



The

# Downsman

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

Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

February 2024



## Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

New Years Eve party (right) and events for this year with

## *The Zoo that Comes to You*

by Scarlet Oak Theatre:  
Monday 12 February

Featuring puppetry, live music and playful characters, join the conversation about animal conservation. Suitable for age 5+



*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	.07495 343 720
	Cllr D Chick	.552557
Vice-Chair	Cllr S Meaden	.552715
	Cllr S McLean	.552910
Pentridge	Cllr C Taylor	.553148
	Cllr A Turner	.552735
Clerk	Ciona Nicholson	.552211
Parish Office		.552211
Dorset Council	Cllr Piers Brown	.07511 156 811

Email: [cllrpiers.brown@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllrpiers.brown@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

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>
Treasurer	Tony Gibb	.552704
Advertising	Tarda	<a href="mailto:adverts@thedownsman.org.uk">adverts@thedownsman.org.uk</a>
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	Shellie Cooper	.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>	

## Chase Community Friends

Chairman	Carole Wyatt	.01725 552572
Secretary	Gael Radclyffe	.01725 552829

## Sixpenny Handley CLT

Chairman	Simon Parker	
Secretary	Jenny Netherton	.07830 188 589

## Sixpenny Handley Sports Association

Sports Pavilion Bookings .552211

## 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	Mark Young	.552741

## 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

## Citizens' Advice Bureau

Wimborne Branch .03442 4 1291

**Next edition**

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

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

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 Mar**

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**

*How are your toes?*

I have to say after all the rain we had, I guess we needed a dry spell, but that does mean cold toes under the table as I write this today... but on the plus it was such a beautiful treat to be walking out just after sunrise yesterday with the frosty landscape unrolling around me!

I was so glad to hear so many of you enjoyed the New Year's Eve party at the Village Hall, huge thanks to the team who brought all the plans together. That same team is now busy with the Big Session with bands already being booked - so get the date in your diary - 13th July 2024!



Cafes are another event that seem to be very well attended in the village. I haven't had the chance to go to a Repair Cafe recently - but I see all the new dates are on the Noticeboard for this year, the Craft Fair Cafe was nice and busy (I had a great brownie on my visit before Christmas), and Magnificafe and Crossroads Cafe both draw their loyal crowds. If you haven't visited - why not make a note today and join the conversations - if you don't know anyone... yet... start a conversation with the lovely people who run them and you will soon!

Parish Council news is about the elections, would you like to stand on the Parish Council - have a chat with Ciona the Parish Clerk, all details available on pages 6 and 7.

Lots of other great items in this edition - thank you to the contributors and advertisers. Min is running her jewellery making workshops, Chris invites you to follow him on the allotment, Bill delves further into Royal Air Force history and much more...

If you would like to write about your hobby, passion, interest, or work for our next edition, do, and send it to me by 15th March!

*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

<b>Directory</b> .....	<b>2</b>	<b>Village Hall</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>To the Editor</b> .....	<b>4</b>	<b>Health &amp; Beauty</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>Noticeboard</b> .....	<b>5</b>	<b>Gone Sailing</b> .....	<b>30</b>
<b>Handley Hubs</b> .....	<b>7</b>		
<b>Scouts</b> .....	<b>14</b>		
<b>Church News</b> .....	<b>16</b>		

More about the parish can be found at [www.sixpennyhandley.info](http://www.sixpennyhandley.info)

# To The Editor

## Ladies ....

Following the initial meeting last October of our new LADIES SOCIAL GROUP, the first get together of the New Year will be on Monday 12th February at 7pm in the Bowls Clubhouse. This will be for a Cheese and Wine evening, which will include a handmade Valentine's card competition, featuring your very own favourite heart-throb!

All comers are most welcome to join us, and we look forward to seeing friends old and new. If you would like further details please contact:

Bobbie Carter	on	552042
Liz Coombs	on	552946
Stella Olsen	on	552450

## Nora Davis

Nora Davis (née Gartside) died aged 102 years on 14 January 2024 at Braemar Care Home, Salisbury, Wilts. Much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Will be reunited with John at St Mary's Sixpenny-Handley.

## Penny Llama And Alpaca Rescue

Organic Poop for sale.  
No need to rot down, can be used straight away, low in phosphorus.  
£1 per bag.

**Tel: (01725) 552061**

## LOCAL, RELIABLE HANDYMAN

Can do almost anything, from plumbing to gardens

- Home improvement -
- Repair services -
- Interior and exterior jobs -
- Years of experience -



**Charlie Walker**

07774 393638 • 01725 552478  
chaz1940@btinternet.com



## OUR PARISH LIBRARY

As you all know we have a large selection of books for you to read.

Not only can you borrow books in our very popular library, and now we also have a few jigsaws for you to borrow, ideal to keep you busy on the coming darker days.

You can borrow books and jigsaws when the Parish office is open and on our usual first and third Thursday afternoons from 3 till 4.15

Our Crossroads café Hub and library is also open every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 till 12.

Come and visit us, have a chat with friends, or make some new friends, have a coffee or tea and choose a few books.

We love to see you there, everybody is very welcome.

Bea



The new 25 mile route goes directly through Sixpenny Handley.

Sunday 19th May 2024 First ride 8.30am

You may remember reading about Nigel Truton and his Rotary Club bike ride last year - why not join in... They have three rides to attract all ages and skills. There is the 25 mile and 50 mile sections . Family Ride - 6 miles

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/48518>



# Downsman Noticeboard

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



Bring clothes, furniture, household, garden, electrical, toys, bikes etc and we'll do our best to fix them. Refreshments available too!

16th March  
18th May  
21st September  
16th November

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall  
10am - 2pm



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



Friday 16 February  
The Great Escaper (12A)

Friday 15 March  
The Miracle Club (12A)

£6 entry  
Bar & snacks (Popcorn, Ice-cream, Chocolate etc) available

SIXPENNY HANDLEY VILLAGE HALL

## CRAFT FAIR & teas

Sat 30th March

10am-1pm  
FREE ENTRY

6DHandleyVillageHall / 079510 56069

Scarlet Oak Theatre: The Zoo That Comes To You Monday 12 February



Sixpenny Handley Village Hall  
see details page 13

Coming Soon... StarFest 2024

2nd - 4th April, Wimborne Minster  
Plans are underway for the launch of this year's StarFest which will take place during 'Discover the Night Week', with displays, activities and events for all ages.

Join our Dark Sky Advisor Steve Tonkin, astronomer Kate Earl, authors Michaela and Ewen Sedman, astronomy artist Mary McIntyre and astro tourism specialist Richard Darn for talks, crafts, storytelling and the chance to visit the pop-up planetarium. More information coming soon...

CRANBORNE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
CRANBORNE SPORTS CLUB  
Penny's Lane BH21 5QE  
at 7.30pm

5th March The PAST 50 YEARS OF CRANBORNE ESTATE ( Personel-Buildings-Rural Estate)  
by Gavin Fauvel  
2nd April THE WAY WE WERE A history of Cranborne in Pictures by  
Chris Bright

Enquiries: Dorothy Lane  
clhssecretary@gmail.com  
01725 517569



Save the date  
Saturday  
13th July





## Clerk's Corner

Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council  
[www.sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk)

Unit 6, Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley. SP5 5PA  
Email: [Parishclerk@sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Parishclerk@sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk)  
Clerk to the Council (Ciona Nicholson) 01725 552211  
07907 445951

With next year's elections on the horizon I felt local residents might like to know a little more about our Parish Councillors and what being a Parish Councillor is all about.

### **An interview with a Parish Councillor – Cllr Simon (Badger) Meaden**

Background/Occupation: Farmer / Farm Diversification

How long have you lived in the Parish?  
59 Years

How long have you been a Parish Councillor?

First term of office (8 years) & second term of office 2012 – to date (13 years).

Why did you get involved and agree to stand for election?

I was quite disillusioned with the existing Parish Council at the time and felt that they weren't achieving enough. I wanted to support the community I'd lived in all my life and bring positivity to proceedings. I also felt strongly about knowing where public money is being spent.

What aspects do you enjoy about being a Councillor? What aspects are rewarding? What aspects are not so rewarding?

I enjoy making our Parish a better place to live. I'm very practical and find it rewarding knowing someone has benefited from work I have done. It's not so rewarding and can be frustrating to see County budget being wasted.

What are currently hot topics?

For me, keeping a close eye on Dorset Council budget making sure we (as a rural community) are not overlooked. It's important to have representation.

Why do you think people should get involved?

To bring fresh ideas which will help keep the Parish Council focussed on what the parishioners need. On a personal level you can gain so much from being part of the Parish Council, working together to make a difference can be very rewarding.

If you had a magic wand what changes would you make or introduce to our community?

I wish the Parish Councils had more 'clout' 'more power' to control their own environment instead of the 'authorities' making local decisions, I believe that should be made by local people.

### **An interview with a Parish Councillor – Cllr Colin Taylor - Pentridge**

Background/Occupation: Retired Actuary focussed on finance.

How long have you lived in the Parish?  
20 Years

How long have you been a Parish Councillor?

13 years in May (Chairman between 2015 – 2019)

Why did you get involved and agree to stand for election?

The then Chairman approached me and suggested I should stand for election. He thought I would enjoy being able to contribute to the community and he was right!

What aspects do you enjoy about being a Councillor? What aspects are rewarding? What aspects are not so rewarding?

Helping to run the Parish to make it a better place for all of our residents. However, it can be frustrating when valuable local knowledge (which Councillors have) is not taken into account by other organisations.

What are currently hot topics?

Helping the community become greener and more resilient. The current flooding in several parts of the Parish is worrying. Also, given my background, keeping finances healthy.

Why do you think people should get involved? The Parish Council needs people with a wide range of interests and skills. Fresh ideas and fresh input are essential if the Council is to meet the needs and wishes of the Parish. Oh, and it's fun as well!

### **Opening Hours:**

10.00am – 12 noon Tue

7.00pm – 7.30pm Thu

8.30am – 10.00am Fr

For Parish Council

information visit:

[www.sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk](http://www.sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk)

### **The Parish Office Unit 6 Town Farm Workshops is available to HIRE**

Come and take a look when we are open on Tuesday mornings or Thursday evenings or arrange a visit with Ciona.

£10 per session

**Book in with Ciona on**

**01725 552211 or 01725 553040**

If you had a magic wand what changes would you make or introduce to our community?

Definitely more social and affordable housing and a much better bus service.

If you are inspired and would like to know more about the Parish Council – please contact the Clerk or any member of the Parish Council. The elections are this May 2024 and we would be delighted to welcome new members.



**Nick Daniel**

Your local Heat Pump Specialist

Tel: 07795 189 742

**FREE ESTIMATES**

# CALLING ALL COMMUNITY HEROES



Sixpenny Handley with Pentridge Parish Council

## NEEDS YOU!

### MAKE A CHANGE BECOME A COUNCILLOR

TO FIND OUT MORE, CONTACT:

[Parishclerk@sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Parishclerk@sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk)

Clerk to the Council (Ciona Nicholson) 01725 552211

#### What Do Local Councils Do?

Your local (parish and town) council has overall responsibility for the wellbeing of your local community. Their work falls into three main categories:

- Delivery of services
- Improve quality of life for residents
- Give communities a democratic voice

Local councils run numerous services, depending on the size of the council. Many you will see day-to-day, but some are less known. These include introducing solar panels, setting up dementia-friendly groups, organising community buses, creating neighbourhood

plans, implementing suitable housing, establishing youth projects, managing allotments and open spaces, maintaining footpaths, public seating and litter bins.

#### Becoming A Local Councillor

As a local councillor you can become a voice for your community and make real change. Local councillors are the champions of their community who invest time in local projects and issues to the benefit of residents and the neighbourhood.

Local councillor responsibilities fall into three main categories:

- Decision-making
- Monitoring
- Getting involved locally

Local councillors attend to local needs of residents, local groups and businesses, make decisions on local services, collaborate with district and borough councils to adhere to local needs, and progress vital projects to invest in the future of the community.

#### Can I Stand For Election?

To stand for election to a local council you must be:

- A UK or Commonwealth citizen; or be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland; or be a citizen of another Member State of the European Union
- At least 18 years old
- An elector of the local council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area the local council serves (as owner or tenant); or work in the area local council serves (as your principal or only place of work); or live within three miles of the local council boundary

#### Find Out More At:

[www.nalc.gov.uk/makeachange](http://www.nalc.gov.uk/makeachange)

9am - 12pm



Mondays & Wednesdays



## Sixpenny Handley Community Hubs



Welcome to the latest Community Hub update, which we hope will help showcase the ongoing initiatives contributing to the overall wellbeing and connectivity of the residents of our vibrant village. To stay informed about events at the hubs and what's happening in our community, along with other useful information, please follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/6dHandleyHubs> or have a chat with our volunteers at one of the Hub cafés.

### Crossroads Café & Magnificafé Update

The team is delighted to report that the Monday & Wednesday Crossroads Cafés have a consistently good attendance and that donations received during 2023 totalled £600. We would like to thank all our regulars who have contributed so generously and, of course, the wonderful Bea and her team of volunteers.

This money has been transferred into the Community Fund and will be distributed by the CCIO with other funds raised later in the year at The BIG Session (Saturday 13 July), etc. Please remember, if you have a project that will benefit our community that needs funding you can apply for a grant. Details of how to apply will be available in The Downsman later in the year. The Trustees of the Community Fund are planning to hold a public assembly in the spring, so please keep an eye on Facebook, Nextdoor and the Parish Council website for more information.

The Sunday Café re-started on Sunday 28 January and will continue to open on the last Sunday of the month, from 2.00 – 4.00 pm. If you are unable to come to the café during the week, why not give it a try on a Sunday? Tea and cake – what's not to like?!

The Thursday morning Magnificafé at St Mary's Church also continues to be extremely popular and regularly attracts between 30 – 35 people. If you haven't yet been along for a bacon and egg bagel and a freshly brewed cuppa in a wonderfully warm and welcoming environment, do try it. We promise you will quickly become hooked! Our thanks go to the wonderful

Bobbie and her team of lovely volunteers.

### Citizens Advice Bus

The Citizens Advice outreach bus continues to be a valuable resource for our community, regularly attracting between 3 to 5 visitors per visit. Please do drop in to see Mags and Tracey who offer advice on a range of issues, including benefits, debt, money, employment, energy, water schemes, family, housing, legal and more. It's a totally free and confidential service and no appointment is necessary.

The bus will next be at the Parish Office car park on Wednesday 14 February and thereafter on Wednesday 28 February, Wednesday 13 & Wednesday 27 March. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates as well as the next issue of The Downsman.

### IT Support

Andy's regular IT support continues to be popular at his one-to-one sessions at the Crossroads Café on Wednesdays. If you need help with your laptop, tablet or mobile phone, please contact Andy to book a slot (see contact details below).

### Fibre Network Update

Following our article in the December issue of The Downsman regarding the shift of telephone services from traditional analogue to digital or internet-based platforms, we have not yet had specific dates for when the transfer will take place. However, you will be aware that Wessex

Internet has already started work on digging trenches to install ducting and chambers to host their full fibre cables and equipment around the village hall and The Penny Tap. Residents in the High Street should have received notification that the High Street will be closed from The Hollow to the Dean Lane crossroads from 2 – 20 February. Wessex promise that disruption will be kept to a minimum and access will be maintained for affected residents and businesses. The Parish Council will be able to update you if you have any specific queries (call Ciona on: 01725 552211 or email: [parishclerk@sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@sixpennyhandleyandpentridge-pc.gov.uk)).

### Your Community Hub Needs You!

All the community hubs are run by a band of cheerful volunteers who will guarantee you a friendly welcome and a listening ear. We are still keen to encourage more members of the community to volunteer, so if you can spare some of your valuable time to help out at one or more of the venues, please contact Andy on: 552735 or at: [andydturner@outlook.com](mailto:andydturner@outlook.com)

The hubs are subsidised by the host organisation and a minimal charge or donation is requested to help cover costs if you are able. If you have any ideas to help with the wellbeing and connectivity of neighbours in our community, do please let us know. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you soon. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/6dHandleyHubs>

## 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



## Min Fletcher Jones - Jewellery Making Workshops

Min has worked in the jewellery trade since she was 15 and loved designing quirky engagement rings and commissions, and carrying out small repairs. She always has been rather obsessed with jewellery!

Her home includes her messy, creative workshop where she makes lovely, unusual commissions for customers and creates her own beautiful range of jewellery. She takes her collection to big fairs across the country, selling her work meeting lots of wonderful people.

Now it could be your turn to create something for yourself or a loved one! Why not spend a fun few hours learning new skills and making some treasured pieces of jewellery with Min? (Over 18s due to insurance).

With a small work space, Min only teaches 1-2 people at a time, which means you will have her undivided attention for the duration of your lesson. Recent students have gone home delighted with their handmade bangles, rings, earrings, pendants and even some spoons!

£25/hour for 1:1 or £45/hour for 2:1 (£22.50 each). Materials are not included but are charged by the weight of your finished items.

Most lessons are a minimum of 3 hours to a maximum of 6 hours, though you may choose one of my Project Workshops which are designed to introduce you to Jewellery Making with a quick 2 hour workshop. Over 18's only I'm afraid due to insurance cover (I can teach 13+ year olds but a parent/guardian must remain with them).

A Jewellery Making Workshop also makes a fabulous gift – please ask for details of lesson vouchers.

Please get in touch for more info or to book



a workshop -max 3 students.

minfj43@gmail.com or 07920221360  
(WhatsApp preferable)

<https://minfletcherjones.co.uk/workshops>  
[facebook.com/Minfletcherjonesjewellery](https://www.facebook.com/Minfletcherjonesjewellery)  
[instagram.com/minfletcherjones](https://www.instagram.com/minfletcherjones)



**Jewellery & Silversmithing Workshops**  
With Min Fletcher-jones



3-6 hour classes  
1:1 or 2:1 tuition  
Fully equipped workshop  
Materials provided



Whether you are a complete novice or simply want to brush up on your skills, these classes are perfect for you.

£25/hour for 1:1  
or £45/hour for 2:1 (£22.50 each). Max 3 students.  
Materials are not included but are charged by the weight of your finished items.

For more information please contact Min  
minfj43@gmail.com or 07920221360 (WhatsApp preferable)

## Allotment Diary

The vegetable seeds have arrived and thoughts turn to spring and the planting schedule. The beds have had some fresh compost ready for spring planting but need some more. The aim is to rely solely on home made compost this year but we will probably have to buy some in. I confess I get as excited about making compost as I do about growing vegetables. It is fascinating to me that the microbiological decomposition of plant matter can produce a perfect medium for growing food. A plant version of reincarnation. Over the last 30 years we have tried to compost as much waste material as possible with mixed success.

All our food waste is put in a rat-proof Green Johanna\* compost bin, affectionately referred to as Johanna di Compostella, a shrine of food waste composting. With the assistance of compost worms (dendrobaena and tiger worms) all the food waste is digested into worm castes, ending up the colour and consistency of a

Christmas pudding mix. The worms which get in through slots in the base of the bin occur naturally in the ground, and also occur in leaf mould litter, but I confess I treated myself to a bag of tiger worms two years ago which are now chewing their way through our second bin of food waste. Every year the resulting lovely friable mix is put in the runner bean trench with consistently good results.

Other non-food compost bins, used for garden waste (grass clippings and the like) have been less successful in producing the brown friable compost that you get in bags from the garden centre. It seems most garden bins are too small to generate the heat sufficient to break down material and destroy unwanted weed seeds. So we have used three large bins in the allotment approximately a metre square and a metre high and tried to follow the instructions to get the right green brown mix of two thirds green to one third brown. We tend to get plenty of green in the summer in the form

of grass clippings and veg trimmings, but get limited amount of brown. This can be straw, leaves, or paper and cardboard. Bearing in mind the number of times Mr Amazon or other online suppliers visit us, brown cardboard, broken into small pieces, has been the main staple during summer. We shall wait and see the results this spring. Hopefully it will turn out something like multi purpose compost...

Following the last article in the Downsman, we are setting up a raised bed for a complete veggie growing beginner. The idea being they choose their favourite veg and we assist with seeds, planting and growing on, without all the investment in time and money that normally occurs when starting up a veg patch. If anyone else is interested please let us know.

*Chris Stokes*

Julia has excluded herself from this article on the grounds it is nerdy.

\*Food compost bins can be purchased from the local authority at reduced cost.



**Cranborne**  
GARDEN CENTRE



### TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT YOUR GARDEN?

New season roses in stock along with summer flowering bulbs, seeds, spring bedding plants, RHS endorsed compost and everything you need to get your garden ready for brighter days ahead

\*\*\*

Cranborne Manor Garden is open every Wednesday from 6th March PLUS Sunday 10th March for Mother's Day. See our website for full details of all our events



**GARDEN CENTRE    GIFT SHOP    CAFÉ**

[www.cranbornegardencentre.co.uk](http://www.cranbornegardencentre.co.uk) 01725 517248 [info@cranbornegardencentre.co.uk](mailto:info@cranbornegardencentre.co.uk)  
Cranborne, Dorset, BH21 5PP

## Reporting to Trading Standards

If you think a business has broken the law or has acted unfairly, you can report them to Trading Standards. Call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.

There are two benefits in reporting this way:

Your call will be answered by a trained Citizens Advice helpline advisor. They take details and give you practical and impartial advice on how to resolve your consumer problem. They will tell you the law which applies to your situation and will provide letter templates if needed. They will then pass information about your complaint to Trading Standards.

Trading Standards will use the information you have provided to decide whether to investigate unfair trading and illegal business activity. Often business advice is all that's needed. However, Trading

Standards can take businesses to court when there have been major breaches and it's in the public interest to do so.


Here are just some examples of when you should report a business to Trading Standards:

- unsafe or dangerous goods, including electrical goods and food past its use-by date
- fake goods
- misdescribed goods
- you were pressurised to buy something
- You paid for something that you didn't receive, and you can't contact the seller
- A business seller has tried to stop you using your legal rights, such as saying you can't return faulty goods
- the price wasn't clear, or an unexpected extra cost was added
- a business is selling age restricted products to people underage

- work wasn't carried out properly at your address

Trading Standards will contact you back if they need more information about what has happened. Often Trading Standards look for persistence, so even if they don't act on one complaint, they may use your evidence to act against the business in the future if other people make complaints too.





**Boiler Servicing & Maintenance**  
**Gas, Oil & LPG**

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

**T: 01747 828689**  
**M: 07974249287**

Donhead St. Andrew

## Cranborne Chase National Landscape

### Stargazing at Tarrant Gunville

- Wednesday 13th March 2024

- 7:30pm – 9:00pm

- Home Farm Campsite, Tarrant Gunville, DT11 8JW

Join us for a free evening of stargazing on the Cranborne Chase National Landscape International Dark Sky Reserve. Booking is essential.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/stargazing-evening-in-tarrant-gunville-tickets-768340225297>

### Learn How to Hedgelay

- Various dates until Feb 2024

- Semley

Learn how to regenerate hedges and protect them for many years to come in free Hedgelaying courses this Winter, funded through our Farming in Protected Landscapes programme.

<https://cranbornechase.org.uk/events/learn-how-to-hedgelay/>

## Village Hall News

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall CIO  
(Charity Number: 1201429)

disco was hilarious and we were very busy behind the bar and in the kitchen.

Thank you for your support. All profits are going towards the ongoing programme of improvements for the village hall.

### New Year, New Challenge!

#### Join Our Friendly Team

We hope you will agree that fantastic progress has already been made towards improving the hall for all users, but we could do with a few extra pairs of hands.

Specifically, we need a volunteer to do a bit of admin - taking minutes at our meetings (only 4 or 5 a year!) and helping us to run our exciting programme of events. Please contact us now for a chat to find out more.

Additionally, we are totally reliant on the generosity of those who are prepared to give up some of their valuable time to run the village hall and to help out at events. If you would like to be more involved to ensure that this amazing asset can continue to bring quality events to our community, please do get in touch.

### Entertainment Update

By the time you read this, we will have had our first film of the year, the spooky whodunnit, A Haunting in Venice. The Community Cinema will continue on the third Friday of the month throughout the winter.



On Friday 16 February, we are showing The Great Escaper (12A) starring Michael Caine and Glenda Jackson (in her last screen role). Based on the true story that made national news in 2014 about Royal Navy veteran, Bernard Jordan (Caine), who is disappointed to miss out on an official



### Sing For Santa - Community Carols A Big Thank You

We would like to thank all those wonderful people who followed Santa up the High Street to the Village Hall for the Community Carols on 18 December and gave so generously to Salisbury Hospital's Stars Appeal.

Huge thanks go to Badger Meaden and his team for arranging for Santa to visit the village during his busiest time! And to all those collecting donations up the High Street.

We are extremely grateful too to Margaret Wilkinson and the team from St Mary's Church for the delicious cheese straws, mince pies, mulled wine and, of course, for leading the wonderful community carols. Also, our thanks go to the Trustees of the Village Hall for donating all other drinks sold to raise funds for this incredibly worthy cause.

We are delighted to tell you that the total raised was a fantastic £578.35. Thank you all.

### New Year's Eve Fun & Games

Thank you to all those who joined us for the fun and games at our party in the hall on New Year's Eve.

We apologise for the disappointment caused to those who were unable to get tickets on the day due to us selling out. Please remember to get your tickets early next time!!

We promised you'd have a blast and we hope our 90 or so guests will agree that that's what we delivered! What fun it was - Break Cover were fantastic, the silent

group outing to the D-Day anniversary in France. Encouraged by his wife Rene (Jackson), he sneaks out from his care home and goes on one last big adventure to cross the Channel, while reminiscing about his wartime experiences.

"There's a huge amount to enjoy from these legendary performers: Caine and Jackson are a great double-act" The Guardian

On Friday 15 March we have The Miracle Club (12A). It's 1967 in Ballygar, a hard-knocks community in Dublin, and Lily (Maggie Smith), Eileen (Kathy Bates) and Dolly (Agnes O'Casey) see their dream of escape come true when they win a pilgrimage to Lourdes, that place of miracles that draws millions of visitors each year. However, just before their trip, their old friend Chrissie (Laura Linney) arrives in Ballygar for her mother's funeral and joins the party. The glamour and sophistication of Chrissie, who has just returned from a nearly 40-year exile in the United States, are not her only distancing traits: old wounds are reopened along the way, forcing the women to confront their pasts even as they travel in search of a miracle. Their shared traumas can only be healed by the curative power of love and friendship.

On Friday 19 April we've got the irresistibly vivid and inventive big screen spectacle, Wonka (PG), the story of how the world's greatest inventor, magician and chocolate-maker became the beloved Willy Wonka we know today.

Wonka (Timothée Chalamet) comes to pre-war Paris as a young man after a life on the ocean wave, determined to make his fortune with the chocolate recipes invented by his mum (Sally Hawkins). His new ideas make him enemies, notably Bleacher (Tom Davis) and Mrs Scrubbit (Olivia Colman), but he wins out with the help of new friends. And look out for the wonderful Hugh Grant as the original Oompa-Loompa! This is one for children and adults, so please make a note in your calendar now!

Tickets for all films cost £6 and are available

on the door only. Hot and cold drinks plus snacks will be on sale from 6.30 pm and the film starts at 7.00 pm.

Please see: [www.movoiola.org](http://www.movoiola.org) or our Facebook page: 6dHandleyVillageHall for further information.

#### Artsreach



#### Scarlet Oak Theatre: The Zoo That Comes To You Monday 12 February 2024

'The Zoo That Comes To You' follows the efforts of two wildlife enthusiasts who provide respite, care or a temporary home to those in need. They now have a sanctuary full of animals, however, no-one has come to visit their zoo. So, everybody - animals and humans alike - has decided it is time to get out, see the world, and bring the zoo, to you!

Come and meet this eclectic group of charming yet cheeky animals, as they discuss their life experiences and the challenges they face. These chatty animals have a lot of stories to tell and want to inspire people of all ages to take action, because they know small actions can make

a big difference in the world.

Featuring puppetry, live music and playful characters, Scarlet Oak Theatre welcomes you to join the conversation about animal conservation. Suitable for age 5+

Date: Monday 12 February 2024

Time: 10.30 - 11.30 am (doors open at 10.00 am)

Tickets £7 (adult) / £5 (under 18) / £20 (family) - available online at:

<https://artsreach.co.uk/event/zoo-that-comes-to-you> and from Clarkes the butcher

Refreshments: Snacks and hot drinks available to buy

Post-show: Introduction to Puppetry for Families Workshop 11.45 am - 12.45 pm

You've seen the performance, now explore puppeteering in this 1-hour family workshop. Led by professional puppeteers, families will participate in a group warm up and then begin to explore and combine storytelling, puppetry and vocal techniques. Participants will be guided through improvisation and devising exercises and then use their new repertoire of skills to devise material in collaboration with others before presenting their puppetry performances to the group.

Date: Monday 12 February 2024

Time: 11.45 am - 12.45 pm

Tickets: £6 per family. Places are limited so booking is essential. Please book online or call 01725 552812

For the full programme of Artsreach shows Jan - Mar 24), please see: <https://artsreach.co.uk/>

#### Craft Fair with Teas

Our first Craft Fair with Teas this year will be on Saturday 30 March from 10.00 am - 1.00 pm. Entry is FREE!

Please add the date to your diary and keep an eye on the posters around the village and our Facebook page and Nextdoor for further information and updates on future fairs.

#### Your Village Hall

Are you planning an event this year? Then look no further for a fabulous venue! See below what the amazing Ali Lane did for our New Year's Eve Party. The hall can be transformed into the perfect space whatever the occasion. Whether you're looking for somewhere to hold a special family party, a wedding reception, a community or charity event, a class or club, we have the facilities for you at very reasonable rates.

A black and white photograph of the interior of Sixpenny Handley Village Hall. The room is set up for an event with round tables covered in white cloths and chairs. There are stage lights and a banner hanging from the ceiling.

# Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

Our newly refurbished village hall is the perfect venue for:

**Weddings, Parties, Music Events,  
Theatre Productions, Band Practise, Baby  
Groups, Fitness Classes / Yoga, Corporate  
Events and much more!**

**Call Shellie on 07563 703577 or  
email: [6dhandleyhall@gmail.com](mailto:6dhandleyhall@gmail.com)**



Sixpenny Handley Village Hall is available to hire on an hourly basis, with discounted rates for local residents and organisations. Please contact Shellie Cooper on: 07563 703577 or email her at: [6dhandleyhall@gmail.com](mailto:6dhandleyhall@gmail.com) for more details.

Keep up to date with all our events on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/6DHandleyVillageHall> and Nextdoor.

**Scouts** 1st Woodcutts  
 Group Scout Leader  
 John Curtis  
 01725 552397

# 1st Woodcutts News

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

### The end of 2023

Explorers trip to Milton Keynes was enjoyed by all in December. They visited Silverstone, had a three hour monopoly fest with the requisite amount of cheating and teaming, and rule arguing required, then, after a good sleep, visited Bletchley Park and Milton Keynes for indoor sky diving. What an adventure!

The whole 1st Woodcutts ended the winter term with a joyous celebration of the year's Scouting in St Mary's Church. Each of the sections contributed a song for the occasion as well as enjoying traditional carols and awarding Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum and Diamond Chief Scout Awards. Well done to all of you!

But... that wasn't the last Scouting of 2023 as the Scouts then had the amazing opportunity to camp over at the Ancient Technology Centre in Cranborne. Winter. Activities included pyrography, whittling, paracord winter woggles and every Scout helped to cook our roast. Christmas games in the Round House and then time for bed in the Long House and Round House. Scouts were treated to a special camp breakfast in the morning before going home.

Thank you to the leaders who made it happen and to our super star Explorers for running games, serving food, organising activities and being generally awesome.

### What now?

All the sections have started their weekly meetings again. Squirrels are working towards our all about me badge. They have started by drawing self portraits and making mini me puppets.

Beavers are working on our Challenge Badge by setting our own challenges which we will revisit just before Easter to see how we have done. We are also starting our Disability Awareness Badge by learning to sign.



Explorers indoor skydiving and at Silverstone



Cubs are working towards their Skills Challenge Award and there will be plenty of cooking this term!

Winter camp at the Ancient Technology Centre in Cranborne

Scouts have visited West Moors for the annual air rifle competition.

### What next?

The whole of the 1st Woodcutts family is getting ready for this year's Family Camp.

This is the highlight of Scouting at Woodcutts and has become a thing of legend. It's an action packed, fun and adventurous weekend for all Squirrels, Beavers, Cub, Scouts, Explorers and, most importantly, parents and siblings too. It is a chance to come together as a big Scouting family to enjoy a variety of activities in a fun, social setting.

Exciting activities such as climbing, archery, axe throwing, cave bus and many more,



silent disco with battling DJs, delicious food cooked by Auntie Cathy and more... we can't wait!



T: 07513821752 E: nick@nl-accounting.co.uk  
W: www.nl-accounting.co.uk

Unit 9, Town Farm Workshops, Dean Lane  
Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5PA

KNOWLEDGEABLE. APPROACHABLE. PROACTIVE.

Contact us to see how we can help you.  
All trades and industries welcome, no matter the size!



Nick Limb is licensed and regulated by AAT  
under licence number 1002056



## WHAT DO WE DO?

- SELF ASSESSMENTS
- SOLE TRADE / PARTNERSHIPS
- LIMITED COMPANY ACCOUNTS
- REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS
- VAT RETURNS
- CIS RETURNS (CONSTRUCTION)
- PAYROLL
- BOOKKEEPING
- CAPITAL GAINS TAX
- COMPANY SECRETARIAL
- SOFTWARE ADVISORY



## D. J. LOGS

### Quality Barn Stored Seasoned Logs

- ~ Discounted Double Loads
- ~ Single/Half Loads
- ~ Netted Logs
- ~ Kindling
- ~ Coal
- ~ Firelighters

Contact Darren or Lucy: 01725 553 167

## Malcolm Lawes Logs

Dry seasoned, barn stored logs delivered. **Firewood Processor and Operator**

Kindling also supplied. **available for hire if you have your**

Single load 1.4 cubic metre or a smaller **own wood to process.**  
load of 1 cubic metre.

Please call to discuss your requirements

Tel: 01258 830575 or 07738 827 651



## Sharon Carter Bookkeeping

Friendly, professional, qualified  
bookkeeper to help keep you and  
business on track.

- Day to day bookkeeping
- VAT Returns
- Construction Industry Scheme
- Payroll
- Sole trader & Partnership accounts

E-mail:  
sharon@sharoncarterbookkeeping.co.uk

Tel: 07766746724



## Church News

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

February can be a gloomy, grey month. Yet amongst this greyness the occasional sunny day and the growth of the early spring flowers bring bursts of light and colour. Many of us celebrate a colourful, loving and caring day called Valentine's Day – the card shops are full of cards exclaiming undying love.

However, unfortunately today there is increasing division in communities across the world, where love is not evident. We see this in Ukraine and the Middle East and in the many other countries still at war. It leaves us feeling at a loss as to how we can be of any help.

Today, there are still individuals and groups within our own communities who are routinely excluded. How can we help to break down barriers of suspicion and fear, and get to know the humanity of people who are different from us, and show love?

As well as being Valentine's Day on 14th February, it is Ash Wednesday, the start of Lent, a period when many people choose to give up something or to take up something for Lent. I wonder how you might mark the season this year? Christians might read and reflect together on the word of God, and ask how we live this out in our lives. Many might also ask how we continue to learn from all that happened

in the past. It is more than just our own individual responses that are needed: we need to work together, to create systems and societies that enable all to flourish, that challenge the suffering and injustice experienced by many.

I wonder if there are further ways in which we can all work together in our communities. Whether in the villages, the churches, our schools, our shops and pubs, throughout the many community groups and friendships, I believe that we need to stand together to make places where everyone can flourish in love. God Bless.

## Our Benefice

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

As you will recall the grand plan was to form 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 (actually 0.66) incumbent priest. In this plan, the southern parishes of Pimperne, Stourpaine, Durweston, Tarrant (Hinton, Gunville & Monkton) would form the southern Benefice. In the north, Chettle, Farnham & Tollard Royal would join Handley and Pentridge to form the northern Benefice. The PCCs involved had all been consulted in this plan and very much looked forward to its implementation, as the best possible option for our parishes. Meanwhile David and Henriët have been diligently supporting this whole somewhat odd and large grouping of 11 parishes, for which we are extremely grateful. They will both leave us on retirement in July 2024. Their departure will be a huge loss and they will be greatly missed, as they have both served us all so well.

Sadly, the welcome news that we had a possible candidate for the post in Handley, was dashed when the person withdrew, just before Christmas and the closing date passed with no further interest. The Diocese has indicated that they are now

not willing to spend money to advertise again – though thankfully they are willing to continue to support the plan explained above as has been agreed by all parties. Thus, we remain hopeful that someone searching for such a half-time post will find it and apply in coming months. Meanwhile refurbishment work continues apace on the Vicarage to bring it to up to modern standards and our PCC will be considering what we can do to spread the word about the post by other means.

If anyone has any thoughts or good ideas about this, or wishes to input any view 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, 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 to maintain the fabric of our churches. This is why we are always grateful for any support given. Meanwhile many have assumed that we have no priest, but as explained above, we do! Our priest for now of course remains Rev Dr David Miell who along with Henriët both look after our pastoral needs.

### ST MARY'S & ST ANDREW'S PARISH SHARE

One piece of very good news which you will wish to know, is that in December we paid to the Diocese, the last instalment of our Share for 2023, which we committed to do in order to gain their agreement to advertise our vacant post. With everyone's help we are committed to do so again in 2024.

## 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: Handley, Linda Cooper - 01725 552864 or Margaret Wilkinson 01725 553150; Pentridge, Jane King - 01725 552231 or Mary Ferguson - 01725 552222



## What's Been

Epiphany. When a little girl, born in 1880, was about six years' old, she firmly believed that a camel had one hump, a dromedary had two humps and an epiphany had three humps because three wise men came on an epiphany. (That wee girl was my grannie). We are now well into Epiphany and heading towards Ash Wednesday and Lent at breakneck speed.

Did you know that the first Sunday of Epiphany is Plough Sunday – a significant date for farmers marking the first day of the agricultural year? The 'village plough' (imagine if we only had one in the village these days) used to be stored in the church over the winter. Can't see that happening now. What would the Medieval farmers of the 15th century make of the GPS-navigated machinery now used? When

you look at the church's calendar, it is a real eye-opener to see how much it is intertwined with the farming community.

December, now a fast-fading memory, was a hive of activity for St Mary's. We had the Christmas Fair, the Carol Service and, of course, the much-loved Christingle Service on Christmas Eve which was, as ever, a candlelit joy with all the little children and attracted about 150 to fill St Mary's with song. All the collection money (c£170) from that special service goes to The Children's Society to help them in their vital work.

Also, great fun was the 3-way joint initiative of the Village Hall Committee, Parish Council and St Mary's Church who all worked together for the Singing for

Santa on 18th December. Santa and his followers progressed up the High Street on a Steam Engine, to arrive at the Village Hall where a small army was ready to dispense mulled wine, hot chocolate, mince pies, all the usual Christmas goodies provided by the church and the Village Hall; the Parish Council donated all the sweeties that gave the children a huge sugar rush!! In addition to raising money for Salisbury Hospital's Stars Appeal, the whole idea of the evening was to have a Communal Carol Singalong. Everyone seemed in good voice and were happy to follow the lead from St Mary's magnificent choir! We were very pleased with £173 raised just in the hall that evening for the Stars Appeal. It was great fun and our thanks go to all the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council for their help and willingness to get involved. Let's do it again next year!

## What's On



Look out for future **FILM NIGHTS** coming soon – third Friday of each month, until Easter. See the Noticeboard and Village Hall page.



**Community Café – MAGNIFICAFÉ** originally set up by the PCC, has now joined the Parish Council's Handley Hubs initiative. The Mag Café, as it is known, continues going from strength to strength - it meets most Thursday morning from 9-12am in St Marys. Come along for hot breakfast, eggs, bacon, bagels, waffles, as well as various drinks. It's a great place to meet with friends and small children. It has a quieter corner where you can hold a meeting if needed and there is free Wi-Fi.



### Handley Community Choir meets AGAIN! -

Thursdays - at St Mary's, 6pm.

The Choir is always practising for any excuse to sing. They get together for practice on Thursday evenings at 6.00pm for an hour or so in St Mary's. New Members welcome! Please contact Margaret on 01725 553150.



**St Mary's Bible Study Group** – Meetings in 2024 are usually on the first Wednesday of each month. We are starting up in 2024 on 7th February, starting at 7.15pm.

Please contact Mike Carter on (01725 552720) for details.

## HANDLEY BENEFICE WITH INNER CHASE GROUP MONTHLY PLANNED 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. Please email notices@handleychurch.org.uk

	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	10.30 Matins	No Service	

YCT - Young Church Team, DM - Rev David Miell, HM - Rev Henriët Miell, NB - Naomi Booth LWL, DL - David Lockyer, JM - Jackie Molnar LWL, CN – Carol Neilson LLM, AR - Anne Reed, LWL



# COMPTON SMITH INTERIORS

[www.comptonsmith.co.uk](http://www.comptonsmith.co.uk)  
FULL INTERIOR DESIGN SERVICE

- Interior decorating consultancy.
- Bespoke curtains, blinds and upholstery.
- Suppliers of well-known specialist paints, wallpapers & fabrics:  
*Farrow & Ball, Little Greene, Pierre Frey, Colefax & Fowler, Lewis and Wood, Sanderson Design Group and many more designers.*

**Monday to Thursday: 8.30am to 5.30pm**  
**Friday: 8.30am to 5.00pm**  
**Saturday: 9.30am to 1.00pm**

10d Wincombe Business Park,  
Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 9QJ  
**Tel: +44 (0)1747 850150**  
[info@comptonsmith.co.uk](mailto:info@comptonsmith.co.uk)

## MINSTER STONE MEMORIALS



VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT  
Old Rd, Pye Corner, Wimborne, BH21 1EJ  
(next to The Green Man pub)  
Visit our website to view our brochures,  
or call or email us

ALSO MEMORIAL  
MAINTENANCE,  
CLEANING AND  
RENOVATION

**WIMBORNE 01202 883224**

[www.minstermemorials.co.uk](http://www.minstermemorials.co.uk)  
[sales@minstermemorials.co.uk](mailto:sales@minstermemorials.co.uk)

## The Great Bustard

Expanding the Population on Cranborne Chase

See how the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme has supported the reintroduction of the vulnerable Great Bustard in Cranborne Chase.

The purchase of a thermal imaging drone, supported by FiPL, has enabled the Great Bustard Group to detect nesting Bustards, protecting them from silage cutting and helping to restore viable populations in Wiltshire.

Visit:  
<https://cranbornechase.org.uk/6577-2/>  
to see the video and find out more...

RICHARD ADLEM MBE

practising as

HANDLEY FUNERALS



Private Chapel








Monumental Mason

**Telephone Handley 01725 552496 or 07766 039557**  
Park Cottage, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, SP5 5NJ



### Bike Servicing:

### Unit 1 Town Farm Workshops

-  **BASIC SERVICE:** Basic service covers adjustments and basic part replacement i.e. cables, brake pads etc.
-  **FULL SERVICE:** Includes the service above plus wheel alignment, tyres, rims checked, BB, chains degreased etc.
-  **PLATINUM SERVICE:** Full service where bike is stripped down to its component form and everything gets checked and either serviced, repaired or replaced.
-  **WHEEL ALIGNMENT**     **GEAR INDEXING**     **BRAKE SERVICING**     **SPOKE REPLACEMENT**

For further information email: [info@hanent.co.uk](mailto:info@hanent.co.uk)    phone: 01725 552389

[www.handleycycles.co.uk](http://www.handleycycles.co.uk)

## Share your Business on the Cranborne Chase Website

The Cranborne Chase website is a hub for residents and visitors to find out more about the area. We are developing our directory of the wonderful places to eat, stay, shop and visit across this National Landscape.

Local businesses (including pubs, farm shops, village stores, B&B's, campsites and visitor attractions) can submit their details below to feature on our web directory.

<https://cranbornechase.org.uk/explore/list-your-business/>

## Conygar Coppice



### EDUCATION / LEARNING

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

### WOODLAND PRODUCTS

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

### STRUCTURES

- Garden furniture
- Bespoke timber structures
- Composting toilets

Call Anthony on  
01725 552814, 07920031314

[www.conygarcoppice.com](http://www.conygarcoppice.com)

## Per Ardua Ad Astra

### Royal Air Force

#### A History - Part 4

In the wake of the successes on the first day of the Battle of Amiens which was closed down on 16th August, 1918, much heavy ground fighting remained, but for the German forces on the Western Front the war was effectively at an end.

In the three months remaining before the unrelenting slaughter ended at the 'eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month' the operational effectiveness of the Royal Air Force continued to expand with the establishment of new squadrons with, for the age, advanced designs such as the Handley Page V/1500 four-engined\*night heavy-bomber capable of reaching Berlin from bases in East Anglia [a portent of what would become a reality in the Second World War].

The first examples were delivered to No. 166 Squadron at Bircham Newton, Norfolk, during October 1918, and by early November its [anonymous] commanding officer signalled that his squadron was ready to commence bombing operations. It was not, however, until the 8th that authorisation was given for an attack on Berlin after which the three aircraft would continue to Prague [the Austro-Hungarian forces having surrendered], land, refuel and rearm and raid Düsseldorf while returning to Bircham Newton. Frustratingly for the crews earmarked for this air-breaking venture technical issues with the Rolls-Royce Eagle engines prevented the raid from going ahead and it was not until the 11th that all was ready. It is reported that the three machines were in the process of taxiing when news of the Armistice signing arrived, thus drawing a veil over what might have been the first bombing attack on the Germany's capital.

With history unfolding in the pre-dawn of 11th November, 1918, in Marshal Ferdinand Foch's railway coast in the Forest of Compiègne, this is an appropriate time to pause and look back on the last year of the Great War. On New Year's Day, three months before the merger of the Royal Naval Air Service and the Royal Flying Corps

from which the Royal Air Force came into existence, the Air Board was dissolved and in its place emerged the 'Air Ministry'.

A month after the merger on 1st April, 1918, the government came to a decision that an Independent Force should be formed with the prime objective of maintaining a sustained bombing offensive targeting German munition factories. On June 6th, 1918, the Independent Force came into being under the command of Major-General Sir Hugh Trenchard with his headquarters at Autigny-la-Tour in the Vosges and a little over 6km northeast from Neufchâteau.

By the time of the Armistice the Independent Force consisted of nine operational squadrons administered by three wings; No. 41 Wing at Luupcourt was responsible for Nos. 55, 99 and 104 Squadrons, all operating out of Azelot and equipped with Airco DH.9 variants and DH.10; 83rd Wing at Xafféwillers boasted five squadrons equipped with Handley Page O/400 heavy bombers. Three, Nos 97, 100 and 215 Squadrons were based at Xafféwillers with Nos. 115 and 216 Squadrons at Roville-au-Chênes. 88th Wing at Bettencourt housed No. 110 Squadron equipped with Airco DH.9A.

At The National Archives, Kew, thousands of military and civilian records are available for public inspection and in regard to the Royal Air Force documents pertaining to squadrons have now been digitised. These come under the AIR 27 class where file 521 allows inspection of the pre-Second World War records from No. 55 Squadron. Formed at Castle Bromwich on 27th April, 1916, No. 55 Squadron arrived on the Western Front on March 6th, 1917, and was initially based at Fienvillers. Here, in June 1917, the first Airco DH.4 two-seater day bombers arrived and by April 1st, 1918, '55' was commanded by Major Alexander Gray, a holder of the Military Cross. Born on September 8th, 1896, Alexander Gray rose to the rank of air vice-marshal, serving with distinction until retirement on March

27th, 1949. His death was announced on May 16th, 1980.

I suspect the squadron's original records were hand-written and that much of file 521 has been typed up in retrospect. The following extract covers events for the early part of April, 1918, at which time the squadron was based at Tantonville; 'On the 3rd, when the weather showed signs of improvement, a D.H.4 of No. 55 Squadron attempted a photographic reconnaissance, but this had to be abandoned owing to clouds. Next day it rained again. The 5th April opened cloudy with a strong westerly breeze. At 10.15 a.m. Lieutenant F. Williams took off at the head of six machines followed five minutes later by six others in charge of Captain J.B. Fox, all bound for the German G.H.Q. at Spa near Liege. The lines were crossed at Fresnes at 13,000 feet, but in spite of the fact that the bombing of this objective was four days overdue Fox says it was impossible to reach it and so decided to bomb Luxemburg instead. At 12.15 p.m. eleven D.H.4's released their bombs on the station with excellent results. One very large fire, which looked like boring oil, was started and could be seen for fifteen miles at least. Second Lieutenants P.H. O'Lieff [pilot] and S.R. Wells [observer] failed to return. They had reached and bombed the target but were forced to land in enemy territory and were taken prisoner. The photographic reconnaissance for the day was carried out by Captain W.B. Farrington with Captain O.L. Beater as observer. Clouds prevented the full accomplishment of their task, viz; the reconnoitring of hostile aerodromes and the Pentane railway, but they managed to secure good photographs of four aerodromes through gaps.'

For many months after the Great War, the Royal Air Force continued to use former army ranks regarding officers, while the only non-commissioned rank common to the Army and Air Force was 'sergeant'. Airmen were ranked 1st, 2nd or 3rd class within their trade group, thus an air mechanic would be referred to as 1st class et al.

In my first volume of 'Royal Air Force & Australian Flying Corps Squadron Losses 1st April - 30th June 1918' on page 29 I show both officers survived their captivity and in the postwar reduction of officer establishment both were placed on the Unemployed lists on 28th May and 8th March 1919, respectively. Their DH.4 'A7553' was a presentation aircraft titled 'Zanzibar No.8' and entered service on August 13th, 1917. By the 19th, it was in the hands of No. 18 Squadron and while being flown by Lieutenants J. Carling and E Farncombe the engine 'cut out' at 500 feet, necessitating an emergency landing. All might have been well but it touched down in a crosswind and received some minor damage. During repairs its original RAF 3a engine was replaced with an Eagle VII and followed storage at various units was issued to No. 55 Squadron on March 11th, 1918, and painted with the letter 'J'.

\* In appearance the V/1500 seemed to be twin-engined but close inspection reveals the engines were mounted in tandem, one pulling the other pushing. Owing to the fact that it came into service as the war was drawing to a close, its role as a heavy-bomber has, largely, been overlooked but for its day it was a very impressive aircraft. Sixty-four feet in length with a wingspan of 126 feet it towered twenty-three feet on the ground and required a crew of between eight and nine. In the Second World War, Handley Page produced another night-bomber, the Halifax and apart from its length, just short of seventy-two feet, it was smaller than in all other aspects than a V/1500.

References: AIR 27/521 No. 55 Squadron; Air of Authority - A History of RAF Organisation; The D.H.4/D.H.9 File compiled by Ray Sturtivant and Gordon Page, Air-Britain Publications, 1999.

My own work is published by Aviation Books. For details access [www.aviationbooks.org](http://www.aviationbooks.org)

To be continued.

Bill Chorley

## WINDOWBright Window Cleaning

Cleaning windows in Sixpenny Handley and the surrounding area for over 10 years  
Reliable, friendly & professional service

Please call Joe for a quote **07796 447014**  
or Email: [joe@windowbright.co.uk](mailto:joe@windowbright.co.uk)



Frogmore Design  
Interior Design & Painted Furniture



Frogmore Barn in Sixpenny Handley has a wide variety of painted and pine furniture and beautiful items for the home as well as a wide selection of personal gifts. The Barn is available every day simply by calling Jacquie before your arrival.

Frogmore Farmhouse, Frogmore Lane, Sixpenny Handley  
Tel: 01725 552910 or E-Mail: [frogmoredesign@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:frogmoredesign@tiscali.co.uk)  
See our Website at: [www.frogmoredesign.com](http://www.frogmoredesign.com)



## DORSET & WILTS STORAGE

### SELF STORAGE FACILITY

Safe, secure & convenient. Indoor units for domestic or business use

**\* NEW - CONTAINER STORAGE \***

All sizes available

On the A354 near Sixpenny Handley

Phone David 07971 869372 or Steph 07748 925810

Or email: [info@dorsetandwiltsstorage.co.uk](mailto:info@dorsetandwiltsstorage.co.uk)

[www.dorsetandwiltsstorage.co.uk](http://www.dorsetandwiltsstorage.co.uk)



**BESPOKE Websites**  
*Design for* **PRINT**

**Tel: 01725 552430**  
 naomi@thewebbooth.co.uk  
 www.thewebbooth.co.uk



*designed with you in mind*

## CBA Services

As usual it is a busy time in the Tax and Accountancy world as we look forward to hearing what the Spring budget holds on 6th March. We offer a range of services for both the individual or business so if you need any assistance please contact our team. In the meantime, here are a few articles from our website you may find useful.

### Obtaining the HMRC mobile app

HMRC's free tax app is available to download from the App Store for iOS and from the Google Play Store for Android. The latest version of the app includes some updated functionality to update your name, save your National Insurance number to your digital wallet and to obtain help from HMRC's digital assistant.

The APP can be used to see:

- your tax code and National Insurance number
- your income and benefits
- your income from work in the previous 5 years
- how much you will receive in tax credits and when they will be paid
- your Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR) self-assessment
- how much self-assessment tax you owe
- your Child Benefit
- your State Pension

The app can also be used to complete a number of tasks that usually require the

user to be logged on to a computer. This includes:

- get an estimate of the tax you need to pay;
- make a self-assessment payment;
- set a reminder to make a self-assessment payment;
- report tax credits changes and complete your renewal;
- access your Help to Save account;
- using HMRC's tax calculator to work out your take home pay after Income Tax and National Insurance deductions;
- track forms and letters you have sent to HMRC;
- claim a refund if you have paid too much tax;
- update your name and / or postal address;
- save your National Insurance number to your digital wallet; and
- choose to be contacted by HMRC electronically, instead of by letter.

Tax and duties on goods sent from abroad

There are special rules to ensure that goods sent from abroad are taxed appropriately and to ensure that UK businesses supplying goods in the UK - for example by having to compete with VAT free imports - are not disadvantaged. This includes goods that are new or used and purchased online, purchased abroad and shipped to the UK and goods received as gifts.

This means that to receive your goods you may have to pay VAT, Customs Duty or Excise Duty if they were sent to:

Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) from outside the UK.

Northern Ireland from countries outside the UK and the European Union (EU).

VAT is charged on all goods (except for gifts worth £39 or less) sent from:

outside the UK to Great Britain; and  
 outside the UK and the EU to Northern Ireland.

Online marketplaces involved in facilitating

Advertise in

**The Downsman**

This space £5 per issue

**£25 per year**  
 (1 issue free)



**HAWTHORNS TAXI**

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

the sale of goods are usually responsible for collecting and accounting for the VAT. If the VAT has not been collected, you will have to pay VAT to the delivery company either before the goods are delivered or when you collect them. If you have to pay VAT to the delivery company, it is charged on the total package value which includes the value of the goods, postage, packing, insurance and any duty owed.

There is usually no Customs Duty payable on non-excise goods worth £135 or less. There is Customs Duty payable above this level and on excise goods of any value.

#### Employing staff for first time

There are a multitude of rules and regulations that you must be aware of when you start employing staff for the first time.

HMRC's guidance sets out some important issues to be aware of when becoming an employer.

1. Decide how much to pay someone - you must pay your employee at least the National Minimum Wage.
2. Check if someone has the legal right to work in the UK. You may have to do other employment checks as well.
3. Check if you need to apply for a DBS check (formerly known as a CRB check) if you work in a field that requires one, e.g., with vulnerable people or security.
4. Get employment insurance - you need employers' liability insurance as soon as you become an employer.
5. Send details of the job (including terms and conditions) in writing to your employee. You need to give your employee a written statement of employment if you are employing someone for more than one month.
6. Ensure that you register as an employer with HMRC. You can do this up to four weeks before you pay your new staff. This process must also be completed by directors of a limited company who employ themselves to


work in the company.

7. Check if you need to automatically enrol your staff into a workplace pension scheme.

When paying staff, you generally have the choice to use a payroll provider or run your own payroll scheme. If you decide to run your own payroll you must choose suitable payroll software. Setting up payroll for the first time can be an onerous and complex task. We can of course help advise you to ensure you meet the necessary requirements in the most efficient way possible.

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

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



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



Tax and Accountancy help for Individuals and Businesses

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

<b>Individuals, Trusts and Estates</b>	<b>Businesses</b>
--	-------------------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Income Tax Advice</li> <li>Self-Assessment Tax Returns</li> <li>Capital Gains Tax Planning</li> <li>Inheritance Tax Planning</li> <li>Child Tax Credits</li> <li>Notice of Coding Issues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accounts</li> <li>Company Secretarial</li> <li>VAT Returns</li> <li>Payroll/PAYE</li> <li>Bookkeeping</li> <li>CIS (Construction Industry Scheme)</li> </ul>
--	---

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





CBA Services  
 45 East Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7DX  
 Telephone: 01258 840306 / 07895 913546  
 Email: catherine@cba-services.co.uk  
 Website: www.cba-services.co.uk

# Sarpenela

NATURAL THERAPIES CENTRE

Restore your mind, body and soul in a relaxing and peaceful environment.

Massage • Natural Therapies  
Healing • Half-Day Retreats  
Well-Being Workshops • Reiki Training  
Gift Vouchers

Explore our website for detailed information on all our treatments and workshops.

**St Mary's Barn, Chettle, DT11 8DB**  
**01258 830915 • info@sarpenela.co.uk**  
**www.sarpenela.co.uk**

## Sarpenela What's On

Join us for a Workshop in February:

Thursday 1st – Shamanic Kudalini and

Chakra Dance – 6 pm to 7.30 pm

Saturday 3rd – Yoga and Gong Bath Retreat

Day – 10 am to 4.30 pm

Sunday 4th – Gong Bath – 10 am to 4.30 pm

Saturday 10th – Kindred Spirits Active

Meditation – 11 am to 12.30 pm

Thursday 15th - Gong Bath - 6 pm - 7 pm

Sunday 18th – Yoga and Ayurveda Women's

Wellness Group – 10 am to 2 pm

Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th - Reiki First

Degree

Thursday 29th – Reconnective Breathwork

Circle– 10 am to 2 pm

### Yin Yoga with Jordana

Monday Evenings 6pm - 7.15pm

or 7.45pm - 9pm

### Yoga Flow and Restore with Jordana

Thursday Mornings 9.30am - 10.45am

Pilates with Louise Tuesday Mornings

9.15am for Beginners/Intermediates

10.30am for Beginners/Gentle Pace

### Women's Circle

Starting Tuesday 12th March

8 pm - 10 pm

£15 per person

Get involved with the Women's Circle, hosted by special guest Becky Burchell who has been creating inspirational gatherings for two decades. A fortnightly gathering of women. A place to benefit from our collective wisdom, intuition and perspectives. Each session will begin with some nourishing grounding practices, such as meditation or movement, before we open the circle for our voices to be heard. You will be invited to share your own thoughts and stories on a selected theme, as well as to listen deeply to each other. Come and tend the complex fires of your personal, family and professional lives, within a circle of support from other women. Open to women and those who identify as women of all ages (16+).

# Yoga

Deepen your knowledge and understanding of the vast wealth of ancient yoga wisdom. Inspirational for body and mind.

For more info please contact...

**Caroline Wilkinson**

**01725 552209**

[cj@wilkinsonyoga.co.uk](mailto:cj@wilkinsonyoga.co.uk)

[www.wilkinsonyoga.co.uk](http://www.wilkinsonyoga.co.uk)

BRITISH WHEEL OF YOGA SINCE 1999 & BWYDip 2002



## Maria Ridout & the Coombe Express

Coombe Bisset Village Hall, Saturday 17th February. Our 'Characters of the Chase' in-character storytelling performances continue this spring, beginning with a reimagining of the life of Maria Ridout of Coombe Bissett.

Be transported back to the late 1800s when Mrs Ridout and her donkey cart, known as the Salisbury and Coombe Express, took to and fetched produce from the market in Salisbury. Maria's life has been carefully researched and pieced together, imagined and made into a delightful performance by scriptwriter Christy Fearn and superb storyteller and character actor Michele O'Brien.

cont's page 19-->



Discover what rural life on the road would have been like for this indomitable woman, who was a familiar site to local people.

Get a feel for the local traditions, events and characters in this special performance that will be followed by an opportunity to ask questions of the storyteller and our wonderful volunteer researcher.

Book Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/maria-ridout-the-coombe-express-registration-789126146547>

## Yoga with Liz



**Do you suffer with back, neck or shoulder pain?**

Do you struggle to sleep?

Yoga can help to reduce pain and stress and can also improve mobility, flexibility and sleep.

I currently run an intermediate class on a Thursday in 6d Handley village hall and would like to get a class together on a Tuesday

If this was of interest then please do

contact me on  
07875 577727

or email

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

Yoga Alliance Professionals  
trained & qualified 2022

# DOG GROOMING

BLACKBERRY  
DOG GROOMING

🐾 FULL GROOM 🐾 PUPPY PACKAGES 🐾 BATH & BLOWDRY  
🐾 HAND STRIPPING 🐾 NAIL TRIMMING 🐾 TIDY UP + DRY

Olivia McCarthy | Professional Dog Groomer  
Blackberry Cottage, 3 Littlefield Lane, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5NP

**M:** 07584656901 **E:** [blackberrydoggrooming@gmail.com](mailto:blackberrydoggrooming@gmail.com)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: **blackberry.doggrooming**

# Controlling your assets

Ensure your wishes are respected and your loved ones are protected.  
HK Law's highly qualified team listens to your needs  
and offers personalised solutions.

- › Wills › Lasting Powers of Attorney
- › Probate & Intestacy › Management of Affairs
- › Tax Planning & Inheritance Tax



**Chris  
Keenan**

Partner



**Merlin  
Lewis**

Partner

**hklaw.uk**

A Dorchester T 01305 251007

E dorchester@hklaw.uk

# The Young

## How to help navigate their future

“You don’t understand!” is probably a phrase many parents recognise when trying to provide pearls of wisdom to their teenage child, often accompanied by a symbolic door slam! The battle of the teens is part of life’s rich tapestry; it’s a miracle if your child passes those years without challenges. Very few do.

For Gen Z and those in, or having just left education, modern life is confusing, baffling even. Navigating it is harder than ever. Advice cascades in torrents from all manner of sources, mainly social media, which drowns young people with what and what not to do, how to dress, how to have relationships, how to brand themselves and how to live their most fulfilling and exciting life – some of it quite sound, some downright subversive and unhelpful.

Moreover, parents are not seen as the gurus they once were when your child was younger. Plus, the world is changing so quickly; climate change; Artificial Intelligence (AI) advances, clashing views on gender, lack of any true authority, a lack of societal cohesiveness and global instability to name but a few. To be honest, we as parents are a little daunted, so it’s hardly surprising your child feels the same, but more acutely.

### Where do you start?

Importantly, everyone is unique. One size doesn’t fit all. However, psychologically people do tend to fit various character types which psychometric testing goes some way to clarifying, but even then, there are nuances created by family situations, peer pressure, sibling perceptions of each other, neurodiversity, gender idiosyncrasies, disabilities and other factors which influence a child’s behaviour and perceptions, heightening some traits and suppressing others. It’s important to understand as much of this as possible, otherwise any attempt to start a conversation may go off the rails quickly. Equally, everyone has different intellectual capabilities and are stimulated by different things, such as being creative/artistic, mechanically minded, bookish, tech-

curious, practical, inventive and so on. Also, some are highly introverted; some the polar opposite - and all degrees in between. However, schools, even the most progressive, must nurture your child’s learning and development within certain guidelines, governance and policies which create expectations and are guided by a certain ethos. Each has its merits, but it is simply not possible to be all things to all pupils; some will lose out or not get the most out of education, nor be able to work out what may be best for them.

### So, what do you do?

Again, there is much advice on that too, including home schooling, spending an arm and a leg on specialist and private education. Clearly, some children do need more help than others, including psychological intervention through therapy, counselling and/or special needs teaching with experts in that field. Schools do their bit through the pastoral care, SEND, safeguarding and careers teams, but they are often under great pressure. If, however your child doesn’t need that sort of specialist support or specific counselling/therapy, but simply needs a way to keep them on track to a point, their feet on the ground, to understand what they are really about (self-awareness) and what sort of future (including work and education) to which they may be better suited, there may be a simpler solution and one that is available at no or low cost? This is where a pupil Mentor or Coach could make a real difference.

Mentoring and coaching are often used in the same breath as though they are the same. However, what they offer and how they work are different. Put simply, the former is based on someone with experience offering advice and counsel to someone junior, younger or less experienced. Your child’s school may offer this already and can provide good support and guidance?

Coaching, however, is far more empowering as, fundamentally, the solution comes from the child through carefully crafted open questions, deep personal understanding

and occasional challenges – to make them think hard and deeply, balanced with realism and honesty – and based on the real them. They own their solution and outcomes. It’s about having a nonjudgemental conversation with someone who has no axe to grind, nor any agenda. To help them to start to navigate their way more successfully with a far better grasp of reality, but also with greater confidence and self-belief.

It’s to enable the young person to be self-aware, clear on what he or she finds fulfilling and more able to create agreed strategies to achieve the goal or change in mindset, including addressing self-confidence, anxieties and self-esteem issues. Mentoring can achieve this to a point but may take quite a bit longer. Key is that the relationship between the mentor/coach and young person must be built on trust, absolute confidentiality (safeguarding rules notwithstanding) and critically, nonjudgemental, open and safe. This allows the young person to really explore without fear of compromise around their own future and one which they have, to a point, selected that is both realistic and within their reach. Doing this will hopefully stretch them to aim higher so that they can reach their true potential and based on reality, not how they perceive the world. And, importantly, it’s fully independent of their parents and school so they feel more in control. Schools may provide mentoring, but coaching is far less likely, yet the latter could achieve so much more. Coaches can be found through several sources, such as the Life Coach Directory and will highlight those who work with the young and explains how they can help. If you want any free advice on this, do call me on 07710965017 or email me on adam.jointhedots@gmail.com.

*Adam MacMillan-Scott*

Accredited Professional Coach & Mentor  
European Mentoring and Coaching Council



## 6DH Skatepark Project

The Real Work Starts Now...



The Skatepark Rebuild Project has been working with the Parish Council to get the planned Contract Tender published on Contract Finder. We finally got things sorted just before Christmas and have now published the tender. Within a few days of publishing, we were contacted by a few companies who specialise in this work. So now the real work begins, we have a project workshop in January to identify the style and types of features our skateboarders are looking for, this information will be shared with the tender candidates so that they can progress with their submissions. We also expect to have site visits for each of the candidate companies to assess the skatepark and discuss the output from our workshop. The closing date for tender submission is mid-March with work to progress the skatepark beginning in May with the successful candidate.

Working with the contracted builder will see the actual design being completed

to allow for planning updates after which the project team, working with the builder will seek to obtain the necessary funding through Grant Applications. Its worth noting this is not an initiative driven by the Parish Council and therefore is not funded by their funds. Any future skatepark will be funded through successful grant applications and the fundraising undertaken by the project team.

Speaking of fundraising, we have now raised over £6000.00 which since early summer 2023 has been through weekly, then monthly meat raffles at The Penny Tap. We recognise there are other organisations that may wish to raise funds in this way and so the Christmas Meat Draw was our last one, a massive thanks to The Penny Tap for allowing us to run this event, Clarks the Butchers for the excellent prizes and an even bigger thanks to all We were not successful with the Police Grant for an Activity Day but are still looking

to enable an event later this year and will provide information as and when we are able to progress making this a reality. We encourage everyone to stay engaged and share your thoughts and ideas as we move forward together in making our dream skatepark a reality. Your support is what fuels our project and keeps the spirit of community alive.

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)

# LOGON-WOODBURNERS LTD

## SALES & INSTALLATIONS

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

**WOOD AND MULTI FUEL STOVES**

**FLEXIBLE FLUE LINERS & RIGID FLUE SYSTEMS**

**CHIMNEY & ROOF REPAIRS**

**ALL BUILDING WORK UNDERTAKEN**

**FREE QUOTATIONS & FULLY INSURED**

**HETAS** 

**Checkatrade.com**

**WWW.LOGONWOODBURNERS.COM**

**CALL STEVE GUSCOTT**  
M: 07733 477729 T: 01258 858537

# 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: [rhodri.alex@btinternet.com](mailto:rhodri.alex@btinternet.com)

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

Address..... Telephone no.....

Postcode.....

Membership category	Annual subscription 2022	Name Of Member(s) (plus Date of Birth for Junior members)	Quantity	Amount enclosed
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



## Gone Sailing



### Last Sail 2023

The week before mulled wine and mince pies event was an opportunity, strong winds, but from the North meant a flat sea, and so we ventured out – the only ones to do so that day. With full Genoa we headed East, boat speed 7 – 8 kn, and decided Beaulieu for a lunch stop. The moorings in the first reach were a bit untenable with strong Northerly, ebb tide and a lee shore. We decided to carry on up river, and maybe the mid river pontoon, ‘should be blown off a bit’ said the skipper, hmm, the helm thought probably blown on a bit, which proved to be the case. With strong winds fine on the port bow and a strong ebbing tide, gave good control, to ease into a space on the pontoon. Lunch in the heated cabin thawed us out a bit. Having been blown on, we now had to spring off, plenty of fenders, and motor against the stern spring to bring the bow out, once through the wind, and off we go! The wind was stronger on return, and being overpressed, put two reefs in the

Genoa, more comfortable, and still doing 7 – 8kn. On arrival at our home berth, the helm suggested the skipper take her in, as tight berth, strong wind, and a strong cross tide, a perfect manoeuvre and there we were!

### Bunk Side Library

Christmas has brought a cornucopia of great reading. Current read is ‘Hooked on the Horizon’ – Tom Dymond, ‘if you like being transported across oceans, escaping to far flung paradises, and finding humour and philosophy in between, then you will love the story of Blue Eye’s adventure’. Blue Eye is a Nicholson 32 –so a capable yacht. There are laugh out loud moments, and fine descriptions of places that can only be reached by yacht during a three year circumnavigation. It is one of those books that you do not want to finish, but would rather carry on journeying with Blue Eye.

### 2024

Hopefully more benign weather than recently! But even if conditions are not favourable, you could always study an RYA shorebased theory course, in preparation for the practical, when conditions are more suitable.

See you at sea, with LTSC!

*Adam*

*Yachting Correspondent for  
Sixpenny Handley*

# Hanlega's



### OPENING HOURS

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

**Friday:** 6.00-9.00pm

**Saturday:** 8.30-10.30 am, 6.00-9.00pm

**Sunday:** 8.30-10.30 am, Lunch 12-3.00 pm

**Tel: 01725 553005**

**Email: hanlegastheshed@yahoo.co.uk**

*'The Shed', Church Farm, High Street, Sixpenny Handley, Salisbury, SP5 5ND  
Part of Church Farm, Caravan and Camping Park*

During the summer we are open for longer periods of time.  
Please checkout Facebook and boards for times.

## Katrina Horn Soft furnishings

Professional handmade soft  
furnishings  
20 years' experience



Beautifully made curtains, pelmets,  
Roman blinds, soft furnishings and  
accessories.

Friendly and reliable measuring  
and fitting service.

Telephone: 01722 780742

Email: kathorn68@yahoo.com

## CRESS Achieves Big Give Christmas Challenge

CRESS, a Broadchalke based charity, has been successful in its first Big Give Christmas Challenge which took place at the beginning of December, raising £14,150.25.

CRESS works in rural northern Uganda supporting the refugee and poor local population, most of whom live on under \$2 a day. The funds raised are for our 76 Savings Groups with 2,292 registered members, 75% of whom are women. We support their learning and training in business and agriculture so that they can support their businesses and their families. Specifically the funds will go towards their savings conferences, where they gather together and share learning and inspiration.

Caroline Lamb, CRESS' Founder said "The response to our Big Give has been amazing and we are so thankful to everyone who has chosen to donate to CRESS this



*Selling tomatoes on her new stall, this new group member only joined a Savings Group this year, but with support from her CBF (Community Business Facilitator) - left, and with a loan from the group, she has started a successful food items' business, showcasing the rapid impact the programme can have on families' lives.*

Christmas. Having just visited Uganda, I have seen first-hand the improvement in members' ability to afford to build weather-proof homes, pay for medical aid and education for their children. Most importantly for them, their mental health has improved as their hope and prospects

have increased. Thank you all."

To find out more about CRESS's projects visit <https://cressuk.org>

## Pentridge Village Hall

Our village hall is the perfect venue for parties, coffee mornings, charity events and much, much more!

Please call 01725 516973 or email:

[info@pentridgedorset.co.uk](mailto:info@pentridgedorset.co.uk) if you would like to book the hall or make an enquiry.

[www.pentridgedorset.co.uk](http://www.pentridgedorset.co.uk)



Pentridge  
Village Hall



LOTTERY FUNDED

**Cranborne Chase National  
Landscape Annual Forum 2024**

**Wed, 28 Feb 2024 10:00 - 16:00**

**Dinton Village Hall**

Join us for Cranborne Chase National Landscape's 2024 Annual Forum and find out more about conserving, enhancing and enjoying this nationally important landscape.

**Kevin Knight**  
Horologist

*Clock and Watch Repairs*

**Tel: 01722 331969**  
**Mob: 07900 928451**  
[kevindavidknight@gmail.com](mailto:kevindavidknight@gmail.com)

# Budgens

Sixpenny Handley  
Open 7am - 8pm daily



Visit us in store for:

- Coal
- Logs
- Bakery
- Free to use ATM





## Stars Appeal equipment helps Megan to walk again

After a “life-changing” horse riding accident 35-year-old Megan Field was left paralysed and told she would never walk again.

The accident in May 2023 damaged Megan’s spinal cord, causing paralysis of her lower legs. She recalls: “It was like a light going out where the connection to that part of my body just went. I thought ‘I can’t feel my legs or anything below the chest, nothing.” After surgery Megan, who is from Trowbridge, started to get feeling back in one of her legs and was later transferred

to Salisbury Hospital’s Duke of Cornwall Spinal Treatment Centre to start her rehabilitation.

She was one of the first patients to use the £29,000 Stars Appeal-funded LiteGait – a supported mobile hoist system that enabled her to practice and build up her strength and confidence walking. Four months after her accident she was able to walk out of the Spinal Treatment Centre with the help of her crutches and is continuing her recovery at home.

“This has been such a life-changing injury, which happened within a split second. I woke up in the morning able to walk and went to bed that night paralysed. You rely on equipment like the LiteGait and the physios to help you with your rehab. As a result of that I’m starting to walk again. When I first had my injury I was told I would never walk again. Spinal Centre physiotherapist Elly Marchant, who supported Megan’s rehabilitation, said: “The LiteGait is something we’ve wanted for a long time because we know how empowering it can be for patients. It is a great addition to our tools that we can use to start people’s walking in a safe environment. This would not have been possible without the generous supporters of the Stars Appeal. Thank you.”

The Stars Appeal, Salisbury Hospital’s Charity, also fund a range of activities for spinal injury patients including social events and day trips. To find out more visit [www.starsappeal.org/our-work/spinal-centre](http://www.starsappeal.org/our-work/spinal-centre)



### Chris Simpson Dog Walking, Pet Care Qualified Reiki Practitioner

Dog walking Experienced and reliable. Fully insured,  
Home visits for cats, dogs and other animals. DBS checked and first aid trained.  
Covering Sixpenny Handley and surrounding areas  
Call: 07783 326542  
[simpsonsdogwalking@gmail.com](mailto:simpsonsdogwalking@gmail.com)

## An invitation to join us...

Our monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Friday of every month in Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

11am - 2:30pm  
£6 per person

All Welcome



The day includes:

- Coffee or tea and biscuits
- Quiz & Raffle
- 3 Course freshly cooked meal
- Entertainment

### BOOKING NECESSARY

Transport can be arranged if help is required

To enquire or book please call: **01725 516382**



## MAIDMENT & CARTER LTD.

BUILDING CONTRACTORS

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



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

All Aspects of Building Work Undertaken - Extension & Renovation Specialists  
 For your peace of mind, we only employ the services of time quality tradesmen  
 IN-HOUSE DESIGN & BUILD SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE FOR NEW BUILDS, FROM PLANNING THROUGH TO COMPLETION  
 Director: Paul Maidment Unit 3c, Sunrise Business Park, Higher Shaftesbury Road,  
 Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 8ST  
 Tel: 01258 45 45 22 Email: admin@maidmentandcarter.com Web: www.maidmentandcarter.com





## R&R Drainage Solutions

ALL YOUR DRAINAGE NEEDS

Jetting  
Rodding  
CCTV Drain Survey  
Drain Repair & Replacement

Septic Tanks  
Treatment Plants  
Soakaways  
Downpipe and Gutter Unblocking

**FRIENDLY AND DISCREET SERVICE**

Roger: 07879 453757 Ryan: 07753 458958 Tel: 01258 795004  
 Email: info@randrdrainagesolutions.co.uk



## Thorne Electrical Contractors

WHERE QUALITY MATTERS

### Your Local Trusted Electrician

Thorne Electrical Contractors are an independent electrical company offer a range of 1st class electrical solutions at competitive prices from fuseboard upgrades to rewiring, extra sockets, outside lighting, fault finding, electric vehicle charger installation, landlords electrical safety certificates and tripping problems.

I am also a 24/7 emergency call out engineer.  
 No job too small.  
 Get in touch for a free quote.





**Thorne Electrical Contractors**  
**01725 552933 07538 346481**  
**thorne-electricalcontractors.co.uk**







## S WALLWORTH ELECTRICAL SERVICES

DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL

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

### SPECIAL RATES FOR OAPS

### FREE QUOTATIONS

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

## PEST CONTROL SERVICE

[www.molegone.co.uk](http://www.molegone.co.uk)

**Moles, Rabbits, Squirrels, Rodents and Wasps/Hornets**

Covering South Wiltshire and Dorset/Somerset/Hampshire borders

CRB Checked, Fully Insured  
 Yearly/Monthly Contracts Available  
 No Catch No Fee on Moles and Squirrels

**Contact Roy on**  
**01722 716972 or**  
**07798 570443**

TRADING SINCE 2010

**CRANBORNE CHASE CIDER**  
**FOLLOW THE SIGNS**  
 From A354, Cashmoor

**CRANBORNE CHASE CIDER**

01725 552715 / 07745 802225  
[www.cranbornechasecider.co.uk](http://www.cranbornechasecider.co.uk)

**Don't forget our delicious apple juice too!**

**Low Cost Digital TV Aerials**  
**CRANBORNE AERIALS**

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

Local Family Business  
 Please call Martyn

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

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

FREE SIGNAL TEST FOR FREEVIEW DIGITAL RECEPTION  
 FREE ESTIMATES GIVEN



**Crossroads Café Community Hub**

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

First of all, thank you very much everybody for supporting our Christmas raffle.

We did very well and were able to send £80 to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Please come and visit us for warmth, chats with friends, a cup of coffee or tea, and you can even have a go at our jigsaw puzzle! And of course our library is open as well. We look forward to seeing you and are always very pleased to see new faces.

*Bea*

**Join Dorset's 4000 Friends Against Scams**

Today, just over 1 in every 100 people living in Dorset are a Friend Against Scams. Friends learn how to spot the signs of a scam, so can stop themselves from falling for one. Also, because Friends know the signs of a scam, they can also use that learning to help to spot other people who are potentially affected by this type of fraud. By having simple everyday conversations Friends can help to keep others safe, whether family, friends, work colleagues; anyone a Friend might meet.

We are always happy to hear from people who would like to talk about what they can offer. We are led by you in terms of how much you'd like to be involved. To find out more about our Trading Standards volunteering opportunities, then please get in touch with us at [tradingstandards@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:tradingstandards@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)



# We're bringing ultrafast full fibre broadband to Sixpenny Handley



**Up to  
900Mbps**

Up to 11x faster than the UK average broadband speed.



**From £29 a  
month**

Packages from just £29 per month with free installation.\*



**Local friendly  
support**

If you need us, speak to our friendly support team based in Dorset.

**Register your interest now**  
**wessexinternet.com**

\*We may apply for government funding on your behalf to offer you a free installation. Subject to survey.