

NEW DOWNSMAN TEAM NEEDED

Downsman

...idge, including Woodyates, Deanland and Minchington

Delivered by Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

April 2022

EMAIL
editor@the
downsman
.org.uk



1st Woodcutts Cubs & Scouts Litter Pick

A huge thank you to the group from 1st Woodcutts who, on Saturday 15th March, did a litter picking walk around recreation ground and some of the quieter lanes. They found an enormous amount and variety of objects from parts of cars to crockery and household rubbish.

When I spoke to some of them they couldn't get over the amount of dog poo bags that had been thrown into the verges

and hedges and the fact that after they had cleaned an area they saw someone slow down and throw their take-away cup out of the car window.

At Scouts, we hope that by showing young people how much the environment suffers from litter that they will consider their environment as they become more independent, and on top of that they had a great time in the spring sunshine so a win

all around.

If you know a young person who would like to be involved, get in touch, or if as an adult you'd like to get involved we'd love to hear from you too.

more on page 14...

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.

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
	Ian Mereweather 07818024585
	Cllr S McLean 552910
Pentridge	Cllr C Taylor 553148
	Cllr A Turner 552735
Clerk	Ciona Nicholson 552211
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Churches

Church of England	St. Mary's, Sixpenny Handley
	St. Rumbold's, Pentridge
	St. Andrews, Gussage St. Andrew

Vicar In Vacancy

Church Warden	Linda Cooper	..... 01725 552864
Safeguarding Officer,	Maureen Lockyer	..... 01725 552492
Roman Catholic	Church of Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Cecilia, Blandford Forum	
Priest	Monsignor Francis Jamieson	..... 01258 452051
Blandford Methodist Church,	The Close Blandford DT11 7HA	..... 07799 516 735

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	karen7adams@yahoo.co.uk
Bookings	Shellie Cooper	..... 07563 703577

Pentridge Village Hall

Chairman	Tarka King	tarkaking@gmail.com
Vice Chairman	Richard Pollen	pollen@richardpollen.com
Treasurer	Colin Taylor	..... 553148
Bookings	Graham Elford	..... 07882 264160
Email:	info@pentridgedorset.co.uk	

Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Overall Co-ordinator & Police Focal Point	John Curtis 552397
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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

Hannah	..... 07341 278213
Sharon	..... 07738 240329

1st Woodcutts Scout Group

Group Scout Leader & Squirrels	John Curtis	..... 552397
Explorers	Anthony Brown	..... 552814
Scout Leader	Rob Easton	..... 552038
Cub Leader	Naomi Booth	..... 552430
Beaver Leader	Annette Toop	..... 07973 677815
Squirrel Leader	Zoe Preedy	..... preedyzoe85@gmail.com
Scout Hut Bookings	Pete Wilkinson	
	bookings@firstwoodcutts.org.uk	

Chase Community Friends

Chairman	Carole Wyatt	..... 01725 552572
Secretary	Gael Radclyffe	..... 07788 284152

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	..... 07508 941 371
Secretary	Adam Day	..... 07398 249 502
Team Div 2 Manager	Mark Young	..... 07508 941 371

Sixpenny Handley Tennis Club

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

Sixpenny Handley Cricket Club

Chairman	Bob Farringdon	..... 07811 348632
Captain	Simon Bowes	..... 07738 261210
Fixtures & Treasurer	Nick Limb	07791 754175

Community Fund (Sixpenny Handley & Pentridge CClO)

Chairman	Colin Taylor	..... 553148
Secretary	Ciona Nicholson	552211

Citizens' Advice Bureau

Wimborne Branch	03442 4 1291
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One thing you can rely on...

It does feel sometimes that the only thing you can rely on is that things will change! Well other than that they say it is death and taxes, but change at least has a little more optimism about it!!!

All plans are sometimes taken out of your hands and so as of today we don't have a team to take forward the Downsman to the next issue - do get in touch if you wish to be involved.

So instead of dwelling on that I'd like to say a big thank you to the current team for all their work behind the scenes to get the magazine out to you, from the advertisers to the deliverers, proofreaders and printers. Many of you have kindly spoken to me over the last year thanking me for my time and saying how much you have enjoyed reading the Downsman, so thank you for that too!



I think some of our usual wirters have been keen to let you know about their upcoming events, from a new Rock n Roll Bingo” to “Sixpenny Handley Summer Celebration Day” to “Tree House Theatre, Treasure Island” and beyond towards the Village Hall’s live music sessions in the Autumn do have a look and get the Dates in the Diary so you don’t miss out. Oooo, “Cream Teas at St Mary’s Church” on Bank Holiday Monday in August too...

Speaking of the Village Hall, did you make it to the Quiz Night? If you didn't, you missed out, it was great fun with a good range of questions as well as the bar and snacks, I was lucky to have some very competent players on my side and a dollop of luck so we actually finished quite high in the rankings which was surprising!

The Bowls Club would love to see you any Sunday afternoon or Wednesday evening from the end of April until the end of August - do see their big poster and go along to try it out, get outdoors and meet new friends!

Also the First School have their Bag2School fundraiser in May collecting your unwanted clothing - do take a look on page 4.

People have been asking me what I am going to be doing now I'm not the Editor... well I have just started a new job 2 days a week at Kingston Lacy welcoming visitors, so I may see you there, and if not I'll still be around the rest of the week doing work as The Web Booth, leading at Cubs and St Mary's. The idea is to sit down less at the computer, see some more people and have a change - you see, I am neatly back linking to the top of this piece, so that must mean this is the end - at least until someone proof reads this for me :-)

Best wishes and see you around soon

Naomi Booth
editor@thedownsman.org.uk

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c/o The Parish Office, Unit 6, Town Farm Workshops, Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5PA
 More about the parish can be found at www.sixpennyhandley.info

SIXPENNY LADIES SOCIAL GROUP

Firstly, thank you to all those people who have supported us since the group started and we look forward to another successful year ahead.

Following a break in January we resumed our monthly meetings on Monday 10th February, when our speaker was Mr John Smith of Farnham, who gave a fascinating talk on the role of women during the Second World War, especially those working in the Air Force and in the aircraft industry, when our country was at high risk of invasion. This was of particular significance, 2025 being the 80th anniversary year of the end of this terrible conflict.

Also during February, Bobbie, Liz and Stella visited the Salisbury Hospice to donate £250, which we had raised through various raffles and donations and through proceeds

since received a nice letter of thanks from the Hospice, and we hope to hold a coffee morning at some time in the future to raise more funds.

We had a social evening on Monday 10th March, with the theme "Who am I?" We all brought a childhood photograph and held a competition to guess who was who — this proved more difficult than anticipated and caused much amusement. We then invited everyone to tell us of an early memory; some were hilarious and others ranged from WW2 restrictions, outside toilets, sibling rivalry, and fear of Father Christmas.

At our next meeting on Monday 14th April we will have Mr James Scard who will preside over "Gardeners' Question Time" so do bring along any questions concerning problems in your garden.

If you are interested in coming to one of our evenings, please get in touch with Bobbie on 552042, Liz on 552946 or Stella on 552450. You will be most welcome.

To the Editor

Save the Date Saturday 12th July

Sixpenny Handley Summer Celebration Day

A new event to celebrate all that is good about living, working and playing in Sixpenny Handley. An afternoon of fun activities run by community groups and businesses, a village bbq and evening entertainment. This event will be free to attend and a chance for the village to come together and celebrate. Waistcoats will definitely be involved!

More details will follow shortly.

SIXPENNY HANDLEY FIRST SCHOOL AND NURSERY NEEDS YOUR HELP!



We're collecting for **Bags2School**. A free, eco-friendly fundraising scheme that helps us to raise funds through textile recycling.

You can drop bags of any of these items off to school **Monday 12th May - Wednesday 14th May.**

Please note we are unable to take uniform or work clothing.



Clothes



Paired shoes



Handbags



Hats



Bags



Scarves and ties



Bras



Jewellery



Socks



Belts

BAG 2 SCHOOL



Downsman Noticeboard

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



Spring CRAFT FAIR

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
 Saturday 12 April 2025
 10.30 am - 2.00 pm

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Sixpenny Handley
COMMUNITY CINEMA

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Friday 18 April

Friday 18th April
 Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
 Tickets £6 on the door

**Save the Date
 Saturday 12th
 July**

**Sixpenny
 Handley Summer
 Celebration Day**

**Save the Date
 Saturday 17th
 May**

Rock n Roll Bingo
 fund-raising for 1st
 Woodcutts Scous
 Tickets £10
 Budgens Sixpenny Handley
 & Penny Tap
**BAR & FOOD AVAILABLE
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Bring clothes, furniture, household,
 garden, electrical, toys, bikes etc and
 we'll do our best to fix them.
 Refreshments available too!

We are going from strength to
 strength - see you
May 17th
 Sept 20th,
 November 15th

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall
 10am - 1pm

**Save the Date
 Treehouse
 Theatre
 Treasure Island
 Sunday 10 August
 at 11.00 am
 Sixpenny Handley
 Village Hall**

**Save the Date
 Saturday 23rd
 August**

**Cream Teas
 @ St Mary's
 Church**

**OUR PARISH
 LIBRARY**

Open when the Parish Office is open
 From 9am - 12noon Mondays and
 Wednesdays
 first and third Thursday afternoons
 from 3pm till 4.15pm

**CROSSROADS
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 Monday & Wednesday mornings
 FROM 9am

Local Libraries

You can use a library, or the mobile library, free of charge – even if you live in a different county. You can borrow books, audiobooks, eMagazines, and maybe films; libraries in buildings have free computers and wifi, and (paid) printing facilities – and Librarians love to help! Just take your library card, or take proof of address, e.g. a driving license or utility bill, and sign up (without, you can still get temporary membership and borrow immediately). Under 16s need a parent or legal guardian, with the above papers.

Sixpenny Handley Parish Library is open on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month (3rd & 17th April), 3 to 4.15pm, and when the Parish Office opens.

Salisbury Library (librariesenquiries@wiltshire.gov.uk, 01722 324145) opening hours are Monday 10-7, Tuesday 9-7, Wednesday 9-5, Thursday 9-5, Friday 9-7, Saturday 9-5. Salisbury parking is free after 6pm. Loads of activities for kids and adults, including Rhymetimes, Storytimes, Reading Groups, Conversation Groups and Saturday morning activities; Silver Salisbury and the Salisbury History Group meet monthly as does Wiltshire Sight – see <https://www.facebook.com/SalisburyLib>, or call and ask.

A Mobile Library – remember, you don't have to live in Wiltshire.

· visits Tollard Royal's pond, 3:10pm – 3:30pm, Tuesdays 1st April, 29th April, 27th May, 24th June, 22nd July, 19th August, 16th September. See <https://apps.wiltshire.gov.uk/librariesinformation/Route/Index/47> for more

· There's another route that passes through Bishopstone, Broad Chalke, Bowerchalke, Berwick St John, and Ludwell on Thursdays 10th April, 8th May, 5th June, 3rd July, 31st July, 28th August, and 25th September. More at <https://apps.wiltshire.gov.uk/librariesinformation/Route/Index/55>.

· If you want to check other routes, click on the link at the top of the pages above (note some places get visited twice on different routes), and you can

· Check <https://www.facebook.com/WiltshireMobileLibraries/> for news etc., email or call Salisbury Library if you need help, as they cover this too.

Shaftesbury Library (shaftesburylibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) is open Monday 10-5; Tuesday 10-5; Wednesday closed; Thursday 12-6; Fridays 10-5; and Saturdays 10-1. Some weekly/fortnightly events are:

· For adults: Wednesday, 10am – 1pm is Citizen's Advice drop ins; Mondays and Thursdays have Cuppa and Company from 10.30am – 11.30am, and Tuesday has Knit and Natter, 10am – 12pm.

· For children, Saturdays have Lego from 11 – 12; and for pre-schoolers, Monday 10.30 – 11 is Storytime, and Tuesday 2.15 – 2.45 is Rhyme Time. Reading together is usually fortnightly, 3rd April 1.45 – 3.45 (break on 17th April). SENS storytime is fortnightly, 10th & 24th April, 2.15 – 2.45.

· For both, everyone loves Board Games, Thursday 3.30pm – 5pm.

For Easter, they have children's easter craft on Friday, 11th April 11am – 12pm (Hatching Eggs) and Monday, 14th April 11am – 12pm (Suncatchers); Saturday, 19th April 11am – 12pm is a Paddington easter story and egg trail. See more, and other events, at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/183374506549755/>

*James Carlyle-Clarke,
Editor Inner Chase Parish Magazine*



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The Cranborne Chase Farmer Cluster, a network of 20 farms across the Cranborne Chase, would like to invite members of the community with an interest in conservation and the environment to a series of training events being held on farms in the Cluster. These events will provide opportunities to find out more about what farmers in the cluster are doing to help nature to thrive on their farms and to learn skills to enable you to carry out surveys on your local cluster farms.

There will be four events between March and October 2025 focussing on hedgerow health, harvest mice nest surveys, pollinators and rare arable plants. You will be welcome to join as few or as many events as you would like.

To register your interest please contact Cath Mason cath@launcestonfarm.co.uk and we will send you details and joining information.

For more information about the Cranborne Chase Farmer Cluster and current environmental projects please visit <https://www.cranbornechasefarmers.org/>



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



Sixpenny Handley Community Hubs



Crossroads Café and Magnificafé

The Crossroads Café in the Parish Office on Mondays and Wednesdays (9.00 am – 12.00 pm) continues to be very well attended and we have a lovely group of “regulars”. Do please pop in if you can – you can be assured of some very jolly conversations spanning a wide variety of topics. Or, if you prefer, you can just find a quiet corner to do the jigsaw, read a book or have an informal meeting, all while enjoying a hot cuppa and a biscuit in a nice warm space.

Magnificafé also continues to be extremely popular. Serving up delicious bacon and egg butties and other scrummy food. New opening hours are: 9.30 am – 12.30 pm every Thursday and you are guaranteed a warm welcome by Bobbie and her team come rain or shine!

Sunday Crossroads Café:

We will continue to open the Crossroads Café on the last Sunday of the month (from 2.00 – 4.00 pm) as we know that Sundays can be difficult for many, especially those on their own. Please do come along if you'd like some company in the warmth of the Parish Office and enjoy a hot buttered crumpet and some homemade cake with your cuppa! The next dates are: Sunday 27 April, Sunday 25 May & Sunday 29 June – please make a note in your diary!



Citizens Advice Bus

The Citizens Advice outreach bus continues to provide invaluable support to the community. As of Wednesday 2 April, it will be visiting weekly on a Wednesday from 10.00 am – 12.00 pm. Please do pay Mags & Tracy a visit with any burning issues you may have and why not pop into the Crossroads Café before or afterwards.



IT Support

Do pop in to see Andy for any IT support you may need – he will continue to be at the Crossroads Café every Wednesday.



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

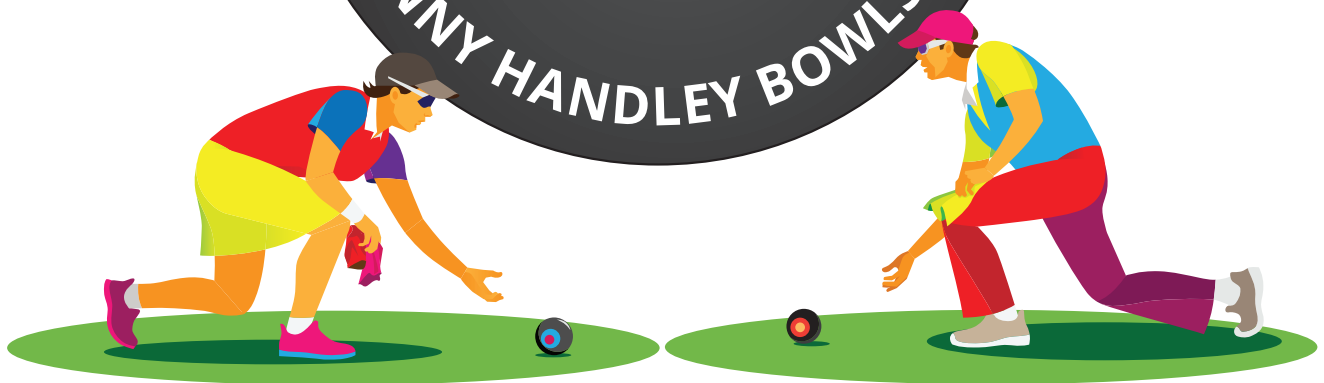
The hubs are subsidised by the host organisation and a minimal charge or donation is requested to help cover costs if you are able. Anything over and above what we need to cover costs for the Crossroads Café is put into the Community Fund.

Please remember, if you have any ideas to help with the wellbeing and connectivity of neighbours in our community, do let us know.

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

To stay informed about all the 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.

COME AND TRY BOWLS



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MORE INFO OR QUESTIONS TO:

David - withadams@btinternet.com - 07866 277944

Colin - colinrchambers@icloud.com - 07971 456 378



Sixpenny Handley First School & Nursery News



Spring Term 2025

Dorset Music Service are delivering weekly Samba drum lessons to the Year 3 and 4 who are working towards performing a concert for the school and parents at the end of the term.



The Explorers (nursery) have been learning about birds, going on walks looking at different habitats and making bird feeders and along with the Adventurers celebrate Chinese New Year, tasting different foods and making lanterns.



We had the arrival of 10 unhatched eggs complete with incubator. The whole school witnessed the chicks hatching and were able to hold them. The Adventurers looked after them, gave them their food and water and helped with cleaning their cage.



The Year 2 Voyagers took part in a Heath Academy Trust Dogdeball competition. They were great ambassadors for the school and came 4th in the competition.

The whole school took part in the NSPCC number day when we explored a range of mathematical problems and cracked the code at the end of the day to release a reward!! It was a great opportunity to demonstrate a range of learning behaviours including resilience, innovation, connectivity and reflection. We had great fun and also raised money for a very important charity!



We were treated to a piano recital from the 17 children who currently have tuition in school. It was wonderful to hear each one of them perform and see their confidence and musicianship (despite nerves). The performers truly inspired their peers.



Pancake Day was a great success with all children involved, making, flipping and consuming pancakes.

The focus for World Book Day this year was food tech, science and the outdoors, all organised by the Reading Ambassadors. Children (and staff) were invited to come to school dressed as book characters or match to the three themes (chefs, scientists, outdoor explorers!).

- During the day there were additional activities held, including:
- Book swap – children could bring in a book from home to swap from the pop-up book café!
 - Guess the teacher book shelf quiz with prizes on offer for the winners
 - Ring the bell reading activity (each child kept a book with them at all times and when the bell rang the whole school settled down to a book for 10 minutes!)
 - Completing a science experiment
 - Baking fruit scones
 - Outdoor sensory experience including a barefoot walk and blindfold trail
- Children were also given tokens to exchange at bookshops for the free books this year.



Frogmore Barn – Painted Furniture & Shabby Chic Items for the Home!

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 or emailing before your arrival.

Frogmore Farmhouse, Frogmore Lane,
Sixpenny Handley, SP5 5NY

Tel: 01725 552910 or E-Mail: frogmoredesign@tiscali.co.uk



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.
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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 in the 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

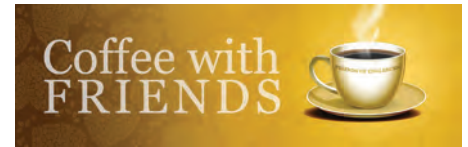
Our Crossroads café Hub and library is also open every Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 till 12.

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

Crossroads Café Community Hub



If you are lonely and want some company in these still cold days, come and join us on Monday and Wednesday morning from 9 till 12 at the Crossroad café in the Parish office. We are a very friendly bunch and always pleased to see new faces and ready for a chat

We have a large library, you can borrow books or read while you have your drink and rather not talk.

Biscuits are always provided and sometimes Cake!

There is also the opportunity to help with or borrow one of our jigsaws.

We look forward to seeing you.

Bea

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(next to The Green Man pub)
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Chase & Chalke Landscape Partnership Scheme

We've added a wonderful film celebrating the neolithic earthwork, the Dorset Cursus, on our YouTube channel.

This project celebrates the extraordinary Dorset Cursus, running from Martin Down to Thickthorn Down. The relationship between the Cursus and the alignment of some of the surrounding earthen long barrows suggests that they had a common ritual significance to the Neolithic people.

Last year we held a packed day of talks about the Dorset Cursus archaeology followed by a successful Curious Dorset Cursus Activity Day, filled with plenty of Stone-Age themed activities, including pottery, flint knapping and storytelling.

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

Village Hall News

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall CIO
(Charity Number: 1201429)



ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN

Can you spare an hour or two of your time between 10.00 am – 2.00 pm on Saturday 24 May to help with our Spring Clean? Whether it's cleaning windows, a spot of painting, jet washing the patio, tidying up the garden or helping to clean the kitchen cupboards, we would be hugely grateful for your help. In return we can offer you a freshly brewed cup of coffee, a toasted sandwich and a slice of cake – now there's an incentive to join us!! Please let us know if you are able to help for catering purposes.



COMMUNITY CINEMA

We have shown some great films at the Community Cinema throughout the winter. Thank you to all those who have supported us.

The last film of our winter season will be shown on Friday 18 April and is the film we've all been waiting for – Paddington in Peru. Why not bring the family for an Easter holiday treat.

Paddington Bear has been living with the Brown family in London for many years now, but he still feels the tug of his Peruvian roots. Hearing that his Aunt Lucy, now living in the Home for Retired Bears, has been missing him terribly, Paddington and the Browns set off to Darkest Peru, only to discover on arrival that Aunt Lucy

has disappeared. So off they go into the Amazon to find her, accompanied by a boat captain, Hunter Cabot and his daughter Gina. What could possibly go wrong?

Tickets for our films cost £6 and are available on the door from 6.30 pm. The films are shown at 7.00 pm on the third Friday of the month in the warmth of the village hall and you are sure of an equally warm welcome from the team behind the bar and the other members of the audience. Oh, and there's popcorn too!

The cinema will be taking a break from May to August but will return in September for another season. Keep an eye on www.movoiola.org, Facebook: 6dHandleyVillageHall and future issue of The Downsman for further information about our future films.



ARTSREACH

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Treehouse Theatre
Treasure Island
Sunday 10 August at 11.00 am



This August come and join Treehouse Theatre with their colourful, exciting and very interactive family show, Treasure Island at Sixpenny Handley Village Hall on Sunday 10 August at 11.00 am (doors open at 10.30 am).

Young Jim Hawkins and his best friend

Doctor Libby have set off on the adventure of their lives – in search of the legendary Pirate Treasure! But is danger lurking out there on the high seas? Are the charismatic Captain Silver and her pet parrot, Carrot all they appear to be? What will they find where 'X' marks the spot? And why is Jim not allowed to whistle?

Come and join us for this wonderfully entertaining show brought to us thanks to Artsreach during the summer holidays. For those who would like to join in the fun there will a splash of small panto-style roles on stage with Treehouse Theatre in this immersive and interactive musical show of silliness and gripping action.

The performance will include sign language throughout and resources for visually impaired audience members. Age guide 4yrs +

Tickets costing £6 (child U18), £8 (adult) and £24 (family) will be available online via TicketSource soon. Keep an eye on Facebook for further information.



QUIZ NIGHTS

Thank you so much to all the wonderful people who attended our inaugural Quiz Night on 8 March. We had 70 plus people in a packed hall and everyone seemed to have a great time with plenty of delicious food and a full bar! We raised over £500 that will go towards further improvements to the hall. Thank you.

We have decided to hold 2 Quiz Nights this year, possibly moving to quarterly in 2026 if there is still sufficient interest.

The next one will be on Saturday 11 October and tickets will be available online via TicketSource. You will also be able to pre-order food online. Please put the date in your diary now and watch this space for more information nearer the time.



CRAFT FAIRS

This year we are holding four Craft Fairs on the following dates: Saturday 12 April, Saturday 28 June, Saturday 13 September and Saturday 6 December, from 10.30 am – 2.00 pm (please note new times). Entry is FREE and hot lunchtime snacks will be available to buy as well as our usual spread of delicious homemade cakes. Please add the dates to your diary and we'll share more information in the next issue of the Downsman and on Facebook.



REMINDER - LIVE MUSIC – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We are delighted to be bringing some fabulous live music to the village hall later this year.

Ben Waters and Band

We are super excited to welcome back fabulous boogie-woogie piano player Ben Waters AND his band to the hall on Saturday 8 November. You may remember Ben and his band's unforgettable performance that got us all up and dancing to their powerful renditions of boogie-woogie and rock n roll favourites at the Jubilee Picnic on the cricket pitch in 2022. Everyone who was there was captivated by Ben's sheer brilliance and energy on the piano and we have repeatedly been asked to get him back. So, if you missed him in 2022, now's your chance - don't make the same mistake this year! Ben has played with some of the biggest names in the music world

including Jools Holland, Shakin Stevens, Cher, The Rolling Stones, Jeff Beck, Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis, Imelda May, Mick Hucknall, Johnny Depp and many more, yet still remains as down to earth as ever. Whether performing in a village hall in his native Dorset or Sydney Opera House, he just loves playing the music that makes him happy – and it shows.

Tickets are available online now and this show will undoubtedly sell out so we recommend that you get your tickets early to avoid disappointment. You can also pre-order some yummy food online – hot dogs, chilli dogs or veggie dogs.



Date: Saturday 8 November

Time: 8.00 pm (doors & bar open at 7.30pm)
Food can be pre-ordered online for £5 or £6 (no fee)

Tickets cost: £20 + booking fee available online at TicketSource: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/near-salisbury/sixpenny-handley-village-hall/ben-waters-his-boogie-woogie-band>

Miranda Sykes & Jim Causley Christmas Show

We are kicking off our Christmas celebrations this year with a wonderful show brought to us by singer and Show of Hands bass player Miranda Sykes, and multi award-winning singer-songwriter and musician Jim Causley on Sunday 14 December.

Join Miranda & Jim in celebrating the festive season with some gorgeous West Country carols, medieval and secular carols from around the British Isles, moving setting of Christmas poems by Cornish poet Charles Causley as well as a choice selection of seasonal songs by contemporary songwriters on the UK folk scene. All delivered by two of Britain's best-loved voices, accompanied on a variety of instruments and a dollop of festive fun! Guaranteed to get everyone in the festive

spirit!

Date: Sunday 14 December
Time: 7.00 pm (doors & bar open at 6.30 pm)
Food can be pre-ordered online
Tickets cost: £15 + booking fee available online at TicketSource: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/near-salisbury/sixpenny-handley-village-hall/miranda-sykes-jim-causley-christmas-show>

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

FRIENDS OF THE VILLAGE HALL

We are always interested in hearing from anyone who is interested in playing a more active part in ensuring that our village hall can continue to offer the community such a rich and varied programme of events.

HIRE THE HALL FOR YOUR SPECIAL EVENT

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.

A photograph of the interior of Sixpenny Handley Village Hall. The room is decorated with white bunting and has several tables set up with white tablecloths and chairs. The lighting is warm and the atmosphere is festive.

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall

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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
Naomi Booth (Akela)
01725 552430

SCOUTS

Age 10½-14
Mon & Tue
Rob Easton
01725 552038

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

Ooooo I feel we should tell you about the plans for May... the group are off on a trip to Brownsea Island the home of the first ever Scout Camp in 1907. Explorers and Scouts are camping and Cubs, Beavers and Squirrels are going for a day trip - we are all really excited!

Back to this spring term. Cubs have had an amazing time exploring the dark, playing games in the dark, looking at the stars, moon, deep space, planets and even bumping into a Roman on their night walk! Now they are learning about photography, light and composition...

In January the other sections enjoyed Burns night, with Haggis and the highly cultural deep fried mars bars! Scouts then travelled to the other side of the world to celebrate Australia Day while Beavers chose to Celebrate Chinese New Year the year of the Snake. These activities helped Beavers working towards their Cooking Badge.

Speaking of cooking Squirrels also got in on the action by making butter to put in their sandwiches... yummy... and all the sections made (and ate and flipped) pancakes - the Scouts got very arty with theirs using food colouring and squirty bottles to make fun designs.

A huge thanks to all the leaders for their inspiration for all of our different age groups. If you have a young person who would like to be involved, get in touch, or if as an adult you'd like to get involved let us know too!



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Church News

From St Mary's, St Andrew's & St Rumbold's

The Pastoral Letter comes from The Rt Revd Stephen Lake, Bishop of Salisbury

'Hope is the bird that waits for dawn and sings while it is still dark.'

This is one of my favourite quotations, which particularly comes to mind this month as the birds start to sing melodiously and signs of colour start to appear in our gardens. The long dark months of winter are over, and we can imagine once again those hazy lazy days of summer.

And as the light of the days lengthens, we enter the celebration of the Son, Easter. April is certainly the month of hope.

Yet looking at our news headlines, hope feels in short supply. It is hard to remain hopeful for our planet, as world leaders vie for power, and our extreme weather systems indicate all is not well. Sitting in our crowded cathedral at the beginning of Lent speaking to Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe

and hearing her story of imprisonment as a hostage in Iran and injustice, I was reminded of a religious painting in the Methodist Art Collection. The painting is of the inside of the tomb on Easter morning. It shows the stone rolled away, not allowing us in, but allowing us to step out.

Nazanin recalled her experience of re-adjusting to the light of freedom. Stepping out into a life of hope means adjusting to a long-term view, believing that there is more goodness to come. It means enjoying the colour now and living in the hope of all eternity.

As Christians Easter strengthens our belief that hope triumphs over despair, that light overcomes the darkness, and love wins. That is our song, which together we are called to sing. Despite everything, including the differences we live with every day, Jesus is Lord, the stone was rolled away so

we can walk free and know eternal life.

Bishop Karen



What's Been Going On

February and March have been quiet months in the church calendar. We look forward to some warm Spring weather along with Easter events including chocolates and eggs.

4th March this year was Shrove Tuesday, or commonly known as Pancake Day. This is the traditional feast day before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday. Lent – the 40 days leading up to Easter was traditionally a time of fasting. Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way to use up these ingredients.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, this year was 5 March, and lasts for 40 days and ends on Thursday 17 April, the day before Good Friday. Lent is observed in Spring, when the days begin to get longer and lighter.

A Benefice Service was held at St Mary's Church at Chettle in February. The service was presided by Bishop Richard Charteris, who is a former Bishop of London. There was a strong turnout from the Benefice parishes which was good to see.

St Mary's Church Sixpenny Handley has welcomed some local priests to lead some of our services. We remain without our own Parrish priest, and are grateful for the services of others to help out in this interregnum period.

Although the Downsman magazine may not be circulated before Mothering Sunday, a special service will take place in church to commemorate the love between mothers and children.

Cream Teas at Three have continued through February and March. They have

been a great success bringing people together on a Sunday afternoon where warmth and conversation was guaranteed. March is the final Tea at Three until October 2025.

Special thanks to Jacqui, Jim, Catrina, and baking helpers. Funds raised from the teas go towards St Mary's funds. The amount raised will be published in the next edition of the Downsman.

Contributor's to the Downsman from the church community are delighted that an Editor has been found to ensure the Downsman will continue. Many thanks to Naomi for her many years producing the Downsman, which is appreciated by many local villages.

*Linda Cooper
Church Warden, St Mary's*

April Parish Services

	1ST SUNDAY	2ND SUNDAY	Maundy Thursday & Good Friday	EASTER DAY	4TH SUNDAY
Sixpenny Handley	11:00 Family/Informal Service	11:00 Holy Communion CW	19.00 Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion 14:00 Good Friday - Meditation	11:00 Holy Communion	11:00 Holy Communion CW
St Andrew 's Gussage St Andrew	9am Matins BCP	No Service		No Service	No Service
St Rumbold's Pentridge	9am Holy Communion BCP	No Service		11:00 Holy Communion	No Service
Tollard Royal	10:30 Holy Communion	No Service		10:30am Holy Communion	18:00 Evening Worship
Chettle	18:00 Evensong	No Service		No Service	No Service
Farnham	No Service	18.00 Holy Communion CW		9.00am Holy Communion	Breakfast Church in The Cart Shed breakfast starts at 9.45am

What's Always There

Pastoral support

While we may not presently have a vicar, we do have pastoral support which is always available, either by emailing support@handleychurch.org.uk or from the churchwardens; they are Linda Cooper, 01725 552286 or Margaret Wilkinson, 01725 553150 Pentridge, Jane King, 01725 552231 or Mary Ferguson, 01725 552222

Safeguarding:

Maureen Lockyer is our Safeguarding Officer, 01725 552492.

The Bible Study Group usually meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.15pm. Please contact Mike Carter on 01725 552720.

The Choir sings their hearts out every Thursday at 6.00pm in the church. We are going to be introducing some more contemporary, well-known songs this Spring

Also 'Always There' are the wants and needs of people who struggle to feed their families. The basket is at the back of the church to receive donations for The Trussell Trust. Please help. Someone desperately needs it.

Linda Cooper and Margaret Wilkinson - CWs



Falkland Islands revisited – A veterans’ story

This year I was fortunate to return to the Falklands, I was there in 1984 based at Goose Green with 1st Battalion Royal Green Jackets, but only had chance to visit the graveyard at San Carlos. This time would be very different. I was with 9 other veterans from the Royal Corps of Signals, 4 of whom were from my unit 205 Signal Squadron (5 Infantry Brigade Headquarters & Signal Squadron). This is my account of the trip south in February of this year.

The majority of the Squadron sailed south on the QE2, cross decked at South Georgia to the Canberra, landing on Blue Beach (San Carlos) at the end of May 1982. The squadron was deployed across the southern approach to Stanley on West Falkland. We had a detachment supporting 10 Field Workshops managing the POW camp located at Ajax Bay, which is across the inlet from San Carlos. This was also home to the ‘Red and Green Life Machine’ (the infamous Field Hospital). We also had a Rebroadcast detachment near Pleasant



Peak to maintain communications from the HQ at Darwin forward to Fitzroy, which is where the main headquarters moved to on the day Sir Galahad and Sir Tristram were bombed. As the advance on Stanley continued there was a Tactical Headquarters deployment onto Goat Ridge behind Mount Harriet. During our deployment we suffered the loss of Major Mike Forge and Staff Sergeant Joe

Baker along with the air crew on a Gazelle during an emergency replenishment run to our forward Rebroadcast detachment located near Pleasant Peak. There was also a close call for 11 of the Squadron being moved on the Landing Craft ‘Foxtrot 4’, where sadly 6 of its crew lost their lives when it was bombed, just after Sir Galahad and Sir Tristram were hit. Whilst waiting for transport home, the




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squadron relocated to Stanley where one of our Signalmen lost his leg due to a Sidewinder Missile being released on take-off. He was part of a detachment clearing ground at the end of the runway. That was 1982. This year, after waiting twelve months, yes, it's that busy with Veterans and families visiting the Island. We travelled by Airtanker, a RAF contracted Airbus 330 via Ascension, 18 hours to cover over 7,500 miles. Having landed at RAF Mount Pleasant, we travelled by bus with Falklanders and contractors into Stanley on the only tarmac road on the island, it's about 34 miles long! With the rest of the islands roads being gravel tracks. We stayed at Liberty Lodge which was built in 2009 for Veterans and Family to stay in for a donation of around £15 a day, we had access to a 4x4 and 2 minibuses at £25 each a day plus fuel. We ran a kitty for our food which we cooked, or we ate out at one of a surprising range of pubs and Cafes. There are 4 rooms which each have their own bathroom and can accommodate 2 to 4 people. There is a large living area with 3 3-seater sofas, 2 2-seater sofas, the room has floor to ceiling windows that look out across Stanley harbour. We took delight in watching the daily cruise liner anchoring out in the inlet with the 'water taxis' bouncing across the waves with tourists coming in for a days visit. How much did they have to pay for the privilege.

Over the week we met the Governor, visited all of the HQ locations mentioned above from San Carlos where we landed. Thanks to Bob, one of our veterans, and meeting a family from a visit he made back in 2013, we were invited to Stanley Airport for a tour. This included sitting in the cockpit of a Harrier, seeing Argentine weapons and 'safe' ammunition and hearing how last year alone they cleared 35,000 munitions left from the war. What made this trip really special was the fact that as we visited each location, we could all recount our time there, where we slept, where our vehicles were located, even some of our trenches, one guy even found the remnants of his trench and recalled 3 of them diving into it as a Skyhawk was dropping its bombs in San Carlos inlet! We all had our moments, but what made it so special, was the fact we were there together sharing, a



very different situation to 1982 where we were spread across the island in small teams operating a radio or guarding the Headquarters. At Darwin I was reminded of the fact that I was using a sheep shed to sleep in about 50 yards from a 1000lb unexploded bomb, it was okay though, it was mine taped off! They did defuse it a couple of days after we got there though. When at San Carlos we had decided to reproduce the photo of us landing, as we walked up the road a vehicle approached and stopped, it is protocol to ask if its ok to wander around the settlement, so as the vehicle stopped, we asked if it was ok, 'you are not *%\$! Argies are you' - 'Do we sound like it' - Big grins, he stepped out of his vehicle, with glassy eyes and shakes each of our hands VERY FIRMLY and introduces himself as the 'Baby of Goose Green', we are in awe. He and his family along with the rest of the settlement were locked in their Village Hall by the Argies for over 100 days, he was months old at the time! This is how every local meets you, they have their story and are still so thankful over 40 years later, it is truly humbling.

When visiting Fitzroy I was able to recount my first visit, I had landed in a Sea King hours before Sir Tristram and Galahad were hit, helped the injured as they came ashore, and supporting some amazing medics doing things I could not imagine at the time. First Aid is so important, I took a key message away from that day, make sure you know how to treat people if injured. During our visit I recounted what happened above, we visited the many memorials to those lost on the ships and returned to the Settlement. As we drove into the settlement, we noticed a lot of young people in groups with Gurkha soldiers (they are based in Mount Pleasant at the moment), it was a Scout Camp. As we parked a Scout Leader came to meet us, welcomed us and invited us into their Village Hall for a coffee and cake. So hospitable, she had been a youngster living in Shropshire in 1982 but her Husband, also talking to us, had been on a Farm at Fox Bay East Falkland at this time. He recounted how they would see the Skyhawks fly over their farm and could phone West Falkland to let them know a raid was coming in!



cont'd overleaf



Yet more stories of what it was like for the 'locals', they also pointed out the phone used by the then Settlement Manager when 2 Para phoned from Goose Green to find out if there were any Argentinians, 'No' was the answer, 'right, we are on our way'. 78 Paras boarded the infamous Chinook, which only takes 30 passengers by the way, and that was the leapfrog forward for 5 Infantry Brigade.



It was particularly important to the '205ers' that we paid our respects to Mike, Joe and the air crew at San Carlos cemetery where they are buried, but also at the 205 memorial on Pleasant Peak which is where their helicopter was hit. A big thanks to Lt Tom baker for taking us up the peak as well as taking our group photos. Back in 1982, as the advance was made to Fitzroy, it was important to maintain communications between the Headquarters and forward units. A rebroadcast station was therefore deployed, roughly halfway between Darwin and Fitzroy on an exposed high point. This was a manpack set up, with a generator to keep the batteries charged and little else. They were low on fuel and heating so Major Mike Forge asked for a Helicopter to take resupplies forward. No one really knows why but he and their Troop Staff Sargent, Joe Baker, decided they would carry the cans of Petrol and Kero in the Chopper. One of the guys on the Detachment later recalled how they heard the helicopter call

them on the radio as they approached, this was followed by a glow in the sky followed by silence. At the time they had no idea who was around them. A Gurkha patrol was sent out to secure the area, it was only 25 years later we found out it was friendly fire. This was because at the time as the flight was not reported up the chain of command and out to all ships. It would have taken hours to get the message about the flight to every ship in the fleet and Brigade communications would have been lost at a key time. Perhaps that's why Joe and Mike were onboard, and how brave were that air crew. RIP



We also visited the Foxtrot 4 memorial at Bertha Beach, it was a poignant visit for us, especially as Bob, one of our veterans, had been onboard at the time and was mentioned in dispatches for his efforts on the day. As well as dealing with the aftermath of the air strike, Bob had to make the decision as to whether to leave all the Brigades codes, ciphers and frequency allocations on board, or destroy them by dumping them overboard. He did the latter and with others ended up shooting the bags as they were not sinking. This protected the brigade's security as the boat did not sink for some time and could have been intercepted by Argentinian special forces. We also made time to visit Memorial Wood, and the trees planted for all members of the Corps lost in the war, Mike, Joe, Lt Barry (attached to 2 Para), Lcpl Paul Lightfoot, Cpl Rob Burns, Cpl Mike McHugh, Cpl Steve Sykes and Cpl Dougie McCormack. This is a

beautiful and serene place, its not obvious from photos, but there is always a wind in the Falklands, we had days of 40mph plus winds, a calm day there would be 10 to 15 mph. So with the trees maturing in the wood, it was still, calm, a place to reflect. We all knew these people, in particular Paul Lightfoot, he had been in my recruit troop when joining the army and in those 2 years training had been friends with many others on our return trip. He went straight from Training to 264 (SAS) Signal Squadron, was promoted within a short time, had been in the attack on Pebble Island only to be lost on the Sea King sunk whilst cross decking.



I have covered a lot about 205, which is not surprising, but the guys from 30 Signal Regiment had their stories. One veteran was deployed on a Rebroadcast Station on top of a mountain, protected by a Platoon of Marines. Before deployment someone had rifled their vehicles and taken all the warm kit. This meant for his detachment, they had one parker between them, this went to whoever was on stag in the back of a soft skinned Land Rover with constant howling winds and even snow. I have already mentioned the trench episode in Ajax Bay, but one of the veterans was attached to the Scots Guards to operate their link back to 5 Infantry Brigade HQ, this was via manpack and so he ended up being Battalion HQ protection/admin whilst moving. He ended up tending to wounded on Tumbledown, carrying stretchers under fire and being in the thick of it for the 8 hours it took the battalion to take Tumbledown. It was so humbling to hear his account of that day, see where the enemy positions were and the open ground the Battalion had to cross under fire. A few years ago the Guards Regiment planted trees where each soldier fell, so now there are Pine Trees popping up all around the peak, how amazing this will look in years to come.

This for us all was a lifetime experience, one we will always treasure. It was made special by the fact that 5 of us from 205 were together on the island for the first time since 1982. We were able to share our recollections of the events that we each encountered, some of us were in the same settlement, but not able to talk to each other back then. For one detachment the rest of us were told to 'stay away' from it due to the secrecy around its role. A member of that detachment on this visit did not know about this until a couple of years ago – Real 'Need to Know' basis!. Some were in independent detachments just doing their job. On this trip we were also able to share experiences with veterans from 30 Sig Regt, which highlighted to all of us, the fact that the Royal Corps of Signals, as ever, were involved in just about every aspect of the conflict. Whilst not a motto, we generally are always 'first in, last out'. In this case some of 30 Sigs did not leave the island until October 1982, 4 months after the war ended.

We have a 205 reunion on the nearest



weekend to 20th May each year, this was something Mike Forge established on the QE2 and we carry on in both his and Joe's memory along with keeping a bit of 205 alive. This year we will be gathering in Taunton for a Falklands memorial parade, few beers and more stories and banter, life goes on.

Thanks for reading.

Andy Turner

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CBA Services

Spring is on its way and as we enter a new financial year on 6th April now is a good time to start thinking about our tax affairs. At CBA Services Limited we offer a wide range of services for both individuals and businesses. We offer a complimentary one-hour appointment with Catherine Chapman, our Director. If you have any questions please feel free to contact our office to arrange an appointment.



Is your extra income taxable?

HMRC has launched a new “Help for Hustlers” campaign to help people who are earning extra income, figure out if they need to pay tax on the additional earnings. The campaign runs until the end of March and focuses on five key areas where tax might apply:

- I’m buying or making things to sell.
- I’ve got a side gig.
- I work for myself with multiple jobs.
- I’m a content creator or influencer.
- I rent out my property.

The good news is there are two £1,000 tax allowances – one for property income and one for trading income. If you have both types of income, you can claim £1,000 for each.

Trading Allowance: If you make up to £1,000 from self-employment, casual services (like babysitting or gardening), or renting out personal equipment (such as power tools), this income is tax-free and does not need to be declared.

Property Allowance: If you earn £1,000 or less from property-related activities (like renting out a driveway), you do not need to report it to HMRC or include it in your tax return.

These allowances cover all relevant income before expenses. If your income is under £1,000, it’s tax-free. If you earn more than £1,000, you can choose to either deduct the £1,000 allowance from your income or list your actual expenses when calculating your taxable profit.

However, if your side hustle income goes over £1,000 in a tax year, you may need to complete a self-assessment tax return. Keep in mind this only applies if you are actively trading or selling services. If you are just clearing out some old stuff and selling it, there is usually no need to worry about tax.

Tax-free redundancy payments

If redundancy strikes, you could receive up to £30,000 tax-free. Whether it’s statutory or a more generous employer offer, understanding your entitlements and the latest caps on weekly pay can make a real difference to your finances.

There is a tax-free threshold of £30,000

for redundancy payments, regardless of whether the payment is your statutory redundancy pay, or a more generous amount offered by your employer. If you have been employed for two years or longer and are made redundant, you are typically entitled to redundancy pay. The legal minimum you are entitled to receive is known as “statutory redundancy pay.” However, there are exceptions to this entitlement, such as if your employer offers to retain you in your current role or provide suitable alternative employment, and you refuse the offer without a valid reason.

The amount of statutory redundancy pay is determined by your age and length of service, and is calculated as follows:

- Under 22: Half a week’s pay for each full year of service
- Aged 22 to 40: One week’s pay for each full year of service
- Over 41: One and a half weeks’ pay for each full year of service

Weekly pay is capped at £700, with a maximum of 20 years of service considered. The maximum statutory redundancy payment for the tax year 2024-25 is £21,000, with slightly higher limits applicable in Northern Ireland. The cap on weekly pay for redundancy calculations is expected to increase in April 2025, though details have yet to be announced.

Employers may opt to offer a higher redundancy payment, or you may be entitled to an increased amount based on the specific terms outlined in your employment contract.

Sources of funding for small businesses

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Starting or growing a small business often requires capital, but securing the right funding can be a challenge. Fortunately, there are various funding sources available to entrepreneurs, each with its own benefits and drawbacks.

Personal Savings

Many small business owners start with their own savings. This avoids debt and interest costs but can be risky if the business struggles.

Friends and Family

Borrowing from friends or family is common, but it's essential to have a clear agreement to prevent misunderstandings.

Bank Loans

Traditional bank loans offer structured repayment terms and can be used for various business needs. However, they often require a strong credit history and a solid business plan.

Government Grants and Schemes



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In the UK, grants are available from organisations like Innovate UK and local councils. These don't need to be repaid, but they are highly competitive and often have strict criteria.

Crowdfunding

Platforms like Kickstarter and Crowdfunder allow businesses to raise money from the public. This is particularly useful for innovative or community-driven projects.

Business Angels

Angel investors provide funding in exchange for equity in the company. They often bring valuable business experience and mentorship alongside capital.

Venture Capital

For high-growth startups, venture capital firms can offer large investments. However, they usually demand significant control and a share of profits.

Invoice Financing and Asset-Based Lending
Businesses can use unpaid invoices or assets as collateral for funding, helping with cash flow issues.

Alternative Lenders

Online lenders and peer-to-peer platforms provide faster, more flexible loans but often at higher interest rates.

Choosing the right funding source depends on your business needs, growth plans, and willingness to take on risk or debt.

If you need assistance with any accountancy or tax related matters, please contact CBA Services Limited on 01258 840306 office@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.

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Sixpenny Handley Homewatch

Theft from unattended cars and vans remains a common occurrence in and around the local area. There is a particular problem at local beauty spots and other popular tourist attractions, where thieves are known to watch for potential targets. You can avoid become the

victim of such crime by ensuring that nothing of any value is left in your vehicle where it can be seen by passers by. Where you have to leave tools or other attractive items in your vehicle, make sure they are placed in the boot or other area where they cannot be seen and, of course, make sure the vehicle is securely locked.

Staying with the subject of vehicles, there has been a noticeable increase in inconsiderate parking in and around the village. The two areas of particular concern are the junction of Common Road and Back Lane, especially when children are being dropped off and collected from school. Visibility in all directions can be badly affected by parked cars, with the consequent increased risk of accidents. The other trouble spot is the end of Dean Lane closest to the cross roads as drivers turning into Dean Lane from the High Street have very limited visibility and can be confronted by cars on the wrong side of the road, due to parked cars outside Town Farm Workshops. In brief, please always try to park as safely and considerately as possible.

Potholes are once again beginning to appear on the roads through and around the village. Not only do they have the potential to cause expensive damage to our vehicles, but they can also be a real road safety problem if drivers spend too much time looking out for them, and not enough time watching for other road users ahead of them. Do take time to report them to the Council so that they can be repaired in a timely manner.

Finally, as always, help to keep our community safe and secure by keeping an eye open for suspicious activity in and around the village and reporting anything of concern to the Police by calling 999 if you see a crime being committed, or 101 where there is less urgency.

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We have Planning Approval, now its Grant time!

6DH Skatepark Project

The news we have been waiting for came through in February with confirmation that our application for Permitted Development has been approved by Dorset Council. This is an essential step in replacing the existing skatepark and really moves our project along. This was achieved through Maverick communicating with Dorset Council and us to clarify the scope of the rebuild, such as the total volume of concrete and heights above ground, with these aspects clarified the certificate for permitted development was issued.

So now the project is establishing what grant opportunities there are for us to apply against. We have a list compiled, with submission criteria, submission dates and prerequisites to be met. Some maybe specifics about what can or cannot be supported by the grant organisation or that a level of funds need to be in place which is commonly known as 'match funding'. As we are nearing the end of the financial

year the majority of the grants, or at least the ones we need to initiate first do not start until April. We are taking the time to confirm the order in which the applications are submitted, gathering the necessary information such as policy documents, bank account information as well as wording to address the key aspects of the grant requirements. These are aspects such as their mission statements, key objectives and how we will utilise the funds. Whilst we hope that we can do this with just a few grant bodies, its rarely the case. There are some large grants out there, its whether we can sell our project to them. The reality will be that we target what we can establish is a good fit, apply and build our funds until we have either reached our target OR accept that the amount we have gathered has reached its peak. We are staying positive, keeping an eye on what new grant opportunities maybe made available going forward and apply, apply, apply! If you don't ask, you don't get.

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). Or visit our website <https://6dhskatepark.com/>, Facebook Page - Sixpenny Handleys New skatepark.



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£8 for members, £10 for non members per session

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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 1st 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

Treasurer: Stephanie Chick, Tel: 01725 552557 / 07748 925810 email: david@davidchick.co.uk

Chairman: Alex Thomas Tel: 01725 516320 email: rhodri.alex@briinternet.com

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

*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:

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Repair Cafe

Thank you to everyone who came to the last Repair Cafe, to those who are yet to venture out here is what you are missing:

In a spin over your recycling?

What can and can't be recycled at home is an endless puzzle for most of us, but village guru Charlotte Humberstone will be on hand to give advice on what goes where and provide simple tips for swaps that can be made at home to help lessen our negative impact on the earth. The village recycling scheme contributes to Medic to Medic charity <https://www.medictomedic.org.uk/get-involved>, breast cancer research and the crisp packet project <https://crisppacketproject.com/> so by doing more you'll help that way too. Charlotte will also be collecting at the Village Hall, so bring your problem recycling along!

Wardrobe full?

Do you have a wardrobe full of clothes you no longer wear, the wrong size or just no longer needed? Why not bring along your unwanted items for our Clothes Swap rail!

Sharpen Up!

Our sharpening service tackles knives, scissors and garden tools like secateurs and shears. Knives will be done as far as possible onsite while the rest will be done offsite for collection / delivery within 1-2 weeks. Prices: Knives £1, Scissors £2, Secateurs £3, Shears £4



Join us on our Facebook group - Sustainable Handley - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1220213291506176>

Sixpenny Handley Village Hall



May 17th 10am-1pm

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Repair Cafe team



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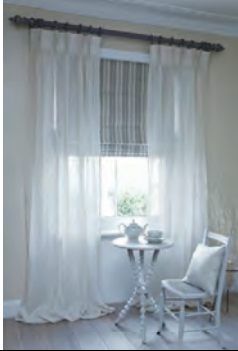
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PER ARDUA AD ASTRA

Royal Air Force - A History - Part 10

Throughout the 1920s and '30s Royal Air Force squadrons were based on airfields 'sprinkled' across the Empire and mandated territories performing a myriad of tasks from keeping errant tribes in check, assisting the civil powers and carrying out long-distance flights which, in time, would assist the development of civil air travel from the United Kingdom to all parts of the globe.

Now, a century on from the time when "keeping errant tribes" in order must seem to be the epitome of everything deplorable about 'the British Empire' of the post Victorian and Edwardian era, but this would be a misunderstanding of how governments across Europe, excluding a now chastened Germany, viewed a world-order in the aftermath of the Great War. From a United Kingdom perspective India continued to be regarded as the 'Jewel in The Crown' and to ensure its stability a strong military presence was required; likewise, the Mediterranean and Middle East was strategically important, hence a Royal Air Force presence in Palestine and Mesopotamia, the latter renamed Iraq in 1921, when Faisal was installed as king by the British. Thus, throughout the interwar years, particularly in the '20s and early '30s air routes were expanded across Africa in order to link north and south and eastwards through Burma to Malaya. And it was a time when Britannia Ruled the Waves was no exaggeration with aircraft carriers being added to the Fleet patrolling the seas to ensure free passage of commercial shipping.

In recent years Squadron Operations Books for the period have been digitised by The National Archives, Kew, and in compiling my present series of books titled 'Royal Air Force Squadron Losses' between April 1st, 1918, and September 2nd, 1939, I have accessed numerous records for units based at home and overseas, and, as might be expected, it is the documents for the overseas squadrons that provide an excellent historical record for the time when 'the sun never set over the British Empire.' These invaluable records,

commonly referred to as "ORBs", were maintained on two official forms, RAF Form 540 which provided a day-to-day analysis of what the squadron was engaged in [there are frequent gaps between dates and some units merely wrote up a monthly summary of events] and RAF Form 541 restricted to providing a record of the squadron's operational flying which, in theory, should provide a note of the task, the type and serial of the aircraft involved, names of the crew, times of take off and landing, and a summary of their observations. Pre-September 1939, the vast majority of units only maintain RAF Form 540, from which the following extracts have been taken. It concerns No. 8 Squadron, based in Aden and equipped with Vickers Vincent single-engine biplanes with cockpits for pilot, air gunner and observer.

During June the political agent in one of the outlying territories had received information that a certain sheik, namely Suleiman Az Zanki, was threatening to fire at aeroplanes flying over what he perceived to be his territory. This, of course, was unacceptable and No. 8 Squadron was requested to investigate and bring the sheik to order. So, on June 1st, 1935, Sergeant Pilot Folley was briefed to fly over the villages coming under the sheik's domain and drop messages ordering him to report at Lauder on July 6th, and formally apologise for his actions. The effect was immediate and on the 6th, Flight

Lieutenant Wiblin and Sergeant Landry [the latter, I suspect, was an observer] with Captain Hamilton as their passenger flew to Lauder where the sheik duly made his apology, claiming in defence that at the time of his threat he was insane.

Not all such 'incidents' ended on a note of wry humour. During August 1936, what might accurately be described as an "errant tribe" resulted in No. 8 Squadron going into action, described on RAF Form 540 for the 13th, "Air action started against the AHL MANSUR section of the Lower Aulaqi tribe, in the Wady Mari's about 150 miles North East of Aden. They had refused to provide an escort for a political officer to pass through their country in June, and had not paid a fine of rifles and money which was due on August 10th. Bombing by flight salvos of instantaneous and delayed action bombs continued until the 21st when the fine was paid in full. The action was entirely SUCCESSFUL in attaining the objective, and had excellent political effect on the neighbouring country, which had not experienced bombing before. Targets were poor, consisting of small and scattered houses and granaries and crops which were not ripe enough to burn. Sixteen tons of bombs were dropped in a total of 14 raids of 3 aircraft."

Reference: No. 8 Squadron, Squadron Operations Book, AIR-27-113-16-4.

*To be continued
Bill Chorley*



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Gone Sailing



Log 74

First sail 2025

Not very good weather, and so first sail was Saturday 1st February. Four tacks to Cowes in fickle winds, and a mooring on East Cowes Marina (Winter rates, but all gone up in price!). A glass in the Lifeboat pub sounded a good idea, and then lunch on board. The return was a reach back to Lymington, cold, but good to get on the water again.

And so to Beaulieu

The next sail had very little wind, and a gentle motor to Beaulieu, just scraped in over the bar. Why not join another yacht at Gins Farm? (Royal Southampton YC), and so we did. Much talk of this and that, and noticed a crew member on the floor, being attended to by his crew mates, but not to worry, merely demonstrating 'the recovery position', not sure what others in the club thought of that! Worth mentioning RSYC open day at Gins Farm Saturday 29th March 10:00 – 14:00, sea shanties at approx.. 12:30

– 13:00, www.rsync.org.uk

Laying Up Time Approaches

Nearly time for the month of 'laying up', tasks will be; fixing a leaky portlight, sorting out the log a replacement this time, and servicing the heads (traditionally the Skippers task!), And the usual anti fouling and so on and so on. First task is to remove sails before lift out, this went very well, and we noticed a couple of swans (the birds not the fine yachts!) in the river, mating we thought, but no! one was trying to drown the other, with a couple of boathooks we managed to separate the swans, and the 'drownee' swam off. Maybe a territorial dispute?

Looking Forward

The Saturday sailing dates have just been published, this is to encourage those who cannot sail on Wednesdays to have a sail. And of course the Club programme of cruises, around The Solent and 'going foreign' has been published, so come along and get afloat. Not to mention; dinghy

cruising and racing, rescue boat duties, tractor driving, yacht racing and cruising, links to other Yacht Clubs, and of course the many special interest groups in the Club. LTSC Open Day Saturday 29th March, come along, find out what we do, enjoy the Club facilities for the day. Bath Road car park, just passed RNLI station and shop. www.ltsc.co.uk

Bunkside Bookshelf

'The Long Way' Bernard Moitessier, an account of his race in 1968 Golden Globe, the first non-stop, single handed, round the world yacht race. Bernard was in tune with himself, his surroundings (the sea), and creatures within it. Nearing the Finish Line, he decided to pull out of the Race, and to continue sailing ('to save my soul') arriving in Tahiti, having sailed 37,455 miles, without touching land.

You may have heard of 'the Dolphins Incident'? The Race of 1968, was before the days of modern navigational aids, so no; satellite navigation, GPS, Sat phones, mobile phones, and so on. Navigation was by Sextant, using Sun and certain Stars, distance run, course steered, allowance for currents, and so on. Approaching the southern tip of New Zealand, before entering the Southern Ocean, there are some hazards, an Island, which can be seen, and a reef which cannot. Bernard set a course to pass some 40 miles off, and set the wind vane self steering accordingly, all was well, good breeze, sea state slight, all very relaxing. A pod of Dolphins swam alongside the Starboard (right hand side), reaching the bows, they all gave a mighty splash with their tails and swam off sharply to Starboard, returning a number of times to carry out this manoeuvre. After a while Bernard noticed that the wind had changed (probably a while ago), and that he was now on course for the reef! A change of course was made to avoid the hazard, the Dolphins made one last swim and splash, and swam off, leaving one or two Dolphins to swim with the yacht for a while, interesting!

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20th Walk for Wards

The Stars Appeal's flagship fundraising event, Walk for Wards, taking place on July 6th at Wilton House, we wanted to reach out to see if you would be able to help us.

This year is a very special year for the Stars Appeal, Salisbury Hospital's Charity, as it marks our 20th Walk for Wards event, please see all details on the right.



Celebrating our

20th Walk for Wards

Wilton House | Sunday 6th July 2025

Walk 3k, 5k, 10k & NEW for 2025 15k



Register FREE at starsappeal.org

Or scan the QR code
Entry closes 29th June



Salisbury Hospital's Charity
Registered Charity: 1052284

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Be an early bird

Join Countryside Regeneration Trust for our dawn chorus at Bere Marsh Farm, led by birding expert John Lockwood. In the gorgeous Dorset countryside, you will hear different species of birds singing as the sun rises, and John will be on hand to identify them. It takes place early on Saturday 17 May. Tickets cost £10 for adults, or £8 if you are a CRT Friend or Volunteer.

<https://www.thecrt.co.uk/Event/dawn-chorus-with-breakfast-bere-marsh>

Women in agriculture

International Women's Day has given us the perfect excuse to shout about all the amazing women making their mark in the world of agriculture. Kayleigh Robb at Pierrepont Farm, Izzi Rainey at Bates Moor Farm, Liz Wallis at Twyford Farm, and Betsie Edge at Brays Farm, represent a range of experiences and each one is as determined, passionate and dedicated as the other.

<https://www.thecrt.co.uk/news>



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An invitation to join us...

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

11am - 2:45pm
£7 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

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