



# The Downsmen

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

Photos Kian Baker and Annie Dyer

Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

August 2023



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

# Directory

## Parish Councillors Sixpenny Handley

Chairman	Cllr J Reed	.....516390
	Cllr D Adams	.....552284
	Cllr R Adams	.....553032
	Cllr D Chick	.....552557
Vice-Chair	Cllr S Meaden	.....552715
	Cllr S McLean	.....552910
	Cllr Mrs M New	.....552539
Pentridge	Cllr C Taylor	.....553148
	Cllr A Turner	.....552735
	Cllr Gino Salvia	.....553076
Clerk	Ciona Nicholson	.....552211
Parish Office		.....552211
Dorset Council	Cllr Piers Brown	.....07511 156 811
	Email: <a href="mailto:cllrpiers.brown@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk">cllrpiers.brown@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk</a>	
Member Parliament	Simon Hoare	.....01258 452 585

## Rights of Way Liaison Officers

Jessica/James.Winby.01725 552259

## The Downsman Team

Editor	Naomi Booth	<a href="mailto:editor@thedownsman.org.uk">editor@thedownsman.org.uk</a>
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Distribution	Stuart McLean	552910

## Churches

Church of England St. Mary's, Sixpenny Handley

St. Rumbold's, Pentridge

St. Andrews, Gussage St.Andrew

Vicar Dr David Miell, The Rectory, Church Hill, Tarrant Hinton,  
Blandford Forum DT11 8JB .....07708601462

Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady of Lourdes &  
St. Cecilia, Blandford Forum

Priest Monsignor Francis Jamieson.....01258 452051

## Doctors Drs. Morgan, Taubman & Hawdon

Dean Lane Surgery .....552500

NHS non-emergency number 111

## Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Chair	Paul Styles	.....552544
Vice-chair	Ros Adams	.....553032
Treasurer	Karen Adams	<a href="mailto:Karen7adams@yahoo.co.uk">Karen7adams@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Entertainment	Penny Mansergh	.....552812
Bookings	Gillian Mott	.....07563 703577

## Pentridge Village Hall

Chairman	Tarka King	<a href="mailto:tarkaking@gmail.com">tarkaking@gmail.com</a>
Vice Chairman	Richard Pollen	<a href="mailto:pollen@richardpollen.com">pollen@richardpollen.com</a>
Treasurer	Colin Taylor	.....553148
Bookings	Graham Elford	.....07882 264160
Email:	<a href="mailto:info@pentridgedorset.co.uk">info@pentridgedorset.co.uk</a>	

## Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point

John Curtis .....552397

## Co-ordinators

Area 1 - Dean Lane	Adam Ralph	.....552265
2 - Lower Handley	David Chick	.....552557
3 - Upper Handley	John Clarke	.....552674
4 - Deanland & N.E.	Pete Wilkinson	553150
5 - West & South	Simon Meaden	.....552715
Other Areas (These are separate Homewatch Schemes)		
Pentridge	Colin Taylor	.....553148
Woodyates	Colin Taylor	.....553148

## Police

Verwood Police Stn	.....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

## Happy Nappy Club

Lucy Barr	.....07508 691323
Milly Bones	07525 248890

## 1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Group Scout Leader & Squirrels	John Curtis	.....552397
Explorers	Anthony Brown	.....552814
Scout Leader	Rob Easton	.....552038
Cub Leader	Andy Young	.....07796 941202
Beaver Leader	Annette Toop	.....07973 677815
Squirrel Leader	Zoe Preedy	..... <a href="mailto:preedyzoe85@gmail.com">preedyzoe85@gmail.com</a>
Scout Hut Bookings	Pete Wilkinson	
	<a href="mailto:bookings@firstwoodcutts.org.uk">bookings@firstwoodcutts.org.uk</a>	

## Sixpenny Handley W.I. (Formed in 1922)

President	Mrs Bobbie Carter	.....552042
Secretary	Mrs Margaret Jones	552358

## Chase Community Friends

Chairman	Gordon Oxford	.....01725 552591
Secretary	Rosie New	.....01725 516982

## Sixpenny Handley CLT

Chairman	Simon Parker	
Secretary	Jenny Netherton	.....07830 188 589

## Sixpenny Handley Sports Association

Sports Pavilion Bookings	.....552211
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## Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club

President	Ron Jermyn	.....552424
Secretary	Colin Chambers	.....552796
Treasurer	Ann Adams	.....552284

## Handley Sports Club

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

## Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club

Chairman	Alex Thomas	.....01725 516320
Membership	Kay Phillips	.....07803 725838
Treasurer	Stephanie Chick	.....552557

## Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

Evening Captain	David Cross	.....552640
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## Citizens' Advice Bureau

Wimborne Branch	.....03442 4 1291
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**Next edition**

The next edition will be published from  
**1st Oct 2023**

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

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](mailto: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](mailto:adverts@thedownsman.org.uk) for more details.

**Advertising deadline  
10th Sept**

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

**Advertisement Costs**

Size	Single edition	Yearly rate
Small Text Ad	£2.50	-
Small Square	£6	£30
Rectangle	£12	£55
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**

*Summer break*

The summer term has been a roller coaster with the weather, the school exams and summer events and outings. There are always so many lovely opportunities to grasp during the summer sometimes choosing which to do is the hardest part!

I'd like to say my thanks to everyone who helped in any way with the Big Session and those who came and enjoyed it! It was great for me to get the circus skills kit from 1st Woodcutts and work on some new moves with all different ages of children (and a few grown ups too). See the full report on page 12.

I've left the advert for 29th in for Penrtidge Barn Dance and BBQ - though I imagine your Downsman might arrive over that weekend - I hope the showers stay away for that one and the Farnham Street Fair 12th Aug!

Good to see that the Citizen's Advice are coming to the village in August and September - find out the times and dates on page 7. Do make use of them if you have any questions.

Lovely to have some different contributions to this issue, do enjoy having a read of Nigel's cycle ride, AD's childhood in Hong Kong, Bill's Royal Air Force history and blast from the past - do you remember the Handley Waistcoat Festival song?

I'll leave you with a couple photos of our Cub's outing to Woodcutts Romano British Settlement and some of the Big Session team in our very dazzling new hi vis! You couldn't miss us!



*Naomi Booth*

[editor@thedownsman.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.sixpennyhandley.info)

## To The Editor

### George Jackson

It is with great sadness that we must inform you of the loss of George Jackson, who died on 30th May, which was also his 92nd birthday! George and his wife, Grace, moved to Sixpenny Handley from Meopham, Kent, in 2001. Having joined the congregation at St Mary's Church, George soon became involved in the upkeep of the churchyard. He was a very keen gardener and maintained a lovely garden at home and a very productive allotment. For many years he was able to share his gardening expertise and experience with a small team of volunteers, keeping the churchyard looking beautiful. George retired from his churchyard duties a few short years ago, although he still liked to hear how the churchyard was looking and was very proud to have been a part of the team. The church even presented George with a beautifully engraved and mounted trowel, which was put up in their lounge in a prominent position for all to see. George's family would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes, thoughts and prayers at this sad time.

*Fiona Hannis, Barbara Jackson (daughters)  
& Peter Jackson (son)*

### Recent Death Of Gordon Martin

I would like to give a big thank you to all the friends and neighbours who have given me so much love and help over the past few weeks, especially, Jan, Simon, Rebecca, Gina, Ted, Jon, Amanda, Diane, Pauline, and everyone else that I have forgotten. What would we do without people like you all.

*Love and kisses,  
Gill*

### 90th Birthday thanks

Many thanks to my family, friends & neighbours who made my 90th birthday celebrations so wonderful

*Eva Parker*



**Farnham  
STREET FAIR**  
**Saturday 12th August**  
**12.00pm to 4.00pm**

Bourne River Morris Men - Farnham Carfest  
Shroton Ukulele Band - Silent Auction - Fun Dog Show  
Flower Festival - Art Display - Home Produce - Raffle  
Lunches - Teas - Beer and Wine - Allotment Produce  
Games for adults and children ... and more

### Do you need flowers for a family occasion or wedding?

*Why not come and pick from my walled garden full of seasonal flowers?*

**MAY - OCTOBER**  
*bouquets available to order*

BUCKETS WITH 45 STEMS... £35  
BOUQUETS FROM ... £25  
JAM JARS... £10



TEXT 07807 780707  
EMAIL [caroline@knightonmanor.com](mailto:caroline@knightonmanor.com)  
VISIT [knightonmanor.com](http://knightonmanor.com)

Advertise in

The Downsman

This space £5 per issue

£25 per year  
(1 issue free)

## PENTRIDGE BBQ & AUTHENTIC BARNDANCE

### 29th July 2023

**7pm - Open**  
**8pm - Dancing with live band Innominata & caller**



**\*Tickets:**  
**£10 Adults, £4 Children (under 16, under 5's free). Family tickets £25**

**\*Licence Bar/Burgers and Sausages**

**To reserve tickets please contact Tarka King [tarkaking@gmail.com](mailto:tarkaking@gmail.com) or pay on the gate**



# Downsman Noticeboard

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



## Summer Cream Teas at the Church 27th August 2023

This summer will see the return of our popular Summer Cream Teas at **St Mary's, Sixpenny Handley** **2- 5pm**

with no doubt a produce stall or two

Put the date in your diary now and prepare for a delicious afternoon.



Dorset Historic Churches Trust (DHCT). Ride and Stride Event 9th September.

Sponsors and bikers required.

Contact Anne Reed on 01725 552518 nearer the time.

Or to see the details click: <https://ridestride.org/counties/dorset/>

Anyone for Tennis?



Adult & Junior Coaching: all ages & abilities, contact Roni Peck on 07747 842700

Tennis membership and hire available.

Full information and membership form page 13

Magnificafé returns each Thursday morning in August from 9-12am providing hot breakfast, eggs, bacon, bagels, waffles, as well as hot and cold drinks.

### Crossroads Café Community Hub

We are open every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 till 12

Hope to organise a mobile Citizen Advice Bureau to visit us, this will be on the 9th and 23rd of August and on the 13th and 27th of September.



Handley Community Choir  
The Choir returns in September Thursday evenings at 6.00pm for an hour in St Mary's. New Members very welcome! Please contact Margaret on 01725 553150.

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\*Licence Bar/Burgers and Sausages

To reserve tickets please contact Tarka King [tarkaking@gmail.com](mailto:tarkaking@gmail.com) or pay on the gate

CRANBORNE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

10th August

A visit to ROCKBOURNE ROMAN VILLA

Tuesday 5th September  
DORSET BUTTONS. A talk by Anna McDowell. 7.30pm in Cecil Memorial Hall, Water St., Cranborne. All welcome. Guests £3.

Refreshments.

Enquiries:

[clhssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:clhssecretary@gmail.com)

01725 517569

Childrens' crafts added for the summer

SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL

# CRAFT FAIR & teas

Sat 26th Aug + kids craft activities

Sat 30th Sept

## 10am-1pm

FREE ENTRY

6DHandleyVillageHall / 079510 56069

Sixpenny Handley  
COMMUNITY CINEMA

Fri 15th Sept

Community Cinema

7pm start (Doors open 6:30pm)

Film TBC

£5 entry

Bar & snacks (Popcorn, Ice-cream, Chocolate etc) available

## CRESS UPDATE

REUSABLE MENSTRUAL PADS (RUMPS)  
TRAINING FOR REFUGEES



CRESS's clinic outreach programme include RUMPS training for young women. In rural Northern Uganda, most people are on a very low income. Many girls' families may not have enough money for disposable pads, and children do not have money of their own. The girls often manage their periods by staying home for four or five days. This can result in falling behind at school and if they do not keep up with the work, they fail their classes and end up dropping out. The alternative is using old rags which can introduce infections that leads to health problems.

This is why we take RUMPs training to the schools, so girls do not have such a disadvantage due to their periods. In July CRESS conducted our second RUMPs training this time in Imvepi Refugee Settlement Secondary School. The team use locally sourced materials so the girls know they can replicate their

**Are You Looking For A New Pastime?**  
Then **SIXPENNY HANDLEY BOWLS CLUB** may have the answer for you.

Bowls is suitable for people of all ages and abilities.

It provides exercise for all parts of the body without being over strenuous.

It provides a stress-free environment.

Can be played by both men and women on an equal footing.

Can involve the whole family from childhood onwards.

Is available all year.

A warm friendly welcome is assured  
Coaching and support is freely available  
Call any of the following for further information and advice  
Dave Adams 01725552284  
Colin Chambers 01725552796  
Ron Jermyn 91725552424

pads. They each make their own RUMP during the training and are also given new underwear to help them as that is also something many girls lack.

*training is so awesome and I want to thank CRESS-UK and DOL so much for bringing this training to us."*

One participant said:  
*"I have learned skills, gained knowledge and am now empowered and able to make my own Reusable Menstrual Pads and I will stay comfortable in class and even in other social gatherings. I will be able to train others so that they can also be able to support themselves. The*

You can find out more on our website:  
<https://cressuk.org>



**Air 2 Air**  
HEATING AND COOLING

Nick Daniel  
Your local Heat Pump Specialist

Tel: 07795 189 742

**FREE ESTIMATES**

# Chalke Heating

Martin Miller: 07732460258



e-mail: [martin@chalkeheating.com](mailto:martin@chalkeheating.com)



Independent AGA and Rayburn service engineer  
Service oil fired boilers and cookers  
Rayburn - AGA - ALFA

## Sixpenny Handley Community Hubs Citizens Advice Bus is coming to Sixpenny Handley

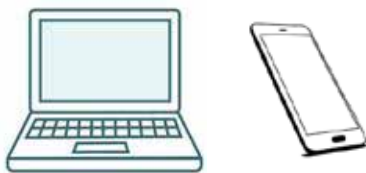


We are delighted to let you know that the Citizens Advice Bus will be visiting Sixpenny Handley twice a month, from August, providing free confidential advice to local residents.

You can get advice on a range of issues including: benefits, debt & money, employment, energy, family, housing and legal.

The bus will be parked in the Parish Office car park (entrance from Dean Lane) from 10.00 am – 12.00 pm starting on Wednesday 9 August, then Wednesday 23 August, Wednesday 13 September and Wednesday 27 September. So, why not come along and have a chat with one of their advisers and then pop into the Crossroads Café for your cuppa, biscuit and warm welcome from the team.

For additional Advice Bus stop locations and for general information, please visit: [www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk). Alternatively, to speak to an Adviser, call the Dorset Adviceline on 0800 144 8848.



### Calling all Technophobes!

Do you struggle with technology and want to learn more? Then look no further, help is at hand! Our resident tech expert, Andy Turner, will be on hand at the Crossroads Cafés to help demystify your laptop, mobile phone or tablet. Please contact Andy – see contact details below.

We all know that Sundays can be very difficult for those who are on their own and would love to make the Sunday opening of the Crossroads Café a regular feature, but we need more volunteers to make it happen. So, if you would like to join the team to help with a Sunday session (2.00 – 4.00 pm), please do get in touch.

Both hubs will continue to open from 9.00 am – 12.00 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays (Crossroads Café) and Thursdays (Magnificafé). Please don't forget to let us know if you would like to come to one of the hubs but are unable to get there due to difficulties with transport (see contact details below). We may be able to help by organising a lift.



We are hoping to resume our Family Cinema matinees at the Village Hall later in the autumn. We hope that we can tempt more mums and dads to come along with their small people to enjoy some FREE entertainment (and popcorn!) Further details on the Hub (Sixpenny Handley Community Hubs) and Village Hall facebook pages and in the next issue of the Downsman.

All the community hubs are run by a band of cheerful volunteers who will guarantee you a friendly welcome and a listening ear. They are subsidised by the host organisation and a minimal charge or donation is requested to help cover costs if you are able. We really hope that even more members of our wonderful

community will come along and join in at one or more of these venues.

If you would be interested in joining the volunteer team on a Sunday, please contact us on: 552735 or at: [andydturner@outlook.com](mailto:andydturner@outlook.com)

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you soon.



### Trussell Trust

Donations can be left in the church or Mike will collect call 01725 552720.

Find what they are most in need of here: <https://salisbury.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food>

Currently they need  
Long life Milk, Small Jars of Coffee,  
**Packet Puddings, Sponge pudding, Jam, Tinned potatoes, tomatoes, fruit, fish and soup, Instant Mash, Suntan lotion**  
don't need **Cereal**

# Anyone for Tennis?



## COACHING & SOCIAL TENNIS

Adult & Junior Coaching: all ages & abilities,  
contact Roni Peck on 07747 842700

After school coaching on Fridays, starting 28th April:  
Beginners (5-9yrs) 4.30-5.15pm £3 per session for members, £5 per session for non-members  
Junior Rackets (10yrs+) 5.30-6.30pm £4 for members £6 for non members

Rusty Rackets for Adults on Thursdays from 27th April 6.30pm  
£8 for members, £10 for non members per session

Join the Club and you get a Key to use the courts whenever you wish!  
Contact Membership Secretary: Kay Phillips, Tel:07803725838 email kay.Phillips@wpprods.co.uk

PAY & PLAY £7 per court per hour - key available from Sixpenny Handley store and The Penny Tap,  
during their opening hours

Courts next to The Penny Tap at the Recreation Ground, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5NJ  
<https://sites.google.com/view/sixpennyhandleytennisclub>

## Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club 2023

### Annual membership for Adults, Juniors, Families and Non-playing adults

Members are issued with a key and have access to the courts at all times, within government guidelines (except during organised club coaching sessions).

All memberships run until 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024.

Please return membership forms and pay by bacs/cheque and a key will be posted to you so you can come and play!

Membership Secretary: Kay Phillips, Pleasant Cottage, Tollard Royal, Wilts, SP5 5PX. Tel: 07803 725838

email [Kay.Phillips@wpprods.co.uk](mailto:Kay.Phillips@wpprods.co.uk)

Treasurer: Stephanie Chick, Tel: 01725 552557 / 07748 925810 email: [david@davidchick.co.uk](mailto:david@davidchick.co.uk)

Chairman: Alex Thomas Tel: 01725 516320 email: [rhodr.alex@btinternet.com](mailto:rhodr.alex@btinternet.com)

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

Address.....

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

Membership category	Annual subscription 2022	Name Of Member(s) (plus Date of Birth for junior members)	Quantity	Amount endorsed
Adult	£35.00			
Junior (under 18) on 01/02/21 *	£10.00			
Family (All living at the same address)	£80.00			
Non playing Adult Member	£10			
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT PAID (BACS/cheque)</b>				

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

Would you like to join the Tennis WhatsApp group? YES/NO (mobile number .....)

Are you happy to share your email with other members so that you can be contacted to play tennis: YES / NO

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

Signed ..... Date ..... Date paid by bacs .....

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



## A Hong Kong Childhood

I was born years ago and in a place far far away. Life began at 0 years and in the succeeding two years I remember nothing at all. You will have had similar experiences in your early life, and I am only saying this to bring half-forgotten memories to the fore.

The past is really not very long ago; the past for all of us is carried around with us everywhere we go; it is lodged deep in our minds and only needs a gentle stir to bring it to the light of day. Photographs, images, words, scent and feelings are triggers that help us to delve into our deepest memories. Family life and growing up are some of the richest sources of memories for a child, and for adults too.

I have recently been putting such memories onto paper, and it is rather interesting to discover half-remembered feelings, like a halo, which have circled my head for so many years. It's time to air my halo, to let the daylight shine bright on dusty memories.

My sister was only one when I was born — I joined her at the end of March; she was born the year before in early April. We entered the world 361 days apart and oh! how I relished those four days when we were the same age. Walking in Central District with Mum we were sometimes mistaken for twins. I liked that — my sister didn't!

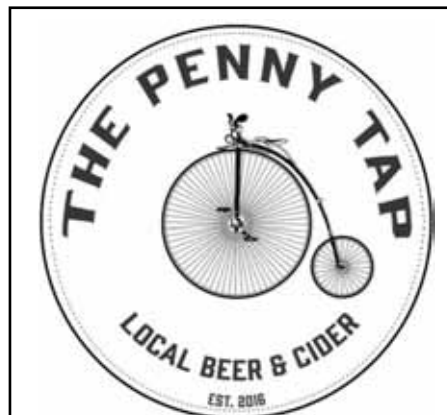
We were both fair-skinned with white-blond hair and on meeting the older Chinese acquaintances, shopkeepers, stall-holders and traders in their stalls in the Alleys, all had the superstition that Good Luck would rub off on them if they stroked our golden hair: Not only stroking our golden hair but pinching us too — our cheeks were pinched so firmly that they looked badly rouged, like a case of slap-cheek and it really hurt!

Dad gave us weekend pocket money. It must have been Saturday as I had small change in a little purse in my open coat pocket and I remember checking for it every few minutes. Beady brown eyes had watched my body language and swift fingers had delved into my pocket.

Suddenly my pocket money had gone. I had been so careful to guard it but had inadvertently guided the thieving hands straight to it. The cash I'm talking about might have been as much as HK\$2.50 — enough for a notebook, pencil or a favourite packet of The Garden Company Chocolate Fingers, which are the best in the world.

I hope to share more memories with you in the next few issues of The Downsman. The fact that I have never written stories before, ever, is testament to a pretty good education: Apply yourself to what you are doing, in an orderly way: Decide on what to leave out as much as what to include. My wise Mum once told me to imagine that I am talking to a person sitting in a chair opposite me. What would that person want to hear? My Mum was a radio and television presenter with Rediffusion in her early years in Hong Kong. She knows a thing or three.

*AD, North Dorset, July 2023*



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

**Opening hours**

**Wednesday 4.30 - 7pm**

**Thursday 4.30 - 7pm**

**Friday 4-8pm**

**Saturday 4-8pm**

*Take out Service Available*

## The Sixpenny Handley Waistcoat Song

(To the Tune of: 'Keep that wheel a turning')

In eighteen hundred and ninety-two,  
Began a tale I'll tell to you.  
Butcher, Baker, Wheelwright too  
Were at the jobs they're meant to do.

Chorus: All the men wore waistcoats,  
All the men wore waistcoats,  
All the men wore waistcoats,  
In Handley eighteen ninety-two!

A spark flew from the wheelwright's shed,  
And floated out right over-head.  
It landed on a High Street thatch,  
It was as if you'd struck a match!

Chorus: All the men wore waistcoats,  
All the men wore waistcoats,  
All the men wore waistcoats,  
In Handley eighteen ninety-two!

The fire spread quickly down the street,  
Fifty houses felt the heat!  
Three full days it blazed away,  
So hot you could not walk that way.

Chorus: All the men lost waistcoats,  
All the men lost waistcoats,  
All the men lost waistcoats,  
In Handley 1892 !

The plight of Handley was well told,  
Clothes were sent for young and old.  
In every parcel that was prized,  
Arrived more waistcoats multi-sized!

Chorus: All men wore two waistcoats,  
Women wore two waistcoats,  
Everyone wore two waistcoats,  
In Handley 1892 !

Shepherd huts came for no rent,  
Bell tents from the Government.  
The homeless were in quite a fix,  
They numbered one hundred and eighty-six.

Chorus: And they had no waistcoats,  
And they had no waistcoats,  
And they had no waistcoats,  
In Handley 1892 !

## Shaftesbury Gold Hill Challenge Charity Cycle

Myself, son George, Adam Batty (local joiner), Adrian Harris (local general builder), and Ian Merriweather (local) took part in the Shaftesbury Gold Hill challenge charity cycle ride on 14th May.

All but Ian doing the ride on vintage bicycles and dressed in tweed! My machine is a Triumph and is 103 years old.. There was a new more challenging route this year with the climb up Zig Zag hill almost immediately after the start!

The route now takes you through the centre of Sixpenny before the lung-busting climb up past Garson Woods before the welcomed descent, albeit with very little brakes down into Bowerchalke.

The ride is distanced at 25 miles but actually comes out at over 28 and a half! It would be so good if we could publicise this event and get more Handley residents taking part.

I enclose some photos of the great day.  
Best wishes

*Nigel Turton*

### Fun Cycling Day for families and friends



*Metalsmiths & Engineers*  
07766 203 817  
richard@sixpennyforge.co.uk

## **THE CROWN INN, ALVEDISTON**

**Gloria and Steve would like to thank everyone for their kindness, support following the recent fire.**

**We wish all our customers, guests, and friends all the very best.**

**Coffee with FRIENDS** 

**Crossroads Café  
Community Hub**

We are open every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 till 12

We also hope to organise a mobile Citizen Advice Bureau to visit us, this will be on the 9th and 23rd of August and on the 13th and 27th of September.

Please come and visit us for warmth, chats with friends, a cup coffee or tea, and you can even have a go at our jig saw puzzle! And of course our library is open as well.

Everybody is very welcome, we look forward to seeing you.

Bea



**Farnham**

**STREET FAIR**

**Saturday 12th August**

**12.00pm to 4.00pm**

**Bourne River Morris Men - Farnham Carfest**

**Shroton Ukulele Band - Silent Auction - Fun Dog Show**

**Flower Festival - Art Display - Home Produce - Raffle**

**Lunches - Teas - Beer and Wine - Allotment Produce**

**Games for adults and children ... and more**





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# The Big Session

Well! Thank you SO much to all you hardy souls who joined us on Saturday 8 July. We were so very sorry that the forecasters got it so wrong, but we needn't have worried as so many of you faithful BIG Sessioners braved it out and, although a little damp, looked as though you were really enjoying yourselves in spite of it all!

We are delighted to tell you that we managed to make a profit in spite of the weather. Thanks to your generosity, and the support of our fantastic local donors, we will be handing over £3,300 to the Community Fund for distribution to deserving projects within our community. To remind you, the last round of grants from the fund benefited 7 community groups, including a new barbecue for 1st Woodcutts Scouts (which we all benefited from on 8 July!), a noticeboard for the allotments, a new coffee machine for the Village Hall, signage for the Cricket Club, new play mats and storage boxes for Happy Nappy Toddlers Group, help towards a new, secure perimeter fence for the First School and Nursery and a contribution to the Home Ed Gardening Group for their rewilding project in the churchyard. The Community Fund Grants Committee will meet again in November and grant application forms will be included in the October issue of the Downsman, so please get thinking about what your organisation or project might need.

Additionally, the raffle raised £620 for the new skatepark project, the team from the Church raised over £500 towards their general funds and 1st Woodcutts Scouts made £800. So, all in all, a fantastic result.

It was a lot of hard work but the soggy smiles on everyone's faces made it all worthwhile. Thanks to all our amazing volunteers and workshop leaders who made everything run so smoothly. If you would like to join the team next year, please let us know. We are always keen to recruit more volunteers!

We have been looking at the calendar for 2024 and have provisionally identified Saturday 13 July 2024 as the date for the



BIG Session 2024. Please make a note of the date and we will confirm it as soon as we can.

Thanks to Kian Baker for the photos above and Annie Dyer for those below.

Thanks again and see you next summer!  
Naomi, Paul, Penny and Simon



See more photos on the Sixpenny Sessions Facebook page (6dacoustic.live)





At the time of writing, we had only just received the new Autumn/Winter menu from Moviola. Unfortunately, this was not in time for us to confirm the films chosen for you in this issue of the Downsman. However, please do keep the following dates free in your diary: Friday 15 September, Friday 20 October, Friday 17 November and Friday 15 December (show at 7.00 pm, doors at 6.30 pm) and we will confirm details of the films just as soon as we can. Thank you to all the wonderful people who have supported our Sixpenny Handley Community Cinema to date – we hope to see you all again in September! Thank you too to all the lovely volunteers from both St Mary’s and the Village Hall who continue to help make them such enjoyable evenings for all attendees. Do keep an eye on the Village Hall Facebook page, the Church’s weekly notices and the various noticeboards and lampposts around the village for full details of the September film.

## Entertainment Update



As part of the Handley Hub initiative, we are aiming to resume our Family Cinema matinees at the Village Hall later in the autumn/winter. We hope that we can tempt more mums and dads to come along with their small people to enjoy some FREE entertainment (and popcorn!) Further details will be on the Village Hall and Hub Facebook pages and in the next issue of the Downsman.

To remind you the films are shown FREE OF CHARGE and the CCI0 has kindly agreed to subsidise hot drinks, soft drinks and snacks from the bar.

The Village Hall entertainments team attended the Artsreach Promoter’s Meeting in May and requested an exciting and varied selection of shows from their



Winter 23 / Spring 24 menu. Artsreach will confirm which shows we can bring to Sixpenny Handley in the next few weeks. We are hoping to bring you some great children’s shows to coincide with school half terms in October 2023 and/or February 2024, plus some theatrical fun before Christmas and some musical entertainment in the new year. Please look out for the confirmed programme in the next issue of the Downsman and on the Village Hall Facebook page.



Save the Date! Sunday 31 December 2023 – Village Hall New Year’s Eve Party  
Yes, that’s right, we are super excited to announce that we are planning some fun and games for New Year’s Eve this year! This will include live music, a silent disco, yummy food and plenty to drink, so please put the date in your diary now and tell all your friends and family too. Let’s have a fantastic celebration to welcome in 2024! Full details in the next issue of the Downsman.



## OUR PARISH LIBRARY

Thinking of visiting our parish library?

We have a large section of books and are open any time the Parish office is open.  
The usual first and third Thursday Afternoon  
from 3 till 4.15

Also our Crossroad Café Hub and library is now open every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 till 12

Come and visit us, have a nice chat with friends, a cup of coffee or tea and choose a few books.

We love to see some new faces, everybody is welcome.  
Bea




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

## Toys, Singing and Fun for Babies and Children

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Lucy Barr 07508 691323  
Milly Bones 07525 248890

**Scouts**  Group Scout Leader  
John Curtis  
01725 552397

# 1st Woodcutts News

[www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk](http://www.firstwoodcutts.org.uk)

**Squirrels**

Age 4-6  
Thursday 4:15pm  
Zoe Wilkinson  
01725 552397

**BEAVERS**  
Age 6-8  
Tue & Wed 5 to 6pm  
Annette Toop  
07973 677815

**cubs**

Age 8-10½  
Mon & Wed  
Andy Young (Akela)  
07796 941202

**SCOUTS**

Age 10½-14  
Mon & Tue  
Rob Easton  
01725 552038

**EXPLORERS**

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

1st Woodcutts have enjoyed a fabulous summer of activities in and around the local area.

Squirrels have been working on their All About Me badge. They celebrated Father's Day with badge and card making, made songs and played games. They finished their summer by investing their newest members.

Beavers visited Martin Down and looked at the amazing different flora and insects. They made fantastic junk model machines at the HQ and finished the term with a campfire!

Cubs cooked iron age inspired flatbreads and soup then worked on their navigation skills so they could hike to Woodcutts Romano British settlement where they were met by a settler who told us more about Iron age life. Cubs also explored the importance of our local chalk streams finding out about why they are important, what creatures live in them and finished by following the water down to the sea at Christchurch.

Thanks to the newly qualified climbing team Cubs had an amazing morning climbing in Broadstone.

Scouts and Cubs both had a great evening at the Chalke Valley History Festival which included a trip to the trenches and painting the iron age house. Scouts worked in teams to make boats which they then raced down the river at Fordingbridge. They finished their term with swimming and a BBQ in Chettle!

Over the last months most of the Explorers have been busy with there examinations, those that have remained have been working on a chestnut pergola for the village hall. This should go up sometime in the next few weeks.

A couple of our explorers (Miriam and Esme) have been incredibly motivated



over the last year with their Platinum and Diamond awards these awards run parallel to the Dot E awards Bronze and Silver, but there are extra elements in order to gain the scout certification. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them both on this achievement and look forward to helping them work towards their Kings scout awards.

Several of our unit are attending the district camp near Barcelona in three weeks time and almost all the rest are in Guernsey with the scouts.

There are 8 Explorers at the moment but there is plenty of space for more. Sessions are much more informal than the other sections with a programme driven by the interests of the young people. It's also flexible in that we understand that there are many pressures at this stage in your life, and you may not always be able to come. Next academic year we are planning for a weekend away in Milton Keynes visiting Bletchley park and the snow dome, we also have a survival camp planned, an

introduction to RC flying, War Hammer, D and D, Gaming, bike rides and whole host of other activities which reflect the interests of our current cohort. There is no pressure to complete badge work but support is there to do so if you would like to. Saying that we have had some great fun sessions as part of our international community and values section of the award schemes outlined above cooking Chinese food and learning some of their games, customs, politics and key attractions.


Why not come along to our first few sessions in the new term ?

If you or your child would like to know more please give Anthony a ring on 07920031314

#### Big Session Fundraising

Thanks to everyone for supporting our BBQ at the Big Session. We raised an amazing £800 for the group!



  
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## Church News

From St Mary's, St Andrew's & St Rumbold's  
THE VIEW FROM THE PULPIT

Carol Neilson LLM

Dear Friends,  
Well, we can't complain about the weather this year, can we? However, as I write it is only mid-June, so who knows what might happen in July/August? But so far, the sun has shone and the rain has been scarce. *(Carol you are right who knows what it will be like next week, it's mid-July now and it has rained buckets for days!)* Many of you around the various villages are avid gardeners. As a nation we love our gardens, big or small and want to see beautiful things growing in them. Many people have opened up their gardens to visitors in recent weeks, which I am sure has given many people a great deal of pleasure.

It takes a lot of time to nurture a garden, and with this lovely weather it also gives us a lot of work, as we deal with the problem of weeds. There are lots of weeds,

although, apparently, it is not right to call weeds a problem, as they are part of our wildlife and are much needed for birds, bees, butterflies and insects to thrive. Hearing the comings and goings of wildlife helps us all to take life and all it throws at us in our stride.

Many people are being affected by the uncertainties, worries and hardships inflicted by the economic climate. There are so many families who are finding it very difficult because of job losses and the increasing prices of food and utilities. Prices are going up and up, causing many to struggle, but with the community spirit which abounds throughout all our villages, many of which are supporting the food banks, we manage to continue.

Many of you may have already gone away and enjoyed some time relaxing from the

busyness of life. Others of you may have holidays or trips away planned or you may be planning a holiday based at home with days out written in the diary. Whatever journeys you are planning to take they can often give us space and time to pause and reflect on our physical and spiritual journey in life and allow us to evaluate where we are going or need to go.

So, over these summer months I pray that there will be space and time for each one of you to take a look at your journey: to take time out to relax and refresh, to look and see where you are heading in the coming months and to see where God might be in that journey with you.

Every Blessing, Carol Neilson

## Our Benefice

of St Mary's, St Andrew's and St Rumbold's - regrouping news

The plan for our Benefice continues to take some unexpected and interesting turns, like a wriggling ribbon stuck in a wind tunnel. It's only too easy to become a little despondent about our new future as progress is so slow. You will recall that last year we had advertised for a part-time or 'House for Duty' (HfD) priest, here in Handley, but no one applied. We then had a plan to create a new 11-parish Benefice with a full-time incumbent based in Stourpaine and an Associate Priest based in Handley. This gained traction for a time, but when push came to shove the parishes felt unable to sign up for it as it was too wide a range of parishes to bring together sensibly. Although we got very close to advertising that option in June, it was rightly pulled at the last minute because the detail was not confirmed. The alternative suggestion put forward by the parishes was for two Benefices, the larger one to the south of us with 6 parishes, led by a full-time incumbent. The smaller one with 5 parishes based around Handley with

a half-time incumbent priest. This option is now being investigated and we await the outcome.

In this new plan, the southern parishes of Pimperne, Stourpaine, Durweston, Tarrants (Hinton, Gunville & Monkton) would form the southern Benefice. In the north, Chettle, Farnham & Tollard Royal would form the northern Benefice. These are the 11 parishes that David and Henriët currently support, but they both will leave us on retirement in July 2024. The formal process to achieve this has however, not yet started and we await consultation on this new scheme. The Advisory Group that was established with membership from all the parishes, to plan how any new single Benefice might be run, everything from organisation, to services, to PCC management will continue and be ready to advocate the views of the PCCs as and when required. If anyone has any thoughts or concerns about this or wishes to input an idea that may be helpful for the

challenges we face, please write to [notices@handleychurch.org.uk](mailto:notices@handleychurch.org.uk) Affordability as always will be key and for those of you who do not know as we are expected to be able to raise sufficient money locally each year to pay for the majority of the costs of our priest as well as maintain the fabric of our churches. This is why we are always grateful for any support given.

**St Mary's Sixpenny Handley.** Well, the very sad news in mid-July is that the church is currently locked when a service is not on as we have experienced two incidents of vandalism. Unfortunately, in addition to minor disturbances, the fine painted Reredos behind the altar of our church was damaged when eggs were thrown at it, thus it was felt that the church should be locked for the time being. The intent now is to fit CCTV cameras and reopen the church on a regular basis after that. If anyone knows anything about the vandalism or who is responsible, please pass that information to the Police.



## Could you help keep St Mary's Churchyard beautiful and blossoming with wild flowers?

Back in May we held a working party afternoon in the Churchyard to clear cow parsley and other weeds in order to allow the wild flowers we have planted to blossom and grow properly. It was a marvellous occasion which saw many young people involved and great work carried out. During the recent hot spell, we were very grateful to the small group of volunteers who helped keep plants watered every other day. It was marvellous that not all were church-goers – St Mary's is for the whole community, not just those who turn up on Sundays. The plan now is to ask for more volunteers who would be willing to take responsibility for a small area of the Churchyard, perhaps a few graves or a small strip of planted beds and under instruction, learn to maintain them in a way that sustains wildflowers and thus helps the environment and the wildlife that depend on it. If you are interested in taking part, learning a new life skill and playing your part to help the community and nature please get in touch by contacting us at [notices@handleychurch.org.uk](mailto:notices@handleychurch.org.uk)

## WHAT'S ON

The Big Session. Saw the usual Teas, Cake and Savouries stand manned by St Mary's and led as ever by Nicky Carpenter. They collected over £500 for Church funds which is a marvellous sum which will be put to good use. Thank you and well done to all involved – a tremendous effort all round during a serious great event – even if the clouds did roll over and made us a bit wet.



Summer Cream Teas at the Church – 27th August 2023. This summer will see the return of our popular Summer Cream Teas at St Mary's 2- 5pm - with no doubt a produce stall or two. Put the date in your diary now and prepare for a delicious afternoon.

Dorset Historic Churches Trust (DHCT). Ride and Stride Event this year is on 9th September. DHCT have kindly supported with grants, now it's our turn to support them. Sponsors and bikers required. Please contact Anne Reed on 01725 552518 nearer the time. Or to see the details click: <https://ridestride.org/counties/dorset/>



Our Community Choir begins again in the autumn - see the Noticeboard for details.

## Normal Weekly Services

The details of our normal services are posted regularly in the weekly Church Notice Sheet, pick up a copy when passing St Mary's or ask for it by email. It is always useful and has lots of other local news and information. If you would like to receive this, please email [notices@handleychurch.org.uk](mailto:notices@handleychurch.org.uk)

**Church Service Coffee Rota** There is a Sunday coffee rota sheet in church for those who are willing and able to serve coffee following a Sunday service. Provisions are provided, only milk needs to be purchased. Please volunteer if you can.

### HANDLEY BENEFICE WITH INNER CHASE GROUP MONTHLY PLANNED SERVICES

Changes are published in our Weekly News Sheet.

	1ST SUNDAY	2ND SUNDAY	3RD SUNDAY	4TH SUNDAY	5TH SUNDAY
Sixpenny Handley	10:00 Family Service YCT/NB/CN	10:00 Holy Communion CW HM	10:00 Informal Service YCT	10:00 Holy Communion CW DM	A Benefice / Group Service will be arranged at 1030am
St Andrew 's Gussage St Andrew	No Service	9:00 Matins BCP AR	No Service	9:00 Holy Communion BCP DM	
St Rumbold's Pentridge	9.00 Holy Communion BCP DM	No Service	11.15 Matins	No Service	

YCT - Young Church Team, DM - Rev David Miell, HM - Rev Henriët Miell, NB - Naomi Booth, DL - David Lockyer,

JM - Jackie Molnar, CN – Carol Neilson, AR - Anne Reed, LWL - Lay Worship Leader.

## Pastoral support

If you need help or pastoral support it is always available from Rev David Miell, who is also the Rural Dean, based in Tarrant Hinton and is the Priest in Charge of our Parishes. He can be contacted at: Rev Dr David Miell; The Rectory, Church Hill, Tarrant Hinton, Blandford Forum, DT11 8JB. Mobile: 07708 601462 or email: [dkmiell@gmail.com](mailto:dkmiell@gmail.com)

Local help or advice on any church matter is available by emailing [support@handleychurch.org.uk](mailto:support@handleychurch.org.uk) or from our Church Wardens for Handley:

Linda Cooper - 01725 552864

or Margaret Wilkinson - 01725 553150

Or for Pentridge, our Church Wardens:

Jane King - 01725 552231

or Mary Ferguson - 01725 552222



Community Café – MAGNIFICAFÉ.

The marvellous Magnificafé has been on holiday during July,

but returns in all its magnificence each Thursday morning in August from 9-12am providing hot breakfast, eggs, bacon, bagels, waffles, as well as hot and cold drinks. The café is now part of the fantastic Handley Hubs initiative. It's a great place to meet with other mums and dads with small children. There is also a quiet corner where you can hold a meeting if needed and there is free Wi-Fi. Special Events expected for Easter. Thank you to the magnificent angels who make it all happen!

## Local traders approved by Trading Standards

### Dorset Trading Standards

Finding reliable trades people can often be a gamble. However, Dorset Council Trading Standards can help you identify businesses with a good trading history and excellent customer satisfaction.

Many businesses across Dorset have signed up to the national 'Buy with Confidence' scheme, giving local people a wide choice of established traders committed to fair trading and good customer service. This helps protect you as a consumer and it helps support reputable local businesses.

'Buy with Confidence' covers all kinds of work, from plumbing and decorating to car servicing and gardening, carried out by local businesses all over the County and beyond.

Our members have been visited in person and audited by Trading Standards officers to make sure they comply with consumer protection laws.

We take customer references and make sure complaint procedures are in place if needed. In addition, to give you peace of mind, criminal record checks are undertaken for staff who work in or around your home.

It doesn't stop there! Once a business joins 'Buy with Confidence' they are monitored by Trading Standards through customer feedback, complaint monitoring and re-audits.

We would always encourage you to choose a Dorset based trader. However, as the 'Buy with Confidence' scheme is also run by all our neighbouring local authorities, then the pool of Trading Standards approved traders is much greater than just those who are based in the Dorset Council area.

Other trader approval schemes are available, but remember, only 'Buy with Confidence' has this level of Trading Standards approval, alongside access to the national Citizens Advice database of consumer complaints, which allows us to truly vet a business.

To find a Trading Standards approved 'Buy with Confidence' trader, visit the national 'Buy with Confidence' website at [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk) where you can search for local traders around your postcode. Alternatively, call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline who can search for you on 0808 223 1133.



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## SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL CIO

CHARITY NUMBER 1201429

### Wimborne St Giles Cream teas

Thank you to everyone who made the journey over to Wimborne St Giles village hall for our turn at running their superb afternoon teas. A huge amount of effort went in the preparation, thank you to our wonderful home-bakers who made the delicious cakes, meringues and other sweet treats. We must thank our fantastic wider team who helped make sandwiches, serve food, make tea, wash and tidy-up! Thank you; Gill & Terry, David W, Jacqui, Nicky, Naomi, Jen, David B, Ellie, Verity & Leila. We made a marvellous £500 towards the running & maintenance of the hall! Well done team!

### Craft fair with Teas.

Our wonderful monthly Craft fair with Teas in the hall continue up until Christmas. We've added Childrens crafts to the summer events to entertain your little ones! Why not come and browse the delightful array of local craft & produce stalls! Treat yourself or loved one to a unique gift, all made by hand with love. Failing that come and indulge yourself and a friend with our delicious homemade cakes, sandwiches and a decent cup of coffee, all while supporting your village hall! X

### Maintenance & improvements.

We're delighted to say that we've received the green light to proceed with the installation of Solar panels. The Parish council have taken the lead with this initiative and the trustees would like to thank the Parish Council and clerk for their efforts.

The Trustees & volunteers will be spending time at the weekends putting up new noticeboards as well as continuing with the improvements to the outside space at the hall. We really are determined to make this a multifunctional, pleasant space for us all to use!! Watch this space for updates.

### Community Cinema's.

The selections have been submitted to Moviola for our Community cinema to return in September. It would be wonderful

if it could continue to grow in popularity and numbers as it was before its summer break. Well done Penny & Peter for organising and to their amazing volunteers. Can't wait to see the next movie!

### Artsreach.

We're still waiting for final confirmation and will let you know just as soon as we do! Just to remind you, Artsreach bring a broad variety of shows that enrich and positively impact the lives of people in Dorset by connecting and empowering rural communities through creative and cultural experiences. Artsreach is grant funded by the Arts Council England and Dorset Council which enable them to subsidise all performances making them excellent value for money. Don't miss out on local shows over the Autumn/ Winter.

### Date for your diary:

**Sat 26th Aug'** – Craft fair with teas – 10am to 1pm. Childrens crafts added for the summer. Eat cake while your little ones create! Perfect way to spend the morning.

**Fri 15th Sept'** –Community Cinema– 7pm start (Doors open 6:30pm) Film TBC £5 entry. Bar & snacks (Popcorn, Ice-cream, Chocolate etc) available.

**Sat 30th Sept'** – Craft fair with teas – 10am to 1pm. Browse the stalls, delicious sandwiches & cake available.

The Trustees would be delighted to hear your suggestions for the hall! Thinking of organising a community/ charitable event? Know of a club or class looking for a venue? Call or message us for a chat.

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall – available for hire priced per hour. BOOKINGS: Gillian Mott: 07563 703577 or email: 6dhandleyhall@gmail.com



**Sixpenny Handley Village Hall**

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**Call Gillian on 07563 703577 or  
email: 6dhandleyhall@gmail.com**

# Per Ardua Ad Astra

Royal Air Force

A History - Part 1

The Western Front, April 1st, 1918, the German Spring offensive, which had punched through Fifth Army's front, had petered out. A resumption of trench warfare, which for near on four years marks the horror of the Great War, was again the norm.

At Cinteville in the Somme, a small grass airfield southwest of the little village from which it takes its name, dawn was still an hour or so away when Lieutenant Percy Reginald Cann, a scout pilot attached to No. 65 Squadron, was awakened in order to be briefed with his fellow pilots for a dawn patrol; take off timed for 0630 hours.

Away to the north in the Pas-de-Calais at Léchelle, Lieutenant Eugen Siempelkamp, a scout pilot serving with JagdStaffel 4 [commonly referred to as Jasta 4] received his pre-dawn call. He, too, with his colleagues received orders for a first light patrol.

And so it came to pass both '65' in their Sopwith Camel's and Jasta 4 flying the formidable Fokker DR.1's climbed high into the sky over the battle lines. The pilots, wrapped in the warmest flying suits available to combat the intense cold, were no doubt aware of a steady rumble as both sides heavy artillery began their early morning "hate." At approximately 0800 hours, German time, the two forces met and with seconds the Camel's and the Fokker's were engaged in a twisting turning fight - each pilot trying to get behind his adversary in order to deliver a lethal burst of machine gun fire.

For Percy Cann it proved to be his final patrol and for Eugen Siempelkamp his first combat success. Crippled, Percy's Camel spun out of the melee to crash near Fouilloy in the Somme, some 16km east of Amiens. When help arrived he was barely conscious [his injuries may have been caused in the air, or in his crash landing]. Rushed to one of the military hospitals at Rouen he lingered for four days before his earthly life ebbed away.

From 'Atlantic House' near Bude on Cornwall's north coast, he is buried in St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

And what fate awaited Lieutenant Siempelkamp? His final combat came on September 14th, 1918, when flying a Pfalz IIIa he was shot down and seriously wounded, but unlike Percy he recovered and lived to witness the Second World War

before dying in his mid '90s in 1989.

Why you may ask is this account of relevance? Surely there must have been thousands of similar encounters in the kaleidoscopic aerial battles of the Great War? The answer lies with the date, "April 1st, 1918" for it was on this historic day that the Royal Naval Air Service and the Royal Flying Corps merged to become the Royal Air Force.

It was a formidable force boasting in excess of 150 operational squadrons operating in every theatre of warfare. The majority were on the Western Front, but a handful were in the Balkans, Italy and the Middle East where the Turkish army remained active.

With the threat posed by airships [Zeppelin] and Gotha bombers, squadrons skilled in night fighting defended the UK base, while others patrolled the seas hunting for enemy U-boats. More units were working up to operational efficiency, ready for deployment to where they might be needed. In support of all this activity a plethora of training establishments had sprung into existence; thus, a truly professional establishment was in place worthy of being independent from the other services.

But to return to actions on the 1st. During the day a parcel of operations were flown; scouting patrols by the fighter squadrons, reconnaissance sorties - either over the zigzagging line of trenches - or deep into German held territory, plus bombing sorties. All carried a high risk of being intercepted by patrolling enemy fighters, particularly those crews engaged on Corps reconnaissance where the purpose of pinpointing enemy artillery batteries and troop concentrations had been developed into a fine art thereby allowing our own artillery to send a rain of shells falling onto enemy positions. Bombing raids were also carried out and it was during this phase of the day's work that the first fatal casualties occurred; both crews were from No. 57

Squadron [DH.4] raiding Bapaume which had fallen to the Germans on 24 March 1918. 2nd Lieutenant Edgar Whitfield and his observer, Lieutenant William Cecil Frederick Hart were last seen trying to fight off a swarm of enemy fighters, while 2nd Lieutenant Douglas Price Trolip from Mount Prospect in the Eastern Cape reached his objective where along with his observer, Canadian born Lieutenant James David Moses, he fell in flames from a series of sustained attacks. All four are named on the Arras Flying Services Memorial which commemorates Allied airmen from the Great War who have no known grave.

In total 42 Royal Air Force machines were lost that day, many managing to struggle home with battle damage before crashing; thus, 38 airmen walked away relatively unscathed, eight, including Percy Cann, were undergoing treatment for wounds, and two, Lieutenant Frank Beaumont, an SE.5a scout pilot attached to No. 56 Squadron, and his friend, 2nd Lieutenant B McPherson were, to use the jargon of the time, destined to go "behind the wire" for the remaining eight months of war.

It had been a hard baptism for the new service.

To be continued.








*Bill Chorley*

Note. Full casualty statistics for the 1st of April 1918, are available in my 1st Volume of Royal Air Force and Australian Flying Corps Squadron Losses 1st April - 30th June 1918, published by Aviation Books Limited and is available from Amazon at £22.00. All books in the series are in A4 format with a large selection of photographs relevant to each edition to the series.



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### Transfer of unused IHT nil rate band

The Inheritance Tax residence nil rate band (RNRB) is a transferable allowance for married couples and civil partners (per person) when their main residence is passed down to a direct descendent such as children or grandchildren after their death.

The allowance increased to the present maximum level of £175,000 from 6 April 2020. The allowance is available to the deceased person's children or grandchildren. Any unused portion of the RNRB can be transferred to a surviving spouse or partner. The RNRB is in addition to the existing £325,000 Inheritance Tax nil-rate band.

The allowance is available to the deceased person's children or grandchildren. Taken together with the current Inheritance Tax limit of £325,000 this means that married couples and civil partners can pass on property worth up to £1 million free of Inheritance Tax to their direct descendants.

The transfer does not happen automatically and must be claimed from HMRC when the second spouse or civil partner dies. This is usually done by the executor making a claim to transfer the unused RNRB from the estate of the spouse or civil partner that died first. This transfer can also happen even if the first spouse or civil partner died before the RNRB was introduced on 6 April 2017.

There is a tapering of the RNRB for estates worth more than £2 million even where the family home is left to direct descendants. The additional threshold will be reduced by £1 for every £2 that the estate is worth more than the £2 million taper threshold. This can result in the full amount of the RNRB being tapered away.

The RNRB maximum rate of £175,000 and the taper threshold are currently frozen until at least April 2026.

### Marriage Allowance how it works

The marriage allowance is available

to married couples and those in a civil partnership where a spouse or civil partner does not pay tax or does not pay tax above the basic rate threshold for Income Tax (i.e., one of the couples must currently earn less than the £12,570 personal allowance for 2023-24).

The allowance works by permitting the lower earning partner to transfer up to £1,260 of their personal tax-free allowance to their spouse or civil partner. The marriage allowance can only be used when the recipient of the transfer (the higher earning partner) does not pay more than the basic 20% rate of Income Tax. This would usually mean that their income is between £12,571 to £50,270 for the 2023-24 tax year. The limits for those living in Scotland may vary slightly from these figures.


Claiming the allowance could result in a saving of up to £252 for the recipient (20% of £1,260), or £21 a month for the current tax year. In fact, even if a spouse or civil partner has died since 5 April 2018, the surviving person can still claim the

allowance (if they qualify) by contacting HMRC's Income Tax helpline.

If you meet the eligibility requirements and have not yet claimed the allowance, you can backdate your claim to 6 April 2017. This could result in a total tax refund of up to £1,242 if you can claim for 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23 as well as the current 2023-24 tax year. Even if you are no longer eligible, but you would have been in all or any of the preceding years, you can still claim your entitlement.

If you need assistance with any accountancy or tax related matters, please contact Catherine at CBA Services Limited on 01258 840306 or [office@cba-services.co.uk](mailto:office@cba-services.co.uk). Our Team is here to help and advise you.

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






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



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## Toddler born with cleft lip and palate inspires family to take on Walk for Wards to help other children at Salisbury Hospital

Three-year-old Erin Goddard, who was born with a cleft lip and palate, has inspired her family to raise money for the Stars Appeal to support other children being treated at Salisbury District Hospital.

The Goddard family supported the Hospital's Spires Cleft Centre and Sarum

Children's Ward at the Stars Appeal's Walk for Wards on Sunday, July 9 at Wilton House.

Erin was born with a bilateral cleft lip and palate and has been cared for at the Spires Cleft Centre at the Hospital. The centre is a specialist unit caring for children with cleft lip and/or palate, which is a gap or split in the upper lip and/or the roof of the mouth. Her mum Amanda said: "Erin was diagnosed at our 20-week scan. It was a very scary and stressful time full of tests and lots of scans but immediately we were offered the opportunity to speak with a cleft nurse from the team and given much needed reassurance and support.

"Erin has so far had three operations, each lasting up to six hours and thankfully each was just an overnight stay. She's doing so well, her speech is a little delayed, but

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it's coming with the help of the speech therapists."

After her operations Erin has stayed overnight with her mum on Sarum Children's Ward." The caring staff took time to make us feel important" added Amanda, from Stalbridge in Dorset, who completed the 5k walk with her husband Matthew and their daughters Erin and 10-year-old Faye.

Find out more at <https://starsappeal.org>

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## 6DH Skatepark Project Onwards and Upwards



Thankyou to those of you who were at the Big Session, whilst it may have been a little soggy, I think everyone had a great time. Did you see us around with our T Shirts, if you caught us on camera, please post any pictures to our Facebook page. We really appreciated all who bought tickets, this raised £690 and some of you were lucky winners. Thanks to all the donors and Leah for the prizes. We now have just under £5,000 raised, this money will go into our Grant Fundraising activities which are explained below. Don't forget we also have the now monthly Meat Raffle drawn on the last Friday of each month at the Penny Tap. Squares for this can be bought at the bar each time the tap is open, plus you will see at least one of us walking round selling them as well.

The project chairperson is now Leah Way as Charlotte has had to step back due to work and family commitments. We thank Charlotte for all she has done for this

project and are thankful that Leah has stepped forward to take on this role. This week we met with the Community Fund (CCIO) trustees to outline the projects objectives and important next steps.

We outlined how SkateboardGB have a recommended approach to designing, funding, and building skateparks. We outlined how this is initiated with a tender process to establish a preferred builder who will work with us to design, plan, fund and build the skatepark. All but the build work will be done without payment. Only when the funds are in place will the builder receive payment. This really helps the project to progress, we effectively get professional support to make this a reality. SkateboardGB provide a portal with lists of grant funding bodies who support this type of project. This will ensure we focus on obtaining monies that is specific to young people and skateparks.

We are aiming to get the tender issued in September so that we can establish the preferred builder in October to start design work and progressing through planning so that we can initiate applying for grants. Once funding is secured the build work can be initiated.

To support this work the Parish Council have also agreed to allocate the land for this skatepark to be built upon. We are therefore keeping the Parish Council informed on all activities planned and undertaken to ensure close links with both them and the Community Fund Trustees is maintained. Equally we will be engaging with the wider community to ensure the skatepark meets expectations for both riders and neighbours. So the next article should include the outcome of the tender process and what the next steps are likely to be in moving this forward.

We meet each month to discuss fundraising and all aspects of the project to be addressed over the next month. If you would like to know anything or to get involved, please contact Chairperson, Leah Way (07840 979180) or Secretary, Andy Turner (07427 119468)

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## Gone Sailing



### Log 64

#### Saunterers

Saturday sailing (monthly), for those who cannot make a Wednesday, is now running well. Recently, with sun and a good Northerly breeze, we had three new members on board, of varying abilities, and enjoyed a close fetch to Folly Reach, and a broad reach back to Lymington – perfect!

#### Meanderers

Recent sail, again with Northerly wind, (this direction is good as a nice flat sea, and easy sail both ways.) we had a sail round the Solent, Lymington/ Cowes/ Osborne Bay/ Lee on Solent and anchor for lunch/ Calshot/ Lymington.

Another favourite when wind and tide serve, is to Hamble, where we try to moor at the Pink Ferry pontoon. On this trip we encountered some rather fast looking yachts, which turned out to be Cape 31s a South African design fast sportsboat. At a cost of £250k and designed for transport in special containers, to campaign around the globe! <https://www.cape31uk.com/>.

West bound tide, and so towards Freshwater Bay, with other yachts from the Meanderers fleet, encountering the usual hazards of unmarked pot buoys, and one particular nasty buoy on a very long floating line, do not want to get that around the prop!!

#### Richard Mille Cup

We encountered some beautiful yachts on a couple of passages, a two masted schooner, and a 69m three masted schooner 'Atlantic', yours to charter for E110,000 a week (plus crew tip!) Expensive, but what an experience <https://www.charterworld.com/index.html?sub=yacht-charter&charter=syatlantic-6169> see photos.

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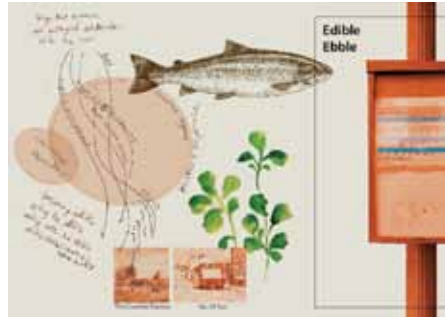
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As part of our 'Characters of the Chase' project we are working with a number of talented actor storytellers to bring to life some of the area's notable characters with in-character performances in subject specific locations.

We are looking for willing volunteers to help us research the lives of our 'characters'. In the immediate term this will take the form of desk research to point our storytellers in the right direction and then, if appropriate, visiting local archives/ museums with our storytellers to dig deeper into these fascinating people.

**Chase & Chalke 3rd Artist Residency gets underway with Edible Ebble Project**



Edible Ebble is a project created by food artist Cherry Truluck in her role as artist-in-residence for Chase and Chalke Landscape Partnership, centring on a series of interactive food workshops along the River Ebble which connect people to the chalk stream landscape, ecology and seasonality through their own appetite and metabolism.

The project will result in a unique publication, weaving together recipes, shared experiences, culture and heritage with the story of the river.

Join Cherry with her mobile kitchen at the Cranborne Chase AONB tent to experience a taste of this project and even create your own edible ecosystem! Cherry will introduce you to some of the characters connecting this special waterway to the valley's food system over the past 300 years.

There will also be an opportunity to contribute to the publication, as we will be crowd-sourcing local recipes, food memories and stories.

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## Artificial intelligence and scams

Dorset Trading standards

Artificial intelligence (AI) uses computers and machines to maximum advantage to mimic the problem-solving and decision-making capabilities of the human mind. Businesses and government organisations around the world are racing to figure out how to make the best use of this technology.

AI has already helped:

Doctors analyse patient data, identifying health risks, developing personalized treatment plans and speeding up the development of new treatments.

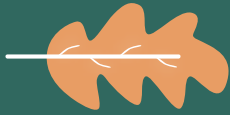
An application that translates expressions on faces into sound to help people with visual impairments 'see' the emotion of the person they are talking with.

Research into bee populations, vital for our planet and food supplies, by analysing worldwide data from hives fitted with internet sensors, microphones and cameras.

However, AI can also be used negatively. Scammers and fraudsters can use AI to better trick people out of money. Using technology, they can pretend to be genuine businesses, change their voice to sound like someone they are not and to fake customer reviews on retail websites.

Enforcers and regulators are taking steps to come to terms with the AI challenge. In the UK, the Government has proposed that AI must be used safely, be technically secure and function as designed. It must have appropriate transparency, an identified legal person responsible for it, and its use must comply with future regulatory guidance.

Locally, the best kind of protection against scams and fraud is to be aware of the risks, be aware of the warning signs, and to spread the word about what to do if you become affected by scams. You can join 4000 people in Dorset who have already learnt more by becoming a 'Friend Against Scams' at [www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk](http://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk)



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