

# The Downsman

**NEWS AND INFORMATION  
MAGAZINE**



**PARISH OF SIXPENNY HANDLEY  
WITH PENTRIDGE**

***April 2000***

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

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

Chairman	Mr. B.M.J. Curtis.....	552397
	Mrs E. Miles.....	552768
	Miss E. Waller.....	552305
	Mr. P.G. Chick.....	552256
	Mr. S.Judd.....	552563
	Mr. A.H. Gibb.....	552704
	Mr. P.J. Kellock.....	552849

**Pentridge**

Vice-Chairman	Mr. R.R.Riddle.....	552659
	Mr. R. Warner.....	552665
	Mr. J. Porte.....	552677

**Clerk**

Assistant Clerk	Mr. B.J.Hansford.....	552468
	Mr. Tony Henderson.....	552279

<b><u>County Councillor</u></b>	Mr. T. Palmer.....	552321
	Fax	552405

<b><u>District Councillor</u></b>	Mr. A. Humphries.....	517365
-----------------------------------	-----------------------	--------

**Footpaths Liaison Officers**

Sixpenny Handley	Mr. A.Turner.....	552735
Pentridge	Dr. S.E.Barnes.....	552259

**Downsman Editorial Team**

Editor	Alan Vincent.....	552788
	Ian Davies.....	552076
	Brian Hansford.....	552468

**Churches**

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

**1st Woodcutts Scout Group**

Group Scout Leader	Mr. Barry Howes.....	552583
Scout Leader	Bob Lewis.....	517465
Cub Leader	Esme Isaacs.....	517203
<b><u>Doctors</u></b>	Drs. Pelly, Nodder & Morgan	
	Dean Lane Surgery.....	552500

**Schools**

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

**Sixpenny Handley Village Hall**

Chairman	Mr. S Judd.....	552563
Secretary	Mr. A.H. Gibb.....	552704
Bookings	Julie Richardson.....	519438

**Sixpenny Handley Flower Show**

Chairman	Brian Hansford.....	552468
Secretary		

**For The Kidz**

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

**Sixpenny Handley Homewatch****Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point**

John Curtis.....	552397
------------------	--------

**Co-ordinators**

Area 1 - Dean Lane	Don Penrose.....	552022
2 - Deanland & N.E.	Barry Howes.....	552583
3 - Handley Central	Charles Nodder.....	552292
4 - West & South	George Tozer.....	552330

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

Pentridge	Roy Elford.....	552296
Woodyates	Roy Warner.....	552665
<b><u>Police</u></b>	Blandford Station.	01258 452101

**The Chase Nursery and "Chasers"**

(Previously Sixpennies Pre-School)

Chairman	Julia Stokes.....	552314
----------	-------------------	--------

**The Chase Nursery Link Group**

(Previously Sixpennies Pre-School Link Group)

Contact	Hazel Killeen.....	552980
---------	--------------------	--------

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

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

**Sixpenny Handley Mother's Union**

Leader	Pamela Wood.....	552608
Secretary	Jean Mayne.....	552692

**Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club**

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

**Handley Sports Club**

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

**The Wednesday Club**

Chairman	Pamela Wood.....	552608
Secretary	<b><u>Vacancy</u></b>	

**Chase Community Friends**

Chairman	Dr. Geddes.....	552395
Secretary	Sally Clarke.....	552674

**Sixpenny Handley Lawn Tennis Club**

Chairman	Michael Catchpole.....	552879
Secretary	Rosemary Dike.....	01258 840136
Membership/Treasurer	Jon Carlisle.....	552271

**Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club**

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

**Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club**

Chairman	Eileen Miles.....	552768
Secretary	Dawn Ridout.....	552407

**Happy Nappy Club**

Chairperson	Penny Morrison.....	552024
-------------	---------------------	--------

**S.H.E.D.D.S.**

Chairman	Godfrey Turner.....	552533
----------	---------------------	--------

**Sixpenny Handley Sports Association**

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

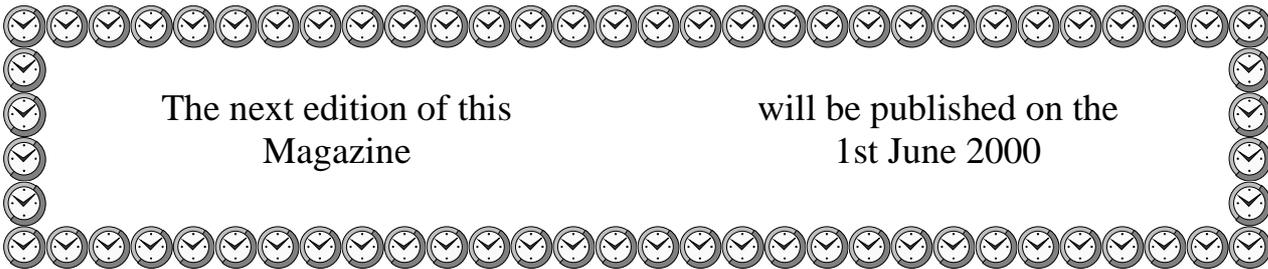
**Welcome to the latest edition of *The Downsmen*.**

**Continue to send your contributions to.....**

Alan Vincent, 5 The Parsonage, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5QJ  
 Telephone – 01725 552788, Office Hours - 01722 412202. E-mail:

**Sixpenny Handley  
 Annual Flower Show  
 Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup> 2000  
 Schedules available soon.**

**Pentridge Annual Parish Assembly  
 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2000  
 Pentridge Village Hall  
 at 7:30pm**



The next edition of this  
 Magazine

will be published on the  
 1st June 2000

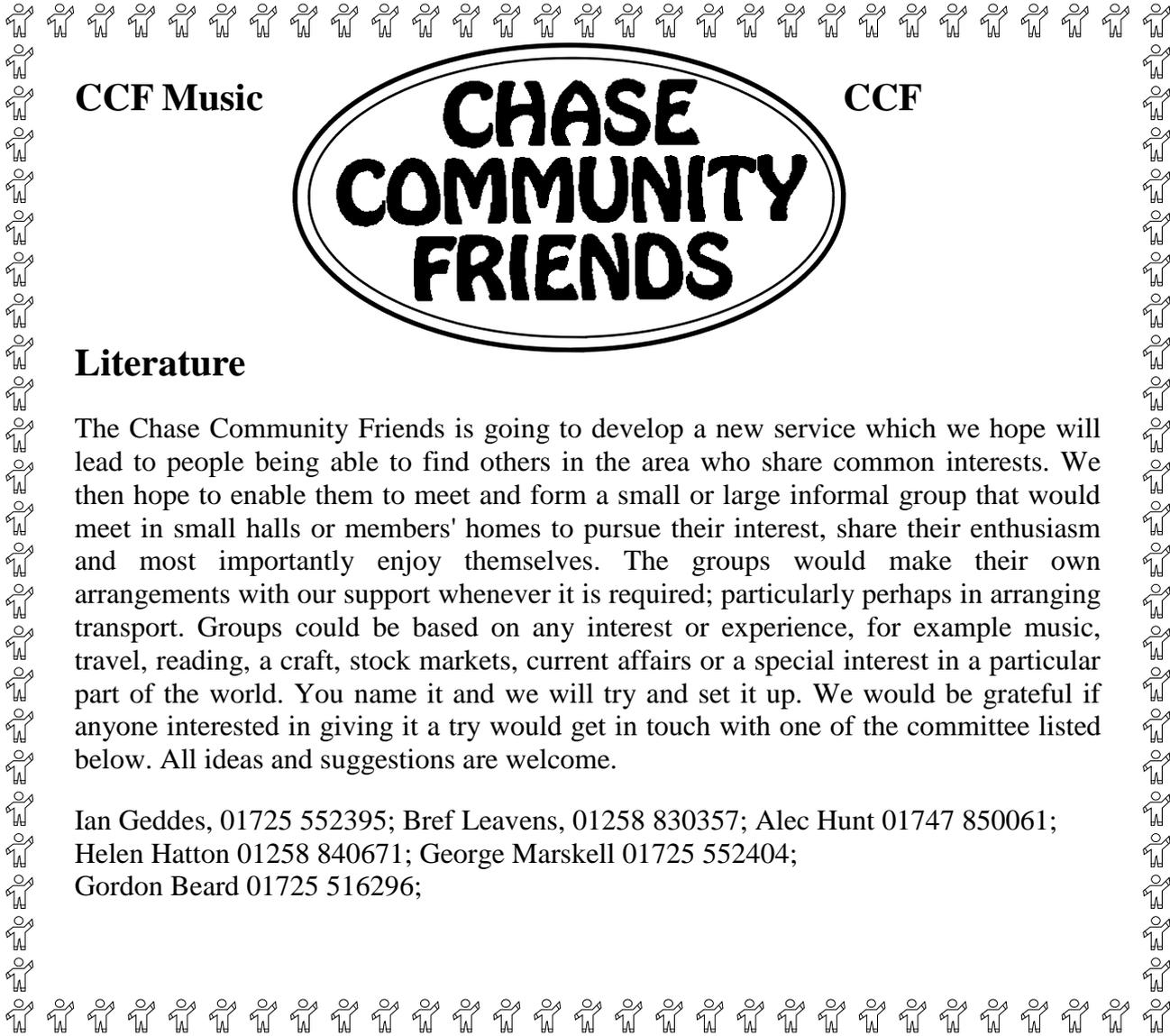
<b>Parish Budget 2000 to 2001</b>	
Grasscutting	700
DAPTC Subscription	205

**HANDLEY SPORTS CLUB**  
**'100' Club 1999/2000**  
 Draw No 5 - February 2000  
 £40- 35 Mr Les Day, St Mary's Close. SH  
 £10-232 Miss N.L.North, St.Mary's Close. SH  
 £10-107 J.A. Edwards, Gussage St Michael  
 £5 -190 John Box, Rowde, Devizes  
 Draw No 6 -March 2000  
 £40-158 H. Overall, Deanland. SH.  
 £10- 50 J.E. Edwards, Gussage St. Michael  
 £10-192 Jeremy Haskell, Gillingham  
 £5 - 24 Maureen Preedy, Dean Lane, SH.

Cover Picture  
 Where's our Jack??  
 Shoudn't he be doing this?  
 Members of the Bowling club  
 cleaning their green.

**Sixpenny Handley Sports  
 Association  
 Sport For All 2000  
 Provisional Date Sunday June 18th  
 Watch for further details**

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall  
 Work starts on refurbishing the toilets on  
 2<sup>nd</sup> May.  
 There will be restricted facilities for approx.  
 4 weeks whilst this work takes place.



**CCF Music**



**CCF**

**Literature**

The Chase Community Friends is going to develop a new service which we hope will lead to people being able to find others in the area who share common interests. We then hope to enable them to meet and form a small or large informal group that would meet in small halls or members' homes to pursue their interest, share their enthusiasm and most importantly enjoy themselves. The groups would make their own arrangements with our support whenever it is required; particularly perhaps in arranging transport. Groups could be based on any interest or experience, for example music, travel, reading, a craft, stock markets, current affairs or a special interest in a particular part of the world. You name it and we will try and set it up. We would be grateful if anyone interested in giving it a try would get in touch with one of the committee listed below. All ideas and suggestions are welcome.

Ian Geddes, 01725 552395; Bref Leavens, 01258 830357; Alec Hunt 01747 850061;  
 Helen Hatton 01258 840671; George Marskell 01725 552404;  
 Gordon Beard 01725 516296;

**ARTHRITIS RESEARCH CAMPAIGN**

**GOURMET TAKE AWAY**

**Win A Dish - or - A Dinner**

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2000**

**7.30 pm**

**Sixpenny Handley Village Hall**

**Entrance £2.50 to include refreshments and glass of wine.**

## Are any of your ancestors listed here?

### SIXPENNY TO OZ

Recent research has found a number of names of families, mainly from Dorset, who settled in Camden Park, New South Wales in the 1830's. A sizeable contingent seems to have gone out from Sixpenny Handley and neighbouring villages, on the ship "Brothers" in 1837. Camden Park, which is about 60 miles SW of Sydney, was an estate set up by John Macarthur in the early 1800's, and at its height had 150 small farms, vineyards, and tobacco plantations. It was famous for its cattle and sheep.

### CAMDEN PARK ESTATE, NEW SOUTH WALES

#### **Workers from Somerset and Dorset taken from "They Worked at Camden Park" published by Camden Historical Society, 1993.**

Samuel ARNOLD, Wheelwright, and wife Ann (SAVORY) from Child Okeford, Dorset. Ship "Brothers" 1837. Other Arnolds listed may well be the same family.

George BRADLEY, Labourer, and wife Mary Ann (WHITE) from Sixpenny Handley, Dorset. Ship "Brothers" 1837. Farmer 1853 Cawdor Road.

Thomas COX, House Servant and wife Sophia (GUMBLETON) from Farnham, Dorset. Ship "Brothers".

Two other BRADLEYS, both convicts, 1820's.

George BUTT, Labourer and shearer, also on the "Brothers" but home village not given.

John DOUCH, Shepherd stockman, and wife Jane (TOOP), Sturminster. Ship "Royal George" 1839. William ELLIOTT, Farm steward. Immigrant from Farnham, Dorset. Ship "Brothers" 1837. Went to Taralga 1839.

Isaac GREEN, Labourer, from Sixpenny Handley. Ship "Royal George" 1839. Left Camden 1840.

Thomas HOMER, shepherd immigrant from Dorset. Wife Mary (PITMAN) farm servant, 6 children 1839-45.

KELLOWAY. A family of this name from Tollard arrived in 1838 and were still there well into C20. Horace Kelloway was Mayor of Camden about 1910.

James NEW, Labourer. Immigrant from Sixpenny Handley, Dorset. Wife Mary (LANE). 8 children. Worked on Camden Park for many years. Ship "Brothers". The name persists to the 1960's.

Henry NORRIS, Sawyer, and wife Caroline (MOORE) from Child Okeford 1837. Children Mary Ann, Daniel and George.

Sampson NORRIS, Tenant Farmer Cawdor Road, from Child Okeford, Dorset. Wife Srah (WADE or READ). Ship "Royal George" 1839.

James RIDEOUT, Labourer, sawyer, farmer. Immigrant and wife Caroline (BENNETT) from Tollard Farnham, Dorset. Ship "John Maclellan" 1838 (Note: does he mean Tollard Royal in Wilts?).

Elias THORN and wife Sarah (LANE). Sixpenny Handley. Ship "Brothers".

Edward THORN, brother of Elias. Ship "Royal George" 1839.

George VINCEN, Labourer and Jane WEEKS from Sixpenny Handley. Ship "Brothers". Jane was sister of Benjamin, John and Richard.

Benjamin WEEKES, Labourer and wife Fanny, washerwoman. S. Handley

John WEEK(E)S, Labourer. Immigrant. Wife Hannah (HAYTER).

Eigar STUCKEY, Labourer Immigrant and wife Amy (BOCKS) from South Patherton (sic) Somerset. Ship "Lady Ann" 1854.

*This article originally appeared in a Somerset & Dorset Family History Society document, vol21 no 2.*

## The Happy Nappy Club

---



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

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

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



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

If you have any queries phone Penny on  
01725 552024

---



# RICHARD T. ADLEM

MONUMENTAL MASON - FUNERAL CONSULTANT

MEMORIALS IN:-  
GRANITE, STONE & MARBLE

PHONE HANDLEY 552496 AT ANY TIME

## Woodcuts Wonderings

It is 11.20 a.m. on Sunday, 19th March, a wonderful, sunny, peaceful morning and I'm sitting in the garden at Woodlands, under a clear blue sky, the temperature high enough not to require a jacket. The noises I hear are those of birds; pigeons cooing, thrush, blackbird, finches; all very vocal with the occasional robin, pheasant and even the odd chicken adding its voice to the general chorus. There are birds I can see but not hear, away to the south, well above the tree tops, a pair of buzzards are circling, followed at a respectable distance by a dozen or so rooks, obviously keeping a wary eye on their visitors. A beautiful world at this time influenced by a changing weather pattern, which many believe to be the result of global warming created by the greenhouse effect, a product of man's interference with nature, or perhaps it should be his greed and misuse of natural things. Despite this, a great benefit for us, but not so for the populations of Mozambique and Madagascar, who have suffered badly from the catastrophic results of unprecedented flooding. While these people suffered, we have enjoyed temperatures as high as 16°C when the expected norm would be 9°C with the equinox not due until the 20th of March. The relatively high temperatures, the lack of the high winds and rain experienced in February have been greatly appreciated by wildlife in general.

Celandines, primroses, daffodils, blue and white violets, periwinkles, dandelions, daisies, dogs mercury, chickweed, shepherds purse, dead nettles (white, red and yellow) as well as one cow parsley and two cowslips have shown their appreciation and have flowered accordingly, brightening up the countryside. Larger plants too are early, with leaves emerging from bursting buds of elder, spindle, hawthorn and sycamore. Animals are also taking advantage of our spring like weather and are preparing for seasonal activities. The pairing of birds is obvious with cock and hen pheasants seen together instead of unisex groups. Cock robins and chaffinches perch prominently, puffing out their chests and tunelessly shouting their challenges to allcomers. Stags have been clashing antlers in the field at the back, to decide on seniority, cock pheasants fighting head to head, hares boxing, buzzards paired off.

## Programme

**THE WEDNESDAY  
CLUB****April 5<sup>th</sup>**Regrettable Quotations  
David Milsted**April 19<sup>th</sup>**

Women's Institute Choir

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>**Sports Correspondent  
David Briers**May 17<sup>th</sup>**

Sandroyds School Choir

**May 31<sup>st</sup>**New Zealand  
J. de Pledge**June 14<sup>th</sup>**Country Ways  
Norman Goodland**June 28<sup>th</sup>**Local History  
John Day**SPRING IS HERE.....**

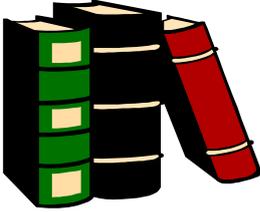
**Butterflies** not to be outdone are also showing early. As I write two brimstones are busily darting about in the garden. These beautiful, creamy-yellow winged insects are the species that gave the family group its name. These are the original butter coloured flies, first to be seen each year, hence "Butterflies". Also seen this year, a solitary large tortoiseshell, which from his colouring suggests it is this years model, while the several red admirals have all been in last years strip having overwintered indoors. Bees too have extremely busy recently, from the very heavy, solitary, "bomber-type" bumble bee to a whole hive of "fighter" domesticated bees who have discovered the fresh, new pussy-willow catkins in the garden. This suggests an early run of honey for someone. This person could be Ron Wood as he has a very active swarm using an airbrick in the vestry wall at St. Mary's. He is probably thinking of a cow in the churchyard as well to produce the biblical "milk and honey".

Not only is the wildlife taking advantage of the weather, so are the garden plants. Flowering trees and shrubs are showing abundantly, Camellias, Prunus of several species, Forsythia, Mahonia (which hasn't stopped flowering all winter), flowering currant, Viburnum species, Ceanothus to name but a few are all flowering happily, as are many colourful flowers, which although they seem to have extended their blooming periods, it is doubtful if there will be daffodils for Easter or Mothering Sunday.

In the vegetable garden, I decided to risk some early potatoes planted under fleece and have planted two rows of Rocket on the 6th of March. Now I'm hoping for new potatoes at the beginning of June, all I have to do is keep my fingers crossed. After all what is the point of global warming and a universal greenhouse if we don't take advantage of the good it has to offer. Surely God in his wisdom did not mean it all to be death and devastation; we must take advantage of the good it has to offer, in order to be in a stronger position to help those who suffer from the downside. We all help to create the problems, we should all help to alleviate them.

*Ted Cox, Woodcutts*

# FREE BOOKS FOR HANDLEY SCHOOL



Do you read **THE SUN**?  
Do you read **THE TIMES**?  
Do you buy **WALKERS CRISPS**?



If so, then please will you save the Tokens for  
**FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS?**

Last year, Handley First School joined the scheme and managed to get a really worthwhile number of free, new books.

Will you help them do even better this year, please?

Tokens can be handed in to Styles, at the School, or at the Vicarage.

Please don't throw money away!

**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU  
AT SIXPENNY HANDLEY SURGERY  
Tuesdays 9:30am – 12:00 noon  
Christine Pacey**

**NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHAT YOUR ENQUIRY IS  
WE WILL TRY AND HELP  
COST? – Free**

**FOR YOU?**

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

- We will not tell anyone unless you say so
- We don't judge or blame
- We will not be influenced by outside interests or views
- Financial Problems
- Preliminary Debt Counselling
- Employment Issues
- Housing Related Problems
- Family Breakdown
- Issues relating to being a Carer
- Issues related to Community Care



**Domiciliary appointments available**

## REQUIEM 2000

Planted perhaps two hundred years ago, to grace a gentleman's estate:  
 a group of mighty beech trees, the twigs of each moulded to fit the contours of a rounded whole.  
 Placed close together, they grew as one: taller and taller, chasing the light  
 and as the years passed the clump was chosen by the rooks becoming their ancestral home:  
 their rough twig nests silhouetted against the winter sky, their cries a background to our lives.  
 In spring, the delicate leaves high tracery, those translucent leaves so tender on such massive trees  
 and later in the season as the leaves darkened, overshadowing the thatched house below....

In the summer of 1997, pushing my baby daughter in her pram,  
 I savoured the shade and the familiar shape,  
 they seemed so permanent, a part of her inheritance:  
 they had withstood the gales of 87 and we lingered in their winter shelter before moving down the  
 track and out into the bleakness of the cultivated downs.

The year 2000: should we record our surroundings as we plunged into a new millennium?  
 No hurry, we thought:  
 the landscape so familiar, unchanging, not threatened by the fast moving pace of city life.

February, the time for rooks to nest, some seemed less faithful this year moving out to other lesser  
 trees along the lane.  
 Could they have guessed?  
 Did they somehow anticipate that March morning when at first light, we heard the chainsaws roar?  
 We are used to loud noises here, the sky vibrates with helicopters and aircraft from the army on the  
 Plains,  
 but this was different: a terrible thud, the ground shook, and in the aftermath the rooks alarm calls  
 then after brief respite, renewed whining of the motor saws.

Just one, we hoped, perhaps there was a rotten tree,  
 and then each day another,  
 the last few rooks nests still outlined one evening  
 and then no more, falling with their giant home:  
 "there were no eggs or young" they told me .....

a choking pall of smoke hung over Pentridge for days and the paddock below, filling with neatly  
 lined rows of sturdy logs, the mighty trunks laid out like corpses on the ground, the rooks  
 clamouring in nearby trees:  
 professionals doing their job  
 "They had to go, they were a danger, *Ganoderma* in the heart, we'll plant some more".

Only the stumps bear witness to their lives.  
 The black barn roof now stark against the sky.  
 Nobody warned us this was going to happen  
 Those stately trees, taken for granted, not even a photograph for memory's sake.  
 Old people show their age:  
 these trees to untrained eyes looked strong, the tell tale fungal brackets not perceived, but no  
 children, after all that time.  
 So we must wait another generation and mourn our loss.

*Pru Barnes*

*[Does anyone have any photos of the beech clump at Pentridge, if so contact myself. Ed]*

# Midsummer Street Fayre and Carnival 2000

**The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Midsummer Street Fayre and Carnival  
will take place on  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2000.**

## **Carnival Queen/Princess Contest**

The Carnival Queen/Princess Contest will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2000 in the Village Hall. Contestants should arrive at the Village Hall between 7.15 and 7.45 pm with judging starting at 8.00 pm. The contest is open to all young ladies within the age limits below.

The Carnival Queen Contest is open to entrants aged 11 or over.

The Carnival Princess contest between the ages of 7 years and 12 years,

Entry forms should be completed and handed in at the Contest.

## **Children's Annual Treasure Hunt**

The Children's Treasure Hunt will take place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June starting at 11 am and ending at 1 pm, opposite the Roebuck. This event is open to all children under 15 years.

Sweets for all entrants. Entry free.

Prizes will be awarded at 5.15 on Carnival Day.

## **Carnival Day 17<sup>th</sup> June 2000**

Children's Fancy Dress - Free entry

Class A	Age 6 years and under
Class B	Age 7 years to 10 years
Class C	Age 11 years to 15 years

Family Pet Contest - Free Entry

Class 1	Pet most like it's owner
Class 2	Longest dog - Tip of nose to tip of tail
Class 3	Dog in fancy dress
Class 4	Any other pet in fancy dress

Local groups are invited to take up stall space to raise funds for their own organisations for the usual 10% of takings.

Please complete and return booking form by 15<sup>th</sup> June.

There will also be space available for a Car Boot Sale at £5 per car or £7 for a car and trailer or van. There will be a £1 discount for local car booters who book and pay before Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2000.

**CARNIVAL QUEEN/PRINCESS CONTEST**

**ENTRY FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_

*Carnival Queen must be aged 11 or over*

**LOCAL GROUP STALL SPACE BOOKING FORM**

Name of Group: \_\_\_\_\_

We would like to have a stall space at the Street Fayre on the 17<sup>th</sup> June.  
We agree to pay 10% of our takings to the SHEDDS Carnival fund.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

*Return by 15<sup>th</sup> June 2000*

**CAR BOOT SALE ADVANCE BOOKING FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to have a Boot Sale space at the Street Fayre on 17<sup>th</sup> June.

I enclose £.....as payment

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Return form no later than 16<sup>th</sup> June 2000*

### **Carnival Bingo**

The Carnival Bingo will take place on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2000 in the Village Hall.  
Doors open 6.45 pm. Eyes down 7.30 pm

I am trying to find more prizes for the Carnival tombola stall, the raffle, Carnival bingo and the charity auction. If you can help with anything, no matter how large or small, I would be most grateful. Items can be delivered to me at home or I can arrange collection of larger items.

My prize collection boxes are now open at home.

Proceeds from this years Carnival will go to local good causes.

### **Time Capsule**

The time capsule will be laid down later this millennium year when all the contents are available.

*Godfrey J Turner*  
*Chairman SHEDDS*

## **In House Hair**

50 High Street  
Sixpenny Handley

***Bridget*** welcomes existing and new clientele

Monday Closed

Tuesday 9 - 5

Wednesday 9 - 6

Thursday 9 - 5

Friday 9 - 6

Saturday 9 - 2

*Always happy to see you*  
*Appointments not always necessary*

Unisex

**Manicures, Pedicures & Eyebrows also available**



# News and Information

NATIONAL  
FEDERATION  
OF WOMEN'S  
INSTITUTES

## Report for February and March 2000.

At the February meeting Mrs Jean Haines was welcomed. Owing to unforeseen circumstances our Speaker was unable to attend, so Mr Bill Chorley very kindly stepped in at the last minute and gave us a very interesting and informative talk on 'Dorset's Air War' and was thanked by Heather Eynon. The flower of the month was won by Nora North. The competition for a medical limerick was won by Hilda Hansford and Edith Barratt.

The March meeting was well attended and members enjoyed a most interesting talk by Mr Tompsett - a National Trust Lecturer - and illustrated with beautiful slides of 'Birds and scenery of the North East Coast.' He was thanked by Nora North. The competition - a Wildlife Photograph, judged by Mr Tompsett, was won by Hilda Hansford. The flower of the month was won by Joan Clarke. A very successful Jumble Sale was held recently and members were thanked for all their help. The Spring Council meeting was held at Poole Arts Centre on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

Members were reminded that there is to be a Plant and Cake Sale on April 29<sup>th</sup> in the yard at 28 High Street and also that there is now a weekly bus service to Bournemouth.

The Village Spring Clean will be on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Winifred Judd*

---

### **Anne Reed, B.A., M.C.S.P., S.R.P.**

Chartered and State Registered Physiotherapist

Treatment for  
Sports Injuries, Spinal and Neck Pain, Arthritis, Headaches

Acupuncture, Ergonomic Advice, Massage  
Home Visits and Evening Appointments  
Telephone: 01725 552518

## Sixpenny Handley Flower Arranging Club

In 1984 a group of people with a shared interest in flowers and the art of flower arranging got together and started this club. It is affiliated to the National Association of Flower Arranging Societies (NAFAS) and is a member of Dorset and Guernsey Area of NAFAS.

Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month from March to November, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in December. We meet in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Our programmes include demonstrations, visits to gardens, slide shows, talks and practice evenings. What is a practice evening you ask?

The title for each of these is given in advance, for example 'Here comes summer'. Each member bring appropriate flowers, foliage and a container in which it is felt the finished arrangement will best be displayed to interpret the title. Participation is not obligatory, but as the saying goes, practice makes perfect! These are relaxed, informal meetings. We happily swap blooms, foliage and advice and receive tremendous help and encouragement from our President Gordon Clarke.

Gordon has been arranging flowers for many years and was a friend of the late Mary Pope, founder of the first Flower Arranging Club in the country. This club in Dorchester, with Mary as the driving force, subsequently led to the formation of NAFAS and the WAFAS (World Association).

Over the years Sixpenny Handley Club has taken part in Flower Festivals at St Mary's, decorated the church for numerous weddings and has held fund raising events for charities. Members have also participated in the Village Flower Shows.

Our next two meetings are on

Monday April 17<sup>th</sup>. Practice - Easter Parade

Monday May 15<sup>th</sup> . An evening with Gordon - practice with a

difference.

Entrance: Members £1.50

Visitors £2.00

Sales Table

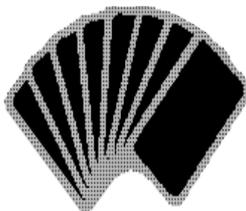
Raffle

Tea/Coffee

Come and join us, we would be delighted to see you.

For further information, including requests for transport to the Hall, please ring me on 01725 552795.

*Maggie Staplehurst, Chairman/Secretary.*

**WHIST AT THE VILLAGE HALL****BRIDGE AT THE ROEBUCK****7:00 FOR 7:30pm Start****COMMENCES: 8:00pm**

With three competitive rounds remaining (as at 20 March) in the second half of the 1999-2000 whist drive season, Sylvia Thorne (who finished the pre-Christmas contest in sixth place) heads the table with 825 points, having scored consistently well since the opening round on 12 January. Closely tracking Sylvia are Myrtle Fox on 814 points, Joan Gocher a point further back, Wilf Jacobs at 807 and Len Diggins with 804 points. However, the highlight of the season must surely be the partnership of Sylv Day and Mick

Walker who, at the drive on 8 March, won sixteen consecutive hands. When eventually parted, with eight deals remaining, they had amassed 127 points. At the close, Sylv returned a score of 177 to Mick's 179, though, amazingly, this was equalled by Evelyn Godwin and when all the calculations were made, Evelyn was declared the winner having made nine tricks as opposed to Mick's eight on the crucial twelfth deal.

As recounted above, five players have notched up scores in excess of 800 and, of course, this quintet are well placed to head the final table, but as the contest is decided on the highest overall score from just six of the eight competitive rounds, players can miss a maximum of two drives and still be in the running for a high placing. Thus, Ray Parsons and Margaret Fowgies who have each missed one round are still very much in the hunt with scores of 675 and 663 respectively (in fact, Ray returned two very high scoring rounds of 183 and 181 at the start of the year, while Margaret has carded 161, 165, 170 and 167 to remain very much in contention).

It is true to say that senior citizens make up the majority of whist players, but on 23 February John Davis, who until recently played an active part in helping to organise the meetings, introduced his eight year old grandson, Saul Chambers and by the end of the evening Saul had well demonstrated he could hold his own by scoring a very creditable 153 points.

Highlight of the post Christmas bridge has been the annual dinner, held in early January and brilliantly hosted by Anne and Colin Reed. Furthermore, Paul Noble has made a welcome return to the scene and on several occasions of late, three tables have been in play.

The quality of bidding and play has been consistently high, with several small slams being bid and made; Trish Chorley (north) and Helen Goodwin (south) landed an excellent six spades early in March but perhaps the most remarkable slam was achieved by the Cranborne pairing of Paul Noble and Eric on 15 March. Paul (east) opened the bidding with one diamond and in response to Eric's (west) reply of one spade, jumped immediately to six no trumps (much to the surprise of his partner and opponents, Sally David and Bill Chorley). It should be explained that slams are usually arrived at through a series of bids, usually involving at least three of the four suits, thus Paul's immediate jump to six no trumps was truly inspirational and astute play duly landed the contract. By way of contrast, two players picked up Yarboroughs (hands that do not have an honour or a card valued above nine); Paul being one and Silvia Marskell the other.

*Bill Chorley*

Remaining whist dates: Wednesday 22 March, 5 April, 19 April and 3 May.  
Bridge, at The Roebuck, on alternate Wednesdays.

## CELEBRATION OF CHILDHOOD

A Celebration Weekend at St.Mary's Church  
Sixpenny Handley

Saturday to Monday, 27/29th May

**EXHIBITION** In St.Mary's Church of antique baby clothes and toys, models, trains, local history photographs and records. Open each of the three days.

**TEDDY BEARS PARACHUTE JUMP** Saturday, 27th at 3 pm from the Tower.  
Bring your Teddy and a Parachute!

**SPECIAL CHILDREN'S SERVICE** with Baptism Sunday, 28th at 3 pm in Church.

**AND ALSO!**

Plant and Cake Stalls

for more information phone 01725 552608



### Mobile Library Service



**Weekly on Thursdays:-**

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

**Fortnightly on Thursdays**

		<b>Apr 6<sup>th</sup>, Apr 20<sup>th</sup></b>
		<b>May 4<sup>th</sup>, May 18<sup>th</sup></b>
		<b>Jun 1<sup>st</sup>, Jun 15<sup>th</sup>, Jun 29<sup>th</sup></b>
Pentridge	2.05 - 2.20	The Old Post Office
Woodyates	2.30 - 2.45	Cobley Close
Deanland	2.55 - 3.10	Barley Corn House

**Correction**

In the article about the Christmas activities at Handley First School in the February Downsman it was reported that the children had song carols for the Wednesday Club. In fact their singing was presented to, and enjoyed by Chase Community Friends.

Dear Editor

My 6 year old son wondered if we should write in as we have

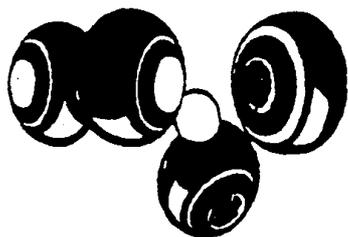
discovered that walking the footpaths around Handley is a rather dodgy activity, specifically, dodging the dog poo!! We love to ramble and cycle but areas of Handley Roundwalk represent quite a hazard. Footpaths up by the Post Office, along the edge of the fields, behind the campsite and church, and heading out toward Deanland and Worbarrow are a minefield of doggy doings! It isn't even as though it is just a little bit here and there; we have to walk with our eyes glued to the ground - missing out entirely on views, flowers, hedgerows, bird spotting and other niceties which was the original point of such excursions - as we avoid great piles of poo literally every couple of yards. Sorry to be so graphic, but surely I'm not the only one? I would assume the dogwalkers themselves also have to watch where they step.

Dog poo is a very noxious substance, it only takes a child to trip and ..... Imagine the rest. While we understandably may not want it in our backyards neither do I want it plastered offensively over children's wellies and bicycle wheels, not to mention my own boots too. PLEASE could their walkers encourage these canine friends to do their business closer in to the hedgerow, or any place where we are less likely to put our feet in it? We would be grateful. And after all there is now a fine for dog fouling in public places such as streets and parks.

Happy walkies!

*T A Reith*

## *Letter to the 'Editor'*



### **Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club**

Even though they lost their last match our team that played in the Blackmore Vale league have come top of division 4 - what a result for our first ever season. Next season they go up to Division 3, lets see how well they do there. Also, because of their success and also because of the league has decided to start a Division 5 we are putting in a second

team, so watch for results in the B.V. magazine.

April brings our thoughts to bowling outdoors, although the current weather is trying to put us off. We are having our opening of the green this year on Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup> from 2.00pm, so if anyone is interested in coming along to have a go, we have plenty of spare bowls for you to use. Just bring a flat pair of shoes.

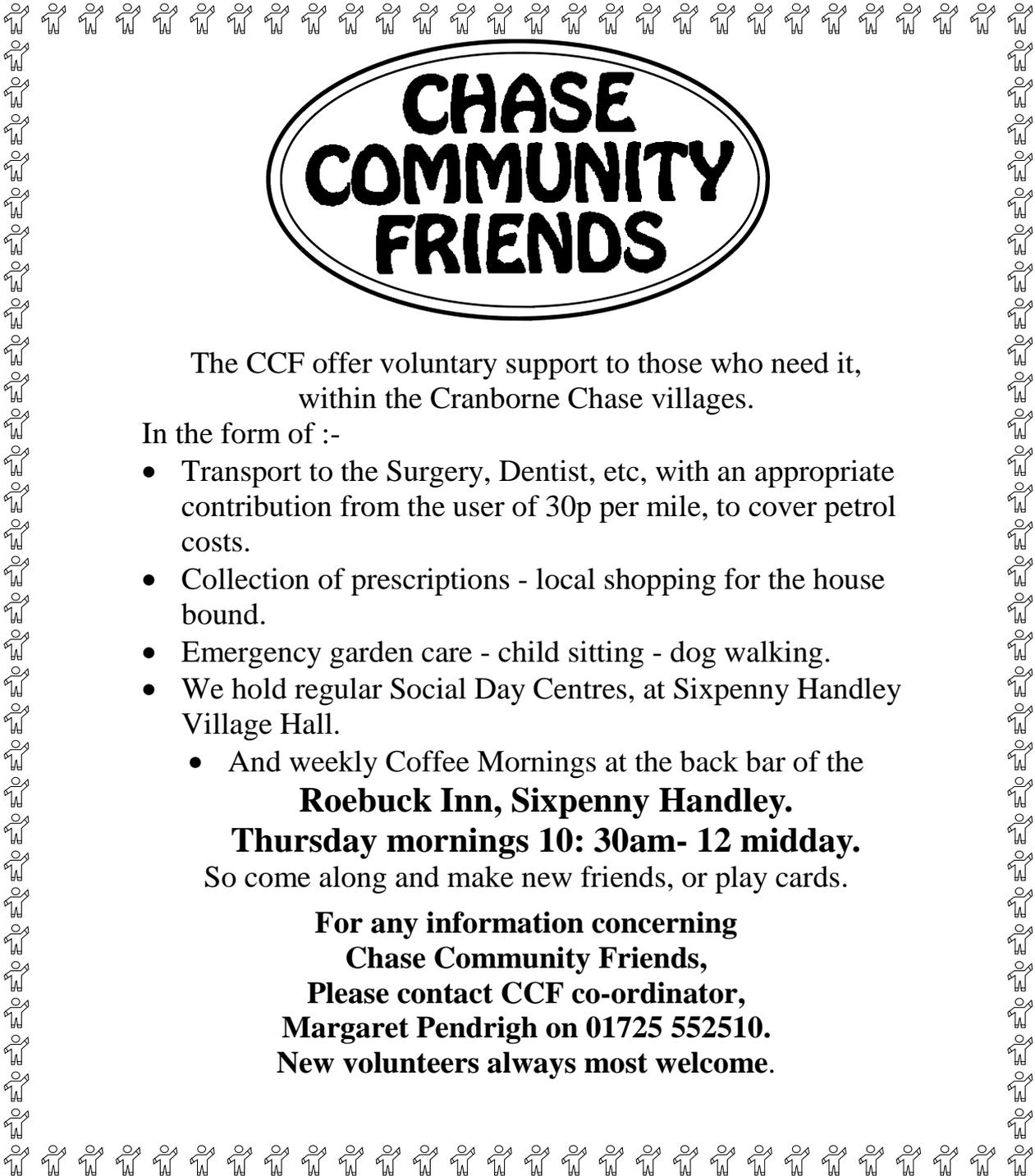
Even though we are opening our green in April, all our friendly matches for that month are still indoors, so at least the weather won't affect us - matches against Buckham Weston (home on 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30); Heatherlands (home on 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:30) & Heatherlands (away on 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30). Our first outdoor match is on the 30<sup>th</sup> at home to Verwood.

By the time you read this we will have held our Quiz Evening on 1<sup>st</sup> April which I hope will be as successful as all the others.

We held our Pairs Short Mat Club Competition on 27<sup>th</sup> February and the trophy was won by Colin Chambers and Mary Cumming.

This summer we are taking part in a Wiltshire Mixed Triples League - our first match being at home on 11<sup>th</sup> May at 6:00pm against Downton. This is in addition to the Dorset Men's League who play their first match on 1<sup>st</sup> May at 6:30 - away to Wessex.

Spectators are welcome to watch all our home matches, who knows you may get a taste for it.



# CHASE COMMUNITY FRIENDS

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

In the form of :-

- Transport to the Surgery, Dentist, etc, with an appropriate contribution from the user of 30p per mile, to cover petrol costs.
- Collection of prescriptions - local shopping for the house bound.
- Emergency garden care - child sitting - dog walking.
- We hold regular Social Day Centres, at Sixpenny Handley Village Hall.
  - And weekly Coffee Mornings at the back bar of the  
**Roebuck Inn, Sixpenny Handley.**  
**Thursday mornings 10: 30am- 12 midday.**  
So come along and make new friends, or play cards.

**For any information concerning  
Chase Community Friends,  
Please contact CCF co-ordinator,  
Margaret Pendrigh on 01725 552510.  
New volunteers always most welcome.**

**Sixpenny Handley Village Hall Management Committee**

Stella Symes and Pat Oxford organised the Annual Jumble Sale on behalf of the above committee on March 18<sup>th</sup>. They would like to thank everyone who helped to make the event a great success, raising £400 for the Hall Fundraising Account.

**Well Done!**

### **Millennium Tree Planting**

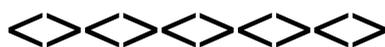
The Millennium Tree planting was to have taken place this spring but unfortunately owing to difficulties in sourcing supply and funding for the trees and agreeing sites this did not happen.

The planting will now take place in the Autumn of 2000 and persons who wished to plant

## **Sixpenny Handley Bowls Club OPEN DAY**

**Opening of the 2000 Season  
on Saturday April 15th  
from 2p.m.**

**Anyone interested can come along and  
have a go at this game. We have plenty of  
spare Bowls and you only need to bring a  
pair of flat shoes.**



**You can join the club and play until end  
of July 2000 for only £17. The full fee of  
£50 per year will apply from August 1st  
2000 -that is if you get hooked on it and  
you will!!!**

**Contact - Gill Martin**

**Tel 01725-552297**

**or just come along on the day!!!**

## CELEBRATION OF CHILDHOOD

As part of our "Celebration of Childhood" weekend at the end of May we are holding a special children's service at 3 pm on the Sunday afternoon at St. Mary's Church.

Would this be a good time to bring your child or baby for baptism?

Would you like to come and renew the promises made at your own baptism?

The service that afternoon will be geared for children of all ages - from 1 to 101!

If you or any of your family would like baptism at this service then please let me know beforehand on 01725 552608.

*RON WOOD  
VICAR*

### LADIES BIKE

Does anyone want or need a ladies bike?  
The reason I ask is that we have at the Vicarage a bike which, admittedly has a flat back tyre but which is otherwise in reasonable nick, and which came to us accidentally.

IT IS NOT FOR SALE -we just want to find it a good home!

If you can help please phone 552608.

*Pam Wood*

### Sixpenny Handley Stores & Post Office

**Fresh Fruit & Vegetables Daily  
Bread & Cakes from Local Bakery**

**Groceries – Whole Foods**

**Frozen Foods**

**Wide Selection of Cards**

**COAL**

**Bird Nuts, Rabbit Food etc.**

**Tel:- Liz on 01725 552827**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Electricity Key Meters Charged**

**Electricity Savings Stamps now  
available**

**Car Road Tax Renewals**

**Television Licence Payments**

**Travellers Cheques & Foreign**

**Currency**

**All Normal Post Office Services**

***Rural Post Offices are under threat***

***Use it or risk losing it!***

### Free Videos.

Three days that changed the World.....  
They could change your world too! An exciting video telling the story of God sending Jesus Christ to help us all live wholesome and joyful lives with real hope for the future.

Available at St Mary's Church (Open all day)

*Terry Richards*

### **Report of investigation into various traffic issues at Sixpenny Handley.**

During recent months East Dorset District Council engaged Paul Martin, C.Eng., MICE (Traffic Consultant) to investigate & report on various traffic issues at Sixpenny Handley. His report includes the following points.

**Traffic Flows.** High Street approx. 3,000 per day, (10% commercial).  
Dean Lane 500-1000, almost entirely locally generated.

**Accidents.** There have been five reported accidents in the past three years. All classified as "slight injury". (Four of these involved local people!)

**Traffic Speeds.** The average speed on the 3/4 mile extent of the 30mph limit on the B3081, taken on a number of runs at varying times and conditions was **25mph**. Beyond the surgery in Dean Lane 30-40mph. On-street parking in the High Street regulates traffic speeds for much of the day.

**Dangers to pedestrians in the High St.** The built-up nature of the High Street means little or no opportunity exists to construct a footway, except in small sections in conjunction with new development.

#### **Problems at The Hollow.**

The new footway has helped to reduce pedestrian/vehicle conflict. Parking overflows onto side roads when demand exceeds availability. Parking is orderly & posed less of a problem than in many local schools. Signing & lining in this area should be substantially improved. These measures would give greater emphasis to motorists of potential hazards.

**The Options.** 1.Speed Cameras. 2.Pinch Points & Chicanes. 3.Road Humps. 4.Update & Enhance Signing & Lining. Note: **Speed Cameras are only deployed (with Police approval) where speed related crashes are occurring. This is not the case in Dean lane.**

**Costs.** Measures 1-3 above estimated to cost between £50,000 & £100,000.  
Improved Signing & Lining proposals estimated at £5,000.

Our District Councillor Alan Humphries who has been working closely with our County and Parish Councillors on this matter, says it has been unanimously agreed to seek implementation of Option 4, above. It is unlikely with current monetary constraints that "County" could carry out these works at the moment. However, a sum of £5,000 for such work has been set aside in the Environment Improvement budget at Furzehill, and he is expecting to be "making our case" at a meeting of the appropriate committee shortly.

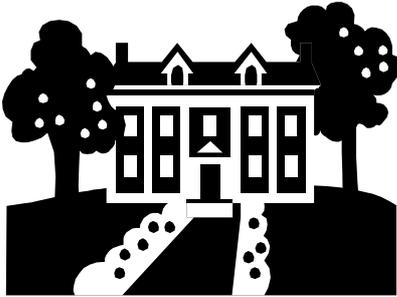


**Problems with roads and pavements, street lighting or  
blocked road drains?**

**Call Freephone - CLARENCE**

## M. G. CORDINA

**ALL TYPES OF BUILDING  
WORK CARRIED OUT**



Telephone – 01725 552310

Berwick Cottage  
42 High Street  
Sixpenny Handley  
SALISBURY

*Chris Wadge Clocks*  
Partners: C.J.Wadge P.J.Wadge

**ANNIVERSARY CLOCK  
SPECIALIST**

83 Fisherton Street  
SALISBURY SP2 7ST

Tel/Fax 01722 334467  
Or ring Handley (01725) 552455

**ANTIQUE AND MODERN  
WATCH & CLOCK REPAIRS**

Sales and Spares

**COLLECTION & DELIVERY**

**CLOCKS BOUGHT & SOLD**  
**CLOSED ON MONDAYS**

### YOUTH CLUB

Youth club has now been going a year, and is still going strong. Enjoyed by the children, leaders and helpers we are in the process of buying new equipment for the club.

As we have many children on our books we would welcome parents to come and help anytime. Our youth club is visited from time to time by the Dorset Youth Association and is praised for our work we do with the children. Each session we have two or three craft tables, snooker, table tennis, board games, and many more activities. Summer is upon us and we soon will be outside playing rounders, football, and net ball and many more outdoor games.

Fund raising.... We are planning to have a late spring jumble and bingo so look out for posters in the near future.

### Salisbury Bus - Possible Changes

There is a possibility that the local Salisbury bus Tuesday and Saturday a.m. will cease to call at **Deanland** because of lack of use and call in at Odstock hospital instead.

Let me know your views. Eileen Miles Rural Transport Rep; 01725 552768

# April & May 2000

<b>ST MARY'S</b>	<b>ST ANDREW'S</b>	<b>ST RUMBOLD'S</b>
------------------	--------------------	---------------------

**April 2nd** Mothering Sunday

9:30 Family Service 6:00 Holy Communion
--

11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
--

**April 9th** Fifth Sunday in Lent - Passion Sunday

10:30 Morning Prayer	9:30 Holy Communion
----------------------	---------------------

**April 16th** Palm Sunday

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

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

**April 20th** Maundy Thursday

7:30pm Holy Communion at 25 Paddock Close, Sixpenny Handley

**April 21st** Good Friday

7:30 The Passion - Readings and Hymns
--

**April 23rd** Easter Sunday

9:30 Holy Communion	8:30 Holy Communion	11:15 Holy Communion
---------------------	---------------------	----------------------

**April 30th** Sunday after

9:30 Holy Communion 6:00 Sunday Night Live! Colours of Salvation
--

**May 7th** Third Sunday of Easter

9:30 Family Service 6:00 Holy Communion
--

11:15 Morning Prayer & Holy Communion
--

**May 14th** Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:30 Morning Prayer	9:30 Holy Communion
----------------------	---------------------

**May 21st** Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

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

**May 28th** Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

**June 1st** Ascension Day (Thursday)

7:30 Holy Communion
---------------------

## NOTES FROM RSPB GARSTON WOOD



Coppicing has finished for another winter and our party of about twenty volunteers and the Warden had the traditional final barbecue last Sunday (19<sup>th</sup>) in brilliant warm sunshine. Brimstone butterflies were in abundance on the main west ride, but there were also Commas, Small Tortoiseshells and a Peacock around. The first migrant warbler, a chiffchaff was heard on the 15<sup>th</sup> March and now there are at least three marking their territories. There are many Bluebells already in flower, along with the more regular March flora of Violets and Primroses and for the enthusiast a chance to see masses of Toothwort throughout the woods. Most plants seem to be about three weeks ahead of the usual flowering period whilst the birds and especially the bees, are a week or two early. However, as I write this note in my third change of clothes in one day caused by adverse weather, there is again torrential, stinging hail falling! Typical April?

Regular visitors will have noticed the tremendous changes over the winter period. The new ride through the plantation is virtually finished but due to the now stringent health and safety rules we cannot open it until some loose scrub is cleared and notices are in place, warning of uneven paths! Nature reserves have to be sanitised like any other workplace! When access is arranged, there are some seats near the north end for walkers to sit and enjoy what we hope will be good views of conifer woodland birds. Other parts of the wood have been opened out again to create better habitat for birds, bees and butterflies. Early signs are that this will make a significant difference to breeding and birdwatching.

On 25<sup>th</sup> March, Dormouse recorders from all over the country meet in Cheddar to discuss

### RSPB GARSTON WOOD OPEN DAY 14th MAY 2000

Free admission -- RSPB stall selling goods -- Free parking  
Guided walks to see the birds and flowers from 10.00am. Last one at

progress in conserving these delightful mammals. This was the first ever conference of people from those sites taking part in the National Dormouse Recovery Programme sponsored by English Nature and provided a useful guide to how Garston Wood monitoring compares with other reserves. We are pleased to know that the local programme is working well.

The Dormouse is widespread in Dorset but small, isolated populations can die out over a long period, so the main aim in this county is to preserve habitat and keep a healthy breeding population that can be used to re-colonise areas where they die out. Successful reintroductions have been carried out in Cambridgeshire and Coventry with young animals rescued from imminent death on southern reserves, bred to adulthood by Doug Woods at the Cheddar centre and then released back into the wild. Many areas of northern and central England have lost their populations and so this work has become of real importance so that yet another animal is not to become extinct.

The conservation in Garston Wood has become a model for restoring and maintaining the characteristics of ancient woodland. We hope the work does not affect it for the local residents and that you find it a pleasant place to visit and enjoy.

*David Tucker*

# LEARN TO DRIVE

with

**PETER RANDALL**

**YOUR INDEPENDENT INSTRUCTOR  
FROM SIXPENNY HANDLEY**

**TELEPHONE OR E.MAIL FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**TELEPHONE: 01725 552548**

**MOBILE: 07818 491253**

**E.MAIL: [pjr2@supanet.com](mailto:pjr2@supanet.com)**

**5 HIGH STREET  
SIXPENNY HANDLEY**

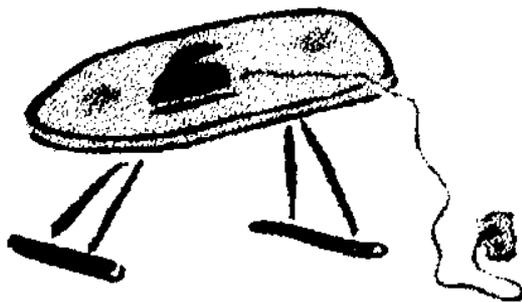
**SALISBURY**

**WILTS**

**SP5 5NR**

# Fed Up Ironing?

## Let Me Take The Strain!



## Next Day Service

Phone Me For Prices And Details

**Amanda**

**01725 552984**

## Dorset at War

On a cold February day in 1935, a twin-engined Handley Page Heyford bomber, piloted by Squadron Leader R S Blucke, flying at 10,000 feet over the Midlands, was successfully detected near the BBC's transmitter station at Daventry by an experimental receiver designed to intercept reflected radio waves. As the bomber flew on its predetermined course, so a series of blips began to appear on the cathode-ray tube and the small team of technicians clustered around the set were able to predict, with accuracy, that the aeroplane was some 8 miles distant from their receiver. The brain-child of Robert Watson-Watt had come through its first test with flying colours and in the last remaining years of a fragile peace, great strides were made in the development of radar.

Nonetheless, as reported in the first article, very few serviceable sets were available for the night-fighter squadrons that were forming in the summer of 1940 and, thus, one of several ideas put forward to combat the growing threat from the Luftwaffe's night bomber forces was a type of aerial mine which would be attached to a long length of wire and towed through the sky ahead of the incoming raiders, the theory being that once the towing aircraft was in a favourable position, the wire would be released and the mines, supported by parachutes, would drift into the flight path of the bombers with, hopefully, satisfactory results!

The unit earmarked to conduct trials of this type of weapon was No. 420 Flight which was formed at Christchurch on 25 September 1940, moving to Middle Wallop four days later. Initially equipped with twin-engined Harrow bomber/transport aircraft and a handful of obsolete Fairy Battle light bombers, the Flight was elevated to squadron status on 7 December 1940, becoming 93 Squadron. Amongst the ground staff members of the new squadron was **Charles Sims**, newly posted from Bridgnorth and previous to that, a permanent staff member of the Recruit Training Centre at Padgate (in recent years Charles has been a long serving member of the Parish Council). Charles, with his colleagues, was frequently dispatched to all parts of Dorset to assist in the recovery of mines that had been dropped, usually on a trial basis. Not surprisingly, the work of the Squadron soon began to appear in the Daily Report of Chief Constables, one of the first reports being originated on 12 January 1941, when approximately half-a-mile of steel wire was found on Didlington Farm, northeast of Witchampton. Attached to the wire were two parachutes, the larger of the two canopies bearing the markings "Littlewood Mail Order Store Ltd, Parachute Division, 50 Hanover Street, Liverpool 1, 6 November 1940". The report continues by stating the bomb (sic) attached to the parachute had apparently exploded and the remains of what seemed to be two small linen bags were recovered from the scene. Three days later, a similar length of wire, with a single parachute, was recovered from near Pentridge, the report noting that the date stamp on the parachute was 8 November 1940. Both devices were taken to Wimborne Police Station to await disposal.

Apart from the inconvenience of having to gather up vast quantities of steel wire, no material damage was caused at either location, but the explosive qualities of the mines were in no doubt and two army sentries at Poundbury Camp near Dorchester had a narrow escape when in the early hours of 12 January, such a mine fell close to where they were standing on guard duty. In the ensuing explosion, both soldiers were blown off their feet by the blast but neither were seriously hurt. In the light of day, it was discovered that the explosion had

made a crater of about 12 inches in diameter and some 3 inches in depth, while a quarter of a mile to the north, 500 yards of steel wire was found draped across the Great Western Railway line.

But the work of 93 Squadron in respect of the trial, now code named Pandora, was coming to an end and the unit reverted to more conventional means of trying to intercept the enemy at night. However, it is worth recounting that one successful intercept was accomplished, this taking place on 22 December 1940, when a Harrow, captained by Flight Lieutenant Burke, released a curtain of mines ahead of two enemy aircraft that had been plotted on radar, one of the enemy machines being destroyed.

Throughout August and September 1940, the Battle of Britain was fought in a series of fierce encounters which, in the main, were concentrated along the south coast. Shipping in the Channel was under constant threat and, as recounted in the first article, three very sharp raids were mounted on 8 August against a large convoy comprising of twenty ships that had sailed from the direction of the Thames Estuary. Their passage through the Channel was fraught with constant danger. E-boats had been the first to strike, sinking three vessels and inflicting damage on several others. Then, Stuka dive-bombers from Fliegerkorps VIII had mounted the first air attack but had been repulsed without further loss to the convoy. A second air attack came in the early noon which left a number of ships sinking, or badly damaged.

Finally, at around tea time, with the survivors off Swanage, the Luftwaffe struck for the third time and by the time the last of the enemy bombers had turned back towards their bases in France, the convoy had been reduced to thirteen seaworthy ships, though some of these were steaming along sorely battered.

Inclement weather settled over the battle zones and for two days air activity was relatively light. Then, on 11 August, a Sunday, the day dawned with relatively clear skies and it was not long before a series of probing attacks were being reported from the Dover area. But, well before mid-morning, the radar station at Ventnor on the Isle of Wight began to pick up the unmistakable signs of large formations of enemy aircraft gathering in the vicinity of Cherbourg. This portent of a hot day to come soon materialised with waves of Me 109s and twin-engined Me 110s sweeping in towards Portland.

Their numbers were sufficient for Fighter Command to react in equal strength and both Warmwell squadrons were scrambled to join their sister units from bases all along the south coast. It was soon estimated that the enemy had fielded upwards of 150 aircraft for in addition to the escorting fighters, Ju 88s and He 111s were much in evidence as the defending Hurricanes and Spitfires climbed to join battle. As the two forces met, so a series of fierce dog-fights broke out over the Channel with cannon and machine gun fire echoing back and forth as friend and foe tried to gain the upper hand. In the confusion of air combat it was always difficult for pilots to be absolutely certain of their victory claims, but it seems likely that 609 Squadron returned to Warmwell, without loss, and jubilant that five Me 110s had fallen to their guns.

In the years since the Battle was fought, a careful analysis of claims shows that on 11 August 1940, Fighter Command lost at least 32 aircraft. Norman Franks "Fighter Command

Losses" shows no less than fifteen of this number being brought down in the vicinity of Portland, or just inland at locations along the Dorset coast. Warmwell's only loss was a 152 Squadron Spitfire (Pilot Officer J S B Jones) which was last seen at 11 o'clock, spinning seawards. The body of Pilot Officer Jones, whose father was a Group Captain serving in the Royal Air Force, was washed onto a beach in France, where he now rests in Ste-Marie Cemetery at Le Havre.

Although the loss of 32 fighters was serious, even more worrying was the high loss of life amongst the pilots involved with 25 of their number either confirmed dead, or posted as missing. The Luftwaffe, too, had sustained serious casualties with an estimated 38 machines destroyed, and with little to show in terms of material damage inflicted on their targets. Portland had been hit, Weymouth too, but considering the strength of the enemy's attack, damage was relatively light.

The next day saw further heavy incursions by the enemy, whose intention was to destroy as many fighter airfields as possible and to bomb the early warning radar stations. Warmwell appears to have escaped the Luftwaffe's attention, but 152 Squadron, scrambled to intercept a heavy and, ultimately, very successful raid on the radar station at Ventnor lost two of their number, both pilots being killed when their Spitfires plunged into the Channel south of the Island.

These attacks on the 12th were a precursor of a mass assault, by the Luftwaffe, twenty-four hours later on what is now referred to as "Adlertag" ("Eagle Day"). From dawn until dusk, waves of enemy bombers with their fighter escorts swept across the Channel to pound at airfields and strategic targets along the south coast. In total, it is reckoned that well in excess of 1,400 enemy sorties were launched, a high percentage being directed at Portland and the all important dockyard facilities at Southampton, as well as strong assaults on fighter airfields in Kent and Hampshire. Once again, Fighter Command was being stretched to the limit and by the end of the day the Hurricanes and Spitfires had recorded in the region of 700 defensive sorties. Despite their increasing fatigue, brought about by being on almost constant readiness, the defending pilots knocked down a minimum of 45 enemy machines for the relatively light loss of twelve Hurricanes and a single Spitfire; even more gratifying, nine of the pilots from these fighters were safe, though two had been wounded, one very seriously. Warmwell's two Spitfire units came through the day unscathed, but 8 Squadron, flying their Hurricanes out of Middle Wallop lost three of their number. First to fall was Sergeant E W Seabourne (P3764 VK-), picked off by a Me 109 at around half-past seven in the morning as he patrolled off the Isle of Wight. Then, late in the afternoon, having been scrambled to intercept a raid coming in towards Portland, two more were brought down; Sergeant H J Marsh (P3177 VK-) dived into the sea off the Bill and soon afterwards Sergeant R Little crash landed P3805 VK-on Bredy Farm near Burton Bradstock. Little, although shaken, was uninjured but Sergeant Marsh's body was never recovered and he is commemorated on panel 17 of the Runnymede Memorial.

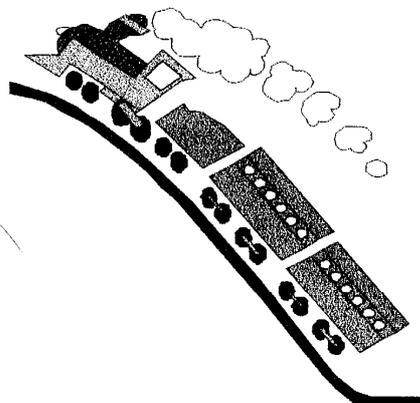
Without any shadow of doubt, the Battle of Britain was now entering a crucial phase; Fighter Command was inflicting serious losses on the Luftwaffe but if the enemy were able to deny our fighters the use of their airfields and, more importantly, destroy the early warning radar posts, then the outcome was likely to be in Hitler's favour.

(To be continued)

*Bill Chorley*

# Bright Sparks

## Bright Sparks Nursery School



at Ebbesbourne Wake Village Hall, Ebbesbourne Wake.

Tel: 01722 781069

**Your Local Nursery School.**

**2 - 5 year olds**

**Mondays to Fridays: 9.15am to 12.15pm.**

**£5 per session.**

**Tuesday and Fridays; all day sessions -9.15am to 2.45pm**

**4 year olds grant registered.**

**Our friendly qualified and well experienced team welcomes you to our homely, stimulating and secure environment.**

**Every child is an individual with differing needs, abilities and potential. We are sensitive in responding to those needs.**

**Our well planned and structured activities can enhance your child's full social, intellectual, emotional, physical and creativity development.**

**For a prospectus or to arrange a visit, please call us during opening times.**

**Your Child's Well Being Is Paramount.**

**We look forward to seeing you.**

**Holiday Play Schemes Also Available.**



## Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

### Handley Crime Awareness Day

Sixpenny Handley Crime Awareness Day is Saturday 15 April. The Dorset Police Crime Awareness caravan will be parked in the High Street during peak shopping hours and representatives of the Police and the local Homewatch Scheme will be there to talk to

you about making your property safer.

Although we are lucky to have a low crime rate in the parish, it is still noticeable that many of the crimes we do suffer could have been prevented by greater public crime awareness. If there is anything you want to know about the parish homewatch scheme, crime prevention and policing in Dorset, this is your opportunity to come along and ask. If not, please just use the event to think about the security of your own home and property and whether there is anything you can do to make them more secure.

### Recent Crimes

There has been a small increase lately in the number of crimes reported in rural North Dorset. Be especially aware of the security at the rear of your home – this is where most of the current break-ins are happening. Parked cars have also been targeted once more, normally for the valuables left inside rather than for theft of the car itself. Don't leave anything that is valuable, or looks as if it might be, in any unattended vehicle.

### Watch Your Speed!

Dorset Police are stepping up their enforcement of village speed limits in rural areas. This is something that Handley Residents will welcome, especially on the High Street and in Dean Lane – but make sure you are not one of the guilty ones or it could be you who gets stopped!

### Invitation to Sixpenny Handley

Your Homewatch leaders were recently asked to send a representative to the East Dorset Crime Prevention Panel to work on common problems with other homewatch schemes, the police, representatives of the District Council and other interested parties. The meeting, held in the new Police HQ at Ferndown was informative and we will continue to attend. It is clear that crime prevention and law enforcement have to be pursued in partnership. We cannot do it alone.

### Bogus Caller Project

One of the initiatives for which the East Dorset Crime Prevention Panel is seeking funds is a 'Bogus Caller Project'. The idea is to supply vulnerable residents, such as the elderly, with advice on how to deal with unexpected callers. We have had our fair share of bogus callers in Sixpenny Handley over the years and we therefore welcome this initiative. We will keep you informed through the Downsman as the idea progresses.

Dorset Police are currently warning us about bogus 'officials', who often pose as someone from a water company, the electricity board and so forth. Genuine officials have proper ID cards and you should always ask to see these before admitting them to your home. Check

the photo matches the card holder and ring the company concerned for confirmation if you have any doubts whatever. Don't let the caller in until you are certain. Genuine officials understand peoples concerns and will not mind being kept waiting a few minutes.



### **Ringmaster and Email Crime Notification Systems**

We still have vacancies on the Ringmaster system for anyone who wants information direct from the Police about local crimes, suspect cars and so forth. Remember too that Charles Nodder is setting up an Email 'tree' to pass this information on to anyone in the Parish with access to email. If you are interested in either service, call Charles on (01725) 552292, or email him at [cnodder@msn.com](mailto:cnodder@msn.com). This service will be operational very soon.

## **New Bus Service**

### **GILLINGHAM & SHAFTESBURY TO BOURNEMOUTH**

Service 38 operated by Shaftesbury & District Motor services on Fridays is a new service that commenced on 11th February 2000. The route will run initially until 31st March 2001 and will allow people from Gillingham, Shaftesbury, Sixpenny Handley and Alderholt to visit Ringwood and Bournemouth.

This service is funded by Dorset County Council using money from the Rural Bus Grant. For further information, telephone Passenger Transport on (01305) 225165

#### **Fridays only except Public Holidays**

GILLINGHAM (Laburnum Way)	0900	BOURNEMOUTH (Square stand "M")	1345
Wyke (Pound Lane)	0903	Ringwood (Meeting House Lane "A")	1400
Gillingham (Hyde Road)	0906	Alderholt (Park Lane)	1415
Gillingham (Shreen Way)	0909	Cranborne (Square)	1425
Gillingham (Gyllas Way)	0911	<b><u>Sixpenny Handley</u></b>	<b><u>1435</u></b>
Gillingham (Claremont Avenue)	0913	Tollard Royal (Pond)	1445
GILLINGHAM (High Street)	0916	Ludwell (Birdbush)	1455
Gillingham (Ham Common),	0919	Ludwell (Charlton Church)	1456
Hill Farm (Sweetmans Road)	0928	SHAFTESBURY (Town Hall)	1503
Ten Acres (Hine Motors)	0930	Ten Acres (Hine Motors)	1508
SHAFTESBURY (opp. Town Hall)	0935	Hill Farm (Sweetmans Road)	1510
Ludwell (Charlton Church)	0941	Gillingham (Ham Common)	1519
Ludwell (Birdbush)	0942	GILLINGHAM (High Street)	1521
Tollard Royal (Pond)	0953	Gillingham (Claremont Avenue)	1524
<b><u>Sixpenny Handley</u></b>	<b><u>1002</u></b>	Gillingham (Gyllas Way)	1526
Cranborne (Square)	1013	Gillingham (Shreen Way)	1528
Alderholt (Park Lane)	1025	Gillingham (Hyde Road)	1531
Ringwood (Meeting House Lane "A")	1040	Wyke (Pound Lane)	1534
BOURNEMOUTH (Square stand "Z")	1055	GILLINGHAM (Laburnum Way)	1537

# OXFORD

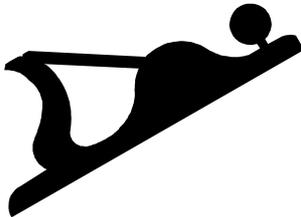
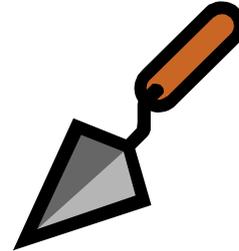
## Carpentry and Building of Blandford



New Houses

Extensions

Refurbishments



Call Peter Oxford

## SUMMERLOCK UPHOLSTERY

Church Farm Workshop  
Sixpenny Handley  
SALISBURY

Tel: 01725 552333 Fax: 01725 552333

FOR

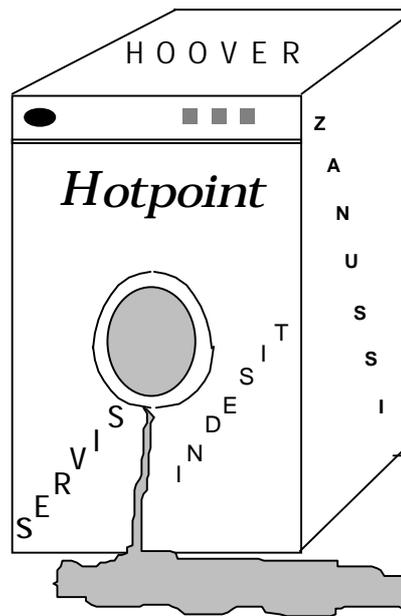
RE-UPHOLSTERY

CURTAINS  
Loose Covers

VERTICAL & VENETIAN  
BLINDS  
Carpets Supplied & Fitted

## HAYDN EVERALL

LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS

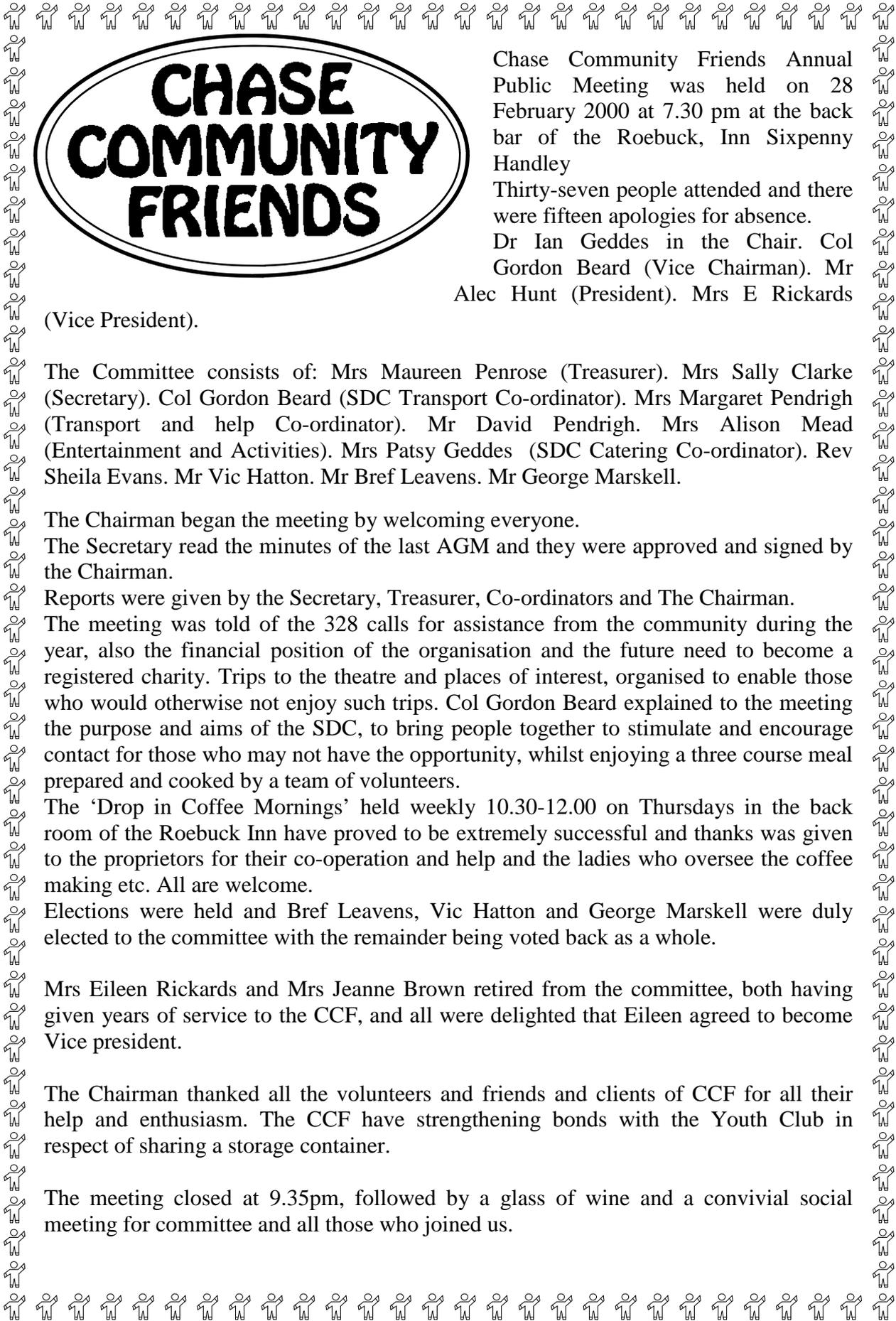


FAST  
ECONOMIC  
REPAIRS

to  
most  
makes  
*Washing  
Machines,  
Tumble  
Driers &  
Dishwashers*

NEW & QUALITY RECONDITIONED MACHINES SUPPLIED

Tel No: 01725 - 552843



# CHASE COMMUNITY FRIENDS

Chase Community Friends Annual Public Meeting was held on 28 February 2000 at 7.30 pm at the back bar of the Roebuck, Inn Sixpenny Handley

Thirty-seven people attended and there were fifteen apologies for absence.

Dr Ian Geddes in the Chair. Col Gordon Beard (Vice Chairman). Mr Alec Hunt (President). Mrs E Rickards

(Vice President).

The Committee consists of: Mrs Maureen Penrose (Treasurer). Mrs Sally Clarke (Secretary). Col Gordon Beard (SDC Transport Co-ordinator). Mrs Margaret Pendrigh (Transport and help Co-ordinator). Mr David Pendrigh. Mrs Alison Mead (Entertainment and Activities). Mrs Patsy Geddes (SDC Catering Co-ordinator). Rev Sheila Evans. Mr Vic Hatton. Mr Bref Leavens. Mr George Marskell.

The Chairman began the meeting by welcoming everyone.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last AGM and they were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Reports were given by the Secretary, Treasurer, Co-ordinators and The Chairman.

The meeting was told of the 328 calls for assistance from the community during the year, also the financial position of the organisation and the future need to become a registered charity. Trips to the theatre and places of interest, organised to enable those who would otherwise not enjoy such trips. Col Gordon Beard explained to the meeting the purpose and aims of the SDC, to bring people together to stimulate and encourage contact for those who may not have the opportunity, whilst enjoying a three course meal prepared and cooked by a team of volunteers.

The 'Drop in Coffee Mornings' held weekly 10.30-12.00 on Thursdays in the back room of the Roebuck Inn have proved to be extremely successful and thanks was given to the proprietors for their co-operation and help and the ladies who oversee the coffee making etc. All are welcome.

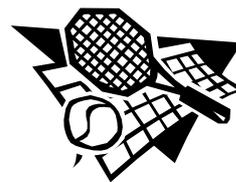
Elections were held and Bref Leavens, Vic Hatton and George Marskell were duly elected to the committee with the remainder being voted back as a whole.

Mrs Eileen Rickards and Mrs Jeanne Brown retired from the committee, both having given years of service to the CCF, and all were delighted that Eileen agreed to become Vice president.

The Chairman thanked all the volunteers and friends and clients of CCF for all their help and enthusiasm. The CCF have strengthening bonds with the Youth Club in respect of sharing a storage container.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm, followed by a glass of wine and a convivial social meeting for committee and all those who joined us.

## Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club



The various competitions in the Club's Winter Tournament are rapidly coming to a close and as at the time of going to press, only a few matches remain outstanding. A report on the winners of the four sections being contested will be published in the next issue of The Downsman, along with a resume of the Club's trophies as Mrs Ashley Cooper has generously provided the Club with a new cup which, it is likely, will be awarded to the winner of the Ladies Singles. Meanwhile, the summer season of events is being planned and from the information reported in the latest Newsletter, a busy few months lies ahead with no less than six categories of competitions envisaged, plus the opportunity to take part in matches within the Shaftesbury League.

As is customary, the Club year commences on 1 April and present members are asked to renew their subscriptions to the treasurer, Jon Carlisle\*, promptly. Furthermore, prospective new members should also contact Jon for details and with family membership remaining at £25, Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club must surely be the most competitive club in the area in terms of subscription rates.

In addition to the series of Club competitions, two weekends (6-7 May and 15-16 July) have been set aside in order to host the "Play Tennis 2000" initiative, which is part of the national scheme by the Lawn Tennis Association to encourage as many people as possible to participate in tennis, regardless of their levels of ability. The important factor to bear in mind is that you do not have to belong to the Club in order to take part in these events; thus, for 6th May a Junior Doubles event will take place, commencing at 10 o'clock, while on the Sunday, starting at 10, will be a Senior Mixed Doubles, followed at 5.30 pm by a Club barbecue at which the winners of the Winter Tournament will be presented with their cups. As indicated above, the first weekend will be devoted to doubles play, while the July weekend will be given over to a singles competition on the Saturday, followed on the Sunday by doubles involving both adults and juniors. This is being planned as a family day and the Club is looking forward to support from as wide a cross section as possible.

Since mid-January, with natural breaks at half term and Easter, the adult coaching on Wednesday mornings has been extremely well supported. Club members who are interested in joining these sessions should arrive at the courts by 10 o'clock, or telephone Roni Peck on 01725 516350 for further details. Furthermore, commencing on 8th May and each Monday thereafter, Roni will be conducting a very full programme of coaching for all age groups. And, as part of the "Play Tennis 2000" theme, the first session on 8th May will be free of charge! So, for all budding tennis players (and I see that 3 to 4 year olds will be accommodated each Monday from 2.30 to 3 pm), do make a note in your diaries that tennis coaching will be available from May.

Finally, with youth very much in mind, Roni will be organising a Match Play afternoon on Wednesday, 19 April for 10 year olds and over with a nominal fee of just one pound being charged per entrant.

*Bill Chorley*

\*Jon Carlisle, West View, Woodcutts, Salisbury SP5 5RP (552271) for full details of membership fees.

# The Inn On The Chase

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

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

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

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

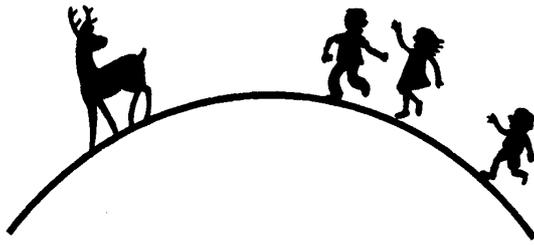
Oh beg my pardon  
I forgot the Beer garden!

Telephone: 01725 552230

# The Chase Nursery

Where your child comes first

(formerly Sixpennies Pre-School)



*New Name  
New Ideas  
New Times*

*The way forward for your  
children*

*Held in Sixpenny Handley Village Hall*

*Tuesday and Wednesday mornings: 9:30am – 12:00 noon  
+ an extra optional hour for lunch: 12:00 noon – 1:00pm*

*Where qualified and experienced staff provide high quality pre-school education at a reasonable cost in a secure and happy environment. Where children can have fun, fulfil their potential, develop a love for learning and go on to school well prepared and confident.*

**... “Chasers” ...**

*A parent and child session for children aged 2 years +  
Thursday mornings: 9:30am – 12:00 noon*

*A structured session, incorporating a **gym session** with our qualified pre-school gym and trampoline instructor.*

*Telephone Julia Stokes (our Chairman) for further information  
01725 552314*

## PARISH DIARY

DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE	DATE	FUNCTION	PAGE
Apr-05	The Wednesday Club	0	May-11	Chase Community Friends	2
Apr-05	Whist at The Village Hall	1	May-11	Finance & General Purposes	0
Apr-05	Tennis Coaching	3	May-11	Tennis Members Evening	3
Apr-06	Chase Community Friends	2	May-14	Garston Wood Open Day	2
Apr-08	Arthritis - Gourmet Take	0	May-15	Flower Arranging Club	1
Apr-12	Bridge at The Roebuck	1	May-15	Tennis Coaching	3
Apr-12	Tennis Coaching	3	May-17	The Wednesday Club	0
Apr-13	Chase Community Friends	2	May-18	Parish Council Meeting	0
Apr-13	Finance & General Purposes	0	May-18	Chase Community Friends	2
Apr-15	Crime Awareness Day	3	May-18	Tennis Members Evening	3
Apr-15	W I Village Spring Clean	1	<b>May-19</b>	<b>Downsman Copy Deadline</b>	<b>0</b>
Apr-15	Bowls Club Open Day	2	May-22	Tennis Coaching	3
Apr-17	Pentridge Parish Assembly	0	May-24	Bridge at The Roebuck	1
Apr-17	Flower Arranging Club	1	May-25	Chase Community Friends	2
Apr-19	The Wednesday Club	0	May-25	Tennis Members Evening	3
Apr-19	Whist at The Village Hall	1	May-27	Carnival Queen Contest	1
Apr-19	Tennis Match Play	3	May-27	Celebration Of Childhood	1
Apr-20	Chase Community Friends	2	May-27	Teddy Bears Parachute Jump	1
Apr-23	Easter Sunday	2	May-28	Childrens Service	1
Apr-26	Bridge at The Roebuck	1	May-29	Tennis Coaching	3
Apr-27	Chase Community Friends	2	May-31	The Wednesday Club	0
Apr-29	W I Plant & Cake Sale	1	Jun-01	Chase Community Friends	2
May-03	The Wednesday Club	0	Jun-01	Tennis Members Evening	3
May-03	Whist at The Village Hall	1	Jun-08	Finance & General Purposes	0
May-04	Chase Community Friends	2	Jun-08	Chase Community Friends	2
May-06	Play Tennis 2000	3	Jun-11	Treasure Hunt	1
May-07	Play Tennis 2000 & Barbecue	3	Jun-14	The Wednesday Club	0
May-08	Tennis Coaching	3	Jun-15	Chase Community Friends	2
May-10	Bridge at The Roebuck	1	Jun-17	Street Fayre & Carnival	1
May-10	Tennis Coaching	3	Jun-18	Sport For All	0

# SIXPENNY

## SIXPENNY HANDLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Age 4 - 9 years  
Give your child a first class education in the friendly, caring environment of your village school.  
Register your child as soon as possible to ensure a place.  
Contact - Mrs A. Latchem (Headteacher) Tel:- 01725 552356

## THE CHASE NURSERY LINK GROUP

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

## THE CHASE NURSERY

Structured learning through play within a caring environment for children aged 2½ - 4.  
Tuesday, Wednesday 9:30am - 12:00 noon + optional lunchtime 12noon - 1pm  
Thursday 9:30am - 12:00 noon "Chasers"  
A parent and child structured session for children aged 2 years +  
Contact - Julia Stokes Tel:- 01725 552314

## HAPPY NAPPY CLUB

Come and enjoy a friendly, fun-packed morning at the Village Hall.  
Babies, toddlers and children under school age are welcome  
- with their mothers and carers.  
We always provide refreshments and sometimes special events.  
Mondays 10.00am - 11.30am Term time  
Contact - Penny Morrison Tel:- 01725 552024

**Get Your Child Headed in  
the Right Direction!**

