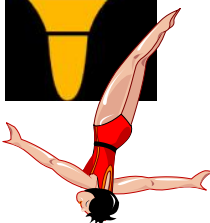


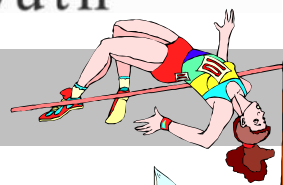
SHORELINE

News and Views from Charmouth

Issue 18



SUMMER OLYMPICS ISSUE



**See John Bryant's
'Is It Worth Watching The Olympic Games?'**
on pages 26 and 27

**Peter Mills' and Roy Churchman's
'Memories of the XIVth Olympiad (1948)'**
on pages 24 and 25



THE ESSENCE OF CHARMOUTH



Adult 1st: Bonnie Bel



Adult 2nd: John Kennedy



**Congratulations
to the winners of
our Photographic
Competition and
many thanks to
everyone who
submitted
entries.**



16 & under 1st: Jessica Hayne



Adult 3rd: Patsy Flather

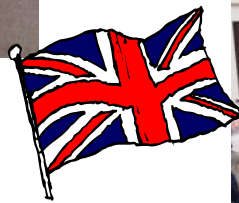


16 & under 2nd: Holly and Rosie Harwood



16 & under 3rd: Tom McDonald

Diamond Jubilee 2012 Photo Album



Photos:
Cherry Davies, top row, centre and right
Mary Davis, bottom row, right
Lesley Dunlop, remainder

Editorial

"If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion."
----- **The Dalai Lama**

Welcome to the bumper summer issue of *Shoreline*, packed from cover to cover with fascinating features, updates from clubs and organisations and the latest village news for your reading pleasure.

As you will see on pages 24 to 31, we had a really great response to our request for articles on the Olympics, past and present, and I would like to thank everyone who contributed such interesting eyewitness accounts of their experiences.

Neil Mattingly continues his meticulous research into the village's history with his 'Pubs of Charmouth' piece on pages 34 to 37. It is almost impossible to imagine that there were once 13 pubs to choose from! The hand-

coloured postcards from the 1890s on the back cover are absolutely charming.

The feedback we received about the spring Jubilee issue was overwhelming and I would like to acknowledge the many complimentary letters, some of which appear below.

Forthcoming events for your diaries include the Charmouth Challenge and Fun Run on Saturday 7th July, the Charmouth Fayre on Sunday 5th August and the Charmouth Gardeners' Show on Saturday 11th August.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Jane

The Shoreline Team

Jane Morrow	Editor
Lesley Dunlop	Assistant Editor, Features and Diary
Colin Pring	Advertising Manager and Treasurer
Bob Dunlop	Design and Layout

Letters

PHOTO SPOTTING - DIAMOND JUBILEE ISSUE

Congratulations to the hardworking team on the superb, colourful Diamond Jubilee Issue of *Shoreline*!

I was surprised to spot myself in one of the 2002 photos. At the time, I was on holiday in Charmouth and I vividly remember all the excitement and happy party atmosphere along The Street.

Now it's good to be living here and enjoying more Royal Celebrations!

Patsy Flather

IMPRESSED

As someone who has moved into the village fairly recently, may I say how impressed I have been with the *Shoreline* publication. The recent Diamond Jubilee issue, with many colour photographs, was of superb quality as well as being highly informative. I think it is remarkable that a small village like Charmouth can produce such a comprehensive magazine, which is also free. The editorial team are to be congratulated on their hard work and should be justly proud of their endeavours.

Barry Coleman

THANK YOU

This is just to say a big thank you for the article about my late husband, David Dall, the Pickle Man. Also, *Shoreline* is great. I really enjoy all the interesting stories and I loved the poem 'Sooty and Cheep' by Peter Crowter. Again, thank you.

Mrs Sylvia Dall

APOLOGIES AND CONGRATULATIONS

My apologies to Marilyn Waterson. It was she who made the Golden Jubilee cake in 2002. (See my account in *Shoreline* spring 2012.) Also to Keith who helped design and execute the Union Jack in red, white and blue icing.



Mary Davis

Marilyn also made Charmouth's Diamond Jubilee Cake 2012 using a larger oven, and with the assistance of husband Keith for the decoration. A double accolade for two Jubilees!

Thank you both for your hard work.

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Diamond Jubilee 2012 News



Charmouth's Diamond Jubilee Street Party 3rd June 2012

In true Charmouth tradition, the food donated by the villagers swamped the Community Hall and exceeded all expectations. The traders joined in the donations with drinks cups and plates, so we were all set for a great party – and oh boy! We were not disappointed. Our Prince & Princess started the party off with a nice speech and ribbon cutting, to the cheers of the partygoers. Punch and Judy created a distraction for the children and several adults. In between the shows, the candy floss stall was doing a roaring trade, the food continued to flow and, at the peak, I would estimate there were up to 500 people enjoying the festivities. The ladies on the teas ran out of milk so a quick trip to the local store was required to keep up with demand. At the request of attendees, buckets were provided for donations. Over £300 was raised. All in all, a brilliant afternoon was had by visitors and villagers alike.

Peter Noel

Charmouth Honoured by Royal Jubilee Visit



The Queen (Pam Ladd) and the Duke of Edinburgh (Mike Whatmore) were in Charmouth during the Diamond Jubilee weekend for a Royal visit. They were most gracious and spent some time in St. Andrew's Church (photo above) looking at the various exhibits and honouring us with their presence.

Flower arrangement by Felicity Horton.

David Renfrew

Thank You to Charmouth

I would like to thank the people of Charmouth for extending their Jubilee celebrations to not only the locals but also us holidaymakers.

We stayed at Seadown Holiday Park during that week and saw the posters advertising various local events.

It was very special to be included in your celebrations and we were made to feel very welcome. At the Street Party there was such a lovely party atmosphere and a wonderful array of home baked cakes on offer – clearly the local people had really gone to town and a lot of hard work and preparation had been put in.

We have some wonderful memories and great photos of the day. You should all be congratulated for making this an amazing event. Please could you pass on our thanks to all involved.

Lesley Soane

Party in the Park 3rd June 2012

Unfortunately the weather was against us, but about 300 brave people and children turned up to listen to 'Cryin Out Loud', a rock group from the Yeovil area who put on a real show, before we called quits half an hour earlier than normal. The fireworks were, as usual, a superb display which lit up the sky. The Fat Dads ran the BBQ in their inimitable style and, when bored, joined in the dancing much to other people's amusement! The bar was fairly quiet and it would perhaps have been better if we had been serving soup, teas etc.!!



Everybody seemed to enjoy themselves, despite the weather, and our thanks go to all the people who helped to make it such a great event.

Peter Noel

The Jubilee Time Line

The Jubilee Time Line in St. Andrew's Church, Charmouth will remain on display throughout the summer. The Church is open daily so do visit this interesting insight in pictures and words, examining the new Elizabethan era. It begins in 1952 and takes us through to the present day charting royal events, interesting national news items, and also events and changes that have occurred in Charmouth during that time.

David Renfrew

Annual Street Party?

Would you like an Annual Street Party? We have had two brilliant street parties based on royal events and I wondered if villagers would like to make this an annual event to maybe celebrate a special event in Charmouth's history, or St. George's day or whatever. If you think it is a good idea, please email me at peter@marshall-noel.co.uk or phone me on 01297 560078.

Peter Noel

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Parish Council helps Scouts 'Go for Gold'



1st Charmouth Scout Group's recently launched 'Going for Gold' fund raising appeal has received a major boost from Charmouth Parish Council – in the shape of a £500 donation.

When added to the money raised from the recent Cake & Plant Stall and other donations from the Charmouth Traders, the Nisa store and other well-wishers, it means the Scout Group is well on the way to achieving its Bronze medal target of raising £2,500 by March 2013. Such a sum will allow the Cubs and Scouts to make a start on repairing the roof of their HQ and re-staining the outer walls.

Group Chairman, Tom Summers, said, "We were delighted to receive this unexpected donation from the Charmouth Parish Council as it keeps our fund raising right on track. We knew the presentation we made to the Council's AGM was well received, but we did not expect it to have such a

positive consequence. We now want to press on and raise the £10,000 we have set for our Silver Medal Challenge."

Lisa Tuck, Clerk to the Council, said, "We are keen to support the Scout Group in its quest to improve the environment in which a growing number of our young people are meeting every week."

The Group's recently appointed Scouter-in-Charge, Kevin Payne, added, "We have a number of other fund raising events planned, but are also looking to play our part in the local community. We will be demonstrating this by putting up posters raising awareness of the need to fit and check smoke alarms, and giving away 10 free alarms to households that do not have one. Cubs and Scouts also helped out at the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Tea Party and flew their flags at the Jubilee parade on June 3rd."

Anyone wishing to make a donation or find out more information about 'Going for Gold' should contact Tom on summers_tom@hotmail.com

For more information, contact Kevin Payne
payne.kevin6@gmail.com 01308 459080

Mini Success



In the spring issue we printed an email from Ant Hines about a 1960s MiniSprint with links to Charmouth. Now in the United States and under restoration, owner Ant

Hines is endeavouring to trace the car's history. The MiniSprint was originally owned by Derek Besley, then owner of the Queen's Armes (now The Abbots House).

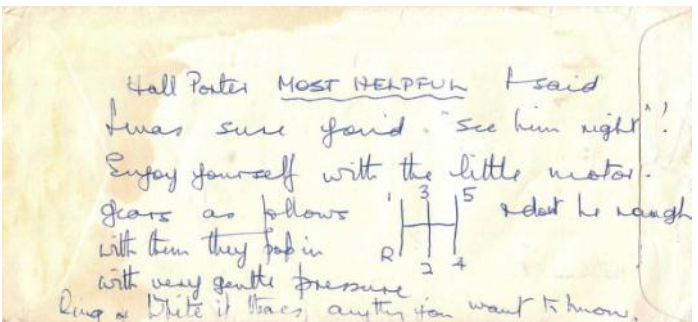
was not able to fulfil the medical to take part in competitive motor sport. We did have a few hairy runs around the disused airfield at Dunkerswell near Honiton with the car flat out - as I had my eyes closed through most of the ride, I only recall that it was a three figure speed! On the road there were many Minis around and it was great to cruise along gently on dual carriageways - no motorways in Dorset then or now- and a smile would spread over Dad's face as he put his foot down, easing her gently through the gears to streak out of sight in seconds of some unsuspecting motorist who thought that strange little Mini alongside was easy meat."



Current owner of the hotel, Nick Gilbey, who purchased it in 2007 with his wife Sheila, contacted Ant. Nick was a friend of the Besley's son Willum in the late 1960s

and told Ant that the Besleys owned the hotel from 1963 until 1973. Another of Nick's friends who worked at Gears Garage, which was adjacent to the hotel, indicated to Nick that Derek Besley had a workshop at the rear of the hotel where he renovated cars.

Ant Hines has also made contact with Derek Besley's widow and his daughter Vicky Morency. Vicky told him: "My mother remembers the car but doesn't recall any information about it. Though I was a youngster when my late father had the car, I recall that he was trying to get a racing licence in order to participate in hill climbs and rally events. However, he had had a coronary thrombosis and



Ant Hines has provided photos of an envelope on which Derek Besley wrote instructions on how to use the 5 speed gearbox when he sold the MiniSprint to a visiting English ex-pat in 1969. That owner took the car to the U.S. and Ant Hines bought it from him 41 years later.

Lesley Dunlop

The Walkers



Take a look at *The Walkers*
(<http://mikesmithmusic.co.uk/work/film/the-walkers/>)
- a charming eight-minute film commissioned by Sky and shot in Charmouth in October 2009. Sarah Cooke reported on the shoot in the winter 2010 issue of *Shoreline* (page 10). It was filmed on Charmouth Beach, Stonebarrow Hill and Higher Sea Lane.



Mallory Hayter

Mallory Hayter, Chairman of Charmouth Parish Council, kindly agreed to talk to *Shoreline* about his early life and his experiences during his 21 years on the Council. Here is his story:

"I was born in a cottage on Higher Pound Farm, then part of the Wootton Fitzpaine estate. I never knew my mother; she died when I was three months old and I was brought up by my maternal grandparents. My dad disappeared into the blue yonder, but I've got no gripes about him. I only ever saw him twice – at the age of seven and about 30 years ago. I know he's dead now. My gran died when I was 12 and I then lived with an aunt and my four cousins in Charmouth until I was 15. It came as a bit of a culture shock; I had to learn to share!

I was educated at the old Charmouth School and attended secondary school in Lyme Regis, initially the Grammar School but I was sent to St. Michael's as I lacked concentration. After leaving school at 15 with no real academic qualifications, I joined the Royal Navy. I continued in service until I was 27 years-of-age when I left on a Friday and joined the Fire Brigade the following Monday. I remained in the Fire Service until I retired, latterly as a civilian driving instructor and finally as driving examiner for the Brigade's vehicles in Dorset.

I remember in the early 1990s there was an issue over the playing fields. I used to sit at home and moan and groan about what Charmouth Council was doing and my wife Pauline said to me "why don't you put up or shut up." That's what drove me to stand for election in 1991. But in those days you had to put your case to get onto the Council; 17 of us stood for 11 seats. Three years later I was Chairman.

I mean no slight to anyone previously on the Council, but when I joined it was in debt. It also became clear that several Councillors weren't aware of the financial situation. We called a crisis meeting and a representative came from the District Council Finance Department. We subsequently received an advance of about £8,000. At that time there wasn't a Finance Committee and Councils weren't required to undertake the same accounting procedures that are now in place. I suggested we set up a Finance Committee to control the money and it led to people working more closely together. Today every Councillor looks at the paperwork he or she is given every month, which details the finances down to the last penny. They all know exactly how much money is in the bank each month, where it's coming from and where it's going. Getting into debt without realising it should never happen again. We have an excellent Finance Chairman in Jeff Prosser and he works very closely with the Clerk to the Council, Lisa Tuck.

The Council originally operated in cramped conditions in the small building next to Charmouth Community Hall in Lower Sea Lane. When we allowed other organisations to use the office, we had to lock everything away first. In the end, we had to look for other premises and initially considered the old Charmouth School building. But then The Elms was offered for sale. More than half of the 11 councillors were against purchasing it but, after lots of talking – sometimes into the small hours – several of us



persuaded the others that it would be a good idea to secure a public works loan. As The Elms was to be auctioned, I asked the auctioneer whether it could be taken off the market if the Council raised an acceptable sum. They gave us a minimum figure, which we matched the following week. I will always be grateful for the support of the then Vice-Chairman, Mike Hendrick, and I am very pleased to see him back on Council.

When we purchased The Elms, the attached five bedroom East Wing was included. Around that time a gentleman came to see me about my own banking matters and sat in my kitchen over a cup of tea. I said to him "What about buying the East Wing?" When he was leaving to go home, he told me he'd buy it! So the sale of the

East Wing and the old Council Offices in Lower Sea Lane covered the purchase of The Elms. We borrowed money, but only to decorate, carpet and furnish it. The income from the rooms rented out to the doctors, dentists and the remaining offices pays for the running and maintenance of the building; the Council Room is self-financing. We don't owe anything and it belongs to the Parish.

Some years ago I pushed for a local history room and hosted a meeting to set it up. Around 40 people came and they were agreeable to the idea. Sometimes someone has to step forward and say "let's do it" and then others can take over. The Pavey Room is there to be used and Charmouth's local history records are safe within it.



The Elms

Since 1991 the Council – not me – has achieved a great deal. We've extended the playing fields, we had to extend the cemetery and we've bought additional land which is now being used as allotments. When I first came to the Council we didn't have any equipment but now we have tractors and other machinery, consequently we bought land at the corner of Wesley Close to store equipment. We call it The Depot. We've had electricity and water put in, as well as fences and alarms. It's another acquisition that belongs to the Parish.

I'm probably now in my last council term. Over the years I've gone home smiling, but sometimes I've been totally frustrated. I put up for the Council, not to be someone but to get things done. I take that expression from Paddy Ashdown. But people also need to work together. For example, some years ago there was a sudden storm surge. Twenty beach huts were lost overnight and we had to get down to the beach, clear the promenade and bring in the fire brigade. It was no good ringing around, so two or three of us managed it. At other times things don't happen quickly enough for me; I've always been like that. I'm outspoken at times and I know very well that I've got my critics. But that's life.

To run a good ship, you need a good crew and we are fortunate. Lisa Tuck, who has been with us for 17 years,

West Dorset District Council

Early in the year I paid a visit to the Bridport office of the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB). I was hugely impressed by the enthusiasm of the Manager, Martin Paley and the team. The CAB is a charity and as such entirely independent. At the Bridport office 4 staff are ably assisted by 50 volunteers – a dedicated bunch who go through extensive training before they are able to offer help and guidance to the residents of Bridport and the surrounding villages.

The main aim is to ensure that a client does not suffer through lack of knowledge of their rights, or the services available to them, or through an inability to express themselves. People come into the office with all sorts of problems – debt, benefits, housing and employment are the biggest issues. Staff say it is always better to seek advice early, before a problem gets too big. According to their records 69 people from Charmouth made use of the service last year.

Funding is always a problem for the Bridport office but West Dorset District Council provides the largest amount

and I am pleased to say Charmouth Parish Council and Catherston Leweston Parish make an annual donation.

The contact details are below for anyone who needs advice:-

The Bridport office is open Monday to Friday from 10am – 3pm

45 South Street, Bridport DT6 3NY Tel :01308 456594

Lyme Regis offers a weekly service on a Wednesday from 10am – 3pm

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Mallory Hayter (continued)

and Sally-Ann Mowbray are the face of the Council and are very professional. We also employ Julie Hulme, who cuts the grass in public areas, clears drains and undertakes general maintenance; Mike Perham, the Beach Superintendent; and Amanda Keith, part-time Seasonal Beach Attendant.

In recent years people have been able to join the Council by simply walking in and at the last election only seven candidates stood. Is it a lack of interest or do people think we're doing a good job? There are potential Councillors out there with lots to offer and I'd say to them: "Consider

giving up a little of your time and taking on responsibility for the good of Charmouth."

The Parish Council has tried to produce local newsletters in the past. In my opinion *Shoreline* is good for Charmouth, it's 100% correct and very professionally done. It's needed and I genuinely mean that. Everyone praises it. The Community Hall committee want to put a special issue in the time capsule, which is a marvellous idea and it speaks volumes for its popularity."

Lesley Dunlop

The Ten Tors Challenge

Woodroffe School Ten Tors 55 mile team for 2012 included four young people from Charmouth.

During an exercise on Dartmoor in 1959, three British Army officers were talking around a campfire about how challenging such an expedition would be for young people. In September the following year, the first 'Ten Tors Expedition' was organised, drawing 200 young people from youth organisations all over the South West. The ten man teams assembled at Denbury Camp and were driven to the start at Haytor.

The finish was at Willsworthy after a 50-mile hike around the Moor. There was no other expedition like it, providing a challenge for South West youth organisations and meeting the training needs of the services who undertook the planning, organisation and logistic support.

The expedition was repeated the following year and soon the event became so popular that a limit on numbers had to be set to limit footfall on the moor and preserve the environment.

Team sizes and route distances have changed since the early days from ten man teams and 50- and 60-mile routes to the current six member team and routes of 35, 45 and 55 miles. In the early days girls were only allowed to take part on the 35-mile route. Mixed teams were introduced in 1984 and by 1989 girls were able to participate in all events on equal terms.



Safety has always been the priority, with teams being constantly monitored as they progress across the moor. This is an environment where not only can injury and exhaustion cause serious problems, but the weather can change in a

heartbeat. In 2007, 2,000 youngsters had to be rescued from the moor because of torrential rain and swollen rivers. For the organisers, mostly territorial and regular army soldiers, Ten Tors provides a useful training opportunity. Organisational skills can be tested alongside communications and first aid whilst ensuring that the participants have a safe and enjoyable time.

Ten Tors 2012 marked the 52nd anniversary of this event, with 2,400 young people taking part. Teams from South West schools, cadet forces, scouts and other youth organisations assembled at Okehampton Camp on the Friday 11th May for the challenge which took place from 7am Saturday through to 5pm Sunday.



Left to right: George Bowditch, Matt Dale, Finlay Prescott (Captain), Joe Williams, James Bowditch, Leif Sanders

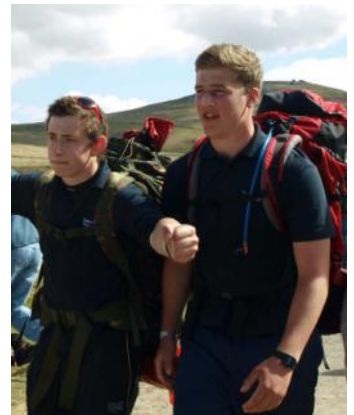
The Woodroffe School in Lyme Regis fielded three teams this year, one in each of the 35-, 45- and 55-mile routes. The 55-mile team this year included four young men from Charmouth: George Bowditch, James Bowditch, Matthew Dale and Joe Williams. Matthew and Joe had already completed the 45-mile challenge in 2011 with the other two team members from Lyme, Finlay Prescott and Leif Sanders. For brothers George and James however, it was in at the deep end.

Training for the challenge starts early in the New Year. Everyone hoping to be in the

team takes part in local hikes of increasing distance and duration. Loaded back packs are carried and navigation is learnt then practised. During this time some people may decide not to pursue a place in the final six person team.

Later in the training period the walks become two day events with the night spent under canvas. The final training weekend takes place on Dartmoor 2-3 weeks prior to the real thing. This year unfortunately, the final training weekend was shortened due to the very wet weather.

If, at the end of the training period, there are more than six hopefuls remaining, straws will be drawn and the final six team members selected.



Joe Williams (l), James Bowditch (r)

The kit to be carried is outlined in the rule book and on the Friday of the challenge each team undergoes scrutineering by the organisers. With safety being paramount this is to ensure that every one has the correct balance of food, clothing and equipment. It also ensures that no one is overloaded, the maximum pack weight being 15kg. This is made up of team equipment and personal kit. Team equipment is shared out equally with someone carrying a tent, someone else carrying the cooking kit, or the first aid kit and so on.

On the Saturday morning all the teams assemble at the start. The Ten Tors prayers are said and at 7am a large gun is fired and they are off. The teams quickly sort themselves out and settle into a rhythm. This year the sun was out from the start but the ground underfoot was still very wet from the recent downpours. This made for quite heavy going with some people finding it tough from early in the day. The sun, although welcome after all the rain, warmed the air quickly adding sweat and sunburn to the effort of moving over spongy, yielding terrain.

The teams must navigate their way to each Tor, and at each Tor be signed in. Time of arrival at each Tor is

The Kenya Container



At last the 20 ft container, full of bikes, clothes, computers, desks and chairs, arrived in Kenya. We flew out in April to meet it, but unfortunately it got delayed at Mombasa Port for a week while the authorities decided to open all 166 boxes and basically dragged their heels in releasing it, which meant once it did arrive at the orphanage, we only had 6 days to sort it all out. But we managed, just.

I cannot describe the joy on the children's (and adults') faces when at last the container arrived. Everyone ran towards the lorry, singing, dancing and laughing. They got excited about the few bikes hanging on the back of the lorry, but once they saw the 50 or so bikes and scooters inside, they went wild. During the following few days we distributed all the clothes, shoes, football boots, wool, blankets, snooker table, toys etc. The headmaster of the school was so happy when he saw all the books and pencils and was over the moon when he saw all the chalk and chalk boards (chalk is very expensive to buy in Kenya). He says a big Thank You.

We would like to express our thanks for all those who gave or helped in any way, from donating, helping to sort out clothes, to the lady who spent hours sorting out pens, pencils, rubbers, etc. Our continued thanks to the Newton Knitters, who not only knit for us but also support two older boys at the orphanage to attend college studying car mechanics. This has been life changing for them. We have just completed the NEW girls dormitory which went from a small mud hut squeezing in 60 girls, to a brick building that can hold over 200 girls. They are



extremely grateful. We now have 142 children at the orphanage, 33 staff members and 350 at our primary school. We know that this is a project which is only getting bigger and we value any support you can give. In 2009 the Gideons Orphanage went from 47 children to three years later 142.

We have been overwhelmed by the kindness of Charmouth and would value your continuing support. You can help this huge project by sponsoring a child for just £15 a month, collecting good quality clothes, donating paracetamol, toothpaste/toothbrushes, bandages and plasters, and holding fundraisers. Unfortunately our garage is in need of some work as it is letting in water, so we have limited space until we can get it sorted, unless someone has some space in their garage..... Please know that all money goes straight out to Kenya; we do not keep a single penny of it. Our next trip is in August.

Nicky & Sophie

Awaken Love for Africa www.awakenlove.org.uk

'Springwatch' on Charmouth Beach



On 10th May, Martin Hughes-Games (l) and Chris Packham (r) from the BBC series *Springwatch*, spent a rainy, windy and misty day being filmed hunting for fossils on Charmouth beach. This was one of a series of films they have been making investigating and

Photo by Jane Morrow

reliving some of their childhood wildlife adventures: tracking down reptiles, ferreting about in streams looking for sticklebacks, staying up late to watch badgers and fossil hunting. Recent research suggests that fewer and fewer of us, particularly children, have contact with the natural world and they hope that these films, which are being shown on BBC1 from 28th May, will inspire kids whilst also addressing natural history. They were presented with copies of the latest *Shoreline* magazine and *Shoreline's* first publication '*The Fossil Hunters of Charmouth*'.

Jane Morrow

The Ten Tors Challenge (continued)

recorded so that each team's progress across the moor can be tracked. Most teams try to cover as much ground as possible on the first day, many not camping until late in the evening. The second day starts early, the Tor check points open at 6am and most teams are raring to go well before then. The Woodroffe 55-milers were up at 3.45am, whenever that is.

The need to cross the finish before 5pm keeps the pressure on during the second day and exhaustion and the risk of injury, particularly in the form of blistered feet, can deal last minute disappointment to even the best prepared participants. Our lads came in around 4pm.

This year all three of the Woodroffe teams made it back intact and in time. This is an admirable achievement

which reflects not only the hard work and training put in by the teams, but also the time and effort put in by the Woodroffe staff members. This involves plenty of out-of-hours work, using up several weekends and getting cold and wet as required whilst giving good natured encouragement to the teams. The Woodroffe staff members directly involved with Ten Tors this year were Mr. Loveland, Mr. Mould, Dr. Ruffle and Miss Edwards.

The 55-mile challenge team were George Bowditch, Matthew Dale, Finlay Prescott (Captain), Joe Williams, James Bowditch and Leif Sanders.

Nick Williams

Photos by Nick Williams

Fossil Collecting Code of Conduct



Close-up of parts of an as yet unidentified fish, possibly a Coelacanth, found by three different collectors from the Spittles landslide in autumn 2011. Despite the collecting effort, only a few blocks and pieces were recovered. No one has seen anything like it from the Lower Jurassic in this area before. The specimen has been reunited and is currently being prepared.

It will be donated to Lyme Regis Museum.

Review of the West Dorset fossil collecting code of conduct

The West Dorset Fossil Collecting Code, adopted in the late 1990s, aims to provide a practical and affordable means of managing collecting within this part of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site involving all those with an interest; landowners, conservation agencies, researchers, museums and collectors. A primary purpose is to provide the very best chance for scientifically important fossils to be recovered and recorded rather than destroyed by the sea on this dynamic and rapidly eroding coastline. The Code has recently been reviewed through a consultation with various stakeholders. As a result of the strong balance of positive endorsements of the Code received, it will remain in operation without fundamental amendment. A plan to improve the implementation of the Code will be drawn up based on the suggestions made by respondents.

Background to the consultation

The West Dorset Fossil Collecting Code of Conduct (the Code) was developed by a working group with representation from the UK national conservation agencies, landowners, the scientific community including museums, and collectors and following consultation and a trial period, was adopted in the late 1990s. It applies to the coast between Lyme Regis and Burton Bradstock or stratigraphically, the Lower and part of the Middle Jurassic. A review of the Code was started in June 2010 with the publication of a consultation paper. The responses to that consultation have been considered by the Jurassic Coast Science and Conservation Advisory Group (SCAG) and the West Dorset Fossil Code Working Group and this document now summarises our discussion of the issues raised and explains the actions that we propose to take.

This was a consultation open to all and the original consultation documents can be found on the Jurassic Coast web site at: <http://www.jurassiccoast.com/299/managing-the-site-37/whs-management-167/fossil-code-review-803.html>. The full responses to the consultation will also be placed on this web site. NOTE: this address may change with the revision of the web site. The full code can be accessed at:

<http://www.charmouth.org/chcc/downloads/WestDorsetFossilCode.PDF>

Responses from the consultation

We only received 32 responses. The consultation went to at least 130 individuals directly and was also widely circulated through newsletters and networks. There were also requests to forward the consultation through societies, associations, networks and every university department in the UK with an earth science faculty. The response was disappointingly small but 28 of the respondents were either completely supportive of the Code or supportive with comments for improvement. The operation of certain elements of the code, notably the quality of the records, attracted considerable criticism. The remaining four respondents expressed more serious concerns and made a number of suggestions for the modification of the Code and the overall management approach. Considerable parts of three of these four responses used identical wording. We believe that it would be reasonable to assume that the vast majority of people consulted but who did not respond do not hold concerns about the Code or the condition of the West Dorset coast for the simple reason that if they did, they would be more motivated to respond.

The consultation centred around seven basic questions about our approach, site condition, barriers to acquisition, alternative approaches and the accessibility of the information about what is being found. It would be impossible to attempt to summarise the full range of responses and our consideration of them but that has been done and is available on the Jurassic Coast website at:

<http://www.jurassiccoast.com/299/managing-the-site-37/whs-management-167/fossil-code-review-803.html>

The key issue regarding the best management approach for the West Dorset coast is that this is a rapidly eroding coastline with a rich store of fossils that are quite clearly at risk of destruction from the very processes that expose them. Over the last 200 years collectors, both amateur



Fossil Collecting Code of Conduct

and professional, have demonstrated their value by rescuing specimens that now reside within accredited museum collections and that 'tradition' continues today. There is no way to effectively police the beaches or provide the required collecting effort that is so evidently needed; despite high collecting effort the fossils of most importance are rescued 'just in the nick of time' as they can only be found once they start to be uncovered by erosion.

The main criticism of the Code is a suggestion that it lies outside 'international thinking' on best practice in geoconservation. The Code was endorsed by UNESCO as part of the Management Plan for the original nomination and inscription of the Jurassic Coast as a World Heritage Site in 2001. The Jurassic Coast Management Plan has subsequently been revised in 2010 and again endorsed by the UK Government and UNESCO as an effective way of managing this type of site which includes the management of fossil collecting. Some of the concern centres around 'loss' and here we draw attention to the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World



Cultural and Natural Heritage (UNESCO) that includes: 'Considering that deterioration or disappearance of any item of the cultural or natural heritage constitutes a harmful impoverishment of the heritage of all the nations of the world,'. The priority on our coast must be to protect the fossils from deterioration or

disappearance (total loss) to the sea. Collectors, with open access to the coast are, and always have been, the mechanism that best achieves that. The full response also considers the Council of Europe recommendations on the conservation of geological heritage and recent, supportive guidance published by European ProGEO which is recognising that sites vary in their sensitivity to collecting.

In our view, site sensitivity is the leading consideration when attempting to identify the most effective management of palaeontological sites. It should hardly need to be said that the management of an open, eroding coastline would be different from that of a working quarry or excavation, a disused quarry, an inland outcrop, a disused mine dump or a cave deposit. Each of these sites varies enormously in terms of their sensitivity to collecting. An open coast *requires collecting effort* in order to rescue specimens while a cave deposit will be

destroyed for ever by irresponsible collecting. There is no 'one size fits all' when it comes to the identification of effective management strategies for fossil sites.

Identifying the best management approach is the subject of an as yet unpublished paper; 'A site based approach to the sustainable management of palaeontological sites' by Edmonds, Larwood and Weighell, available at: <http://www.geoconservation.com/EHWH/Docs/fossil.htm>). The approach developed here is central to Natural England's new guidance on the management of geological specimen collecting.

We do not claim that the West Dorset Fossil Collecting Code is perfect but we do feel that it is the most practical and effective way to manage a site such as this. It aims to provide the very best chance for scientifically important fossils to be recovered and recorded rather than destroyed on this dynamic and rapidly eroding coastline. Many involved in this consultation recognise the complex nature of the site and the pragmatic approach that needs to be taken. This is indeed a unique World Heritage Site and the management reflects that. We intend to continue dialogue and discussion around many of the observations, suggestions and issues that have been raised and will now draw up an action plan and implement it in order to improve the Code for the future. Some elements are relatively easy to deliver, such as an online database for the records of what is being found, while others are rather more complicated and involve a number of interest groups, organisations and even national policy makers.

We would like to thank all those who contributed to the consultation and welcome positive engagement in the future.

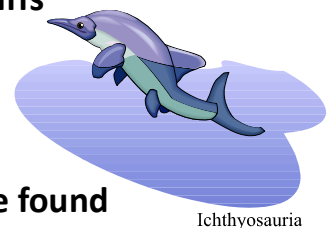
Richard Edmonds, Earth Science Manager, Jurassic Coast Team

on behalf of the Science and Conservation Advisory Group, West Dorset Fossil Code Group and World Heritage Site Steering Group

Remember that our cliffs

**are unstable and
very dangerous.**

**Plenty of fossils can be found
on the beach.**

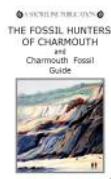


Ichthyosauria

Just Launched!

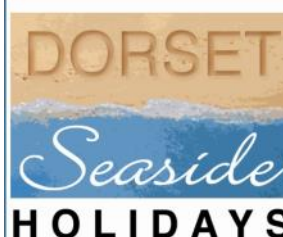


Shoreline's second publication, 'CHARMOUTH THROUGH THE GENERATIONS', is now available at Charmouth Stores, Charmouth Post Office, Morgans, the Old Bank Café and Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. Only £3.



.....and don't forget, copies of 'THE FOSSIL HUNTERS OF CHARMOUTH' and 'Charmouth Fossil Guide' are still available. Again, only £3.

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Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre



Meirel Whaites – Senior Warden

Well, the summer has arrived, even if it has been a fairly wet start, and the Centre has had a busy season so far.

The madness started with the Easter holiday break, closely followed by the Charmouth and Lyme Regis Fossil Festival on the May Day bank holiday, the Jubilee weekend and the half term break. Nearly 30,000 people have visited the Centre this year, with good attendance on the fossil walks and other activities. We have been fully booked with schools for the summer term since before Easter and schools have already booked up for the 2013 season ahead.

There have been a few changes down at the Centre over the past couple of months in regard to the warden team. Nikki Hills (Marine Warden) left the Centre in early May for a new post in West Sussex as a Making Waves Project Officer. Lyndsey Bird is now our new Marine Warden and we have a new Seasonal Warden, Rose Cooke. We have heard from Nikki and she is settling in well to her new post and is very busy... making waves!

The Centre was unable to join in the celebrations for the Jubilee over the bank holiday weekend as we were open to the public, but on Thursday 31st May the Centre held a buffet luncheon at the Centre for the Friends and a good time was had by all. We have some fantastic cooks amongst the Friends and the warden team even chipped in with the cooking too!

With the busiest months of the year looming fast, we have a great number of events planned, including the ever-popular fossil hunting walks and art and craft activities. Our schedule for Marine Week 2012 (Sat 4th – Fri 10th August) will be in place shortly and will include many marine-based events such as rock pool rambles, plankton trawling and boat trips. Leaflets will be available shortly at the Centre detailing the full programme.

We will have our Friends barbeque on Thursday 6th September, which is a time for the Friends and Wardens

to have a nice evening together down at the beach after a busy summer season. On the subject of volunteers, the Centre will be planning another Friends of CHCC open day in the Autumn. The wardens and current volunteers will be on hand to answer questions about the work that we do here and the many volunteer roles available. Refreshments will also be provided and further details will be posted around the village nearer the time.



Phil Davidson - Geological Warden

The rough weather over half term has replenished the beaches with fossils. The hardy families who rode out the storm have been rewarded with lots of fossils, especially fool's gold ammonites. We have been finding lots of interesting things on the walks and just today a little boy found seven ichthyosaur tail vertebrae still articulated.

Lyndsey Bird - Marine Warden

It's been a busy start to the summer and I'm delighted to step into my new role as Marine Warden. I've been working with the Junior Wardens to continue their Litter Free Coast and Sea project. So far they have worked very hard and have completed two beach clean surveys and have designed an awareness poster using the beach litter they collected. This term they will be organising a litter free lunch for the students at the school and learning about the effects of litter on our ecosystem. I would like to thank Charmouth Parish Council and the Charmouth Traders for their kind donation towards the project.

I have also been working on organising our Beach Olympics afternoon on the 30th of July, with events themed around our marine life and fossils. Why not join us at the centre for an afternoon of fun and your chance to win your very own Beach Olympic medal.

Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre - Future Options

Charmouth Parish Council is using funding from the Dorset County Council led Pathfinder project to look at future options for the Heritage Coast Centre. The Parish Council successfully bid for funding from the Pathfinder Project's 'Community Adaptation Fund' and have now employed consultants to undertake a research project looking at future options for the Charmouth



Heritage Coast Centre building, associated facilities (cafe, shops, car parking and public conveniences) and the services the Centre provides. The options are being developed in the context of an anticipated return towards a natural coastline in the area as a result of a policy shift from 'holding the line' of coastal defences to 'no active intervention'.

As part of the research work the consultants on the 12th June held a workshop with

Year 6 children from Charmouth Primary School, including a number of junior Heritage Coast Centre Wardens. In the evening, volunteers, staff and those with an interest in the future of the Centre attended an engagement session to get their views.



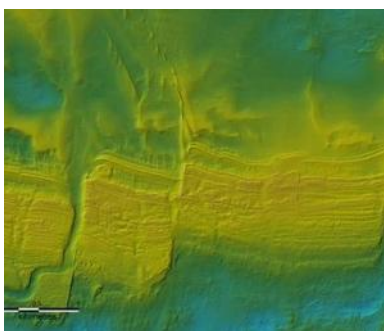
A drop-in public consultation on the options will be held at the Heritage Centre on Wednesday 5th September between 4pm and 7pm, when the consultant team will be available to answer any questions. The displays will remain up with the opportunity to give comments on Thursday 6th September.

Martin Cook

Changing Sea Levels? - Part 1

Do sea levels really change that much... where's the evidence? Part 1

As a coastal manager for the National Trust, you would expect me to immediately say "yes", but we need to go back many thousands of years to determine the truth. But first, we need to go back to our schoolboy physics lessons and remind ourselves of one of the peculiar properties of water. As water warms, even by the smallest degree, it expands. This is because the molecules get a little excited! And as they do so, they take up more space. Think of a group of country dancers, as the music gets faster, they create a bigger circle.... there are not more of them but they use more space. It is the same with water, there isn't actually *more* water but what there is occupies a greater volume.



Sidescan Sonar Image of a deep river valley under the sea off the South Dorset Coast (DORIS Project)

We also need to clear up the issue surrounding melting ice. Ice floats because it is less dense than the water it sits in but it displaces its own weight of water, so when for example, a floating iceberg melts, it makes no difference to the volume and hence no difference to the sea levels. Of course, ice over land (glaciers on Greenland for example) is quite a different thing. When that ice melts and

runs into the sea, it *will* increase the volume and hence the sea levels.

Of course the reverse is true; sea level can fall as well as rise (and this is where our story starts to make sense!). The last Ice Age began about 75,000 years ago but 14,000 years ago things began to change, temperatures began to rise and the thick covering of ice (that extended from the North Pole to a line approximately where the M4 is today) began to rapidly (at least in geological terms) melt and run to the lowest lying ground. Consequently, sea levels rose rapidly along with the temperatures. So the ice not only melted but the water volume continued to expand. Low plains (such as the present North Sea) and river valleys began to flood and it is at about this time that the land bridge between what is now England and France was finally severed to create the English Channel. Some recent underwater surveys carried out through the DORIS Project (which was funded by a Landfill Tax Communities Fund award from Viridor credits and by contributions from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Channel Coastal Observatory and Dorset Strategic Partnership) on behalf of the Dorset Wildlife Trust and the C-SCoPE project, have even revealed the traces of those massive rivers that flowed southwards and drained the meltwater to form the English Channel.

By the beginning of the Bronze Age (6000 years ago), not only had sea levels risen by some 150 metres but temperatures in Britain were actually a degree or so warmer than they were at the beginning of the 20th Century...but then they began to fall again...only to climb again at the end of the Roman Period (AD 410).

This short period (150 years from AD 350- 500) of warmer conditions is known as the Romano-British Transgression. The word 'transgression' might seem

strange in this context but refers to the sea transgressing (= overstepping or going beyond) the land.

How do we know about these climatic conditions from so long ago? There are a range of techniques that scientists use: tree ring dating can distinguish between wetter and drier years, decades or centuries, pollen analysis can indicate which species existed and we know what optimum conditions apply to each species. There is also physical archaeological data, we know for example where the Romans built ports and harbour walls.

Geoscientists have now concluded over a short but specific period (between AD 300 and 500) that sea levels in the English Channel rose to about 0.8m more than today and then suddenly dropped back about 0.8m less than today. One can only imagine the impacts that such rapid changes had upon coastal communities.

In the late third century, the Romans built a series of 10 forts along the Norfolk, Suffolk, Kent and Sussex shores to defend against the invading Anglo Saxons. They are known today as the 'Forts of the Saxon Shore'. One of the best understood today is the Classis Britannica fort under modern day Dover. Excavations have identified the earliest harbour wall as being some 200m inland of the present sea front.

An interesting mystery surrounds the situation regarding Guernsey and Jersey during Roman times. Guernsey has numerous signs of Roman occupation including substantial villas and even the wreck of a Roman Galley found near the entrance to St Peter Port Harbour, but Jersey has virtually nothing. Why is that? Jersey was not an Island in the truest sense and was not surrounded by high seas and needing ships and ports to provide access. Rather, it could have been approached on foot from the mainland. So, in early Roman times with sea levels lower than today, there would have been no need for significant waterborne infrastructure to allow for trade. The area surrounding Jersey (basically a promontory) would have been populated in an unsophisticated rural way as with most other coastal margins at the time. Guernsey was an offshore Island, Jersey was not!

In Part 2, we will investigate how our coastline changed during the mediaeval period and explore the lost towns and villages of the east coast.

Tony Flux

National Trust Coast and Marine Adviser (SW)

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National Coastwatch Institution



NCI Lyme Bay is proud to announce that it has been awarded Declared Facility Status (DFS) as of 13th May 2012

The NCI Lyme Bay station was opened in a temporary location at Burton Cliff in July 2010 and after less than two years we have gained the award of Declared Facility Status and are now officially part of the UK search and rescue service. At present, we have less than thirty fully-trained volunteer watchkeepers so we can only operate Friday to Monday inclusive, but we have more volunteers undergoing training and when these are qualified we will be able to operate seven days a week, hopefully by the coming main summer season.



Clive Edwards

To achieve DFS, a station is subject to an all-day assessment which includes a number of exercises designed to prove that it can demonstrate its competency in carrying out the core tasks of

'Spotting, Plotting and Reporting' and thereby ensure that the highest standards of watchkeeping are maintained. It is then considered by HM Coastguard as an integral part of the Search and Rescue (SAR) organisation.

From our lookout at Burton Bradstock, we monitor weather and sea conditions, to provide information for mariners, fishermen, walkers and other users of the sea and coast. We work closely with our partners, HM Coastguard, the RNLI, HM Customs and Excise, the Police and all the emergency services. At the same time we safeguard the environment by observing coastal and marine life.

Our most important objective now though is to find a permanent location for our Lookout when we have to vacate our present temporary site at Burton Cliff this coming autumn. We are hoping to move, subject to planning permission, to a permanent location on the

Time Capsule

Eighteen months ago, prior to the building work at St. Andrew's Community Hall, a 100-year-old glass bottle was removed from the cavity beneath the foundation stone. Filled with historic local documents dating from 1909, it provided an insight into village life a century ago.

In August this year, a time capsule will be placed in the cavity at the front of the newly extended hall. Chairman Keith Waterson and the other trustees would welcome ideas of what should be included; items or documents that reflect life in Charmouth in the early 21st century.

Please contact Keith by 31st July with your suggestions (01297 560531) – and, by the way, a copy of *Shoreline* is already earmarked for inclusion.

Lesley Dunlop

National Coastwatch

EYES ALONG THE COAST

western esplanade at West Bay, having had to withdraw our original proposal to move to the east pier, as a consequence of objections on environmental conservation grounds.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS)

As if achieving DFS wasn't enough, it's just been officially announced that, along with the three other NCI Stations in Dorset at Portland Bill, St. Albans Head and Swanage, NCI Lyme Bay are to be presented with the hugely prestigious Queen's Award for Voluntary Service!

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service is the highest award given to local volunteer groups across the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man to recognise outstanding work done in their own communities for the benefit of others. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the anniversary of the Queen's coronation. The Award is equivalent to the MBE for volunteer groups.

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service not only serves to provide recognition of volunteer groups, but also demonstrates the high respect in which volunteering is held.

Clive Edwards, Station Manager



Manor Farm Holiday Centre is pleased to announce the opening of the Char Valley Health Club. The new high-tech club offers a range of facilities including a gym, exercise pool, sauna and steam room.



In the gym, the Matrix cardio machines use virtual active technology to help keep you focused while you workout. These include a wide variety of courses such as running through the Alps, cycling through the Rockies or cross training in Chicago. The Trixter bikes

provide the ultimate immersive biking experience, with the opportunity to race against a friend or progress through the simulated tracks. There are also dedicated muscle machines and a functional trainer.

The sauna, steam room and exercise pool are situated on the ground floor along with the Char Valley Coffee House, a perfect place to unwind and relax after your swim or workout. Coffees made from the finest Italian Rocca beans, tea, smoothies, fruit juices and milkshakes are all available.

tel enquiries 01297 560226

e-mail health@manorfarmholidaycentre.co.uk

Summer Gardening in Charmouth

July – is a busy time for gardeners. I have been running around supporting the plants that have been affected by the winds over the past week, especially clematis which are a favourite of mine. They need looking after at this time of year; don't forget to feed them and keep them – and ramblers and other climbers too – well supported. Keep your water butts topped up. Roses need feeding when active growth starts and again after the first flush of blooms have faded, and water them if the weather is dry. I use Toprose as it is a good balanced feed. Check roses regularly for black fly and aphid infestation. A spray of



washing up liquid in the sprayer will help, or milk and water – an old recipe. Pravado Ultimate Bug is good if you don't mind using it, especially early when your plants are starting to grow as it gives them four to six weeks' cover and keeps the wretched lily beetle away. Keep your potted plants fed and well watered. Prune your lavender back after flowering. Now is the time to sow biennials. Cut back perennials that have already flowered to encourage repeat flowering. Harvest fruit and vegetables, replant seeds of salad crops at regular two to three week intervals to get a continuous supply and cut any herbs you may want to save or dry. If you are going on holiday, make sure your garden doesn't suffer while you're away. That also goes for greenhouse plants and any you may have left in the cold frame.



August – Continue to water if the weather is dry (I can but hope!). Replant any bare spots in the borders and cut back any overgrown plants. Care for your lawn, feed and water regularly if dry and mow; reseed any bare patches. Thin out any overgrown pond plants. Continue harvesting fruit and vegetables; pick your runner beans frequently to encourage growth. Plant evergreen shrubs and conifers and now is the time to get your spring bulbs ordered so you don't miss out on your favourites. If you do not order, then visit the garden centres early before they have sold the best!



September – Plant your spring bulbs; tulips can be left



until late October/early November. Stop feeding your lawns and mow regularly to keep grass down while the weather is clement. Hedges and ivy can have a trim to keep them tidy. Mulch your roses and any hedges. Fill in the borders with autumn flowering plants. This is the time to divide your perennials where needed and make yourselves some new plants or share with friends and neighbours. Happy gardening and take care of your backs!



Busy Lizzy, Charmouth Gardeners

Lizzy is happy to respond to local readers' gardening queries via *Shoreline*. Please email editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk and head your message 'Gardening Query'.

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Charmouth Challenge and Fun Run

With the Olympics only weeks away, it's time to put the finishing touches to your summer preparations. The afternoon of 7th July is the date of the annual Charmouth Challenge and Fun Run to be held at Charmouth Primary School.

The Charmouth Challenge is organised by parents of children at the local primary school. It is the main fund raising event of the year and all the funds raised are donated to the school. The run has been organised for the last 20 years and in excess of £55,000 has been raised to help the children. All these funds have been invested in the school facilities, for example additional IT equipment, playground activities and more recently the library. Swimming lessons and school trips are also subsidised to make these activities available to all.

Runners of all ages and abilities are welcome and the spectators are treated to a day by the sea and entertainment at the Charmouth School Fête, situated just a few yards from the beach. The Fête includes many different activities and stalls and, of course, there will be a fantastic tea room where many delicious, homemade delights can be sampled. Crews from the local fire station will be giving fire safety advice as well as offering a cooling 'fire engine' shower to all the race finishers.

The Charmouth Challenge race is renowned as the most southerly fell race in England and is attended by many, near and far. The race is mapped over 8 miles of the most spectacular Jurassic coastal scenery encompassing woodland, stone tracks and grassland and many hurdles such as stiles and gates. It includes a gruelling 191m climb to the top of Golden Cap and a final downhill spurt to the finishing line at the primary school.

The Fun Run also uses the same stunning descent of the coast path into Charmouth for the final push to the finish line. But you have to get up the hill first and the steepness of this run has to be experienced to be believed. Some may question whether it is a 'fun' run! - a 2.5 mile run up the shady lane to Stonebarrow Hill and down again! Every runner in this race will receive a special commemorative 2012 medal as a reward for all his or her hard work!



The Fun Run starts at 2pm and the Challenge at 2.30pm. It is advised that all runners register now but you can enter on the day, if you cannot decide whether or not to run! The registration desk will open at 12.30pm. Drink stations and marshals will be available on both courses.

If you do want to run, why not participate in the event by helping out. The organiser is always looking for volunteers to help the day go smoothly; please contact Nick on 01297 578082 if you can help.

To enter the races, you will need to fill in an entry form and pay a race fee of £7 for the Fun Run or £10.00 for the Challenge on the day. (£2 less if you apply before.)

Entry forms are available from Charmouth School or can be downloaded at www.charmouthchallenge.co.uk or www.charmouth.dorset.sch.uk

Nick Bale

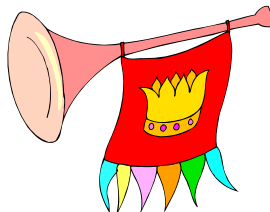
Important – Information to Charmouth Residents

In consultation with WDDC, it has been agreed to close Lower Sea Lane, Wesley Close, Bridge Road (2pm – 2.45pm) and Stonebarrow Lane (2pm – 3pm) for the start of the Fun Run followed by the Challenge running race on 7th July 2012. This is for the safety of public and the race participants. The organisers will endeavour to minimise the disruption & inconvenience to local residents during these times by allowing access when the runners have passed.

Charmouth Companions

It has been far too long since we heard the laughter and cries of "It's behind you" in St. Andrew's Community Hall. I

think it's only right that we should christen the newly refurbished hall with a village panto in 2013. The Charmouth Companions are looking for helpers backstage and will be holding auditions (commencing September) for actors and actresses. Children are very important ingredients in a pantomime so we are also appealing to all ages to contact us.



If you are interested and would like to be involved in a night to remember, you can email or call gregory.gibbs@tiscali.co.uk mobile 07900 500 872

Greg Gibbs

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Who Do You Think This Is?



Charmouth's Major Mack, scrubbed up as you have never seen before (and may never see again) with her invitation from The Queen to The

National Service of Thanksgiving to celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee at St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday 5th June 2012, followed by a Reception in The Guildhall hosted by the City of London Corporation, in the presence of Members of the Royal Family.

Why me as one of only 2000 invited guests?

I served over 37 years in the Women's Royal Army Corps, we have an ex-members Association and as The Queen is our patron the Association was given two invitations. Being a Trustee and Chairman for the South and South West Area, (my 'patch' is from Plymouth to Portsmouth up to Bristol) of the Association, I was given the honour to accompany our Vice President who is an old friend and former colleague.

It was an early start on Tuesday 5th so I stayed overnight on Monday in Alton with my friend and caught the train from there at 7.14am to London. Identity and security checks cleared, we had to be seated in St. Paul's by 9.30am as the Service started at 10.30am. We got seats, four rows from the back, and me being short it was lucky



that there was only one man on the end in from the centre aisle! When we got into conversation it transpired he was Britain's Ambassador to Panama. I had a very good view of The Queen, (who gave me a smile in return for my 'bob') and all the other royals and dignitaries as they passed, though we were so far back we saw everything on TV screens set up in the side aisles.

After the service we had a half mile walk to the Guildhall, where we were offered a choice of champagne, traditional Greenwich Meantime English real ale, Freedom English Lager or homemade pink grapefruit lemonade and lots of lovely tasty hors-d'oeuvres by the circulating waiting staff; glasses were replenished within seconds of being emptied.

A Buffet Lunch followed with a choice of Red/White wine then Tea or Coffee.

We could have eaten and drunk ourselves silly and we met some very interesting people on this never-to-be-forgotten, very special day.

To round off the day we made an attempt to get onto The Mall to see The Queen come out on the Balcony at Buckingham Palace at 3.30pm. All we managed was to watch it on a big screen at Trafalgar Square with thousands of others. At about 3.10pm it started to rain and out came the umbrellas. The crowds were in good mood and, when asked, took their umbrellas down so that everyone could see the screen when The Queen appeared. It was a bit wet, but the atmosphere and occasion, never to be repeated in my life time, was definitely worth it.

Future Diary Date

**Oh Yes it is...
It's Mike Whatmore again...**



2 Plays Plus Cooked Hot Supper

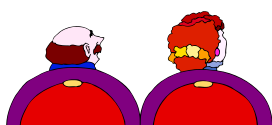
Friday 12th October
&
Saturday 13th October

First play is '**GOOD HEAVENS or all hell let loose**'
A comedy about the end of everything

The second and shorter play is
another comedy based on
'**Act 1 Scene 1 The Scottish Play**'

Both plays written and directed by **Mike Whatmore** and featuring established **Charmouth Companions** faces.

All proceeds will go towards
the St. Andrew's Community Hall new windows project.



Caught on Camera

Dorchester-based landscape painter David Atkins was 'Caught on Camera' on Charmouth beach in April. A successful artist (<http://david-atkins.com/cv.html>), David works directly from the environment and his paintings are inspired by his immediate surroundings...



Lesley Dunlop

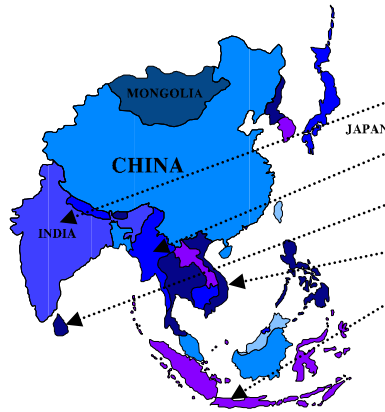
A Far Eastern Mission

"Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to visit five countries in South and South East Asia during Britain's bleak midwinter"... so asked my client back in November last year and it sounded very enticing indeed.

Along with my husband Mike, I am a director of a small company called Griffin Development Management Ltd. Our company provides consultancy and training services, at present in developing countries overseas. Currently my main client is the British Council; this body is the UK's principal cultural relations organisation, and it creates international opportunities for people in the UK and other countries. While it receives some UK government support for programmes to encourage the use of the English language, partnerships and exchanges in the Arts, Education and Society, like so many organisations, its government grant is being reduced and so the British Council is increasing its contracted services, for example, managing major projects entirely funded by clients such as, in Asia, the Asian Development Bank or the World Bank, or by direct teaching of English to paying customers all over the world. Other bi-lateral donor bodies, such as the UK's Department for International Development, also commit to major reform projects in developing countries; this helps to eliminate poverty, but also to build strong trading partners, especially outside Europe, and also, crucially, to help countries develop strong institutions to avoid a vacuum in the rule of law where terrorism could breed.

I accepted the mission. It promised to be interesting work, in fascinating and very different countries; the line-up was to visit Sri Lanka, India, Vietnam, Indonesia, and, particularly interesting to me, Burma (or Myanmar to some); all these in less than two months from mid-January to mid-March. It was an exceptionally busy programme but we wanted to keep travel costs down by covering all these countries in one eight-week trip and, the older I get, the less I like jet lag from the difference in time zones so I was happy to avoid flying backwards and forwards between Asia and Britain. I was particularly interested in education and other major reform projects, funded by international donors or development banks.

So I handed over my passport and my manager got cracking on the challenge of getting the various visas and I got ready to go. A friend said "aren't you lucky, you'll miss the winter here." And it jolted me into thinking about what the weather would be like in the various countries, and what clothes I needed to pack. I went for capsule wardrobes for winter, spring, summer and autumn – in other words a little bit of everything. I'm glad I did. As it turned out, the weather in Sri Lanka was lovely, hot and really a bit like being on a nice, warm holiday. In New Delhi in India, however, it was cold! I was staying with a friend there and her house, lovely though it was, was clearly designed for the roasting heat of the summer, with marble floors and very high ceilings, and, needless to say, no central heating. So it was back to coat, scarf, cardigans and lots of layers which also came in handy in my next stop of Hanoi, Vietnam, where it was also chilly, damp and foggy. Then it was back to light, summery clothes for my stay in Jakarta, Indonesia, and in Burma, as it was very tropical, hot and humid in both those countries.



So what were the various countries like?

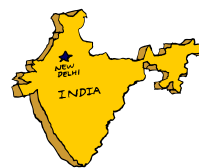
India
Burma
Sri Lanka
Vietnam
Indonesia

My first stop was Sri Lanka. The violent civil war in that country ended in 2009 and it now feels like a country that is going places in spite of on-going political and human rights issues. The main developmental focus of the government of Sri Lanka is on post-conflict issues and rebuilding roads and other essential infrastructure, not least to support the tourist industry - it is a beautiful and friendly country. Sri Lanka has a growing population and the government, and non-governmental organisations, are also mindful of the need to provide opportunities for young people to learn skills for employment.

I was only in the capital, Colombo, for a few days, and while I was mostly in meetings or in my hotel, I must have been a blob in the background of lots of wedding photographs as there seemed to be two or three wedding receptions every day. Unsurprising, as the main hotels were on a wide beach – from where every night we could see the sun setting spectacularly over the Indian Ocean, a truly beautiful sight.



I moved on to New Delhi, India, very much a city of contrasts. While in some suburbs there was street poverty, overcrowding, and the choked chaos of endless traffic jams at certain times of the day, Delhi also has many modern buildings, and clean, wide boulevards; that part of the city feels confident and seems to have a strong sense of purpose. Independence Day was celebrated while I was there, and the parade was an assertive display of military and political showmanship.



India has seen rapid economic growth of 8% per year over the last decade alongside a dramatic fall in the numbers of people living in poverty. However, huge inequalities remain, particularly in the Northern States. The British Government and the European Commission, which have been giving aid and development money for poverty alleviation, have latterly reassessed this, and the new trend is for the Indian federal government, and many of the State governments, to take out loans from international banks, such as the World Bank or the Asian Development Bank, and to take more responsibility for, and control over, their huge reform projects.



Jo in New Delhi

I mentioned it was really cold in Delhi – so I was pleased, as an animal lover, to see that, in spite of a lot of poverty for people, loads of street dogs were wearing 'coats' to keep them warm!

A Far Eastern Mission



The wider global economic recession has very much affected the next country I visited, Vietnam. Vietnam is industrialising and modernising, and the Socialist Government is committed to developing an export-led economy as a matter of urgency; part of their strategy is to open up to partnerships and connections with people in other countries, which of course was of interest to me. Most

Vietnamese people need to see dramatic improvement in standards of education, health, housing and so on and, crucially, to have opportunities for jobs.

In spite of the dreadful weather (torrential, cold rain and dense fog), Hanoi had some very pretty French-built boulevards and buildings alongside beautiful, traditional Vietnamese houses around a series of large lakes. I was happy to meet an old friend, Pam, who is now working in Hanoi. We agreed to go for a meal, and when she asked "French or Vietnamese?" I readily said "let's eat local," and we set off for a 'hot-pot' restaurant. We were the only foreigners, and our Vietnamese matched our waitress's English, that is, minimal, but Pam knew enough to ask for the shrimp hotpot which sounded promising; we already had our own pans of boiling water with stock and vegetables to make our own dish, and then the waitress brought our shrimps – about ten each, very much alive! As an animal lover I found it difficult (well, impossible) to boil my own live food and distracted myself with what was already in the stock, which turned out to be a bit of pig's ear...



My next stop was Jakarta, on the island of Java in Indonesia, and the financial heart of this city feels like Dubai with trees. Unlike

many countries in Europe, which have had their credit ratings lowered, Indonesia's credit rating was raised to investment level in December 2011 by the Fitch Ratings Agency. The government of Indonesia has been managing an assertive programme to improve financial and tax management (and eradicate corruption in public life), and to encourage domestic spending as well as foreign investment. As with other developing countries, although many people now enjoy a better standard of living, many more millions still live in poverty and there are still many challenges. There is evidently a lot of Japanese and Chinese investment in Indonesia, with shiny, ultra-modern shopping malls and lots of oriental restaurants, and increasingly there is Australian interest in the country.

I took a few days' break to visit Bali, the very beautiful neighbouring island. While Indonesia is the world's largest predominantly Muslim country, Bali is mainly Buddhist. We were particularly lucky to see whole villages of people dressed in their best clothes going off to bless their rice fields, accompanied by gamelan gong music. Our hotel was in the middle of rice fields, so we were also surrounded by the exotic sounds of frogs, insects and birds.



Bali, Indonesia - off to bless the rice fields



The final country I visited, Burma (or Myanmar, to use its official name) is of particular fascination to me as it had been almost impossible to visit it for many decades; now, however, it appears to be opening up very rapidly. It is one of the least developed countries in the world, and had been under a harsh military regime since the 1980s.

Alongside this has been a persistent pro-democracy and human rights campaign by numerous groups and networks, including Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy. Cyclone Nargis, which killed over 134,000 people in 2008, left the military government unable to respond and hence had to be more open to foreign contact and assistance. Latterly there have been dramatic changes in the constitution and a new parliamentary structure. Alongside this the foreign community has been discussing lifting sanctions and other restrictive measures as long as the new administration is genuinely committed to democratisation and respect for human rights. With this, aid and development packages are under discussion.

I was there just before elections in April, and there was an exciting buzz and a feeling of imminent and, I hope, positive changes ahead. It had only opened up to tourism a few months earlier and there were many elderly tourists in my hotel; I imagine the tour companies are only too keen to market Burma as a new destination, and to promote the country's wonderful Buddhist temples, interesting old markets and rich cultural heritage.

And then, happily I came home to Charmouth. We moved to the area eighteen months ago and, interesting though it is to travel, I really missed this lovely part of the world, and of course 'home, sweet home'!

Jo Seaman

Caught on Camera



HMS Edinburgh anchored off Black Ven

HMS Edinburgh is a Type 42 (Batch 3) destroyer of the Royal Navy. Launched on 14th April 1983 and commissioned on the 17th December 1985, *Edinburgh* is the largest of the Type 42 destroyers and is known as the 'Fortress of the Sea'.

During the weekend of 19th May, HMS Edinburgh visited Lyme Bay and was 'Caught on Camera' anchored off Black Ven by **Nick Williams**.

It has been suggested that its 'secret' training mission in Lyme Bay was to raid Charmouth fishermen's lobster pots!

If you know better then contact *Shoreline*.

Charmouth/Asnelles Twinning Association

A total of 31 visitors from Asnelles came to Charmouth on the weekend of 19th May on their biennial visit and were hosted by families in the village.

They arrived on the morning of Thursday 17th May, having travelled on the overnight ferry to Portsmouth, and we greeted our friends by providing a 'Full English Breakfast' in the Community Hall in order to start their day well!

After settling in with their hosts, the Vin d'Honneur (official welcome) took place at the Village Hall where the Twinning Chairman, Richard Fereday, and Parish Council representative Jane Morrow, gave speeches of welcome, and glasses of wine were raised in the spirit of friendship and 'jumelage'. That evening, five members of the Association hosted around a dozen guests (French visitors and English hosts), with English members jointly providing a varied English cuisine – a very successful evening.

On Friday, 63 people travelled to Dartmouth, stopping at Dartington shopping complex for coffee and retail therapy, then a Paignton to Kingswear Steam Train journey and on to a River Dart ferry crossing. We enjoyed a splendid lunch at the Royal Castle Hotel, although the French manner of enjoying a long, long, lunch did mean a reduced time to sightsee in Dartmouth before returning to Charmouth, where many guests enjoyed yet more hospitality in English homes.



Mary Swash-Brooks leading the way in Dartmouth

On Saturday, the hosts showed their guests the wonders of Dorset and many took the opportunity to slow the pace of life by travelling on a horse-drawn barge at Tiverton canal. The buffet supper on Saturday evening was held at the bedecked Community Hall; and with music and song provided by 'Two's company' it was, as always, a great success. We all enjoyed a sumptuous buffet supper prepared by the ladies of the Association, followed by dancing until late!

On Sunday, it was farewell day; our guests seemed most appreciative of the time they had spent with us and we in turn look forward to our return visit to Asnelles in 2013. The links between our two villages grow stronger year by year and there are always new members to be greeted from both sides of the Channel and new friendships to be made. In order to provide funds for our hosting visit, we hold many social functions throughout the year; these occasions are fun and we welcome everyone from the surrounding villages as well as Charmouth folk.

If you are interested in joining the Association, do not let limited French language deter you. Many of our members employ school French and find it does not spoil the bonhomie; so please contact the Twinning Secretary on 01297 560251.

Pauline Bonner

Ask The Expert

Q. What are the pros and cons of marketing a property on an 'Offers In Excess Of' basis?

A. The notion that there is a one-size-fits-all approach to marketing property is something of a fallacy. Depending on the state of the market, the type of property and other factors, any one of a number of different approaches may be the right one to adopt. Right now, for example, a good estate agent may well suggest using 'offers in excess of' (usually shorted to 'OIEO'), since it is specifically designed to help generate higher levels of interest – particularly valuable in a slow market.

One of the key advantages of this approach is that it tends to attract genuinely committed buyers – people who may already have found a buyer for their own property, for instance, and who are now looking at the market very seriously. In this, it differs somewhat from the 'normal' method of selling by private treaty, which will often attract a proportion of interest from buyers who are not in such a favourable position. One spin-off benefit of attracting serious buyers, of course, is that it tends to generate offers relatively quickly – which makes this

approach especially attractive to really committed sellers.

Also, OIEO gives buyers a realistic base price, rather than an asking price. This might seem like a small difference, but the fact is, asking prices are normally assumed to be on the optimistic side, and therefore they tend to attract lower offers. The whole object of the OIEO approach, on the other hand, is to do the exact opposite. The downside, of course, is the fact that you are also effectively telling the market in advance what your absolute bottom price is. But this needn't worry you unduly – after all, you are not obliged to accept any offer you don't like! Besides, if you pitch the base price correctly, there is every chance of attracting two or three competing buyers – in which case, you could find yourself the beneficiary of a bidding battle, even in today's market.

So, on balance, I would say that if you are really keen to sell, and it happens to be a buyers' market, then there is a lot to be said for going down the OIEO route. That said, however, you should always consult your friendly neighbourhood estate agent!

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Charmouth Primary School



As I write this, my final article for *Shoreline*, with rain cascading from the sky, I am reminded of the day 14 years ago when John Broadhurst and I met and he handed over the keys of the school to me after his 22 years of service as headteacher. It

was pouring with rain then and the wind was driving it horizontally up Lower Sea Lane. I got soaked just shutting the gates. The difference between the two days is that our key exchange took place in January and today is June!!!

Much has happened during the past 14 years and many of the children in school at that time are now scattered to the four corners of the earth, involved in all manner of occupations. I think that is what education is really about – to prepare youngsters for the world in which they are to live and to allow them to be upstanding, contributing members of the communities in which they settle, wherever that may be.

We do live in a rapidly changing world. The impact of new technologies and the world's economic crisis means that things will never be the same again and so it is hugely important that education looks forward to prepare children for the world into which they are growing up. It is not a time for looking back. There needs to be radical thought from our policy makers and an acceptance that things need to be done differently and not the past repackaged. I am reminded of a quotation by an American writer, Eric Hoffer, who once said, *"In times of change, learners inherit the earth while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists."* Wise words and one of the reasons why we have tended to do things slightly differently in our school during my time here.

This term we have devoted much learning time to the Olympics. It is an exciting time and the children certainly seem to be enjoying it. Amongst other things, we have had a visit from Jonathan Hall, a current member of the GB Wheelchair Basketball team – a truly humbling experience; one from a lady called Margot, a member of the Torch bearing relay team and of course our very own Roy Churchman shared his memories of his involvement at the 1948 Olympics. Children are staging their own Olympic competitions and the Beach Olympics are proving very popular!

It is highly appropriate in this sporting summer that our school's sporting teams have enjoyed recent success. Our cricket team won the local Kwik Cricket competition and missed out on the West Dorset title by just five runs. Our football team reached the semi finals of the West Dorset 6

a side tournament and a number of swimmers were selected for the West Dorset team after the recent local gala.

When I leave in July I need to let people know I am not retiring! For those who know me I am far too young!! My

plans are to continue working with a number of Dorset schools and further afield in an advisory capacity and also to expand my training work with Apple computers through the Apple Regional Training Centre based at the school. I would like to thank the whole community for their support and kind words over the past 14 years. I have been fortunate to have worked with an outstanding staff team and they will continue to provide the children of Charmouth and beyond with a high quality and relevant education under the leadership of Mrs Gillian Morris. I wish her, the school and its community every success in the future – it has been a special place to be.

Chris Vincent, Headteacher



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The chronic effects of stress, pollution, faulty diet or unhappiness are subtle and do not begin to make themselves felt until the chain breaks at its weakest link and pathology shows itself in one form or another. To look at the pathology in isolation is to examine only a slice of what is in fact a continuum of events and it is important to realise that the same stimulus has been affecting other aspects of the body which may only fail later. When a patient presents with rheumatoid arthritis, for example, on further questioning going back over the years, it is almost always the case that minor and subtle symptoms have been evident and the breakdown of the immune system had begun long before. It is not until that crucial 'straw that broke the camel's back' occurs, that pain and discomfort are enough to require a consultation.

Therefore to try and reverse that situation, without looking beyond, is of limited value. Although it is worth addressing the final diagnosis and symptoms, it only gains real value if the events that led to the breakdown are looked at. FIND THE CAUSE!

The Pancreas - is the instigatory endocrine/exocrine organ in the body, a compound gland situated in the duodenum curve behind the stomach. It is our central computer of all metabolic, enzymatic and chemical processes and affects all other organs (heart, liver, spleen, brain etc.) and like any computer it is essential that it is functioning correctly. If it is fed incorrect information, the system will not work at all. What is the one thing we do every day of our lives? - we eat and drink. If we eat and drink the wrong things it is not surprising that a pancreatic malfunction occurs.

By testing the pancreas it is possible to source the malfunction. Followed with an individually tailored approach, it is possible to reverse symptoms and resume

health and well-being. If you have adverse symptomology, then always consult your doctor first - this will ascertain whether the problem is organic or not and you will be advised accordingly. If you have exhausted all procedures, are being told tests are negative, or that you have to live with it, then you may wish to book a clinical ecology consultation.

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Grannifer's Legacy

Trish Vickers recently hit the national news after staff at the Dorset Police HQ Forensic Service painstakingly used a high intensity light source to recover the lost words of her novel, *Grannifer's Legacy*.

Trish, who has lived in Charmouth since 1998, has been blind for seven years. Her sight began to deteriorate after she suffered a diabetic macular bleed. "I was brought up to tackle situations and find ways around them," says Trish, who found solace in writing poems for her 85-year-old mother. "I have always loved writing. I was never keen on school but I enjoyed English lessons and wrote lots of essays."

With the aid of a Royal National Institute for the Blind writing frame with taut strands of elastic that serve as line guides, Trish joined The Writers' Bureau and was assigned a short story about a local event. "I drew on situations from the past and used my vivid imagination. It was returned with the comment that it was longer than required, but I had the ability to sustain a longer story."

So last July she began writing her first novel. Entitled *Grannifer's Legacy*, its main character is Jennifer, whose life collapses when she loses her job, her boyfriend and, worst of all, her great-grandmother, after whom she was named. "It is an easy-going, gentle story with a sad start, but readers need to understand Jennifer's frame of mind and appreciate how she gradually overcomes her problems with the knowledge gained from her great-grandmother and the help of those she meets. I spent a long time developing her character, putting myself in the situations she faces and understanding how she would deal with them. I also had to get my facts right. In part of the story she is introduced to an old farmhouse that has lain empty for 30 years. The garden is a humungous mass of brambles and weeds and one of the characters suggests that once it is cleared, pigs could be brought in to clear the roots. I believed that to be the case but Simon, my eldest son, has a work colleague who is also a pig farmer, so I phoned her and drew on her expertise."

After a lapse in writing, when Trish's beloved dog Kai became ill and died, the novel made good progress and one day last year – a day that Trish remembers only too well – she wrote prolifically. "I was really excited when Simon arrived and I told him he'd have 26 pages to read. When he went to pick up the sheets of paper, there was a sudden silence and I could sense his disappointment. He told me the pages were blank. He was very upset and, after it sank in, I was in tears. When I got over the initial shock, I wondered whether there was any way the words could be retrieved. My writing had made impressions on the pages so we thought of rubbing a pencil across the paper, but that didn't work. Then we had other ideas, including fingerprint dust, so we approached Dorset Police HQ near Ferndown. They were very kind and suggested I post the pages to them. But instead Simon drove me there and we met up with forensic expert Kerry Savage. She volunteered to help and, with her colleague Sandy, snatched time during lunch breaks to try to decipher my writing. When Kerry phoned five months later to tell me they had managed to retrieve everything – apart from one line – I couldn't believe it. I can't thank them enough; they have been absolutely amazing."



Trish decided to contact the *Bridport and Lyme Regis News* as she wanted to publicly acknowledge the kindness of the two policewomen. An article was published, which immediately caught the imagination of the national press and television in the UK and overseas. "I was left in total disbelief!" says Trish, who subsequently received a phone call from the BBC to feature in Jeremy Vine's live radio show with policewoman Kerry. Next, Dublin Radio approached, followed by Real Radio. As a result of one of the radio appearances, Trish received an offer by a publisher to take on *Grannifer's Legacy*.

Since then, she has been busy writing. Simon visits each week and reads her work, and friend Carol Head regularly comes and types the latest material. "Carol is enjoying the story and is hoping Jennifer will get together with TJ, one of the characters," grins Trish. "But my mum is my biggest fan. She's very proud of me."

Trish visited Charmouth as a teenager. "I came down with friends and we camped on Stonebarrow Hill. I remember telling mum that I intended to live in Charmouth one day. I just love it here." Simon lives fairly close by, but Tristan and Heidi live further afield. Tristan's five-year-old daughter Chloe is the apple of Trish's eye. "I tell her that nanny's eyes are broken; she can comprehend that. She leads me around and is a little sparkler. I've been so lucky with my family. They're amazing and have been there for me during the difficult times in my life. If my situation and story spark one other person to overcome something in his or her life, that would be wonderful," says Trish.

Lesley Dunlop

Nick Shannon

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Memories of the XIVth Olympiad (1948)



Peter Mills, a retired optometrist from Wootton Fitzpaine, was 12 years old when the 1948 Summer Olympics, officially known as the Games of the XIVth Olympiad, were held in London. His memories of those early days were re-awakened when he discovered three long-lost one shilling programmes bearing his carefully pencilled notations.

On holiday after his first term at boarding school, Peter travelled by tube from Uxbridge to Wembley on three separate days in July and August 1948 with his mother, his younger brother Roger, and Tom, his close friend from school. "My parents were friendly with our old prep school headmaster who obtained the tickets," says Peter. "But my mother decided to take us as she had various sporting interests and played tennis. My father was far more interested in music."

Peter's impression is that his party sat relatively low down in the Empire Stadium; quite close to the edge of the track and on the side furthest from the railway station. He particularly savours his recollection of two athletes:

Fanny Blankers-Koen from the Netherlands, who won gold medals in the 100 and 200 metres, the 80 metre hurdles and the 400 metre team relay; and the record-breaking Emil Zátopek from

Peter also recalls the remarkable finish to the Marathon, which wended its way from Wembley through Stanmore, Edgware, Mill Hill, Elstree, Radlett and back via Stanmore to Wembley. "I watched the lead runner, Etienne Gailly of Belgium, as he entered the stadium for the final lap. But, stumbling with exhaustion, he was overtaken by the Argentinian, Delfo Cabrera. Tom Richards, a British competitor, was very close behind. Then, much to everyone's horror, Etienne Gailly fell. Tom Richards took second place."

Will Peter be attending the 2012 London Olympics? "No, but I'm looking forward to seeing the events on television, especially the athletics." In his own running days, he preferred the 200 metres. "I needed that distance to get into my stride," he notes. Bridging the 64-year gap since the last London Olympiad, Peter's cousin's

daughter will be representing Australia in the ladies pursuit cycling event in London 2012.

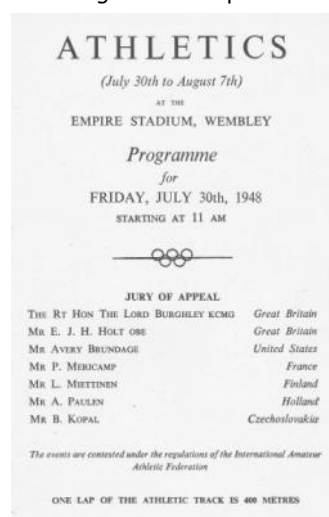
Lesley Dunlop

Images from Peter Mills' Olympic Programmes



Czechoslovakia.
"I watched
Fanny Blankers-

Koen in the 100 metres and she was like a bombshell," recalls Peter. "As a boy, I had no concept of ladies running like that. Then I remember Emil Zátopek and his unusual stance. When he ran he gave the impression that he was gasping for breath and was on the verge of giving up through sheer exhaustion. But he never did."



Memories of the XIVth Olympiad (1948)



On Thursday 29th July 1948, Boy Scout Roy Churchman proudly held the name plate for the Jamaican team at the opening ceremony of the Summer Olympics (see photo). Now 80, he recalls that searingly hot day as he paraded around the old Wembley Stadium arena in front of the Jamaican flag bearer, under the watchful eye of a Guards' Sergeant Major and in full view of more than 80,000 spectators. "My mother was there and had no idea I'd been picked. It was an incredible surprise for her when she spotted me," says Roy.



Roy was familiar with the stadium. From the early days of World War II, the Wembley Boy Scouts Association had provided 120 boys for every professional sporting event held there. He was one of them. Familiar with the seat numbering and layout, he helped the stewards and was also a ball boy. He has fond memories of an England international match at which he was a ball boy and was "privileged" to hand the ball over on the pitch to Sir Stanley Matthews.

It was barely three years after the end of World War II and Wembley was the first Summer Olympics since the 1936 Games in Berlin. Rationing was still in operation and little money was available, but Olympic fever gripped the nation. The local Scouts' contributions proved invaluable. "We assembled at the perimeter, just outside the main stadium building for quite a long time before the main ceremony began and received drill instruction from the Guards' NCO," says Roy, who was born in Wembley and was later to become a King's Scout. "The younger boys were given baskets containing 2,500 pigeons for release around the running track and the older, smarter boys were selected to carry the name plates of individual countries. We were lined up, someone thrust a name plate in our hands and, before we knew it, we were whisked off to join the relevant team and parade around the arena. There was no pre-warning of what we would be doing and certainly no rehearsal. This may have been the 'shoestring' Olympics, but it was a super experience."

Roy remembers standing 20 yards in front of the Royal Box seating King George VI and members of the Royal Family. "We were in rows, name plates in front in alphabetical order; the athletes were positioned at right angles to the 100 yard running track. I was only a few feet from the track-side dais where British Team Captain and 100 yard hurdler, Donald Finlay, was standing. After taking the Olympic Oath on behalf of all the competitors, he stepped down. A pregnant pause followed and suddenly a flustered official came scurrying down through the ranks. He dashed to a small door in the back of the dais and made a call on an old-fashioned army telephone, hurriedly cranking it to create an electric current. I heard him say: "Is that you, Sir Malcolm? You've missed your cue." Sir Malcolm Sergeant promptly roused the massed bands and choir into the Olympic Hymn. I was one of the very few people who heard that," chuckles Roy.

"Quite a lot of the athletes were billeted in schools in the Wembley area, including my school – Wembley Grammar – where they slept on camp beds in the hall and gym and had to use the school's washbasins. The nearby RAF station in Uxbridge was also utilised," he adds.

The Boy Scouts acted as messengers throughout the Olympic Games and Roy was also the name bearer for the Bermudian team in the less formal Olympic closing ceremony on 14th August. He treasures his autograph book (see photo) bearing their signatures and respective sports.



Roy met Kay, who hails from Yorkshire, in the drawing office at British Railways (as it was then known), Paddington. Kay was a member of the technical staff and Roy was a civil engineering trainee. He gained civil, municipal, highways, railways and military engineering qualifications and also served 30 years in the Territorial Army, training at Longmoor Military Railway and Mönchengladbach. He commanded 275 Railway Squadron (V) and was awarded the Emergency Reserve Decoration (ERD) and the Territorial Decoration (TD).

On completion of National Service, Roy was put in charge of the Wembley Boy Scouts and continued to be involved providing Wembley Stadium with its Boy Scout stewards. "The old Wembley Stadium holds very fond memories for me," concludes Roy.

Roy and Kay moved to Charmouth in 1997.

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Is It Worth Watching The Olympic Games?



Quite often you'll spot an ancient (and these days, slow) marathon runner swinging out of my home in Higher Sea Lane, padding to the beach, and heading east, up the hill, towards Golden Cap.

I've been running this coastal path for more than 50 years, and whenever I do I fantasise about the Olympics and my strange, ongoing relationship with the Games. This is the third time that Britain has hosted the summer Olympics – London held the Games in 1908, 1948 and this year, 2012. No other city can match this.

A lifetime ago I would day-dream about the Olympics, and reckoned that if I could make it to the top of Golden Cap without being reduced to a walk, that would be my own Gold Medal.

The hills and the years gave me strength. And in 1976 I lined up in the marathon trial for the Olympics in Montreal. Sadly, I didn't make the team. But eight years on, while working as a journalist for the *Daily Mail*, I was instrumental in bringing the barefoot runner, Zola Budd, to run in the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

I was at her side throughout the Games, watching as she collided with Mary Slaney, the pin-up favourite of the America crowd, whom she sent sprawling and tearful on the red rubber track. I coached Zola for the next three years, through world records and many medals, till the anti-apartheid lobby forced her to quit. She's running again now, and still keeps frequently in touch.

I'd run with Seb Coe and Steve Ovett before their epic clash over 800 and 1,500 metres in the 1980 Moscow Olympics, and then as a newspaper editor and columnist I went to the Games in Atlanta in 1996 and Athens in 2000. When I could find time I wrote about the Games and the inspiring spirit they embodied. I published books about Roger Bannister and the 4-minute-mile he ran in 1954, the strange distance of the Marathon dreamed up by Lord Desborough in 1908, and most recently a biography of Chris Brasher, a man I knew well, himself a Gold medallist in the Melbourne Olympics of 1956, but perhaps even better known as a founder of the London Marathon and inventor of the "Brasher Boot."

All these books were scribbled while I could see Golden Cap beckoning me in the distance. Often I would break off in the middle of a chapter – and head for the hills on the coastal path. Wind, rain, time and tide have long since eroded the path. And these days it's not the same path I knew in my teenage dreams. But, then, neither are the Olympic Games.

It is 64 years since the last Olympics were held in London. And although I have written about the 1908 London Games and the 2012 London extravaganza, the Games I admire most are the so-called make-do-and-mend Olympics of 1948.

I know there are some Charmouth residents, no longer in the full flush of youth, who have fond memories of these Games. And no wonder. They were masterminded by Lord Burghley (who later became the Marquess of Exeter) at incredibly short notice, in a land that was virtually bankrupt, bombed out but refused to let their spirit be cowed by the ravages of war.



"Chris Brasher, Chris Chataway (both of whom ran in the 1952 and 1956 Olympics) and me (centre) at Oxford's Iffley Road track where we were taking part in a handicap mile race in 2004, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Roger Bannister's 4-minute-mile record in 1954. Bannister (Olympics 1952) started the race. It was won by Kenya's Kip Keino. Plenty of Olympic echoes there." - John Bryant

Like the Olympic Games of 1908, the 1948 Games were staged without any public subsidy – and in fact both of these two celebrations showed a profit.

Lord Burghley was played in the film *Chariots of Fire*, about the 1924 Olympics, by Nigel Havers (in the film they changed his name to Lord Lindsay). And in the fictional *Chariots of Fire* he practised hurdling with glasses of champagne on each flight as an incentive to keep his stride high and true.

In fact, the real Lord Burghley's party trick was far more practical – but no less impressive. He would take a matchbox, balance it precariously on top of each hurdle and then run the flight of hurdles knocking the matchbox off with his lead leg, but leaving each hurdle upright.

London stepped into holding the 1948 Games because the original choice, Helsinki, had been wrecked by World War II. Improvisation was the order of the day, and in a capital city that was well-versed in handling the blitz, the population rose to the challenge.

Wembley's greyhound track was converted to become the "Olympic Stadium" at a cost of £750,000. The Empire Pool was restored and German prisoners of war built railways and roads.

The committee, who cobbled together these Olympics, had to feed, house and equip teams from all over the world. And all this on a budget of £761,000 – so there weren't too many frills. Bring your own soap and towel was the order. Gymnastic equipment was shipped over by those who could afford it.

There was not going to be a special "Olympic Village". Instead, in 1948, the 4,000 competitors, their coaches and team managers had to make use of RAF camps, schools and colleges. No telephone had been installed for the competitors and Boy Scouts with their bicycles carried messages from team to team.

Male competitors were housed in military camps, the women in schools and colleges. With petrol still on ration, there was no special transport. All visiting teams were asked to bring food with them. Food parcels were sent from relatives and fans from Canada and Australia. An athletics training camp for Olympic possibles was set up for one week at Billy Butlin's holiday camp in Clacton-on-Sea.

Is It Worth Watching The Olympic Games?



But the Olympic flag waved again, the Olympic torch glowed. Seven thousand pigeons were released.

The men and women who made the headlines for these games were real athletes and genuine heroes. None could match the spectacular performance of a 30-year-old Dutch housewife, a lean likeable blonde named Fanny Blankers-Koen.

In 1948, Fanny set the finest record of any woman in Olympic history. She won the 100m, the 200m and the 80m hurdles, then anchored the Netherlands' 400-meter relay team to another Gold. She was limited to three individual events, so Fanny could not enter the long jump or the high jump – even though she held the women's world record in both events.

Fanny Blankers-Koen pointed out that women could win, and women could be heroes and role models. The other competitor who pointed out the future of the Olympics was Emil Zatopek from Czechoslovakia.

He brought to the world of athletics the concept that courage and a super-human training schedule could make you a champion. His guiding principle was to make his training sessions so hard that his races seemed easy.

The 26-year-old army officer had refined and developed his own form of "interval training" that had been devised before the Second World War by coaches and doctors. It was said he did much of his running in army boots. When his wife, a javelin thrower, was injured he ran with her on his back. He practised breath control, running on the spot while on sentry duty, and ran in the bath while the dirty washing needed doing – a sort of human washing machine.

He grimaced when he ran, like a man who has just been stabbed in the heart. Agony seemed to be his trademark. But his legs gave the secret away – they would fly across the ground in short, smooth strides that rarely varied, never faltered, with scarcely a hint of fatigue.

In 1948, in Lord Burghley's London Olympics, Zatopek won the 10,000 metre race and was placed second in the 5,000 metres. It was to be the start of an Olympic career which climaxed four years later in 1952, where in the Helsinki Games Zatopek won the 5,000m, the 10,000m and the Marathon. In London in 1948 the crowd set up a chant of "Za-to-pek, Za-to-pek, Zat-to-pek" as he churned his way around Wembley in the 10,000m, lapping every other runner.

I have myself, run 30 London Marathons and many more besides, but my happiest moment during these races was when I knew that I had surpassed the personal best set by the great Zatopek in the Marathon.

So much has changed since those innocent days of 1948. The Olympics are now big business. Commercialisation and professionalism are everywhere. The 2008 Games in Beijing was staged using a budget that was terrifying and made me despair of the Olympics. It's all getting far too big.

Following in the footsteps of Lord Desborough and Lord Burghley comes Lord Coe (Baron Coe of Ranmore). It's amazing that the three London Olympics have all been masterminded by Lords. But I still remember Seb striding around London's Richmond Park and treasuring the Corinthian dreams we shared of victory - hoping not for Gold, but for glory.

The trick Seb Coe has got to pull off is to preserve these Corinthian dreams and, at the same time, tame the monster of commercialisation that threatens to ruin the Games. He has to deal, too, with the spectre of drugs that still haunts the Olympics, and I often wonder at those happy days of 1948 when the stimulant of choice was Horlicks.

I will be lucky enough to cheer at the Olympic Stadium and to be there at the finish of the Olympic Marathon. But watching it on TV (the best seat in the house) can still be a wonderful inspiration. It may well ignite the flickering flames of memory when your legs were young and your dreams were bouncy.

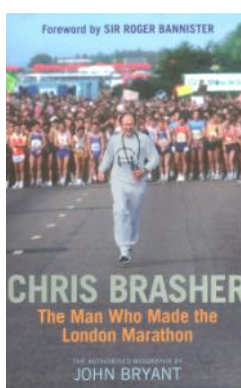
So my advice, when it comes to watching the Games on television, is to tune in for inspiration, but when you get bored head for the hills. You can walk, you may even run, but when I clamber up Golden Cap the years and the creaking legs vanish. And the dreams come flooding back. I am 17 again. My heart is full of Golden hopes.

So draw inspiration from the Olympics. Give a cheer to the boys and girls you see in the Charmouth Challenge as they fast-foot their way up Golden Cap. Theirs is the true grassroots legacy of these Games. Gold medals are elusive; not too many will win them. But Golden Cap is always there.

John Bryant

Life-long athlete John Bryant has a wealth of experience as editor of Fleet Street newspapers. He was coach to Olympic athlete Zola Budd and is a writer and speaker. He has worked in Fleet Street since 1971 and was Editor-in-Chief of Telegraph newspapers, Deputy Editor of The Times, Executive Editor of the Daily Mail, Editor of the Sunday Correspondent and The European. He is currently Chairman of the Press Association Trust, Chairman of the Evening Standard Editorial Advisory Board, Chairman of the London Marathon Trustees and President of the Thames Hare and Hounds.

John has written a number of books, the latest of which is *Chris Brasher, The Man Who Made the London Marathon*.



One of Brasher's closest friends and a running colleague, John portrays the life of the man who co-founded the London Marathon, established the sport of orienteering in Britain and then helped to do the same for fell-running. Brasher won an Olympic gold medal in Melbourne in 1956 and was a top sports journalist. He invented the 'Brasher' walking boot, which he claimed brought the comfort of the running shoe to long-distance hiking. John describes Brasher as "exasperating" and "indefatigable" and notes that

whether you're a sports journalist, a Lakeland fell-runner, a weekend Rambler or a competitor in the London Marathon, Chris Brasher changed your life. In his foreword, Sir Roger Bannister calls *Chris Brasher, The Man Who Made the London Marathon* an "utterly absorbing biography." John has also produced a new e-book on Amazon called *Lords of the Olympics*.

Check out www.charmouth.org and click on 'Shoreline Magazine' spring 2010 issue (page 24) for an article about John.

Paralympic Hero Visits School

Jonathan Hall, Paralympic Basketball player, makes an appearance at Charmouth Primary School



On 23rd April, Jonathan Hall (left), Paralympic Basketball player, visited Charmouth Primary School for a special assembly for the whole school and then an individual questions assembly for each class. The school is learning about the Olympics, so the staff organised a visit from the famous paralympian to inspire both the children and adults.

Jonathan's disability is spina bifida, which he has had all his life. In the whole school assembly he explained about his role as a paralympian in the Team GB basketball squad. He then put on a video of him playing against China

in the 2008 Beijing Paralympics.

When the different classes went in to ask Jonathan questions, he showed them his different wheelchairs and

even allowed some children to have a go in them! He said that his new wheelchair, which all of the Team GB have, could cost a lot, but luckily all of the men in the GB team are sponsored so get them free. He has three wheelchairs: his everyday wheelchair, his older basketball wheelchair and his newer one (both moulded specially to fit his body).

In the playground at break-time, Jonathan demonstrated his basketball skills and got asked yet more questions. He then had a photo taken with the children, the first of three or four that were taken on the exciting day.

In each of the question sessions, Jonathan passed round his bronze medal he won at the Beijing Paralympics when he won against China. He explained that the rating for disabilities is that the paralympians are rated from 1-5, 1 being the worst and 5 being the mildest. Jonathan is rated as 3.

Altogether it was an amazing day for everyone involved.

**Maisie Bellworthy,
Charmouth Primary School Year 6 pupil**

Further information at www.paralympics.org.uk - Editor.



More Memories of the XIVth Olympiad (1948)



I was living some 10 miles north of Windsor where one of the cycle races was held around Windsor Great Park. My main memory was a crash when several cyclists collided and after copious bandaging continued the race!

Peter Bagley

The athletes were mostly accommodated in schools around the London area. I remember meeting a large number of them and still have their autographs today! I lived in Greenford in Middlesex and Northolt Airport was only a few miles away from us. We went on a special flight in an Auster aircraft which flew over Wembley Stadium and I remember the view; it was amazing. This was my first ever flight, so it stays firmly locked in my memory.

Lily Bagley

My 2012 Olympics

Olympics Medical First Responder

The games are fast approaching and it's all very exciting. There has been a lot of preparation behind the scenes for all the games makers involved. I have attended several test events in the London Prepares Series, working with some amazing people from all over the country, with varied experiences and stories to share. The sport has been amazing and some of the athletes are extremely gorgeous! The Olympic Park is all coming together and it is truly spectacular!

In my role as Medical First Responder I have received a lot of training including the Orientation training at Wembley Stadium, along with all the equipment and role specific training. The atmosphere at these venues was phenomenal and we were entertained by some very famous names as well as sporting heroes and icons. The venue and medical managers are truly inspirational and we are all working together to make this the best Olympic Games ever! This has been my dream role for many years and this is definitely a once in a life time opportunity.

Nicky Millen

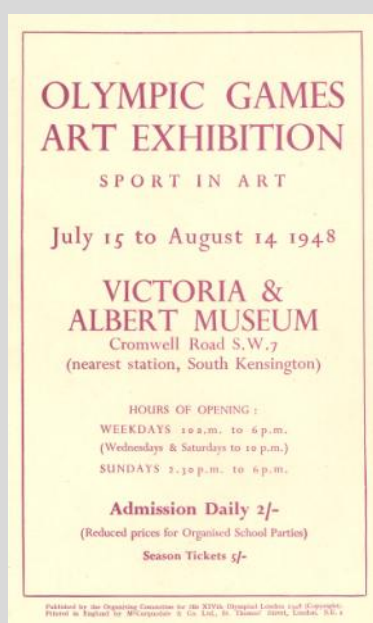


Image from Peter Mills' Olympic Programmes

My 2012 Olympics



This is the third time that London has been awarded the Olympics. The first time was in 1908 because Mount Vesuvius had erupted and it was moved from Rome. The second time, in 1944 they were cancelled due to World War II but in 1948 London stepped in to host them and they were televised for the first time.

The planning for the bid for 2012 started in 2003 and London was announced as the 'winner' on 6th July 2005 the day before the London bombings on 7th July 2005. Elation was swiftly followed by bewilderment and tragedy.

Unlike my two sisters who have been involved in sport at county and even international level (my elder sister having played for England at netball and more recently coached England to Commonwealth bronze), I have always been an also ran, a Mr Average, a vin ordinaire, sometimes a vin de table. However I am sports mad so when in the summer of 2010 Eddie Izzard appeared on the TV and invited us to volunteer to help at 2012 I thought, why not? I could never hit the heights myself but perhaps I could help someone else to.

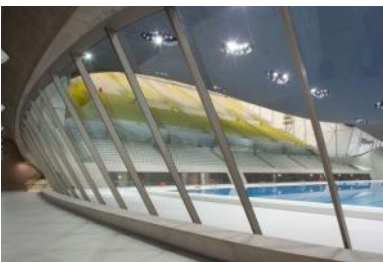
So as I write, I am on the train back from London having collected my accreditation and uniform. 250,000 people put their names forward as volunteers and they had to be whittled down to 70,000 for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The journey for me really started when 1% were selected (2,500) to interview the other volunteers, a mammoth task which is still going on now for some. I had to complete a day's training at the Weymouth Sailing Facility and then interviews started in the Spring of 2011.

I worked several days at Weymouth and then at the Excel Centre in London for a few shifts. The diversity of people I met was amazing, young, older, and older still, from all different ethnic, cultural and social backgrounds. However, what they all had in common was their incredible enthusiasm for sport and their sheer desire to contribute something to 2012.

I probably only interviewed about 40 to 50 people during my stint but I did feel very humbled by the experience. One of the interview questions was "Can you think of a time when you did something above and beyond the call of duty; when you went the extra mile for someone or something?".

The answers I had to notate for this were mostly far beyond what I had expected. One nurse, on VSO, had walked for 3 days in Nepal to attend to a fallen climber who was airlifted out before she walked back to the village. Another man had raised over £200,000 for charity by running over 20 marathons, but wasn't going to mention it.

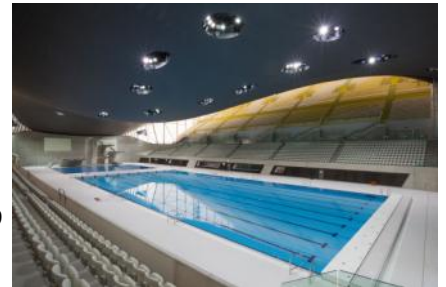


The amount of voluntary work some of these people were already involved in was astonishing and here they were offering more.

It was made plain to all of us that there would be no reimbursement of any expenditure during any of the training or during the Games. It would all have to be funded by ourselves. On our application forms we had to indicate how many days we would be available during the games. I plumped for 10 (the minimum) as I thought a

divorce would be on the cards otherwise. Plus my boys and my business would just miss me too much. It transpires that I have already contributed more than ten days and the Games haven't started yet!

I have been delegated to work at the Aquatics Centre in the Olympic Park, which I am very excited about. I will be involved with the Press Operations team helping to ensure that all goes smoothly with the correct information, schedules, results, times and so on, get to the world's press so they can meet their deadlines. So if your screens go blank while you are watching, that could be me! David Coleman once said "David Wilkie has won the silver medal. If he had swum a little bit faster, he would have won the Gold." Alan Weeks is attributed to "It was the crowd that set the swimming pool alight." Hopefully nothing will go wrong on my watch.



I have just received my schedule of shifts and they amount to 9 days but spread over a period of 18 days. This will make life a little more complicated and expensive but I should be able to get back home in between to do some washing up, pop in to the office and see the family.

There will be some early starts and some very late finishes - 12.30 am on occasions. That will make travel back to my sister's house in west London interesting, methinks. Fortunately I have spent much of my life living and working in London so I know my way around.

I don't know if you are one for statistics but I am, so here goes: there will be 70,000 volunteers like myself, 2,000 young games makers, 125,000 contractors, 6,000 staff, 10,000 team officials, 20,000 broadcasters, photographers and journalists, 4,000 technical officials, over 20,000 security and police, around 10 million tickets and, oh yes, in case we forget, about 15,000 athletes.

The scale of the whole process is huge and so far everything has gone like clockwork. Just picking up my uniform and accreditation was a military operation. The 2012 Olympic organisation has taken over a gigantic warehouse near Stratford and they are processing 1,000 volunteers a day. The task of measuring up for trousers, shirts, jackets, shoes etc. takes about 45 minutes per person, so there are hundreds of volunteers just helping with this aspect every day, 12 hours a day, over a period of four months.

I also picked up my Olympic Oyster card that entitles me to travel on the Tube network but only on the days I have a shift. Every expense has been considered - for us anyway.

I hope to survive to write a piece in the Autumn issue of *Shoreline* about what exactly did go wrong at the Aquatics Centre and how I was escorted from the premises after Britain won a record haul of medals at the pool!

I hope you enjoy the Games.

Nick Beardwood

Photos of Aquatics Centre courtesy of London 2012

Olympic Athleticism: Nature or Nurture?



Are athletes born or made? Can anybody become an athlete as long as they train hard enough, and perhaps start at an early enough age? Or has nature already endowed potential athletes with the necessary ingredients and all they have to do is hone it sufficiently to become the best? Intuitively we might think the latter, and this is confirmed by science.



What are those natural ingredients that athletes have, and how do some athletes become elite and others remain average? In fact there are many essential ingredients, both physical and psychological, which are determined by the genes we inherit from our parents. But that is not the end of it.

In previous articles in *Shoreline* (summer, autumn and winter editions 2011; see charmouh.org online) we have seen how nature and nurture interact to produce our physical and psychological attributes, and how the science of epigenetics is beginning to reveal that nature doesn't just give us the genes to make us what we are, but it endows us with a huge selection of alternative copies of many of our genes with small differences, that are switched off. These alternative versions can be switched on by environmental triggers, "nurture", which in turn can alter our development.

These environment-sensitive epigenetic switches provide a means by which the organism can fine-tune itself to cope with the environment in which it finds itself, by making changes to its characteristics during phases of development in accordance to prevailing conditions at the time. This is a massive advantage in the survival of the species as a whole; it doesn't have to wait for natural selection to operate over many generations, weeding out individual family lines that are less suited to the conditions. It enables the same species to inhabit a variety of different habitats and makes it resistant to changing conditions. Whilst evolution only cares about the species as a whole and not about individuals, epigenetic switching benefits the individual (or harms it if inappropriate, as we have seen).

To become a successful athlete certain body characteristics are necessary, which differ in accordance to the sport. Hundreds of genes have been identified which determine athletic performance, controlling features such as body build, muscle type, height, the ratio of limbs to trunk. Sprinters are stocky, long distance runners are lean and long, whilst rowers



tend to have long arms and legs. Then there is the mix of different type of muscle fibres, with fast twitch short

burst fibres for sprinting and slow twitch fibres for strength and endurance. Of crucial importance are the systems for oxygen delivery to muscle fibres.

Genes control how well bodies respond to training. Furthermore, athletes show many epigenetic changes, for example, those that generate extra blood vessels in muscles. Some show a dramatic ability to build muscle, to ramp up their ability to use oxygen and to rid themselves of painful lactic acid produced when energy production outstrips oxygen supply (anaerobic activity). Others have a superior ability to recoup after extreme events or after injury. Strenuous endurance running switches on or enhances genes that increase the proportion of slow

twitch muscle fibres, increasing the capacity for long distance running.

Many of the epigenetic switches are temporary, with genes becoming inactive when training ceases, but other switches, particularly involving genes active in the early stages of development, remain for life and may be passed to the next generation in active form.



Different environmental conditions around the world have shaped the particular profile of human characteristics in each habitat, both by natural selection over human prehistory and through ongoing epigenetic switches. Although all groups of humanity are capable of producing all types of athletes it is not surprising to see a tendency to clustering, with certain population groups giving rise to higher numbers of certain types of athletes.

Well known are the East African long distance runners from the remote isolated villages of Kenyan and Ethiopian highlands. Athletes who can trace their ancestry to West Africa, as most African Americans and West Indians can, are more likely to excel at short distance power running and jumping, involving anaerobic activity of fast-twitch muscle fibres. This ethnic group has long dominated sprinting and hurdling events up to 400 metres, (not to mention American football). Eurasians have a greater tendency to excel in sports requiring upper body strength such as throwing sports and weightlifting.

These differences that exist at Olympic level are not necessarily discernible between random ordinary individuals from different ethnic groups. Even the tiniest difference between ethnic groups in *average* athletic potential is enough to produce a handful of individuals from one group that can dominate a sport. Note that the science of observing average differences between ethnic groups is not racism. Racism is making a judgement about an *individual* based on a generalised racial stereotype.

However, genetic makeup only provides potential. To become an Olympic standard athlete obsessional dedication to training and conditioning is required, as well as emotional resilience to extreme stress. Not surprisingly, successful athletes have a strong tendency towards certain personality traits, which are strongly genetically determined.



We previously examined how personality traits tend to cluster into 5 main groups (*Shoreline* winter 2011). Top athletes have shown strong inclinations towards "Conscientiousness" traits and "Extroversion" traits.

"Conscientiousness" comprises traits that provide a strong emotive instinct towards duty, completion of tasks and achieving goals. This provides the drive behind the discipline required to complete arduous daily training schedules and any other conditioning required. All athletes *know* they have to do the training, but people with these traits feel innate energy and pleasure associated with conditioning regimes and feel intense anxiety if even a small part of it is incomplete. At the extreme end of the Conscientiousness spectrum is "obsession", -which is often what it takes to be a champion.

"Extroversion" includes a group of traits that results in the feeling of pleasure from physical activity. Whilst this also

Youth Club Celebrate Olympics



Young people at Charmouth Youth Club did more than celebrate the Olympics with a sporting event, they interviewed those who took part and took photos too! They found out about the sports members enjoy most, asked why they like

coming to the club and what the Olympics means to them.



JORDAN, 11yrs said, "I like athletics. I'm looking forward to the Olympics because I might be

going on TV when the Olympic torch comes to our area."

CONNER, 9yrs said, "I liked playing dodge ball best, it's fun at club. I'm looking forward to the Olympics because it's awesome!"



CODY, 8yrs said, "Club is fun! I can't wait to see the Olympic running events!"



LAUREN, 15yrs (senior member), said, "I am involved with club because it's the only place we have to go. I think the Olympics

will make our area very busy."

MIKEY, 9yrs said, "Club is fun. I am enjoying the dodge ball. I want to see all of the athletes at the Olympics."



JOSH, 10yrs said, "I like coming to club to have fun and get away from my family for a couple of hours. I'm definitely looking forward to the Olympics as it's a massive once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have the event in our country."

MIGUEL, 9yrs, said, "I enjoyed playing rounders tonight. I'm looking forward to the Olympics. Football is my favourite sport."



JAKE, 13yrs said, "I like watching football on TV and going swimming. I like to splash about in the water and have fun! I also like PE at school."



GABRIEL, 10yrs said, "I always want to come to club. Right now I'm sitting in line to bat in a rounders game. The Olympics? Everything..I'm looking forward to it all!"



Charmouth Youth Club meets every Tuesday 6.30-8.30pm at the hall in Wesley Close, during term times. It costs £1, for ages 8 - 12 years. If you are over 12, you may like to come as a senior member and help out. The club needs adult volunteers to help support this successful weekly activity-based



TOM, 9yrs said, "We are playing sports tonight and I like coming to club because it's fun! One day I hope to be in the Olympic swimming team; probably breast stroke."



group. If you are interested please call in and meet us!

Thank you to the main journalists on this task: Luke, Kayleigh and Cody.

Louise Gunnill



Olympic Athleticism: Nature or Nurture? (continued)

shows correlation with social activities, it refers to the "rush" experienced from engagement in strenuous exertion and taking on almost impossible challenges.

Further, top athletes are likely to score low on "Neuroticism" making them resilient, not only to the stress from brutal training regimes and knockbacks, but also to the acute stress of performing under pressure which they find energising rather than debilitating.

In final analysis, everyone can increase their fitness by training and conditioning. Natural athletes are genetically

predisposed to reach a greater level of fitness, strength and stamina from the same amount of training. With a drive to engage in rigorous painful training schedules and ability to derive "good-feel" from it, added to a drive and determination to achieve goals, a natural athlete can become successful in competition. Again this is awarded by genes, this time through personality. In Olympic athletes all these factors operate together at an extreme level; Olympians are extreme in all aspects, including rarity.

Dr Martin Beckers

A Little Bit Wild Around the Edges: M

Old manuscripts are often prized as much for their marginalia as for the main text. Mark Twain, Sylvia Plath and Herman Melville are all known for their illuminating comments in the margins of other people's books.

Perhaps this excuses what I used to think was a bad habit of mine: being a bit of a doodler, a folder over of pages, a marker up of books. Not extreme and never in a borrowed book but I like my margins, the way the personal and the unregulated has a bit of space around the printed text; I like to let them flower as they will, to go a little bit wild. So in this instalment of my meandering and subjective alphabet of Charmouth, (growing at a pace somewhat slower than the evolution of the snail), I would like to celebrate

M

For Margins.

Charmouth is full of fabulous margins. The idea for M came to me while I was walking the dog on the beach, the most obvious margin between the sea and the land. I love the way it's always a bit different each day. Before I came to Charmouth, I had no idea a beach could be stony one day and sandy the next, or the stones piled into high ridges with rivers of clay in between, or one day almost devoid of seaweed and the next piled up so high you have to clamber over the squelchy mounds to get to the waves. The beach is a miracle of multiplicity, a marvelous mélange, a magical mulch of mucilaginous substances. Isn't it.

Anyway, I sat down on a bench by the river to think about margins. The cliffs at the moment are bright with patches of the yellow snapdragon flowers of Bird's-foot Trefoil. I particularly like Bird's-foot Trefoil because to the jaded city eye, a yellow flower at this time of year translates as either buttercups or dandelions. I quite like buttercups and dandelions but I enjoy the surprise that this plant isn't them. It is delicate and assertive at the same time. It's a cool shape. And it too loves margins. You can see it poking up at the extreme edge of the green above the beach huts where the mower hasn't reached. And there it is all over the landslip where there is no chance that people can trample or mow it. There is a little tiny bit of it in our garden and lots of it down the grassy verges of Westcliff where some enlightened people go easy on the strimming or maybe the rabbits keep down the grass and leave the flower alone. Nationally it is less common than it used to be and some of its cousins are really rare.

M is for Mellifluous: sound which flows like honey – smooth and sweet and liquid.

So, there I am listening to the mellifluous sound of the river and thinking about something I read recently about how bees are being killed by pesticides (something rather ironically called Plant Rescue which seems a bit short term) and herbicides and I'm looking at the margins of the beach car park which have recently been sprayed so that the clumps of (delicious) seabiet and other desirable things are all brown and dying and the car park looks even more like a gravelly desert than usual and I'm realizing that hidden within me is something hitherto unknown and unsuspected: a crate. The sort for standing on when delivering a rant. Or at least an opinion. My Australian friends have a sound they make – like a sort of grating whistle – whenever someone is about to deliver a rant. It

is the sound of the crate being dragged out from under the table. But today the crate-grating is drowned out by the roar of the strimmer cutting foliage on the river bank. So maybe it's OK.

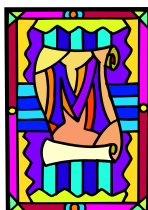
Mow, verb. To cut (grass or crop) by hand or with a machine.

Has its place of course. We understand the need for visibility at road junctions and there is the lovely feel of short soft grass under your feet at a picnic or in a playground. That smell that ushers in summer.

One man went to mow, went to mow a meadow.

Meadow. Imagine a meadow, or garden, where snowdrops arrive in December to give way to primroses in spring and bluebells (native not Spanish) and wild daffodils and cowslips and purple bugle and orchids and finally ox-eye daisies which last till the end of June. Then mow.

Or mow. And leave the margins, under the bushes, round the trees. The verge in front of your house. Have Bird's-foot Trefoil and cowslips and ox-eyes to beautify the area and lift the spirits of neighbours. And of the bees too who will be so glad to be spared the deadly splash of Plant Rescue or the fatal chop of



Mow, verb, **mow down.** To knock down or kill in large numbers.

This isn't to say you don't weed a wildlife garden. My parents in North Dorset have been nurturing one for twenty years. They keep out brambles and docks and black briony and some other things I wouldn't recognize. They have thick carpets of cowslips and a sea of ox-eyes and perhaps every five years, a precious little clutch of orchids. They do not use fertilizer or weedkiller or insecticides. The plants have rescued themselves apparently.

M is Marshes, Marsh Samphire, Meadowsweet, Multitudes, Multicultural.

Also for **Monoculture** and **Missing**. You see where this is going.

So in summary, **M for Margins**. And going a little bit Wild in them. And bring back the bees. We wouldn't even have the word **mellifluous** if it wasn't for them.

Juliette Adair

www.writewalkwild.co.uk



Piano Pieces

The third annual 'Piano Pieces' concert was an enjoyable afternoon at St. Andrew's Community Hall, Charmouth. Thirteen of Sarah Smith's pupils performed a wide selection of music including classical, jazz, contemporary pieces and duets.



Photos L to R with Sarah Smith:
Ellesse Ankers
Swing of the Axe Band
Petra Garner

Amy Walklett held the audience's attention as she sung songs by Adele (one accompanied by herself and the other accompanied by Sarah). Harry Eastwood's performance of Schubert's Serenade was a popular piece. Harry also played two extra pieces on the

day - one a jazz number and the other from the film *Amelie*. It was interesting to hear how the pupils have developed their musical talents over the past year and gratifying that they were all well supported by family and friends. Some pupils took the opportunity to play pieces they were learning for their forthcoming Classical and Jazz Examinations.

Delicious teas of homemade cakes and scones were prepared by members of the Hall Committee - Linda Crawford, and Marilyn and Keith Waterson. Profits from the concert went to the Hall Fund. The colourful flower arrangement for the stage was from Jill Hiller of One to One Florists. Swing of the Axe band played some popular swing tunes to round off the afternoon, to include "I Got Rhythm" and "The Bare Necessities". Despite being minus their guitarist and saxophonist, they managed to get some feet tapping!

Sarah would like to thank the pupils, parents and friends for supporting the concert, and everybody who helped the event to run smoothly - Robert Ridge, Linda Crawford, Marilyn and Keith Waterson, Julie Leah and Margaret and Mark Trafford, and the Band members, Mike Tyler, Steve Waite and Cathy Clarkson.

Sarah Smith



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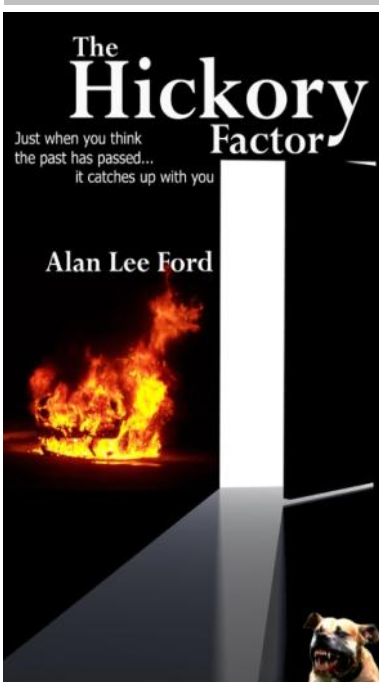


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About the Author

Alan Lee Ford was born in Birmingham and now lives with his wife in Charmouth. He has turned to writing his own debut novel following positive comments from fellow members of the Jurassic Coast Writers' Group and his friend and mentor, Sallyann Sheridan.



The Pubs of Charmouth - Part 1

Neil Mattingly, Charmouth's local historian, has been researching the village's pubs, past and present. He has discovered no fewer than 13! 'The Pubs of Charmouth - Part 1' includes The Queens Armes, three locations of the New Inn, the Royal Oak, the Coach and Horses, and The George. Our grateful thanks to Neil for his indefatigable efforts in documenting Charmouth's history and making us aware of past villagers, places and events.

(1) The Queens Armes, The Street

This was the most famous of Charmouth's inns as a result of events on a single night in 1651. For it was on September 22nd of that year that King Charles II was to stay and the incident was to put Charmouth on the map forever more. The event has been covered in depth by many chroniclers including Samuel Pepys and the King himself. But the most detailed record was from our own William Ellesden whose long letter to the Earl of Clarendon was later published in the Boscobel Tracts. The inn was then known as The Queens Armes, after an incident when Katherine Of Aragon is supposed to have stopped there on her way to London to meet her fiancé, Prince Arthur, son of King Henry VII.



It was well frequented by supporters of the King during the Civil War and at that time was run by a Mrs Hale. The King had hoped to escape the country into exile to France by sailing with Ellesden's

tenant, Stephen Lymbry. The King was to stay briefly at the inn until he left in the night at the time arranged, but Stephen was unable to meet them as his wife had locked him in his house as she had her suspicions of who he was taking and was scared for their safety. The King's party could wait no longer and went on to Bridport, then Broadwindsor before returning back to Trent Manor, near Sherborne, where they had started out from three days before. He eventually escaped from Shoreham, but it was nearly nine years before he returned to England and his throne.

In 1660, the King visited Charmouth to remember the events and Ellesden was well rewarded with a pension of £300 a year for his and his descendants' lives. He also gave him candlesticks, a medal with the inscription 'faithful to the horns of the Altar', and a miniature by Samuel Cooper. After the restoration a plaster relief was installed at The Queens Armes with Charles's initials carved on them as a record. In time the inn was reduced to a part of the building, and became known as the Sailor.

Towards the end of the 17th century the house had ceased to be an inn and was owned by Mrs Floyer, the widow of Anthony Floyer of Berne Manor, Whitchurch Canonichum, and in time the building became the minister's manse. But in 1930 it was sold and became a hotel again called The Queens Arms run by Louis and Doris Deville. Today, it is still a hotel, but now known by the name of The Abbots House, which refers back to the time when it belonged to Forde Abbey, near Chard.

(2) The New Inn, The Street

This name was used, as far as I am aware, on three different sites. See also (3) and (4) below.

The first was in a building that has changed dramatically over the years and was to the east of Devonedge (hairdressers/butchers). The historian, Reg Pavey, was fortunate to have seen the deeds to the property and noted down some key facts. It seems that the original building was burned down in the 1880s, no doubt it was one of the many fires at this time started in the thatched roofs in the village.

The earlier property had a 2000-year lease dated 1656 between John and Ann Bragg and John Sampson. In 1641 John is recorded as living in Lyme Regis and his will of 1680 shows that he had moved to Charmouth.

Another record mentioned is one from 1771 when it was owned by the Lady of the Manor, Benedicta Durston, revealing that it had been rebuilt by Emmanuel Symes and was occupied by John Hodder. It seems that Benedicta's uncle, Charles Henvill, had been living at the Old Manor in Charmouth and was married to Elizabeth, daughter of John Hodder. Charles was to leave his niece the manor of nearby Catherston and his other manor, Yandover, near Bridport, was sold on his death in 1760.

By the time of the 1841 census and Tithe map, the New Inn was empty, and owned by Rev J.D. Hales, with a number of properties in the village including the large Pear Close opposite, which he had bought from the estate of Rev Brian Coombes. In time, the building was divided into two cottages and, after the Second World War, had a new lease of life when Mr and Mrs Potter opened the Wander Inn which was more a café than a pub. Today, a modern building has replaced this and one part is called Swiss Cottage and the adjoining cottage named Red Bluff.



The photograph, taken in the 1950s, shows the building when it was briefly the Wander Inn. On the left is the garage that stood directly opposite Gears Garage. Those were the days when you got a choice where to go with your car.

(3) The New Inn, Lower Sea Lane

The name later appeared on a Beer House operated by George Paine in Lower Sea Lane. He is shown in the 1861 Census as a 41-year-old innkeeper with his wife Ann. But by 1867 the licence was lost and transferred to what was to become the Royal Oak at the top of The Street. Richard Hodges was to incorporate the Beer House (no 1)



The Pubs of Charmouth - Part 1

into a larger row of houses known as the Coast Guard Cottages and lease them to the Admiralty in 1878 at a rent of £50 a year.

Adjoining the wall today can be seen a square building which was used as an armoury by the coastguards, but had formerly formed part of the pub's skittle alley.

(4) The New Commercial Inn, The Street

To make matters even more confusing, the village had another New Inn, situated at the top of The Street, which continued trading until recent times, though is now subdivided into separate properties.

The section that is 'Charleston House' is clearly shown on the 1841 Tithe map for Charmouth as belonging to Joseph Hodges. The Census for the same year described him as a 55-year-old coal dealer living with his wife Mary, who no doubt helped run their Beer House. By 1861, she was a widow aged 73. The business then continued with a relative Henry Wild, who was the son of John Wild landlord of the Royal Oak from 1867.

Reg Pavey mentions an incident which occurred there with William Gorge, who was born in November 1859. He joined the Navy and often overstayed his leave. On one of these occasions the local policeman followed him into the inn to arrest him. Bill was a very strong man and asked the policeman if he came in by the door. Pointing to the window, Bill said that that was the way he would go out and thereupon took him in his arms and threw him through the window.

In 1883 there was a fire in the thatched roof, which destroyed the inn, and it was not until three years later that the building we see today was completed. Henry Wild continued as the landlord and the 1911 Census showed him aged 62. From 1921, he was in partnership with William Hambridge. Ten years later Miss Dorothy Ward was the landlady, but it was not for long as Henry and Alice Hart are revealed as the licensees on the eve of the Second World War.



By 1949 Leslie Saffrey was running the New Inn and, at the same time, Gladys Saffrey was the licensee for the Royal Oak. After them came Elizabeth Kelk and finally Anthony and May Marshall who were to

be the last tenants before it closed in 1976.

The accompanying photograph shows them surrounded by regulars that no doubt old timers in Charmouth will still remember.

(5) The Royal Oak, The Street

The history of this pub is comparatively recent, beginning in 1867, though the building is of an earlier date. The 1841 Tithe map and Census show it belonged to Catherine and Fanny Love. They were described as 'linen drapers, grocers and tea dealers' in the Pigot's Directory for 1844. They also make an appearance in the 1830 directory. The 1832 Poor rates details Miss Love, but what is interesting is that John Love is the owner of The George inn in the same list, and is also listed as the village butcher. By

1867, the year of the transfer, the building was being used as a butcher's shop in one part and an adjoining house was occupied by John Wild who was also a tailor.

The name of the pub referred to a tree at Boscobel, Shropshire, where the fleeing king Charles II hid in an oak tree to evade his would-be captors of Cromwell's army. It is a fairly common name, especially in Dorset. The sign shows the memorial stone that was erected in Lee Lane, just outside Bridport, where the king took a fortuitous path to Broadwindsor and safety.

Reg Pavey mentions that, amongst his other interests, John Wild was the Village Crier and received a shilling for calling through the Street when boats came into Lyme with coal. By 1871, John Wild was described as a tailor and it was his wife, Elizabeth, with two young children, who was running the Beer House. The directory for 1885 detailed that Robert Barnes was the new landlord. By 1898, Thomas Rough, a gardener, lived there with his wife Catherine, aged 59, who was described as the innkeeper, but within three years she was widowed.

At the end of the 19th century, Job Legg, a brewer from Bridport, had bought the building. This was later taken over by Palmers, who are still the owners of the property.

In 1911, the 61-year-old widow, Elizabeth, had been married for four years to Arthur Hitchcock aged 35, a gardener.

By 1923, Jim Bridle, who had quite an active life in the Navy, took on the role of landlord. He was to retire in 1934, but continued to live at St. Helena in Higher Sea Lane until his death in 1953.



The accompanying photograph shows a group surrounding the famous be-whiskered character, John Hodder, on Armistice Day in 1929. On the extreme left is Billy Gear, with his characteristic bow tie. He was to marry Jim Bridle's daughter, May. He went on to be Charmouth's most successful businessman and owned the main garage, car park and a number of properties. The pub has had a number of tenants since then, including Carol and Jeff Prosser, who for awhile also ran the nearby Charmouth House when it was a hotel.

(6) The Coach and Horses, The Street

This inn has changed its name a number of times, but its earliest reference is in a Deed at the Dorset Record Office for the Ship. The description of its position near the churchyard fits this property. It shows that Clement Joynes, Gentleman, and his wife Elizabeth were leasing the building to Robert Batten of Charmouth in 1732. Though there is an Alehouse Register as far back as 1714, it did not detail names so it was not until 1747 that it appeared as the Three Crowns under the ownership of Mrs Hannah Newberry, which was to remain hers for the next 50 years.

There is a property reference book for Charmouth in 1783 showing that it was on a small plot, but adjoining it under the same ownership was Churchyard Mead with over two

The Pubs of Charmouth - Part 1

acres. In the same year she was letting the inn to Thomas Edwards, and it was a relation, William Edwards, who was the owner on her death in 1795. The 1805 Poor Rates show him letting it to Joseph Bradbeer. By 1817 William Stephens was the landlord. William Foss was the new landlord in 1825 and he renamed it Mail Coach Inn, no doubt as this was the role it was playing with the regular stop-offs by the London to Exeter Coaches which passed through the village. It was in an enviable position as its former competitor for that market, the Fountain, had become a residence after being bought by Thomas Gordon in 1811.

In 1829, Joseph Gundry, a wealthy businessman and banker purchased the inn on the death of William Edwards. In time, this was to become the brewers, Bowden Gundry, which was founded in 1795 and whose buildings are now part of the Palmers complex at Bridport. They were the owners on the 1841 Tithe map and in the Census for the same year, William Foss, aged 52 was the Landlord.



Ten years later, George Holly aged just 32 was the new landlord, a post he was to keep for the next 30 years. He did very well and was able to buy the former inn, the Fountain, in 1874 and

reopened it under the new name of Charmouth House. In 1882, there was a serious fire at the Coach and Horses, with the result that Alex Pagan took over the lease, when Holly decided to relinquish it and concentrate on his other property. After him, Sydney Boucher ran it successfully, but its days were numbered and it finally closed down - it is now split into a number of apartments.

The photograph shows one of the last coaches that would have stopped here on its way to Exeter; at the side was the stables, which in time would house Billy Gear's garage before its move lower down The Street.

(7) The George, The Street

Through Land Tax records, Poor Rates and early Alehouse Registers, I have been able to trace ownership of the inn back to the mid 18th century. But earlier mentions of the pub had eluded me until going through the records of Usher's Brewery at the Wiltshire Record Office in Chippenham, where I came across some papers relating to it.

The earliest original deed was dated 1704 and it referred to an earlier history, which was exciting. For it was in that year that James Dober from Dorchester paid £50 for a 1000-year lease at a rent of 1d a year to Robert Burrigge. He was also paying 2d of his monthly poor rate out of the 16d they were charged. It showed that the wealthy merchant from Lyme Regis owned considerable property in the village including the Fountain Inn. He no doubt purchased these from the Lymbrys, who in the 17th century were the prominent family in the village. The deed referred to the previous tenant as Richard Darke and before him was Robert Shute. It is the latter who in 1682 appeared in a court case as the landlord of the Fountain Inn. James Dober died in 1726 and in his will he is

described as an inn holder of Charmouth and it was witnessed by George Browne, who was a brewer from Bridport.

The next owner of The George was Samuel Burrow, a blacksmith, who bought considerable property in the village from the Burridges. He borrowed from Walter Oke of Axmouth, but had to sell some of them to him in 1760, including The George, The Elms, Fernhill and the Rose and Crown for the sum of £400.

John Diamant was shown as the landlord for a number of years in the Alehouse records. Walter Oke died a few years after purchasing the freeholds and his son Francis, appeared on the Land Tax lists and the village survey of 1783 showed him as owning The George with its two perches of gardens which would have no doubt formed the original burgage plot going back to the 13th century when the borough of Charmouth was created by the Abbots of Forde. The Land Tax records for 1793 showed a large reduction in his widow Frances's assessment after a property was sold to Edward Farr and The George to Thomas Morgan.

By 1808 a Richard Hawkins was renting the inn from Thomas and in 1817 he became the owner paying 5s 6d Land Tax. In due course he sold the inn to John Love, the village butcher, who was the owner in 1821. He employed Robert Mills to run it and this continued until 1838 when he sold it to the Exeter based brewers, Norman & Co. A news cutting of 1832 referred to the sumptuous dinner that was laid on there for the opening of the Charmouth Road Tunnel, an event that drew crowds of thousands. It goes on to say *'that the day was concluded with much hilarity and good humour. The Charmouth Band was in attendance during the evening'*.

Local builder William Vallins appeared in the 1841 Census as aged 40 living with his wife at the inn. By 1858 it was back up for sale and Lyme Regis butcher, John Wheadon, bought it and ran it. It then changed hands in quick progression with Benjamin Samson and Eli Cox. But in 1874, local stone mason and builder, Harry Pryer purchased it and continued to run it until 1885, when James Philips took over the licence.

By 1903 he had sold it to Joseph Wetherall, who was there only briefly until it was taken over by John French eight years later. Sydney Rattenbury followed him and appeared on the 1921 Electoral Roll



as the landlord of The George. Harry Stork was owner in 1931 and he in turn was succeeded by Edward Hunter who was the landlord until 1956 when John and Amelia Parkins took on the licence. The electoral rolls show a large number of licensees after this time.

The pub was owned for many years by the brewers, Arnold & Hancock from Wiveliscombe, who in turn were bought out by Usher's of Trowbridge, whose archive is now kept at the Wiltshire Record Office.

The building is very interesting, with its room above the porch that goes back to when coaches stopped and it provided a waiting room for visitors. Also, since it was

The Pubs of Charmouth - Part 1

near the coast it was a convenient lookout for smugglers to spot the approach of excise men or press gangs for the Navy. For a collector of postcards, the view of the inn looking down The Street has been very popular over the century with many original buildings still standing.

The accompanying photograph shows John and Elizabeth French, their two daughters and staff standing outside the pub in 1911. You can still see the entrance at the side to the extensive stabling that once stood behind the inn.

Neil Mattingly

Photos from Neil Mattingly

'The Pubs of Charmouth - Part 2' will appear in the Autumn 2012 issue of *Shoreline*. Pubs to be featured in

Part 2 are the Rose and Crown, The Star, the Fountain (Charmouth House), the Fountain (The Forge Fossil Shop), Beer House (St. Gabriel's) on Old Lyme Hill and the Thatched Cottage on Axminster Road.

Footnote: After reading Part 1, you may now be on your way to becoming an expert on exactly how many pubs there were in Charmouth, if it ever comes up in a quiz at the Royal Oak. I think it can now reliably be said that the number stands at 13, but I may be wrong!

Let me know if there are any pubs I have missed out.

If you want to find out more about this or any other aspects of Charmouth village history, click on www.charmouthhistory.com or www.freshford.com.



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Royal Oak



Phil and Angie have been at the pub for 6 months now and would like to thank everyone for their continued support and custom. Along with the quiz nights and live music events, a Royal Oak Fun Olympics and BBQ evening is planned for the end of July. Don't forget that all the Olympic events can be seen on their new BIG SCREEN TV!

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Village Breakfast & Lunch Clubs

The Village Lunch has continued during the summer, once a month on the first Tuesday in the Hollands Room, Bridge Road. The food comes prepared from Food Links, Bridport, and we would love to welcome more helpers to serve and clear away afterwards.

The Village Breakfast club begins again in September. If you are free on a Thursday morning throughout the winter and could offer some help with taking orders, serving, washing up or light cooking please get in touch. We are a supportive team who are very welcoming of new helpers. Thank you.

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It's Ours..... Now What?

Well, actually, the Library is not quite Charmouth's yet but it should be by the time of the next edition of *Shoreline*.

The idea is to have the freehold donated to us by Dorset County Council in July so they can give us their promised ex gratia payment to allow remedial works to go ahead before the official takeover at the end of September. Then it really will be ...over to you, Charmouth. What's more, the library will have a new name. To reflect its new and expanded role in the community, you'll see the sign CHARMOUTH CENTRAL go up on the restored fascia as soon as the scaffolding comes down.

With a restored roof, new heating system, mini-kitchen and some new equipment (thanks to the generous help of Charmouth Traders Association and some great fund-raising results), Charmouth Central will be ready to provide the drop-in centre and information point which does not currently exist in the village.



Some small groups are already using the library. Rhymetime for the under 5s is going strong every Friday morning (9.30am) and we have been trialling a Tea & Chat session for the over 50s every other Monday (3pm). Two book groups, and a writing group meet monthly – and we

are open to suggestions from any other small groups looking for meeting space. In fact, if you have a special



interest and would like to find others who have the same interest, let us know and Friends will try to organise something for you.

Plans are already on the book for a Card-making Group and a Knit 'n' Stitch session to begin when building work has been completed. After Charmouth's takeover, children will be able to enjoy an art and

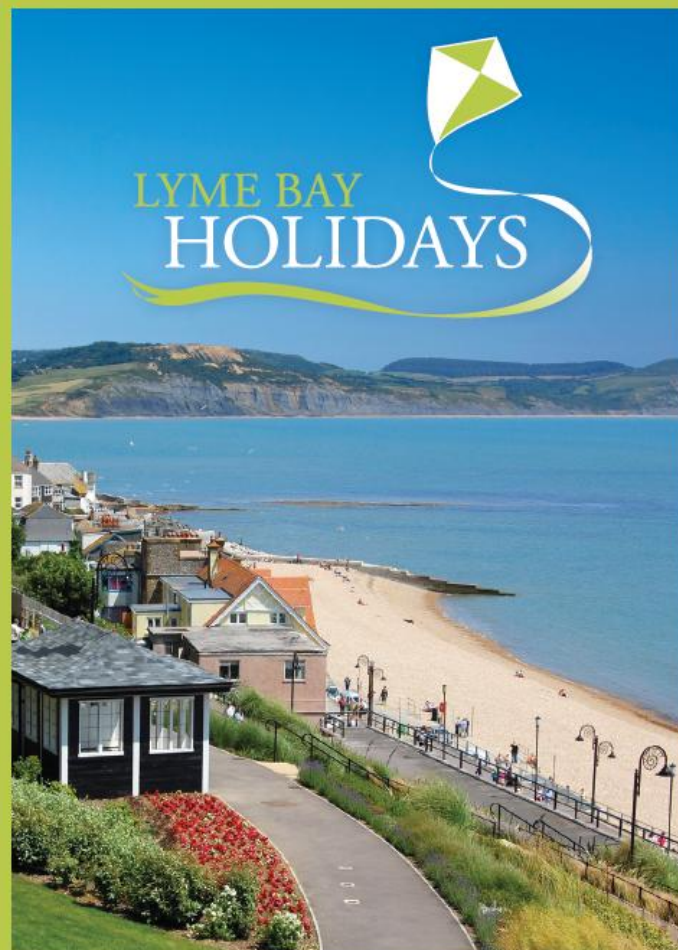
craft session on Saturday mornings and anyone can drop in during opening hours for a coffee in addition to all the library services we have always enjoyed.

For younger people, there will be an art competition based on the same theme as the Summer Reading Challenge. All the work will eventually be displayed in the revamped building. Watch out for our posters in the library and around the village.

Look out too for posters for our next event – RACE NIGHT on 28th July (see page 44 for details). There's every chance to win, not just on betting on the eight races, the raffle or Stand-up bingo game. There will also be prizes for 'owners' of winning horses as well as a prize for the most outrageous hat. For those who hate to bet, donations of prizes or for the sponsorship of races will be most gratefully received.

Please contact Hazel Robinson on 01297 561214 hazelrosery@aol.com if you would like to volunteer to help with fund-raising events, for volunteer training for the library or to use the library for your group.

Hazel Robinson



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St. Andrew's Community Hall

ST. ANDREW'S COMMUNITY HALL EXTENSION WORK COMPLETED



They say Rome wasn't built in a day and maybe the pace of life in Charmouth is a little slower than that of ancient Rome, but the improvements to the hall have at last been completed. The work was funded by the Big Lottery, West Dorset District Council and by the people of Charmouth and was signed off in early May. The Official Opening will take place on August 18th 2012, when representatives from the Big Lottery and the Diocese of Salisbury will attend.



We now have a smart, carpeted, entrance foyer and direct and level access to a disabled toilet on the ground floor. New ladies' and gents' toilets have also been provided on the first floor above this foyer. It will now not be necessary to climb the old

wooden steps and go backstage when the need arises! Storage space has also been increased on both floors. The original toilets will still be available for those using the club room facility.

Fundamentally, there have been three reasons for the delays in completion. The first was the unusually harsh winter weather in consecutive years 2010 & 2011. Later on, two modifications to our original planning application to West Dorset District Council had to be applied for. The first related to the design of the windows above the porch and the second related to disabled access and to disabled egress from the building in the event of an emergency. The latter was particularly important to us, and was one of the core reasons for us obtaining the grant from the Big Lottery fund. Agreement to this modification was finally reached in early March 2012, following a lot of hard work by our building sub-committee and our architect, and the last piece of the jig-saw was able to be put into place.

A lot has happened since work began in September 2010 and it is of great credit to all those who are responsible for clubs, those who organise events, run parties or prepare and serve Sunday lunches that the hall has remained open to all activities throughout the construction work. Appreciation is also due to those attending functions for their patience and forbearance in the face of the



inconvenience such work imposed on occasions. We must also thank the many volunteers who gave their time and used their skills to ensure a successful outcome. As a result of all this co-operation and support, during the last financial year, turnover at the hall has doubled and we remain in a sound financial position, whilst funding a substantial portion of the building costs ourselves. There is no doubt that the granting of a drinks and music licence, under the strict conditions which addressed fears



relating to potential noise nuisance, has contributed to the viability of the Community Hall Project and to the variety of functions we have been able to support. The new facilities will further improve the service we are able to offer our village community and will increase the use of the hall as well as providing pleasure and enjoyment for both young and old. With your continuing backing, we can look forward to further improvements to the fabric of the building in due course.

Mike Davies

Photos inside St. Andrew's Community Hall taken during Sunday Lunch on 10th June 2012 by Cherry Davies.

Hensleigh near the seasand.....fossils.....

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AURORA
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Charmouth, Dorset. DT6 6LN

News from St. Andrew's Church

I am writing this article with the memories of the Diamond Jubilee Weekend still very fresh in my memory. Personally, it was a hectic time – travelling around the Golden Cap Parishes to about 20 different events. These included: parades, big lunches, fairs, cream teas, tree planting, scarecrow exhibitions, competition and best dressed couple judging, concerts and barbeques!



Exhausting, but enormous fun. It's been wonderful to see the way that local communities have worked together, and experienced such brilliant support. My hope and prayer is that we won't wait for another Jubilee before mounting big community events again!!

St. Andrew's Church was well involved in the celebrations in Charmouth:

We hosted a special Diamond Jubilee Exhibition in the Church. This was specially manned on the Saturday, and we offered tea and cake during the day. There were various ingredients:

1st: Memorabilia which looked back especially to life 60 years ago, and previous jubilees. Various commemorative mugs and plates were supplemented with vintage children's toys, early electronic equipment, etc. We thank everyone who loaned their precious artefacts to us.

2nd: A wonderful 'time line' which runs from 1952 to the present day, pieced together by David Renfrew. It marks special events over the past 60 years both nationally, locally and in terms of church life. Various photos illustrate important events such as the building of the by-pass. This time- line will remain at the back of the church through the summer for everyone to enjoy.

3rd: I liaised with Charmouth School and invited various classes to draw or paint pictures of the Queen; also to write poems about her. The infants (Key Stage 1) in particular came up trumps with around 100 items, which I personally blue-tacked all around the church. The overall effect was that the church looked like a giant classroom! Thanks to the school for responding so splendidly!

Diamond Jubilee Service

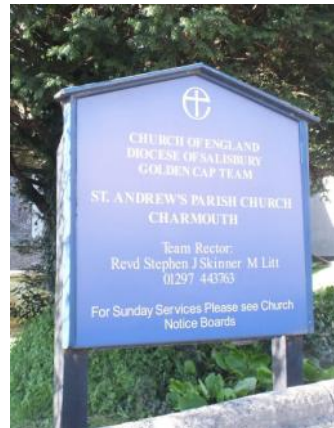


The Diamond Jubilee Service held at St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 3rd June was organised jointly with the United Reformed Church. With rousing hymns and a quiz organised for the Brownies, Cubs and other children, the service was very enjoyable.

If you could not attend, we should draw your attention to David Renfrew's 'Time Line' which covers not only the national period of time over 60 years, but includes old photos of Charmouth, mostly provided by Mary Davis. David must have worked tirelessly to get this together and congratulations from us all. The flower arrangements were splendid and the whole church looked brilliant. Thanks also to those who provided a welcome Pimms at the end of the service to drink to Her Majesty's health!

Ann & Don McNair

We mounted a special Village Service on Sunday 3rd June with the United Reformed Church and the Parish Council. The occasion began with a parade starting at Manor Farm Holiday Park. We had around 40 – 50 who participated: Scouts, Cubs, Brownies, and other young people and adults. The Royal British Legion (Women's Section) paraded also, just behind myself as Rector. Lots of visitors stood and watched us as we made our way to St. Andrew's for the 11am start. The service itself was relatively informal. It included a prize quiz on the Jubilee, favourite hymns, a bible reading and reflection, and prayers of thanksgiving. A special highlight was several poems read by the Scouts and a song by the Brownies. I also read several poems that had been composed by Charmouth School. We concluded with a glass of Pimms or soft drink and cake and reckon around 170 people were present – a huge success!!



Looking forward, we have various other special services ahead, some linking in with the Olympic Games: 29th July, 4pm: Olympics Songs of Praise near the beachfront. This will be near the bridge over the River Char, by the caravan park (with their kind permission). 5th August, 5pm: Songs of Praise at the Village Fayre. It will be held close to the playground area, by kind agreement with the Fayre organisers. Both will be accompanied musically by the Brass Tacks Brass Band. We aim for the 29th July 9.30am service to have a strong Olympic theme!

Our Family Services continue on the third Sundays of the month, in June, July and September at 9.30am. Children are present and involved at the beginning and the end. They go out for the majority of the service for special activities in the back area. Do bring your children or grandchildren – they'll be well looked after and will have a great time!!

Finally: Building work on re-covering the north and south aisle roofs has now begun and should be completed sometime in July. Please beware of the scaffolding! The internal redevelopment planning group are looking to phase the various improvements supported by the earlier consultations. More information on this in the next issue of *Shoreline*!

Stephen Skinner, Team Rector

St. Andrew's Church Restoration

Great news from St Andrew's Church: by the time you read this, work on the side aisle roofs should be well advanced!

PHASE ONE IS WELL UNDERWAY! So many, many thanks to all in Charmouth, and others, who have supported our fund raising over the past two years to make this possible.

We move on to Phase II - look out for our events; we look for your continued support. Thank you.

David Renfrew

Charmouth and Wootton Fitzpaine Conservatives

There were a few dark weeks in March when we thought we would be unable to find a Chairman and Treasurer for the new year. Happily, Peter Noel stepped into the breach and we live to fight another year!

We have already held a successful Coffee morning attended by around 30 members and friends. On Sunday 15th July, Helen and Bob Hughes will be hoping for a sunny day, as they host our lunchtime barbecue at their home in Westcliff Road. Tickets are selling well, but if you fancy a friendly lunch, give Helen and Bob a ring on 01297 560487.

On Saturday 17th August, we are holding a musical

evening with a contemporary acoustic folk-fusion band named 'Dryftwood' at the St. Andrew's Community Hall. Proceeds will be shared between the Conservatives and the Community Hall. There will be no party politicking, all are welcome!

Good things come in threes, so our final summer event is a 'Puddings' evening on Saturday 1st September. Eat your main course at home and have a glass of fizz and a sweet at Malcolm and Maralyn Hinxman's home in Double Common. Forget the politics and come with an appetite.

Bob Hughes, Treasurer

St. Andrew's Church Jubilee Quiz Results



For those who entered the St. Andrew's Jubilee Quiz, kindly compiled by Jake and Jane Bean, here are the answers:

1. The Nobel Prize for Literature 2. The Matthews Final 3. 1971 4. Lady Louise Windsor 5. The Old Man of Lochnagar 6. Bazaar 7. 1950s 8. R A Butler 9. Edinburgh 10. I Believe

The Picture Quiz answers are:

Sheet 1: 1. a) Westminster Abbey b) Geoffrey Fisher

2. a) Virginia Wade b) 1977 (Queen's Silver Jubilee)
3. a) Windsor Castle b) 1992 4. a) Sir Steve Redgrave
b) 5 5. a) The Treasures of Tutankhamen b) 1970s(1972)

Sheet 2: 6. a) Poundbury b) Prince Charles 7. a) Rolf Harris b) Her 80th birthday 8. a) The National Theatre
b) Sir Denys Lasdun 9. a) Cecil Day Lewis b) Carol Ann Duffy 10. a) The Investiture of Prince Charles
b) Caernarfon Castle as the Prince of Wales

Many thanks to those who entered.

Julie Renfrew

Charmouth Literary Festival 2012

The Third Charmouth Literary Festival will take place at St. Andrew's Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth on Saturday 8th September.

www.charmouthliteraryfestival.org.uk

Tel: Wendy Knee 01297 561493
for more information

- 9.30 **Arrivals**, Tea and Coffee available in the Club Room.
- 10.00 **How Would It Be To Write A Book ?** – with Anne Orchard.
Launch of her latest book, a reading and questions.
- 11:00 **Flash Fiction Workshop** with Linda Parkinson-Hardman.
What is Flash Fiction? – In this interactive workshop you will learn the answer and produce your own piece of fiction. You have the option of entering it into our competition free of charge, on the day.
- 12:00 **Travels With Granny** – Make Your Memoir Memorable with Wendy Knee.
Launch of her latest book with a reading and insights into writing a memorable memoir.
- 12:45 **Write, Walk, Wild** with Juliette Adair.
Optional walking excursion including an opportunity to write (bring a packed lunch).

- 12:45 **Lunch – Meet the writers** – Jurassic writers will host a free writing session during the lunch hour.

You are invited to bring a packed lunch to eat in the hall or the Club Room, get to know your hosts and other attendees. Find something new to read and relax with. Cafes are also available in the village and at the beach.

- 2:00 **Hysteria Short Story Competition 2012.**

For more information Google 'hysteria short story competition'.
Linda Parkinson-Hardman on the results of the short story and poetry competition run by Crystal Clear Books.

- 2:15 **Blogging for Authors** - with Linda Parkinson-Hardman.

How blogging can help and support authors, tips and advice.

- 3:15 **Poetry Session** - with Jaq Mitchell. This is an opportunity to listen to poems and write poetry of your own.

- 4:00 The festival closes.

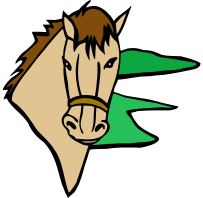


The Charmouth Poetry Corner

CHARMOUTH TO LYME

*The path that took folk to Lyme Regis, from Charmouth with views of the sea,
Collapsed with the cliff where it wandered, and unfortunately ceases to be.
So now you're directed up Fern Hill, and then take a left through the wood,
And then you must watch out for golf balls, advice which is for your own good.*

*You follow the stones 'cross the golf course, and then you climb over a stile,
And down Timber Hill is your next bit, I'd say for perhaps half a mile.
It's back into woods where in springtime, the bluebells are thick on the ground,
And beech trees with bark shining silver, and leaves vibrant green will be found.*



*You then step out into the sunlight, cross the track through a gate you must go,
Through three pretty fields full of flowers, see the sea and the Cobb far below.
Ponies look up from their grazing, in case someone's brought them a treat,
The cows carry on with their munching; the bull doesn't get to his feet.*

*The rest of the walk is on pavement, all down the steep hill into Lyme,
Something has clouded the Guildhall, it just happens time after time.
And after the bridge a decision, is going to have to be made,
To walk up the hill and go shopping, or along the sea front just parade.*

*The Cobb is a popular venue; you'll probably want to go there,
So walk past the ice creams and windmills, and fill up your lungs with sea air.
Go past the amusements and fish shops, and pubs, may-be pop in for one,
A rest has been earned, ah that's better, this walking can be overdone.*



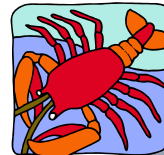
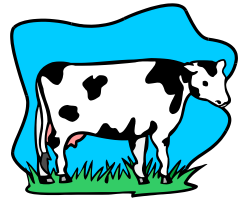
*Refreshed and all set to continue, the Cobb is now not far away,
The boats bob about in the harbour, the kids on the sand are at play.
The Cobb shields the boats in the harbour, in the crook of its massive stone arm,
It was built long ago to protect them, and make sure they come to no harm.*

*The Cobb has two levels to walk on, the low road is probably best,
Those grannie's teeth steps look inviting, as long as you're young I suggest.
The lobster pots smell a bit fishy, and some of those nets need a mend,
The boats there will take you out fishing, as long as you've money to spend.*

*And now you can't walk any farther, you stand and look back where you've been,
The front with its gay painted houses, adds up to a colourful scene.
Away in the distance is Charmouth, it looks quite a long way to roam,
Don't worry, you don't have to hoof it; just hop on a bus and ride home.*

Peter Crowter

Top photo by Peter Crowter



5, MILLVIEW

*This house has been asleep all night.
Its cooled, lias walls, stacked old upon old,
Have slumbered and breathed slow
The dust of men long past.*

*Frosted stones and heavy earth push up
And draw on the dawn, while
Scratched timbers, aged long ago,
Bend strong backs and
Warm under children's toes.*

*Set against a salted wind
And reaching for the mill,
Where, in summer, the cooling stream always runs,
A chattering roof, invisible,
Promises to keep us safe.*

Andy Morel

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Jubilee Celebrations at Bymead House

Bymead House had a wonderful Jubilee Street Party with over 90 people enjoying the lovely buffet and as the weather was favourable we were able to sit outside with the tables laid out in traditional 'street party' fashion!



Our next big event will be the Annual Memories Church Service in our garden, which allows us all to remember those no longer with us. It will be held on Sunday 8th July from 2.30pm and will include cream teas. The

community is most welcome to join our residents, friends and families.

After this event we are all looking forward to the 'Summer Barbecue' on Sunday 2nd September at which we are having live music from local Shadows Tribute and Rock 'n' Roll band The Silhouettes; come and join us for a great



afternoon from noon.

On other Home matters our oldest residents, Eugenie Underwood age 105 and Mollie Raison age 101, recently celebrated their birthdays with their family and friends and we are also looking forward to Norah Eveleigh reaching 102 soon! Bymead staff always enjoy these landmark birthdays and the kitchen supplies a cake big enough for us all to share!

Liz Wilson, Manager

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The Charmouth Poetry Corner (continued)

WIND ON CANVAS

*How you move the air, feel its texture
The blues vibrant, every strand
Breathing through the canvas.*

*Your clouds born out of your dabbling strokes,
Fanning their way through your moody skies.*

*Your story told across the waves in the boat that you sailed
Your resilience, surrendering your fate to the eye of the wind.*

*You the sailor, for long hours, miles from land,
Plotting your course on the chart, time and destination
As uncertain as the deep ocean and its horizon.*

*Now navigating through the narrative, your voyage
With paint and brushes, your courage shedding bare your soul,
Inviting people to step aboard and let adventure unfold.*



Painting by Peter Newby

Monique Newby

Can you help us find a new Cub Leader?



After many years of dedicated service to the Scouts, its Cub Leader, Toni Green, has decided to step down at the end of this term. This creates an urgent need for a new Cub Leader.

If you were a Cub or Scout, within the 1st Charmouth Group, or elsewhere, can you spare one night a week to help run an exciting programme for 8-10 year olds?

Even if you were never a Cub or Scout, that's not a drawback since full training is provided and there is lots of help available in the form of books crammed full of ready-made programme ideas.

There is no upper age limit for Cub Leaders, so please encourage any adult whom you feel would be good working with the Cub age group to contact the Scouter-in-Charge, Kevin Payne on 01308 459080.

The Scout Group has more than doubled in the last 12 months, and is now the fastest growing in West Dorset. Kevin, and the rest of the leader team, is very keen to continue this growth in parallel with the Group's successful 'Going for Gold' fund raising scheme aimed at refurbishing the Scout Hut.

Please spend a few minutes to consider who you think might be the inspired leader the Cub Pack is looking for.

For more information, contact Kevin Payne
payne.kevin6@gmail.com **01308 459080**

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- Elements
- Hot
- Young ones
- Jump

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****GARDENING PROWESS (within a 10 ml. radius of Charmouth)****

**FULL DETAILS CAN BE FOUND IN FREE *ENTRY FORM* WHICH
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AFTER 12th JULY

(*To be completed by Thursday 9 August*)

Entry for adult classes - the HUGE sum of 10p

Children/young adults' classes free entry!

PLEASE JOIN IN THE FUN -

IT'S AN ENJOYABLE COMMUNITY DAY

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Charmouth Library RACE NIGHT

Saturday 28th July 7.30pm

St. Andrew's Community Hall
Lower Sea Lane

in aid of the library



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£2:

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hazelrosery@aol.com



Top Tip

The Concessionary Travel Club

(www.concessionarytravel.com), a new initiative, aims to help the over 60s and the disabled with advice on concessionary travel, enabling them to save money and stay active. The website also runs free monthly competitions. It's worth a look.

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Charmouth Bowls Club

BBQ Day is Coming!

Another season of bowling is underway at Charmouth Bowls Club.

The first day of play was on Sunday 22nd April when the Club held its annual Open Day. Despite mixed weather, the day proved a great success with new members being welcomed to the Club. After an afternoon of bowls, the day concluded with afternoon tea in the pavilion.

The next social occasion is a repeat of last year's successful Bowls & BBQ day which is to be held on Sunday

8th July. It is again a great opportunity for those who have not played bowls to come along and find out just how much enjoyment there can be on the green. The afternoon commences with a great BBQ at 12 noon and then follows with bowls for all and an opportunity to give it a try.

An invitation is out for anyone to come along and join in this family occasion – you'll find out that bowling is friendly and fun and we would love you to take this opportunity to give it a try.

To make sure that you don't miss out, please ring June Rebbeck on 01297 560860 or Jim Greenhalgh on 01297 561336 **no later than Wednesday 4th July**. The cost of the afternoon – the BBQ with a sweet, plus tea and coffee and an afternoon of Bowls is just £6.00/head.

Jim Greenhalgh

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Book an Event in Charmouth

St. Andrew's Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	560572
Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close	560615
The Elms, The Street	560826
Youth Club Hall, Wesley Close	561004

Please remember to use the 'Events Diary' in the Post Office when booking your event so that others can see when the halls are being used.



We Remember

Elizabeth "Liz" Farrell

**14th March 1937 –
1st January 2012**



Elizabeth, Liz to her friends, was born in 1937 to John and Violet Skinner. She was christened Elizabeth Ann Margaret, although her family preferred to call her 'Betty'.

Her father John, became a soldier during the war, and both Liz and her younger sister Joan, were evacuated to a farm in Sotterley, Suffolk. They were looked after by three rather stern but caring ladies known as the Aunties. Although the wartime experience was hard, Liz had many happy memories of the farm and it had a lasting effect on her. From this point on, her love of animals, wild flowers and the countryside began.

After the war, the 'Skinner girls' returned to London, Plaistow, to find a new baby brother Steve waiting for them. He was later followed by Sylvia and Sheila.

Evacuation did not disrupt Liz's education. She was clever and had a deep love of knowledge. She always had a book to hand throughout her entire life.

Liz did well at school, winning a scholarship to Plaistow Grammar School. She continued this success with 7 'O' Levels. Liz wanted to go on to further her education, but sadly family economics prevented this and she went to work in a bank at sixteen.

One of the very first things she bought with her wages was a record player - and a passion for popular music developed. The family remember the songs of Ella Fitzgerald and Frank Sinatra drifting through the small house in First Avenue with great affection.

Liz was never one to give up easily. She had a very determined spirit. Bit by bit she saved enough money to see herself through teacher training college and she fully qualified in 1957. She then returned to Plaistow to teach in some of the poorer areas of East London. Liz remembered this experience vividly as she saw almost Dickensian poverty combined with wit and humour in the children she taught.

At this point Liz became involved in 'Avant Garde' theatre. She often spent evenings at the Theatre Royal, Stratford, to see up-and-coming playwrights such as John Osborne, Sheila Delany and Arnold Wesker, whom she had the pleasure of meeting.

On a night out with her friends at the Winterhall Dance, Liz met John Farrell, a marine engineer. John caught sight of her, 'a girl with the most lovely face', and watched her all evening. She attracted lots of attention, but he made sure he got the last dance and the chance to escort her home.

Mr Skinner did not approve and referred to his daughter's new suitor as 'a bit of a rooster'. Despite this, subsequent dates followed, leading up to a truly romantic proposal in John's rusty old van.

They were married in 1961 and enjoyed fifty years together. John and Liz were never apart; they were very different people, yet seemed two separate halves to a whole.

In 1964 Liz rather unexpectedly gave birth to twins, Jane and Michael. 'Little John' followed in 1973 to complete the family. Liz was a very dedicated and caring mother who will always be cherished for her empathy, humour and fabulous home cooking.

Liz had boundless energy and interests. Whilst bringing up the three children she became a shop-keeper. First, there were the pet shops in the East End of London where she, John and the children were surrounded by all sorts of common and exotic creatures. Then came the antique shop in Highams Park, sparked off by her interest in history and the very popular Antiques Roadshow, and finally the second-hand bookshop and jewellers in Charmouth.

Eventually John retired and the Farrells moved here to Charmouth, Dorset - a place very dear to their hearts. Liz became deeply involved in village life, using her intellect in the Royal Oak quiz team and her impressive organisational skills in the running of the local WEA lectures.

The Farrells arrived as Londoners, townies and outsiders, but were soon accepted and welcomed into the village to become part of this close and supportive community.



Liz has ended her days in a place she truly loved. She leaves behind her husband, children, grandchildren, family and friends. She was a beautiful, caring person with a big heart, always thinking of others before herself. She was a fierce and loyal friend with a rare intellect and a marvellously wicked wit. Her sense of humour held, even when times were desperately hard for herself and her family.

She will be greatly missed by all, and always and forever loved.

Jane Farrell

The Farrell family are very grateful for the huge amount of support and kindness shown to them (and continuing to be shown) by so many caring people in Charmouth. Donations in memory of Mike and Liz Farrell can be made to Cancer Research UK, c/o Wakely and Sons, 7a Silver St, Lyme Regis, DT7 3HR.



We Remember



Mike (Mickey) Farrell

**23rd May 1964 –
25th March 2012**

It was in 1964, in Plaistow, that Jane Farrell was born. It was only after her arrival that they discovered she was one of twins! So it was with a fair measure of haste and confusion that Mike was delivered, and for a while it was touch and go as to whether he would survive.

The shock of it all was so great that it was nine years before John was added to the family.

As a boy growing up in London, Mike was popular, lively and thoroughly likeable; always happy-go-lucky, kind and helpful. Even as a boy, he began trading; starting out as 'Mike-the-Bike' with a bike and skateboard outlet and after finishing his education becoming an apprentice toolmaker.

Mike built a fine network of good friends who called themselves the Woodford Wallies; their friendship endured, so that during his last illness, when he was in hospital, they all visited him. Given the fact that family has been in Charmouth for 25 years, that is pretty remarkable.

When the family first moved down, the Coach and Horses was still a pub, with a skittle alley bang next door to their house. The noise was incredible, but there was no point in complaining. "If you can't beat them, join them" and after that there was never a dull moment.

The shop attached to the house gave the family a small income, which was supplemented by building work and stall holding in Bridport and other local towns. Mike specialised in gemstones and fossils, many of them found along the cliffs at Charmouth. But it was not long before he set up his own carpentry business, The Pine Clinic in Chideock. Using timber from demolition sites and skills learned from his father, he made bespoke furniture, repaired old furniture and earned his bread and butter with windows and doors.

His first significant relationship was with Samantha who gave him his two much-loved daughters, Rosie and Charlotte. He and Esther were together for several years



Iain Dow

1928 - 2012

Iain Dow came to Double Common in September 2001 from Worcestershire where he had worked as a General Practitioner until he retired. Iain and his wife, Joan, loved their years in Charmouth. Iain took an A-Level in Archaeology aged 70 and so rejoiced in the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre where he worked as a visitor volunteer whenever he could. He joined the Jowitt Art

Group in Charmouth and the Axminster Art Society – where he became Treasurer and an enthusiastic water colourist. He was an enthusiastic shopper at local farmers' markets too. Picking summer fruits at Forde Abbey was

and he became something of a father figure to her children, Lily, Sammi and Louis.

As time passed, the rest of the family was growing; Jane had a daughter, Hannah, shortly after Rosie was born, and when John and Fiona married, Mike was their best man and subsequently became uncle to their children, Max, Adam and Freya.

Mike loved living down here in Dorset, in his house in Nutcombe Terrace. He loved animals, birds and fish, the sea and the beach. He enjoyed sea sports such as snorkelling, diving and kayaking. And of course he took part every year in the Charmouth swim for the RNLI. Throughout his life he was a very gregarious and sociable man, lively and full of fun.

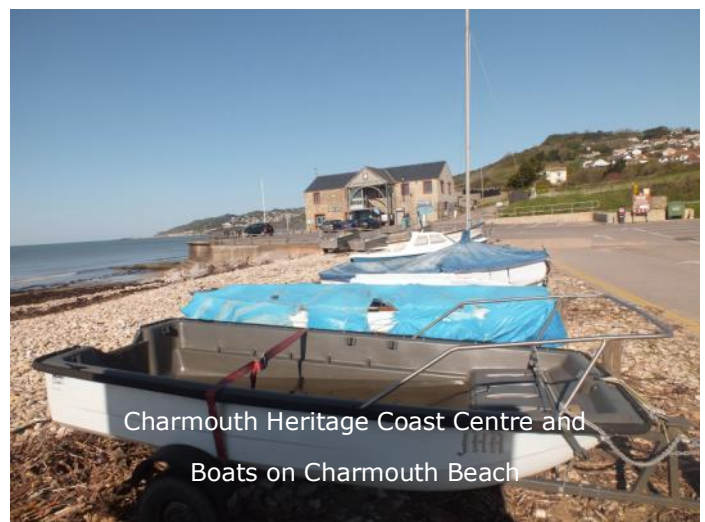
During their illnesses, Mike and his mother were both very supportive of each other. After Mike's coma and hospital spell last year, he had round the clock care at his home and made good progress until Christmas when his health took a downward turn. He recently deteriorated very rapidly and his end was very peaceful, almost as if everything was just shutting down.

He was always a man who loved life, who was positive and happy; a man who always looked on the bright side and saw the best in other people. He had a fine sense of humour, was kind and generous, and faced his illness with great courage and fortitude.

So it is perhaps not surprising that he had such wonderful support from all his friends and family. He was constantly being taken out to enjoy the coast that he loved and in hospital he was rarely alone.

And in death he will not be alone for his mother's ashes were buried with him.

Leslie Scrase



Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre and
Boats on Charmouth Beach

another joy – and he practised his photography on his family and ten grandchildren on their weekend visits.

Iain had a long last illness in Exeter and Axminster hospitals and died on 7th March in Woking, Surrey, where Joan and Iain had moved to be nearer to their family.

Thank you to all the people who wrote to Iain when he was ill and those who visited him in hospital.

Joan Dow

What's On This Summer ?

Original

Watercolour Paintings

Summer Sundays

10am-3pm

at

Peter Bagley's Studio
Aurora
St. Andrews Drive
Off Lower Sea Lane

01297 560063

Charmouth Bowls Club

Bowls & BBQ Day

Sunday 8th July 12 noon

BBQ, sweet, tea/coffee

Afternoon of bowls

£6/head

Interested? Then call
June Rebbick 01297 560860 or
Jim Greenhalgh 01297 561336
by Wednesday 4th July
to book your place

Tea & Chat for the Over 50s

Charmouth Library

Mondays 3pm

July 9, 23

August 6, 20

September 3, 17

Charmouth Fayre

Sunday 5th August

Parade 1.30pm from The Court

Fayre 2-5pm

Barr's Lane Recreation Ground

Sealed Knot battle re-enactment
Ottery St. Mary Silver Band
Wyld Morris Men
Stalls, entertainment, refreshments

Peter Noel
01297 560078

Party in the Park

Sunday 5th August

7-10pm

Barr's Lane Recreation Ground

Music by 'The Framed'

Bar and food

Peter Noel
01297 560078

Musical Tea Party

In the grounds of

'Wood Rising'
Lower Catherston Road
Catherston Leweston

by kind permission of
Eric and Doris Cornish

Monday 13th August
3-5pm

Proceeds to
St. Mary's Church
Catherston Leweston

Charmouth Fayre Sunday 5th August 2012

We are delighted to announce that Sealed Knot, a re-enactment group, will be the main event at the Fayre this year. Jules, the stilt-walker, will be back along with the Ottery St. Mary Silver Band who will be entertaining the crowds at the tea pavilion. We also have The Wyld Morris Men and other displays for the arena during the afternoon. The music in the evening will be provided by a Lyme Regis Group called 'The Framed' who entertained, to rave reviews, at the Axminster show last year. All in all, a great day should be had by all. Make a note in your diary of the date.

Peter Noel

Events at St. Andrew's Community Hall Lower Sea Lane

Cream Teas

Come and enjoy
freshly baked scones and delicious home made cakes
Sunday 1st July, 5th August and 19th August
3pm to 6pm

Bingo

lots of prizes
Diary dates - 20th July and 21st September
Doors open 7pm and Eyes Down 7:30pm
(no Bingo in August)

More information - Linda 07813 513062

Events at Bymead House Nursing Home

Songs of Praise in our 'Memories Garden'

Sunday 8th July 2.30pm

Join us for a celebration of Residents' lives
both past and present

To include Cream Teas with donations to the
Joseph Weld Hospice

If you would like a loved one to be remembered
please contact: Liz Wilson on 01297 560620

Family Sunday Services 2.45pm

All are most welcome to join our residents and
The United Reformed Church
on the following Sunday:
12th August

Summer Barbecue

Sunday 2nd September
Live music from local
Shadows Tribute and Rock 'n' Roll band
'The Silhouettes'

**Shoreline is published 4 times a year,
Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter.
The copy deadline for the next issue is
15th September 2012**

Shoreline Charmouth - Village Diary

Badminton Club (experience required)	Mon 8-10pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Trish Evans 442136
Badminton	Tues 7-10pm (early Sep to late Apr)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Pauline Bonner 560251
Bingo (fund raising for Community Hall)	3 rd Fri each month 7.30pm (eyes down)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Linda Crawford 0781 351 3062
Bopper Bus	Fri 4.45-8pm	Bridport Leisure Centre Drop off/pick up Primary School	Kate Geraghty 489422 Melanie Harvey 560393
Bowls Club	Sun, Tues, Thurs 2-5.30pm	Recreation Ground, Barr's Lane	Bob Just 560557 June Rebbeck 560860
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 Piesz 560738
Cherubs	Wed 9.30-11.30am (term-time only)	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Kathryn Radley 442796
Cubs (ages 8-11)	Thurs 6.30-8pm (term-time only)	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Nicky Gibbs 01297 35470 or 07925 511261
Food Links Village Breakfast	Thurs 8.30am-1pm (Sep to Apr)	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Jan Gale 01308 420269
Food Links Village Lunch	1 st Tues each month	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Jan Gale 01308 420269
Gardeners	2 nd Wed each month 2.30pm	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Kay Churchman 560980
Girl Guides (ages 10 onwards)	Wed 7-8.45pm (term-time only)	For information call Davina Pennells 560965	
Junior Youth Club (ages 8-12)	Tues 6.30-8.30pm	Youth Club Hall, Wesley Close	Louise Gunnill 07501 081828
Library Storytelling & Rhymetime (under 5s)	Fri 9.30-10am	Library, The Street	Mandy Harvey 01297 560167
Parish Council Meeting	3 rd Tues each month 7.30pm	The Elms,	The Street
Pavey Group (village history)	Tues 9.30-10.30am	The Elms, The Street	Pat Stapleton, 560255
Scouts (ages 11-14)	Fri 7.15-9pm (term-time only)	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Kevin Payne 01308 459080
Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Mon to Thurs (term-time only) 9am-12.30pm	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
The British Legion (Women's Section)	1 st Wed each month 2.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Pat Stapleton 560255
URC Coffee Morning	2 nd & 4 th Tues each month 10am-noon	United Reformed Church, The Street	Rev Ian Kirby 631117
Wyld Morris dancing practice	Wed 7.15pm	Pine Hall, Monkton Wyld Court	Briony Blair 489546

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

Events at Monkton Wyld Court

Full details at www.monktonwyldcourt.co.uk

Contact: monktonwyldcourt@btinternet.com

13 - 15 July Scything and Grass Management

14 - 16 Sep Ancient Sites around Dorset

30 Sep (Sun) 30 Years Open Day, Free admission

Most Wednesdays 7.30pm Wyld Morris Dancing Practice

Have your say
in Shoreline

Shoreline Charmouth - Local Contacts

<u>EMERGENCIES</u>	<u>Police, Fire, Ambulance or HM Coastguard</u>	<u>999 or 112</u>
POLICE	PC Richard Winward, PCSO Luke White and PCSO John Burton (Community Police issues) Non urgent call number for reporting incidents / enquiries Bridport Police Station, Tannery Road	01305 226912 101 01308 422266
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 The Lyme Practice, The Elms Medical Centre, The Street, Charmouth The Lyme Practice, Lyme Community Medical Centre, Lyme Regis NHS Direct — 24-hour Healthcare Advice and Information Line	01297 560872 01297 561068 01297 445777 0845 4647
HOSPITALS	Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester Bridport Community Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bridport	01305 251150 01308 422371
DENTISTS	The Lyme Practice, The Elms Medical Centre, The Street, Charmouth Dorset Dental Helpline	01297 561068 01202 854443
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	National Rail Enquiries — Information on Timetables, Tickets and Train Running Times National Traveline — Information on Bus and Bus/Rail Timetables and Tickets	08457 484950 08712 002233
<u>EMERGENCY</u>	Gas Electricity (Western Power Distribution) Water (Wessex Water) Floodline Pollution (Environment Agency)	0800 111999 0800 365900 08456 004600 08459 881188 0800 807060
CHEMISTS	F G Lock, The Street, Charmouth Boots the Chemist, 45 Broad Street, Lyme Regis Lloyds Pharmacy, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 560261 01297 442026 01297 442981
SCHOOLS	Charmouth County Primary, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth St Michael's C of E, V A Primary, Kingsway, Lyme Regis The Woodroffe School, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 560591 01297 442623 01297 442232
CHURCHES	St Andrew's Parish Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Stephen Skinner United Reformed Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Ian Kirby	01297 560409 01297 631117
<u>COUNCILS</u>		
CHARMOUTH PARISH	Chairman — Mr M Hayter Clerk — Mrs L Tuck, The Elms, St Andrew's Drive, Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth Beach Attendant, Charmouth Beach	01297 560896 01297 560826 01297 560772 01297 560626
W. DORSET DISTRICT	Councillor — Mrs J Bremner Mountfield House, Rax Lane, Bridport — All services	01297 560431 01305 251010
DORSET COUNTY	Councillor — Col G J Brierly OBE County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester — All services	01297 560660 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) 45 South Street, Bridport (Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)	01297 445325 01308 456594
POST OFFICES	1 The Arcade, Charmouth 37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 560563 01297 442836
LIBRARIES	The Street, Charmouth Silver Street, Lyme Regis South Street, Bridport South Street, Axminster	01297 560640 01297 443151 01308 422778 01297 32693
SWIM / LEISURE	Bridport Leisure Centre, Skilling Hill Road, Bridport Flamingo Pool, Lyme Road, Axminster Newlands Holiday Park, Charmouth	01308 427464 01297 35800 01297 560259
CINEMAS	Regent, Broad Street, Lyme Regis Electric Palace, 35 South Street, Bridport	01297 442053 01308 424901
THEATRES	Marine Theatre, Church Street, Lyme Regis Arts Centre, South Street, Bridport Guildhall, West Street, Axminster	01297 442394 01308 424204 01297 33595
TOURIST INFORMATION	Guildhall Cottage, Church Street, Lyme Regis Bucky Doo Square, South Street, Bridport	01297 442138 01308 424901

Meet the Charmouth Fossil Hunters II - review

Charmouth Community Hall was packed to capacity at the recent Meet the Charmouth Fossil Hunters II evening. Each of the four speakers presented a different perspective on Charmouth's eroding cliffs and the fossils that lie within them. Professor Denys Brunsden, Environmental Specialist and Geomorphologist, discussed the landslips on Black Ven and Stonebarrow Hill;



A packed Community Hall. At front: Davina Hansford (l), David Hansford (centre)

Palaeontologist David Sole reflected on 40 years of fossil collecting in Charmouth; Richard Edmonds, Earth Science Manager of the Dorset & East Devon Coast World Heritage Site Team discussed the review of the West Dorset fossil collecting code and the results of the consultation; and Tony Flux, Dorset Coastal Zone Projects Manager of the National Trust looked to the future with a talk entitled 'Caring for the Coast... the Next 100 Years.'



Start of the evening. In front of screen: Tony Flux (l), Professor Denys Brunsden (r)

After the interval, five archive films were screened. Dated between 1964 and 1986, the oldest featured Ray Jennings and his family fossil hunting on Charmouth beach, while the others focused on Charmouth's well-known local fossil hunter Barney Hansford. The last, poignant film (courtesy of the South West Film & Television Archive) showed Barney and son David Hansford at the closure of Barney's Country Life Exhibition in 1986.

Fossil hunters Pete Langham, Chris Moore, Tony Gill, Paddy Howe, Chris Andrew, David Sole, Richard Edmonds and Sarah Cooke brought local fossil finds. Davina Hansford, Barney's granddaughter, brought his fossils and memorabilia, and her own fossil photographs, *Around Charmouth and District* book and local photographic cards. Cherry Barlow, daughter of the late Charmouth fossil

hunter Ray Jennings also showed some of her father's fossil collection. Charmouth geologist/visual artist Geoff Townson displayed his local seascapes and a series of photographs he took over a decade of Evans Cliff, and Meirel Whaites, Senior Warden of Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre brought a display board of local fossil finds. Lastly, the parents of Charlotte James, a Coventry University student, showed her BSc Dissertation and related research material on Evans Cliff.



Left to right: David Sole, Tony Flux, Professor Denys Brunsden

Shoreline is indebted to the speakers and exhibitors for giving their time to make the fossil event such a success; Richard Edmonds for his help with the slides and films; and Jeff Prosser, Pete and Polly Wild for their assistance with the sound system; and Phil Aylett of the Royal Oak for providing the bar. The following kindly contributed to the raffle: Sir David Attenborough, The White House, Charmouth Stores, Charmouth Post Office, Nigel Clarke Publications, Paddy Howe and Chris Andrew, Davina Hansford, Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, The Old Bank Café and Charmouth Pharmacy. Thanks too to Fortnam, Smith and Banwell for selling the event tickets.



To right of exhibit tables: Cherry Barlow (l), Richard Edmonds (r)

During the evening, David and Davina Hansford were presented with copies of *Shoreline's* latest booklet, *Charmouth Through the Generations*. It features five generations of the Hansford family and contains previously unpublished information and photographs of Barney's Fossil and Country Life Exhibition. Copies of the booklet, price £3, are now available at Charmouth Stores, Charmouth Post Office, Morgans, the Old Bank Café and Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre.

As a result of this event, *Shoreline* has donated £190 to the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre.

Lesley Dunlop

Charmouth - A Moment in Time



A This hand coloured postcard dating from 1906 by the Bavarian publishers, Stengel, shows what was then the village centre. On the left is the former farm house (Badgers) for Foxley Farm which stretched behind The Street between Higher Sea Lane and Old Lyme Hill. At the top can be seen an attractive thatched cottage, which was to be demolished for a car park for the New Inn, which stands opposite. Next to this building was a hospital and the doctor, William Kerby, lived in the house set back, Askew House. There was then a line of small shops which included a stationers and grocers. The village blacksmith, Henry Childs, could be found in the building on the right which is now the Forge Fossil Shop and next door in the shop with the blind lived and worked Frederick Hutchins, a cobbler.



B Another Stengel postcard dating from 1906 showing the ancient thatched Charmouth House, which had formerly been the Fountain Inn, whose history dates back to the times when the village was owned by Forde Abbey. The wall in front has not always been of stone, as a photo exists of an iron fence, which was removed in 1870. The view has changed little over the last 100 years, with virtually all the buildings still standing, though the dusty road has long since been replaced with asphalt.



C An early view of The Street dating from 1890, which has been hand coloured. On the left is the shuttered front of The Court, which at that time was a substantial house where the Misses Stuart lived. They owned the field opposite, where the War Memorial is today, so they could have a view out to sea. It was also the scene of village celebrations, such as the Club Day. To the right is the Royal Oak, then managed by Katherine Rough. It is interesting to see the rough state of the road and the mass of bushes and trees lining the street.



D Of all the many old images of Charmouth, this must be one of the best. Originally it was a giant postcard dating from 1900. On the left is a group named Prospect Place, which was built by Giles Pryer after a fire in 1862 destroyed the thatched building that previously stood there. The first timber covered frontage is that of Stanley House where he lived. Further along was Charmouth Stores, then run by John Baker. It would have been already nearly 100 years old and is today one of the oldest continuously run grocers in the country. In the distance is Sunny Side (Devonedge), built in 1894 after another fire went through the former thatched roofed building. Opposite was Pear Close, a large field where village celebrations were held. On the corner of Lower Sea Lane stood Pryer's stone mason yard, where the shops are today. The carriage on the right of the picture is often seen in early photos as it must have been parked continuously outside the Coach and Horses promoting their omnibus service to Bridport, Lyme Regis and Axminster.