

SHORELINE

News and Views from Charmouth

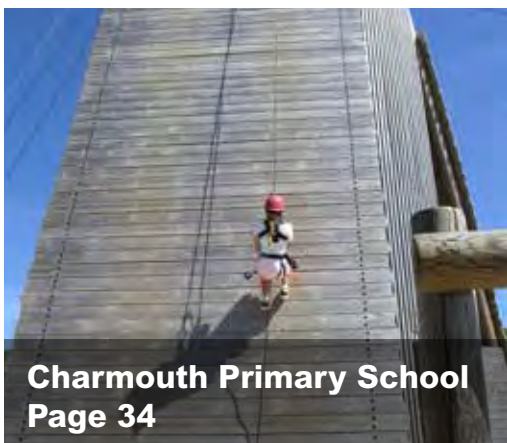
Photo Dorset Echo



Shoreline's a Winner
Page 3



All the Fun of the Fayre
Page 3



Charmouth Primary School
Page 34



Who's Reading Shoreline?
Page 4



Family, Wartime and Growing up in Charmouth
Page 22



Happy Days at the Charmouth Gardeners' Show -
Page 12



Shoreline makes it to the top of the Empire State Building with Kay Solomon, her daughter and granddaughter

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ASK THE EXPERT

Q. *We are in our 60s and considering equity release as one of our options. Would you consider this a good option?*

A. It is reported that more and more people are turning to equity release, which means they're effectively handing over a share in their property in return for a cash lump sum.

This can be viewed in two ways - either as an endorsement of an increasingly popular financial product that meets a particular need, or as a worrying reflection on the growing financial pressures being felt by predominantly older people, forced to borrow against their most valuable asset as a way to generate ready cash.

If you don't have any family to worry about, then equity release may look like an attractive proposition. Why struggle, or even deprive yourself of that holiday of a lifetime, when all the time you are sitting on a goldmine? After all, you can't take it with you!

However, like any 'cash now, pay later' proposition, equity release is an expensive way to borrow money. There are two main types: The lifetime mortgage is, as its name implies, a long term loan secured against your home - except that you don't have to make any repayments. Instead, the interest is simply added to the loan, which consequently mounts up very quickly. Home reversion, meanwhile, basically involves selling a share of your property, so you and the provider become co-owners. The catch in this case is that the amount you receive up-front is

based on your home's current value, while the cost is based on its value at the end of the deal...

But cost isn't the only issue. Effectively signing away a share in your home is not something to be done lightly. I would strongly urge anyone contemplating equity release to approach the subject very carefully, making sure they get professional and objective guidance from a suitably qualified financial advisor.

There are other options, which may better meet your needs, allow you to stay in control and work out much less costly in the long run. For example, downsizing - selling your house and buying somewhere smaller could release considerably more funds while leaving you with the security of being in full ownership of your new home.

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Editorial

This strangely still pause between summer and autumn, greenery and gold, and the rising wind that is once again readying itself to rush it all away in a climactic symphony of colour and scent is – in my opinion, one of the best parts about living on earth.

Victoria Erickson

I'm absolutely thrilled to report that Shoreline has won the prestigious People's Project Award, announced at the Best Dorset Village Competitions prize giving on 18th September. There were altogether 19 entries from all over Dorset. Over 100 people attended the event, including the Chairs of all four District Councils, John Wilson, the Chairman of Dorset County Council, Rupert Hardy of CPRE, the Dorset Magazine and the Dorset Echo.

What impressed the judges was that Shoreline is by the village, for the village. They noted the

strong community involvement, the clear, concise and varied content, the benefits to the community and visitors to the area, and felt that it reflected the attitude of the villagers – pulling together to make Charmouth the special and unique place that it is.

This issue, commemorating the two World Wars, features Neil Mattingly's wonderfully detailed record of village life in wartime Charmouth on pages 14 to 17. A tribute to the fallen of World War I, on pages 25 to 27, was meticulously researched by Vernon Rattenbury and tells the stories of the 17 men and one woman from the Parish of Charmouth whose names are on the war memorial. Those who lost their lives in World War II are remembered on page 28. Thanks to Lesley who did a sterling job in collating a lot of the material and also for encouraging villagers to tell their stories about life here during those very difficult times.

Hazel Robinson is stepping down as Chairman of Charmouth Central, after three years at the helm. She helped save the library from almost certain closure

in 2012 and has, with her grant writing skills and amazing vision, turned it into a thriving hub for the community. Hats off to you, Hazel!

Here's to autumn mists and mellow fruitfulness.

Jane

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Charmouth Fayre News

Party in the Park – Saturday 26 July 2014

It was a pleasant evening weather wise and around 400 people plus children enjoyed music by the Twurzels and a BBQ run by Ian Simpson and the Fat Dads. Jeff Prosser and his team performed their usual sterling work behind the bar. This evening was a break from tradition and it proved just as successful having it on a Saturday night. From an organisational point of view it is probably better to hold it on the Saturday night just before the Fayre..but we live and learn.

Charmouth Fayre – Sunday 3 August 2014

The day began with the usual parade through the village which was enhanced by a marching band. Once again we had a superb turnout of helpers from the village to set everything up and to man the stalls. As part of the process of trying to update the Fayre we had some new attractions in addition to our usual stalls. The donkeys were very popular and four local residents set up a human fruit machine which created a lot of attention – I wonder what they will do next year!!

As part of our evolving programme, we decided to introduce a group of local musicians late in the afternoon, together with a bar and BBQ. If that wasn't enough we also had a Pimms bar which did a roaring trade. I have been assured it had nothing to do with the gorgeous ladies behind the bar. This end to the Fayre proved very popular and kept the audience entertained until well into the evening. Another successful day.

BB3 in the Park – Sunday 24 August 2014

Following on from the success at the Fayre, "Coast" (our local musicians) wanted to put on another event different from our normal Party in the Park, i.e. no lorry and no fireworks. Another change from tradition was to start it at 5pm and continue until it

became dark around 8pm. The music was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience and I'm sure this type of event will continue in the future. The BBQ had the traditional burgers and sausages but also did "pulled pork" which was a great success. The bar was, as always, very busy, helped by the beautiful lady running the Pimms bar. Now we are all going to have a rest before the next event!!

Bonfire & Firework Night – 1 or 8 November 2014

I am not sure on which Saturday this will take place, but I am sure leaflets and posters will be up in October at the latest. We will have the usual BBQ and bar with some piped music. This event is always weather dependent, so hold fire and watch out for more details. We have had superb bonfires every year so far, so don't let me down, keep your wood and burnable garden waste and watch out for the posters!

Peter R. Noel



Parish Council News

Charmouth Beach

Better Than Ever

Following the 'once in 50 years' series of storms that hit Charmouth last winter, the repairs to the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre and the foreshore area were completed just in time for the start of the summer season. The storms resulted in a badly damaged building, many beach huts were destroyed and debris was carried upstream and deposited over a wide area.

The Charmouth Parish Council works team has not only restored the area but improved it. Over £65,000 has been spent and the staff have worked in excess of 2000 hours in the six months from February. More than £25,000 has had to be found from Council reserves to cover items not covered by insurance.

What has been achieved?

- A more resilient Heritage Coast Centre building that will better withstand future storms
- Beach huts have been improved
- Repairs to the beach steps which have been strengthened
- Using the WW2 tank defences that were unearthed by the storms has improved the landscaped car and boat park area.

The future

Now that the restoration is complete, Charmouth Parish Council is looking at how we can further enhance the beach area. New signage, further improvements to beach huts, ideas for protection from future storms and other initiatives are all being explored.

If you have ideas on how to improve our magnificent beach area without spoiling its unique character, then please contact Charmouth Parish Council.

Phil Tritton – Foreshore Committee Chairman

Contact details

Charmouth Parish Council – charmouth@dorsetparishes.gov.uk
Phil Tritton – phil.tritton@gmail.com

Children In Need 2014 Cake Sale

Sat 15th Nov will be my 5th year of holding a cake sale outside Morgans, Charmouth.

From 9.30am – 1pm. Please come and support me to raise money for Children In Need.

If you could bake something please bring to me on the morning or drop off at The George the evening before. Or come along and buy something.

Thank you, Luke Bearpark (13 yrs)



Sir 'Tony' Robinson

Jungle drums started rolling when actor, campaigner and historian Sir 'Tony' Robinson of 'Blackadder', 'Time Team' and 'Walking through History' fame appeared in Charmouth in early September. He was spotted on Raffey's Ledge and outside the Abbots House. When asked about the village, he said: "I love Charmouth. It's a name from my childhood, like a lot of places around here. Even this morning, walking through the park just behind the beach at Lyme, we were all saying that there's that real sense of déjà vu and childhood holidays and those days when the weather wasn't good enough – or at least your mum and dad didn't think it was good enough – for you to go on the beach and so you would go and look in the shops in Charmouth or the little park in Lyme. So the whole thing has been very 'Proustian' for me. We filmed the outside of the Abbots House; Charles II is very much the beginning of our story. We are doing 6 different episodes; the third time we've done this series ('Walking Through History'). One episode is about (the Duke of) Monmouth. It's a series that has twin threads; one is a celebration of some of the most wonderful parts of our islands and the other is a celebration of some of the fascinating narratives that occurred in them."

Earlier, our local historian, Neil Mattingly, was approached directly by the producer of 'Walking Through History' and took him to the local places connected with the 1685 Monmouth Rebellion.

The new series of Wildfire Television's 'Walking Through History' will be screened on Channel 4 from the end of 2014 – early 2015. <http://www.wildfiretv.co.uk/productions/walking-through-history-with-tony-robinson>

Thanks to Francine Renton for the initial tip-off!

Lesley Dunlop

The Charmouth Calendar

A Successful Community Project

The 2015 Charmouth calendar went on sale just before Easter and indications are that it might be even more successful than the inaugural 2014 edition.

Nearly 700 copies of the 2014 calendar were sold, bringing in over £1000 surplus after paying for printing. This surplus paid for extra Christmas lights for the village, making the display "the best ever" according to villagers. The rest of the surplus boosted pay-outs from Charmouth Traders to local groups, who received a record total this year.

32 local photographers contributed photographs to the 2015 calendar. All 255 photographs submitted were shown to six people from the Charmouth Traders. The photographs were grouped into types to ensure variety. The process took two hours and the photographers' names were only revealed at the end to maintain fairness.

As well as the twelve monthly photographs chosen, a further 24 have been included at the end of the calendar so that the range of views can be appreciated.

2015 calendars are on sale in a number of outlets in the village and at the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. They cost £5.99 and envelopes are available free of charge should you wish to post one as a Christmas present. More than half this cost goes to the Christmas lights and local causes so please help us beat last year's sales!

We are hoping to produce a 2016 calendar, so keep snapping and save your best photographs of Charmouth.

A tip for taking photographs

Several really good photographs could not be considered for the main calendar pages because of their low resolution – they would not have reproduced well as A4 prints.

If you choose the maximum setting on your device (camera, phone, tablet) when taking a photograph this should produce a printable A4 image.

Charmouth Traders would like to say a big Thank You to everyone who submitted photos, without whom this calendar would not be possible.

Phil Tritton



Charmouth Parking Refund Scheme

A reminder that you can park for two hours in Charmouth's Lower Sea Lane car park and get your parking cost refunded if you spend £10 or more in any Charmouth outlet displaying the 'P FREE' sign. Most outlets in Charmouth village centre are in the scheme.



A Community Message from Dorset Police

The busy summer season is now almost over, and I am pleased to say that, from a policing point of view, it has been a quiet summer. Very few crimes have been reported in Charmouth. In June a charity box was stolen from a shop on Charmouth seafront. The tin was recovered nearby, minus the money which it had contained.

One of the things we receive complaints about in the village is people parking on the zigzags at the pedestrian crossing on The Street. This makes it unnecessarily dangerous for people who are using the crossing. A number of tickets have been issued to drivers who have chosen to park at the crossing. If you are seen to be parking on the pedestrian crossing, then the fine will cost you £100 and 3 points on your driving licence, so please think and park safely and legally.

This is the time of year when people think about filling their domestic oil tanks in readiness for the cooler weather. It is also the time that, historically, we see a rise in the theft of oil from tanks. A simple way to combat this theft is to install an alarm on your tank, which will alert you should there be a sudden drop in the oil level. Over the past few years we have seen a steady decline in the frequency of oil thefts due to more and more people alarming their tanks. So if yours is still not alarmed, then please do so. The cost of the alarm is much less than the cost of having to refill your tank after the oil has been stolen.

You can keep up to date with what your local Police team are doing via our social media pages. We are on Facebook; search for 'Bridport, Beaminster & Lyme Regis Safer Neighbourhood Teams', and Twitter, @LymeRegisSNT. You can also call Police on 101 for non-emergency issues, or 999 if a crime is taking place or life is in danger.

PCSO 5474 Luke White

**Lyme Regis Safer Neighbourhood Team
Lyme Regis Police Station
Hill Road
Lyme Regis DT7 3PG**



PCSO5474 Luke White



PC2204 Kirsti Ball



PCSO5386 John Burton

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Letters

Blooming Charmouth!

Just thought you might like to see and maybe include in Shoreline a picture of our giant Echium that was in full bloom in June and is still going. It has been a good talking point in the tropics of Old Lyme Hill!

Must also add how much we love Shoreline and how useful and interesting it is - particularly to us, sort of newcomers.

Lyn & Emie Godden.



Considerate Dog Walkers are Welcome on our Land

Almost every dog-walker knows they should stay on the footpath and have their dog completely under their control when they cross agricultural land. A long lead will generally do. This helps to stop dogs worrying livestock - vital when sheep are pregnant, but important at other times too. However, there is also a problem with dog waste being left in the countryside. Unfortunately, some dog-walkers do not come prepared to pick up after their dogs and this is quite wrong on a number of levels.

1. It is against the law to allow a dog to foul agricultural land (The Fouling of Land by Dogs,

West Dorset District Order 2007 - fines of up to 1,000 would apply).

2. It is a health hazard to children (Toxocara canis worm is damaging to eyes and other organs - children being particularly susceptible).
3. It is a health hazard to cattle (Neosporosis is the most frequently diagnosed cause of abortion in cattle in the UK and cattle can be infected through dog poo - regardless of whether your dog has been wormed).
4. It is offensive to those who manage the land (try strimming a footpath with dog waste and you will understand).

Please respect the countryside and take your dog poo away with you, every time.

One further note: it is unwise to enter a field with cattle if you are with a dog, but if you do and you find that you are being chased by cattle you MUST let go of the dog's lead for your own and your dog's safety.

Yours sincerely

John Calder, Lily Farm & the Greenloft Project

Norman & Michelle Jones, Hogchester Farm

Robin Loosemore, Manor Farm

Rob Rhodes, National Trust, Golden Cap Estate

Amanda & Jon Snook, Westover Farm

John & Joyce White, Little Catherston Farm

Deadline and Issue Dates for Shoreline 2015

WINTER / SPRING ISSUE

– deadline 5th January, in the shops 1st February.

SUMMER ISSUE

– deadline 4th May, in the shops 1st June.

AUTUMN ISSUE

– deadline 1st September, in the shops 1st October.

All local children – PLEASE HELP!

2015 begins a different charity for The George, Charmouth. We have chosen C.L.I.C. (cancer and leukaemia in childhood).

We have plans to print a book to go on sale from Easter and continue throughout the year.

If you are 15 years and under, live in Charmouth or attend Charmouth School, we would love to see any pictures, short stories, tales, poems or rhymes. These will then be looked through and we will put to print a variety to have a nice book published.

Our mascot for the book will be a 'duck' – so there's an idea!

With your name, address and age please send to Linda at The George.

From the Charmouth Practice



Life Improves When You Move!

Our bodies were made to move. Like engines which need running to keep the all the parts working smoothly, the oil flowing freely and the pistons pumping, we too work much better when we put our hearts, lungs, muscles and joints through their paces regularly. I'm not necessarily suggesting the gym, although some people absolutely love to go; I'm talking more about choosing to walk to the shops or the post box, wash the car by hand, do some gardening, play football with mates or the kids or join a local dance class.

How does life improve?

The Mayo Clinic has outlined **"7 ways exercise improves your life"**. Here's my summary:

- 1 Every bit of moving helps to lose weight. Both through burning calories and through making you a more efficient machine to burn those calories.*
- 2 Moving trains up the power houses in the liver and allows them to process fats better. More of your good HDL cholesterol and less of the harmful triglycerides means less clogging up of the arteries and a better, cleaner flow of blood, lower BP, fewer strokes, more protection against diabetes and some cancers.*
- 3 The adrenaline release with some brisk walking or heavy gardening is perfect for reducing stress and improving relaxation and confidence. Not to mention seeing a trimmer waistline, which does everyone the world of good.*
- 4 Training up your muscles will protect against arthritis and falls. Training your heart and lungs means you can do more before you get out of breath and feel tired.*

5 Activity in the day means better sleep at night.

6 All of the above will help improve your sex life. In addition the hormone changes may make some women more interested and some men less likely to hit those common frustrating problems.

7 Last but not least; exercise, activity and movement connect us to the great outdoors, to new friends and old friends, music, feelings of freedom and more fun.

You can read the full article at <http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy/fitness/in-depth/exercise>

Modern life is against us. We sit in cars, sit at computers to work and use labour saving devices to make house work easier and faster. This means we have to artificially put back the movement and consciously repeat it day after day. Using a step counter will help you keep track and allow you to aim for 10,000 steps a day. Using a "Fitbit" will allow you to connect your activity counter to your PC/phone and draw graphs for you. It's more expensive – but great fun and cheaper than the gym.

So how much do we all need to do?

Always START LOW and BUILD UP SLOW. Aim to do at least 30 minutes every day of something that is the equivalent of a brisk walk, that makes you sweat and makes your pulse beat faster.

Use the FREE activity guide and calculator from the World Cancer Research Fund on line to build your chosen activity schedule. See: http://www.wcrf-uk.org/cancer_prevention/health_tools/exercise_calorie_calculator.php

If you really have no time for this or alternatively want to do something in addition to pull out all the stops, try 3 x 20 second bursts of the most intense activity you can manage 30 minutes before your evening meal at least 3 times a week to improve your overall metabolism and reduce the risks of becoming diabetic. Squat thrusts and squat jumps, or running up hill will do nicely. Not for the faint-hearted and not unless you have trained up to it, but for those so inclined, this has proven health benefits. One version can be found in Michael Moseley's book "Fast Exercise" published by Atria books.

Whatever you choose to do – remember moving is for life!

Wishing you happy, healthy activity,

Dr Sue Beckers



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The Charmouth Traders Association

After the lashing that Charmouth beach took last winter, it was great to see it at its best for most of the summer. Great also that it will be seen in the New Year when Broadchurch series two hits the screens and Charmouth's iconic blue beach huts are featured in what sounds like a pivotal scene. (We were sat at our beach hut during a technical rehearsal and those TV folk should really not talk in such loud voices if they don't want spoilers out there on social media. If anyone wants to know whodunit, just ask!)

The Traders tried to bring a Charmouth Festival together this year for the end of September but a lack of resources, time and a few insurmountable logistical issues meant that we had to pull the plug on it a couple of months ago which was a great shame. We would like to thank those that helped us to try and make it a reality, I am sure you share our disappointment.

On a brighter note, we are looking forward to November when the Bonfire on the Beach (weather permitting) will make a return. We are looking to run that on the evening of Saturday 8th November, so the usual appeal for wood etc and volunteers to make a bonfire will be going out that week. Once again, no metal, plastic, glass etc; we want the ground to be clear and free of dangerous and unwanted items after the fire has burned out.

We shall also be looking to stage the early evening New Year's Eve mulled cider and wine down at the beach again if the weather permits. Check the website and twitter feed @charmouthdorset for details closer to the time.

As ever the Charmouth website www.charmouth.org is showcasing the village to the world at large as well as the local community. Remember if you are a local club or society you can have your information up there at no charge. Businesses can advertise on the site from a mere £30 per year per entry. For further details contact Ian on 01297 560 411 or go via the contact button on the website.

Ian Simpson



COW KILLED BY LAND MINE

"A land mine had gone off on the Stonebarrow Cliff; apparently by a cow stepping on to it and that the poor beast had its head blown off by the explosion. The cow was a black one belonging to Mr Peach, the Charmouth beach attendant."

1940

Neil Mattingly

The Future of Charmouth

We all love Charmouth. We love its unchanging, somewhat old-fashioned feel. We love the fact that it is still a fully functioning village, with pubs, a variety of shops, cafes, a post office, two hairdressers, a fish and chip shop, a florist, a library, a doctor's surgery....

But the cold wind of change is creeping into Charmouth and threatens the range of shops and services that we are so fortunate to have in our midst. What is concerning is that as houses come onto the market, too many are being bought as second homes or holiday lets. They sell at prices that local people cannot afford and then lie empty for much of the year, especially during the winter months. There are now six more houses on my street alone (Higher Sea Lane) that will only be occupied for a few weeks a year and a further two are up for sale! The result is that all the local businesses struggle during the bleak, winter months when every year there are less and less customers.

So, by supporting Charmouth's shops and services all year round, we can help to keep our village vibrant and alive. Enjoy a coffee in The Bank House, use the Post Office instead of going online, buy some items from local shops rather than everything at the supermarket. It is surprising what a big difference this can make.

Should we start a lobbying campaign against this growth in second homes? Perhaps we could join forces with other coastal villages. Let's write to our MP: Rt Hon Oliver Letwin MP, House of Commons, London, SW1A0AA or email him at: letwino@parliament.uk and tell him of our concerns about the proliferation of second homes in Charmouth.

If we do nothing, then Charmouth will change. Maybe not this year, maybe not next, but if current trends continue, then change is inevitable

Jane Morrow

Charmouth Literary Festival

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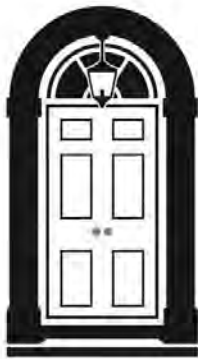
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From The White House



We were fortunate enough, on a gloriously warm summer's day earlier this year, to spend the best part of a day out on a friend's boat. We anchored over the rocks just off Golden Cap for lunch and a dip in the crystal clear water. It was as flat as a millpond, with barely a hint of a swell, which allowed us to peer down onto the sub-aquatic world just a few feet below to reveal the spectacle of hundreds and hundreds of spider crabs crawling en masse over the rocks. (I subsequently discovered that this is what they do during mating season which is probably why they took very little interest in us and were getting on with the job in ...er...claw!) Despite being present in vast numbers around the coast of these islands, they are not really part of the British culinary map and

the fatter, meatier brown crab is generally considered to be the best. Virtually all spider crabs caught in this country are exported.

However, when it comes to eating, the humble spider crab should not be underestimated.

The males, with their big, long front claws are choc-full of delicious, sweet, white meat and it is well worth the effort required extracting every delicious morsel. Although there is comparatively little brown meat found in the carapace, indeed many barely bother trying to recover it, such is its paucity, the good eating does not end with the claws.

Discard the feathery gills and with all the gubbins that remains, you have the primary ingredient for one of the world's finest soups, the bisque. Thought to originate from the fishing villages along the Spanish coast of the Bay of Biscay, this is now a culinary classic and is really, really easy to make. So don't discard those crab shells, freeze them down until you have enough to fill the biggest pot you have and turn them into a deliciously rich and flavoursome bisque.

These are approximate quantities to make around six good portions.

1kg crab shells

1tbsp vegetable oil

1 small onion, roughly chopped

1 small leek, roughly chopped

2 sticks celery

3 garlic cloves, roughly chopped

12tsp fennel seeds

1tsp smoked Paprika

sprig of thyme

1 bay leaf

40g butter

75g tomato purée

1 glass of white wine

1.5 litres fish stock (Or water and fish stock cubes, if you must)

Roast the crab bones in a medium oven for about 20 mins. Meanwhile gently fry off the onion, leeks, garlic, fennel and herbs in the butter. Add the remaining ingredients and bring to the boil, then simmer for half an hour. Pass through a mesh and return to the heat. You can thicken it if required by reducing it (or adding more stock) until you have a smooth, rich broth.

Season with salt and black pepper, add a swirl of cream (and a shot of cider brandy to root it more firmly into the West Country), sprinkle with a few chopped chives and serve.

Ian Simpson

Bymead House

Bymead would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have attended our events over the past year.

This year has marked several important anniversaries, one of which was the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day landings. Bymead remembered the day with High Tea (which included some authentic ration recipes!), music and reminiscing. In memory of the day, we asked our residents and their families for pictures and stories of themselves during World War Two - we received some fascinating stories and photographs which we have displayed for the duration of the year.

On the day, all of the staff entered into the 1940s spirit and dressed up in period costume, as did many of the residents' families and visitors from the village. We are also extremely grateful for the donations received for our raffle table by Palmers Brewery, Hix Oyster and Fish House, Furleigh Estate and The White House Hotel, Charmouth.

All proceeds raised on the day and throughout the year will be donated to 'Help For Heroes'.

We have a few more events planned in the run up to Christmas which everyone is welcome to attend:

Sunday 12th October, 2.25 p.m. – Harvest Festival Family Service and Cream Teas.

Friday 7th November – Guy Fawkes High Tea

Thursday 11th December – Aladdin Pantomime (4.20 p.m.) followed by a Christmas Buffet (5.30)

Sunday 14th December (2.45) – Family Carol Service followed by mince pies and tea

We also hope to have the Mountjoy Handbell Ringers / Charmouth Brownies and Father Christmas visit in December.



Little Lodge School Reunion

Forty years after it closed, my mother and I want to open up Little Lodge in The Street, Charmouth, to anyone who attended school there under the tutorship of the Whittington Sisters. Many villagers talk to us about those days. The house was basically the school rooms. We will offer mince pies and teas etc. to be festive, on Sunday 7th December 2014.

As well as putting some soul back into the house, we would like to record school members' memories, using the house itself as a good prompt before these memories are lost. I have already been told about the gardener, who used to nip through a side gate to The Star for a pint, then on his return was told off by one of the Whittington sisters for beer on his breath!

If you attended the school and would like to join us, please phone me on 01297 561580. I would also like to hear from you if you have any information on the history of the house, including any further anecdotes.

Helen Parker



Photo from Neil Mattingly

Please let us know if you can name anyone in this photo

Bowls Club News



During the summer Charmouth Scouts tried their hand at bowls. "It was a great evening and the Scouts soon started to get their hands in under the guidance of our Vice-Captain, David Cruickshank", says Bowls Club Chairman Jim Greenhalgh. He adds: "Short Mat Bowls will start again in the Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane at 2.00pm on Tuesday 30th September and every Tuesday thereafter through the winter. The afternoon sessions are open to anyone who would like to give it a try. They just need to turn up on the day and will be made very welcome."

Jim Greenhalgh

Was it a Lovely War?

One of the many events happening in the area to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War is a community production of Joan Littlewood's classic musical entertainment "Oh, What a Lovely War!".

Created by Joan Littlewood's Theatre Workshop Company, the show was first seen fifty years ago at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East. It's based upon rousing popular tunes sung by ordinary soldiers during a war that killed ten million in four years. Funny, moving and thought provoking it has not been without controversy. The censors had concerns about its content and without the involvement of Princess Margaret after she saw the original production it might never have transferred to the West End. More recently it was in the headlines because of comments by Michael Gove when he was Education Secretary.

The Marine Theatre production is by local company 3QB in association with Lyme Regis Dramatic Society and Lyme Youth Theatre, with actors from around the area, including Charmouth.

It runs from Tuesday 11th November to Saturday 15th November and will raise funds for the Theatre.

As well as "Oh, What a Lovely War", the Theatre is presenting "The Women of World War One" on Friday 21st November. Created by Musicians South West this is described as 'a tribute in words, music and images' and a 'powerful and moving portrait of women's lives during the Great War'.

More details of both these productions (and lots of other exciting performances at our 'Little Theatre By The Sea') are available online at www.marinetheatre.com or in the Theatre Brochure.

Fibre Broadband Update - a Review of Fibre Broadband Coverage in Charmouth

Forty-five homes and businesses in Charmouth are now getting a fibre broadband service and experiencing the benefits of a faster, more reliable internet connection.

Superfast Dorset will be running events locally to help both businesses and residents make the most of the internet and also support people to get online for the first time.

Superfast Dorset enabled the green roadside cabinet on Higher Sea Lane in May this year, providing access to faster, more reliable broadband to those in the west of the village.

The project plans to upgrade another cabinet which serves the eastern part of the town later this year. Finally, some properties in the north-east part of town along The Street will be getting access to the fibre network in 2015.

The Superfast Dorset programme is a partnership between the local authorities in Dorset and BT, with the aim of giving 95% of premises across the county access to superfast fibre broadband by the end of 2016.

The Superfast Dorset Team
Dorset County Council 01305 221048

Memorable Memoirs



At the beginning of July a group of us went to the Bennetts Water Gardens near Weymouth. The lakes were at their most beautiful, adorned with water lilies of every variety and colour. We had a guided tour and were told that the project had been inspired by Monet's painting 'The Lady in the Lake'. The first lilies had been bought from Bordeaux in France and so there was a real feeling of authenticity. Everyone enjoyed a leisurely stroll around the water gardens and a light lunch in the charming café.

Our next outing is on Wednesday 8th October when we are going to Dartmoor. The trip will include a visit to the prison museum. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Jan (see below). Memorable Memoirs is open to everyone; this is not a club for people with dementia, it's a group who get together to inform and inspire each other. We meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month in Charmouth Central Library.

For more information: Jan Gale 07897 511075

Charmouth & Bridport's Pop 'n' rock Choir

We are now taking new members for rehearsals up to Christmas

- Wide variety of songs
- Very friendly group of people
- No Choir/Vocal experience required
- Sessions held at either Charmouth Village Hall or Charmouth Primary School
- Rehearsals held Mondays from 6.00pm until 8.00pm
- Membership fee £6.00 per session
- Free taster sessions available please see on-line <http://www.charmouth-choir.net/taster-session> or call 01297 552935 / 578540

Experienced Professional Musical Director

Edward Jacobs; please see www.edwardjacobs.co.uk

Well Done!

An anonymous self-catering property owner in Charmouth approached a Rotarian in the village who was collecting for the victims of the Somerset floods. The individual generously offered holiday accommodation to a family who had still not been able to return to their flooded home. The Rotary Club of Lyme Regis subsequently contacted Lyme Bay Holidays to ascertain if any other of their clients would be willing to follow suit. As a result, a further 50 property owners in Lyme Regis stepped forward. Rotary Publicity Officer John McCallum commented: 'This is a splendid example of the generosity of Lyme Bay Holiday property owners, well done indeed!' This story was brought to Shoreline's notice via the View from Lyme Regis newspaper, which covered the story in its 23 July issue.

Lesley Dunlop

Changes Afoot for Charmouth Village Hall

Charmouth Village Hall in Wesley Close (formerly the WI Hall) is planning to make some improvements by updating the lavatories, adding an accessible WC, and making other small changes to ensure the hall is more accessible for older people and those with disabilities. We do have a duty to try our best to ensure that the hall is equally accessible for everybody, young and old and in between, whatever their needs. The hall is well used, but we do have some additional capacity and could add a few new activities. This is where we need your help. The committee runs the hall, of course, and its members are the Governing Trustees, but you all are the 'beneficiaries' – that means we run it for your benefit – and we would love to have your input. Such as:

- Do you use the hall at all?
- Do you think the hall is attractive?
- Do you think it is 'tired' or out of date?
- Has the lack of a toilet suitable for people with disabilities and/or other facilities for them put you off using the hall or attending events there?
- Has anything in particular put you off using the hall?

- Are there any other activities you would like to see in the hall?
- Would YOU like to start a club or activity group?
- Do you know what activities take place in the hall? Like: Keep Fit • Tai Chi • Dancing Classes • Cherubs • Choir • Whist Drive • Art • Senior Coffee Morning • Dog Training.

Did you know that local people can book the hall for private functions for a small fee? Would you know how to book the hall if you wanted to use it for a private function? Did you know that the Village Hall is a registered charity and has to support itself for its running costs?

Please, if you have any comments, observations, suggestions or questions, use our new Suggestions Box which is being held by Fortnam, Smith and Banwell or talk to any of the Committee Officers who are: Chairman – David Gillings (01297 560465), Vice Chairman - Jean Kesterton (01297 560009), Secretary – Jan Johnstone (01297 560052). Please make your comments known by the end of October. Contact us and give us your views so we can be sure to make the hall a place you can use and want to be – and it will also help us in our application for grant funds to carry out the improvement work. Thank you.

Jan Johnstone

Charmouth Gardeners' Village Show

The day of the Show dawned bright and clear and Charmouth Gardeners' Village Show on Saturday 9 August was once again a happy, successful day. Although the good weather of past weeks may have attracted the visitors to Charmouth, it did mean that many gardeners feared their best flowers and vegetables had 'been and gone'. Nevertheless the show had 500+ entries and the displays were, as usual, quite wonderful! Cups, Trophies and Diplomas for excellence in Horticulture were awarded as follows:-

Grace Laker Cup and Banksian Medal for overall Excellence in many classes – Sheila Samuel

Rose Cup, Rose Vase, and the Mattingly Pudding Plate - Kathy Fereday;

Joe Tisshaw Trophy, Poppleton Cup and Diploma of Excellence – Ron Dampier;

Marcel Clouzy Cup and George Cup - Penny Rose;

Stan Durbridge Bowl and Diploma of Excellence – Jan Plummer;

Wyn Durbridge Bowl – Sue Brunner;

Clouzy Cup – Chris Hinton;

Thalatta Cup – Sheila Coulson;

Norah Kidd Trophy – John Kennedy;

Cup for Best Photograph – Neil Harvey;

RHS Junior Award of Merit – Laura Kimmich, Oswald Gardner and Olivia James.

The judges have to be thanked for bringing their expertise and knowledge to the show - Mrs. J. Everington, Mr. C. Whitlock, Mrs. J. Tunstall, Mrs P. Wyon-Brown and Mr. & Mrs B. Spencer.

Thanks were given to all entrants, without whom there would not be a show and also to all people who willingly give their time and help to set up both halls to the high standard for show displays.

Charmouth residents and visitors alike can only look forward to next year's show. Let us hope that the weather is kind and our gardens are fruitful. And finally, not forgetting to acknowledge the proficiency of all entrants in the handicraft, home produce and photographic sections.

Pauline Bonner, Show Secretary



Weldmar Hospicecare Trust

On 3rd June Vi Hares and I were fortunate to be invited to join the Friends of Weldmar Hospicecare Trust in their celebration of the 20 Year Anniversary of the Joseph Weld Hospice in Dorchester. It was a very friendly and enjoyable evening; a meeting together of fundraisers who had become old friends over the years, as well as an opportunity to catch up with the members of the fundraising office team based in Dorchester. Awards were also presented to long-term fundraisers in recognition of their hard work on behalf of the Hospice.

Many, many people here in Charmouth have been supporters of the Joseph Weld Hospice from its inception all those years ago and we thought that this would be an appropriate occasion to say a big "thank you" to you all for your generous support over the years at the numerous fundraising events. The Hospice continues to go from strength to strength, thanks to the efforts and generosity of its supporters.

Jan Johnstone



The Free Exchange Café is a "freecycle" event held approximately every other month in Charmouth. It's not a fundraising event – it's simply a place at which the whole village can come together to "freecycle" surplus or unwanted garden produce, school uniforms, furniture, obsolete stock, plants – anything really!

But why is it called a café?

As well as freecycling there is also a "café" with jazz music, cafetiere coffee, pastries, newspapers etc. – all of which is free! The Free Exchange Café is an initiative run by St Andrew's Church in Charmouth.

When and where is it?

There will be five Cafés in Charmouth in 2014. The last one of the year is on Saturday 8th November, from 10-12pm. It takes place in St Andrew's Church and only runs for two hours, so don't come late!

Can I come and how much is it?

Yes! And nothing – everything is free!

We all have unwanted things in our homes that someone else could make better use of. Do you have windfall apples rotting on the ground? Vegetables in the garden that are going to seed? Old furniture in the garage collecting dust? School uniform or toys that have been grown out of? The list is almost endless...

Please come along, be generous and bring something to give away. And even if you don't have something to bring, come for some great coffee, a free breakfast and a read of the weekend papers – you are guaranteed to bump into someone you know and hopefully you will find something useful to take away – the event is just as much about bringing people together.

Remember, no money changes hands for anything. Everything is free – so what can you bring?

Contact Edward on edwardpem@gmail.com.

All the Best, Tom

Tom Gater and his family would like to thank everyone who supported and donated funds to Project Trust, including those who attended the event held by Maralyn Hinxman. Tom was hoping to spend his gap year in Guyana, teaching maths to children. Unfortunately he has developed cancer and will be unable to do this, but the cash raised has gone to the Trust. I end this report with the wonderful news that Tom received 3A* for his A-levels and has a place at Balliol College, Oxford in September 2015.

Project Trust is a voluntary charity that specialises in sending ex-students all over the world on similar projects to Tom's. These include working in orphanages, schools and medical centres. For further details contact info@projecttrust.org.uk

Patricia White, Tom's Grandmother

According to Mike Perham, our beach attendant, this summer has been the worst ever for dog fouling. Every day he has had to shovel up piles of excrement from the car park, on the bridge and all along the beach. When he mows he is constantly running over it, which is extremely unpleasant for him.

The majority of owners are very responsible and pick up after their dogs, but there are some selfish individuals who are lazy and who just don't care. Failure to dispose of dog mess properly can harm other beach users and people could face prosecution and a fine. If you spot someone you know not scooping the poop, please call 01297 560826 and report them. Let's keep this village that we all love as poop free as we can, not just for us but for all the visitors and their families too.

Jane Morrow

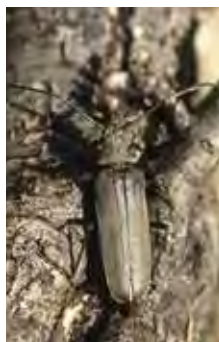
**LOVE YOUR
BEACH, PICK UP
THE POOP!**

A Rare Catch

On 20 August 2013 Geoffrey Sell found an unusually large insect in his moth trap. The 4cm long creature was subsequently identified by Tony Allen of The Coleopterist magazine as a female *Aegosoma scabricorne* (Scopoli) which is found in France, as far north as Paris and west to Normandy. Tony Allen states: "This is the only British specimen. It is most probable that it emerged from timber which had been imported into the Charmouth area, though it is just possible that it flew across the Channel or hitched a lift on a boat."

Thanks to Peter Taylor of Peter Taylor & Son, History Booksellers, of Watford, who brought the article, and Geoffrey's endeavours, to my attention.

Lesley Dunlop



Charmouth Poetry Corner

AUTUMN

by Peter Crowter

The hustle and bustle of summer, is now just a thing of the past,
It's metamorphosed into autumn, it seems to have gone mighty fast.
For B&B owners and school kids, I suppose it is really bad news,
But I am a fan of the autumn, I can't say it gives me the blues.

The motionless mist in the mornings, hovers in layers low down,
Beneath it the earth quietly dozes, like man still in his dressing gown.
But soon t'will be rudely awakened, the dazzling sun will appear,
At first as a segment of orange, and soon as a huge golden sphere.

The spiders that hide in the brambles, have crocheted their gossamer thread,
Their webs are bejewelled with the dew drops, like tears that the fairies have shed.
The silk that lies strewn on the grassland, the young money spiders have used,
To paraglide out to new pastures, as far from their mothers they cruised.

The trees become fiery with colour, it's just as if they are ablaze,
And though it takes place every autumn, it never ceases to amaze.
And outside The Court the swamp cypress, bright green just a few days ago.
Their feathery fronds now sienna, fall down to the pavement below.

The blackberries shine in the hedgerows, bright red and then turning to jet,
And bunches of dark purple elder, all glistening as if they were wet.
Hazel nuts slip from their jackets, so now they are ready to crack,
Collected by squirrels who hide them, some time in the future to snack.

House martins and swallows are hunting, for there's a long journey ahead,
The African sun waits to greet them, to make it they must be well fed.
Between feeding frenzies they gather, in lines on the wires to discuss,
Their plan for the upcoming journey, it could be five thousand miles plus.

The floor of the woodland is covered, brown earth now a carpet of gold,
The leaves a new purpose awaits them, a life giving layer of mould.
The trees are now stripped of their clothing, while we go the opposite way,
From cupboards come sweaters and jackets, to keep winter's weather at bay.

Charmouth Literary Festival

Saturday 4th October 2014

The 5th village Literary Festival will be host to some inspiring speakers including Louise Foxcroft, historian, author and broadcaster and Peter John Cooper, back by popular request to talk about the characters in your book. Self publishing and short story writing will also feature. Walk, Write, Wild, with Juliette Adair as she guides you in exploring your physical senses as well as your imagination along the shoreline. There will also be an opportunity for you to do some writing. This is a one day event and is free to attend.

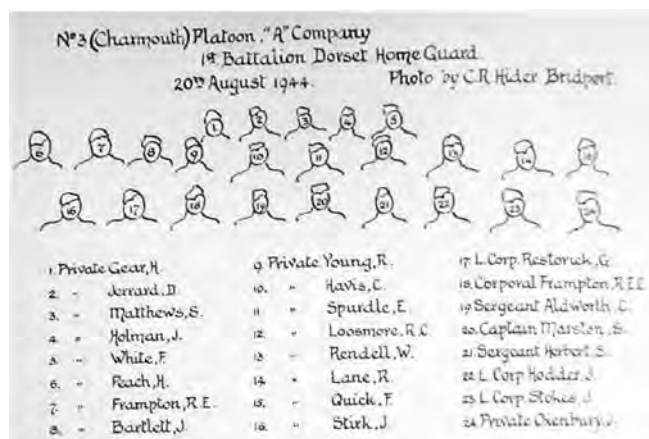
9.30 – 4.30. Teas and coffees available

charmouthlitfest.wordpress.com

01297 561493 07940 343444

Wendy Knee

VILLAGE LIFE IN CHARMOUTH DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR



In my collection of postcards of Charmouth, I have a wonderful photograph showing the Home Guard in 1944 taken by Claude Hider of Bridport. When enlarged, you can clearly see the faces of these former inhabitants of the village. I have placed these images on my website (http://www.freshford.com/charmouth_home.htm) for others to enjoy, especially their descendants. We are fortunate as usual that our famous local historian, Reginald Pavey, was able at the time to add names to these men. I have since been able to locate the Electoral Roll in the Dorset Record Office for that year and found the addresses of where they lived. It also showed that there were 664 people able to vote in that year, with a secondary list of 74 men who were in the services. This has spurred me on to research all available information from books and residents who lived then to build up a picture of how the village may have appeared at that time. Ron and Jean Dampier have been especially helpful with their insights.

Charmouth had originally a defensive role, but as the war went on this became offensive and the village adapted accordingly, leading up to the D-Day landings. Many of the village men were called away to the armed services and the women were drawn into essential industries and farm work and there was also the arrival of the evacuees. Even as early as 1939, British troops were billeted in the village who were concerned with coastal defence. Preparations were badly needed as the area around Lyme Regis was where Hitler planned to invade, as it provided a springboard towards Bristol. In May 1940 the concrete anti-tank blocks were built along the shore, as well as Pillboxes at Black Ven, in front of the old cement works, and another on the other side of the river at the shoreline. Others were built at Seadown, on Lower Sea Lane where the new school stands, on Higher Sea Lane by the top of the old allotments, and at Five Acre field, at the rear of Jasmine Cottage, which has miraculously survived to this day.

There would also be a Searchlight in the field next to the wooden bridge and an anti-aircraft battery on the outskirts of the village at Lily Farm.

Fred Welsh who served in the D company 9th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry, was involved with the defences and tells how they had to remove everyone from the Caravan Park with just 24 hours' notice. They laid masses of barbed wire, which the local Coastguard warned them was too near the shore. He was proved right one night after a storm and they had to re-lay it further back. Fred also had to patrol along the beach, but was later given telephone duty at Thalatta, where they were based, in case they received the call for a German invasion which, thankfully, was never to come. His duties included manning the road blocks and gate to the beach. Rest periods were spent at the army barracks in Bridport.

Very few images have survived of Charmouth during the Second World War, but there is an aerial photograph taken soon after in 1946, which is very useful. Many of the fields between The Street and the beach were divided up into allotments. It also shows the line of anti-tank concrete blocks, known as the 'Dragons Teeth', stretching along the shore. They were originally joined together by metal poles to prevent tanks moving inland to the main Road. A few have survived and can be seen today. The cliffs and neighbouring fields were mined, and one sad result of this was when a Cow stepped on one at Stonebarrow and was blown up, which was later recorded in an illustration for The Dorset Women's Institute Book. There were to be frequent dog fights overhead during the Battle of Britain. Bridport was to have two bombing raids in 1942, resulting in 20 houses being destroyed and seven deaths. In the same year, a listening post was built at the top of Stonebarrow Lane, where translators intercepted the radio communications between German aircraft as they crossed the coast. But the Radar Station fell over the cliff almost as soon as it was built and can still be seen today at the bottom of the cliff.

The School Log Book documents events as they unfolded in the village as the war went on. Trenches were being planned in the field behind it even before the war had started. The arrival of evacuees from Paddington, then a poor part of London, was another significant chapter in the village's history. The lack of space meant that they were to have to convert a pavilion behind the school for additional space. They were mainly to stay with families at the bottom end of the village, which was to create a degree of rivalry with village children at the top. The most tragic entries concern Mr Thornton, a teacher, who came with the evacuees in September 1939, and who is shown to have had his house bombed in January 1941. The following year he was called up and was killed in action in Italy on 23 Nov 1943.

Thalatta is the nearest house to the beach and was commandeered by the army in 1940 and was to be briefly occupied by 12 men and a Lieutenant who had a 2-pounder gun mounted on the back of an old lorry. Derrick Warren, who as a boy spent his holidays in a caravan at the neighbouring Red Bungalow owned by his Aunt, provides a vivid picture of those times as follows:

"At two o'clock in the morning of 5th September, I was awakened (the caravan doors were open) by the noise of the troops being called out. I went over and was told invasion was imminent and would I go up on the cliff with the Lieutenant and act as a runner. The sea was dead calm and with a bright moon the conditions were ideal as there was also a slight haze. I remember thinking 'that is it'. But the Germans never came for it was a false alarm - not an exercise. Later I saw my first German Plane shot down, from the cliff top above Cains Folly. After the dog fight three crewmen jumped - two parachutes opened, the third 'candled'. An RAF rescue launch came out from Lyme and picked them all up. A Chard doctor, Dr. Granvill, pronounced one dead and he is buried in Lyme Cemetery. The Lieutenant in charge at Charmouth was a keen swimmer and

had a hole left in the defences so that he could get to the beach. I was also allowed to use it and had the whole beach to myself (Golden Cap to Lyme!) but on the strict understanding I did not go up the cliffs, for many were mined. For days on end I never saw a soul and never wore a stitch!" The Home Guard positions on the East Cliff could cover the beach and they later had a 5-pounder installed there with a limited number of shells.

The area between The Street and the beach was mainly fields with just a few houses. The largest was Hammonds Mead, to be found at the end of a long drive, at the bottom of Lower Sea Lane. Here lived the elderly Miss Gertrude Evans, who generously gave the Parish Council in 1945 a number of adjoining fields as long as they were never built on. She was a staunch supporter of the Mission to Seamen and each year had a Fete there that raised money for that charity. On the opposite side to her house could be found the Wayside Tea Gardens which was run by Florence and Martha Kempster. The most significant building in the lane was the old School. Its Log Book is held at the Record Office in Dorchester and is very revealing of how events at the time impinged on the children's lives. The most interesting are as follows:

1938

29th Sept Instructions for Air Raid Precautions in schools were sent to all schools.

5th Oct An Education Official visited the school to enquire into plans for the provision of A.R.P. trenches in the field behind the school.

1939

21st Sept some evacuees began to return home.

9th Oct Doctor and nurse inspected evacuees and found one verminous head and two cases of impetigo.

23rd Oct Air Raid Drill taken.

1940

31st May Meeting to consider Air Raid Precautions. Children to lie on the floor under the desks. Cellophane strips on windows and fine mesh wire fitted to all windows, skylights and glass doors.

17th July County Architect visited the school to discuss the possibility of constructing trenches in the school playing field.

29th August Children picking and selling blackberries to augment the school contribution towards the Spitfire which Dorset hoped to provide.

17th Oct Children taken to gather acorns for pig keepers.

1941

13th Jan Mr. Thornton returned to London. His house had been bombed.

5th Feb Respirators inspected by A.R.P. Wardens.

20th May Letter from Dorset Education Committee regarding holidays, and children helping in hay, corn and potato harvesting. Letter should be sent to local farmers asking for their requirements and stating terms on which children might be employed.

22nd May In connection with the War Weapons Week at 3.00p.m. the children formed a procession at the top of the hill and marched to the Playing Field where Children's Sports were held.

12th Sept Use of school by troops for weekly dance - month's trial.

1942

6th Jan Mr. Thornton joined His Majesty's Forces

27th March At 3.00 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. a Warship Week Entertainment was given in the school. Most of the children took part. £12.15.0d given to Exchequer.

1st May A discussion of behaviour of troops at dances. Mr. Toyne interviewed the C.O. and asked for the attendance of a senior N.C.O. at dances.

1st Sept 18 children sent flax pulling at Befferlands Farm, and for the following four afternoons at 8d per hour.

21st Sept Classes 1 & 2 picked rose hips in the afternoon. 31 lbs were sent to Bristol.

25th Nov Architect called to discuss Air Raid Shelters.

7th Dec A.R.P. to be notified daily of attendances. Anyone hiring school must provide own fuel. Military occupied Church Hall.

1943

29th March Annual report on teachers made by Head Teacher. Managers commented on Head. Easter holiday to be fixed to coincide with potato planting. Other holidays to be fixed at short notice, with reference to local individual needs. Mrs. Little expressed regret that children were paid for agricultural work when they should be encouraged to give willing help to their country.

27th May Mayor of Bridport presented Certificate awarded to the school for the part played in the successful H.M.S. Dorsetshire Replacement Campaign. School contributed £245.7.6d

11th June The school target for Wings Week was £80. £160 was raised.

10th Nov School meals commenced. A mobile canteen brought hot meals from the Bridport Centre.

1st Dec The Commanding Officer of the American Forces Company stationed in Charmouth gave a talk on America. The children thanked him for the 30 lbs of sweets the Americans had given them.

1944

11th Jan 2nd Lt. Thornton, who came to the school in Sept. 1939 in charge of the evacuees from Paddington, was killed in action in Italy on 23rd Nov 1943.

20th March Holiday dates to be fixed by County for school meals and transport. Still some flexibility to fit in potato harvesting.

19th June The school raised £350 towards 'Salute the Soldier' week.

26th June Two official evacuees from London readmitted. They left London to escape the danger of Pilotless (V1) airplanes.

1945

7th May The Cessation of Hostilities was officially announced on the Monday evening.

8th May Tuesday was V.E. Day. School closed for two days.

9th July Last official evacuee returned home.

4th Sept Parish Council asks Managers to organise a victory tea.

Ron Dampier, who lived in Bridge Road with his mother Gladys whilst his father Donald was in the services, remembers many of the events highlighted in the Log Book and his insights bring it to life. He and a number of his class created a wonderful display with model boats and a backcloth which went into his grandfather's shop window at 'Charmouth Stores' to raise money towards replacing "HMS Dorsetshire", for which the school contributed £245.7.6d. When the mobile canteens arrived at the school the children had to eat meals consisting of beetroot, cabbage and luncheon meat. He can remember how they were kept busy picking berries, rosehips and acorns as part of the war effort. Most of the boys and girls spent time in their summer holidays on local farms. Flax for rope making was still grown in a number of fields and the children would assist in pulling it. He would also help in the making of nets and pullthroughs which were used for cleaning rifle bores, which many villagers took on as outworkers.

Opposite the school were the tennis courts, which were initially covered with tents for the British soldiers but later with Nissen Huts with the arrival of the



American soldiers in 1943. They had a field kitchen block next to the Church Hall (Community Hall) which was popular with village children for hand-outs from the cooks.

In those days the entrance to Lower Sea Lane was very narrow and it was not until 1958, when a house named 'Sandfords' was demolished by the council, that it was able to be widened. During the war this was the house occupied by Colonel William Little who established the Local Defence Volunteers (L.D.V.) in the village. The platoon of between 20 and 24 men consisted of World War 1 veterans, youngsters awaiting call up and men not in reserved operations. The Charmouth platoon was based at the Women's Institute Hall, then situated just below the George on the opposite side of the road. The name of the force was later changed to the Home Guard. Looking at the faces in the accompanying photograph, it is easy to compare them with the more famous 'Dads Army'.

On the opposite corner to Sandfords was 'Bragg's Store' (now the Chemist), run by James and Elsie Bragg as a Grocers. The shop had formerly been the workshop for Pussey Pryer who had operated a stonemason's yard there until his death in 1931 when the adjoining field, then known as Pear Close, was developed by Bagshaw of Axminster and a number of businesses established on it. Amongst them was The Pharmacy (now the Florist), run by Sidney Herbert who was also a Sergeant in the local Home Guard and in time became Chairman of the Parish Council. Then there was Charles Fewster, the hairdressers and Lloyds Bank (now the Bank House café). Billy Gear operated his garage on the next plot. He lived with his wife in Uphill, a house they had built next to the garage. His showroom was to become a gift shop (now the Fish Bar), run by his wife. Unfortunately the war was to have a devastating effect on his business and

half his premises were requisitioned by the American Army. But, true to form, he decided to assist the returning British soldiers by organising a fund raising auction with contributions from both him and other villagers. With this money he held a special celebration and presented each man with a wallet with a substantial amount to help them.

If you were to walk a little further along The Street, you would have come to the famous 'Queens Armes', which had been a hotel run by Edward Harrison. On the opposite side would have been the ancient 'George Inn', whose landlords were Edward and Edith Hunter. The large imposing building known as Devonedge was being run as a hotel by William Upton. Nearby was a paper dump where the villagers would collect waste paper which was then recycled. The parade of shops has seen many changes since the war. The Post Office on the corner was then Thomsons, which was a general drapers and outfitters. Then came Dunns (now the Estate Agents), which was an art and craft shop run at that time by Hillary O'Connor. Adjoining it was a bakery and confectioners run by Harold Bert Smith, which had a large gold sign for Hovis covering its frontage. Finally there was George Restorick, who ran his butchers from the premises and which now form part of Morgans, who was also a member of the Home Guard.

At the rear of the shops were the Playing Fields which were always popular with children with its swings and seesaw. Once a year the Fete was held there with such delights as hoop-la, a bran tub and children's sports. On the corner of Barr's Lane was 'The Limes' (now Charmouth Lodge) where the Whittington family had lived from the beginning of the century. Mrs Whittington and her five daughters were very involved with the church, the tennis club and their private school. None of the five daughters married and the longest surviving, Winnie and Joan, lived

into their 90s. Their school was housed in the building now called 'Little Lodge'. A passageway at the side led to 'The Star Inn', then run by Ruby Saville during the war years. On the corner was 'The Charmouth Store', which was a grocers owned by William Dampier, since 1918. His son Donald (Ron's father) was in the Army and his wife, Gladys, was to assist in the shop. William was to tragically lose one son, Ronald, whose name appears on the War Memorial, sited near 'The Royal Oak'. The stone cross has a plaque for those who died for their country from the village in the First World War, but later those from the Second World War were added on an additional plaque. The church also has a Book of Remembrance for those who served in both wars. It is particularly poignant to see the Newton family who lived on Old Lyme Hill and lost a son in the earlier conflict and two members in the later war.

Opposite the church Reginald Forsey could be found running Backland's Dairy, whose cows passing down the street to be milked would have been a regular sight. The Coach and Horses, now converted into apartments, was the village's largest hotel, then run by Albert Hebidge. Alongside it was Winton House, Charmouth's second butchers - Framptons, which was run by two brothers Reub and Ron. They moved there in 1938 when they bought the butchers from Cecil Marsh. Both served in the Home Guard and appear in the group photograph. Just as the brothers were beginning to feel their feet in their business at Charmouth, war broke out and things became difficult for everyone, with the meat ration about 1/- to 1/6d (5p to 8p) worth per week per person.

William and Edith Holly lived in Wistaria House, which had formerly been the village Post Office, but during the war their shop was run as a stationers. Nearby was The Royal Oak Inn, which was managed by John and Annie Rump during the war years.

On the corner of Higher Sea Lane was Charmouth House, which had long been a hotel. At the beginning of the war it was being run by Gwendoline Ransford, whose husband Robert was serving in India as a Gunner Instructor in the Royal Artillery, and was not to arrive back until late in 1946. The lane alongside was then more of a track, lined with a number of fields and the odd house dotted along it. Foxley Farm had its fields stretching at the back as far as Old Lyme Hill, and was farmed by Fred Cox, who had his house and outbuildings behind The Street. The largest building was Sea Horse House, which had no doubt been requisitioned. The 1946 aerial photograph for the village shows the path through the fields, which was later to become the road now called Five Acres. A Pillbox was built in part of this and survives in the garden at the rear of Jasmine Cottage. Thalatta, at the bottom of Higher Sea Lane, had been bought in 1937 by Sydney Barrett. He

was to go on to be Winston Churchill's scientific advisor. It was his backing of Barnes Wallis's Bouncing Bomb, which was tested nearby at Chesil Beach, that convinced Churchill of its viability.

Returning to The Street, one would have found a number of businesses at the top end, all of which have since disappeared. The largest was Long's (now Melville House) It had opened in 1937 as a grocery business and was in time the village Post Office. Nora and Ellis Long were very active in the village for over 30 years and during the war he was an Incident Officer with the Civil Defence Corps. Over the road was another little grocery business run by Arthur and Lilian Cabell called 'Knapp Stores'. Ernie Hutchings was a cobbler living and working from Granville House. Next door was Childs, a hardware store (now the fossil shop). Further along The Street was a coal yard opposite Nutcombe Terrace, run by Spencer Gollop. The Singing Kettle was very popular and next to it was the New Inn, whose landlord was William Tyson. Cecil, brother of Billy Gear, ran his family fish business in The Street, near its junction with Old Lyme Road. He was seriously affected by the lack of fish during the war, and his life was tragically cut short in 1944 at the early age of 48.

The famous historian, Reginald Pavey, was to spend his war years at The Well Head in this part of The Street.

Once the US entered the war, there was a big American presence in the village. They were very generous with chewing gum, chocolate bars, coca cola and sweets for the children and nylons for the older girls. The school log book records that on 1st December 1943 that the Commanding Officer of the American Forces Company stationed in Charmouth gave a talk on America and goes on to mention the 30 lbs of sweets that he gave to the children. There were regular parties and dances to the regimental band, which proved very popular with the younger villagers. By the end of January 1944, almost a million American GIs were crammed into southern England, before they left for Normandy. Operation Overlord was the code name for the mightiest seaborne invasion in history.

Sadly, many of the Americans who had been billeted in Charmouth were to land on Omaha beach which was sown with mines. Over 2,000 were killed there on the first day. The men of the 66th Infantry Division, the second great American force, were stationed in Charmouth,

following the departure of the 1st Infantry Division. A number of them were to die when their ship, The Leopoldville, was torpedoed, with the loss of 798 lives. Fatalities were also heavy amongst the British troops and the War Memorial has the name of Laurie Webster inscribed on it. He went ashore on Gold Beach with the 1st Battalion of the Dorsetshire Regiment at Asnelles, and was killed in action in front of Caen shortly after.

Again, the school log book records the unfolding of events in 1945, when on 7th May it shows "The Cessation of Hostilities was officially announced on the Monday evening". The following day was V.E. Day and the school was closed for two days. Later, on 9th July, the last official evacuee returns home. Finally, on 9th September, a Victory Tea was organised.

I hope this article gives a taster of the village's history during the Second World War. You can find more on my website. www.freshford.com/charmouthwartime There are also many books on Dorset during the war and the Imperial War Museum has a website which you will find useful.

Neil Mattingly

THE WARTIME HOUSEWIFE

"Dear Madam,

There is no need for me to remind you of the difficulties and problems which will confront you, as a housewife, in your home cooking this year. Like all women, you are going to make a good job of 'defending the home front'. You will want to have a special wartime plan of action – you will want to meet new conditions by new methods and contribute to the Ministry of Food's Economy effort."

This directive is from a World War II recipe book and contains a collection of recipes to help the housewife in her difficult task of utilising her rations to the best advantage. It also gives hints on wartime economy: "Use a three-tier steamer so that complete meals can be cooked on one burner; make a haybox

and save fuel; use surplus dripping in place of margarine for cakes made by the rubbing-in method; and joints of meat lose less weight during cooking if they are stewed or boiled instead of fried or baked." Here's a recipe from the book:

Sugarless Cake

½lb self-raising flour, pinch of salt, ¼lb margarine, 1 heaped teaspoon caraway seeds or ½ teaspoonful ground ginger or mixed spice or 4 oz chopped dates, 2 eggs, ¾ gill of milk.

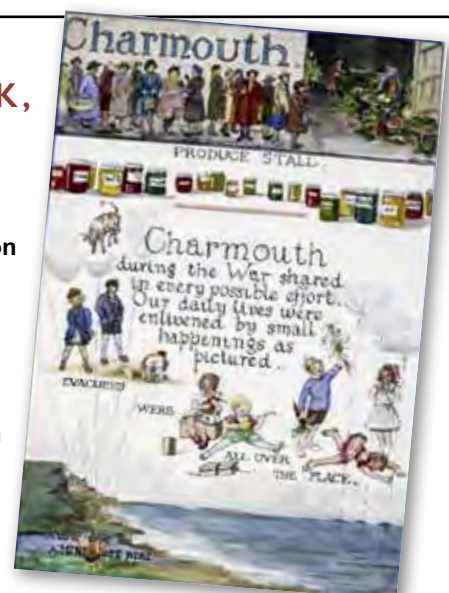
Sieve the flour and salt into a basin and rub in the margarine, then add the caraway seeds. Beat the eggs, add them and the milk, and beat thoroughly. Place the mixture in a lined 6" cake tin and bake for one hour in a moderately hot oven. Regulo 4.

THE DORSET FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES' WAR RECORD BOOK, 1939-1945

Initiated by the Dorset Federation of Women's Institutes at the end of the war and created by their members, this treasure of a book is a celebration of the significant contributions made by women during World War II. In a combination of text and detailed illustrations, it depicts women in their different roles – working in the services, in industry and on the land. The page relating to Charmouth (pictured) shows women queuing to buy vegetables, Women's Institute members' home-made preserves, the care of evacuees and the unfortunate cow that stepped on a mine and exploded.

The page from the Dorset Women's Institute's War Record Book is reproduced with the permission of the Dorset Federation of the WI. The original document is held at the Dorset History Centre and bears the reference W19.

Lesley Dunlop



News from St. Andrew's Church

It's been a tough few months for us at St. Andrew's Church. I've written before about the various problems with our building fabric and structure. We have been able to undertake some repair work to our aisle roofs at considerable cost, which has reduced our reserves. We would have liked to go ahead with some work on the interior, but decided that our limited reserves would be needed to deal with the problems of damp, due to the poor stonework and drainage (going back to when the church was originally built in the 19th century).

Our worst fears have been realised in our new Architect's Report produced in June this year. He details a list of 25 urgent works requiring immediate attention, 27 more works to be carried out over the next 18 months, and five further significant works to be carried out within the next five years. The total sums required are in the region of £250,000. In addition, if we wish (as we do) to make this building attractive for use by our church and wider community, then a further £150,000 would be his best estimate! All this from a small congregation averaging 15 – 20 people per week!!

Such sums of money are way beyond our reserves to fund repairs and renovations. We do not receive any financial assistance from the central funds of the Church of England either in our Diocese of Salisbury or through our London H.Q. Church Commissioners. Even if the Rectory in Georges Close was sold (it is currently being rented out), the proceeds would not go to the local church. All the assets of the Church of England are either in churches or churchyards or are held as legally necessary reserves for clergy pensions or other liabilities upon the church, or the income used to help the poorer dioceses of the Church of England (e.g. Liverpool, Manchester) to survive.

This situation is not something we face years into the future, but right now! Over the summer months we have had to deal with the rapid advance of dry rot because of the winter's exceptional wet ingress. Contractors have been brought in to prevent its spread further into the main body of the church from the rear room and west end. The dry rot fungus has spread so much that we have had to remove the carpet and floor in the rear area, all the cupboards (except the kitchen units) and the toilet. We have had to cut off the water supply for safety reasons, although power to the organ has been restored. The fungal growths in the walls and floor have been treated but there is still much work to be done.

So, we have had to close off the rear room of the church for the foreseeable future. The back rows of the main nave are now full of chairs, books, china and other assorted items! In short the west end of the church looks a mess – despite our best attempts to make things look neat and tidy! This has been very demoralising for our congregation and our summer visitors.

However, I must strongly emphasise that our church of St. Andrew's is still open for our regular worship and Services for the community! We have found a way to still serve coffee after our 9.30am Sunday Services – despite the need to now import our water supply! We aim to continue with our successful 'Free Xchange Cafes', and a proposed new Community Service beginning at 3pm on 16th November. The Remembrance Sunday and Christmas Carol Services on 9th November, and 14th December respectively will also take place, even if we are rather squashed in!

So, what is going to happen? The only realistic source of income to meet these costs is "The Heritage Lottery Fund". I

have already completed a "Project Enquiry Form" online and successfully argued through the initial phase. However, the first main stage is far more complicated and will require a small group of people, not only from the church but also wider community, to work hard to obtain the £250,000 that we will be needing. The National Lottery expects the church to give plenty of evidence that it has a building and resource that will benefit and enhance the community in the longer term. The areas of potential are in terms of education (young and older), history (local and religious), culture (concerts and exhibitions) and spirituality (new forms of accessible worship).

So, we decided to hold a vitally important meeting open to the whole community, at 7.30pm on Tuesday 30th September in St. Andrew's. Sadly, Shoreline will appear after this meeting date, and those of you who attended will of course know the outcome by the time you read this article! A letter

was hand delivered to every house in the parish to explain the situation in detail, and invite you to attend – we hope very much that you received one! The Archdeacon, Paul Taylor, was due to attend, and speak into this situation and answer questions. The future existence of Charmouth Parish Church (e.g. for funerals, weddings and christenings in your family), will be ultimately at stake. We hoped that people would come ready-prepared to suggest ways in which they can offer practical help towards our continuance as one of the most significant buildings in the village of Charmouth. We are looking for people of positive good-will, prepared to join us in piecing together a new 21st Century future for the building and Christian faith in the village that it represents.

Of course all monetary donations are welcome (small or large) – but we need even more your prayers, goodwill, practical support, expertise, time and energy for this very big task. I'm told that other churches in similar communities have been successful in forging a new and vibrant future – so if our motivation is high and we can form a strong working Appeal Committee, then we can be confident of also succeeding in this venture of faith, with God's help!

FORTHCOMING DATES:

12th October: Charmouth & Catherston Churches joint Harvest Lunch, following 9.30am Harvest Festival Service at St. Andrew's Church. Lunch time is 12.30pm for 1pm in the Village Hall on Wesley Close. Advance tickets needed from Pauline Berridge or the Pharmacy.

8th November: Free XChange Café 10am – Noon in St. Andrew's Church.

9th November: Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service, 10.45am and 11am.

16th November: First of our new "Heartbeat Charmouth" Services: 3pm in St. Andrew's Church.

29th November: Christmas Bazaar in the Community Hall on Lower Sea Lane. 10am – 1.30pm. Coffee & cake, soup & ploughman's lunches available.

14th December: Christmas Carol Service at St. Andrew's. 6.30pm.

Revd Stephen Skinner, Team Rector



Charmouth Central

Isn't Nature Wonderful?

For some time, the garden around Charmouth Central looked a pretty sorry sight. The weather over winter had made it impossible to begin its transformation. Fortunately, spring was benign and the change since April has been remarkable. Thanks to the many plant contributions, by invitation spaced haphazardly by their donors, the Wild Garden has...gone wild. One visitor commented, "You have all been very clever to get the mauve and purple colour-scheme together as you have." No-one quite liked to tell her that this was by sheer chance as even the colour of the bench was dictated by the leftover paint the donor found in his shed.

This part of the garden is already home to birds, bees, butterflies and....is it a snake or a slow-worm? Reports say that the brown/grey slitherer is too long to be a slow-worm but the terrain is not really right for a rare smooth snake. In any case, both are harmless.

This is a sensory garden – so have all the senses been catered for? Sight and smell – of course – with more to come when the shrubs and climbers reach maturity. Sound – yes, the trickling fountain and buzzing bees. Taste – help yourself to the herbs and wild strawberries, just leave some for others. Touch – explore the many different textures of wood, leaves, petals, stones and feel free to take out a weed or two as you pass by....please! Suggestions for more? Please let the Committee know via the website but, in the meanwhile, do come and enjoy this little oasis in the heart of Charmouth.....and you can even have a cup of tea or coffee for an additional sensory experience.

MOSAICS GALORE SO WHAT MORE?

On three successive Saturdays in August, the Servery was host to Mosaic Workshops. The first of these was quite quiet but the last was ... manic. Alan and Hazel Robinson had prepared for ten participants but seventeen arrived, all eager to make a mosaic stepping stone for the garden. Somehow, everyone shuffled up, shared spaces, took turns and produced some beautiful designs. All ages were represented, from small children to pensioners.

Perhaps this means there is a need for more workshops and more activities of this kind in Charmouth. The Committee will be trying to introduce more participatory events so suggestions are welcome and anyone willing to put on such events on either a voluntary or commercial basis is invited to make contact through the website.

Some new activities will already have started by the time Shoreline is published so please look out for our Newsletter (printed copies in the library or join our e-mail list), the library noticeboard and the village noticeboard. It is hoped that Digital

Photography, Calligraphy, Crafts, Introduction to Family History, Rant Rage & Rave discussion group and a Friday Cake Club will be added to the activities already taking place. The Sewing Circle which meets on Tuesday mornings has space for more members. If you have not already signed up, please ask in Charmouth Central for more details of how to join in.

THE CONSTANT CRY

More volunteers needed! It has been a struggle to keep the library open over the summer. With holidays, grandchildren, the odd illness and so on, even our brilliant team of volunteers cannot always keep to their usual shift patterns and there are fewer able to substitute for absentees. The garden too needs more volunteers to keep everything looking good. Can you help if only now and then? If so, please pick up a Volunteer Registration Pack from Charmouth Central for the library and servery and contact Hazel Robinson for the garden....you don't know just how welcome you will be to join the teams!

CHARMOUTH CENTRAL AGM 2014

The Annual General Meeting of Charmouth Central will be held on Friday, 24 October, at 6.00 p.m. in Charmouth Central and is expected to last for only about an hour. Please come! Last year, there were only just enough attendees to make a quorum.

More Committee members are desperately needed. Hazel Robinson will not stand for re-election as Chair this year, having completed her promised three-year stint. The Committee does not believe in long meetings, mostly communicates by e-mail and thinks that the work which has been involved in setting up Charmouth Central should now move to a new, less-intense, phase of consolidation. It would be a great pity to see this enterprise fall apart for the lack of successors to steer it. Please stand for election – Chair and Committee are Members needed.

GOODBYE AND ALL THAT – a personal message from Hazel Robinson, Chair of Charmouth Central

I've thoroughly enjoyed being Chair of Friends of Charmouth Library and Charmouth Central Ltd over the past three years but enough is enough! For me, the setting-up of a project is what gets me energised and then it really needs someone far more steady, reliable and consistent to keep it going safely into the future.

It has all been a massive team effort. It would be impossible to name everyone who has made Charmouth Central the asset it has become to our village so I won't try but I would like to thank you all for your generosity, help and support and wish the enterprise and everyone individually very best wishes for the future. LONG LIVE THE LIBRARY!

www.charmouthvillagelibrary.org.uk



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Mosaic stepping stones in place



The Tuesday Sewing Circle's quilt handmade for Monday Rhymetime children to sit on

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Charmouth Ale

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Celebrating Lyme Regis' close links with Charmouth, we produce ale for the village.



Brewed using Maris Otter Pale Ale Malt along with Cascade and Bobek hops, our Charmouth Ale is golden ale with a very refreshing, citrus aroma and flavour.

While it's very tasty on its own, it also matches perfectly with lighter dishes such as chicken or fish, and as a bottle-conditioned beer; its flavours will mature and develop over time. Ideal for summer, but delicious all year round, this beer is also suitable for vegetarians and vegans and of course, real ale lovers. It is currently exclusively available from Charmouth Stores and we hope that both holidaymakers and residents will like it.

Richard Surtees

Sarah Smith – Piano Teacher



I moved to Charmouth at the end of 2006 and set up my teaching business from August 2007. I have been teaching piano here for seven years and have been very lucky to teach many wonderful pupils over this time. It is a pleasure to discover what type of music different children, young people and adults enjoy playing and help them to build up their skills as pianists.

We have had three concerts and are preparing for our fourth in November, which gives the pupils the opportunity to perform their chosen pieces to a supportive audience of parents, relatives and local friends.

I encourage pupils to do the exams of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, as I find they work well when a goal is in sight, and when they receive their certificate they feel a great sense of achievement. Practical exams really test your confidence in your ability,

and it is natural (and unavoidable) to be nervous beforehand, but the candidate will know that they have prepared thoroughly for the exam and that they are capable of passing the exam and playing their pieces well. Once in the exam room and sitting at the piano, they will settle down very quickly and focus on what has to be done and will even enjoy the exam, and the time does go very quickly! Colyton Grammar School is a popular venue for most of our exams, but we use exam centres in Exeter or Dorchester if the pupils prefer those.

The exams cover scales, arpeggios and broken chords, a sight-reading test, listening exercises and three pieces which the pupil has chosen and prepared from the exam syllabus. Alongside the practical side of the piano, we study theory up to Grade 5. You need to pass Grade 5 Theory before you can progress to Grade 6 Practical. Much of the theory is relevant to the level of pieces the pupil will be studying, and so it is worth spending time on theory as well as playing the piano.

The music we play is often classical but also contemporary, songs from Disney films and popular music, and I like to include some jazz as it involves improvising. Some pupils choose to do the jazz exams, but they study the major and minor keys and primary chords first before they can move towards the jazz scales and more elaborate chords. Another aspect is making up tunes in a chosen key – the pupil plays a melody and I accompany them. This will lead on to them harmonising their own melodies as they become more ambitious with their music.

Having attended a number of courses run by the Associated Board in London, I have found that teaching with an holistic approach means that I can find which

method taps into the pupil's natural learning strengths. However, I encourage students to get skilled at reading music as I believe that this makes one "music literate" and is the best way of learning a piece. Once the notes, rhythm and phrasing are mastered, we can then add the dynamics and articulation and bring the piece to life. So in effect we draw the pencil outline and then once happy with that, we take our brush and paint in the colours!

Previously, when living in Corfu with a Corfiot musician who owned a musical instrument shop in the old part of Corfu Town, I was in a duo with a Sicilian guitarist playing in the evenings at a hotel in Kommeno Bay - a fabulous job! For two years here, I was the pianist in a local swing band, Swing of the Axe, which was great fun and quite a challenge, and now I have teamed up with a talented flautist, Carolyn Fry, and we are putting together an interesting repertoire of pieces. I feel very fortunate to be a musician, and am grateful that I was given the chance to have piano lessons from an early age and that it has led to so much enjoyment in my work and leisure time.

The pianoforte is such a beautiful and powerful instrument and it can take many years before you feel truly in control of it. But it is well worth the time and effort and once the groundwork has been covered, the depth of the music will become apparent. Then pupils get a great sense of playing their favourite pieces and learn to really listen to their own playing with a critical ear, making adjustments and allowing the music in. When a piece is played musically, it is taken into our hearts and triggers our emotions. And that is when we know we are really playing music!

Sarah Smith

Remember - The deadline for copy for the Shoreline winter / spring issue is 5th January 2015.



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FAMILY, WARTIME AND GROWING UP IN CHARMOUTH – JOHN FORSEY

John Winthrop Forsey's ancestors have lived in Charmouth since the mid-1800s. Born in the village in 1944 when his parents were living at No 3 Hillside on The Street, John has no memory of his father. "During the war Dad was an Anti-Aircraft Gunner in the Royal Artillery, 9th Anti-Aircraft Battalion, but he was posted to the Seaforth Highlanders when there was a need for additional infantrymen. He died of heatstroke in India and was buried at Kirkee War Cemetery, just outside Poona."

An only child, John was brought up by his profoundly deaf mother, Kathleen, who was in the Land Army during World War II; his maternal grandfather, Winthrop Henry Eliot; and his mother's unmarried sister, Mary, whose American boyfriend had been killed on D-Day. "Grandad was also stone deaf, so he didn't serve in World War I", notes John. "His son drowned in the river Char in the late 1930s. Others have drowned there in my memory. The clay gets scoured by the river and undercut and, if you go beneath that undercut, you don't come up again. We never played there as kids."



Grandad Winthrop, great grandmother Katherine, great Aunt Kate & great grandfather Henry c1890

"Before the advent of electricity, granddad used to rent out valve radios and charge batteries for people in the village and the surrounding area. During the war he did all the rabbiting on the Pass estate. He had permission, as my family is connected to the Pass family. They'd trade the rabbits with the Yanks for tinned ham and tinned pineapple. The Whites were also related to us by marriage. The Reverend Edmund White



Rev Edmund White, Rector of Catherston & Mrs White. Photo taken at rear of 'Albury House'

was Rector at Catherston. He and his wife lived at 'The Cottage', later 'Albury House' on The Street in the late 1800s.



Granddad Winthrop with his fishing boat and outboard twin cylinder motorboat engine, 1946

"Grandad had the first outboard motor on the beach in 1936. I've still got it. In those days the fishermen would sweep their nets for mackerel and everyone would join in, pulling in the nets back on the shore. A man stood on the cliffs looking out for the shoals on the surface and would direct the fishermen with arm signals while they shot the nets round. Half the village would be there; it was free food. When I was a kid, the Heritage Centre was an empty storeroom which we used for changing when we went swimming. The fishermen used the top floor to string their nets and the disassembled beach huts were stored there every winter."

"I remember the dirt road between the cliff and the sea. The village men had potato plots up there and brought the seaweed from the beach to fertilise the crops. Before I was born, Grandad had a withy (willow) bed there, which he used to weave lobster pots. It's one of the only wicker baskets worth weaving. You start with a round log with 6 - 10 holes in it and you stick your starter withies in there. You weave the neck first, because that goes down inside the pot, then you curl it over and take it off before completing the base."

"My dad's brother, Uncle George, was in the 2nd Battalion Dorsets and served in India. He was a boxing champion. He went with the British Expeditionary Force to France and saw the Lancastria being bombed just outside the harbour at St. Nazaire. After he came home, he did his motorcycle despatch rider course at Blandford Camp and ended up as a despatch rider with the Inns of Court Regiment. Post-war, he did all the milk deliveries in Charmouth. Philip, his son, now runs the taxi business, while his other son Jim runs a dairy shop at Chagford in Devon."

"My maternal great great grandfather, John Eliot, lived in what is now the Fernhill Hotel in the 1880s. He became a General in the Bengal Army, an Honourable East India Company Regiment. His son Henry started a ranch in Nebraska which was adjacent to

Buffalo Bill's ranch. He helped to finance the visit to England of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show in 1887, which Queen Victoria appreciated. I didn't know where my great great grandfather was buried until my aunt died and I looked through her papers. There I found a letter from Charmouth historian Reginald Pavey's mother, indicating that my aunt had played the organ for "the old General's funeral at Monkton Wyld Church."



Great great grandfather John, taken in India c1860

"I was born in 1944 and went to the Limes School, or 'Winniewhites', as we called it, at Little Lodge in The Street. We had our lunches at the main house next door. The Whittington sisters, our teachers, tried to make us talk in French during lunch... we were only five or six years of age. The Church Hall (Community Hall) was heavily controlled by the sisters; no alcoholic drink was allowed, but there was a lot of dancing, Christmas parties and plays; similar to what happens today."

"Nellie Meade, Head of my Junior School in Lower Sea Lane, was a character. She wore her hair in two buns – one over each ear. I remember when Grant Edwards collected ashes from people's fires with his horse and cart. If the horse did its business outside, Miss Mead got us to rush off for the bucket and shovel and collect the manure. Then, when there was a big storm and seaweed came onto the beach, we all had to go down and carry buckets of it back to school. She was a very keen gardener. She'd take us in her old car to Fernhill to pick up fallen leaves for compost; probably a left-over from the war."

"In those days, children went out into the fields. There were no youth clubs and certainly none of this iPad stuff. We'd go bird nesting, which is frowned upon now, and we'd go in the river by Barrs Fields and lift up stones to see which bugs lived underneath them. We played tennis at



The Limes School, late 1940s. John is in the front row clutching 'Edward bear', with Misses Dolly and Winnie Whittington.

the playing fields. We made bows and arrows, and we sharpened up nails for the ends of the arrows. One night we had a mock battle and I had to deflect the arrows with a home-made shield. Imagine what modern day parents would say to that! We went fossiling and prawning – no one goes prawning here now. We spent hours on the ledges at night. When I was young, the village was quite different. There were plenty of regimental people living here. Engineer Rear Admiral Sir Frederick Turner lived next door; then there were four brigadiers, majors, captains, etc.”

“When we were older, we graduated to air rifles and went out shooting. We got accused of shooting one of John Hunter’s pigs that was behind the George, but none of us had the right calibre. It was a bullet from a .22 rifle that shot the pig.”

“I enjoyed being an Army cadet. We had good instructors. The Captain was a chap called Curtis and he was assisted by ‘Chalky’ White, an ex-war-time paratrooper. He took a keen interest in the cadets. We went to the rifle range at Symondsburry, at the farm on the hill. Two cadets would run across to the A35 with red flags and stop the traffic when we were ready... then we would shoot 1,000 yards with .303 Lee Enfield rifles. Can you

imagine all that happening now?”

“I left Lyme Regis Grammar School at 15 with no qualifications. The headmaster was astounded when I told him I was going to join the police. I was a Metropolitan Police Cadet until I was 18 years of age; then I went out on attachment. After completing the Criminal Law course at Peel House, I became a Police Officer. In my time in the Police, I was an armed protector outside 10 Downing Street and at anti-Vietnam riots at the American Embassy in London. Various jobs later, I settled into civil engineering – ferro concrete work, bridges, sewer schemes, sea defences; all that kind of stuff. Then I went on contract to local authorities doing council house refurbishment.”

“Trish and I married and we had two sons, Eliot and Charles. Now I’m retired

and am a keen beekeeper. Grandad had 12 – 14 hives at No 3 Hillside and when we moved up here, his bees came too. Unfortunately some chased my mother, so she set fire to the hives. When I was 60 I came into the kitchen one morning and there was a big wrapped parcel – a beehive. It was a gift from Trish and our sons.”

“I’ve long been interested in military memorabilia. I gained knowledge of those things as a kid going to junior school. I’d find all sorts of military items sticking out of dustbins: bayonets, tin hats, you name it. And if you were interested in military badges, the old soldiers would give you souvenirs they’d brought back from the war. My interest in military formation badges led to colonial badges from Rhodesia, Sudan, Trucial Oman, Aden, Malaysia and Singapore. I’ve ordered a very good book on these, which I’m eagerly awaiting. My enthusiasm for military vehicles developed during the mid-80s. Trish and I raise money for the Gurkha Welfare Trust by displaying badges at military memorabilia events. We went across to France for the 45th anniversary of D-Day in an old jeep and trailer and have since enjoyed numerous trips over there.”

“Recently, I took a World War II jeep, two World War II motorcycles, a folding motorcycle and a folding pushbike to Charmouth Fayre. Lots of husbands beckoned their wives and children to go off around the stalls while they spent time busily circulating around the motorcycles.”

Lesley Dunlop

WORLD WAR II INFANTRY INTERVIEWS & OTHER WEBSITES

I’ve done a fair bit of research into my father’s war service on minesweepers, so I’m fairly familiar with trawling around the WW2 websites. The Imperial War Museum holds a couple of sound recordings of interviews of the troops that were based in and around Charmouth, in case there was an invasion:

Fred Welsh of D Company 9th Battalion Durham Light Infantry, Reel 4 <http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/80016175>. Charmouth is mentioned on Reel 4 (click on the red arrow to scroll through the reels) and Jackson Brown, 8th Battalion Durham Light Infantry, Reel 7 <http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/80014578>

There is also a recording of William Louis French who, it appears, lived in the village. Reel 1 Background in Charmouth, 1920-1940: family; education; reaction to declaration of Second World War, 9/1939. This item is amongst the many interviews currently being digitised and should soon appear on <http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/80012866>

The preparations were very much needed, as the area around Lyme Regis was one of the three key areas that

Hitler planned to invade, as it provided a springboard towards Bristol. The Lyme Regis assault would have taken place once the initial invasion of the South East coast of England was seen to be going well.

Check out http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Sea_Lion#mediaviewer/File:OperationSealion.svg

Army Group B’s task. (Replaced by Army Group C as from 11 Sept.) Army Group B will not participate in the initial phase of the operation. If the naval situation develops favourably, the Army Group, starting from Cherbourg, may be employed later to force an air and sea landing in Lyme Bay, and to occupy, first, Weymouth and the high ground 20 km north of Weymouth-15 km north of Lyme Regis. From here, an advance would, on instructions from OKH, be made in the direction of Bristol. Later, elements of Army Group B may receive the task of occupying the counties of Devonshire and Cornwall. http://www.alternatewars.com/WW2/Seelowe/OKH_30_Aug_1940.htm

One wonders what a handful of soldiers with rifles and a few Bren guns could have done to stop them.

Bill Burn

TO WAR



You had asked for snippets on the First World War from local people. This poem was written by my late grandfather, Thomas Startin, who was born in Burntwood, Staffs. c1890, then moved as a young man to the Pennine 'cotton' town of Stalybridge (which is now within Greater Manchester), where he met and married my grandmother.

It has never been published before and only saw the light of day once, when my daughter took it into her junior school for a history lesson. I do not know which regiment my grandfather was in. He was not a local man but I, his grandson, have chosen to retire to Charmouth!

It's not exactly the work of one of our great war poets, but it very much reflects the passion and feeling of the time. It was written when my grandfather was posted to Belgium. I don't know much about his service there but I remember him telling me that he was out there at the end of the war and was retained there for what he termed 'mopping up' operations.

My grandfather was my great guide and mentor through my childhood and youth, and passed away in 1962 when I was 22. I still have the original hand-written poem, together with a few other personal mementos from the time of the First World War. These are a set of eight postcards he brought back from Belgium that are beautifully embossed and have gold inlay. They carry the words of the Lord's Prayer. I also have a miniature New Testament bible inscribed to his daughter (my mother, 1916-95) with the words: "Souvenir of the Great War 1913 to 1919, Eva Startin, sent by Daddy whilst serving in HM Forces, Proverbs Ch.20 verse 11, Even a child is known by her doings, whether its work be pure, and whether it be right" and a large brooch that was my grandmother's, which holds a photograph of my grandfather in his military uniform and, in the back, a lock of his hair.

Jim Greenhalgh

TO WAR

*To war! To war! The cry was heard
Come sounding o'er the Channel
From Belgium's peaceful peasants' homes
Now overrun by rabble
This was August 1914.*

*The enemy's thrown out the challenge
I'll conquer the world quoth he the great
King of Culture and Germany.
He drew together his armies
And placed them on field and plain
He gave them their marching orders
And spoke to them of foul deeds and gain.
But here in dear old England
The proudest and bravest of men
Have always been royal and true
To their colours red, white and blue.
They watched and waited with patience
They did their utmost and best
To keep our shores unmolested
To save us from strife and unrest.
But at last the echo, it rang o'er our land
Over hill and valley and dale
And mothers whose sons were for freedom
Smiled, though their faces turned pale.
The men who had seen many battles
Went forth with might and main
To seek fresh glory for England
And bring still more honour and fame.
But the enemy strong and mighty
Had gathered a million or more
Men who had always been soldiers
And trained for the great coming war.
Very soon the brave British Tommy
Though stout-hearted true and bold
Began to call for his brothers
To enlist in the field, help to hold
T'was then England's greatest of soldiers
Rose up and spoke like his clan
I want you, the words were he uttered.
He knew he had not spoken in vain
For the manhood of Britain's nation
Arose with a valiant cry.
I'll follow the noble commander
I'll lay down my all or die
For England shall never be driven
To Slavery whilst we have breath
We'll fight like our fathers before us
Right on and on until death
And after the words were repeated
I want you, come fight side by side
And share in the honour and glory
Or the end what ere may betide.
They come from the workshops and office
From mines deep and dark in the earth
From factory, mill and weaving shed
From every station and berth
T'was now England showed up her courage
For every home held a son
Who had gone forth and donned the khaki*

*And learned to shoulder a gun
Lines of care and trouble and sorrow
Already were easily traced
On the face of some new widowed woman
Or mother whose lad could ne'er be replaced
The battle raged, the toll was heavy
Many returned wounded and maimed
But thousands were left to a nameless grave
And numbered amongst the slain
And still it drags on and though weary
Are the lads who have fought so long
Yet they know that soon will their efforts
Be crowned by the victors' song
And when they return from the battle
And peace once more reigns around
What shall we do for the heroes
Who return to us safe and sound.
We know that they will get a welcome
If only from those left at home
But what of those other heroes
Who have given both blood, flesh and bone
The heroes who never again in life
Can earn their daily bread
Will the call to Christian England
Fall as on ears of the dead
Or is she already prepared
To stand by those who stood by in her need
To give them a homely shelter
And never go short of a feed
The lads who are down and broken
Thought not of the price they paid
When they answer the call and rally
To arms, To arms Ye Brave.
Today we are known as a nation
Rich in wealth and freedom and gain
Let us remember also the children
The wives and mothers of slain
Surely this blood has run free
For the sake of liberty
Then rally together as Britons
To work with our might and main
To recompense those who have faced it
Whether living, or maimed or dead.
Let us show our noble example
To every nation and claim
We do not forget one moment
The past which has gone from our ken
Let all have a share in the battle
And strive to win for them all
A chance to live an honest life
Free from all hardship and trials.
Let them rest at last on the laurels
So hardly fought for and won
They ought never more to have worry
Where their living is coming from
So here now must I leave it
And trust those who read the few lines
Will help whatever their station in life
To keep our brave heroes in all that is right.*

T. Startin

Charmouth's Grade II listed War Memorial on The Street bears the names of 17 men and one woman from the Parish of Charmouth who died during World War I and six men who died during World War II. After making notes of their names, ranks and regiment, I contacted Keith Grinter for initial guidance as his two uncles were amongst the World War I names on the war memorial. Keith put me in contact with Dr Roger Grinter, who in turn directed me to Vernon Rattenbury.

We are extremely fortunate. Vernon has meticulously researched each of those named on the Charmouth War Memorial from World War I; local people who gave their lives during the war and whose memories must be perpetuated. Thanks to Vernon, Shoreline is now able to relate their stories. We acknowledge with grateful thanks Vernon's sterling military research and his willingness to share it with us. Without him, our tribute to the fallen of the Great War would not have been possible. Their names are given in the order they appear on the war memorial.

Lesley Dunlop



**"IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF THOSE
OF THIS PARISH WHO GAVE
THEIR LIVES IN THE GREAT WAR
1914-1919"**

WILLIAM GEORGE COLES

Gunner, A (Howitzer) Battery, 69th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery,
Service No. 1338

b. 1895 – Charmouth d. 14 May 1916 – Mesopotamia

William was a farm labourer and enlisted in Charmouth. He joined the 69th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, which operated 4 x 5 inch howitzers, and part the 13th (Western) Division. The Division was formed as part of Kitchener's First New Army and began to assemble on Salisbury Plain. Near the end of February the Division concentrated at Blackdown in Hampshire. They moved to the Mediterranean, landing at Alexandria 19 Jun 1915 and then to Mudros, by 4 Jul 1915 to prepare for a landing at Gallipoli. The entire Division landed at ANZAC Cove between 3-5 Aug 1915. They were in action in The Battle of Sari Bair, The Battle of Russell's Top and The Battle of Hill 60 at ANZAC.

Soon afterwards they transferred from ANZAC to Suvla Bay. They were evacuated from Suvla 19-20 Dec 1915 and, after a week's rest, moved to the Helles bridgehead. They were in action during the last Turkish attacks at Helles on 7 Jan 1916 and were evacuated from Helles on 8/9 Jan 1916. The division then moved to Egypt and were concentrated at Port Said, holding forward posts in the Suez Canal defences. On 12 Feb 1916 they moved to Mesopotamia to join the force being assembled near Sheikh Sa'ad for the relief of the besieged garrison at Kut al Amara. They joined the Tigris Corps on 27 Mar 1916 and were in action in the unsuccessful attempts to relieve Kut. During this time they saw action at:

Battles of the Hanna and Fallahiyyeh, 5-8 Apr 1916

The Battles of Bait Aisa and Sannaiyat, 7-22 Apr 1916

The surrender of the Kut garrison, 29 Apr 1916

Son of Francis & Lillian Coles of Sunnyside, Charmouth, William is buried in Amara War Cemetery, Iraq, grave XXI. F. 12

He was awarded the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

GEORGE COX

Private, 1st Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, Service No. 15754

b. 1896 – Charmouth d. 1 Jul 1916 - Somme, France

George lived in Charminster and enlisted at Sherborne. His battalion landed at Le Havre on 16 Aug 1914 but he did not join the battalion until 1916.

He was killed in action on the first day of the Battle of the Somme.

Son of Robert & Elizabeth Cox of Axminster Road, Charmouth, George is buried in Blighty Valley Cemetery, Authuille Wood, France, grave I. C. 1

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

ERNEST GRINTER

Private 5th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, Service No. 3/7751

b. 31 Jan 1897 – Charmouth d. 28 Sep 1916 - Somme, France

Born in Charmouth, Ernest worked as a carter before enlisting at Dorchester on 27 Aug 1914, aged 17 years and 8 months. He first joined 3rd Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment at Wyke Regis and was posted to the 5th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment on 23 Nov 1915, joining in the field at Gallipoli. The 5th Dorsets remained at Gallipoli until withdrawn on 16 Dec 1915. After a period manning the Suez Canal defences, they left Egypt on 3 Jul 1916 and arrived in Marseille on 8 Jul 1916. Joining with the 3rd Army south of Arras, they moved to the Somme front arriving at Bouzincourt on 7 Sep 1916. On 16 Sep 1916 they moved forward to relieve the Canadians in trenches at Mouquet Farm. Here they remained under shell and sniper fire until relieved on 19 Sep 1916 by 11th Manchesters, having lost 53 men killed, wounded or missing. On 25 Sep 1916 they were again in the front at Orvillers as part of 34 Brigade. On 26/27 Sep 1916 the 5th Dorsets took part in the Battle of Theipval Ridge, which commenced at 1235 supported by tanks. By 28 Sep 1916 they had been involved in the taking of Mouquet Farm and the Zollern and Stuff Redoubts.

Many Dorset dead were later found well forward in the German positions. Casualties for the actions were 63 dead, 260 wounded and 59 missing. Many of the bodies that were recovered came from the area of Stuff Redoubt, where they had become isolated and killed. Others numbered among the

missing fell into shell holes where, dying, they were buried by the ebb and flow of battle; others were blasted to pieces by shell fire.

The son of George & Jane Grinter of Hogchester Farm, Axminster Road, Charmouth, Ernest was killed in action during the Battle of Thiepval.

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France, pier and face 7 B. His name is also recorded on the Monkton Wyld War Memorial.

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

WILFRED GRINTER

Gunner, 132nd (Oxford) Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery,
Service No. 43746

b. 28 Jun 1895 – Charmouth d. 25 Sep 1918 - Somme, France

Wilfred Grinter was born in Charmouth and enlisted in Lyme Regis. He went to France on 8 Oct 1915 and served on the Western Front at the Battle of the Somme 1 Jul-13 Nov 1916, the Battle of Arras 9 Apr-16 May 1917, and the Third Battle of Ypres 7 Jun-10 Nov 1917.

On the day he died a surprise attack by the enemy near Moeuvres and Epehy was repulsed and sharp local fighting had renewed in the neighbourhood of Selency (two miles west of St. Quentin).

Wilfred was digging a gun pit into which a field gun was to be placed. A shell came over unexpectedly and landed right where Wilfred was working. He was killed instantly.

The son of George & Jane Grinter of Hogchester Farm, Axminster Road, Charmouth, Wilfred is buried in Villers-Faucon Communal Cemetery Extension, France, grave II. E. 4.

His name is also recorded on the Monkton Wyld War Memorial.

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

Continued on next page

REGINALD JAMES HOBBS

Driver, A Battery, 109th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, Service No. 1320

b. 1891 - Whitchurch Canonorum d. 9 Sep 1917 - England

Reginald enlisted on 26 Aug 1914 but due to sickness was discharged 14 Jul 1917.

He had arrived in France 30 Aug 1915 where his unit took part in the following actions:

Second attack on Bellewaarde, 25-26 Sep 1915

Actions of the Bluff, 14-15 Feb 1916

Actions of the St. Eloi Craters, 27 Mar-16 Apr 1916

Attack on the Gommecourt Salient, 1 Jul 1916

Battle of Ginchy, 9 Sep 1916

Battle of Flers-Courcelette, 15-22 Sep 1916

Battle of Morval, 25-28 Sep 1916

Battle of Le Transloy, 1-18 Oct 1916

First Battle of the Scarpe, 9-14 Apr 1917

Third Battle of the Scarpe, 3-4 May 1917

Son of Martha Hobbs of Firlands Terrace, Charmouth and the late Walter William Hobbs, Reginald is buried in Whitchurch Canonorum (St Candida) Churchyard, SW of Church, against west boundary.

He was awarded the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

ARTHUR EDWIN LARCOMBE

Able Seaman, HMS Nottingham, Royal Navy, Service No. J/19975

b. 27 Apr 1895 – Portland d. 19 Aug 1916 - HMS Nottingham

Arthur had joined the Royal Navy at Devonport before the outbreak of war in 1903.

HMS Nottingham was his first ship. She was sunk by U52 in the North Sea (55.34N 00.12E) with the loss of 38 men.

She was present at the Battle of Heligoland Bight, 28 Aug 1914

In late Sep 1914 she was used to escort HM Submarine E5 on its way into the Baltic.

On 15-16 Dec 1914 she was one of the light cruisers used during the attempt to catch the German ships that had launched a raid on the Yorkshire Coast.

HMS Nottingham was present with the 1st Light Cruiser Squadron at the Battle of Dogger Bank, 24 Jan 1915.

On 20 June 1915, during a cruiser sortie in the North Sea, she was attacked by U17 and U6. Both German submarines fired torpedoes at her, but missed. In Aug 1915, HMS Nottingham and HMS Birmingham were amongst the ships mobilised in an attempt to catch the German mine layer SMS Meteor.

HMS Nottingham was also present at the Battle of Jutland 31 May 1916, taking part in the night clash between the 2nd Light Cruiser Squadron and the German 4th Scouting Group.

On 19 Aug 1916 both the High Seas Fleet and the Grand Fleet were once again at sea. No battle followed, but the British suffered several losses. Amongst them was HMS Nottingham. Just before 0600 she was hit by two torpedoes from U52. Despite the efforts of HMS Dublin to keep the submarine away, at 0625 a third torpedo struck home and ten minutes later HMS Nottingham had sunk.

Only 38 men were lost, mostly during the initial impact, and Arthur Larcombe was one.

Son of Charles Emmanuel Larcombe of Old Lyme Road, Charmouth, Arthur is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, panel 12.

JOHN GARDNER REID

Temporary Captain, B Company, 11th Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment

b. 1890 – Kensington d. 7 Sep 1916 - Salonika

John was educated at Oxford and was killed in action during the Salonika campaign. He had sailed from Southampton to Boulogne on 21 Sep 1915 and served on the Western Front in the Loos offensive. Having served in France, his battalion entrained at Amiens 9 Nov 1915 and arrived in Marseilles 11 Nov 1915.

Here they embarked on HMS Mars and HMS Magnificent, sailing the following morning for Alexandria. After two days in Egypt they sailed northwards for Salonika, arriving on 24 Nov 1915.

Things remained quiet through the spring of 1916, but in Jul 1916 they were ordered forward again to take the Bulgarian-held town of Doiran.

Castle Hill and Kidney Hill outside the town were taken on the night of 7 Aug

1916. In the early hours of 18 Aug 1916, Horseshoe Hill was stormed and captured.

On 2 Sep 1916, the 11th Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment shifted their position to the right and took over the captured ground on 'Horseshoe Hill'. The enemy's guns were fiercely bombarding the lost hill and during the ensuing week the battalion suffered several casualties. John Gardener was one of those casualties, killed in action on 7 Sep 1916, along with 2 other men and 5 more wounded.

Son of John Maitland Reid & Isabel Reid of Cranford, Charmouth, John was a Scholar of Brasenose College, Oxford and Assistant Master at Cheltenham College.

He is buried in Karasouli Military Cemetery, Greece, grave A.42.

He was awarded the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

ALFRED WILLIAMSON GILLENDER

Private, Royal Army Medical Corps, Service No. 111

Second Lieutenant, 3rd Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment (Attached 7th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment, 51st Brigade, 17th Division)

b. Jun 1890 - Dent, Yorkshire d. 10 Apr 1917 - France

Alfred had enlisted as a Private in the Royal Army Medical Corps but was commissioned Second Lieutenant on 15 Dec 1915, joining 3rd Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment on 1 Jan 1916, which was attached to 7th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment. He was a Company Commander and the battalion war diary states that he was mortally wounded (along with the other Company Commander, Lieutenant Cocks) on 9 Apr 1917 as the Lincolns advanced on their final objective (the Brown Line), around 1430 on the first day of the Battle of Arras.

Alfred died of his wounds the following day and is buried in St. Nicolas British Cemetery, France, grave I. D. 16.

His name is also recorded on the Allendale war memorial in Cumbria.

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

THOMAS BURTON OGLE

Second Lieutenant, 3rd Battalion attached to 2nd Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment

b. 1886 – Sherborne d. 23 Mar 1916 - Mesopotamia

Thomas was promoted Second Lieutenant 14 Dec 1915. His battalion had landed in Fao, Persian Gulf for campaign in Mesopotamia, as part of Indian Expeditionary Force 'D' on 6 Nov 1914 but he did not join them until late 1915. They took part in the following actions:

Battle of Kut al Amara, 28 Sep 1915

Battle of Ctesiphon, 22-24 Nov 1915

Affair of Umm at Tubul, 1 Dec 1915

Thomas was killed in action during the Siege of Kut.

Son of the Rev. Joseph Ogle, The Manse, The Street, Charmouth, Thomas is commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Iraq, panel 22 and 63.

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

MONTAGUE GEORGE BOUCHER

Lance Corporal, A Company, 11th Battalion, Tank Corps, Service No. 302859

b. 1889 - West Bay, Bridport d. 23 Aug 1918 - France

Montague was a Domestic Butler and enlisted in 2nd Battalion, King Edward's Horse at Hounslow (Service No. 1158), but transferred to the Tank Corps.

The 2nd Battalion, King Edward's Horse were raised by private subscription under the leadership of Sir John Norton-Griffiths on 24 Aug 1914. Montague arrived in France on 4 May 1915 and later served with XIV Corps which was formed in France on 3 Jan 1916 and took part in the Battle of the Somme in 1916. It was disbanded in Aug 1917. At that point many of its troops were transferred to the Tank Corps.

Montague was killed in action along the Amiens/Arras front during the Second Battles of the Somme.

Son of Sidney & Lily Boucher, of The Coach and Horses Hotel, Montague was a native of West Bay, Bridport.

He is buried in Bucquoy Road Cemetery, Ficheux, France, grave VI.C.22.

He was awarded the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

VALENTINE ALBERT NEWTON

Bombardier (Gunner), 91st Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery,
Service No. 66044

b. 14 Feb 1885 - Catherston Lewiston d. 12 Oct 1918 - France

Although born in Charmouth, Valentine lived in Sunninghill, Ascot, Berkshire
and enlisted at Guildford.

The 91st Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery arrived in France, 25 May
1916. The battery was armed with 4x9.2" howitzers.

He was killed in action by enemy shellfire.

Son of Mr. & Mrs. E. Newton of Charmouth and husband of Louisa Newton of
Spyway Cottage, Sunninghill, Ascot, Valentine is buried in Maurois Communal
Cemetery, France, grave 46.

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

ARTHUR PIDGEON

Corporal, 15th Battalion, The Welsh Regiment, Service No. 47482

b. 1884 – Charmouth d. 18 Sep 1918 - France

Arthur enlisted in Aberavon, Wales, where he was living at the time. His battalion
landed at Le Havre on 5 Dec 1915. They took part in the following actions:

Battle of Albert, 1-13 Jul 1916

Battle of Pilkem, 31 Jul-2 Aug 1917

Battle of Langermarck, 16-18 Aug 1917

Battle of Albert, 21-23-Aug 1918

Second Battle of Bapaume, 31 Aug-3 Sep 1918

Battle of Havrincourt, 12 Sep 1918

Battle of Epehy, 18 Sep 1918

He was killed in action at the Battle of Epehy.

Son of George & Georgina Pidgeon of Charmouth and husband of Mary E.
Pidgeon, of 1 Pump St., Holyhead, Anglesey,

Arthur has no known grave and is commemorated on the Vis-En-Artois
Memorial, France, panel 7.

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

HERBERT LOCK

Private, 1st Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, Service No. 3/7784

b. 1898 – Charmouth d. 14 Apr 1917 - France

Herbert was born in Charmouth and enlisted in Charmouth. His battalion
landed at Le Havre 16 Aug 1914, although he did not arrive in France until 13
May 1915 and saw action at:

Battle of the Somme, 1 Jul-13 Nov 1916

Battle of the Ancre, 13-18 Nov 1916

He was killed in action during the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line.

Son of John & Sarah Ann Lock, of Foxley House, Charmouth, Dorset, Herbert
is buried in Savy British Cemetery, Aisne, France, grave I. Q. 25.

He was awarded the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

WALTER HENRY ROWLAND

Private, 1st/1st Dorset (Queen's Own) Yeomanry, Service No. 230382

b. 1899 – Charmouth d. 16 Oct 1918 - Syria

Walter lived in Charmouth and enlisted at Sherborne. He did not go overseas until
1916, by which time the 1st/1st Dorset (Queen's Own) Yeomanry were in Egypt.

They fought at the Battle of Agagia, 26 Feb 1916, in one of the last ever British
cavalry charges before moving to Palestine in 1917 where they fought at:

First Battle of Gaza, 26 Mar 1917

Second Battle of Gaza, 17-19 Apr 1917

Battle of Beersheba, 31 Oct 1917

Third Battle of Gaza, 1-2 Nov 1917

Damascus was entered by Commonwealth forces on 1 Oct 1918, the 1st/1st
Dorset (Queen's Own) Yeomanry being among them.

A few days later an epidemic of influenza and cholera broke out there and it is
probable this was his cause of death.

Son of George & Alice Rowland of Axminster Road, Charmouth, Walter is
buried in Damascus Commonwealth War Cemetery, Syria, grave B. 87.

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

HENRY GEORGE SHINER

Driver, 201st Company, Army Service Corps, Service No. T3/029571

b. 1895 - East Chelborough, Dorset d. 13 Jun 1915 - UK

Although born in East Chelborough, Dorset, Henry lived in Charmouth and
enlisted at Lyme Regis.

He died while his unit were stationed in the Salisbury area.

Son of Henry & Mary Shiner of Bettiscombe, Dorset, Henry is buried in
Aldershot Military Cemetery, grave AF. 1890.

FREDERICK GEORGE SLOMAN

Private 1/4th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, Service No. 3334

b. 1899 - Wootton Fitzpaine d. 3 Feb 1917 - Mesopotamia

Frederick enlisted at Lyme Regis but did not deploy overseas until at least 1916.

The 1/4th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment were deployed to Mesopotamia from
India, landing in Basra on 2 Mar 1916

In Feb 1917 they moved to Amara and saw action at the following battles:

As Sahilan, 11 Sept 1916

Capture of Khudaira Bend, 14 Dec 1916

Mohammed Abdul Hassan, 9 Jan 1917

Hai Salient, Dahra Bend and Shumran Peninsula, 11 Jan - 24 Feb 1917

He was killed during fighting to take the Hai salient, south of Kut along the
Shatt-al-Hai.

Son of John Francis Sloman of Hillside Cottage, Charmouth, Frederick was
killed in action and is commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Iraq, panel 11.

He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

BERTRAM FREDERICK H. SMITH

Private, 1st Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, Service No. 7539

b. 1886 - Catherston Leweston d. 19 Oct 1914 - France

Bertram lived in Charmouth and enlisted at Dorchester and was the first
casualty of the war from the village.

His battalion had landed at Le Havre 16 Aug 1914 but he did not arrive in
France until 27 Aug 1914. He fought at the following actions:

Rearguard action of Crepy en Valies, 1 Sep 1914

Battle of the Marne, 7-10 Sep 1914

Battle of the Aisne, 12-15 Sep 1914

First Battle of Ypres, 19 Oct-22 Nov 1914

He died of wounds received at the First Battle of Ypres.

The son of Harry & Lucy Jane Smith of Roberts Cottage, Higher Sea Lane,
Charmouth, Dorset, Bertram is buried in Bethune Town Cemetery,
France, grave I. D. 6.

He was awarded the 1914 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

MILDRED ISOBEL REID

Nurse, Voluntary Aid Detachment

b. 1887 – Kensington d. 10 Dec 1918 - Hampstead

A spinster of Charmouth, sister of Capt John Gardner Reid. She died at 10
Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead, London.

Daughter of John Maitland Reid & Isabel Reid of Cranford, Charmouth.

*Vernon Rattenbury, the military researcher – and Shoreline –
would be grateful to hear from any readers who may be able
to provide any additional information or photographs of those
named. Lest we forget.*

THESE ARE THE
SIX MEN FROM
CHARMOUTH,
WHO LOST
THEIR LIVES IN
THE SECOND
WORLD WAR
AND ARE
LISTED ON
THE WAR
MEMORIAL:



RONALD ERIC ARTHUR DAMPIER



Sgt, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, 207 Squadron

Air Gunner, Lancaster ED554 EM-Q

Service No 1156717

Ronald's Lancaster was shot down by a night fighter in the Duisburg raid and crashed at Jisp, North Holland

d. 9/4/1943, aged 23

He is buried in plot 69. Row C. Coll. Grave 3,
Amsterdam New Eastern Cemetery.

Son of Samuel George & Emily Dampier; husband of Aline Hilda Dampier,
of Exeter.

JOHN GOODFELLOW



Musician Royal Marines, HMS Ajax

Service No X1453

d. 12 June 1941 aged 25

John was a music teacher at the Royal School of Music and organist at St
Andrew's Church, Charmouth.

Before becoming a member of the Royal Marines Band attached to HMS Ajax.

He saw action in the Mediterranean, including the Battle of Cape Matapan and
the evacuation of the Commonwealth Expeditionary Force from Greece.

He was wounded and subsequently died of appendicitis.

Son of John & Ada Goodfellow of Charmouth.

He is buried at Haifa British War Cemetery, Khayat Beach, near Haifa,
grave A. E. 4.

EMMANUEL NEWTON



Leading Stoker, Royal Navy, HMS Neptune

Service No D/KX 82345

Emmanuel was Temporary Acting Leading Stoker, Royal Navy
(Plymouth Division)

His ship, HMS Neptune, was sunk after hitting four uncharted mines in
Libyan waters,

b. June 1910 d. 19/12/1941 aged 31

His name is recorded on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 52, Column 2

He was in the winning Devonport Field Gun crew at the Royal Tournament
in July 1937.

Son of Emmanuel & Ethel Newton of Charmouth; husband of Violet Amy
Newton (nee Beavis) of Orlestone, Kent.

ALFRED STANLEY NEWTON

(listed as S A Newton on Charmouth War Memorial)

Able Seaman, HM Submarine P311

Service No D/SSX 13847

b. December 1913 d. 8 January 1943

HMS P311 was lost with all hands, presumed sunk by Italian mines, while
engaged in Operation Principle

en route to La Maddalena, Sardinia, between
30 December 1942 – 8 January 1943

Alfred's name is recorded on the Plymouth Naval Memorial Panel 79.

Son of Emmanuel & Ethel Newton of Charmouth

FRANK HARRY LIDDON VINES

Sgt, Air Gunner, Lancaster ED431

49 Squadron, Royal Air Force

Service No 1316193

Frank's Lancaster was shot down over the North Sea off Texel, North Holland

d. 6/3/1943, aged 21

No known grave; remembered at Runnymede War Memorial, Panel 168

Son of F M Liddon Vines & Marie S Vines of Haywards Heath, Sussex

LAWRENCE BERNARD WEBSTER

Sgt, 4th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment

Service No 5726746

The 4th Battalion was in the 43rd (Wessex) Infantry Division

Lawrence died during the Normandy Campaign

d. 10/7/1944, aged 25

His name is recorded on the Bayeux Memorial Roll of Honour,
Panel 15, Column 2

Son of George Edwards Webster & Winifred Ellen Webster of Charmouth

We will remember them

Lesley Dunlop

D-Day Anniversaries in Asnelles-sur-Mer

The Charmouth/Asnelles Twinning Association has this year celebrated 29 years of cross-Channel friendship. (An account of the early days of the association has already been published in the Pavey Group journal, the Village Echo.) This article has been prompted by the visit of Bob, the Twinning Treasurer, and Lesley Dunlop to Asnelles for the 70th anniversary of D-Day, and describes some of the earlier visits there.

In 1989, the 40th anniversary, the Queen Mother dedicated a stained glass window in Bayeux Cathedral, and Margaret and I were invited to the ceremony. The window was designed by Carl Edwards of The Glass House, Fulham, London, and was made by M. Mayel, Maître-Verrier of Honfleur. The official programme says: "It (the window) was installed by the D-Day and Normandy Fellowship with the generous support of the City of Bayeux, and is dedicated to all those who served in the combined Sea, Land and Air Forces of the Allies in the great operation for the liberation of Normandy from 5 June 1944. The congregation included many veterans of D-Day, as well as the usual dignitaries including Field Marshal Montgomery. Our invitation was arranged by the Mairie of Asnelles, Michel Roudil, and it was obviously a grand official occasion. (Michel was a great supporter of the Twinning and, in fact, had saved it from a sudden demise caused by a local political upset.) As well as the official programme, we have several envelopes with the commemorative stamps, franked 6 June 1989. Michel also gave me the set of medals commemorating the landings which are displayed in The Elms.

We were also privileged to take part in a much simpler but more emotional event which took place not actually in Asnelles, but in the tiny hamlet of St Côme-de-Fresné, which lies just to the west of Asnelles, between Asnelles and Arromanches. It has a narrow lane leading up from the beach, which was used as the principal road for the DUKW (colloquially known as Duck) vehicles, which landed the necessary supplies from

the invasion fleet before the Mulberry Harbour at Arromanches was assembled. The inhabitants of Saint-Côme had decided to rename this lane Allée des Anglais, and this renaming was the ceremony we attended. The local cure blessed the new name and the school children sang a song which they had written especially for the event. We were the only English people there and found it intensely moving. It was another indication of the

feelings which the people of that part of Normandy hold for the British. As an aside, we had learnt earlier from a very old friend of ours who had been one of the Royal Navy officers organising the landing of supplies, that the DUKWs were vital to the success of the operation because of the delay before the harbour was complete. He had landed at Asnelles on D-Day and is in the photo in this article, which was taken outside the bar in Asnelles and has since been destroyed by fire.

Another very moving D-Day ceremony took place on the 50th anniversary when the Welsh regiment dedicated a memorial to their comrades who had landed at Asnelles. This was the slab of black marble which stands in the centre of Asnelles, by their war memorial, and which came from Isandhlwana in South Africa where, in 1879, the Zulu Army had defeated Lord Chelmsford, whose force had included the 1st Battalion of the 24th Foot, their predecessors. This was

the year when Stuart Matthews, then Twinning President, laid a wreath on the memorial. To the best of my memory, this was the first time we had laid a wreath. Stuart is seen in the photo standing next to Michel Roudil.

Place Alexandre Stanier, where the memorials are, is named after Brigadier Sir Alexander Stanier, who commanded 231st Infantry Brigade of the 50th Division during the assault on Gold Beach and who attended the earlier commemorations. Brigadier Stanier lived not far from Charmouth in his retirement.

David & Margaret Bettes



In Remembrance

Date: 6 June 2014, the 70th Anniversary of the D-Day Landings

Location: Asnelles-sur-Mer, France (Gold Beach)

Occasion: Charmouth/Asnelles Twinning Group Treasurer Bob Dunlop, before and after laying a commemorative wreath at the Liberators' Memorial.

The Dorset Regiment made landfall at 7.25am on that day in 1944. They were the first British regiment to set foot in Normandy.

Lesley Dunlop



Early Days of the Twinning Association

Once again, Mary Davis has kindly lent her albums, this time in reference to a local Gold Beach hero from World War II. Major Philip St John, who lived at Upcot, Old Lyme Road, took control of his Company following the death of his Commanding Officer and stormed Gold Beach on D-Day in 1944.

In 1985 he joined a group of 14 other Charmouth residents (Mike & Mary Davis, Mike & Diana Lake, Stuart & Jill Matthews, Richard & Nikki Soden, Vince & Caroline Pieleesz, Rex & Dorothea Vick, David & Margaret Bettes) and travelled to Asnelles and the beach that brought back so many memories. After an excursion to the military museum at Arromanches, where he was decorated by the director with a commemorative medal, Major St John signed the 'Golden Book', along with Twinning Association Chairman Mike Davis, Mary's late husband. During this visit to Asnelles, the Twinning charter was signed by the French officials. 2015 marks the association's

30th anniversary, although preliminary exchange visits took place in 1984. Here's to the next 30 years!

Lesley Dunlop



Major St John and Mike Davis signing the Golden Book (the Major has a white moustache!)

Pat Richards' Memories of Charmouth during World War II

"I came to Charmouth in 1939 from the London area and can remember hearing on the radio when war was declared. My father had listened to the radio and anticipated that war would break out. Feeling that we lived too near the capital for safety, he brought us down to the coast. I can remember dog fights over Lyme Bay and German bombers jettisoning their bombs in the bay. My parents took over a guest house in Charmouth – Mill View – opposite Manor Farm and we were there from 1939 until 1954. It is now a holiday home. We had two girl evacuees staying with us, as well as wives who came to stay when their soldier husbands or boyfriends were on leave. I went to the Junior School in Charmouth with Andrew Peach, Keith Grinter and Ron Oxenbury.

Charlotte Goodfellow ran a dancing school in the village, which was attached to the Miss Whittington's private school. I was fairly good at dancing – ballet, tap, all types of dance – and was one of her soloists. I took part when the school held biannual concerts for the Red Cross during the war at the Manor House, Catherston Leweston, which was then owned by the Bullens. I remember that when the soldiers came back my mother made me an outfit for the welcome home party. On another occasion, someone lent me a blue velvet dress to dance in at one of the concerts.

I never went back to London."

Lesley Dunlop

West Dorset Conservatives Charmouth Branch

You may, or may not, have been wondering what we have been up to in the last few months. Worry no more, since I am going to tell you anyway! The short answer is that we have been thriving, and may be growing bigger. At our AGM in March, the committee received a huge endorsement from our members. Almost unbelievably, they were so satisfied with our performance that no-one felt the need or slightest pressure, to put themselves forward to go on the committee.

You might ask what we have done so well to warrant this degree of confidence from our members, that they would forego the opportunity to challenge for these seats of power and influence! The secret of this success, which also lies behind our claim to be growing bigger, is to utilise the very excellent skills of the ladies of our committee, ably assisted by our Chairman Peter who is a barbecue ace, to provide quality foods. Add to this the talents of the men on the committee, whose mission is to ensure that no-one goes away without being spiritually refreshed, and you have a winning combination.

Over 60 people came to our Summer barbecue, on which the sun shone, and a similar number came to our Sparkling Summer Soiree, which the sun also attended. In September, our President, Stella, will be hosting a Cheese and Wine party, but as this is evening, sunshine is optional!

We welcome everybody to our events, at which you can be sure of a warm and friendly welcome. Sometimes people want to talk politics and that's OK too!

If you want to join, go on the committee, become treasurer, or just enjoy our company, please give me a ring.

Bob Hughes, Treasurer, 560487

PS. We also supported our candidates at the Euro elections.

Your Advertising Supports Shoreline

To book your advert in Shoreline please contact Neil: neil@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk or 01297 561632

Car Tax Changes from 1st October 2014

Please remember, you will continue to be able to pay for your Vehicle Tax at a Post Office.

During the last few months, a number of apparently unrelated events, adverts and press releases, have effectively ushered in the changes to car tax, which you will see from October 1st. I am sure it will not be a smooth transition, so I have written these words to help our car owners understand the changes. Even we at the Post Office, are uncertain of how some situations will be overcome, but the simplest are explained here.

Some of you may have already taxed your vehicle at a Post Office, and have been told that the MOT document, and written Certificate of Insurance or Cover Note are no longer required when you submit your application.

This still means you need an MOT and Insurance but the DVLA already have the validity of these linked from their source, and held in their 'cloud based system', which is accessed on each car tax application.

The simplest change you will see, and the most difficult to understand, is that when you pay for your car tax to start from October 1st 2014, you will not receive a Tax Disc to display in your windscreen.

You must make a note on your calendar or in your diary as a reminder of the expiry date next year.

DVLA will send out V11 reminders as they do now, but it remains the responsibility of the vehicle keeper to ensure that the vehicle is correctly taxed at the renewal time.

Number plate recognition systems will be operating from Police or DVLA vehicles, or by wardens. Should any irregularities be identified, if you are caught in these checks, you may well find that there is a fine to follow.

How do you know if a vehicle is taxed? Well there is a section on the DVLA internet site which you can access to obtain details immediately. Use this link to make your check <https://www.gov.uk/check-vehicle-tax>.

However the test which I performed today provides no details of MOT or Insurance.

The biggest change affecting most owners is the buying and selling of vehicles. You will not be able to sell a vehicle with tax. The replacement vehicle must be taxed without delay, using the V5C/2 New Keeper Supplement, or using a V62 form. There is a fee of £25 if you use the V62 method.

We are told that you will be able to buy Car Tax at 5000 Post Offices, but if you buy at the weekend or an evening, you will need to use a telephonic method, or DVLA Internet services. Claiming car tax back will be via DVLA automatically on receipt of the correct section of the registration document, V5C. Changing your car in mid-month appears to be a large 'money-generator' for the DVLA, with the vehicle owner losing out by having to pay a double month of tax.

Changes to the way you pay for your Car Tax are also coming into force. Your choice will be to pay Monthly, Half Yearly, or Annually.

We understand that you will be able to pay by Cash, Cheque, Post Office Budget Card, Debit Card, Credit Card (fee extra), or by Direct Debit. We understand that the Post Office can help in setting up Direct Debits, but we have not been informed of the procedures at the time of writing this. External research tells us that Direct Debits should be available from November 1st renewals. We do know however that Direct Debit payments will carry a 5% extra charge.

Please remember, you will continue to be able to pay for your Vehicle Tax at a Post Office.

Steve Pile, Subpostmaster Charmouth Post Office

St Andrew's Community Hall

St Andrew's Community Hall Management Committee would like to say a huge THANK YOU.

St Andrew's Community Hall has seen many changes over the last few years. A new extension to the front of the building with storage and new toilet facilities has been built. This included the disabled toilets, ramps to the Club Room and Main Hall for wheelchair access, all thanks to the Big Lottery Fund. A new heating/air conditioning system has recently been installed which has allowed the hall to be comfortably used all year round. Thanks must go to 'The Dorset Community Foundation' for their funding for this project.

New double-glazed windows have now been installed, which have been partially funded by the users of the hall who have held their private functions there and allowed us to keep the profits. Black out blinds have been fitted and a new electric oven has replaced the very old gas cooker and we now have plans for solar panels and then the redecoration of the main hall.

None of this could have been achieved without the generosity and support of the local community; the many people that support the Hall with their clubs and those that use it for one-off functions. There is an army of local volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure all runs smoothly.

Thanks must also go to organisations such as Charmouth Parish Council, Charmouth Fayre Committee, Charmouth Traders, The George and St. Bridget Nurseries who have very kindly contributed towards our various projects and for the generous donations (some anonymous) received from members of the community.

- *Several events are planned for the near future including Harvest Bingo - Friday 17 October*
- *Christmas Bingo - date to be confirmed.*
- *Sunday Lunch - 19 October*
- *Christmas Lunches - 7 & 14 December (Contact Sarah Edwards – 01297 560612/ cch.lunch@hotmail.co.uk)*
- *A spectacular, professionally run, James Bond themed CASINO EVENING (no experience necessary) on SATURDAY 1 NOVEMBER.*

Tickets on sale NOW from Devonedge Hairdressers and Fortnam, Smith & Banwell- £12.50 includes complimentary casino chips and finger buffet. Contact Trish Evans - sach.charmouth@btinternet.com OR Keith Waterson 07971950074.

THANK YOU

Jane Tait, Secretary



Anthony Muller, Phil Boyer, Derek Shepherd & John Kelsey

Charmouth Tennis Club

The club enjoyed success in the Yeovil & District Leagues, in that all three teams entered achieved promotion. The Men's A team have moved from Division 3 to Division 2; the Men's B team from Division 5 to Division 4 and the Mixed team from Division 4 to Division 3. Therefore, although promotion has been achieved, it should be seen in the context that the Men's B team and the Mixed Team have moved out of the lowest divisions, so there is plenty to be done before self-congratulations kick in!

The Men's A team won 9 matches out of a possible 12. They eventually finished runners-up to Tintinhull but, even so, had a greater percentage of games won. Results often depend on the availability of players, as illustrated by the fact that the team lost 10-0 away to Tintinhull but won the home match by 8 sets to 5. Another salient factor is age levels: Charmouth is fortunate to have some players who have performed well at quite high standards, but most are now 60+ and the youngest team member is 50! However, the good news is that fitness levels are high and it is expected that the team will acquit themselves well enough next year in Division 2.

The B team lost only two of their ten matches, but finished runners-up to the winners, Chard, who prevailed in a close match between the teams by six sets to four. Ed Crafter, the club captain, headed the player rankings in Division 5, having won 30 sets and lost 4, whilst Nick Wright, a new recruit to the club, was fourth in the overall player statistics, having won 18 sets and lost two.

Whilst the club is fortunate to have a good number of men players who can be drawn upon for matches, the number of ladies available is considerably fewer. The club lost a couple of ladies who had been the mainstay of the Mixed team and, as a result, no Mixed team was entered in 2013. Thus, when it was decided to enter a try again in 2014, the club was automatically placed in the lowest division. Happily, however, Rosie Crowle and Helen Boyer were able to compete in all matches and indeed were the top two ranked players in the Division, Rosie winning 36 sets and losing 2, and Helen winning 32 and losing 9. They would be first to acknowledge that their success depended heavily on the strength of their male partners: Phil, Helen's husband - in partnership with Rosie, winning 20 sets and losing 2; Derek Wheeler, who had a recent injury and missed some matches, but still won 16 sets and lost none, and Derek Shepherd, who won 14 sets and lost 4.

Overall, the Mixed team won their Division by some margin. They gained 96 points out of a possible 100, ahead of Sherborne D who finished second. Note, however, that Sherborne have three other Mixed teams in higher Divisions! It was pleasing that the last match of the season was between Charmouth and Sherborne; Charmouth eventually won 8-2, but

it was a splendidly fought match played in tremendous spirit with high levels of friendliness and excellent line-calling. A fitting end to the season.

It goes without saying that Charmouth Tennis Club is not just about its teams. It is thriving and happy, with good participation from its members. There are very few occasions when the courts are not in use and a number of networks of players of differing abilities are maintained on a regular basis.

A very successful Closed American Tournament was held in July, rounded off with a BBQ - and at the end of September the club will be hosting their annual Open Tournament of mixed pairs, whose combined age is in excess of 100 years!

Eric Poppitt



Derek Wheeler, Rosie Crowle, Helen Boyer & Dan Burke

Summer Quiz Challenge 2014

David and I hosted our second Summer Quiz Challenge at St. Andrew's Community Hall on Saturday 13th September. Despite some no shows, fifty people gathered to tax their brains, and a lot of fun was had by all. The usual random questions and interactive rounds proved a good workout for the grey matter. Strange hats, essential oils, boiled sweets and exotic spices all had the contestants suitably puzzled.

Tables with flowers welcomed the quizzers, and the tasty supper was washed down with drinks from the bar. The overall winners went home very happy with their prizes but no one really lost as it was pure entertainment all the way.

An amazing £625 was raised for Charmouth Central. Thanks to the wonderful team of helpers who made the evening run so smoothly and a general thank you to all the businesses who donated food and drink and the prizes for the raffle.

Jane Clifford



Mike Jackson-Bass modelling a Chinese Yi Wedding Hat

A Mighty Walk for Prostate Cancer



Charmouth Tennis Club member Judith Burke pictured in khaki before setting off on 27 August for St Jean Pied de Port, in the foothills of the Pyrenees. Judith is walking the highly challenging pilgrimage route all the way to Santiago de Compostela – 476 miles/800 kilometers. She is aiming to complete the walk in five to six weeks. Members of Charmouth's U3A tennis group held a lively fundraising morning for Judith and provided a feast of Spanish food to complete the send-off. If you'd like to support Judith, please log onto www.justgiving.com-judithburke Judith advises that there are six other ladies of the same name currently fundraising on the site, but she is the only one supporting prostate cancer.

Lesley Dunlop

Reflections of a First Visit to Charmouth by Two New Twinning Members

We were excited to make this first crossing (to England) to meet you all, to get to know you better and to enjoy your surroundings. We were blessed in all areas: the warm welcome that put us at ease from the moment we arrived, your smiles, the lovely receptions in your homes, your organization, all in a beautiful village. Everything was perfect. We remember very well the good time spent at the Royal National Lifeboat Institute in Poole, walks in the beautiful gardens at Compton Acres, evenings at friends, delicious menus and especially your delicious cakes. We enjoyed everything on the gala evening. We also enjoyed eating fish and chips in Lyme Regis with our hosts, Jan and Roger.

We pass on our best remembrances to your entire group. Thank you all. With our friendship,

Annick & Jacques Legendre from Arromanches



Jillian Hunt



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Charmouth Primary School



Year 6 Residential trip to Osmington Bay.



© Charmouth Primary School

As I am writing this we are preparing for the start of another academic year, but it's only right and proper that I should tell you all the news of the last busy academic year which came to an end in July. This is because we have had many things to celebrate over the course of the year, including our Key Stage One and Key Stage Two results. I was delighted to receive news at the end of last term that the results for this summer were above the national average and an even larger improvement compared with last year's results. I am delighted to report this good news that reflects the hard work of all the staff and children at Charmouth Primary School.

This last year has seen our school develop a Beach School approach where the children's learning has become more integrated with the local environment and some classes and activities have actually taken place on the beach. Children's learning was then extended inside the classroom through writing, computing, art etc. An added bonus of this initiative is that it has also enabled us to further foster our links with the Heritage Centre.

Due to the number of sunny days during the summer term, we have been fortunate to take the children out and about in the local environment. Sadly, on occasions, walks around the village have been hampered by the noticeable dog fouling, including outside our school. We hope that this will not be a long term issue and that dog owners will take responsibility for their pets' behaviour.

Towards the end of the summer term, the whole school enjoyed our whole school production called 'Stories of Summer.' This was the new time for the school annual performance that was

previously held at a different time of year. It was lovely to see how well the children cooperated with each other and worked as a large team to make the performance such a success. Without the commitment and dedication of a super teaching team, these special events would not happen. The music was coordinated by Edward Jacobs, our music teacher, and it was very noticeable how much the children are now engaged in music across the school.

Year 6 children also put together a lovely Leavers' Assembly. They entertained their parents, teachers and friends in school so well and they made us feel very proud of their achievements. Their trip to the Sailing Academy at Portland after their SATS and their residential trip to Osmington Bay near Weymouth were very popular and a big success, but it made their final term at Charmouth a very busy one. Hopefully these occasions will provide lasting special memories of their time at primary school.

At the end of term we said goodbye to Gail Beecroft, who has taught at Charmouth for many years. She finally decided to retire and she tells us that she is going to enjoy her retirement by seeing more of her grandchildren. Leanne Male has also moved onto a different teaching post, supporting children with special needs. Mrs Male came to the school as an NQT eight years ago and has moved on to the next phase in her career.

We look forward to the autumn term and all that leads up to activities and events of Christmas. They will soon be published on our website and we hope that you will be able to join us in some of them.

Gillian Morris, Head Teacher

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1st Charmouth Scouts



Cub and Scouts Attend Mini-Jamboree

Zorbing, paddle boarding, rafting, driving hovercraft and racing around on quad bikes were just some of the activities the 1st Charmouth Cubs and Scouts had the chance to try out when they attended a six-day, mini-jamboree at the County Camp Site in Wareham forest. Other activities included: descending down zip wires, crossing a monkey bridge, mountain biking and tree climbing.

Held at the end of July, the 13 Scouts and 9 Cubs were joined on site by over 1,000 other members of the Scout Movement from around the UK and much further afield. On each day, the Cubs and Scouts visited a different 'Activity Zone'. This meant that they had the chance to have a go at more than 100 different activities. In the evenings, films were shown in a tent in the main arena, including the very popular 'Despicable Me - 1 and 2'. There was also a foam bath, which proved to be a major attraction for everyone.

Over the week, all of the five camp zones had to participate in three inter-subcamp challenges. 1st Charmouth camped in the red zone, which came first in two of these – the best modelling balloon creation and the best carnival float. In both, our Cubs and Scouts made a significant contribution. Since our camp was near some tree cover, we took the chance to show our campers how to make a hammock from a groundsheet. Suitably instructed, five of these were then constructed which meant that, over the camp, everyone who wanted to had the chance to try sleeping while suspended between two trees.

All in all, everyone had a great time and, as luck would have it, we managed to get all the tents down while they were dry!

Help us Celebrate our 50th Anniversary

Next May, the 1st Charmouth Scout Group will celebrate its 50th anniversary and we are hoping as many ex-members as possible can join in the celebrations. The current Scout Group was officially registered on 12 May 1965. However, there has been a Scout Group in Charmouth for a lot longer, as we have seen photos of Scouts taken in the 1920s. It was probably a Sea Scout Group at some stage, as we still have an old navy blue flag hanging in the HQ – normal Scout flags are green. It would be great to get feedback from as many past members as possible about their time in, and experiences of, the Scout Group over the last 49 years, or longer.

We are hoping to create a database of ex-Beaver, Cubs, Scouts, Venture Scouts and Leaders so we can invite them to the exciting events we are planning to run throughout the year to celebrate our Golden Anniversary. We are also hoping

ex-members will make a one-off donation to the Group so we can get the HQ back to the state it was in when it was erected 50 years ago – or an even better one! If you are an ex-member, please contact me on payne.kevin6@gmail.com. Alternatively, if you know someone who was an ex-member, but has now moved away, please ask them to contact me.

I hope we can use the golden anniversary of our founding to not only celebrate the past 50 years, but to also lay the foundations for a successful future over the next five decades.



Cub Camp Enjoyed by All

This year's Cub Camp was held on the Barr's Lane Recreation Ground, thanks to the Parish Council giving us permission to erect our tents behind the bowling green. This meant we could use the Scout Hut as the base for all our activities and cooking. Thirteen Cubs took part and had a great time.

Once again, some familiar activities proved very popular, including: building and decorating a camp gate, box cart agility testing, model gun carriage racing and a mini-Olympics. There was also a chance to use our newly acquired mega oil drum barbecue (donated by a supporter). This proved to be particularly adept at baking fantastic home-made pizzas, but also enabled a mean burger to be rustled up for supper. The Cubs were also taught some new Scouting skills, which they used to tackle a mini-orienteeing course and to ensure the lashings were nice and tight on their camp gates.

Over the weekend, the Cubs were divided into three teams - which secured marks for various tasks - including laying out the kit neatly for inspection. Although one team took an early lead, they were soon reeled in. By the end of the camp on Sunday, there was only one point separating the winners from the joint runners-up. All the first-time campers received their 'One Night Away' badge, while some seasoned campers were awarded their 'Five Nights Away' badge.

Kevin Payne, Scout Leader/Group Contact (payne.kevin6@gmail.com 01308 459080)

Please support the 1st Charmouth Scout Group by donating through: <http://localgiving.com/search?name=charmouth+scouts>



Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre



A quick review of the season down at the Centre before moving onto the autumn and winter months..... The Centre had a very slow start to the summer months this year, with much of the storm damage building works still ongoing, but visitor numbers recovered well during the summer holiday period. Over 2,000 people visited the Centre on some days, which is a Centre record. We have also had excellent attendance on our events, with all the fossil

walks being fully booked for the whole of the summer holidays, with the exception of today. As I write, it is a very dismal, damp and wet Bank Holiday Monday, but we still have over 60 brave souls attending, despite the weather!

We have seen many return visitors over the summer holiday period, who have commented that they return to Charmouth every year because of the welcome by the Centre team and the village as a whole. The Centre was also awarded a Trip Advisor 2014 Winner 'Certificate of Excellence' this year, due to our high customer feedback on their site. As always, the team at the Centre would like to say a huge thank you to our volunteers who help make all this possible, with their assistance both on the events and desk duty, and behind the scenes.

Looking ahead to the autumn and winter months, the Centre will still be busy with schools and we already have some schools booking in for the 2015 season. Looking back through the records, some schools have been coming to the Centre now for over 20 years on educational visits.

Events and activities

On the events side of things, we will still be running our fossil walks throughout the year and we have a series of Fossil Fantastic Days and weekends scheduled for the winter period. A successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund in May of this year will see the launch of the events for the Dinosaur Discovery project this autumn, which includes Dinosaur discovery sessions for the Junior Rangers and other youth groups in the village, as well as the wider community and visitors. Full details

of the programme and all our events over the winter period will be available on our website www.charmouth.org/chcc within the next month.

Coast Centre 30th Anniversary

On Thursday 16th October, the Centre will be celebrating its 30th anniversary with a buffet lunch for all Friends of the Centre. A well deserved treat I think, for such a milestone! Tickets and further information for Friends will be available from the Centre this month.

CHCC Jurassic Art & Craft Fayre

Following last year's success, we will be holding our annual Jurassic Art & Craft Fayre on the weekend of 15th & 16th November. If you are a local exhibitor and wish to participate, please contact myself or Jan Coleman at the Centre to register an interest, and as more information becomes available we can keep you posted.

As always, the team at the Centre wish to thank all our Friends (volunteers) and the local community for their support throughout the year.

Meirel Whaites
Senior Warden



We are all very pleased with the award and the positive feedback we have received. We would like to thank our volunteers for all their support, without which we couldn't have achieved this amazing accolade.

The Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre Team

Friends of CHCC

Once again we have had a busy season and the volunteer Friends of the CHCC have done a wonderful job dealing with visitors at the desk, with record-breaking numbers on some days. Although it was exhausting for those on duty at the time, they did a brilliant job - especially when it was so hot in July. I take my hat off to those volunteers who coped with over 1000 visitors in one session!

We have been lucky to have a small influx of new Friends who have slotted in very well and we are grateful for their help to keep things running smoothly. Volunteer Friends have helped not only on the desk but also with fossil walks, rockpool rambles, plankton trawling and various other activities throughout the season.

Working on the desk may seem like an easy job – sometimes it can be fairly relaxed when everything is relatively quiet. On the other hand, there are times when it is incredibly busy when Friends may need to deal with up to 130 people

on fossil walks, cope with queues of people waiting to buy goods, giving advice and information, especially "Where are the toilets please?" Of course it's also necessary to help with the occasional problem such as lost children, stray dogs, lost property, a panicky person with a cut finger or bizarre questions. This variety can make it fun or stressful, depending on your viewpoint!

If anyone would like to join us and receive the Centre training in due course, you will be made very welcome and will always be partnered by an experienced volunteer to provide help and support. Of course, the Wardens are very supportive as well. If you are interested in helping and also getting involved in the social activities, please contact the Centre via the website www.charmouth.org/chcc, in person or by telephone 01297 560722

Rosalind Cole, Chair of the Friends of the CHCC



To advertise in Shoreline and help support this village magazine, please contact: neil@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk

Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre to Durlston Country Park



In May, 25 Friends of the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre travelled by coach to Durlston Country Park. The trip was organised to provide an opportunity for the volunteers at CHCC to enjoy a day out, meeting other volunteers with a similar interest, and to see the development at Durlston Country Park. The 280 acre park is on a headland near Swanage with spectacular coastal views, glorious countryside and an abundance of bird life. The Durlston Castle visitor centre, a Victorian folly, was restored by Dorset County Council with the support of many organisations, including the Fine Foundation. We were shown around the Castle by the Senior Ranger, Katie Black, who gave us an informative and light hearted description of its history and development. After an enjoyable lunch in the licensed restaurant members of the party were free to further explore the buildings and parkland. Many took the opportunity to walk along the coast, enjoying the views and birdlife and to explore the Great Globe. Others preferred to relax in the sunshine, enjoying an ice-cream.

Durlston Country Park relies heavily on volunteers to help manage the park and in the visitor centre, in the same way the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre uses volunteers to help with

school and public walks, work on the desk in the Centre and be involved in the winter working party to complete maintenance work, renovations and develop new displays for the public to enjoy. It was suggested the Friends of Durlston may like to make a reciprocal visit to Charmouth.

In July, 26 Friends of Durlston made the trip to Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. We were pleased to welcome them with light refreshments. The CHCC is based in the upstairs of the old cement works that has been gradually developed over the past 30 years since the conception of the idea, by local people, that Charmouth needed a Centre. It was felt this was needed to provide information about the coastline and fossils to be found in Charmouth. Senior Warden, Meirel Whaites, gave the visitors a talk on the history and development of the building, the various activities and a shortened 'fossil finding' talk usually given to the public to enable them to be successful at finding fossils. Following the talk, the Friends of Durlston spent some time on the beach, although the tide was not very good for fossil finding, before enjoying the rest of the day in the local area.



Over the two trips, both groups of volunteers gained valuable understanding of the varying roles fulfilled at each Centre, with the completely different focus that each Centre has, despite both being based on the Jurassic Coast.

Jan Coleman
Social Secretary for Friends of CHCC

Slipper Limpets

The slipper limpet – what an unusual name! Very often, animals and plants are named according to their resemblance to the shapes of familiar items. So this sea shell apparently looks rather like a slipper, due to the plate or shelf on the underside of the shell as shown.

Not many shells are found on Charmouth beach but those with quite tough shells such as ordinary limpets, top shells and slipper limpets, (all gastropods or 'snails') can for a while survive being rolled around amongst the pebbles and boulders. In general slipper limpets are common around the Atlantic, English Channel and North Sea coasts and were introduced to the UK via oyster imports from the USA in the 1800s.

Slipper limpets, with the Latin name of *Crepidula fornicata*, are oval-shaped shells of varying colours in the brown, red, yellow, cream and grey range. Growth lines can be seen on the outer surface. The underside is a creamy white colour, including the 'shelf'. Unlike the garden snail, a familiar and typical gastropod whose coils are pretty obvious, the apex of the slipper limpet only has a small coil. It is within these coils that the animals live but in the case of the slipper limpet, the 'shelf' is also protective to the



internal organs and the fleshy foot which can be withdrawn.

Ordinary limpets (*Patella vulgaris*) on stable parts of the shore are usually found firmly attached to rocks or other hard objects where they make their home and from which they move out to feed on encrusting algae. Slipper limpets are unusual in that they are frequently found attached to each other in chains or sometimes to bivalve seashells such as oysters or mussels.

Perhaps giving rise to the specific name of '*fornicata*' a curved chain of individuals may be found where the older ones at the bottom of the chain are female while the younger ones at the top are males. Strangely, those at the top start off their life as a male and, as they age and grow, they become female. This is a useful adaptation as sperm and eggs are released in close proximity to each other thus increasing the chances of fertilisation.

As filter-feeders, taking plankton from the sea water, these limpets can be a nuisance in commercial oyster and mussel beds where they compete for nutrients.

Rosalind Cole

Jurassic Coast Fossils Online

Almost 1,000 fossils from Dorset and East Devon's museums are now accessible to everyone, thanks to a new online database.

The Jurassic Coast Fossil Finder showcases the fossils held by museums along the Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site. Each fossil has been professionally photographed, some of them as 360 degree rotations. They are presented with a description and fact file of scientific details. It is possible to search in a variety of ways and to display the results in geological order which gives a very visual representation of the nature of the fossil record in this part of the world.

Richard Edmonds, Jurassic Coast Earth Science Manager, and consultant on the project, said: "This is a fantastic resource, not just locally but globally. The Jurassic Coast has a wealth of fossils, and our aim was to make these specimens accessible to everyone. We were careful to write the text so that there is something for everyone – from fun and accessible facts for children and beginners, to more in-depth information for specialists and geology students."

The collection includes the commoner finds such as ammonites and belemnites, but also rarities such as the giant pliosaur skull and recently-discovered ancient reptile footprints and even insects. Although the first phase of the project is completed, the database will be amended and updated as new information or new specimens come to light.

"Many specimens came to the museums with little or no information, while as the science has moved on, so has some of that information, so we welcome any input that helps us enhance or improve the content," said Richard.

The project was run by the Jurassic Coast Museums Partnership and supported by Arts Council England, Natural England and Dorset County Council. It is one of several exciting initiatives to enhance the appeal of the museums. "We hope the Fossil Finder will capture people's imaginations and inspire them to go and see the fossils for real in the museums," Richard added.

<http://jurassiccoast.org/fossilfinder>

Richard Edmonds

Earth Science Manager, Jurassic Coast Team
Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site
& Cathy Lewis, the Project co-ordinator.

Further information:

The participating museums are Dorset County Museum (Dorchester), Lyme Regis Museum, Bridport Museum, Sidmouth Museum, Fairlynch Museum (Budleigh Salterton), Allhallows Museum (Honiton), Beaminster Museum, Portland Museum, Swanage Museum and Wareham Museum.

For further details, photographs or interviews, please contact Richard Edmonds on 01305 224477.



Jurassic Coast Fossil Warden

The Devon/Dorset Coastline is internationally famous as a geological World Heritage Site, and as such attracts visitors and fossil hunters from all parts of the globe in search of the wonderful fossils that can be found on the beaches here.

Over many years it has been reported that a lot of people, with very little knowledge, tend to spend a lot of time digging and hammering in the cliffs looking for that all elusive 'Ammonite', a practice that is inherently dangerous as the cliffs of this coastline are incredibly unstable and are liable to collapse without warning.

Since 2007 I have been employed on a seasonal basis as a fossil warden for the beaches of Lyme Regis and Charmouth, in order to give advice to keen amateur fossil hunters on the safest way to collect fossils. This is achieved by patrolling the beaches and giving people who are actively digging, hammering or climbing in or on the cliffs some advice and to point out the dangers of this site. This is often achieved by giving five to ten minute mini fossil walks along the beach showing people some of the better places to find fossils. I have found that this non-confrontational approach is very much appreciated and often results in happy children and parents who go away with a few prized specimens rather than a bucket of rocks.

As well as the dangers of the cliffs, people are often unaware of the dangers of the sea and tides, so on a rising tide I make an effort to advise people so that they are on a safe part of the

beach and so not liable to be cut off by the rising tide.

I have always felt that it is important to talk to people, not only about the dangers but generally about any issues they may have and to that end am only too happy to answer any questions or more commonly try and identify fossils they have found. Over the years since we have been doing this I like to think we have achieved some success and the fact that a number of families keep coming back, some for four or five years, tends to support this.

Stuart Godman, Jurassic Coast Fossil Warden



What was/is 'Enterprise Neptune'?

50 years ago, the National Trust commissioned Professor John Whittoe of Reading University to carry out a very bold, imaginative and far reaching survey. The challenge was to examine the state of the nation's coastline and to map how the coastal strip was actually being used...was it agriculture...was it caravan sites...was it wasteland...was it industrial etc etc? There was no GIS or Google Earth or even laptops in those days and everything relied on straightforward OS maps that the surveyors then annotated (with phrases such as "deplorable cliff top development above fine chalk cliff" or "numerous tank traps along foreshore"). Remarkably, the whole of the English, Welsh and NI coasts were examined and recorded in this way.

The work took nearly two years to complete with teams of geography students and surveyors physically walking and observing the coast. Today, this map-based archive provides a unique and valuable 'snapshot' of how our coastline was being used 50 years ago. In 2012, the National Trust decided that this archive was a treasure trove and should be revisited. So all the old maps were retrieved and painstakingly digitised. The question that we then wanted to address was: "What have been the main land use changes on the coast of England, Wales and NI in the past 50 years?" and "Can we discern any emerging trends or threats to the coastline?"

Once digitised, the prospect of a comprehensive '50 years on' revisit became a reality because GIS, Google mapping and aerial photography could all be utilised. The new commission was given this time to Leicester University and is now well under way and answers to our questions are expected soon. There will be opportunities to examine in detail where changes, for better or for worse, have taken place and in the case of NT properties, to assess how well we have done in meeting our core purpose of 'protecting beautiful places forever for everyone'.

However, there was another rather amazing outcome that emerged from the original work..... the launch of Enterprise Neptune in 1967; the most successful campaign in the Trust's history. It wasn't completely a new departure however: the origins lie in the infant Trust's acquisition of Barras Nosein in 1897 and in Lord Grey's successful appeal for the Farne Islands in 1925. But Enterprise Neptune captured the imagination of the country. With the launch of this fund-raising campaign, the Trust set itself a big task: to acquire unspoilt coastline that might be at risk from environmentally undesirable development and to bring it into permanent custodianship. It was those old 1965 maps that highlighted the scale of the threat of development to our beautiful coast, and were the catalyst for Neptune.

Today, the Trust is responsible for the care and stewardship of some 742 miles of coastline. Locally this equates to some 17% of the Dorset coast and an even greater percentage of the Cornish coast. Many of these purchases would not have been possible without the funds raised from the public via the Neptune Campaign. So 2015 will not only be a year when we celebrate and reflect on all that 'Neptune' has achieved in the past 50 years (lots of super public engagement events to be announced!) but it will also be a time to look forward.....

What can we expect of 'Neptune' over the next 50 years and how would we wish to see our coastline look and behave at the end of this century? Should we defend the coast from erosion (at increasing expense) or should we endeavor to work more comprehensively with natural process and allow our coast to evolve naturally just as it has done for millions of years? Should we defend at all costs or take a more enlightened view and be prepared to 'roll back' valued infrastructure to a safer, more secure location? These are big, bold questions but fortunately the Trust already has a robust set of coastal management

principles that can be brought to bear.

The refreshed version of 'Shifting Shores' the well-known booklet first produced some 10 years ago, explains in detail the approaches to coastal management that the Trust pursues and is now available online: <http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/document-1355834809529/>

So what will the new GIS-based maps tell us? We know that our coastline is undergoing many changes, some of them related to climate change, erosion and sea level rise but also from human pressures and interventions, after all, we are an island! The demand for coastal land for development continues apace. Tourism accommodation and recreational demands bring pressure to bear to develop hitherto undeveloped lengths of coastline. In other places, degraded sections of coastline (ex-industrial land or worked-out quarries for example) offer a challenge to the Trust (if they were to be acquired). The aspiration is always to return that coastline to a more environmentally satisfactory state.

We know that 'change' is inevitable, especially at the coast, but it is often difficult to quantify and explain. The fact that we can now look back over 50 years of change in absolute terms as a result of those 1965 annotated maps is a real gift that the National Trust intends to use to the full.

Tony Flux

*National Trust
Coast and Marine Adviser (SW)*



National Coastwatch – Eyes Along the Coast



NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION (NCI) LYME BAY – RECENT ACTIVITIES

The ferocious winter weather was challenging and dramatic for our Lyme Bay National Coastwatch volunteers. Despite the violent storms, we managed to maintain our watch schedules.

However, there were a couple of occasions when the wind forces became so strong we had to close our shifts early as conditions were becoming dangerous for our volunteers.

Then disaster struck. Our lookout, which was based precariously on the cliffs at Burton Bradstock, was totally destroyed in the last big storm on St Valentine's Day. Fortunately, no one was hurt as the disaster happened after dark. The singer Billy Bragg, who lives close by, heard the crashing noise of the lookout roof landing in his garden and saw the rest of the lookout imploding. He then braved the storm to rescue some of our valuable radio and optical equipment. We are most grateful for his quick thinking and brave action.

The NCI was formed in 1994 after a fatal accident off the coast of Cornwall and aimed to restore a visual watch along the coast after some Coastguard Stations had been closed in a round of cuts. Since then the NCI has established nearly 50 lookout stations with almost two thousand volunteers. This is a totally voluntary organisation and gets its funding entirely from public donations.

The NCI maintains a visual watch along UK shores hence the motto 'Eyes Along the Coast' and the mission of each lookout station is to assist in the protection and preservation of life at sea and around the UK coastline. Each lookout does this by monitoring vessels, divers, surfers, hang-gliders, other inshore activity and takes appropriate action in the event of an emergency.

We were already planning to move to a much improved lookout next door to the Hive Café and not too far from our old location. We had, of course, hoped for a smooth, orderly transition once the new building, which was on order, was completed. But we were now faced with a gap and we wanted to keep the NCI flag flying. We were lucky in that one of our volunteers has a house overlooking the sea at Charmouth and we were able to use her home to maintain basic weekend shifts and keep in touch with Portland Coastguard.

Our team had to move up several gears to get the new premises built and fitted out but we were able to start operations in April and the lookout was formally commissioned in May. This was a testimony to our volunteers (who are from all walks of life) and the varied skills they can offer, whether on logistics, building, carpentry or technical matters – and, of course, their time.

As the NCI is funded by public donations, building the replacement lookout in short order put a strain on our funds. However, we were particularly fortunate to receive a very generous donation of several thousand pounds from a friend of the NCI, which meant we could get back up to speed more quickly. The result is a larger, weatherproof lookout from which we can fulfill our watchkeeping duties and engage with the public in providing advice on safety at sea. We were put to the test soon after commissioning as we also passed our annual "Declared Facilities Status" - with flying colours. This is essentially an annual assessment undertaken by all NCI stations to ensure we meet training and operational standards as part of the UK's Search and Rescue family of organisations.

This was no mean feat given the disruption our team had been through.

There is still some consolidation work for our new lookout and we need to get used to some new procedures but, despite this year's setbacks, we are now, as a station, in a better position than before the disastrous storm. So what next?:

We are aiming to fill seven day a-week daytime watches all year round. We had only been operating full daily watches during the summer season. We have been lucky in recruiting a good number of volunteers but we still need to keep our numbers up and are always seeking new recruits. No experience necessary except good common sense!

In the Autumn, Portland Coastguard, with whom we closely co-ordinate our work, will be moving to a new base in Hampshire which will be known as Solent Coastguard. From there it will coordinate search and rescue activity along a large part of the south coast including Lyme Bay. Local mobile Coastguard rescue teams will continue to operate. For the NCI we see little change, although our local knowledge will become more important in our dealings with the new Solent Coastguard team. We are ready.

Mike Seaman, Senior Watchkeeper



Billy Bragg and some of the Lyme Bay NCI team with the remains of the old lookout.



Our new lookout at Hive Beach, Burton Bradstock.

Think Volunteering

Volunteering for the NCI is enjoyable and worthwhile and we now have several volunteers from Charmouth and the immediate surrounding area. The NCI exists entirely on public donations, whether from collection days, event sponsorship or direct contributions. Even if you don't want to join us you can support us with a donation. If you want to learn more, just look at the websites below. If you are interested in joining and want an application form or want to give a donation, please contact:

Judith Gifford (Recruitment/Donations Co-ordinator): –

Email: judithgifford@virginmedia.com

Phone: 07784 538174

Lyme Bay NCI website: <http://www.lymebaycoastwatch.co.uk/>

NCI (national) website: <http://www.nci.org.uk/>

Local sign language centre shortlisted for prestigious award

A local centre that offers courses and qualifications in British Sign Language (BSL) has been shortlisted for a high profile national award by UK charity and leading awarding body in deaf communications, Signature.

Lyme Bay BSL, which is based in Charmouth, has been named as one of four contenders in the Centre of the Year category at the 2014 Signature Annual Awards.

The awards honour individuals, organisations and community groups that are striving to break down the barriers of communication between deaf and hearing people.

Lyme Bay BSL has been offering Signature qualifications in BSL since 2008. A relatively small centre, it is renowned for its personal touch and close relationships with learners and the wider South West deaf community.

All learners are made to feel welcome and relaxed, and are encouraged to progress and build their confidence. The centre goes the extra mile by arranging Skype sessions with any student that has been unwell so they are kept up-to-date with their tutorials, and provides information about careers working with deaf and deafblind people. Students are also encouraged to interact with deaf clubs – both locally and in other counties – to help them understand more about the deaf community.

The centre is run by director Kate Fowler, who is profoundly deaf herself.

Kate said: "We are delighted to have made the shortlist for this award – it's a great feeling to be acknowledged for the work we do to assist learners and make a positive difference in the local community."



Jim Edwards, Signature chief executive, said: "We are pleased to be recognising Lyme Bay BSL in the Centre of the Year category at this year's awards. The centre has a fantastic reputation and receives impressive feedback from learners. It has also succeeded in forging strong connections with local deaf and hearing communities and organisations, and its commitment to ensuring that all students are supported equally is commendable."

Lyme Bay BSL will join shortlisted entrants in categories such as Organisational Achievement, Teacher of the Year, Learner of the Year, Young Learner of the Year, Community Spirit and Communication Professional of the Year. The winner will be announced at a prestigious award ceremony at Durham Cathedral this October.

For more information, please visit www.signature.org.uk/awards/

Seasonal Affective Disorder

Winter is coming, the nights are drawing in, and for a few of us it's a SAD time - a time when we can experience Seasonal Affective Disorder.

There is a proven correlation between sunlight and brain function; the amount of light entering our eyes affects the chemical stimuli in the brain that control our moods. During the winter months there is less sunlight and this can have a direct effect on those who suffer from SAD.

We are not talking about the "winter blues" whereby a dull day induces a sense of low mood. SAD, for a small proportion of the population, has a debilitating effect on their health, relationships and work. Common symptoms can range from depression, lethargy, overeating, relationship problems and sleep disturbance, along with behavioural and physical side effects.

Once aware of your prevalence to suffer from SAD you can anticipate the triggers such as reports that winter storms are ahead or when the clocks go back. Light therapy is often used to treat SAD. It involves sitting in front of, or beneath, a light box that produces a very bright light. Using such a light for a short time each day can change the negative effects of the shorter days.

Absorbing as much natural light as possible, exercise and healthy eating can all help. Avoid stressful situations and ensure you have a good support network. Share how you feel with those close to you, reminding yourself that you are not alone, the experience you are having is real and yet it is not fixed and you can be helped.

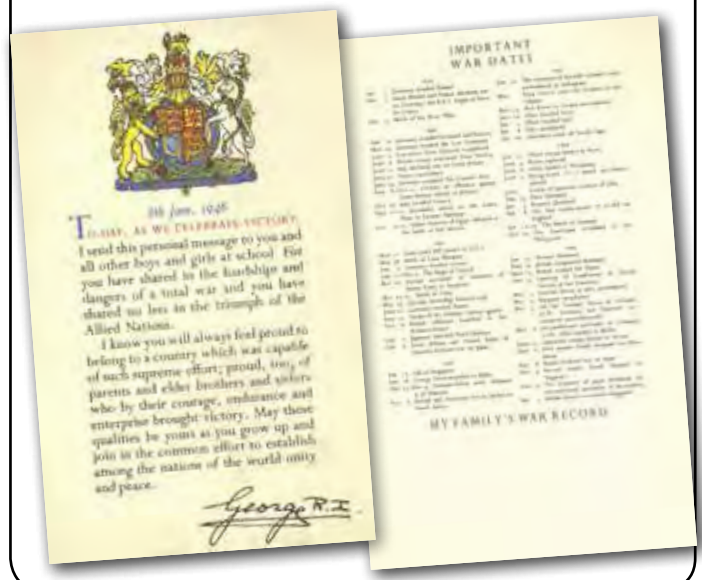
If you feel unable to cope or want more information, try www.mind.org.uk or www.nhs.uk. If you are seeking a therapist, go to www.itsgoodtotalk.org.uk

Helen Parker MBCAP

WORLD WAR II VICTORY CERTIFICATE

Ros Bizley has kindly provided Shoreline with a copy of the certificate, signed by King George VI, that her late mother Janet was given when she was attending Ware Grammar School in Hertfordshire. Each British school child received one. It recognised the hardships and dangers they had endured during World War II and the role many of them had played in the war effort, collecting and recycling salvage. The reverse side lists the key events and dates during the war.

Lesley Dunlop



Charmouth Gardeners Autumn 2014

Hello again everyone. Didn't we have a good year for the gardens? A bit too hot at times, then a few torrential showers, then some more even hotter sun; plants not behaving as we expected, some not bothering to grow at all, but on the whole not bad! After all, we do live on an island surrounded by sea and we do have to put up with America's cast off storms and the weather forecasters, but we love it!

What about the Show then? I thought it was one of the best we have had and two of the judges have spoken to me since and praised us for such a good turnout and layout. Our show secretary namely Mrs. Pauline Bonner and her helpers, along with all the exhibitors, really did us proud this year. Thanks I think really should go to all the new people who entered this year, especially in The Children's Classes. To name a few..... Jacob & Freya Linney, Vicky & Georgina Harvey, Laura & Christopher Kimich, Mair & Toby Stonex, Oswald Gardner and Olivier James. Well done and keep up the good work... and encourage your friends to have a go.

The seniors who did well are to be congratulated too. Ron Dampier, Jill Berriman, Diana Burn, Penny Rose (who sounds like a flower herself), Steve Hillier, Jan Coleman, Mike Cox, Kathy Fereday, Karen Loader and David Betts, to name but a few. The cup/trophy winners were: Grace Laker Cup & Banksian Medal for Overall Excellence in many classes – Sheila Samuel; Rose Cup, Rose Vase & the Mattingly Pudding Plate – Kathy Fereday; Joe Tisshaw Trophy, Poppleton Cup & Diploma of Excellence – Ron Dampier; Marcel Clouzy Cup & George Cup – Penny Rose; Stan Durbridge Bowl & Diploma of Excellence – Jan Plummer; Wyn Durbridge Bowl – Sue Brunner; Clouzy Cup – Chris Hinton; Thalatta Cup – Sheila Coulson; Norah Kidd Trophy – John Kennedy; Cup for Best Photograph – Neil Harvey; RHS Junior Award of Merit – Laura Kimmich, Oswald Gardner and Olivia James.

2014 - Well, we have had eight months of this year (written in August) and only another four to go, then we will be thinking about getting ready to do it all over again! Let's look at the four months to come.

October - *A time of dahlias and chrysanthemums (my birthday flower). I always try to grow some every year as they also look lovely as cut flowers placed in a tall vase and help to chase away a gloomy day. I love the scent too. Time to look at your Hellebores. Did you manage to cut back last spring's foliage? If not, do it now, making sure you do not cut off the new young leaves and, in some cases, buds! Buds can develop quite early on these plants. Bearded Iris need attention too. Cut the leaves off in a fan shape leaving about four inches, lift them carefully and split them if large enough. When transplanting, let the roots go down into a ready-made hole, filling in with the soil taken out and place the rhizome on the surface, banking the soil up to protect it and keep it upright. It will rise above the soil as it grows and next year you will have double the amount. There are some lovely colours in this species. Green Manure, ideal if you have cleared your bedding of weeds for the coming season! All you do is purchase a packet. Most garden centers and seed catalogues have it and in the spring, when you do your first dig, you can turn it over with the soil and it will enrich the ground as it is full of essential nutrients. The worms love it!*

Less hardy plants need to be covered with fleece or taken under cover to keep out any frost. Perennials can be cut back, as they will stay underground dormant until spring comes around again. Clear any annual plants as they die off or begin to seed if you do not want them in the garden next year. Now is the time to start putting in your bulbs, especially early spring flowering ones. Look on the packs and see the time for planting and flowering. Leave tulips until next month. This month is the ideal time to set lawn seed, especially if your lawn needs repairing. Suttons have come up with a self-repairing lawn

seed, which I understand is ideal.

November - This is the time to plant out winter bedding plants and give them some cover from frost. Plants in pots or containers need to be put up on feet to allow them to drain and prevent icing up. They also need covering. Tulip bulbs should now be set, if you are planting in the ground, three-four inches deep. Placing tulips into pots is the same, but keep them away from the side of the pot to prevent frost bite. The ideal way is to put some soil in the pot, then a layer of sharp grit. Place the bulbs on top and cover them with a mix of soil and grit, which allows them to drain adequately. Do not put too many in and cramp them; you can repeat the process with another layer if the pot or container is large enough and then fill to 2" below the rim to allow for watering and feeding. Make sure the bird feeder etc. are clean and refreshed with new food.

December - *A quiet time in the garden, but there are still things to do if you grow! If you grow vines they will require pruning; if you have birch trees on your land prune to prevent them from bleeding. Keep an eye on your house plants, which should only be watered now when they are almost dry and only enough to keep them going. Take off any dead foliage to keep them tidy. Harvest any remaining crops from your garden or allotment e.g. Parsnips, leeks and cabbages. Greenhouses may require heating if you have special plants in them but, if not, keep an eye out for any really cold weather and act accordingly. All I can suggest now is that you give a hand with the coming celebrations and enjoy your Christmas meals. Sit back and look at your seed/plant catalogues, and plan for the next season. Don't forget the birds..... I hope you all have a lovely time and I wish you all A MERRY CHRISTMAS.*

January 2015 - Well here we are again and HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all. Time still to peruse the seed catalogues and plan for the coming season. Also time, if free from frost, to prune gooseberries, red and white currants, keeping the centre of the plant open and allowing it to bush out with eight-ten main branches. Prune last year's stems by half. Apples and pears can be pruned now, also maintaining an open centre. Anyone growing fruit as cordons or espaliers should thin out spurs if required; this helps to keep the plants open and prevents overcrowding. Start pruning wisteria, prune back the hard last year's growth that was pruned in summer; prune to within two or three buds of the older wood. Start planting bare root shrubs and trees as long as there is no frost or water logged ground. Now is the time to keep your eyes open for pests, Downy mildew and leaf spot on pansies and violas. Any diseased leaves should be removed straight away; this also applies to some house plants. Check for signs of rot on any tubers or bulbs you may have stored. Keep an eye on your greenhouse and check all plants for die back and mildew, water if required - sparingly. Check your seed packets and sow any that can be set at this time of year just a few at a time. That way you don't have hours spent transplanting them all in one go. Keep a record of the date so that you can space out the sowing times evenly. Keep under cover, only planting a few at a time. This way, they will continue throughout the season giving a ready supply.

I wonder how many of you go out and about to see the snowdrops in winter. Looking in the Marshwood Vale magazine will keep you informed of the places and times for viewing. In some places like Compton Valence they (I think it is the W.I. ladies) put on an afternoon tea that is well worth the day out. Kingston Herring at Dorchester is another place to see thousands of snowdrops all in flower.

Well I think that is all for now. Hopefully I will be back for the spring session; keep in touch. Happy gardening and take care of your backs.

Busy Lizzy

Charmouth Christian Fellowship

As I started to think about writing this article, I wondered how many folk doing the same thing had the same thoughts as I did. Can I really be writing this for the autumn edition already? Where has the time gone? Then another thought came to mind. Is it really over 50 years since I left school? It amazes me, but it doesn't depress me. Maybe that sort of thinking can depress some people, but the Christian Faith teaches a lot about time and there is a wonderful passage in the Old Testament in Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 on 'everything has a time'. It is well worth reading.

In October we celebrate our first year and, without a doubt, we have been greatly blessed. We have more or less doubled our regular numbers and our mid-week meeting has outgrown Mike's flat, so we now meet in The Elms, as we do on Sundays. We have had many visitors and holidaymakers join us; some have come back several times. Our Sunday

Service has a very flexible structure. When a couple of visitors came in half-an-hour late, rather than have them creep in at the back trying not to disturb us, at a suitable time in the service we greeted them and had a chat with them. Why not? If you had a family get-together and one turned up late, you wouldn't expect them to creep in without a word.

Being flexible gives others a chance to share what God has done for them; something that often happens, and also gives opportunity for other folk to pray. We have often wondered: do we have a Sunday service or a Sunday meeting? When Jesus taught his disciples the Lord's Prayer, He started with "Our Father in Heaven..." We reckon if you can say those words from your heart, then you're family, so we have a Sunday Family Gathering!! We meet every Sunday in The Elms at 6.00pm and every Wednesday at 7.00pm for Bible study and prayer. All are welcome.

Every blessing to all Shoreline readers.

Tony English 01297 560562

What do 750 Canapés, D-Day, the British Empire Medal and St Andrew's Church Have in Common?

I have to admit that this might be a biased report as I play and occasionally sing with the Wessex Big Band, but I think it's fair to say that their D-Day concert in St Andrew's Church was a big success. It was the third year running that the band had been invited to play and this year the concert was organised by the Weldmar Hospices Charmouth Fundraising Committee and members of the St Andrew's congregation.

Although not originally planned as a D-Day (plus one) commemoration event, the 7th June date was the only one on offer that the band could do. So, on the day, the audience was greeted outside the church by a display of vehicles and medals, thanks to our local military vehicle enthusiast John Forsey. Inside, the church was decked with bunting and lots of people in the audience rose to the challenge and dressed in period costume. The land girls' costumes were so good that I didn't recognise one of them as a friend and asked later why she hadn't been there!

The band played a range of swing music from the period and featured a number of classic Glen Miller tunes, but for many the highlight was the vocals from the Band's young singers, Imogen and Sophie, students at Yeovil College. During the interval, the

audience was treated to a feast of canapés made and donated by the organisers and many of their (press-ganged?) friends. Suitably refreshed, it was then their turn to join in with renditions of some classic wartime songs.

If you've been to one of these concerts, you'll know that the Band is led by Alan Brown, a wonderful character who, at over 80, still gets the band going and the audience dancing in the aisles. When at rehearsal he suggested we did the Conga I thought it might be a step too far, but I underestimated him and our Charmouth audience! Well, I didn't really underestimate the audience. The band loves playing at Charmouth and, after one concert, one of the sax players asked me if we could borrow you for all our gigs.

And the end result of all this enjoyment? Over £1,300 shared between Weldmar Hospices and St Andrew's. Thank you people of Charmouth and beyond.

But what about the British Empire Medal? Shortly after the concert, we heard that Alan Brown had been awarded the BEM for services to music – a wonderful and well-earned accolade.

Richard Fereday



Kathy Fereday in World War II dress with a jeep of the era and the Band in action

Ragwort Alert – Part 3

In my last Ragwort Alert (last winter's *Shoreline*, page 34), I explained that some controversy hangs over the control of Ragwort. However, the legal obligation to prevent its spread to grazing pastures and hay meadows is totally clear. Also, the process by which the level of risk is defined is spelt out in the DEFRA Code of Practice, from which it is known that much of the by-pass remains a maximum risk area.

It's nearly time to assess this year's efforts. As I write this, some remaining Ragwort is just beginning to go to seed. This year, the pulling gangs had started much earlier. So, *thank you very much for that Balfour Beatty* (and the Highways Agency). Where the gangs have been pulling, the job has been done very thoroughly - which is great to see.

You would have to say 'so far so good'.

It remains critical that the pulling continues over these next days to complete the task. We have grey areas where the responsibility lies between the Highways Agency and Dorset County Council...and neither wants it. Given the existing Ragwort density, the bypass will remain a high risk area for a considerable time while the seeds of past lapses continue to germinate.

You could say 'they will be pulling Ragwort each summer for quite some time yet'.

Last summer, Ragwort had been quite the dominant yellow-flowering plant on the by-pass. This year it was rather outstripped by Common Fleabane. It is similar in height to the Ragwort and also has a bright yellow flower, but the flower and the leaves are quite different and the Balfour Beatty Boys have been careful to leave it alone.



The Fleabane has been attracting lots of insects, and one day in July, I photographed several butterflies (Common Blues,

Clouded Yellows, & Small Tortoiseshells) in the space of fifteen minutes, right there on our by-pass. It was a sight for sore eyes, I can tell you.

Another yellow-flowering plant that has done really well this year has been St John's Wort – the Ragwort pullers leave that one untouched too.

You could say 'there's more to pulling Ragwort than meets the eye'.

Earlier this spring, the floral diversity was even more impressive with some really extensive swathes of Orchids. As a nature reserve, a roadside verge really is an asset – or it can be – and this year our by-pass surely has been just that.

As a note of caution, the Ragwort seedlings that may have germinated from last year's massive uptake of seed are not yet so obvious. At this stage, the plants lie close to the ground and they will not flower until next year. I have seen a lot more on the farm this year. Next spring we can expect quite an influx of flowering Ragwort that will need ever more diligence.

You could say 'persistence is the key'.

A sterling effort from Balfour Beatty over the past weeks is very much appreciated. Thanks again.

John Calder

Shopping Success

Herringbone has enjoyed a splendid first summer season. The shop is proving to be popular with both holiday-makers and residents, and customers have wholeheartedly supported our designer/makers by buying their locally handmade goods. We have had many positive comments and much encouragement, in the shop itself and on Facebook – please follow and 'like' us by searching, **herringbone charmouth**

Word is spreading and we currently have original work from over 40 local artists/makers. Some are well known in the locality and others are very small producers or just beginning. Work ranges from textiles, photography, driftwood items, artisan chocolate, jewellery, ceramics and original paintings and prints. All pieces are one-offs and won't be found on the typical high street. We are constantly adding to and refreshing our stock and our latest inclusions are some colourful linoprint greetings cards and quirky leather bags. Besides this, we have an array of thoughtfully chosen, preloved items for our vintage enthusiasts.

We really enjoyed being a part of Charmouth Fayre in early August and would like to say a big 'thank you' to all our customers for their valued support and enthusiasm. We are now looking forward to the autumn months and, dare we say it, Christmas! We hope to go from strength to strength in the new year, whilst continuing to delight the local community with our ever-changing window displays which have always attracted such a wonderful response.

Please feel free to contact us at: herringbonecharmouth@gmail.com or just drop in.

Open daily 10.00am to 5.00pm (closed Tuesday and Sunday)



showcasing a selection of high quality
original gifts from the heart
of the Jurassic Coast

herringbone

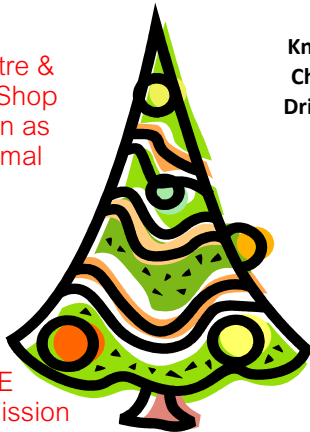
The Street Charmouth DT6 6PE
herringbonecharmouth@gmail.com

What's on in Charmouth

Jurassic Art & Craft Fayre Charmouth

Sat 15th and Sun 16th November
10.30 am - 4.30 pm

Centre &
Gift Shop
open as
normal



FREE
admission

Knitted & stitched gifts
Christmas decorations
Driftwood & Salt Lamps
Paintings
Gift Cards
Beach Bags
Jewellery
Pottery
Wood Turning
Homemade Cakes
& Preserves
Refreshments

A great opportunity to buy unique Christmas gifts
by local artists and makers
amid the fascinating displays of the family-friendly Charmouth
Heritage Coast Centre (01297 560772)

Registered Charity No: 1105386

Monkton Wyld Court

4 & 15 Oct, 19 Nov, 6 & 17 Dec – From 12.30pm, Local Lunch, £7.
Please prebook.

1-12 Oct – Harmony Singing Weekend

For more information contact monktonwyldcourt@btinternet.com

Chicago Bridge Afternoon

Please do join us... ALL Bridge players welcome
Saturday 17th January ... 2pm
Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close
Lovely afternoon tea included
£6.00 p.p.

For more information or tickets, please contact 01297
561662 or 01297 560251
Charmouth Twinning Association.

Knit & Natter Group Coffee Morning

at 10.00am – noon

on Saturday 22 November

at the Village Hall, Wesley Close

Funds raised will be used to make donations to the charities
the group knits for and to purchase wool

The group meets each Thursday afternoon in the United
Reformed Church

Jan Coleman, 01297 561625

"Piano Pieces" a concert by pupils of Sarah Smith

on Friday 7 November at 6.30PM
St Andrew's Hall
Charmouth



Admission £2

Tea, Coffee and Cold Drinks

For more information contact: Sarah Smith
Tel: 01297 561550

PROFITS TO FERNE ANIMAL SANCTUARY

EXETER LEUKAEMIA FUND COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER IN THE VILLAGE HALL
10.30AM - 1.00AM

MINCE PIES & COFFEE

CAKES/BOOKS/BRIC-A-BRAC & CHRISTMAS GIFTS/RAFFLE
DONATIONS OF BRIC-A-BRAC/CAKES/BOOKS WOULD BE
WELCOME,

AS WOULD OFFERS OF HELP ON THE DAY.
PLEASE CONTACT JAN PLUMMER, 01297 560730

Rotary Christmas Charity Collection The Street, Charmouth

24 December
8.00 – noon

CHARMOUTH FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF WELDMAR HOSPICECARE TRUST

invite you to an

Evening of Wit and Wisdom (aka The Quiz)

On Saturday 11th October commencing at 7.30 pm

In Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close

Tickets £7.00 to include light refreshments

Teams of 4

Tickets available from Angela on 01297 561536

Wine and soft drinks available to buy

CHARMOUTH FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF WELDMAR HOSPICECARE TRUST

invite you to a

Carols, Cheese and Cheer lunch

on Saturday December 6th from 12noon to 2pm

in Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close

Tickets £7.50 each includes a glass of wine, lunch and entertainment.

Raffle

Tickets available from Kathy on 01297 560446

We Remember

Janet Bizley

***Dance as though no one is watching you,
Love as though you have never been hurt before,
Sing as though no one can hear you,
Live as though heaven is on earth. (Souza)***

When I was asked to write about my mother for Shoreline, the words from The Sound of Music sprang to mind – 'How do you catch a cloud and pin it down?' How, in a few sentences, do I capture my mother's essence, her very self? I will do my best.....

My mother, Janet, who died on 7th June this year was always a 'glass-half-full' person (and, in my mind's eye, that glass was at least half-full of champagne!), full of life, of sparkle, with a love of sophistication, elegance and good taste.

After leaving school and attending a secretarial college, Janet worked as a shorthand typist in a large company in the City of London – but oh, how she hated it. She dreamed of going into theatre, but in the 1950s such dreams were usually frowned upon.

Fortunately she soon 'escaped' into marriage and homemaking. She had always longed to have children and was very involved in our upbringing; never failing to bring excitement and a sense of occasion to Christmases and birthdays.

She later enjoyed working as a medical receptionist and an antique dealer, and also trained to be a model. For a few years she worked as an 'extra' for television advertisements and took part in a professional Keep Fit video produced by Britt Ekland; she adored being part of the glamorous world of television – even queuing for canteen food early in the morning was all part of the excitement to her. Her lifelong loves of ballet, dance, theatre and singing (in all of which she was extremely talented), made her a valuable member of Operatic Societies and, when she moved to Charmouth, of the Keep Fit Association and the 3Cs Choir. She had several short stories published in The Lady magazine – quite an achievement.

Janet was extremely proud of her children and grandchildren; our artistic achievements, especially, brought her enormous joy.

Never one to stay long in one place, Janet always wanted to have a plan for her next house move, and those who knew her well would know of her amazing flair for creating a beautiful home wherever she went. Her vision was truly remarkable and she transformed what seemed to me to be the most unpromising houses, into stylish, elegant homes.



'Oh it's all very, very exciting!' she often said. Always on the lookout for the next project, she was still contacting estate agents about possible houses to view a few weeks before she died; she always loved to have a glimpse of new possibilities and new challenges, just round the corner... waiting for her....

Fiercely private and wanting to appear as elegant and as vivacious as ever, many people knew nothing of the extent of her illness. An 'inspiration' according to her oncologist, she coped with major surgery and gruelling chemotherapy with characteristic courage and optimism.

When Janet's illness had progressed to the point at which she felt that her world had 'shrunk', and she realised that she would probably never be able to move house again, and would no longer be able to take an active part in the activities she loved so much, I wrote this poem... with love and thanks to all my mother's friends in Charmouth and beyond, from Rosalind.

JOIE DE VIVRE

*Happiness comes flying in from unexpected places:
In songs of birds, in scent of flowers, in kind and loving faces;
And 'midst appointments, drips and pills
And talk of symptoms – many ills -
You glimpse the joy, the love and light
Of a world beyond, just out of sight:*

*A secret garden, door ajar,
Promise of springtime, follow the star,
Whispers of angels, wings of snow,
Trees so green, sun's golden glow,
Baby's lullaby, gentle breeze,
Cotton wool clouds and moonlit seas;*

*Glimpses of Heaven in the voice of a friend,
In the touch of a loved-one – love without end,
Waves of contentment, simple pleasures,
A bluebell haze and memory's treasures,
The night so still, the dawn's caress,
The promise of day, and hands that bless.*

*The path you tread is often steep, and long may seem the night,
But from the darkest hours of all will come dawn's gentle light;
The winter will pass and the flowers will appear,
And softly will sing Heaven's dove;
Take heart, my beloved, my darling, my dear one,
Step into the realms of Love.*

Rosalind Bizley



Jill Sell

Born and brought up at Bishops Stortford, Jill lived in that area until she came to Charmouth with her husband Geoffrey ten years ago. After leaving school she studied at the Guildhall School of Music both as a singer and piano player and it became apparent she had especial talents as an accompanist. However a career down that professional route would have meant living in London. Jill had met Geoffrey by then, and neither wanted to live in London.

Her talents were used by the local amateur operatic society both as a singer and eventually as musical director. She also started and directed choirs, first in the Townswomen's Guild and then as a group called MisSELLany, who gave concerts around the area and raised thousands of pounds for charity. Jill's other great passion was, of course, her family – two daughters, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, who gave her enormous pleasure.

Geoffrey Sell

We Remember

Meriol Rosemary Kalmar

02/07/1932 – 17/06/2014

Meriol spent her early years in Radlett, Hertfordshire, and as a boarder at St Albans High School. She is remembered there by Ann McNair (three years her junior) as a very active sports player, captaining various teams and playing cricket, tennis and lacrosse. Her father, who worked at the Bank of England, achieved fame by inventing the metal strip which is inserted into bank notes.

Meriol went to work in the Accounts Department of the Norwich Union. When they moved to Exeter, she began her association with the south west and finally moved to Charmouth. In the village she became involved in a variety of activities including the Golden Cap Flower Club and the Women's Institute. She was an excellent and artistic flower arranger, creating designs using blooms from her own garden or wild flowers gathered during walks (usually with her beloved dogs) in the countryside. Her arrangements often won awards at the Annual Flower Show. She regularly provided decorations for church events and on many occasions created table decorations for various lunches and dinners. As Treasurer of the Flower Club, she would diligently remind members if they had not paid their dues.

Meriol was also active in the WI – for some years while there



was a Charmouth branch, then at Whitchurch and back to Charmouth when it reformed. She was the organiser and an active member of the WI Skittles team, competing at local hostels against other WI teams and, on a number of occasions, gave demonstrations on flower arranging. She was keen on competitions, entering her home-made jams and cordials in the annual show at Whitchurch, and was very enthusiastically involved with the annual croquet day at Dorchester, winning two medals. Her love of sport also extended to table tennis and she was the Treasurer of a local club. In recent years she did some travelling, including two visits to South Africa where she had a cousin.

Her lovely old cottage was a very sociable spot and she created a delightful cottage garden. She would always welcome visitors and her New Year's Day lunch was a most popular event when she would, with the help of a few friends, provide a buffet for 40 or 50 people. Her love of plants and gardens also made her a keen member of Charmouth Gardeners where she would regularly attend the lectures and go on the coach outings. She provided lodging for a number of the summer wardens from the Heritage Coast Centre and they all praised her kindness and her care.

Meriol did a lot to support our village – she was a lovely lady who is sadly missed.

This record of Meriol's life was collated by Chris Horton who kindly gathered information from her friends in the village.

Here to Work

Helen Parker – Charmouth Counselling

I moved with my mother into Little Lodge earlier this year after what has been for me a lifetime's wish to live in this area.

Little Lodge is our dream. We feel the house waited for us to come. This may sound strange but it is as if we were destined to be here. Houses do that to people. Since our arrival the welcome and kindness from fellow residents has been overwhelming.

So, I bring my main vocation as a Humanistic and CBT therapist, which looks at the relationship between our thoughts, feelings and behaviour. I believe people can lose their sense of direction or purpose and become unable to see anything positive in a situation. They become stuck in negative patterns of thoughts which can affect them physically. Therapy is a powerful way to work through this negativity.

I am experienced in working with stress, depression and anxiety, drugs, alcohol and mental health matters. I also hold workshops for fellow therapists and organisations on difference and diversity which can be transferred to our daily lives.

Therapists have to be grounded and not cloistered in their rooms so I also sell minerals and crystals. This has been my life-long passion since studying geology at degree level. You will often find me rummaging on the beach whilst walking my dog Annie. I am more used to being at an old tin mine or on the North Pennines than fossil hunting; slowly though I'm getting the bug.

In therapeutic terms our move to Charmouth is ACE

- Association – the house, the history
- Closeness – the people, the countryside
- Enjoyment – a sense of wonder, self-fulfilment

Helen Parker,
www.charmouthcounselling.com

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Helen Parker MBCAP

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Noticeboard



An Historical Moment.

The reinstatement of the refurbished weather vane to the roof of the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. It had been removed for repairs in early May when scaffolding was put up to repair the winter storm damage.

Geoff Townson



Happy swan family on the River Char
By Geoff Townson

All Shoreline issues
can be seen online at
www.charmouth.org



Apology

In the summer issue we omitted to credit Charmouth geologist and artist Geoff Townson for his impressive series of photographs with accompanying captions, headed Winter Storms Reveal Local Geology



This photo was taken whilst Diane Lobo (Jan & Tony English's daughter) was watching 'Elbow' at the Pyramid Stage, as the sun was setting over Glastonbury Festival 2014! Diane comments: "Glastonbury was the usual combination of great music, art and eccentricity, mixed with sunshine, rain and lots of mud! But there was still time to catch up on the news from the Charmouth Shoreline magazine and great to read the good news of Charmouth Christian Fellowship".



Charmouth School children meeting actress Olivia Coleman on the beach.



Hannah Trott and Robbie Lock, posing in front of the golden pavilion in Kyoto.



Russ Pearce, our man in Qatar



Another wonderful summer display from the Red Arrows over Charmouth



Charmouth Open Gardens
Gardeners visit the meticulous well planted garden at the Coleman home.

Shoreline Charmouth - Village Diary

Badminton Club (experience required)	Mon 8-10pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Trish Evans 442136
Badminton (social)	Tues 7-10pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Pauline Bonner 560251
Beavers (ages 6-7)	Tuesdays 6 - 7.15pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Amanda Clist 01297 560157
Bingo (fund raising for Community Hall)	3rd Fri each month 7.30pm (eyes down)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Jane Tait 560801
Bopper Bus	Fri 4.45-8pm	Bridport Leisure Centre Drop off/pick up Primary School	Kate Geraghty 489422 Melanie Harvey 560393
Bowls Club <i>Summer:</i> <i>Winter Short Mat Bowls:</i>	Sun, Tues, Thurs 2-5.30pm Tues 2-5.00pm	Playing Field, Barr's Lane Community Hall Lower Sea Lane	Jackie Rolls 01297 560295 Jim Greenhalgh 01297 561336
Brownies (ages 7-10)	Mon 4.30-6pm (term-time only)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Caroline Davis 560207
Bridge Club (partners can be provided)	Thurs 7-10.30pm	Wood Farm (opposite swimming pool)	Vincent Pielesz 560738
Cherubs	Wed 9.30-11.30am (term-time only)	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Kathryn Radley 442796
Cubs (ages 8-10.5)	Thurs 5.00-6.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Ed Pemberton 01297 560241
Friendship Club	2nd Tues each month (except Jan) 2.30pm	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Joan Davies 32726
Gardeners	2nd Wed each month 2.30pm	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Kay Churchman 560980
Girl Guides (ages 10 onwards)	Wed 7-8.45pm (term-time only)	Wooton Fitzpaine	Davina Pennells 560965
Junior Rangers Club (ages 8-12)	2nd Saturday each month 10.30-12noon	Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre	Helen Anthony 560772
Junior Youth Club (ages 8-12)	Tues 6.30-8.30pm	Youth Club Hall, Wesley Close	James Ward - Rice 01308 422500 or 07827 846891
Library Storytelling & Rhymetime (under 5s)	Fri 9.30-10am	Library, The Street	Mandy Harvey 01297 560167
Parish Council Meeting	3rd Tues each month 7.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Lisa Tuck 01297 560826
Pavey Group (village history)	Tues 9.30-10.30am	The Elms, The Street	Russell Telfer, 560806
POPPs Village Breakfast	Thurs 8.30am-1pm (Sep to Apr)	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Jan Gale 07897 511075
POPPs Village Lunch	1st Tues each month	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Jan Gale 07897 511075
Sewing Circle	Tuesdays 10.30-12.30pm	Charmouth Central	Hazel Robinson 561214 or HazelRosery@aol.com
Scouts (ages 10.5-14)	Thurs 6.45-8.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Carol Moorey 01297 560100
Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Mon to Thurs (term-time only) 9am-12.30pm	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
Tea and Chat	1st & 3rd Monday each month 3pm - 4.15pm	Charmouth Central	Felicity Horton 07736 825283
The British Legion (Women's Section)	1st Wed each month 2.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Trish Forsey 01297 560561
Wyld Morris dancing practice	Wed 7.15pm	Pine Hall, Monkton Wyld Court	Briony Blair 489546
Whist Evening	2nd & 4th Mon each month 7.30pm	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Eileen Lugg 560675

To add or amend any details in the Village Diary or to promote your Charmouth event contact:
Lesley Dunlop | lesley@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk | 01297 561644

Shoreline Charmouth - Local Contacts

EMERGENCIES POLICE	Police, Fire, Ambulance or HM Coastguard	999 or 112
	PC Kirsti Ball, PCSO Luke White & PCSO John Burton for Community Police issues (ask by name)	101
	Non urgent call number for reporting incidents / enquiries	101
	Bridport Police Station, Tannery Road	101
FIRE and RESCUE	West Dorset Fire and Rescue Service — Group Manager	01305 252600
HM COASTGUARD	Sidmouth Road, Lyme Regis (Not 24 hours)	01297 442852
DOCTORS	The Charmouth Medical Practice, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560872
	The Lyme Practice, The Elms Medical Centre, The Street, Charmouth	01297 561068
	The Lyme Practice, Lyme Community Medical Centre, Lyme Regis	01297 445777
	NHS Direct — 24-hour Healthcare Advice and Information Line	0845 4647
HOSPITALS	Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester	01305 251150
	Bridport Community Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bridport	01308 422371
DENTISTS	Dorset Dental Helpline	01202 854443
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	National Rail Enquiries — Information on Timetables, Tickets and Train Running Times	08457 484950
	National Traveline — Information on Bus and Bus/Rail Timetables and Tickets	08712 002233
EMERGENCY	Gas	0800 111999
	Electricity (Western Power Distribution)	0800 365900
	Water (Wessex Water)	08456 004600
	Floodline	08459 881188
	Pollution (Environment Agency)	0800 807060
CHEMISTS	F G Lock, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560261
	Boots the Chemist, 45 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442026
	Lloyds Pharmacy, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442981
SCHOOLS	Charmouth County Primary, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560591
	St Michael's C of E, V A Primary, Kingsway, Lyme Regis	01297 442623
	The Woodroffe School, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442232
CHURCHES	St Andrew's Parish Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Stephen Skinner	01297 443763
	United Reformed Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Ian Kirby	01297 631117
BEFRIENDING	Charmouth	07736 825283
COUNCILS		
CHARMOUTH PARISH	Chairman — Mrs J Bremner	01297 560431
	Clerk — Mrs L Tuck, The Elms, St Andrew's Drive, Charmouth	01297 560826
	Heritage Coast Centre, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560772
	Beach Attendant, Charmouth Beach	01297 560626
W. DORSET DISTRICT	Councillor — Mrs J Bremner	01297 560431
	Mountfield House, Rax Lane, Bridport — All services	01305 251010
DORSET COUNTY	Councillor — Daryl Turner – d.w.turner@dorsetcc.gov.uk	
	County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester — All services	01305 221000
DORSET'S PORTAL FOR COUNTY/DISTRICT/TOWN/PARISH COUNCILS AND OTHER AGENCIES www.dorsetforyou.com		
LOCAL M.P.	Oliver Letwin, House of Commons, SW1A 0AA or e-mail letwin@parliament.uk	0207 219 3000
CITIZENS' ADVICE	St Michaels Business Centre, Lyme Regis (Wed 10am-3pm)	01297 445325
	45 South Street, Bridport (Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)	01308 456594
POST OFFICES	1 The Arcade, Charmouth	01297 560563
	37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442836
LIBRARIES	The Street, Charmouth	01297 560640
	Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 443151
	South Street, Bridport	01308 422778
	South Street, Axminster	01297 32693
SWIM / LEISURE	Bridport Leisure Centre, Skilling Hill Road, Bridport	01308 427464
	Flamingo Pool, Lyme Road, Axminster	01297 35800
	Newlands Holiday Park, Charmouth	01297 560259
CINEMAS	Regent, Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442053
	Electric Palace, 35 South Street, Bridport	01308 424901
THEATRES	Marine Theatre, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442394
	Arts Centre, South Street, Bridport	01308 424204
	Guildhall, West Street, Axminster	01297 33595
TOURIST INFORMATION	Guildhall Cottage, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442138
	Bucky Doo Square, South Street, Bridport	01308 424901

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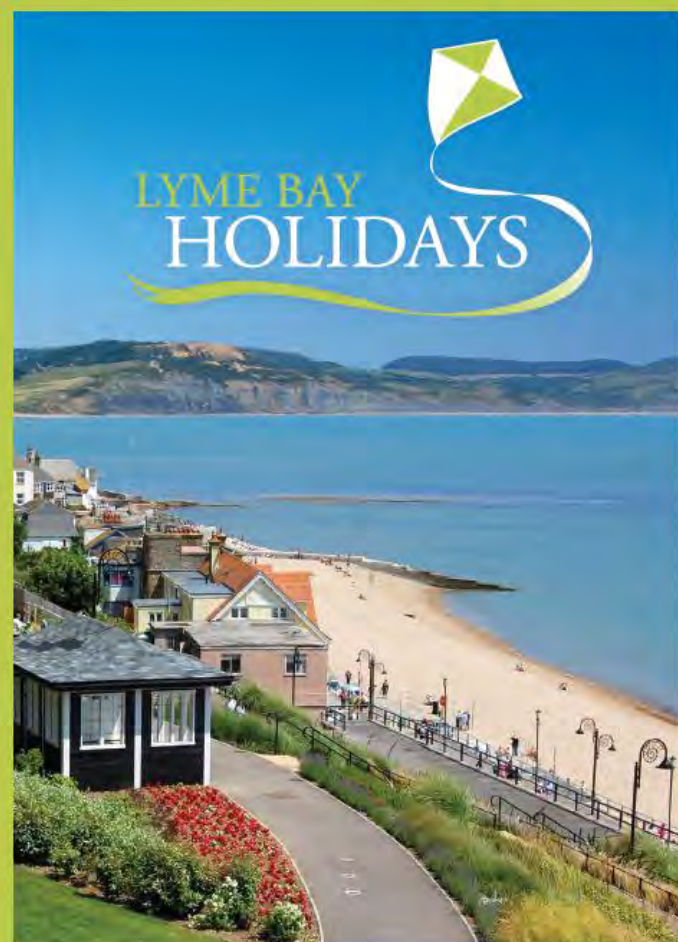
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