Dorset. Lying beneath Penbury Knoll, the highest point to the south coast, the village appears to be almost within a cul-de-sac of time, as well as space, judging by the abundance of archaeological features in the surrounding area. Within the perimeter of the village, the line of Scots and Austrian pines makes a picturesque setting and provides shelter for a variety of buildings, most of which make a positive contribution to its character. Recently designated as a conservation area, the village contains seven Listed buildings, including the nineteenth century church of St. Rumbold's.

The church stands at the north-western end of Pentridge on six acres of land, and its tower can be seen from the Ringwood to Shaftesbury road through two fir plantations. It was re-built in 1855 using a 14<sup>th</sup> century style, but no parish records exist of how earlier structures looked. The building itself is a simple, single-cell, linear structure, nearly ninety feet long and twenty-seven feet at its widest point. It has walls of flint and squared rubble with stone facing. The tower has a broached stone spire (i.e. a spire without parapets) and the roofs are tiled. On the wall opposite the organ is a roll of honour to past rectors of the church, starting with Robert Leicester in 1295. There are some inscriptions, including a stone tablet reset in the south wall of the Chancel, recording the rebuilding of a former chancel in 1815 under Thomas Hobson, rector. There is also a marble tablet on the north wall of the Nave in memory of Robert Browning and his wife Elizabeth, great great grand-parents of Robert Browning, the poet (1812-1889); the tablet was erected by admirers of the poet in 1902.

Three of the windows have lovely stained-glass inserts depicting various biblical scenes, including the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ: one was installed in memory of Duncan Campbell, rector at the time the church was re-built, and his wife Elizabeth. On some of the other windows, the current incumbent, Ron Wood, has etched memorials to members of the parish who have recently passed away. On the north wall of the Chancel, plaques have been placed in memory of those who died in the two World Wars; on the opposite wall is a painting depicting the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus.

In the churchyard, there is a memorial stone to members of the Browning family, and headstones and table-tombs for members of the Goddard family (1774-1797), a prominent family in the parish at that time. The churchyard is now a Nature Conservation Area, where wild flowers and plants are encouraged to flourish between the tended graves.

### **THE SAINT'S NAME**

Pentridge Church is dedicated to the memory of St. Rumbold, an unusual name that encourages speculation about its origins. In the Book of Saints, compiled by the Benedictine Monks, there are two entries: one to St. Rumold (Rumbold, Rumbauld), of the 8<sup>th</sup> century; and another for St. Rumwold of the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The former is the patron saint of Malines in Belgium and highly regarded for his missionary work in Brabant; the latter was an infant born with the amazing power of speech and generally considered as the one to whom the church is dedicated.

The reference to the St. Rumwold in the Oxford Dictionary of Saints also includes the names Rumwald, Rumbald and Rumbold, and provides what can only be described as a fantastic account of his short life. The account supposes that the infant was a boy, of the royal families of Mercia and Northumbria, buried at Buckingham, where a shrine existed before the Norman Conquest. He was believed to be a grandson of Penda, king of Mercia, through a daughter who married a Northumbria Prince. According to the legend, Rumwold was born at Sutton (thenceforth King's Sutton) in Northamptonshire and died only three days later. In his short life, he proclaimed several times that he was a Christian and made a profession of faith in the Holy Trinity; he also asked for Baptism and Holy Communion from the priests Widerin (Bishop Widerinus) and Edwold. He then preached a sermon on the Trinity and the need for virtuous living, freely citing the Scriptures and the Athanasian Creed. After this, he announced his imminent death and directed that he should be buried first at King's Sutton, then at Brackley, and finally at Buckingham. The prodigious infant then passed away (AD 662).

His cult was observed in these three places, and in at least six pre-Conquest monasteries of Mercia and Wessex, as well as in the Bosworth Psalter, but his name is not found in monastic calendars after 1100. Churches were, however, dedicated to him in Kent, Essex, Northants, Lincolnshire, Dorset and Yorkshire, and it is likely that the church at Pentridge was one of these. At Boxley in Kent, a statue of the saint, formerly venerated, was burnt at the time of the Reformation, but a dedicated well still

survives at Alstrop in Northamptonshire. The source of the legend is not known, but his popularity, reflected by street-names in various parts of the country, was unexpectedly persistent and led to the honour of having a place in the Catalogue of Saints.

### **THE TITLE TO ST. RUMBOLD'S**

With the Dorset Cursus only yards away, the existence of this Neolithic monument, may give rise to the suggestion that the ground on which the church stands was used as a site for Neolithic rituals. But, in spite of the fact that there are Stone Age burial sites close-by at Whitey Top, there is no physical or documentary evidence to support this theory. There is, however, clear visual evidence of the presence of Celts in the form of the Celtic field system, on the adjacent Pentridge Down, and the Druid burial mounds nearby. It is more than likely that the ground was used originally as a special place of Celtic worship. Indeed, it is safe to assume that a Celtic church or monastery of some form was erected on, or close to, the site of the current church.

Pentridge is one of the few places in Wessex where a British place-name has survived almost intact despite successive waves of invaders; the name Pentridge is a derivation from the Welsh, pen = hill and trwch = boar. Consequently, the church stands beside the "hill of boars". The speed and fierceness of these wild pigs probably placed them high on the target list of Stone Age hunters. The boars would certainly have been hunted or culled by Celtic farmers determined to protect their crops.

The first recorded name of the village, PENTRIC, appeared eighty years before the birth of King Alfred and was mentioned in the Domesday records as part of the ALBRETESBERGE Hundred, later absorbed into the CRANBORNE Hundred.

When the Domesday Book was compiled in 1086, the title of the church at Pentric belonged to the church of St. Mary, Glastonbury. The manor of Pentric was "held" by a Wulfweard White on behalf of Glastonbury Abbey and was assessed as having a value of six "hides" (a hide being defined as a variable unit area of land, an area which two oxen can plough in a day).

The church at Glastonbury had held title to St. Rumbold's since the time of King Edward; after Domesday, the title reverted to the King, William I. But between 1086 and 1100, the land, and therefore the church, was given in reward to the Earl of Gloucester, Robert Fitz Hamon, and his knights. In 1100, King Henry I confirmed that the church had been donated by the Earl of Gloucester to the Abbey at Tewkesbury. In 1109, Joceline, Bishop of Salisbury – the man responsible for building the spire on Salisbury Cathedral – verified that St. Rumbold's belonged to the Abbey at Tewkesbury. Joceline was giving evidence to a "baron court", which was trying to determine the ownership of the land at Pentric. At that time, there seemed to be some doubt about title, but William, the new Earl of Gloucester, also confirmed that his father had given the monks of Tewkesbury the church as a gift. However, he did not agree that the manor had also been donated to the monks. From the account in the Reverend John Hutchins' excellent "History of Dorset" – compiled between 1740 and 1774 - it appears that the Earl of Gloucester did not win the case, because in 1291 a pension from the benefice was paid to the Abbey at Tewkesbury. In that year, the church was valued at six marks – a mark being the equivalent of eight ounces of gold. The abbot eventually appointed Robert Leicester as the first known Rector of Pentridge.

At the time of the dissolution of monasteries, the ownership of the church reverted back to the Crown for dispensation, and rectors continued to maintain St. Rumbold's, under the Crown's patronage, until the late nineteenth century. Pentridge church is now within the diocese of Salisbury, and the diocesan registry at Salisbury shows details of the union of the benefices of Handley (Sixpenny Handley) and Pentridge. In 1925, the scheme of the union was presented on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March, confirmed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, and came into operation on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August, when the Reverend Hasluck, the incumbent at Handley, resigned. The Reverend E. Hayden held the post in Pentridge at the time, and on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October he became the first incumbent of the new United Benefice.



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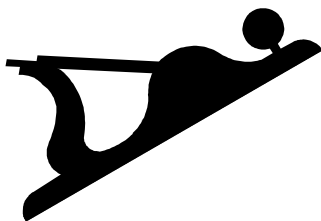
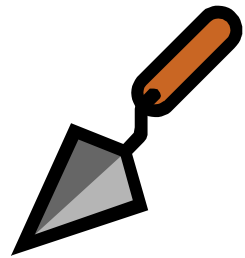
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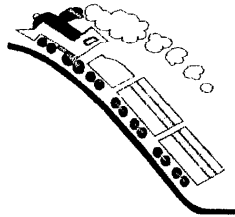
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## Mobile Library Service

**Weekly on Thursdays:-**

Sixpenny Handley	3.20 - 3.40	School
	3.45 - 4.05	Garage
	4.10 - 4.20	Dean Lane - Letter Box
	4.25 - 4.45	Sheasby Close

**Fortnightly on Thursdays Oct 4th, 18th, Nov 1st, 15th, 29th**

Woodyates	2.30 - 2.45	Cobley Close
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### **PREVENT THOSE WINTER AILMENTS NATURALLY**

After the wonderful summer sunshine we have had this year we all ought to be feeling great and ready to withstand the winter chills. It seems a pity to have to think about winter and the ailments that we get as a result, but now is a good time to start preventative measures to allay colds, coughs, sore throats, bronchitis, influenza and other virus infections of the respiratory tract, which are more prevalent during winter months.

Starting in September each year, a good natural preventative measure is to take daily supplements of Echinacea root, and take this formula for the next 9 months. Echinacea root is a very potent anti-viral herb which acts specifically on the immune system. It strengthens and supports the mucus membranes of the respiratory organs and boosts lymph production to fight off viruses, thereby giving a good resistance to colds, influenza, bronchitis and all virus related ailments.

Garlic, taken daily, either a fresh clove chopped up into our salad, or as a deodorised capsule, will also boost your resistance to winter chills and respiratory tract infections. Garlic is highly antiseptic and antibiotic, it is a specific treatment for the respiratory organs, being particularly beneficial to the lungs, hence, anyone who regularly suffers with bronchitis should consider including plenty of garlic in their food as well as taking a regular daily supplement to reduce their chance of getting bronchitis.

Increase your intake of vitamin C in the coming months and continue through the winter to include as many vitamin C rich foods in your diet as you possibly can. Vitamin C is best taken in its natural form, if you include plenty of fresh vegetables, preferably eaten raw at one meal each day, and a selection of fresh fruit consumed each day then you will be well on the way to boosting your vitamin C levels.

The best vegetable sources of natural vitamin C are: peppers, tomatoes, avocado pear, carrots, all green leafy vegetables, broccoli, watercress, parsley and fresh or frozen peas, also potatoes but these should be steamed. The best natural sources of vitamin C in fruits are: all citrus fruits especially limes, apples, blackcurrants (fresh or frozen but not tinned), cranberries, kiwi fruit, raspberries (fresh or frozen but not tinned), strawberries. Also good for its vitamin C content is honey which also has antibiotic properties.

Sauerkraut is almost a wonderfood for the winter months as the vitamin C preserved in the cabbage is a valuable source when there is not such a good variety of fresh fruits in the shops.

Increase your intake of natural zinc, established by the Cold Research Centre as a good preventative measure against colds and sore throats. You can take zinc as a supplement, and you will find this in any good health food store, but it is always best to use natural sources in your diet as a first line of defence. Natural zinc can best be obtained by eating: almonds, brewers yeast, beef, chicken, lamb, free range eggs, pumpkin seeds, sesame seeds and walnuts.

Catarrh affects millions of people each winter, and this is often caused by eating too many refined, sugary or fatty foods, which we tend to consume more during the winter months. Also dairy produce if consumed in large amounts will add to the catarrh levels in the body. It is much better to eat as much fresh food, particularly fruit and raw vegetables as you can as snacks instead of biscuits, cakes, etc.

Many winter colds and viruses are caught by keeping constantly in a centrally heated environment or a smoky, polluted atmosphere. Living, working and sleeping in a poorly ventilated room, added to that, double glazing, will all exacerbate the situation, increasing your chances of catching a cold or virus infection as germs breed quickly under these conditions.

Diet, exercise, fresh air and warmth combined with sensible eating and, if necessary, vitamin supplements, are the key to good health in the winter.

A fit and healthy season to you all.

*Sheila Ralph M.H., BSYA(Irid.), BSYA(Ad.C.M.A.)*

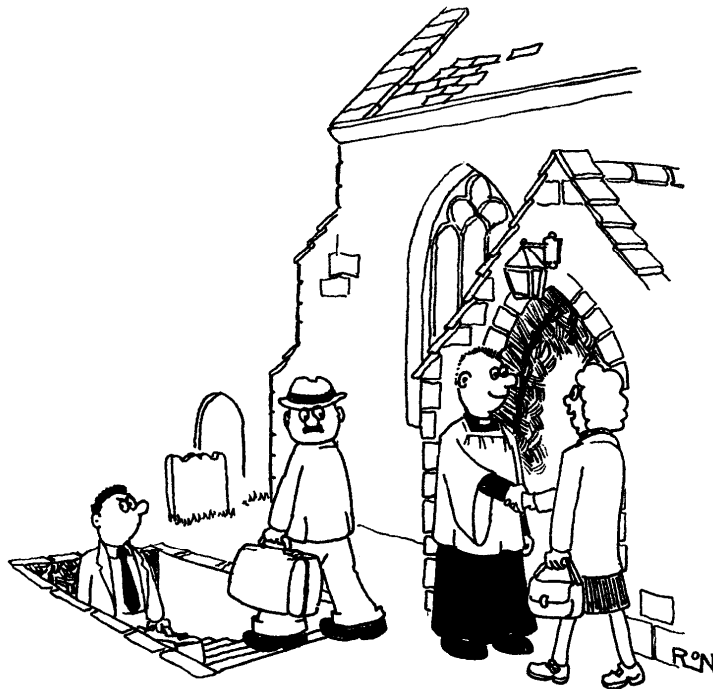
Sheila is a Complementary Therapist, recently moved to Sixpenny Handley, and works from home using her skills as a Master Herbalist, Iridologist, Acupressure, and Tui'na practitioner.

## ST MARY'S NEWS LETTER

Another deadline is upon us -it really doesn't seem like two months since I last sat down and 'picked and pecked' with two fingers on this keyboard. I have not had any comments, gripes or suggestions whatsoever so I am happy to assume all is well. Life goes on in much the same way here in our parish - but the world about us has changed and will never be the same again after the horrendous events of Tuesday 11th September 2001 - this is a date like that of President J F Kennedy's assassination. We have been busy getting into our stride again after the summer holidays -starting with The Harvest Festival with The Archdeacon of Dorset, The Venerable Alistair McGowan who preached to a large congregation -most of whom adjourned, after the service, to the Village Hall for a wonderful Harvest Lunch. (a change from previous years of Harvest Suppers and Quiz Nights) The 'outside' activities have restarted - more below -some may be tempted to come along -you would be more than welcome. Planning is well ahead for the Bazaar that I'm sure is advertised elsewhere in this issue.

### THE CHURCHYARD

Those of you that have visited the Churchyard will have noticed the work according to the conservation and management plan is well in hand. Photographs of points of interest are displayed at the back of the Church. Identification of species of plant and animal life are being listed by Ted Cox assisted by the Natural History Group of the Shaftesbury branch of U3A (University of the Third Age) When finished it will be published in the Downsman. Two composters have been sited in the Churchyard; this will turn the dead flowers and other vegetable matter to compost. A dustbin will be provided for the disposal of other material (oasis, paper, ribbon and cellophane etc). Please take a few moments to separate the organic from the non-organic. The start of the secret passage is hidden under the large black compost bin.



RUMOURS PERSISTED OF A SECRET TUNNEL  
IN THE CHURCHYARD

### WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP

This group meets weekly to discuss a variety of issues from 7.30 to 9.00 with tea/coffee & biscuits. Some meetings are social events - a BBQ at Woodcutts and Skittles Night at the Sheaf of Arrows in Cranborne - the next one is planned for 10 October. Come along and meet us and enjoy a bit of bowling with supper included at £3 a head - meet at the Sheaf at 7 pm. If you wish to join us please telephone either Paul Williams 552789 or David Salmons 552721 -so that we can get the catering right.

### SEARCH HOUSEGROUP

The planned meetings take place on Friday afternoons (fortnightly) the first one in October is on the 5th starting at 2pm -lasts for an hour followed by tea etc and a chat. The group will be studying the Parables so this is an opportunity to find the meaning behind the Word -some time is spent in prayer. Meetings are held at 16 St Mary's Court and all are welcome or if you wish to know more please telephone Zoe Harris 552430 or Roger Watkins 552188.

### MENSGROUP

A meeting for the fellas with beer and Pringles with interesting talks and presentations from a variety of guest speakers with subjects as diverse as Ghosts to Mummies and much more beside. These are very enjoyable non-religious sessions that take place at the Vicarage on the last Thursday of the month the next being on the 25th of October. All men are welcome -we look forward to seeing you.

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	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>8:00am to 4:30pm</b>
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Closed</b>

### News from Scout Troop

This years summer camp was held at Roundwood Scout Site, Westbury in Wiltshire. Whilst on camp the Scouts completed pioneering projects, built shelters in the woods and cooked all their meals on open fires. All those Scouts who attended earned their Camp Cook badge as they proved their ability in fire lighting, preparing meals and cooking on wood. Everyone who went on the Summer Camp had a really enjoyable time and we are now planning the next camp in October.

Some of you may have noticed that there have been some changes at the Scout Hut in recent months. Scouts now meet on a Monday evening and we now have 16 Scouts attending every week. The outside of the Hut has undergone some improvements, for which many thanks must go to the Church who kindly paid for the materials to paint the wood and window frames. The group has also recently been awarded a 'Good Neighbours' grant from B&Q, Salisbury. This grant is going to be used to improve and decorate the interior of the hut and to re-gravel the car parking area at the front.

The programme is now being set for the next four months and I hope to keep you informed of the exciting activities planned for the Cubs and Scouts.

*Rob Easton, Scout Leader.*

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**HOLIDAY AND TRAVEL**

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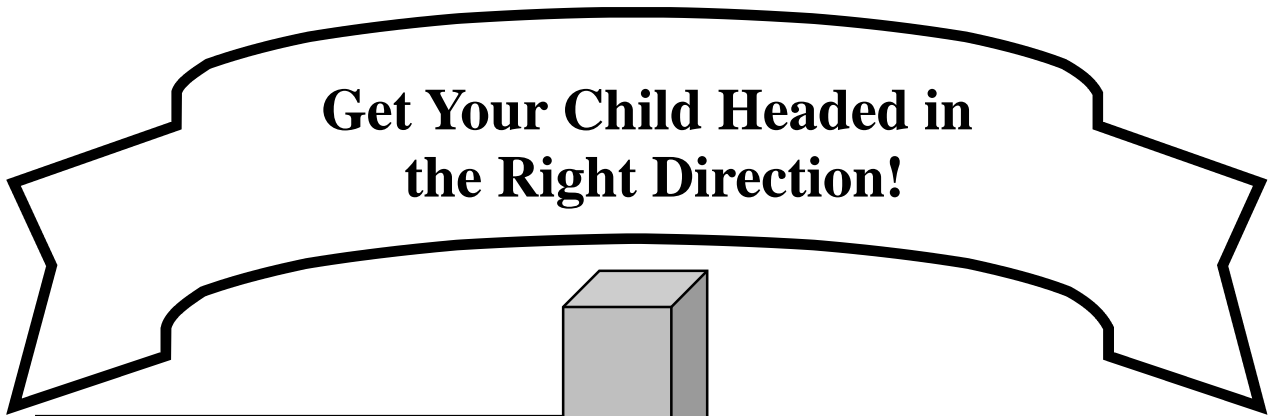
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## THE CHASE NURSERY

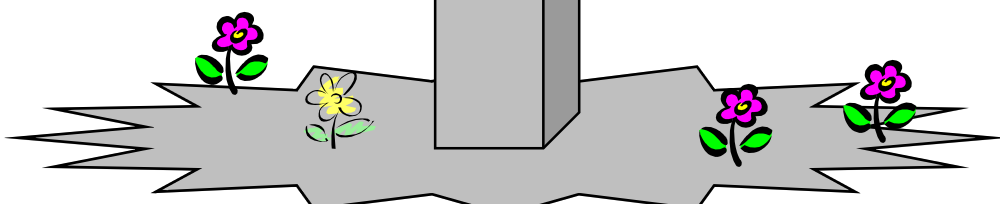
An introduction to mainstream school. Time to get to know the teachers, the routines and expectations of school life.  
Monday and Friday Afternoons  
12:30pm - 3:00pm  
Contact - Hazel Killeen  
Tel:- 01725 552980

## THE CHASE NURSERY

Structured learning through play within a caring environment for children aged 2¾ - 4. Tuesday, Wednesday 9:30am - 12:00 noon + optional lunchtime 12noon - 1pm  
Thursday 9:30am - 12:00 noon  
Contact - Tracey Pain  
Tel:- 01202 885374

## HAPPY NAPPY CLUB

Come and enjoy a friendly, fun-packed morning at the Village Hall. Babies, toddlers and children under school age are welcome - with their mothers and carers. We always provide refreshments and sometimes special events.  
Mondays  
10.00am - 11.30am Term time  
Contact - Sam Leiber-Young  
Tel:- 01725 552600



# The Downsman

## DON'T FORGET WHATS ON!!!

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Oct-03	Wednesday Club	07	Oct-26	Chip Your Dog	09
Oct-03	Whist at The Village Hall	14	Oct-27	Chip Your Dog	09
Oct-03	Bridge at The Roebuck	15	Oct-31	Wednesday Club	07
Oct-05	Search Housegroup	37	Oct-31	Whist at The Village Hall	14
Oct-07	Football Club Home Match	11	Oct-31	Bridge at The Roebuck	15
Oct-08	W I Meeting	25	Nov-02	Search Housegroup	37
Oct-10	RSPB Coppicing	10	Nov-03	Autumn Concert	06
Oct-10	Bridge at The Roebuck	15	Nov-07	Bridge at The Roebuck	15
Oct-10	Wednesday Fellowship	36	Nov-11	Remembrance Sunday	04
Oct-11	Flu Clinics - Broadchalke	16	Nov-11	RSPB Coppicing	10
Oct-12	Flu Clinics - Handley	16	Nov-12	CCC Coffee Morning	24
Oct-13	Football Club Home Match	11	Nov-12	W I Meeting	25
Oct-14	RSPB Coppicing	10	Nov-14	Wednesday Club	07
Oct-14	Football Club Home Match	11	Nov-14	RSPB Coppicing	10
Oct-15	Flower Arranging Club	07	Nov-14	Whist at The Village Hall	14
Oct-15	Flu Clinics - Handley	16	Nov-14	Bridge at The Roebuck	15
Oct-16	Flu Clinics - Broadchalke	16	Nov-16	Search Housegroup	37
Oct-17	Wednesday Club	07	Nov-17	St. Mary's Bazaar	21
Oct-17	Whist at The Village Hall	14	<b>Nov-19</b>	<b>Downsman Copy Deadline</b>	<b>03</b>
Oct-17	Bridge at The Roebuck	15	Nov-19	Flower Arranging Club	07
Oct-17	Flu Clinics - Handley	16	Nov-21	Bridge at The Roebuck	15
Oct-19	Search Housegroup	37	Nov-28	Wednesday Club	07
Oct-20	Football Club Home Match	11	Nov-28	Whist at The Village Hall	14
Oct-21	Bat & Dormouse Open Day	10	Nov-28	Bridge at The Roebuck	15
Oct-21	Football Club Home Match	11	Nov-29	Mensgroup Meeting	37
Oct-24	RSPB Coppicing	10	Nov-30	Search Housegroup	37
Oct-24	Bridge at The Roebuck	15	Dec-01	Bowls Club Christmas Quiz	30
Oct-25	Jubilee Meeting	05	Dec-02	RSPB Coppicing	10
Oct-25	Mensgroup Meeting	37	Dec-03	Flower Arranging Club	07