

SHORELINE

News and Views from Charmouth



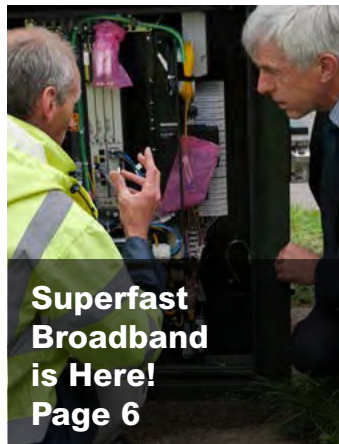
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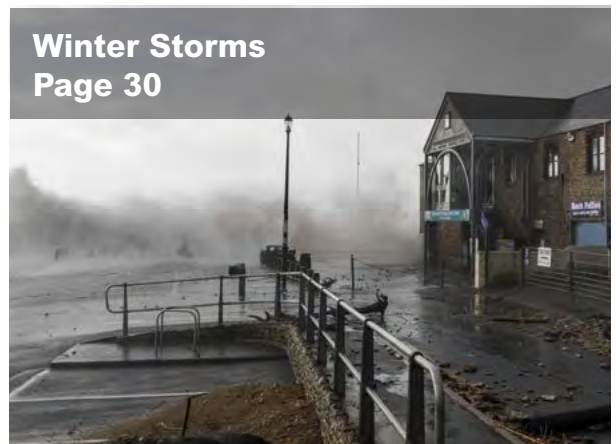
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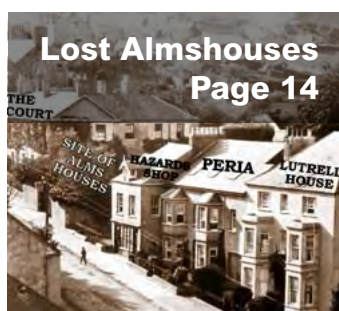
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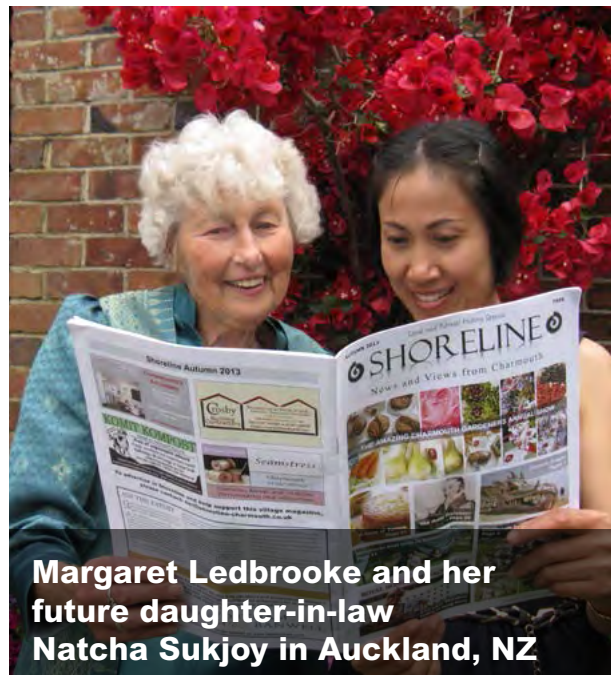
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Margaret Ledbrooke and her future daughter-in-law Natcha Sukjoy in Auckland, NZ

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Editorial

Looking behind, I am filled with gratitude.

Looking forward, I am filled with vision.

Looking upwards, I am filled with strength.

Looking within, I discover peace.

A Native American Quote

Welcome to the jam-packed summer issue of Shoreline - I feel quite sure it will have been well worth the wait! This time we have printed even more copies to go into some businesses in Lyme Regis and Bridport which have expressed interest. The publication is, and will always remain, a magazine for and about Charmouth, but if a larger circulation helps to promote our wonderful village and also brings increased business for our advertisers, then it can only be a positive move.

The ferocious winter storms are thankfully a dim and distant memory, but the huge amount of damage inflicted on our coast by the continual pounding of the waves, coupled by gale-force winds, is evident by the extent of erosion and accretion that has occurred. Tony Flux's article 'The National Trust's Approach to Coastal Management' on page 20, and the 'Winter Storms' feature by Richard Edmonds on page 30, address the very real long-term challenges of maintaining the coast and also discuss the future management policies that it is imperative must now be implemented by the relevant coastal authorities. Both Tony and Richard featured prominently in an excellent BBC1 documentary 'The Storms that Shook the South West', aired on 12 May. How fortunate we are to have such highly-regarded experts in their field regularly contributing to our village magazine.

The sun is shining, the sea is sparkling and a summer of fun awaits. Enjoy!

Jane

THE SHORELINE TEAM

Jane Morrow

Editor

Lesley Dunlop

Assistant Editor, Features and Diary

Neil Charleton

Advertising Manager and Treasurer

John Kennedy

Design and Layout



editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk

**The Editor, Shoreline,
The Moorings, Higher Sea Lane,
Charmouth, DT6 6BD**

Charmouth Traders Summer 2014

In spite of the difficult economic conditions over the last three or four years it always amazes me that we have the level of local shops and services that we do in Charmouth. There are not many (indeed I doubt if there are any) villages nowadays that can boast two pubs, a pharmacy, a butcher, a flower shop, two hairdressers, a newsagents come general store like Morgans, two cafes, fish and chip shops, a chocolate shop, a camping shop, a post office, the Nisa store with attached gift shop, as well as a variety of caravan parks, hotels, B&Bs and camping sites. Apologies if I missed anybody out! Oh yes two fossil shops..... and an estate agent. In fact I cannot think of any village along the coast in Dorset or east Devon that comes close. Now with the addition of Herringbone, a shop run by a collective of local residents, Charmouth offers even more for both residents and visitors alike.

Of course the variety of shops and services we have in the village seems disproportionate to the full time resident population and although well supported by local residents, it is visitors to the village and the money they spend that really makes the difference. This keeps the village economy viable and prevents it from turning into yet another winter 'ghost' village full of empty shuttered holiday homes like so many other places. Charmouth Traders has and will continue to fight the corner for local businesses and to promote Charmouth to a wider world. Our website www.charmouth.org which we share with one of Charmouth's greatest assets, The Heritage Centre, continues to go from strength to strength. We get thousands of hits per month from people looking for somewhere to stay, somewhere to eat or just somewhere to come and visit for the day. Every pound spent in a village business helps that business remain viable and hence helps the village remain a vibrant and delightful place in which to live.



After the success of the 2014 calendar we have produced a 2015 calendar, available from various outlets around the village. It can also be mailed to you (£1.30 P&P UK only) Please send a Cheque or Postal order for £7.29 to:

Charmouth Traders' Calendar, The Post Office, Charmouth Arcade, The Street, Charmouth, Dorset, DT6 6PU

For further enquiries or overseas orders, please contact Gill Pile on charmouth2015@hotmail.co.uk

We would like to thank all those who contributed their images to the calendar this year. All monies raised by the sales of the calendar go towards replacing and replenishing the Charmouth Christmas Lights, website costs and donations to village groups. Speaking of which, the fundraising side of the Charmouth Traders has had a good 2013 and revenue from the calendar sales, the website advertising and the various events held through the year allowed us to donate over £1500 to local causes. The groups which have benefited from the funds this year are as follows:

- *The Bopper Bus - £200 for running costs;*
- *Charmouth Scout Group and Beaver Colony - £220 towards purchasing an LCD projector, play parachute, lantern and craft materials;*
- *St Andrew's Community Hall - £200 towards redecoration;*
- *Charmouth Local History Society - £200 towards producing the Village Echo;*
- *Charmouth Heritage Centre - £340 towards purchasing a weather station, filter, pump, fire pit and grate;*

Continued on page 4

- Charmouth Brownies - £175 towards a new Brownie Standard;
- Charmouth Village People - £258 to enable the purchase of two wheelchairs for their outings.
- Shoreline - £200 towards printing costs.

Traders' treasurer Peter Noel said: "The traders like to support not only the businesses in the village but also the very worthy groups and societies around the village. We are delighted that we have been able to donate a record amount this year which we hope will benefit many people both young and old throughout the village. All non profit making Charmouth groups and societies are invited to have a presence on the website for free. Businesses can also advertise on www.charmouth.org for £30 per year. In either case contact Ian Simpson either through the "contact" section on the website or send an email to charmouthinfo@btinternet.com

We also run a list on the website of local events which we update weekly, so if you have something going on in the village or are planning something in the near future, let us know and we will add it free of charge. There is a contact page on the website or email it to the above address.

A quick date for your diaries. The Traders and the Heritage Centre are joining forces and are aiming to put on a weekend festival in September called LoveCharmouth, celebrating all that is great about the village we call home. We have a couple of big name guest speakers lined up, there will be music, food, crafts, talks, walks and anything else we can think of.

We also need YOUR support. There are lots of people in this village who have remarkable talents and abilities, great stories to tell and an awful lot to offer. We want this to be a showcase for all that is good in and around Charmouth. We would love you to come forward and be part of LoveCharmouth. There will be more details released in the near future. We are as I write this, still at the planning stage, but anyone who would like to contribute or get involved in some way, please get in touch with myself, Ian Simpson at The White House Hotel, Phil Tritton at Nisa and Jim or Meirel at the Heritage Centre.

Ian Simpson
Charmouth Traders Association



Changes are Taking Place at the Charmouth Fayre

The first change is that the Party in the Park is moving from the night of the Fayre to the week before, and will now be on Saturday 26 July. The gates open at 7pm and dancing will commence shortly thereafter to the music of The Twerzels. The entrance fee is £2 and the famous Fat Dad's BBQ and Jeff's Bar will be open for business.

The Fayre is on Sunday 3rd August and a difference to the format is that it will continue into the evening. From about 5pm to 7pm, musicians from B Sharp, our local young people's music organisation, will be performing a lot of original material and showcasing their musical talents. There will also be a BBQ and Bar. With regard to the Fayre itself, we have the world famous Romsey Old Cadets Show Band honouring us with their music and fun and a new Punch and Judy show run by Colin John, who also does magic tricks and will hold a balloon workshop. To top it all we have our very own Antiques Roadshow, hosted by Lyme Bay Auctions; so bring along your pictures, silver and family treasures for a free assessment and valuation. The donkey rides will be returning as they proved a great success last year.

We have increased the prize money on the children's fancy dress in the hope of attracting more children to enter, so please don't let us down! We will have the dog show, all our usual stalls, Brass Tacks playing at the Tea Pavilion and many other attractions for your enjoyment. We look forward to seeing you there.

Stop Press from Charmouth Fayre,

We are looking at inviting local businesses, such as craft and food stalls etc., to rent a pitch at the Fayre.

Anybody interested should e-mail me at: peter@marshall-noel.co.uk with their details and we will get in touch once we know the level of interest.

Peter Noel

Ask Dorset campaign – Dorset County Council

On June 2nd Dorset County Council is kicking off a series of road shows all around the County inviting the public to come and tell them what they think is most important in the wide range of services they pay for through their Council Tax.

The Council doesn't want to stand still, and is ready to change as a result of listening to local people.

It's even more important that they listen now, as like all public services Dorset County Council's budget has been squeezed as part of the national austerity measures. So far the council has worked hard to find these savings and has reduced its overall annual budget by £60 million, whilst having minimal impact on front line services, and needs to save a further £43 million over the next few years.

The county council will though still be spending £250 million a year, so this is a real opportunity to make sure that the money is spent wisely, and to have the greatest positive impact on the things you think are most important, whether that is the state of our roads, running our museums and libraries, or providing

social care services for older people.

We need your help. We need to know what you value the most, what is most important to you and your family and friends.

You can get involved in lots of different ways:

In person at one of our road shows. Come and meet us, at our road shows you will have the opportunity to talk to your local councillor, a member of our cabinet, our most senior officers or even possibly the chief executive. The nearest roadshows to you are:

Bridport – 11 June – 9.30AM-12.30PM – Bucky Doo Square

Lyme Regis – 24 June – 9.30AM- 12.30PM – Venue TBC

Bridport – 2 July – 4.30PM-7.00PM - Morrisons

You can also get involved online at www.dorsetforyou.com/ have-your-say

You will also find more information in our newspaper Your Dorset which you will receive in June. Whichever way suits you, we really want to hear from you.

Letters

Souper Soup.

It was a cold, wet January morning, the golf course was closed so I found myself sitting in our kitchen thumbing through the Winter edition of Shoreline. Then Ian Simpson's Winter Warmer Soup Recipes caught my eye. Curried Butternut Squash and Tomato Soup sounded just what was needed. It was an easy recipe and I had all the ingredients. If you like a really warming, wholesome soup then forget your Mulligatawny and try this. Fantastic!

Thanks Ian, my morning was not wasted after all.

Malcolm Hinxman.

The Salt & Vinegar Saga

I read with interest your article headed 'Is it Cheese & Onion or Salt & Vinegar?' It brought back an old childhood memory.

In the mid-'50s Dad (the veteran television comedy star Arthur English) was regularly doing panto. At the start of the season he would write to a number of companies, including Smith's Crisps, and ask if they would like him to advertise their product in his show. Usually they did and would send him free samples to be given away during the show. This often happened during crossovers on front stage when there was interaction with members of the audience.

As you said in your article, in those days Smith's more or less had the monopoly on the crisp market and there were only salted potato crisps, as far as I know, in one size. They came packed in square tins, probably containing about a couple of dozen bags. I shall never forget going into Dad's dressing room and seeing a complete wall stacked from floor to ceiling with these tins. Smith's must have sent him a lorry load. Of course Dad gave away a lot, but I also ate a lot; in fact crisps almost became my staple diet. Then one day I had a brilliant idea. I crushed some crisps up into a bowl and soaked them in vinegar. It brought a flush to my cheeks but it tasted great and I had to eat it with a spoon. I remember people coming into the dressing room and asking me what I was eating. When I told them they looked in horror at me. Today salt and vinegar crisps are very popular. I wonder where they got the idea from???

Tony English

Erratum - The article to which Tony English refers was on page 29 of the Winter issue of Shoreline. We apologise for missing out Tony Underwood's surname in the article.

Mystery House

With regard to the photos of houses in the winter Shoreline, I can solve the mystery of the cottage in the lower right hand picture. When I moved here with my family in 1960, the cottage was occupied by the two Gear brothers - Harry and Dennis. It stood at the corner of the junction of Five Acres and Higher Sea Lane.

The brothers spent most of their time beachcombing, so as well as vegetation, the front of the cottage was piled high with a mixture of fishing floats, crates and assorted plastics and timber. There used to be large amounts of usable wood washed up in the 60's which few people bothered about, so after Dennis became more reclusive, Harry and I shared most of the driftwood between us. We had an arrangement whereby the first to find it propped it up at the base of the cliff to establish ownership!

After Dennis died, sometime in the 70's, Harry lived there for some years before moving to Bymead (I think) in the late 80's and the cottage was demolished, much to the relief of quite a few residents in the area who regarded it as an eyesore!

Yours sincerely,

Peter Bide



Charmouth Parking Refund Scheme

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



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Superfast Broadband is Here!

For many residents and businesses in Charmouth, faster, more reliable broadband has arrived. On 23 May Superfast Dorset announced that two cabinets in Charmouth are 'ready for service,' meaning customers connected to these cabinets can now contact their communications provider to take up a superfast broadband service.

If your property is connected directly to the exchange, rest assured as the Superfast Dorset project will be returning to Charmouth to connect even more premises to the fibre network. Properties connected directly to Charmouth exchange will gain access to the fibre network through different technology that will be installed later in the year.

Since Dorset's £31.75 million partnership was announced last year, engineers have been busy surveying the network in order to ensure that the roll-out of the new technology is carried out in the most cost-effective and efficient manner. Parts of Charmouth, Chideock and Bridport are some of the first communities to benefit.

For residents, faster, more reliable broadband makes staying connected even easier. UK homes are now more connected than ever, with smart TVs, home offices, tablets, games consoles, and smart phones all competing for internet capacity. Superfast broadband delivers speeds that allow several users to connect at the same time, without buffering and spinning wheels.

Superfast Dorset aims to transform public services and contribute to digital inclusion. As services move online, reliable broadband – and knowing how to use it – is becoming essential in every home. Dorset's superfast rollout will keep those living in more isolated areas connected who might otherwise be left behind.

The project brings a positive change to the local economy too, bringing new opportunities to individuals and communities across Dorset. From cost savings to becoming competitive on a global level, to more flexibility for working from home, Superfast broadband speeds can transform the way we do business in Charmouth.

Superfast Dorset is enlisting the help of volunteers to be Local Links between the project and their communities. They will also be looking to highlight people in Charmouth whose lives or businesses have been transformed since taking up a superfast service. If you're interested in helping others in your community understand and access the benefits of superfast broadband now that it's available, please get in touch with the team.

By the end of 2016, 95% of Dorset premises will have access to superfast speeds, and all premises will have access to at least 2Mbps. Dorset councils are working with the Government, BT and other infrastructure providers to develop additional plans for those most difficult to reach areas to extend the superfast network even further.

To find out if superfast broadband is available at your business or residence, contact your service provider. To register as a Local Link and find out about upcoming local events visit www.dorsetforyou.com/superfast. And keep informed with the latest Superfast Dorset e-newsletter direct to your inbox at www.dorsetforyou.com/e-news.

The Superfast Dorset Team

Dorset County Council 01305 221048



Charmouth PC Chair Jane Bremner, WDDC Chair Gillian Summers and County Councillor Daryl Turner look on as Robert Gould, Leader of WDDC, unveils the new Superfast Broadband Cabinet.

Charmouth Youth Club

In early May, 24 young people attended Charmouth Youth Club's Mexican evening. The evening was planned after discussion with the members. Many wanted to try new food at the café and to learn about other places. The night included Mexican food from the café, Mexican - style drinks and Mexican music. The young people also made some pinatas out of papier-mache. Staff from West Dorset District Council's Action Van provided a range of sports based activities.

James Ward-Rice, Area Youth Worker for Dorset County Council said "The Mexican night was a huge success. The event was inspired by young people talking about what they wanted to do with one of our senior members who has just moved to the area from Mexico. It was great to see so many young people attending and learning about something new. I think everyone really enjoyed breaking open the pinata and sharing the sweets inside."

For more information about Charmouth Youth Club, please contact James for youth work enquires on 01308 422500. The Club is always looking for volunteers to help with youth activities and desperately needs new members for the management committee. If you are interested or would like to book the hall, contact Jane Morrow on 01297 560329.

Well Done Luke!

Luke Bearpark's hard work and imagination has been rewarded in the shape of a Dorset Award for Young People. Luke, 13, has been leading and developing the café at Charmouth Youth Club on Tuesday evenings. In addition to being recognised for his skills in developing an exciting menu, Luke has been rewarded for his work in supporting local young people.

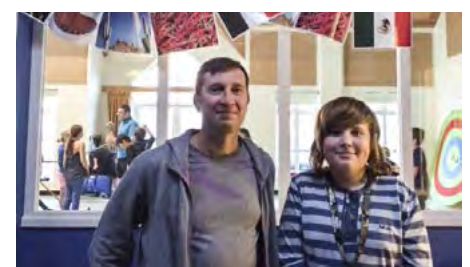
Luke's parents are delighted with the



award, they said "we are really, really proud of Luke's achievement".

Luke said "I really enjoy running the café. Sometimes it's hectic but it is always good fun. I am thrilled to receive the Dorset Award for something I love doing".

Treasurer Jane Morrow added "It is great to see this type of achievement come out of our work at Charmouth Youth Club. Well done Luke".



Luke with youth leader James Ward - Rice

Devon Dorset Shape-note Singers, Charmouth

Recently a small group of shape note singers started their own group in Charmouth. We 'kicked off' at the United Reformed Church chapel opposite the George public house and have subsequently moved to Charmouth Central.

Shape Note Singing, as the name implies, uses the written music form which puts 'fa sol lah' into shapes, some would say, making this form easier to read. It is very popular across the pond and has returned to this country and to Europe in recent years. Returned...as the type of music sung was popular during the Commonwealth historical period especially and taken to the USA by the early British settlers. If you wish to discover more of what we are about, there are loads of examples on the internet, especially within You Tube sources. If you don't have internet access, attend Charmouth Central and use those facilities or just turn up on the **3rd Saturday in the month at Charmouth Central between 2.00 and 5.00pm** and just take a look - or join in

the fun.

To some onlookers it may seem somewhat religious in its content, but those who participate nowadays come from all denominations and none. They just go all out to enjoy the music!

We are not a choir. We do not have a musical director who tests the quality of our voices; we just have loads of singing fun using the Sacred Harp (our own voices). We do in the main use 'The Sacred Harp' (1991 edition) music collection and sing 'a capella' (without accompaniment). We also use the internet where we find useful guidance until we become more adept. We do not charge for attending but we do ask for a donation to cover the room rental, which is very reasonable.

If you have seen the American film 'Cold Mountain', you will have seen some very well-known stars of the screen having a go, so why not give it a try!

Howard Wright, Charmouth Facilitator, tel 07976845591
www.devondorsetshapenote.org.uk

Free eXchange cafe, Saturday 14th June

Our fourth Free eXchange cafe took place at the beginning of April and it was lovely to see so many people come for a free coffee and cake, a chat or a read of the newspapers. A stream of items came in and then went out again, with a different owner for a new life in another home. It is so lovely to see people find something useful - a new waterproof for their child, a cookbook to try out some different recipes, plants to fill that gap in the border. There is always an eclectic mixture of things brought in, which is one of the delights but after four cafes we have noticed certain things consistently fail to find a new home. Ornaments, crockery and adult clothes seem to be something everyone already has a wealth of and therefore are left at the end, as are things brought in that are not clean (thankfully very few). Most popular have been children's coats and equipment for babies/toddlers, books, plants, jigsaws - I can't list all the other diverse and wonderful things.

There are a few items the cafe organisers could do with to make setting up the event a little easier. If anyone has any spare plain pale coloured or gingham table cloths we could make good use of them; also a few hangers and a cafetiere. If you do have any of these things you could drop them into the church, which is open during the day, and leave them in the corner by the piano. Or bring them on the day to the next cafe which is....

Saturday 14th June and this eXchange café will be a plant special! Bring your extra seedlings or young plants that all managed to germinate, left over seeds that won't keep, cuttings you've propagated or bedding plants that just wouldn't all fit in your gardens. If you have any tools you no longer need or terracotta pots or planters, that would be great. Of course everything else will be welcome too. Don't feel you need to bring anything to come along; the more the merrier. Hopefully the weather will be good enough to put chairs and blankets outside. See you there.....



free eXchange
café

Caroline Linney

Befriending in Bridport, Charmouth, Lyme Regis & Surrounding Areas

The Befriending Scheme... doing the small things that make a big difference.

Many older people in Dorset are currently enjoying the benefits of the Royal Voluntary Service community-based volunteer befriending schemes. Royal Voluntary Service volunteers are local and offer their time on a regular basis to help older people to remain independent and active in their community. They do this in many ways - shopping, accompanied walks, walking the dog, reading, playing cards and board games, sitting to relieve a carer and, most importantly, just visiting and chatting over a cup of tea.

New volunteers are always welcome to join the Royal Voluntary Service. Each area has its own coordinator who will meet with you to talk about the type of work you would most enjoy and then introduce you to a person who will benefit from your company and support. As a member of our team, you will be fully supported by a local coordinator, receive induction and other relevant training.

We are actively seeking new volunteers who are willing to give a small part of their week to help older people remain independent, doing the things they enjoy. The benefits to both volunteers and those using the service are numerous and rewarding: You meet new people; you learn new things about others and the area in which you live; people retain their independence and self-esteem; volunteers experience a feeling of contributing to an invaluable service and of making a real difference to the life of someone else.

Royal Voluntary Service

For more information please
contact: Charmouth Coordinator
Felicity Horton on 07736
825283; Bridport & Lyme Regis
Coordinators - Celia Gavins on
07834 653360 or David Sarson
on 07786 635183



Charmouth Bowls Club Short Mat News

As Charmouth Bowls Club's Short Mat winter bowls season drew to a close members gathered for an end of season 3 wood pairs competition. The competition was held at their usual venue The Community Hall in Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth where players competed for the Les Hill Cup. The winning pair was Jean Starke and Alan Uzzell.

The pair was congratulated by the Club President Ivan Marks who also thanked Vice Captain David Cruickshank for organising the event. The cup will be presented to the winning pair at the Club's Annual Presentation Dinner in November.

The Short Mat Bowls season ended on Tuesday 22nd April making way for the start of the 2014 outdoor bowls season which started with an Open Day on 27th April.

The new short mat bowls season will start at the Community Hall on Tuesday September 30th when anyone wishing to join will be welcome to come along.



Charmouth Bowls Club

The new season started with the Open Day on Sunday 27th April. Despite a good turnout of members and new attendees looking for an introduction to the Club, the afternoon was thwarted by the arrival of a heavy dose of April showers resulting in the cancellation of play. The next bowls session was on Tuesday 29th April when again a good turnout of members and new players were able to enjoy an afternoon of sunshine.

The Club is starting to see the benefit of some new members, but is still very much in need of extra players. If you have never played bowls before or if you have been a member of this or any other club in the past, then you would be most welcome to come along and join us. The club is able to provide all the equipment to get started and will be happy to give any tuition to those who feel in need. The Club plays at the Bowling Green, The Playing Fields, Barr's Lane, Charmouth every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday at 2.00pm and every Wednesday evening at 7.00pm.

Not to be missed is the Club's annual Bowls and BBQ Day that will be held at the green on Sunday 29th June commencing at 12.00 noon. It is a day that is open to visitors, friends and relations, all of whom will be most welcome. Pre-booking is essential for this popular event so for tickets ring Club Secretary Jackie on 01297 560295.

Jim Greenhalgh, Chairman

STOP PRESS - YOU CAN NOW FOLLOW CHARMOUTH BOWLS CLUB ON FACEBOOK. GO TO CHARMOUTH BOWLS CLUB.

The Gambia



I was lucky enough to be invited to a gathering of the Mandika Tribe, to the naming ceremony of a young girl. So I went to The Gambia in March this year.

I stayed in a compound, called "Cow Junction", where three families lived, who all took wonderful care of me. Initially they did not want me to go out alone, so I was always accompanied wherever I went. Cries of "tobah" or white, followed me. The little children came after me, but ran away when I stopped to talk to them. They gradually became braver, touching my skin and my hair. By the end of the first week, whenever I sat down, a little girl or two would appear and start to plait my hair.

In preparation for the weekend celebrations, we all went to the tailor to have dresses made in traditional designs. I was given two new dresses, one in pink and purple, the other in pink, purple and turquoise; not my usual style! I felt quite regal dressed up in my tribal gear.

We gathered at the "Sekunda Compound" where preparations were underway to feed and entertain about 500 people. I was the only "tobah"; there was one other foreigner – an uncle from Senegal.

In the evening the drumming and dancing started; everyone dressed in bright clothes and they all, from toddlers to seventy year old matrons, danced. It was noisy and energetic and went on till dawn. I was continually pressed to eat dishes of fish, peanuts, rice and cassava, all cooked in palm oil with sorrel; and all delicious. I had been advised (in England) not to eat foreign food and to drink only bottled water. But, what can you do. It would have been terribly rude to refuse their hospitality. Anyway it couldn't be done. I discovered that whenever they saw a half empty bottle of water, someone would take it to the well and fill it for me. As it happened the food and drink gave me no problems at all.

Most mornings I would go to the market. It was hot, smelly, colourful and very noisy. Everyone was clapping, singing, shouting or hissing through their teeth. Sadly, most Europeans holidaying in The Gambia stay on the coast with its miles of lovely, golden sands and warm seas. I saw no other white people inland, so they miss the experiences I had – haggling in the markets, surviving taxi rides and meeting some very generous people, even though they have very little.

It is a very poor country. Water and electricity supplies are erratic, but the people are so kind. I was so well treated; they did not want me to do anything for myself, and laughed when I tried, and in their opinion, was found wanting. My clothes washing techniques were so comical that a local policeman was called to witness them and join in the laughter.

I thought I couldn't go wrong carrying water from the well to the house. The well was about half a kilometre away, but having hauled up just two buckets and slopped much of the contents over my legs on the way back, I was exhausted and had to

accept that the young children were more capable than I. Ironing was done in the evening – I am not a natural ironer – so I just watched the ladies iron in the dark using irons filled with hot charcoal. I did try and ended up with sooty marks on my hands and face; their sheets and clothes were snowy white.

I made some wonderful friends and although I cannot phone or write to them, they are continually in my thoughts, and I hope to visit them again in October, when I plan to take some sewing machines out with me. So, if you have an unwanted electric machine, in good order, please let me have it – they will make a real difference out there.

Amanda Keith

Charmouth Gardeners Annual Gardening Show

Saturday 9th August

The Charmouth Annual Gardening Show will take place this year on Saturday August 9th at 2.30pm in the Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane and the Village Hall, Wesley Close. Exhibits include flowers, fruit and vegetables, home produce, photography, children's sections and Handicrafts (needlework, woodwork, knitting and painting).

We welcome entrants for all classes (although *fruit and vegetable produce must be grown within a ten mile radius of Charmouth*). Show schedules detailing all classes plus back page Entry form will be available free of charge from Charmouth Post Office from July or on request from the show secretary on. 01297 560251. All Entry forms must be returned by Wednesday 6th August to either of the above.

A new system for class entry will be in operation this year... No class fee will be necessary – Enter as many classes as you wish FREE OF CHARGE... there will be no 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize monies of 50p, 40p, or 30p (except for the children's classes). We will of course retain our lovely 1st, 2nd and 3rd place certificates and the many cups and plaques for overall winners.

Instead of the class entry fee (10p each class) we will now ask both visitors and entrants to pay a £1 entry fee to cover both halls on the day – accompanied children free entrance.

Please do join us; it's a fun community day and the displays are well worth viewing.



**DON'T FORGET
CHARMOUTH ANNUAL GARDENING SHOW
SATURDAY 9th AUGUST**

Beautiful garden produce - fruit, vegetables and flowers; also wonderful home produce, photographs, handicrafts and children's work are all on display in the Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane and the Village Hall, Wesley Close.

Please do join us - entrance charge - £1.00.

Accompanied children - free.

The George, Charmouth

Our charity for 2014 is Prostate Cancer UK. The cancer takes 10,000 male lives each year so we are participating in two "10,000" challenges. Ongoing through the summer is our "5p" challenge. Please pop in with any spare ones that you may have and drop them in our collection pot. We have nearly filled our first pot to raise £500, after which we will start again.

Our Easter Bingo raised £252; also our weekly Friday meat/bottle draw raises approximately £40 each week. On 23rd April we held a St George's day quiz and raised £160. The cake sale held on Saturday 3rd May raised £225.

We are playing a cricket match against Otter Brewery at Uplyme cricket ground on Wednesday 18th June. Ten local Lads will be taking part in a 10,000 foot long pub walk through Lyme Regis starting from The Talbot in Uplyme at midday on Saturday 5th July, and to finish off the day we will have a Motown night with live music from Sam Newman, lead singer of the American Temptations from 9pm.

Our first Beer Festival was such a success last year that we are holding another one on Saturday 14th June from 1pm. We will have a selection of real ales and ciders, a BBQ from 2pm, the official opening by our town crier at 3:45pm, live music from the Twerzels from 4pm-6pm, children's balloon modelling from 4pm, Uplyme morris dancers from 6:30pm – 7pm, half a yard of ale competition from 7pm-7:30pm, Pete Wild and local musicians 7:30pm – 8:30pm, live music with Lewis (sound of the suburbs) from 9pm and live World Cup Football, England vs Italy, from 11pm. We promise a fun day out for all the family in our large beer garden, play area and pets' corner.

Our summer live music includes Stacy Lou on Saturday 19th July, Ben Lambert on Friday 25th July, Phil Aaronson on Saturday 2nd August, Bianca on Sat 9th August, Rockfella on Sat 16th August and Dean Dalligan on Sat 23rd August. All performances start at 9pm. Everybody is welcome.

Dean Herbert

TERRIBLE STORM FLOODS LOWER SEA LANE, CHARMOUTH

"Two smacks, the Edward and Mary, of Lyme, Hodder master and the Union, of Plymouth, Royes master, we're driven from the moorings, and wrecked (the former completely), under the Marine Parade, Lyme close to the steps leading to the bathing machines. A new wall, lately built by Mr. Haycroft, enclosing the old shipyard, was washed down by the waves, the tide being high.

At Charmouth, the fishermen had at an early hour on Sunday morning to haul all the boats up over the cliffs. The roof of the shed used for storing the property of the Artillery Volunteers was blown off.

The sea washed part of Sea Lane for a distance of 200 yards, and the Battery ground was under water."

7th September 1883

Neil Mattingly

Bymead House Nursing Home



Here at Bymead we have had a busy past few months. We have been working towards our Gold Standard Framework accreditation in End of Life Care and recently held our GSF relaunch. We celebrated with High Tea and cakes and were extremely pleased to see the day so well attended by both old friends and new faces.

We have a great array of events in the summer months ahead of us which we would like to invite you all to attend.

D-Day Celebrations – Saturday 7th June

Bymead will be remembering and celebrating D-Day with food and entertainment in the garden – some of our staff will also be dressing up in 1940s costume!

Garden Party – Friday 11th July

Pimms, Cream Teas, Strawberries and Cream with music.

BBQ and Fun Day – Saturday 2nd August

Macmillan High Tea Fundraiser - Friday 26th September

Bymead looks forward to welcoming you to these events.

Your Advertising Supports Shoreline

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

“Mum, I’m bored!”

How many times did you hear that during the Easter holidays? Well, if your kids were members of the Target TAGB Tae Kwon-Do class, probably not very many. Classes go on right through the school holidays. There was even a class on Good Friday! Dreading the long summer holiday already? Time to think about something to keep them occupied.

Instructor Gerry Waugh opened the Charmouth Target TAGB Tae Kwon-Do class in 2010 and one of the first students to join, Carl Jordan, of Bridge Road, is still training. As this issue went to press, Carl was just about to take the last of the colour belt gradings. If successful, his next test will be for black belt.

Classes are on Thursdays and Fridays at 5pm in the Community Hall on Lower Sea Lane. The class is part of the Tae Kwon-Do Association of Great Britain (TAGB), founded in 1983, which now teaches over 20,000 students in over 600 schools, including over 100 in just the South West alone.

Mr Waugh has an impressive track record. Examiner Master Michael Dew (8th Degree Black Belt), vice chairman of the TAGB, comes down from Bristol to test his students at gradings and, as long as the Charmouth school has been open, not one of the Charmouth students has ever failed a grading. That’s 100% pass rate over nearly four years. He is a full-time, professional instructor, meaning he has no conflicting day job and is able to concentrate all his time, resources and effort on teaching tae kwon-do. In addition to Charmouth, he also teaches in Axminster and Sidmouth and works closely with the instructors at Colyton, Bridport and Weymouth.

Tae kwon-do is a Korean martial art, which has become increasingly well known since Jade Jones, a former TAGB black belt, won gold at the 2012 London Olympics. Fitness, flexibility, self control, respect and discipline can all be improved through regular training, and it’s good fun for all the family too. Mr Waugh actively encourages family members to train together, with generous discounts for family groups training together. Free, no obligation trial classes are available. For more information, visit www.TargetTAGB.co.uk or call Mr Waugh on 01297 639830.



Mr G Waugh

News from Charmouth Parish Council

Parish Councillor Vacancy – Due to the resignation of Mallory Hayter in April, the Parish Council has another vacancy. This is currently being advertised in the normal way and provided that no election is called, the Council will be advertising to co-opt a new Councillor very soon. Please keep an eye on the notices if you are interested in joining the Council.

2014 Annual Parish Meeting – The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 29 April at the Elms with over 80 parishioners attending. Speakers included CHCC, Lyme Regis Food Bank, Charmouth Village People and Superfast Dorset (Broadband). The meeting was

very positive and the Council hope to build on the achievement of the past year.

New Office Assistant – Following the departure of Sally-Ann Mowbray early in April, the Council is pleased that a new Office Assistant has been appointed. Graham Bowen started on 19 May and will be working alongside Lisa every weekday morning.

Foreshore Clear Up – Following approval by the Insurance company, the repair works to the Factory Building at the Foreshore are now underway. Along with a number of brand new beach

huts, it is hoped that the facilities at the Foreshore will be much improved by the end of the works in June.

Superfast Broadband – As you may have heard, Charmouth is one of the first rural communities in Dorset to benefit from the upgrade to superfast broadband. The switch on of the cabinet on the corner of Higher Sea Lane took place on Friday 23 May and will enable the top half of the village to upgrade via their current internet providers. The remainder of the village will be slightly later due to being connected to the main exchange – watch this space, we will keep you posted!

Born in Charmouth

I was born on 5th July 1945 at 5 Bridge Road, Charmouth – the youngest daughter of Mabel and Richard (Dick) Woollard. A sickly baby by all accounts, I needed a mastoid operation at the tender age of ten months. This was performed at Lyme Regis Hospital – and all was well although I remember nothing about it! Bridge Road back in the 1940s/1950s was a cul-de-sac. A road fronted the houses and we overlooked a meadow where Farmer Loosemore (Clifford's Dad) grazed his cows. Bridge Road was an ideal playground for French cricket, roller skating and learning to ride a bike. I don't think anybody there owned a car at that stage. I have patchy memories of a little zoo at Broadlands in Lower Sea Lane which later became a dental practice run by Antony Potter, who also had a practice in Bridport. His parents ran the Wander Inn Café at one time, which was opposite Gear's Garage in The Street. I also remember being in a pageant in the garden of the Elms when I was very young.

I started school in Charmouth aged five. We walked to Lower Sea Lane (there was no back entrance to the school) through a field track. This is where Wesley Close was built in the 1950s. At school Miss Manuel was the reception teacher. She was a gentle soul and everybody adored her. She lived with her mother in Southwinds in Lower Sea Lane (it was a single dwelling house then) and, on occasions, she would take some of us to tea to see her mother. The middle class teacher was Mr Dodds. Tragically, his son Steven died at about eight years of age. Everyone was distraught; a very sad time indeed. Miss Meade was the Headmistress and she could be frightening. I remember she would supervise a mid-morning run out in the lane. There were, of course, very few cars to worry about then.

When I was six, I joined a ballet class. A Miss Dulcie Gibbs came from Bridport each week to teach us in the Chapel Rooms. We took part in shows in Bridport and my Mum made me some wonderful ballet outfits. About this time, Carole Mayne and I were invited to be bridesmaids at Peggy Spurdle and John Burlinson's wedding. We had beautiful long Bo-peep dresses with bonnets and muffs. Both Carole and I were also invited to be attendants on the Fete Queen float that summer – and we wore our bridesmaid dresses. The fete back then was, as always, in August but Bank Holiday Monday used to be the first Monday in August. I also remember

that Charmouth village celebrated the Coronation with an evening street party and also I think there was a sports day to commemorate the occasion too! Houses were adorned with red, white and blue bunting – even the milk tops were patriotic!

Living so close to the sea, it was important to learn to swim at an early age. I think I was about six or seven, learning first with water wings and then it just came naturally! We had regular family outings to the beach for picnics, making sand castles, playing in the rock pools, making sand boats and waiting for the tide to come in and wash over them! Idyllic.

Barbara Barton (Dampier) is the person I remember most. She was so enthusiastic in encouraging us to take part in concerts, etc. We used to perform at the Village Suppers and sang in St Andrew's Church and other churches; nothing was ever too much trouble for her. We loved her for that reason. Speaking of singing at the Village Suppers – sorry Richard – you have probably chosen to forget – Richard Stirk and I sang and Sonny and Cher hit 'I Got You Babe' at one of the supper evenings. As a teenager, my best friend was Margaret Marchbank. Mags and I were firm friends; we lived next door to each other and shared lots of fun times together at school and socially.

When the Youth Club Hall was built in Wesley Close it proved to be very popular. It was the Swinging Sixties and we were all jiving and dancing; a very happy time. At this stage I was a pupil at Lyme Regis Grammar School. I had a Saturday morning job at Braggs which paid for trips to the cinema at Lyme on

Saturday afternoons. During the longer summer holidays I worked for Mrs Bolt in the gift shop. When I left school I went to work for Dr Chamberlain at Askew House. It was around this time that the Marine Theatre opened its doors on Saturday evenings, where we could dance the night away to live groups. At one of these dances I met my future husband, John, who had travelled across the border from Somerset! John and I got married in Charmouth at St Andrew's Church in 1967. We then went to live in Bishops Lydeard, a village near Taunton. John and I have two daughters, Adele and Lianne, and we regularly visited Charmouth every weekend until the girls went to Wellington School. They were at school six days a week, which meant our weekend trips to Charmouth had to wait until the school holidays when we used to hire a beach hut and had a fishing boat on the foreshore. It was during this time, whilst out fishing, that we unfortunately got tangled up in Ron Oxenbury's nets and had to be cut free!

Both our girls love the seaside; they learnt to swim at an early age and both return to Charmouth each year with their families. For John and I in our retirement, home is on the fringes of Exmoor for the winter and then we spend our summer months at our home in the south west of France. But my memories of growing up in Charmouth, my idyllic childhood, the many friends and acquaintances I made, the fun times with all the girls and boys I grew up with and the wonderful times shared, will always make me thankful, grateful and richer for the experience!

Peta Barker



A postcard of Charmouth in the 1950s. Thanks to Neil Mattingly

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

Charmouth Village People go on Holiday

'I hope the food will be better than this at the hotel', said one of the ladies. 'What if it isn't,' I thought. I was partly responsible for agreeing to this trip, encouraging Jan that we could do it. And here we were in World's End pub half way to the ferry that was going to take us to the Isle of Wight on our first holiday with Charmouth Village People. 'I don't wish to put a dampener on it,' said a friend of mine, 'but have you thought about it?' 'What?', knowing full well what he meant. 'Well you have some quite elderly people with you.' 'You mean, are we going to make it through the week?' I joked. 'You know what I mean.' 'Yes, and I've told them that nobody can afford to fall over once they have turned 70,' I said. 'Well, I'm sure that you have thought it through,' he said. But had we?



The morning of the holiday I got a text message from Jan saying, 'I need vallium!' 'Gin works,' I replied. 'What if something goes wrong?' 'Nothing will go wrong' I said, dwelling on my friend's words. It had all seemed so simple when we said after a couple of one day outings, 'let's go on holiday.' After three months of nearly perfect weather, we woke up on the morning of departure to howling gales and rain. Now it was my turn to worry. 'What about the ferry crossing?' I rang the ferry company and was told in clipped tones. 'I came over at 7.30 this morning on the ferry and it was perfect.' I put away all thoughts of seasickness and got into the car. I toured the village picking up passengers to take them to the meeting place. Everyone was in good spirits. We were going on holiday and that was all that mattered.

On the Isle of Wight we pulled up outside the Trouville Hotel, smack bang on the seafront, it was 5 o'clock; it had been a long day and I watched hesitantly as the elderly hauled themselves up the steep steps to the reception area. Once inside we asked if there was a disabled entrance. 'Yes, round the side of the building.' Too late, our travellers were eager to get settled in. That night after an excellent dinner some of our party went into the ballroom for the nightly entertainment. I was tired and it was lights out at 9.30pm for me. I slept soundly until eight o'clock the next morning. I had missed a great night in the ballroom, the singer proved to be exceptional. After breakfast we piled into the mini bus and made our way to Osborne House, home of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. As we made our way down the long drive the sun came out to greet us. I had visited Osborne House a few years ago but this was to be a different experience, taking things at a slower pace. After seeing around the house the little group I was with decided

to take the bus down to the beach. You could imagine Victoria's nine children piling into horse drawn carriages stacked with bathing suits and picnics as they drove through the woodland down to the sea. We sat outside a charming café watching the boats go by as we ate ice cream and exchanged stories of our own youth.

The next day we went on a steam train. As soon as we approached the ticket booth my nostrils filled with the acrid smoke of burning coal. A magnificent steam engine hooted summoning us to the platform and the clack of doors opening was our signal to get on board. The carriages were individual and we separated to find places up and down the train. As the train pulled away in the sunlight we regaled stories of our own childhood holidays going on steam trains. When the train stopped we were helped up onto the footplate to look inside the burning furnace and feel the heat of the engine. Steam whooshed out when we least expected it and then all aboard, and we were off again.

A visit to a Roman villa was another unexpected pleasure. The Romans had a much more pleasant stay on the Isle of Wight, where the islanders greeted them with open arms seeing an opportunity of trading riches with local produce, whilst on the mainland they were viewed as invaders. Indeed this was indicative of the island where life seemed more tranquil and the people were friendly and helpful. Nothing was too much trouble. Wheelchairs were always available, along with cheerful banter and a wealth of information. Janet and Mike from our party organised a quiz for us one night after dinner. The theme was flora and fauna, interspersed with some general knowledge, and it reminded me why our club Memorable Memories was so important! One evening a large screen was set up in the ballroom and we were shown old footage from well known singers and actors of the '50s and '60s. It proved to be a huge success as we laughed and sang our way through the evening.



The holiday was enjoyed by everyone and it was agreed that we should do it again. The age range was 63 – 88 years and the experience and knowledge that these people brought with them was amazing. We set out with a jolly attitude of 'let's go on holiday,' followed by the doubts of, 'are you sure you know what you are doing?' to 'what the hell,' and it paid off. Older people are just as capable of having a good time as anyone else. They just need a little help from their friends. I should like to extend a big thank you to Jan and to all those who had the guts to come along. And of course, to the weather for raining at night and letting the sun shine during the day.

Wendy Knee

From the White House Summer 2014

After our refurbishment last year, there has been an on-going 'life laundry' kind of thing happening. As we gradually try to get rid of all that stuff that just kind of hangs around the place, serving little or no purpose other than to taking up space. Not our two teenagers I hasten to add, as they are useful for washing up duties from time to time, but all that stuff that you think you might need one day but never do, which subsequently ends up in sheds, cupboards and wherever else there is a tat-shaped space to be filled.

E-bay and Freecycle are two excellent routes we have taken to divest ourselves of our junk and clutter. They are great ways of ridding yourself of stuff that although is of little or no use to you any more, is coveted by others. We had until recently, a large, grey, three drawer filing cabinet; brutally ugly, entirely functional, bereft of any redeeming qualities other than its innate ability to store several hundred assorted sheaves of paper. It glowered in the corner of the office, unloved, rarely used, 9 cubic feet of chiefly redundant space. Of course it became the place where everything just got 'filed'. A quick recent look through it indicated to us that actually nearly everything in there was no longer required and that which we did need to preserve could be stored in something a little less oppressively monolithic and foreboding. We bought a funky, modern, lime green, 2 drawer filing cabinet from Staples (which arrived dented, so we returned it for a replacement, which was also dented, now in three places.....but that is another story)

We placed an ad on EBay for the old one almost as a post modernist prank, expecting it to generate as much interest as a Bay City Rollers record, but much to our surprise it sold for the princely sum of £4.50 which is almost exactly £4.49 more than I had expected. Our purchaser, clearly an aficionado of office furniture based on the designs of the Brutalist Soviet era high rise tower block, drove down from Taunton to collect it. So we removed all the detritus dumped over the last 13 years into the office equivalent of Siberia and in the darkest recesses we rediscovered an old advertisement for the White House dating back to..... well we are not quite sure when. It certainly pre-dates our arrival just after the millennium. At a guess I would place it sometime in the mid 1970s. Maybe someone in the village remembers Mr and Mrs Poyner who were the proprietors then.

Reading through the brochure really underscores how things have changed, not just in the hotel industry but in the society in which we live. Even a cursory glance speaks volumes. The phone number is just three digits, there is no postcode, but as this was in national use by 1974 and there was resistance to using it for a while, it may be that this is a red herring.

There is of course a distinct lack of websites, Wi-Fi availability and email addresses which would be the case for pretty much any business pre 1997.

One thing that jumps out though is of course the price. Merely £14.50 per person for dinner bed and breakfast! What? Dinner, bed AND breakfast? For £14.50 a week! A WEEK!?! Maybe it was the 1950s!! Though even with a price of £14.50 -not £14 10s - that puts us post currency decimalisation which was 1971. Also it points to an era when people regularly holidayed in the UK for a week in small hotels. We rarely see stays of a week or more now as the modern trend is for two or three day breaks, two or three times a year. Good to see them highlighting the use of local farm produce, a good idea is always a good idea.

It is the paragraph describing the facilities that strikes me the most. A TV lounge! How quaint. Communal viewing was the

norm then I suppose, but TVs in bedrooms with digital Freeview, DVD players and all those bells and whistles are what is expected now. Well I suppose there were only three channels back then and if the TV stations were anything like they were where I grew up in Cumbria you got Magpie, The News, Mr and Mrs with Derek Batey and Crossroads followed by News at Ten and then it promptly went off air after a weather report for the farmers, not to resurface until four-o'clock the following afternoon. Back then we still had not totally succumbed to the ubiquity of the screen and the era of cheap, electrical consumer goods was still over the horizon. TVs in bedrooms had yet to become affordable. Neither does it offer direct dial telephones in rooms which were getting fairly common in the early eighties but ironically are no longer required as the rise of the smartphone has all but eradicated the need for them. Unless of course you can't get a signal - but that never happens round here, does it Orange?

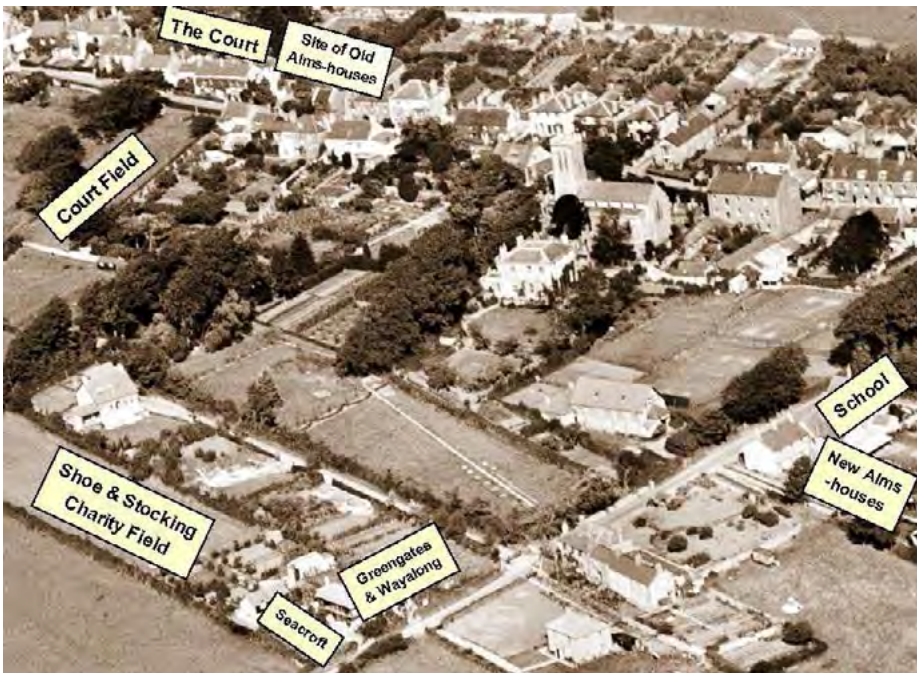


Technology aside though, can you imagine nowadays opening an hotel where as a guest you are expected to share one of two bathrooms or three toilets with all the other guests in the building. It would not be in business for long. I suspect that having washbasins in bedrooms was something above the norm then but the expectation is for not just ensuite now, but power showers and spa baths.

Back then, according to the brochure, it was eight minutes from the White House to the beach. I reckon on a good day I can do it in a mere six minutes. So thanks to coastal erosion and rising sea levels, we are now two minutes closer to the beach. Which by my calculations means in another 120 years we should have some pretty good sea views from the front rooms. I wonder if people then will be looking wistfully at holographs of Old Charmouth and remembering where Lower Sea Lane used to be? Let's hope not!

Ian Simpson

Charmouth's Lost Almshouses



A Plan showing the various properties in 1927

Why is that house opposite the Royal Oak on the Street called The Shoe and Stocking? This is a question I am often asked and I usually bluff the person asking it with an answer relating to the Almshouse that formerly stood there. But I have decided to research it, mainly using deeds and documents still preserved in the Dorset Family Centre at Dorchester. It is quite a complicated story involving a number of properties in the village, which I have superimposed on the aerial photograph of the village taken in 1926.

As usual it is entwined with Forde Abbey, which was given the village by Richard del Estre in the year 1170. The Abbots of the Cistercian Abbey were to be Lords of the Manor for almost four centuries and it was in 1297 that they created a free Borough there. The village was to be set out in ½ acre burgage plots with the opportunity to build houses on them. Some of the original plots can be still located, though the tenants amalgamated a number into larger more viable holdings, as the Borough was not a great success due to competition from Lyme Regis and Bridport.

The site of the original Almshouses would have fronted on to The Street with land extending to the stone wall that still stands to the north. K.J. Penn who has published a detailed study - "The Historic Towns in Dorset" for the Dorset Archaeological Committee writes that "The Court" is on the site of the Guildhall and the Abbots Court that is referred to in the original Mediaeval Cartulary held at Forde Abbey today. The successor to this building is still known as The Court and would have adjoined the Almshouses. I feel confident that there was a building on the site at the time of the Monks and may well have served a similar role as a monastic "Hospital" which would have existed in many villages and towns.

The only picture that we have of it is from a painting of 1850 and a photograph of 1860 looking down the street showing

the building in the distance. It seems to have consisted of three small adjoining cottages with frontage on to The Street. The original tenement had three rooms below and three above. The ancient building was occupied by six poor aged people, four of whom were recorded as receiving parish relief in 1836 when Charity Commissioners inspected it. The 1841 Tithe Map shows it as nos. 64/65 with a total area of 23 perches. This equates to the 22 perches that appears in the reference book of a map from 1783, which has sadly been lost and describes the property as "Charity House - North Side". The Land Taxes and Poor Rates lists that run from 1780 until 1832 give the Rectors - William and his son, Brian Coombes - as trustees. Almshouses existed in most towns where they usually accommodated those who were aged and had lived in the area. They sometimes get confused with the Poor or Work House and all its connotations. Again, Charmouth for a long time had one of these on the Old Lyme Road before it was amalgamated with Bridport in the 19th century.

To support the Almshouse and Work House, residents had to pay Poor Rates annually. But a number of benefactors also left money or property towards their costs in their wills. The earliest recorded was that for Robert Salter who in 1642 bequeathed £300 to purchase land whose income would be split in three parts between the parishes of

Whitchurch, Charmouth and Bridport. With this money the trustees were able to buy 30 acres of lands in 1697 in the Manor of Berne in Whitchurch that became known as "Cattleburrows".

But it is the bequest by Anthony Tutchin in 1661 that was to have a lasting impact on the Almshouse. He generously gave an acre of land with his family house, initially for the benefit of seamen and their wives and children. But in time this was given out in stockings and shoes and his original house and field were named after this. By a miracle the original building, since named Seacroft, still stands in Lower Sea Lane, although the original acre plot has a number of houses built upon it since.

A book titled: "The Memorials of Stepney from 1579 to 1662" records that Anthony Tutchin of Poplar and Blackwall (Captain) was an officer in the Commonwealth navy. He was the master of the transport 'Brazil' in May 1650 and in 1653 was pressing seamen for the navy in the eastern counties. He married, Margaret and following her death was preparing to marry Grace Hazle, widow. He died about 1667 and left property to his grandchildren, Margaret Gyles and Sarah, wife of Abraham Read. His father of the same name was also a Mariner living in Limehouse and was married in 1607 to Margaret Chapman, of Limehouse, widow. In 1625 he was in command of a ship 'lent to the French.' In the year following he appears as a Master- assistant of the Navy, and later as a Master of Trinity House. He died in 1643 and was buried in Stepney. In Kenneth Andrews' book: "Ships, Money, and Politics: Seafaring and Naval enterprises in the Reign of Charles I" he writes as follows: "There were of course other eminent masters: Peter Andrews, Thomas Best, the Bushells and Anthony Tutchin for example, the last of whom at the age of 56 in 1638 having lived 20 years in Limehouse boasted that his ship-money rate was among the highest in the district".



The Site of Almshouses in 1900

Both father and son were famous in their day and there are a number of records relating to them and their lives. We are fortunate as the Dorset Record

Office has a deed that refers to a later rental on the property and describes the original gift as follows: *"Whereas by an Indenture of 26th February 1661 made between Anthony Tutchen of Limehouse, Middlesex, Mariner and Richard Rose, Benjamin Bird, clerk of Wootton Fitzpaine, William Ellesden, Anthony, his son. Edward Mable, Yeoman and Stephen Limbry, Mariner and Robert Jones the Elder and Robert Jones the younger of Lyme Regis. Anthony Tutchen did grant all his dwelling house, garden, et.c with one close of meadow of about 1 acre called the Common in occupation of Richard Wey".* Richard Wey is shown on the 1642 Protestation list and a Robert Wey appears on the hearth tax for the village paying for three chimneys, which may well be the building known as Seacroft today. A later document dated 1735 shows that Anthony Ellesden as the surviving trustee leasing it to Elizabeth



A View of Shoe & Stocking Field and Houses in 1900

I could not find the connection with Charmouth in any of the records relating to Anthony Tutchen, father and son. They did not appear in the Parish Records or the Protestation List of 1642 for the village. But delving back further I was more fortunate and an Anthony Tutchen is seen as paying 8s 4d towards Queen Elizabeth's Ships in 1588. Then again in 1542, William Tutchen is shown as an able archer in Charmouth's Muster Roll, with a bow and sheaf of arrows ready to defend his country if there was a War with France.

It would seem that the family had left the village to make their fortune in London in the 17th century, which indeed they did. But no doubt still had property here and it is this house and acre of land, which is left by the subsequent beneficiary.

The earliest accurate map dated 1801 produced by the Ordnance Survey shows the field with a house on it. An earlier map dated 1783, whose record book has survived, describes the tenement as a "Charity House - South Side" with 10 perches and the adjoining "Charity Common" as being one acre. The later 1841 Tithe Map supplies us with more information. It shows that Matthew Lock had built an additional 2 small tenements on it, which he was renting out. He pays £8-8s to the Rector which was spent on repairing the ancient Almshouse at the top of the Street.

The Charity Common was originally one of the open fields created by the Monks

in the common land between The Street and the sea. A number were called Single Common and were about an acre and others - Double Common, which were twice the size. The field became known as "Shoe and Stocking" after the original use for the income that was derived from it. The early map clearly shows the building, which was eventually to be known as "Long Temps Cottage" or "Seacroft" as it is today. The larger group of cottages Matthew Lock built are seen on the right. Early photographs show these as thatched cottages surrounded by open fields. The historian, Reginald Pavey supplies us with further information as follows:

When Tom Hunter left "Sea View" in Lower Sea Lane he lived in one of the cottages facing eastward and Bill Gorgie in another. Behind Tom's was a smaller one inhabited by Bert Stork. On the opposite side of the path was a smaller cottage, now called "The Chalet", where an old lame woman used to live. These cottages were thatched with 'spear' from the river by the old battery. At some period during, or after the 1914-18 war, all these cottages were owned by Charles How and three of them were burnt down in about 1921 after a disastrous fire that destroyed them and "Greenacres" and "Wayalong" were later built on the site. There were no hydrants in 'Sea Lane' and the hosepipes were not long enough to reach from The Street. Stork's cottage became part of Green Gates".

We are fortunate today that the Tutchen's original house, set back from the road, survived the fire. With its thick stonewalls and windows it is easy to imagine it with its original mullioned windows filled with leaded panes of glass. There is still more evidence to find that may well prove this to be one of Charmouth's most historic houses.



A photograph of Almshouses to the right of Old School in 1900

Returning now to the Almshouses on The Street, which were partly supported by the income from the property in Lower Sea Lane. It would seem that when Mrs. Mary Napier Stuart (neè Schalch) converted Rawin Mallock's house into "The Court" in 1855, she was unsettled about the neighbouring dilapidated almshouses. In 1864 she purchased a field on which stood a cow shed belonging to John Hodges, a butcher,

and went on to build two almshouses to accommodate the six poor people. The site is on the east side of Lower Sea Lane (on the corner of Meadow Way) by the old School. This new building replaced the old one next to her house, which was then demolished, and a coach house constructed on part of it. Both buildings stand today, though the Almshouse has long since been converted into housing.

Mrs Stuart later went on to buy from Miss Short (the owner of Charmouth House) part of "Fountain Mead" opposite "The Court" so she could have a view of the sea from her library. It later became known as Court Field and was the site for many years of the Village Club Fair held every Whit Monday. A house behind the War Memorial bears that name today.

In summing up with all that I have found out, it would seem that the building that was formerly the Coach House to Mrs. Stuart's "Court" and stands on part of the land occupied by the former ancient Almshouse is called "Shoe & Stocking" after the popular name of the field which was given by Anthony Tutchen to the Village in 1661.

Neil Mattingly

To find out more about the Almshouses and other aspects of Charmouth's colourful history, I recommend that you go to my website: http://www.freshford.com/charmouth_home.htm

LANDSLIDE CLOSES ROAD FOREVER

"As a result of the torrential rains, which accompanied the thunderstorms during the week, Dorset main coast road is being seriously endangered between Lyme Regis and Charmouth. A big landslide took place at the highest point, 400 feet. Above the sea level, where it runs through towering cliffs. A thousand tons of cliff are gradually moving towards the sea, and there is now a sheer drop of 150 feet, from the coast bank of the road. Danger flags are being flown, as the road itself may subside at any moment, but despite this a number of motorists are running over it."

30th May 1924

Neil Mattingly

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Strawberry, elderflower and lemongrass punch

This simple fresh 'punch style' dessert
has all the floral sweet flavours of early
summer. The dish is a real hit with

adults and children alike. Substitute
meadowsweet flowers for elderflowers,
or add a little rum to make a light
punch. Best made 4-5 hours before
serving.

Serves 4-6

Equipment needed
An attractive bowl to serve

500ml water

75gm caster sugar

Juice 1 lemon

500gm strawberries washed, stalked
and halved

2 blades lemon grass cut in half
lengthways and then into 2cm strips

6 elderflower heads

Method

Bring water and sugar to boil, stir to
dissolve all the sugar, allow to cool for
45 minutes until still warm.

Add the lemon juice and lemon grass.
Transfer the liquor to the serving bowl,
add the strawberries and elderflower.

Cover and place in fridge to marinate
for 3-4 hours before serving.

RECIPE FROM THE TIERRA KITCHEN

News from St. Andrew's Church

Extracts from St. Andrew's Annual Report:

"Our normal pattern of Sunday Services has continued as usual during the year, with our main Service at 9.30am each week, and an 8am Holy Communion on the third Sunday of each month. Numbers have further declined over the year, as more older members have either left the parish, or are no longer able to attend church due to poor health. Anecdotally we think there has been a further decline in visitors this year, despite better weather than in 2012. Christmas and Easter Services were broadly supported as well as the previous year. Numbers at the Crib Service were slightly up on last year, but attendance at the Village Carol Service was very disappointing – perhaps due to very wet weather that evening. By way of contrast, the village Remembrance Service continues to be one of the best supported in the whole year, with a 'full house' in 2013.

Our 3rd Sunday non Eucharistic Service which we now call a 'Morning Service', continues. The Service caters for all ages, with special participation by the young families at the beginning and end of the Service. For most of the Service their mums organise creative activities in the back of the church. These Services are planned with bimonthly Meetings between the Rector and the children's mothers. The PCC are now considering replacing a further Eucharist with another non Eucharistic Service, perhaps called "Village Celebration", which is totally non liturgical. This could be designed to appeal to younger people, and those who have started attending the Free eXchange Cafés.

We have paid our 'Fairer Share' to the Diocese (92% of which now pays for our clergy) in full for the 10th year running. Our Treasurer, Audrey Worth, has done excellent work to help us pay our way. But our Reserves have further declined this year by £6426, because our 'Diocesan Share' plus fabric repairs exceed our Collections and regular Planned Giving. We cannot continue drawing upon our Unrestricted Reserves indefinitely – and anyway, it is really designed to help pay for major repair work. So, we need to try harder to improve regular giving through members increasing gifts to their Standing Orders and to the Envelope Scheme, so as to more than reverse the 10% decrease in Planned Giving, Collections and consequent Income tax reclaimed during 2013.

Our longest serving Churchwarden, Ted Whatmore, has announced that he will not be seeking re-election for next year. We thank him from the bottom of our hearts for his wonderfully loyal and diligent service to St. Andrew's over the past 21 years!! We pray that before long someone else will kindly volunteer to take on this role alongside Pauline Berridge – but in the meantime Ted has kindly promised to undertake many of a warden's duties, unofficially! We also still need a Church Secretary!

We have had the following 'Occasional Offices' at St. Andrew's over the past twelve months (April 2013 – March 2014): six funerals and two baptisms. There have been several other funerals of those living in Charmouth which have been held at Weymouth, Yeovil and East Devon Crematoria. We are pleased that we still hold quite a few baptisms in our church (several are booked for later in 2014), but are sad that there were no weddings in 2013, for the third year in a row. However, several weddings are now booked for later this year.

We have held several successful fund raising events during the year. These are of course excellent social gatherings as well as raising money towards the Redevelopment Project and Diocesan 'Fairer Share'. These have included the

following: Table Top Sale (including other local organisations or businesses), Christmas Bazaar (a really outstanding success), a very popular concert with the Wessex Swing Band, Coffee Mornings and a Harvest Lunch. These raised nearly £2,500 net of costs. We thank all who helped, and especially David and Julie Renfrew for their enthusiastic hard work. We greatly miss their exceptional organisational abilities!



Probably the most encouraging new venture over the past year has been the starting of a "Free eXchange Café" in St. Andrew's Church last September. We have held further Cafés in November, February and April, on the 2nd Saturday morning of these months. These Cafés offer the following: Free Coffee, Tea and Pastries of high quality, newspapers to browse, freecycle tables of many items that people can donate and take away! General

areas of exchange are: books, kitchen equipment, ornaments, children's clothes, toys and games. We play gentle jazz music in the background! We have been delighted by the numbers attending these two hour periods – around 120 – 140 in total! We aim to continue these on a bimonthly basis during 2014, because villagers of all ages have been so positive about our hospitality! We thank Ed Pemberton, Caroline Linney and Jackie Williams, and other team members for their hard work in organising these!

Our longer term major project at St. Andrew's related to the redevelopment of the interior of our building to make it fit for purpose for 21st century needs and opportunities. The PCC have discussed this at great length over the year, and finally received Faculty approval from the Diocese in early autumn. However, as we have begun to realise the extent of other fabric problems in the church, we came to the conclusion that our higher priority must be to deal with the extensive water penetration around the tower, the very poor state of interior decoration, and the repeated growth of fungus (or worse, dry rot). Our somewhat limited capacity for undertaking major fund raising, and our decreasing funds mean that we have to be very careful to undertake at present only important work for the sake of the structure and appearance of the building. To assist us in this the PCC have recently appointed a new Architect, Mark Richmond (from Taunton). He will undertake the next Quinquennial Inspection of the church, due in June 2014. We thank Mike Lake for all his freely given advice on fabric matters, over this past year."

Forthcoming Events for your Diaries!

June 7th: Concert. It is by the "WESSEX SWING BAND". Back by popular demand. Joint with Weldmar Hospice Local Support Group. 7.30pm)

14th June: 10.00 – noon - Next Free eXchange Café in Church (Drinks, Pastries, Freecycle. . .)

15th June: 9.30am - Family/Morning Service for all ages (with 'Sunday School' activities)

28th June: 10.00 – 1.30pm - Summer 'Table Top' Bazaar at the Community Hall. Large variety of stalls. (To book one please contact Pauline Berridge).

29th June: 3.30pm - "Big Sing" in Church, along lines of BBC Songs of Praise. Tea follows.

20th July: 9.30am - Family/Morning Service for all ages (with 'Sunday School' activities)

Revd Stephen Skinner
Team Rector of the Golden Cap Benefice

Charmouth Central

Charmouth Central has begun to create a wildlife-friendly sensory garden in the library grounds, a project funded by a grant from Dorset Community Foundation. Work began last autumn with the cutting down of the enormous trees, revealing a generous space on which a new paved area has recently been constructed. The whole of this side of the garden will be dedicated to wild flowers and bushes. Charmouth gardeners have generously uprooted their primroses, bluebells, cowslips, oxeye daisies, buddleia and the like and have planted them around the area – but there can never be too many. Deb Winstone and helpers, Sandy and Chris, brightened up the narrow beds around the Servery with lavenders, sage and rosemary which should smell delicious as visitors brush by along the path.

The next stage will be to have some professional help from early June to prepare the other side of the plot for flowering scented shrubs and for some extra paths, self-selected where volunteers' and visitors' feet have graphically shown they are needed. The gravel paths will also be upgraded with 20ml gravel instead of the tiny 10ml gravel which is constantly annoying as it is trekked into the building. A gardeners' utility area for tool storage will be positioned out of sight in the right-hand angle of the building. There will also be a 'Children's Path' – a stepping-stone path through the bushes to the back. Over the summer, children will be invited to make their own mosaic stepping stones to snake through this area.

The response to the call for wild flowers has been tremendous and most gratefully received. It is hoped that more contributions of scented flowering shrubs and climbers will follow in June so that the left-hand side of the garden will be as well-stocked as the right. Contributions should be left at the library. There will be no grass and no herbaceous planting as these are too labour-intensive in terms of future maintenance. Once the hard work is finished, the garden should become a low-maintenance haven for wildlife and a relaxing space for residents and visitors to enjoy.



BOOK ISSUES

All libraries are judged on the amount of books issued so it is again a pleasure for the Committee to announce that figures for Charmouth Central continue to buck the national and county-wide trend of declining numbers. Charmouth's 2104 figures month on month show an increase on 2013 figures.

ACTIVITIES

Charmouth Central's supporters must be congratulated for introducing some very successful activities to the village.

Memorable Memoirs (1st and 3rd Wednesdays), run by Jan Gale and her team, goes from strength to strength in stimulating memories and keeping brains active.

The Tea & Chat group (1st and 3rd Mondays in conjunction with RVS and POPP) also continues to thrive doing just what the name suggests with a friendly, welcoming and relaxed afternoon run by Felicity Horton.

Computer Classes (£3 a session) have brought many eager

residents into the digital age and a new group of students will be starting a course in late spring. Anyone wanting to join should see the lesson timetable in the library and contact Kim Oatway.

The Sewing Circle (every Tuesday morning) has already made tea-cosies for the Servery teapots and has almost finished a quilt to be used for *Rhymetime* (every Monday in term-time). It is admitted by all the members of the sewing group that more gossip and laughter is generated than stitching.

The latest addition to the calendar is *Shape Note* singing with afternoons of musical fun and companionship. (See the article about the group in this issue.)

All these activities are open for more participants and everyone and anyone is welcome to come along.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are vacancies for more volunteers to join a very successful existing team. A volunteer registration pack is available in the library and current volunteers will be happy to answer any questions and welcome newcomers.

There is also a vacancy on the Committee for a PR/Entertainment Co-ordinator. There is a lot of potential to instigate more activities, arrange talks and demonstrations and to publicise these and Charmouth Central to the wider world but current members of the Committee are already too stretched with their existing "jobs" to give these tasks sufficient attention. Someone special is needed! Like to know more? Please contact Hazel.

There will also be a vacancy for a Chair of Charmouth Central in October as Hazel Robinson will not be standing for re-election at the October AGM. Anyone potentially interested should contact Hazel who would be happy to divulge all her secrets and have a 'shadow' for the next four months or so to make the takeover easy.

EVENTS – PAST

One visitor to Neil Mattingley's Champagne Afternoon Tea in his home at Thalatta on 27 April remarked, "It's like going back to the 1930's." With sea views, laden tables each elegantly supplied with white china and three-tier cake stand groaning with goodies, it was easy to see why guests felt they had been taken back to a more elegant era. As always, the excellent cake-makers of Charmouth had done the guests proud and profits of £303 were donated to Charmouth Central. This was a terrific result and a most enjoyable event, thanks to Neil and his team of helpers.

EVENTS – FUTURE

13 September at 7.30 in St Andrew's Community Hall – the Quiz with a Difference

The Quiz with a Difference last year was such a success that, by popular demand, Jane and David Clifford and their team have agreed to put on the quiz again this year. "It will be the same format," said Jane, "with unusual challenges as well as more conventional quiz rounds." A light supper is included in the ticket price of £8 and there will also be a bar and raffle. A restricted number of only 60 tickets will be available in Charmouth Central from July.

Contacts: Hazel Robinson hazelrosery@aol.com for queries, suggestions, plant donations, joining as a volunteer;

Deb Winstone deborah.winstone@btinternet.com for bookings for library or servery, becoming a Friend of Charmouth Library, additions to Charmouth Central calendar.

Charmouth Christian Fellowship

We have been going now six or seven months and continue to meet at six o'clock every Sunday at The Elms in The Street. We now have a website – www.CharmouthChristianFellowship.co.uk – a name banner and hope soon to get an overhead projector. We also meet every Wednesday at Mike's flat at 8 St. Andrew's House for bible study and prayer. Although we still remain few in number, Sunday services are times of great blessing. We have had Rev Paul Carter come to speak for us, our first guest speaker. We also had a farewell service for my son Brian and his wife Lydia who are now serving as missionaries on the Thailand Burma border. We have had the privilege of hosting a number of holidaymakers, all of whom have expressed their appreciation for a relaxed and a fairly informal service..

At the time of writing, it is nearly Easter. For many that will be a time for holidays from school and work, maybe a time to

get away as a family or a time to just spend in the garden. All of which are important but will we spend a moment of that time considering what Easter is all about. Jesus, the Son of God, came to earth as a human, one of us. He lived a perfect life; poured out love on all mankind. He was crucified and died on the cross. Easter Sunday is the day we celebrate His resurrection; when Jesus rose from the dead. Every true Christian Church in the world is based on this fact. We at Charmouth Christian Fellowship preach, teach and try to live according to this as it is written in the bible. If you find this confusing or would like to know more, do come and join us on a Sunday evening at the Elms. We would welcome you and there is tea or coffee! Although a little late to wish you a happy Easter, Mike and I would like to wish all the readers of Shoreline a wonderful summer.

We believe that God has led Mike and I to start Charmouth Christian Fellowship to display God's love. To be there to laugh or to cry with those around us, standing firmly on God's word. Do come and join us.

Tony English 01297 560562

Village Lunch Christmas Party

**Hollands Room Charmouth
Tuesday 3rd December 2013**

Because there is so much going on in Charmouth we decided to hold our Christmas party early in December and quickly found it was more popular than ever. It kicked off the excitement of Christmas for us all, especially when we decorated the Hollands Room with lots of homemade decorations on our wonderful new tree and entered the annual competition. We wanted the room to look very special and one of our seniors led us in bringing natural greenery and tinsel together on the tables to ensure the festive atmosphere.

Everything was set for a great party and 24 of us certainly got that. The Christmas dinner from Food Links Bridport was as usual excellent and complemented by a glass of sherry or wine. Phil & Carol Tritton from the local Nisa shop popped in with a tin of chocolates and were welcomed to join our after lunch quiz. Ian Simpson from The White House provided the prizes for the quiz but wasn't able to join us as he has a very busy hotel to run. Our own Ken Bodycombe came to wish us season's greetings and our Support Officer Paul Evans joined us a little late because of his duties but nevertheless in good form having donned an eye patch for the occasion. Local businessman and Parish Councillor Peter Noel kindly helped out with lifts. Jane Morrow, Parish Councillor also came to wish us a merry time. Our helpers were Geraldine, Neil and Janet and Mike Clark who seamlessly made the occasion wonderful. As usual, we enjoyed a happy and friendly time as we build the community together here in our lovely village. All our activities can be found on our web site www.charmouthvillagepeople.com. Our committee would like to thank everyone who participates in our clubs, our volunteers who make it all happen are wonderful and we are always ready to welcome more.

Jan Gale, Magna Resident

Fourth Year of Exhibiting at the Chelsea Flower Show

Illustrator and sculptor James Coplestone, of the Robert James Workshop in Charmouth, teamed up for the second year with Otter Nurseries to create a crowd-stopping display garden at RHS Chelsea Flower Show in May. Over 300 plants were shipped to London for the garden set-up.

The garden, sited just outside the main flower marquee, was created around a stunning collection of bronze sculptures and water features based on quintessentially English literary characters. This year's display unveiled a new figure, Christopher Robin, from the Winnie the Pooh books. He featured alongside regulars such as the Mad Hatter and the March Hare from Alice in Wonderland.

Congratulations to Jim and the Robert James Workshop for winning the Top Trade Stand Award of Five Gold Stars!



The National Trust approach to coastal management



**National
Trust**

Ten years ago the Trust issued the first 'Shifting Shores' report in which we put forward one clear message....it is increasingly impractical to try to protect and defend all of our coastline from erosion. Since then, we have learned a great deal about climate change, sea level rise and the implications

for our coastlines. The April 2014 release of the updated version of 'Shifting Shores' reflects some of the lessons and experiences gained from the recent spate of serious storms. You can read the full story at: <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/article-1355823320656/>

Almost 45% of all the coastal properties that the Trust has responsibility for are in the South West and so it is perhaps not surprising that much of the overall storm damage sustained relates to these properties. Locations such as Studland Beach, Mullion Harbour and St Michael's Mount in Cornwall have taken a pounding and many other properties have reported damage to access steps and slipways etc. There is much to be done to repair the damage, especially where beach access and public safety are concerned. However, it is not a foregone conclusion that reparations will be undertaken and it's not just about cost. We have to think about how a given section of coast wants to evolve over the next 100 years and how to accommodate that.

There may be reasons to intervene with the natural processes of erosion and accretion but intervention is invariably expensive, may involve complex engineering and is very often unsightly. High quality coastal engineering may be justified where large amounts of infrastructure are deemed to be at risk but even then, the design life is not likely to be more than about 60 years at which point the works may need to be repeated. The new Phase 4 works at Lyme Regis reflect this point.

One might argue that sections of open coast (the majority of the coast under Trust guardianship) are easy to deal with: there is no need or justification for intervening with natural processes here. It is where there are houses, access road, footpaths, car parks, shops etc and in fact any sort of infrastructure that the real dilemma arises and this is where a national shift in mindset is required.

We need to be more sensitive to the forces of nature and try harder to work with them rather than continually trying to resist them: 'the strongest trees are those that can bend with the wind'.

In order to identify which National Trust properties were at high risk of erosional change, we undertook a series of coastal risk assessments (CRA's) at 70 'hotspot' sites around our coastline where we had identified an increased risk of either future coastal flooding or erosion (or both!) brought about by rising sea levels and increased storminess. These CRA's are all based on the principles contained in the 'Shifting Shores' report. Once completed, a long-term coastal adaptation (to climate change) strategy (CAS) can be drafted and for these, we try to envisage how that particular section of coastline is likely to evolve over the next 100 years. We can then plan our 'on-the-ground' actions to ensure that any assets at risk are either relocated or we accept their loss.

The choices are often quite difficult, for example, on Brownsea Island we recently removed a long series of failing coastal defences (see below). They had originally been installed to slow down the rate of erosion on the south shore. However, an additional decision was taken NOT to replace them. We appreciated that the rates of erosion would accelerate (and they have!) but we accept that. The bonus is that the beach has been renourished by the sediment coming out of the soft cliffs and we now have a fully, naturally functioning amenity beach for everyone to enjoy.



Brownsea South Shore: before and after the defences were removed

At Middle Beach, Studland, this winter we have witnessed some 10m of erosion and this is where some 270 beach huts sit happily facing the sea....but for how long! Through an internationally funded project: Living with a Changing Coast; LiCCo for short) we have engaged the creative talents of the students from Bournemouth Arts University to design some 'future-proof' beach huts. This work is not yet completed but the indications are that we will get some amazing and innovative designs coming forward.



Middle Beach at Studland

So what are the key messages?

- 1 We need to consider how the impacts of climate change are likely to manifest themselves over the next 100 years and to do this on a case by case basis
- 2 Successful adaptations need a complete partnership approach....from central government to the local community level
- 3 People who find their homes and businesses are deemed to be 'at risk' need to be given greater assistance in relocating rather than expecting large sums of public money to be made available for new or refurbished sea defences
- 4 National Planning Policy frameworks are in place to assist Local Authorities in managing coastal change but there is little evidence that the guidance is being evenly applied by all coastal authorities. Far more understanding and co-ordination is required if our coastlines are to be managed in a coherent way
- 5 We need to accept that whilst change is inevitable, it is going to become increasingly difficult to 'defend at all costs'. We need to break the cycle of 'defend-repair-defend'. In many cases, this approach is just not sustainable in the long term
- 6 Our work through the 'Shifting Shores' approach has taught us that it is invariably best to try to work with nature rather than against it

Tony Flux, *National Trust
Coast and Marine Adviser (SW)*

Charmouth Cubs and Scouts commit to buying a Water Survival Box

As part of their Global Challenge Awards, 1st Charmouth Cubs and Scouts invited the Lyme Regis Rotary Club to give a presentation on Water Survival Boxes during their meeting on 23rd January.

These boxes are pre-packed with all the essential items families need to prepare and store clean water, cook food and build rudimentary shelters after a natural disaster. They are stored at Midsomer Norton and can be sent to disaster zones as soon as they are required.

Rotarians John Bartlett and Alan Buckingham, talked about the vital importance of clean, safe drinking water, then went through the contents of the box and asked the Cubs and Scouts to identify each item. In addition to a filter pump for the water, these included: a hammer; nails; a wind-up torch; cooking pans; a fold-up spade; soap; and adhesive plasters. John stressed that the humble plasters were one of the most important items, since they prevent cuts and grazes from becoming infected.

After the presentation, Kevin Payne, Group Contact for the Cubs and Scouts, said "The Global Challenge is a key part of both the Cub and Scout training programmes. Having members of the Lyme Regis Rotary Club come along to explain the need for a Water Survival Box, and let the Cubs and Scouts see its contents, brought to life what it would be like to be struck by a natural disaster."

John added, "It was heartening to see the empathy that Cubs and Scouts had with people devastated by natural disaster and to observe their interest in the efforts taken by charities to offer aid, in this case Water Survival Box"

Having seen and handled the contents of the Water Survival Box, the Cubs and Scouts have committed to raise the £150 it takes to provide one box. This covers the cost of all the contents and airlifting to a disaster zone.

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

John McCallum
PR Officer Rotary Club of Lyme Regis



Rotarian John Bartlett with Charmouth Scouts and the Water Survival Box

A Community Message from Dorset Police

The past winter has been a busy time for emergency services. The severe bad weather meant an increase in calls due to flooding, fallen trees, road accidents, blocked roads and there was a great deal of partnership working between agencies to keep people safe, minimise disruption and get the county back to normal as soon as possible. It was also great to see such a community spirit, with people coming out to help those who had been affected by the weather. Now the warmer weather is upon us, we can hopefully look forward to the busier summer season and the influx of visitors who choose to visit our area each year.

Over the past year the overall number of crimes reported in the area has remained level at 256. There have been reductions in reports of antisocial behaviour, and most other crime categories such as house burglary and criminal damage. There has unfortunately been a rise in vehicle crime over the past 12 months. This is due to an increase in thefts from vehicles parked at one of our many local beauty spots. It is not safe to leave your valuables such as handbag, wallet or mobile phone hidden in the boot or glove box. Criminals can watch you hide your valuables and then, when you leave your vehicle, smash a window and take the items. Local officers have been regularly patrolling these beauty spots, ensuring signs are in place warning motorists of the risks and engaging with visitors to make sure they take steps to protect their belongings. There are a large number of local residents who use these beauty spots, as well as visitors to the area, and we encourage people to call the police on 101 should they see anyone acting suspiciously around our beauty spot car parks.

Lyme Regis Safer Neighbourhood Team can be contacted by calling 101. We are also on Facebook; search for Bridport, Beaminstor & Lyme Regis Safer Neighbourhood Teams, and Twitter, @LymeRegisSNT.

PCSO 5474 Luke White

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



PCSO5474 Luke White



PC2204 Kirsti Ball



PCSO5386 John Burton

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



Charmouth Primary School



The summer term has got off to a good start with lots of things to celebrate and new, exciting things to look forward to. We now have a full complement of teaching staff who are committed to continue to provide our children in our school the best learning opportunities and help make our school even better.

French Twinning Breakfast

Today (Bank Holiday Monday) was a special day for our school. Some children were invited to entertain at The French Twinning Breakfast and sing a few songs in French! They received a very warm welcome from our French neighbours and we look forward to forging further links in the future.

Out and About

In January, we saw the very successful launch of our Beach School taster sessions run in conjunction with The Heritage Centre. Each class spent an afternoon on the beach learning a variety of skills. Year Three (Seahorses Class) learnt all about survival skills. The children imagined that they were marooned on 'Charmouth Island.' They developed their understanding of keeping warm and protecting themselves with shelter. The theme was shelter building and there were many links to their work in Maths, Literacy, Geography and Design Technology. As a school, we look forward to developing Beach School accreditation and linking our unique environment and curriculum opportunities to provide rich learning experiences for the children of Charmouth Primary School. If you would like to read some of the children's experiences about Beach School, please follow the link to our school website:

<http://www.charmouth.dorset.sch.uk/newsletters/>

We have been very privileged to receive some money from The Charmouth Traders to purchase a Weather Station for the school. One of its purposes is to enable the children to take readings of the weather and assess how it affects our river and sea behaviours. This initiative has been kindly organised by Jim Rose. One of our intentions is to provide children with purposeful practical maths activities across the curriculum and this will certainly help.

Artist in Residence

Just before Easter we welcomed Darrell Wakelam, a local artist, to work with our children over three days. Various panels of collage work were created to reflect the sea creatures names of our classes: Starfish, Coral, Jellyfish, Seahorses, Dolphins, Turtles and Sharks. These are now proudly displayed in the school and we use them to support our Beach School initiative.

Breakfast Club

A reminder that our Breakfast Club is available every morning during school term time from 8.00am – 8.45am. It is run by Mrs Kennedy, who provides healthy breakfasts and organises various activities. Every Wednesday, the children have a cooking session and take home their culinary delights to share with their families. This term when the weather becomes a bit warmer, we are looking forward to having 'Breakfast on the Beach'. The children will also be able to participate in beach games and energise themselves before the start of the school day!

Summer Production

Contrary to rumours, our school is definitely having a production this academic year. The only difference of that it has been moved from December to July. Mr Edward Jacobs, a music specialist and who teaches in our school, will be teaching the children a variety of songs as part of the production. We are looking forward to entertaining family, friends and the local community. As in previous years members of the local community are welcome to come and see the dress rehearsal. Admission to the dress rehearsal is free. All entries to the main performances will be by ticket only. The days and times of the performances are:

Summer Production to take place week beginning 7th July

Monday 7th July	Dress Rehearsal @ 2pm (suitable for preschool children) Evening Performance @ 6.30pm
Monday 7th July	Evening Performance @ 6.30pm
Friday 11th July	Afternoon Performance @ 1.30pm
Friday 11th July	Evening Performance @ 6.30pm

Year 5 and 6 Residential Trip

We will look forward to telling you all about the residential trip to Osmington Bay in the next issue. This is a new type of residential trip for us with lots of outdoor learning and adventures.

Best wishes

Gillian Morris, Headteacher

Charmouth Primary School PTFA

Our last event was the Easter Bingo which is a favourite of ours. Not because we get to see Pete Wild in his gold shirt (although it IS an incentive) and not only because it raises about £300 for the school, but because it is such a great community event. The 'F' in PTFA is for 'friend' and we wanted to be more than just a PTA (Parent Teacher Association). We know we are so generously supported by the Charmouth community - by the traders who provide prizes or advertising, by volunteers who help with events such as the Charmouth Challenge and by all those who come to our events and support us. We organise the Bingo because we want to hold an event that is enjoyed by the community as much, if not more, than we want to fundraise. It is a great opportunity for anyone in the village and beyond to join us for a fun evening.

Having said that, the £300 raised is not to be sneezed at. That amount could cover, for example, a contribution towards 100 children going on a school trip or a theatre company inspiring children with a performance.

In these cash-strapped times we realise it is not only the school which needs to watch the pennies, so when we find ways to raise money that don't cost anything it is an opportunity not to miss. I mentioned the Giving Machine in my last article - if you do any shopping online you can earn the school money without paying a penny. Go to <http://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk> and register Charmouth Primary School as your recipient. Then click on the link to the online shop you want to use and if you buy anything a percentage will go to the school. The other thing you can do is to save your unwanted clothes and shoes for our Bags2School initiative. We have raised over £300 just with parent contributions, but this time we would like to involve the community. I'm sure you have had charity collection bags posted to you before, but this time your local school will directly benefit. We will deliver bags to as many houses as we can, then we will come round and collect any left out for us. Look out for the bags in the run up to June 16th.

Finally, our biggest event and the one that involves more of you than anything else is the Charmouth Challenge, Fun Run and Summer Fair. This is on Saturday 5th July, see the separate article for more information about it.

Caroline Linney, PTFA Chair



Charmouth Challenge 5th July 2014

With more than 9000 entrants over the past 30 years this fun run and competitive race from Charmouth Primary School to Golden Cap and back is certainly a challenge to runners of all ages and abilities – with the added bonus of some of the most stunning coastal views in the U.K.

The race starts at Charmouth Primary School and follows a spectacular route up the cliff to Golden Cap – with woodland, stone tracks and grassland, as well as stiles and gates to negotiate. As the most southerly fell race in the UK, it is gruelling because of the climbs involved, but the visual rewards are very impressive! The fun run is a 1.8 mile run up and down Stonebarrow hill – tough in itself and a great achievement for those who complete it and who will all receive a special commemorative medal as a memento of their effort, and an awards ceremony will recognise the best from the race.

Organised by parents of children at Charmouth Primary School and sponsored by Lyme Bay Holidays and Abacus Surveying Services, the Charmouth Challenge is the main fundraising event undertaken for the School.

Funds raised last year paid for taster sessions supporting the School's exciting Beach School Programme, as the school is currently working towards a 'Beach School' accreditation. With the positive outcomes that outdoor learning provides, this project will enhance the excellent opportunities already offered to the children. We hope to support this in the future with our fundraising activities.

As well as being a wonderful fundraising opportunity for the local primary school, which has around 150 pupils from Charmouth and its surrounding villages, the Charmouth Challenge is a fabulous event to watch and participate in. As a community event, there are plenty of stalls selling home-made crafts and tasty treats, and the school will be hosting its Summer Fair to provide even more distractions, if participating in the run is not for you.

Whilst the Charmouth School PTFA organise this event, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved on the day – marshalls and first aiders support would be very welcome. Please contact race organiser Maria Fox via the Charmouth Challenge website, or via Charmouth Primary School, if you have some time to spare – volunteers will be well looked after on the day!

If you want to apply to participate, with over 300 other individuals who attend from far and wide, visit www.charmouthchallenge.co.uk and complete your entry form. The entry fee is £8 for the Challenge and £5 for the Fun Run (£2 more if you want to enter on the day)

The Charmouth School Summer Fair opens at 1pm.

The Fun Run starts at 2pm, with the Charmouth Challenge starting at 2.30pm. Registration on the day is from 12.30pm at Charmouth School.

The Prize Presentation will be from 4.30pm.

Many thanks to Lyme Bay Holidays and Abacus Surveying Services for generously sponsoring the race; their continued support is hugely appreciated.

A Glimpse of Running History



Golden Cap bound. Some runners from Thames Hare & Hounds about to head for the top

Up there, on 10th May on the lung-busting slopes of Golden Cap, was a little touch of May madness. Some of the most eccentric characters – harking back to the Dickensian era of the Pickwick Papers descended on Charmouth.

Thames Hare and Hounds are the oldest cross-country running club in the world (they were originally founded in 1868 to enjoy “paper-chasing” where the “hares” chase the “hounds” on foot through miles of country). And these days this club can take on all-comers in top class events like the London Marathon – but they still carry with them quaint customs that were firmly rooted in the 1870s.

One of these traditions has lasted well over a century and is still kept alive today. Each year, in May, the runners break free of their headquarters, based in Kingston Vale, on the edge of Wimbledon Common, and head en masse for virgin country. In 2012, for instance, the year of the London Olympics, the Club headed for Much Wenlock, home of the “Wenlock Olympian Games” founded in 1850. These runners bring with them a delight for exercise, exploring un-trodden paths, glorying in spectacular views and perhaps, above all, and the joy of sharing all this over a very special Dinner.

The great gathering at the Dinner is a wonder to behold. There are recitations, speeches, music, songs (some old favourites

and others written especially for the occasion), props and party pieces - and all this follows devilishly mapped routes of 8, 13 and 16 miles over some of the toughest terrain that Dorset can throw their way. This motley group (long since opened up to ladies and they even encourage children these days) will run, walk, climb or claw their way to the finish, where gallons of tea and scones greet them, then a visit to the pub, and back for the Dinner.

The jokes at the Dinner, like the Club's history, are mostly antiques (they can be politically incorrect) – and some believe they got their first telling at the time of the Great War, a century ago. But they've worn well and stayed the distance. This celebration is known as “The Outlying Run”. Back in the early years of the 20th century many athletic clubs held their own Outlying Runs. But this custom has long since vanished and Thames Hare and Hounds, who hold their gathering on 10th May 2014, are one of the few (and most ancient) that still exist.

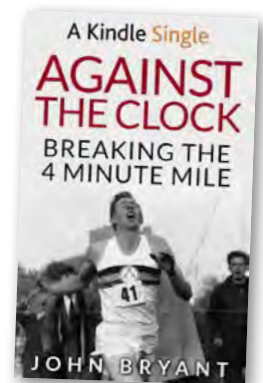
But it doesn't end with Dinner. Eventually, even the hardest, having run 16 miles, drunk deeply and sang lustily, will crash out – and so to bed. Up in the morning for a communal breakfast, where the chatter is of hangovers and the charms of Golden Cap, before yet another run or brisk walk, perhaps to Lyme Regis to inspect the Cobb.

The group is sizeable – easily recognisable by the white vest and black saltire (shaped like a St Andrew's cross) - and where better to catch the eye than the breathtaking scenery around Charmouth? There, Newlands Holiday Park coped with this bizarre invasion and fed and refreshed the band of Dickensian eccentrics that set out to conquer Golden Cap.

A hint is given of the Victorian origins of this timeworn swarm. The man who plans, organizes and even billets these runners safely to bed, is referred to simply as “The Carver and Commissary-General”. Perhaps, no club should be without one.

John Bryant

The new Kindle edition of John Bryant's 'Against the Clock', Breaking the 4 Minute Mile' is now available at Amazon.co.uk



Quaker Quests, Charmouth

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Lyme Local Meetings will be held at Charmouth Central on the 2nd Monday evenings in the month, 7.00pm until 9.00pm.

Our Quaker Meeting for Worship, which occurs every Sunday morning from 10.00am at the Village Hall, Uplyme, is growing! So we have a need for a Learning Meeting in order to answer questions put to us by our new attenders. For this reason, we have decided to hold Learning Meetings on a monthly basis and because our clerk lives in Charmouth, along with a small group of others, we have decided to support Charmouth Central by meeting there (our Sunday worship continues at Uplyme).

If you have heard of us through our peace work or through our philanthropical ways and are of a mind to find out more

about Quakerism, why not come along and ask us some questions too. We do realise that there are a lot of folk who may be confused by our name or do not understand our worship or where we are coming from. Or even that we don't deal in porridge-oats!

We invite you to just be of an enquiring mind and come along to meet us on a Monday evening, partake in some refreshment and ask us your questions.

The first meeting of Quaker Quests, Charmouth was on 12th May, continuing on 2nd Monday evenings each month, 7.00pm until 9.00pm at Charmouth Central. We have no agenda or timetable for these meetings, so if you missed the initial meeting don't worry!

Facilitator - Howard Wright, clerk to Lyme Local Quaker Meeting www.lymequakers.co.uk
(We are Members of Axminster Churches Together)



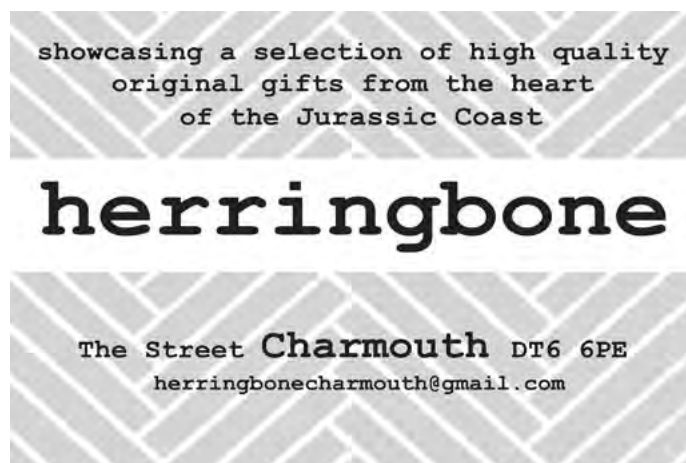
Not so long ago, during late November 2013, a pop-up shop opened on The Street, Charmouth, providing a showcase for a handful of artists and small cottage industries selling unique, handcrafted creations over the festive period. It proved so popular with locals and visitors alike that ten of the original group have re-launched the shop which is now to be a more permanent fixture. Most of the group, namely Anna Kindred, Teresa Williams, Jillian Hunt, Diana Burn, Karen Watkins, Debbie Peters & Caroline Barnes live in Charmouth with Wendy Shillingford from Seaton and Lesley Jelleyman & Sam Pennington from Lyme Regis.

Herringbone is a creative collective whose aim is to support the local community and economy by providing an outlet for artisans and makers in the area. This gives them the opportunity to showcase original and uniquely designed items which have not been mass-produced or imported. The creative process is valued and respected here and their collections have style, substance as well as old-fashioned quality.

Herringbone has a love for the great British seaside – before, during and after the recent pounding from Mother Nature - and derives inspiration from living on the ever-changing Jurassic Coast. This is reflected in the ceramics, paintings, photography and greetings cards on sale. You can also find finest quality artisan chocolate, vintage items, decorative homeware, quirky souvenirs, beautiful jewellery and handcrafted textiles.

So far 23 local artisans are being represented at Herringbone and the number is growing each week. They are happy to represent more within the shop and gallery space so if you are interested, please visit the shop or contact: herringbonecharmouthis@gmail.com.

You are sure to find a unique, special gift for any occasion here – not to mention a little something for yourself! Commissions and personalised gifts also undertaken.



Charmouth Poetry Corner

SUMMER

Poem by Peter Crowter

The first of the three months of summer, 'Flaming June' is a name it's acquired,
A painting by Lord Frederick Leighton, seems to be how the name was inspired.

A mystery how it has lingered, and another thing odd you'll agree,
In June we have Midsummer day - why? It seems some way off there to me
No matter, a month we can relish, in June we know summer has come,
We can 'cast a clout' if we want to, according to somebody's mum.

The village's gardens are blooming, with lilac and rose and sweet peas,
The meadows are buttercup yellow, and buzzing with foraging bees.
And now that the temperature's rising, more butterflies take to the wing,
And gravity fails to defeat them, on plants they precariously cling.
Young birds have fledged and are hiding, in bushes and hedgerows and trees,
Hoping their parents bring titbits, in answer to their hungry pleas.

The humans are also more active, they're starting to visit our shore,
Mostly at weekends to start with, but soon there will be a lot more.
In Manor Farm field down the village, the market is now in full swing,
There's trousers and toys and tomatoes, down there you can buy anything.
A man tells you how good his steaks are, another you can't fault his glue,
No doubt when you have made your purchase, you'll find out if their claims are true.

July and tis now getting warmer, bright buddleia bows in the breeze,
Attracting red admirals and peacocks, and maybe some plump, fluffy bees.
To see a display of the finest, then up Old Lyme Road you must roam,
Hydrangeas are there in abundance, an explosion of colourful foam.
Swallows join friends in the evenings, and twitter on-wing in the sky,
The parties of swifts are more boisterous, and scream to their mates flashing by.

The schoolchildren are getting restless, 'tis not long before they'll be free,
For six weeks to play games and skateboard, or p'raps mess about in the sea.
School holidays start, you can't miss it, the village is changed overnight,
For our population has doubled, the traders rub hands with delight.
The caravan parks are all bulging, with parents and children and dogs,
At home is their everyday workwear, they are now dressed in holiday togs.

The beach is now the main attraction, there's barely a square inch to spare,
And Francis* sells all sorts of sun cream, protecting folk's bits that are bare.
The Heritage wardens are busy, with parties on organised walks,
They take them where they can find fossils, along with some int'resting talks.
And then later on in the evening, the kids want to go to the fair,
The rides nowadays are expensive, say parents, 'We won't stay long there'

Well August is finished and over, it's hard to believe but it's true,
Gone home are the parents and children, I can't believe how fast it flew.
The atmosphere now in the village is quieter and like most of us,
The visitors now are retired folk, who don't have to pay on the bus.
Tis sad that the summer is over, but autumn is great you'll agree,
Tis colourful, misty and peaceful, as golden leaves fall from the tree.

*Pharmacist Francis Lock

1st Charmouth Scouts



Charmouth Beavers, Cubs & Scouts with their robotic gardeners

Robots raise money for a Water Survival Box

Enterprising Beavers, Cubs and Scouts from 1st Charmouth have discovered a new way of raising money for charity – let some robots do it for them! Suitably constructed and programmed, that's exactly what they did on Easter Saturday in The Street, Charmouth. Shoppers heading for Morgans to buy their morning papers were asked to vote for the best looking 'robotic gardener'. In total, there were over 25 to choose from – a task made harder by the presence of the constructors who encouraged them to vote for their own creation. 'Jimey' was judged to be the best Cub entrant, with the 'Garden Terminator' chosen as the best Scout 'classic' robot. There was also a special prize for Bill & Ben, the only robots not covered in silver foil.

The shoppers were also invited to make a donation towards the Scout Group's goal of raising £150 to pay for a Water Survival Box. These boxes are pre-packed with all the essential items families need to prepare clean water, cook food and build rudimentary shelters after a natural disaster.

Members of the Lyme Regis Rotary Club had previously given the Scout Group a presentation on Water Survival Boxes. So impressed were they by the concept that the Cubs and Scouts pledged to raise enough money to pay for a Water Survival Box by the end of April. They then came up with the idea of organising a fund-raising initiative around robots to raise the cash.

On the day, the robots raised over £140. However, when loose change already deposited by parents in collection boxes made by the Cubs and Scouts out of mini-Pringle tins was included, the total rose to £180 – more than enough to buy a Water Survival Box.

Commenting on the scheme, Kevin Payne, Scout Leader, said, "This was a great way to achieve three objectives. Building the robots enabled the Cubs and Scouts to complete part of their Creative Challenges. Organising the display and collection allowed them to complete their Global Challenges. More importantly, the project meant the Scout Group fulfilled its pledge to raise the £150 needed to pay for its own Water Survival Box."

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

Scouts Tackle Weather Forecasting at Met Office HQ

Instead of just talking about the weather, 14 Scouts from 1st Charmouth visited the Met Office in Exeter to find out exactly how they could come up with their own forecasts. After hearing a brief history of the Met Office, and finding out how it collects data from around the world, the Scouts were shown the synoptic charts that the forecasters have to interpret to come up with their predictions.

Then came the highlight of the tour – the chance for some of them to stand in front of a screen and present a forecast. This they did with varying degrees of professionalism. However, any considering a career in presenting were assured trainees are given lots of instruction.

Finally, in the Met Office Library, the Scouts were presented with free "Understanding the Weather" books and invited to look at the logs to find out what the weather was like on the day they were born.

"The visit was organised by one of the parents, Chit Chong, as part of the Met Office's programme of public Open Days," said Scout Leader Kevin Payne. "We are very grateful to him for setting it up and to the staff at the Met Office, who made the visit so enjoyable. Once the Scouts fill in their own weather logs, using the instruments they made at a recent weekly meeting, they will be able to gain the Meteorology Badge."

Despite asking, the Scouts were unable to find out when all this bad weather will come to an end!



Charmouth Scouts at the Met Office with their free "Understanding the Weather" books

Lyndsey's and Fin's Departure Leaves a Large Hole to Fill

In April the Scout Troop bade 'farewell' to Lyndsey Bird and Fin McLaren, who are off to Scotland to take up new jobs. In addition to helping with the Scouts, Lyndsey also ran the Junior Wardens at the Heritage Centre, where she worked.

According to Kevin Payne, Scout Leader, "Lyndsey and Fin will be greatly missed, but we wish them well for the future. Their departure leaves a big hole to fill, and I hope any ex-Scouts who still live in the area will come forward to offer their services as it is important to have a mix of ages in our leader team."

Think Volunteering

Scout Group Triples in Size and Member secures Top Awards

Figures from this year's annual HQ census show the 1st Charmouth Scout Group has tripled in size over the past two years. Numbers are up from 20 in 2012 to 62 in 2014. Part of this growth is due to the reopening of the Group's Beaver Colony in September, which now has 16 members, but the Cub Pack and Scout Troop have also expanded considerably.

The fruits of the hard work put in by the Group's leaders and its members was recognised recently when Harry Aldworth was presented with his Chief Scout's Gold Award, the highest accolade for Scouts, and Harvey Harding and Luke Pollard gained their Chief Scout's Silver Award, the top achievement for Cubs. It is believed that these are the first such Awards to be gained by members of the Scout Group.

Local Photographer Helps Charmouth Scouts Click



Anna Kindred (right) with the Charmouth Scouts and their photos

When members of the 1st Charmouth Scout Troop decided to tackle the Photographer Badge, it was only natural for them to seek some expert advice. It came in the form of an introduction to the basics of good composition and technique courtesy of Anna Kindred, a local photographer whose work will be on display at Herringbone, a creative collective in Charmouth.

Armed with a few golden rules, such as putting the strap round their necks, filling the frame with their subject matter and not shooting directly into the sun, the Scouts were ready to build their 12-shot portfolios. These had to include a variety of different aspects, including portrait, still life, landscape and sport.

Having scoured Charmouth, and many places further afield, for interesting shots, the Scouts put on a display of their work for their parents to inspect. They also invited Barry Thomas, the District Commissioner, and Stephen Thompson, Deputy District Commissioner, to cast their eyes over their prints. As a result of their excellent work, and being quizzed on their knowledge of the key parameters affecting picture quality and composition, the Scouts were duly awarded their badge.

The District Commissioner also presented Harry Aldworth with his Chief Scout's Gold Award – the highest available to Scouts. It is thought Harry is the first ever Charmouth Scout to win this Award.

Carol Moorey, Assistant Scout Leader, who organised the training and display, said, "We are very grateful to Anna for coming along and passing on her experience. Having seen the quality of some of the prints on display, it is evident that her tips proved very useful, and that we have some really talented photographers in our Troop."

Brownies' 100th Birthday

2014 is the Brownies' Centenary Birthday and it is being marked by the 'Big Brownie Birthday' running from January to September, with Star Quest and the Brownies working on the Big Brownie Birthday challenge. Events large and small are being held - and have been held - across the country.

Charmouth Brownies was founded in 1963 and has provided local girls aged between seven and ten many hours of fun and enjoyment. They have supported the local community with bulb planting, beach cleaning, taken part in local events including the annual Charmouth Fayre and parade, Remembrance Day services and helping the British Legion with the Mile of Pennies. Over the years they have visited many places including wildlife sanctuaries, theme parks, local attractions and, of course, the annual theatre trip to the pantomime!

Fundraising has always been a priority of the Brownies both for the pack and to support other causes – over the years we have raised money for St Andrew's Church roof, Julia's House, The Rainbow Trust and Macmillan. We have held fashion shows, tea parties, sponsored walks in the forest and bingo, amongst other events. For many years we have entertained Bymeard residents with our carol singing at Christmas and they always manage to make sure Santa turns up to see us!

Brownies enable the girls to learn new skills to complete interest badges and to learn to work together to complete challenges and have fun! Food and mess are at the heart of much of what we do and activities involving chocolate are always a favourite! We love to make pancakes, pizza, cakes and biscuits, and eat and learn about foods around the world. The end of the summer term is always the time for a great BBQ! This summer term we'll be outside as much as possible, making use of the amazing facilities in the wonderful village we live in.

To celebrate the 100 year Brownie Birthday in Charmouth, we will be holding a Birthday Tea Party. We would love anyone who has been a Brownie in the past to join us for our Birthday Tea Party. If you would like to come, please call Caroline on 01297 561031.

To keep Charmouth Brownies going we need more people to come and help run the pack – if you could help in any way, even if just once a month for an hour-and-a-half, then please call me at the above number for more information.

If any girls would like to join Brownies, please register your name on our waiting list either by calling me or going to www.girlguiding.co.uk/joinus

Caroline Davis

Brownies 1989 -
Guiders Davina Pennells
and Anthea Thomas



Charmouth fayre
Parade 2012

Fashion Show in aid of
Rainbow Trust 2008



Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre



The Centre took a battering over the winter period and this has been reflected in our visitor numbers and income, but I am glad to report that the Centre team are ready and raring to go for the summer season ahead. The Easter holiday break saw visitors returning to Charmouth once again and it has been great to see the Centre and beach area busy with bodies, albeit mainly in wellies rather than flip flops, but the weather has been in our favour most of the time.

With no time for the warden team and Friends to recharge their batteries, the Fossil Festival came hot on the heels of the Easter break, with over 300 people participating on the fossil walks over the early May Bank Holiday weekend, in addition to the general visitors to the Centre and Lyme marquee visits. All of the above could not have been done without the help of the Friends (our volunteers) for which we are always very grateful.

There have been quite a few changes over the winter period, the biggest being our new fossil cabinet and new marine tanks, which have now been relocated in the education room. Our winter working party will be taking a well-earned rest for the summer before we dream up the next set of plans for the autumn of this year. The Centre has been successful in a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and further details of the 'Dinosaur Discovery' project programme will be available later in the summer. Funding contributions towards the project have also been received from the Friends of CHCC, Charmouth Traders, Charmouth Parish Council and the Curry Fund.

We have been fully booked with schools for the summer term since before Easter and schools have already booked up for the 2015 season ahead, and this summer the Centre and Charmouth Primary School will be out in the sunshine (hopefully) over the summer term as part of our new Beach Schools programme. So if you see any 'Pirates – aaaargh!!!' walking down Lower Sea Lane over the next few weeks... BEWARE!!

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. The madness of our Marine Week will start on Sunday 10th August and will include marine-based events such as rockpool rambles, plankton trawling and marine art and craft sessions. Leaflets will be available from the Centre with the full week programme in early July.

We waved a sad goodbye to Lyndsey Bird (Centre warden) in April as she has taken up a new post on the Isle of Mull in Scotland, and will be missed by all at the Centre and by many in the community, as she was also a Scout Leader for the Charmouth group.

As always, the Centre would like to thank all the volunteers (Friends) for their time and support. We would also like to thank

the following Trustees for their support and assistance to the Centre, as both Geoffrey Brierley and Peter Noel have stepped down from the Board this year after many years' service to the Centre.

If anyone would be interested in becoming a volunteer, then please let us know at the Centre on (01297) 560772.

Meirel Whaites
Senior Warden

Friends of CHCC

Retirement can be an time of mixed emotions, possibly involving relief, pleasure, regret, isolation, liberation, peace, feelings of loss, excitement or even fear. I once heard a radio interview in which a man of 60 and his son were being asked to describe the father's post-retirement plans. The son said: "There's nothing for dad, all he's got is the four walls to look at". Dad sadly agreed that this was his fate. Nothing could be further from reality in Charmouth! This village is one in which so many people freely give their time and energy that we must surely be the best village in the country for volunteering!

One place to volunteer is the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre which is interesting and fun. If you have recently retired it can give you a sense of purpose and a feeling of belonging. It helps to timetable your life to whatever extent you wish and to learn about new things. You will meet and make new friends and of course it helps to keep you mentally and physically active.

Think
Volunteering

What can you do? Volunteering means supporting the Wardens by working on the desk: you meet visitors and assist them to buy goods, identify fossils and minerals they have found, watch a DVD about Finding Fossils in Charmouth and give information and advice. There are outdoor activities such as helping on fossil walks, rock-pooling, plankton sampling and assisting with the activities of school children. If you think you have no idea what to do, don't worry – you will be given training by the Wardens and experienced volunteers involved with the other activities will help you to discover all those things you don't already know. From time to time there are Friends' social activities as well e.g. lectures, barbeques, cream teas and trips to various places.

Although we now have a good number of volunteers, we always need more so if you would like to be involved, please contact the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre on 561722, use the website <http://www.charmouth.org/chcc/> or just drop in and see what we do. You will be very welcome.

Rosalind Cole
Chair of the Friends of the CHCC

Winter Storms reveal Local Geology

The storms in January and February 2014 removed a lot of shingle, sand & landslip debris from the base of the cliffs and the heavy rain freshened up the cliff faces. Here are seven geological items to look for, just a short distance west of Heritage Coast Centre.

Geoff Townson www.geofftownson.co.uk



Location 1. Low tide in front of the steps. Steeply-dipping Lower Jurassic "Shales with Beef". This is part of the Charmouth Fault Zone which formed 100-150 million years ago, possibly with more movement 10-15 million years ago.



Location 2. Just west of the steps. The strata in the cliff are folded, just west of the Charmouth Fault Zone. More folds & faults can be seen east of the Soft Rock Café over the river.



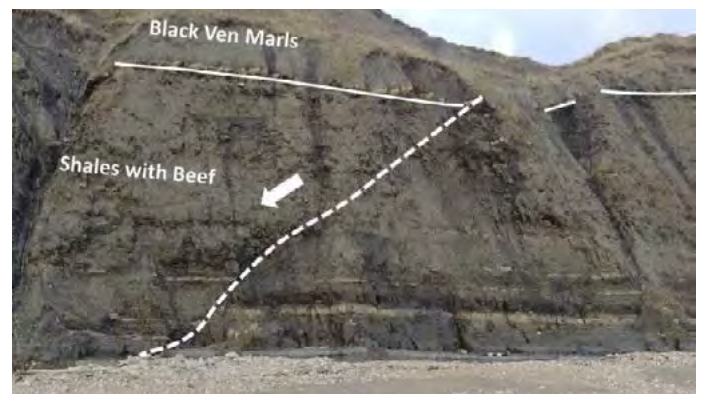
Location 3. East side of the Higher Sea Lane landslip. Note the sharp fault boundary between the cliff and the landslip debris creeping down the valley.



Location 4. West side of the Higher Sea Lane landslip. The cliff is collapsing into the valley, sliding over the lower part of the Shales with Beef.



Location 5. Just west of Location 4, a fault downthrows to the west with a low angle fault plane on the east side.



Location 6. Further west, another fault throws the Black Ven Marls and Shales with Beef down to the west, cutting a thick seam of "beef" near beach level.



Location 7. Further west, another fault throws the Black Ven Marls and Shales with Beef down to the east.

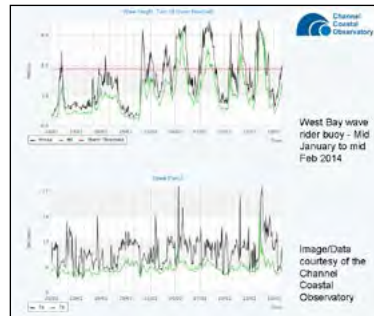
Winter Storms



The winter storms from Christmas 2013 through to February 2014 were exceptional on two counts; for their severity, coupled with their frequency. As we all know the coast has taken a pounding as a result. For the natural coast designated as a World Heritage Site, SSSI, Special Area of

Conservation and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, that is fine and it is simply 'doing what it says on the tin'. Our beautiful, interesting and internationally important coast is a product of erosion and without it Dorset would be as dull as Somerset!

One of the really interesting consequences of the storms were to sweep clean the cliffs just west of Raffey's, the small landslide below Higher Sea Lane. Geoff Townson noticed a striking geological and geomorphological puzzle there that has never been recorded in the scientific literature as far as we know and has been buried under the scree for decades. (See Geoff's 'Winter Storms Reveal Local Geology' on page 29.)



Despite the fantastic fossil collecting weather, collecting has actually been quite disappointing. There have been a lot of very nice pyritised ammonites along Stonebarrow beach but very few cliff falls have taken place through the fossil rich layers. One notable exception was the ichthyosaur found below Black Ven on Boxing Day. Discovered at high tide, during a storm by an occasional visiting collector; the exact opposite of how we would expect the large vertebrate fossils to be found. They are usually discovered during calm days on big spring tides, when the sea goes out for miles and by local collectors who dedicate their lives to these tides patiently pacing up and down looking for the tiniest scrap of bone exposed in the shale. Despite the sea ripping up vast areas of the ledges, almost nothing has been found out there so far this winter which is somewhat paradoxical but is also very much something of the nature of collecting; you can never tell what is going to be found or when, or by whom.

The issues arise where people, property and infrastructure are exposed to such extreme weather and although there has been considerable damage in many places, it is largely superficial. The coastal defences from the Cobb, rebuilt in 1825, after The Great Storm of 1824, through to the new West Bay harbour completed in 2005, took a real beating but stood firm. That said, every storm will weaken each and every one of these structures and they will eventually fail or start to cost increasingly large sums of money to maintain. That is where the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) comes in. It seeks to

identify the long term management policy for every section of the coast based on cost benefit (how much does it cost to hold the line and how much does that save in terms of property and infrastructure) coupled with engineering viability and environmental acceptability. Events such as this winter's weather, independent of any arguments about climate change, illustrate the very real long term challenges for maintaining this coast. It is not a matter of 'if' the Cobb will be breached again, but 'when'. And when that does happen, will it be economically viable to rebuild it and will the engineering solutions be strong enough to last? The SMP has identified that point to be in about 2025 for Charmouth sea front; after that date there will be no public money spent on maintaining the current sea defences. What will be done? The Parish Council could look to find funding to continue to try to hold the line, but would a better solution be to move the current facilities back and allow the coast to evolve more naturally?

So, depressing stuff over if you are into local history rather than geology, fossils and geomorphology. The strategic monitoring programme based at the Channel Coast Observatory has a wave rider buoy off West Bay and it recorded all the storms. You can access near live data at www.channelcoast.org. How extreme were these events? The wave rider buoy will enable us to determine that exactly if it survives for the next 100 years, but for now we have to rely on local accounts of how bad things were. This was certainly nowhere near as bad as the Great

Storm of 1824 which is classified as a 1 in 200 year event (Abbotsbury Gardens were flooded to a depth of 18 feet). The local fossil collectors think 1974 was the last comparable event, so certainly a 1 in 30 year event but it was probably more extreme than that. The climate change arguments will come into play if the frequency of these storms increases and that is where the value of the West Bay wave rider buoy will come in.



And the full effects of the storm are still to be felt; the very high rainfall takes time to percolate through the rock layers in the cliff to cause landslides. The biggest slips tend to happen in the spring. The Spittles slip took place in May 1987 and again in May 6th 2008. So we could still expect a big landslide any time through to May or June this year, even if we have no more rain.

Richard Edmonds

*Earth Science Manager, Jurassic Coast Team
Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site*



The Building Stones of Charmouth

Charmouth is not blessed with quality local building stone and older houses tend to be finished in render or stucco, hiding the somewhat rustic effects which are the best that can be achieved with local stone. Roadside and garden walls are less often covered over, and here can be seen all over the village the main constituents of its buildings. The map shows the distribution of visible stone types based on rapid and far from comprehensive surveys in 2004 and 2013. Chert and silicified sandstone from the Upper Greensand and limestone from the Blue Lias Formation are the most widespread with a few examples of different stone from both nearby and more distant quarries.

Chert and silicified sandstone from the Upper Greensand Formation that caps Black Ven and Stonebarrow Hill and are abundant in the boulders and pebbles that form the beach west of Charmouth are perhaps the most widespread. Chert is a very fine-grained form of silica (like flint) and these types of stone are very hard and resistant but with vuggy parts where the silica cement is incomplete. The chert is a secondary mineral filling the spaces between the grains of the sand that was laid down in Upper Greensand times, about 100 million years ago, and in a few cases it is possible to see layers of the original sand grains crossing the chert pebbles and boulders, especially those of the green mineral glauconite, abundant in Upper Greensand rocks.

In a few cases, as in the illustration from the northeast wall of the Heritage Centre building, chert cement is absent and the rock is soft, green in colour (from its plentiful glauconite) and may contain the fossilised burrows of the serpulid worm *Rotolaria concava*. Elsewhere, patches composed exclusively of masses of sponge spicules are encountered.



Cobble of soft greenish grey glauconitic sandstone with serpulid worm burrows, northeast wall of Heritage Centre

Chert and Upper Greensand sandstone are widely used for building in and around the Blackdown Hills. Good quality sandstone from the top member of the formation (Bindon Sandstone), unfortunately absent from Charmouth buildings, is the main stone visible in the outside walls of Exeter cathedral and was won from quarries at Salcombe Regis and Branscombe, and similar stone from quarries near Whitestaunton was used to construct the Wellington

memorial on the crest of the Blackdown Hills overlooking the Vale of Taunton Dean.

The other stone almost ubiquitous in Charmouth buildings is limestone from the Jurassic Blue Lias Formation. It is dark grey in colour (with a touch of blue for those with the eye of faith), and is much softer than the chert and sandstone mentioned above. A remarkable proportion of this kind of stone is in the form of well-rounded cobbles. This is a feature of the stone used in many coastal towns and villages of Devon and Dorset and, as noted some years ago by R.W.J. Pavey with regard to the stone used for Robert's Cottage and Charmouth House, is characteristic of cobbles for building collected from the beach in former times (he called them "beach pebbles").

The Blue Lias Formation is the oldest and arguably the most famous of Jurassic formations, laid down 190 million years ago as a series of interdigitated limestone and shale layers. It crops out at Lyme Regis where there were quarries at Church Cliff, Broad Ledges and Monmouth Beach. It is probable that some of the stone used in Charmouth came from these quarries – transport by boat along the coast was easy and relatively cheap – as well as rounded cobbles just picked off the beach. It is noticeable that Blue Lias limestone building stone in Charmouth, Lyme Regis and Seaton, lacks the brown and yellow weathering colours typical of the stone in older buildings from inland sites. It seems that the constant erosion by the sea at the coastal quarries has exposed fresh unweathered rock; inland, most of the stone from older shallow quarries shows evidence of weathering along bedding surfaces and joint planes.

Other kinds of Jurassic building stone in Charmouth are less well represented. Biscuit-coloured shelly limestone still quarried at Ham Hill near Montacute is the main building stone of Catherston Manor; it is used for the quoins and dressings of Westwell on the Old Lyme Road, the dressings of the low window, perhaps formerly a doorway at the east end of the Abbot's House, the parapet of the bridge that carries The Street over the Char and the wall outside Greenbanks, Lower Sea Lane. It is widely used in south Somerset and adjacent parts of Devon and Dorset and has been found in churches as far west as the Tamar. Montacute and Barrington Court country houses, built to impress Queen Elizabeth I, are made of this stone. Ochre-coloured Inferior Oolite limestone is used for the entrance gateway to Catherston Manor and the roadside wall immediately west of the bridge over the Char. It is

perhaps surprising that it is not more widely used in Charmouth since it is the main building stone in the villages of south Somerset and west Dorset near its outcrop. Chideock houses are made almost exclusively of this stone, won from Quarry Hill immediately east of the village and just north of the main road.

Sombre grey Forest Marble is used in a few houses and roadside walls in Charmouth, most noticeably, in The Stone House on the north side of The Street. Like Ham Hill stone, it is a shelly limestone strongly cemented by crystalline calcite and probably comes from quarries near Bridport. In the days before the use of damp proof courses, poorly permeable stone was used for the footings of houses to reduce the penetration of damp through the wicking

up of groundwater into the walls. Forest Marble was used extensively for this purpose in Bridport, especially for brick buildings and may have been designed to serve the same function in the church.



The Stone House, north side of The Street a few yards east of Higher Sea Lane

Two other Jurassic building stone types of national importance are to be found in Charmouth. Bath stone,

a high quality yellow oolitic limestone, is used for the gateposts and coping of St Andrew's churchyard wall and the quoins and dressings of the Old School House at the junction of Lower Sea Lane and Wesley Close. Portland stone, a white oolitic limestone used for St Paul's cathedral, Buckingham Palace and the UN Building in New York has only been found forming the string course at about waist height around the tower of St Andrew's; surprising considering that the source quarries are a short sea journey away.

This description would not be complete without a mention of the wall of the tennis courts in Lower Sea Lane, finished in decorative flint from the chalk and the quoin and window dressings of St Andrew's church, of Beer stone, formerly quarried a few miles down the coast at Beer.



South aisle of St Andrew's church. The wall is of irregular blocks of chert collected from Hardown Hill (Thomas 1998); the quoins, corners of the buttresses and the window dressings are of Beer stone.

Dr Michael Barr

Reference: Thomas, J., 1998. *Stone Quarrying. The Dovecote Press, Wimbourne*, 79pp



MARY ANNING – REALITIES

“At present, I have not anything fine or rare, for the last year I have been unsuccessful.” So writes our heroine to Charlotte Murchison in 1833. Each day, Mary Anning sets forth, intensely working her way along the beach towards Charmouth – under Church Cliffs, below the massive Black Ven, which seems heavy and wetly threatening.

Not since her last exciting find in 1832, when Mary took out the magnificent Ichthyosaurus – Temnodontosaurus platyodon, a 22 foot-long powerful predator, has she found anything. Previously, in 1830, her discovery of the near perfect Plesiosaurus macrocephalus had bought her 200 guineas which helped financially, but now money was scarce again. So Mary toiled on and on through the storms of winter, being

soaked by the rains, fighting against bitterly cold winds, searching always for a new ‘monster’, unknown to science. Then on into summer, she is still going out, peering desperately at those bone dry cliffs which stand above her, unmoving in the blazing sunshine!

The heat is beating down upon Mary Anning as she seeks for any sign of ‘movement’ – a little pile of shale on the

beach or the widening of a small crack in the shale which might be promising. She has noted and memorised every inch of the cliffs and the ledges visible at low tide so, if there is the slightest change, she will immediately notice and investigate. Mary inspects the edges of the seaweed-covered ledges and amongst the sea anemones and limpets; might espy the tiny end of a rib or piece of jawbone. She even looks down the myriad of holes in the shales made by the boring piddock shellfish. She must be skilled enough to differentiate between bone and the masses of pieces of fossilised wood. If successful, that tiny piece of bone could lead back under the shale where a giant reptile, nearly 200 million years old is lurking, ‘waiting’ to be discovered.

She manages to pick up a few minor bits and pieces, perhaps a crinoid stem, a few vertebrae, maybe a shark spine, but nothing substantial enough to sell to pay for food and rent. She knows her mother awaits her return, hoping that her industrious daughter has found a new and exciting animal. Sadly, the days of her biggest finds are in the past; creatures almost unbelievable in form and evolution, such as the bat-like flying reptile – *Dimorphodon macronyx*!

Mary Anning climbs over and around the many stones upon the beach. These stones below Black Ven vary between massive dark grey boulders to big grey/brown nodules of various shapes and flat, grey, crispy-edged slabs. There are hundreds of them piled deeply on the beach. Already that day, under clear blue skies, whilst in a determined mood and with the tide well out, Mary had made an extra effort to search well past her usual collecting area and had gone on past Charmouth and along Stonebarrow beach. She examined the many blocks of dark clay which had tumbled down over the previous winter. She clambered over many pale grey flat stones, between the old dry landslips, seeking signs of bone, but to no avail. The tide was turning, so she had to turn back.

Mary Anning scrambled over the wet arca where the River Char bubbled around the myriad of rocks in the river’s mouth and out to sea. Soon, she found herself below the great landslip of the Ven. She is tired and hot in her coarse clothes and needs a rest. Nearby is a 10 foot high barrier – a tongue of piled-high clay concretion, which in winter had spilled dramatically down from high above in the Ven! Even dead, uprooted trees had come down with it. She knew that in the unlikely event of being caught in the tide, she could have climbed up on top of the summer-dried slip and calmly awaited the tide’s retreat. The flat top had small bushes, reeds and the wild Marsh Helleborine orchids growing around the damp flushes. In the winter though, Mary would have been trapped; the big slip would have been a quagmire of clay and the beach below turned into ‘quicksand’!

So for safety, she hopped and climbed over the steeply piled boulders at the top of the beach and reached the other side. Here in the bay, she could watch the incoming tide and see Church Cliffs and judge how long she could rest. She chose a very large grey/brown stone to rest on and settled down to catch her breath. She admired the scene – stones, beach, sparkling sea and distant Lyme Regis. As she sat there, Mary idly placed a hand on the stone's surface and could feel how hot it had become with the sunshine beating down – it felt like a freshly baked biscuit.

At last, she set off on her weary way home again. Mary had hoped, as she did every day, to find another fossil skeleton, another unknown reptile of yesteryear, as her need for a high quality specimen was great, not just for financial reward, but to continue her personal quest for more knowledge of the creatures of the ancient world.

Mary's expertise, hard-earned knowledge and quick intelligence had confounded the eminent geological scientists of the world: Buckland, Conybeare, De La Beche, Birch, Murchison and even the most famous anatomist and naturalist in Europe – Georges Cuvier! Having achieved so much and being the expert on the anatomy of her great specimens, Mary Anning was justly proud of her work. Even unto this present day, her experience and observational powers are appreciated as exceptional. Working alone, with no predecessors to guide her, she did not know of some fossils which would have given her enough income to prevent poverty. She was a bone specialist, without the benefit of the knowledge we now have. This is borne out by the list of Mary's collection in Robert's 'History of Lyme Regis and Charmouth' published with Mary's approval in 1834, wherein he describes the 'Organic Remains of the Lias.' There are also many records of other Anning specimens in many collections in Britain and Europe, unfortunately difficult to prove as Mary's. Nevertheless, no ammonites of note are mentioned.

It wasn't until 1926 that William Dickson Lang published his detailed descriptions of the layers and fossil zones of Lyme Regis and Charmouth. So today, we know of the upper Flatstones, the lower Flatstones and the fabulously rich Woodstones between, also of the Stonebarrow Flatstones and many others. Within these stones are ammonites of great beauty – those of the attractive *Asteroceras obtusum* and *confusum*. These golden yellow and tortoise-shell brown specimens are in perfect calcite, contrasting with their grey stone matrix in a most aesthetically pleasing way – making them very desirable to collectors. Even in Mary Anning's day, they would have been relatively easy to clean and prepare for sale. So how many of these stones were there? In the 200 years

covering Mary Anning's life and today, the Lyme Bay cliffs would have retreated by at least 300 feet. The rain-softened marls, undercut by the seas, would have dissolved and been broken down by storms, waves, rain and ice.... all the stones inside left on the beach. Also, they would have accumulated for the thousands of years before Mary began collecting.

In the 1950s, the eminent collector James Frederick Jackson, a good friend of W.D. Lang, retired to Charmouth. It took him years to work through all the Stonebarrow Flatstones lying on the beach, meticulously notating his enormous collection (including 400 insects!). At that time, the well-known Ray Jennings was an amateur fossil hunter and, on his best day, found 27 large *Asteroceras obtusum*s. Meanwhile, the legendary Barney Hansford found enormous amounts of *Asteroceras* ammonites for his private museum collection. Most of the professionals only really started working hard in the 1970s and 1980s when fossil shops found it very lucrative to offer money for specimens, especially the fine *Asteroceras*, so easy to sell owing to their intrinsic beauty.

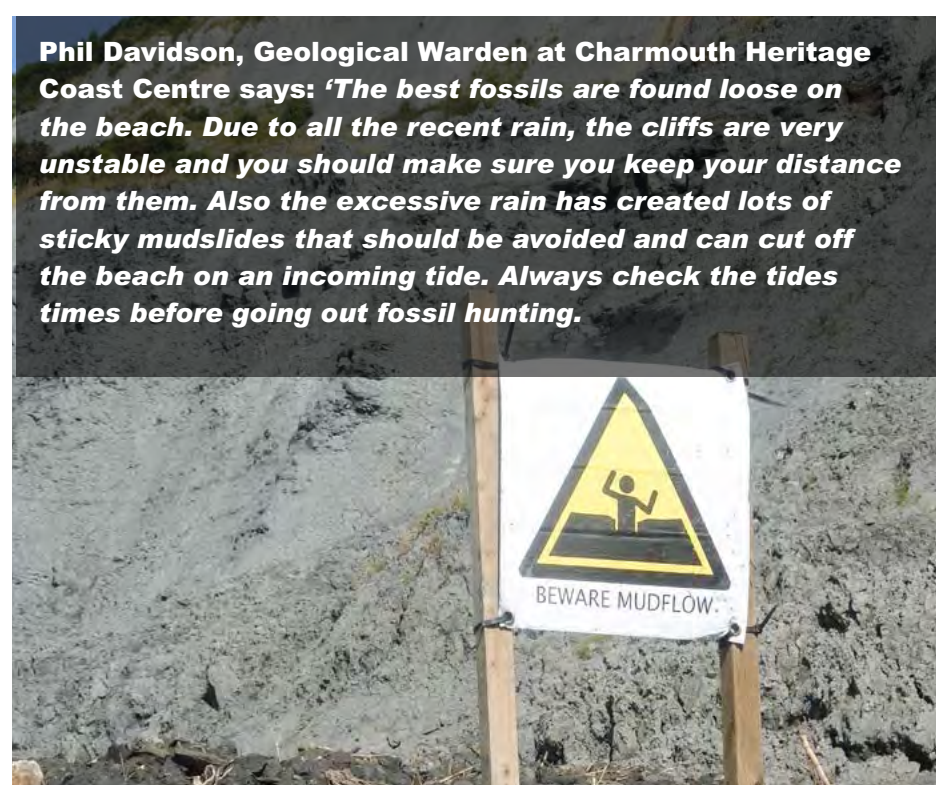
As competition grew, so did newly acquired knowledge and techniques ... how to 'open' a Woodstone for example. One fact is that five or six fossil hunters with that knowledge could collect in a good winter season, i.e. bad weather, as many as 50 *Asteroceras* each! There were the really big *Asteroceras*, 8 – 10 inches and the rare and exceptionally attractive honey-coloured *Epophioceras*, also *Xiphoceras*, *Microderoceras* and many others. In the stones could also be found superbly articulated fish such as *Dapedium*.

There were so many stones containing ammonites on the beach that the famous amateur collector Martin Foster was able to put together over 1,600 ammonites in a meticulously numbered and catalogued collection, now housed in the National Museum of Wales. Martin searched for, and purchased, the finest quality ammonites possible – he did this between the 1980s and 1990s. Some pieces were extraordinary – one giant slab had over 750 *Promicroceras* on its surface! There is no doubt that such a collection would be virtually impossible nowadays.

The evidence all seems to point to the fact that Mary Anning would have walked over a multitude of fossiliferous stones. However, Mary's pioneering vocation goes on – for large reptiles and new species are still found – of exceptional detail and being prepared with great skill, using traditional methods, aided by modern preparation tools. With new falls and further exposures of bone-rich shales at low tide ... amazing animals from the ancient past can still be found even by beginners and if quickly reported to the experts in Lyme Regis Museum or Charmouth's Heritage Coast Centre, and be saved from the sea. After that, the technically adept experts will help you with your specimen.

So Mary Anning's work in discovering important new species lives on. Her life's dedication has enriched us all. She was poor herself but rich in her valuable achievements. We owe this remarkable lady a great amount and our profound thanks.

Paul Raymer



Phil Davidson, Geological Warden at Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre says: 'The best fossils are found loose on the beach. Due to all the recent rain, the cliffs are very unstable and you should make sure you keep your distance from them. Also the excessive rain has created lots of sticky mudslides that should be avoided and can cut off the beach on an incoming tide. Always check the tides times before going out fossil hunting.'

All about Barnacles

“Hey Mum!” Bucket and net in hand, a little boy skipped excitedly by his mum as they neared the rock pools at low tide, “I’d love to know what’s inside a barnacle!” Ahead of him lay the colourful and beautiful rock pools of Broad Ledge and the boy’s attention turned to other creatures. What a brilliant example of a curious mind! Unless studying barnacles, few people would be aware of the contents of these chalky little pyramids with a trapdoor in the top. We don’t see what goes on inside barnacles unless they are immersed in water and, not being the most prized animals to keep in an aquarium, these strange creatures often keep their secrets to themselves.

We are probably familiar with barnacles from the outside, their greyish-white shells covering rocks, providing a good foothold for people traversing boulders on the beach, avoiding the slippery weed. However, these fascinating little sessile creatures have been the subject of extensive research by eminent naturalists and biologists including Charles Darwin who, as a child would watch barnacles when their rocky homes were put into a bucket of seawater. *“First, a tiny hatch opened at the top of each cone. Then a few seconds later, long, feather-like fans unfurled through the hole and began snatching at the water, rhythmically, like a pulse ... all together.”*

Between 1846 and 1854 Darwin had rather an obsession with barnacles and produced some detailed documents on these Cirripedes (cirripede = curled foot). Included were not only fine descriptions of fossil and living barnacles but also intricate drawings of internal structures. He wrote at length about the reproduction of barnacles and development of their larval forms. For those interested in classification of different species, Darwin showed that barnacles were not Molluscs as some thought, but Crustacea, a large group including crabs, shrimps, lobsters and smaller creatures such as ‘hoppers’ found on the strand line.

After free-swimming in plankton as larval forms for about two months, barnacles firmly attach themselves to hard surfaces such as rock, shells and artificial structures in a zone on the beach which is covered by seawater for part of each 12-hour period. Attachment occurs by means of a cement gland so the membrane at the base is firmly ‘glued’ in place. Barnacles can survive for long periods when the tide is low as well as coping with marked changes in temperature, salinity, and other adverse conditions. They typically live for 5-6 years.

Perhaps the best known in this area is the Acorn Barnacle (*Semibalanus balanoides*) which has a symmetrical shell made of six calcareous plates secreted by the barnacle. At the top is a kite-shaped area which can open and close and through which the specially adapted limbs, covered in feathery hair-like structures, protrude to sieve particles of food (zooplankton) from the water. In effect, the adult animal lies on its back and sweeps its limbs through the water. As Darwin put it so

eloquently: *“If the cone house [had been] invisible we would have seen its bizarre inhabitant, a cream coloured shrimp-like creature, upside down, glued to the rock by its head, fishing for plankton ... with its feathery feet.”*

Sexual maturity will take about two years; barnacles are hermaphrodite and have a gregarious habit (as shown in picture 1) so fertilisation can take place among those in fairly close proximity. Thousands of eggs fertilised within the cavity of the animal become free-swimming larvae of two main forms, Nauplius, then Cypris. These larvae form part of the zooplankton; thousands are produced but only a small proportion will survive. Cyprid larvae will need to attach within about 12 hours and can then start to build the plates of the shell. They are choosy about where to settle and will spend time crawling over a hard surface finding the right place in terms of shade, colour of rock, water currents and other features. Cyprids are chemically attracted to the presence of individuals of the same species thus ensuring that cross-fertilisation among adults can occur. Small barnacles, having attached as larvae in spaces between the older ones, are shown in picture 2.

Other than as part of a complex food web where they may be predated by other invertebrates, barnacles are of no great value to humans, except for a few species with fleshy stalks found elsewhere, which are apparently good to eat! Encrusting barnacles can be a pest because they foul the hulls of boats, marine structures and cooling water intakes for installations such as power stations. Much time, effort and money is spent preventing larvae from attaching but, if they do settle, then cleaning and scraping needs to be a regular task.

Further information:

MarLIN provides UK information about marine organisms, adult and larval forms as well as habitat and other features. See the following website: <<http://www.marlin.ac.uk/speciesfullreview.php?speciesID=4328>>

The following website will show some beautiful photomicrographs of nauplius and cyprid larvae of Barnacles by Wim van Egmond: www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/mag/artjan99/barnac.html

Darwin: Rebecca Stott (2003) Darwin and the Barnacle. Faber & Faber

Gunnar Thorson’s works are worth reading; he was a key researcher on littoral species and was Professor of Marine Biology at Copenhagen University and Director of the Marine Biological Laboratory in Denmark.

Rosalind Cole



Melbourne, Australia

Early in December 2013, David and I went to visit our daughter and son-in-law in Melbourne, Australia. It was our second trip down under and we were looking forward to spending some quality time with our family. We stayed in their new house in Altona, by the beach on the western side of Port Philip Bay. Altona has miles of white sandy beaches and the water is very shallow, making it perfect for families. It also has a pier which is lovely for an evening stroll.

There is a beautiful path that runs along the coast boasting amazing views of the Melbourne city skyline. The wetland areas which have been reclaimed from the waste water drainage scheme, are bursting with wildlife. A short way along the path heading south, there is an old ammunition store. Storage of explosives in Altona began in 1884. These explosives were used in quarrying, mining and other industries throughout Australia. The Aboriginal people who lived in this area were the Yalukit Wilum, a name meaning 'river camp' or 'river dwellers'.

During our first week we went on a trip down the famous 'Great Ocean Road', though we did it in the reverse direction, starting at Warnambool. The scenery was absolutely breathtaking and we even came across a wild kangaroo waiting to cross at the side of the road! The Twelve Apostles were an amazing sight and the cliffs and bays along the route were very beautiful. The whole coastline is very rugged, with lots of caves and blow holes. We passed through the stunning Otway National Park and continued along long stretches of beach at Lorne, finally ending up in Torquay.

Other trips around Melbourne took us to Daylesford, the most picturesque little town to the north-west. It is an area that was seriously affected by the fires of 2009 known as Black Saturday. We stayed at the lakes in Nagambie, north of the city, and took a river trip to a fabulous winery that had a viewing platform where you could see for miles.

We also spent many hours exploring the city of Melbourne. We walked for miles, wandering through the delightful Victorian lanes, stopping to admire the lovely shops on Chapel Street and browse in the famous Victoria market. We strolled in the beautiful botanical gardens, home to the Shrine of Remembrance, which was built as a memorial to the men and

women of Victoria who served in World War 1 and is now a memorial to all Australians who have served their country.

We travelled to and from the city by train, using the station at Flinders Street - what an amazing building. The main station, completed in 1909, is a cultural icon of Melbourne; with its prominent dome, arched entrance, tower and clocks, it is one of the city's most recognisable landmarks. The Melbourne idiom "I'll meet you under the clocks", refers to the row of clocks above the main entrance, which indicate the time-tabled time of departure for trains on each line; another idiom "I'll meet you on the steps", refers to the wide staircase underneath these clocks.



Shoreline down under

We also made a tribute walk in the Dandenong Ranges in Fern Tree Gully, known as the Kokoda Track Memorial Walk and incorporating a thousand steps. The Victorian veterans of the Kokoda campaign adopted this park as their memorial site in 1998. The similarity of the walk to the first 100 metres of the Kokoda Track in Papua, New Guinea, resulted in the establishment of the 14 plaques along the walk, dedicated to those Australian military forces who fought and died on Kokoda. The 1000 steps represent the "Golden Staircase", a name given by Australian soldiers to the 2000 steps

cut by the Australian Army Engineers and others into the track between Uberi and Imita Ridge.

During our final week in Melbourne, just before the tennis began, the temperatures climbed to an all-time high of 44 degrees. It was so hot you couldn't move. The trains stopped running and everyone retreated indoors, but the tennis played on.....insane!!

St.Kilda, Yarraville, and Williamstown are all very fashionable, quirky places to visit, with a great food and café culture. To the east of the bay on the Mornington Peninsula are the lovely resorts of Mount Martha and Sorrento, where there are also many wineries and gorgeous beaches.

We are expecting a new grandchild in the summer, so later this year we will be embracing this lovely city once again.

Jane Clifford



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Summer Gardening in Charmouth

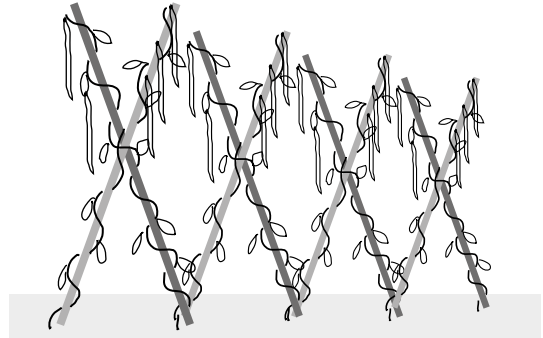
Hello everyone, Here we are again at the start of another gardening season. I expect that by now most of you will have started with your seeds and have most of them ready to transplant or even ready to go into the garden or greenhouse. Last year I kept my last Carmen cucumber and left it in the greenhouse with its bottom cut off resting in an old coke bottle. I also saved one of my Cedrico tomatoes and let it lie where it had fallen. Both of these are show strain veg and the seeds are costly. At the end of autumn I went to clear it out and found the two items nice and ripe. I took them down and removed the seeds, gave them a wash and left them to dry. I then placed them in airtight containers and put them in the fridge where they stayed until March (when I cleaned the fridge!). I set them all in J1 seed compost and placed them into a propagator and waited to see. Would you believe I had a 100% result! I have now placed three of the cucumbers in my greenhouse and hope to see them continue to grow well, hoping that, as I chose three at different stages of growth, I would have a longer growing season ready for the shows. It does pay to save your own seed, especially if they were expensive and/or your favorite veg or flowers. Did you know that Charmouth Gardeners have a seed and plant sale on 10th May at 10.00am at the Village Hall.

Just back from Sunday lunch and remembered another bit of luck I have had this spring. Two years ago I was given some leek seedlings by a champion grower. When I planted them out there were twelve young leeks that grew very well. After that we had some pretty dismal weather and I neglected them, however I entered them in one of the local shows and got third prize. Last year I did not really bother with them, leaving the remaining two from the previous year still growing in the garden. Last week I was clearing the patch where the leeks were and decided that I would get rid of them. They did flower last year and in the autumn I found seed and leek grass growing well, then I knocked the top off with the rake and thought that was that. Looking back at it a few days later, I saw the grass lying on the garden and stuck it into the ground. This year I have received about 50 baby leeks from seed and grass.

LEEK GRASS. For those who don't know, it is the tiny shoot that pops up between the seeds as they are growing. With care the shoots can be separated from the seeds as ready growing leeks, which gives them an advantage by being developed and producing an earlier crop and you get seeds too. Lots of the exhibition growers do this and they sort them out earlier e.g. in the autumn and have them ready growing by the following spring. Then they grow them in their own special beds and containers, producing huge specimen leeks! That's enough of me now what have the rest of us got to get down to next?

Well by now you should have a few veggies sown, that is if your ground is warm enough. Do not put carrots into freshly manured ground as they will turn out like cats of nine tails! Also remove any stones as these too have a detrimental effect. A good show strain is Sweet Candle a stump rooted carrot that is easier to grow than long carrots and harvests well. Beetroot - these too need a well-raked soil and a single seed variety is better for showing than a multi-seed variety. Keep them well weeded and thinned if you are entering the shows in August. Plant your runner beans & dwarf beans now into pots of seed compost and keep under cover until later in May; the second or third weeks are ideal to transplant them! Did you know that a pre-prepared bed is a good idea for bigger, better runner beans. This you can prepare while waiting for them to grow in their pots. Dig a trench and remove the soil (large enough and wide enough to take however many you are growing. About

two to three spades deep, place old newspapers in the bottom (this gives them a good water supply by soaking up the surface water and keeping under the bed damp), lay on as much grass cutting and manure as you can, then replace the soil you dug out. Place your canes as you want them, keeping the cross over low, not high as you want the beans to hang over the top, not close to the canes, and too much foliage on both sides of the row. This also helps the beans to grow straight.



Onions from seed should be sown Christmas Day in trays and kept under cover until the spring. Kelsae is one of the best varieties producing huge onions if fed and looked after correctly. The growth requires some sort of protection to keep it upright until the plant is strong enough to do it itself. I use small straight sticks (obtained at garden centers) and a loop of

light-weight wire attached to the stick about half-way down and supporting the delicate growth. This can then be slid up the stick as the growth increases until the onion is big enough to plant out. Protect them in rough weather and feed them weekly. Onion sets do not really need supporting; their growth is sturdier, but the same conditions apply. Tomatoes and cucumbers - these can be started off in the greenhouse or on a shaded windowsill and transplanted to their final beds when the weather has improved. They both need warmth. When in the final positions, they will require regular feeding once the first flowers have set. Give them good supports with stakes, canes, strings or wires and don't forget to shade them from hot sun. Water them plentifully am and pm.



NOW FOR THE REST OF THE SUMMER!

May - Remove the dead flowers from your daffodils and tulips and give the bulbs help to promote regrowth. To help develop the flower buds for next year, a feed of bonemeal or blood fish and bone will help too. Do not overdo it; just a handful will be enough. Continue to carry on preparing the veg garden and cover with plastic sheeting which will prevent weeds growing. Start planting salad leaves and other small salad items at two to three week intervals, which should give you a regular supply throughout the summer.

June - Support your plants now as they are growing. Grow your sweet peas so they have something to climb up and cut off the curly tendrils that are not being used to support them. This way more goodness goes into growing the flowers. Pinch out the side shoots from your tomato plants; this has the same effect and helps you to get bigger, better tomatoes, and start feeding as soon as the first truss has formed. Now is the time to get your beans in if you haven't already. Do not forget to feed them! Make sure to take the same care of your house plants and treat them, by removing old leaves and flowers, repot when necessary and feed throughout the growing season. If

you are showing them at the show, remember that flowers are necessary and as many as possible; foliage should be fresh and clean on any plants.

July & August - By now your gardens and glass houses should be flourishing with colour and fragrance. Keep up with the weeding and continue to dead head your flowers. Do water regularly if we should get some dry warm weather and shade against hot sunshine, especially plants under glass. The best time to water is first thing in the morning or later evening when the sun has gone down and the air is cooler. This will prevent scorched plants -- beans are very susceptible. Now is the time to see how things are growing if you are hoping to exhibit in the Charmouth Show! Do not allow more than one cucumber to grow in the same place. That is the benefit of growing at least three plants - you can remove any small fruits to allow just one to grow on that particular set and do the same with the next plant, then feed and water regularly and if you take care you will get a splendid pair to show. Do allow your vegetables room to grow individually, that way you will get decent sizes and you can see them better. This applies to courgettes, peppers, marrows and sweet corn. Harvest them when they reach the size you need, then wrap them in damp paper (plastic bags for beans) and place them in a cool place the week leading up to the show. The night before, get them out, check them and pick the one you want to show. Make sure you have the correct amount; no seeds showing, straight and not swan-necked. All other vegetables should be treated in the same way, with the correct amount of greenery as depicted in the schedule and all other requirements as required. Rhubarb is in a vegetable class.

Flowers, pot plants, and fruits all require these careful treatments; no grubs or holes, no nasties, all clean and any dead flowers or foliage removed and well presented in clean pots and plates.

White plastic plates are ideal for root veg; a small clean cloth is ideal for peas and beans. If you are putting veg in the night before the show, cover with a damp cloth or paper to prevent them from getting dry overnight. Ask the steward to remove them in the morning if you cannot get there or ask someone you know who is going the next day. Write the name of your variety and put it on your exhibit; it might just be all you require to get First prize. The judges were a bit vocal about things last year, so let us impress them this year and show them we know what we are doing!!! Make sure you put them in the correct class; if you are not sure, ask the steward. Know your fruits e.g. soft fruits are strawberries, raspberries, currants and gooseberries. Fruits that contain stones, are stoned fruits! Apples, pears etc. have their own classes. Remember nuts are also fruits and can be shown as any other fruit. If you are unsure or have any questions, then speak to one of the committee members. Good luck to you all and I look forward to seeing you have a go.

September - Continue to harvest your fruits and vegetables and start making your jams and chutneys ready for next year's show, as they need time to mature and always taste better for keeping. Freeze or bottle to have supplies for the winter months. Now is the time to think about your spring bulbs and get them planted early ready for next year. Start cutting down on watering your house plants now the weather is getting cooler. It's time to have a rest after you have cleared up, cleaned your tools and put things away; the adverts will be arriving for next season's produce, so sit back, have a breather and start planning again.

That's all for now - a very Busy Lizzy

A big thanks to our very own local gardening expert, Busy Lizzy. With all the cultivation hints and show tips she has kindly given us, we'll have no excuses now... so let's make this summer's Gardeners' Show in Charmouth the best ever!

Awaken Love for Africa

We became a registered charity in April of last year!

Well it has been a while since we have given an update on what is happening at the Gideon Orphanage in Kenya. It has certainly been a very challenging time. Earlier this year the whole of Kenya suffered a severe drought and the village of Ramba with 5,000 people and the orphanage were badly hit. Children and elderly folk were having to walk 6 km to a dirty river to get water to bath in, cook in and drink from. Children were getting typhoid and malaria and crops and animals were dying, so we sent out an appeal and did a fundraising event and raised enough money to get the bore hole sorted in the village and also to open up a dam situated not far from the orphanage. We also purchased water filters. The rains came a short while ago and water near the dam is now a lake awash with water. Water is so essential and the village and orphanage have been revived.

At the beginning of last year we had over 60 children at the orphanage who needed to attend secondary school but we did not have the fees to send them, so we decided to build our own secondary school and science lab. We held lots of fundraising events and through the generosity of local people we were able to complete the building while we were there last November. We now have four classrooms and the science lab is almost complete.

We have just sent out another container which should reach Mombasa around the beginning of June. We spent the last six months gathering school desks, lockers, chairs, computers, bikes, mattresses, exercise books, stationary, photocopier, sewing machines, medical equipment, lab equipment, clothes and much more from as far afield as Derby, Bath, Weston Super Mare and London. We would like to thank everyone who has helped us, from the shopkeepers in the village who helped with donated items for our raffle events, to those who have given money, donated items, knitted for us, organised events, and to Hunthay farm who so kindly helped with the storing of our container items for much longer than was intended.

If you would like to get involved in our charity, you can help by sponsoring a child for just £15 a month, buy a mosquito net for £4, or buy a mattress and blanket for £15, or you can donate pencils, biros, white chalk and paracetamol. If you have any working mobile phones you plan getting rid of, please think about us as phones will help start businesses in Kenya.

We have revamped our website so please take a look at it for more information www.awakenlove.org.uk or contact us on 01297 560352

Thank you all once again - without you we cannot do what we are doing at the orphanage.

Nicky & Sophie



From the Charmouth Practice



Weight no more!

"This diet is quick, simple and effective". How often have we heard those words? It is easy to be very dismissive of new diet claims. However, I can go one better; "The Intermittent Modified Fasting Diet is quick, simple, effective, AND will save you a lot of money! ...Oh and...there is no restriction on what you eat at least half the time".

Intermittent modified fasting is turning the dieting industry on its head because there is now simply no need for any of us to spend money on dieting anymore; unless, of course, we want to pay for support, company, cookery suggestions or someone to externally monitor us. All we need to do is eat very little for some days and much more for others and the weight loss happens very naturally and mainly very painlessly with significant benefits for our health and our pockets.

I've been suggesting the FAST DIET or 5:2 Diet for over a year to my patients with some stunning results. It required them to choose two separate days a week and eat only 500 calories for women or 600 for men as a "modified fast" on those days. Then they ate whatever they were hungry for on the other days. However, I noticed a few people found they couldn't make this work because they found it difficult to decide which were their FAST days and sometimes found it difficult to switch between the two days. Well the answer is to try Alternate Day Modified Fasting instead. Although it sounds even more difficult than the 5:2 Diet, it is actually much easier and inevitably quicker too.

The steady rhythm of one day on and one day off, means that the digestive system can adapt to the pattern more easily. It begins to anticipate the fast days with the result that people feel more comfortable and less deprived. There is always a "Feast Day" around the corner and the weight loss is so quick and lasting that within a couple of weeks the results are showing; tummy is shrinking; clothes becoming baggy and the way the body processes its fats starts to normalise, with the knock-on effect of a sense of well-being, energy, improved digestion and better sleep. Too good to be true? Well, try it for yourself. You will need to work out what 500 calories are and stick rigidly to them for your fast days - men and women. Krista Varady did the original research on this type of dieting 10 years ago and has proven that 25% of your normal calorie intake is the ideal amount to drop down to, but it doesn't need to be "Diet food" on your Diet Days; in fact, high fat food works better; so meat, fish eggs, cheese are all on the menu on the fast days. EVERYTHING is on the menu for the feast days – EVERYTHING!

What is even more exciting is that you can make this work even more quickly if you also cut down on sugar, fruit juice and alcohol and eat more vegetables and fibre. Modern processed food choices are driving the obesity epidemic at the moment and are principally responsible for the abnormal fat metabolism in the body which causes fatty liver, expanding waistlines and eventually type 2 diabetes and heart disease. But it now seems there is a proven link between the type of bacteria in our guts and the insulin resistance which drives diabetes and weight gain. A recent study in China has shown that changing people's diets to include more artichokes, veg and beans, bean curd tofu and oats helped to alter the bacteria in the gut which vastly increased the weight people could lose and the ease with which they lost it.

You can follow the advice above or read the background to alternate day fasting in Krista Varady's book "The Every Other Day Diet". Advice for those with diabetes type 2 is also available from our local diabetic nurse.

Enjoy the summer.

Dr Sue Beckers

Remember - The deadline for copy for the Shoreline Autumn issue is 25th August 2014.



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What's on in Charmouth

Wyld Morris

We are the local Morris side based at Monkton Wyld Court and are only in our 4th year. All our collections during our 'dance outs' are given to Monkton Wyld Court to help sustain their endeavours. Here is a list of where we'll be dancing during the summer:

Wed 4 June, 7.30pm Monkton Wyld 'pub' at Monkton Wyld Court; Tues 10 June, 8pm The Hare and Hounds, Waytown, with Dr Turbeville Morris; **Sun 15 June, 10.30am - 5.00pm Wimborne Folk Festival;** Thurs 19 June, 8pm The Cove Inn, Portland, mid-summer event, hosted by Frome Valley Morris; **Wed 25 June, 7.30pm The Royal Standard, Marine Parade, Lyme Regis;** Wed, 2 July, 7.30pm, The Kings Arms, Portesham; **Wed 9 July, 7.30pm, The Anchor, Seatown....TBC;** Sat, 19 July, 1pm-ish, Stoke Abbot Fair; **Wed 23 July, 7.30pm, Five Bells, Whitchurch Canoncorum;** Mon 28 July, 8pm, The Admiral Hood, Mosterton, with Treacle Eater Clog; **Sat 2 Aug, 10.00am till? busking at Sidmouth Folk festival, on the esplanade;** Wed 13 Aug, 7.30pm, near the George Hotel, West Bay, with Festus Derriman; **Wed 20 Aug, 7.30pm, The Three Horseshoes, Burton Bradstock;** Mon 25 Aug, 2.00-5.00pm, Whitchurch, Morecombelake and Ryall Flower & Dog Show; **Sat 30 Aug Lyme Regis Folk Weekend (maybe Sun, 31st too).**

For additional information, please call 01297 489546 or follow Wyld Morris on FACEBOOK!

Briony Blair

Note: Shoreline's Advertising Manager & Treasurer, Neil Charleton, is a musician for Wyld Morris. His wife Lisa is a dancer

The Quiz with a Difference

Saturday 13 September at 7.30pm

St Andrew's Community Hall

£8 including light supper

Bar and raffle

Tickets from Charmouth Central in July

In aid of Charmouth Central

Tuesday 17th June at 12 noon

At the kind invitation of Lady Bradbury

**The Friends of St. Mary's Church,
Catherston Leweston are inviting you
to attend a lunch at the
Manor House, Wootton Fitzpaine**

Tickets: £12 (including a glass of wine)

to be obtained by 10th June
from church members or
from The Pharmacy, Charmouth

Ann Hebden - 01297 443615

Monkton Wyld Court

For more information contact monktonwyldcourt@btinternet.com

**18 June, 5 July, 17 July & 20 Aug. From 12.30pm, Local Lunch, £7.
Please prebook.**

**3 Aug, 9.30-4.30pm, Get Your Bees Through the Winter, £70,
includes lunch**

**5-7 Sep, Dowsing for Beginners, £255 residential, £195 non-
residential**

For more information contact monktonwyldcourt@btinternet.com

CREAM TEAS ON THE LAWN AT THE MANOR HOUSE WOOTTON FITZPAINE

SUNDAY 27th JULY

2PM TO 5PM

HOME-MADE SCONES, CLOTTED CREAM, ETC.
STALLS WITH GARDEN PRODUCE, JAMS, CAKES
SECONDHAND BOOKS, TOYS, PLANTS

DISPLAY OF LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHS

RAFFLE

PROCEEDS TO WOOTTON CHURCH REPAIRS

Susan Bradbury 01297 560455

3RD CHARMOUTH VINTAGE FAIR

Sunday 24th August. 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Community Hall

Lower Sea Lane. Charmouth

All Day Catering

Tel: 01297-560634

CHARMOUTH TWINNING KEEP THESE DATES FREE IN YOUR DIARY

The Twinning Association are holding their Annual Bastille Day (-1)
BBQ Sunday 13th July.

in the beautiful gardens of Thalatta, Higher Sea Lane.

Tickets will be available in late June.

ALSO

Enjoy testing your mind at our 'General Knowledge Quiz' evening

Friday 22nd August

at the Village Hall, Wesley Close, starting at 7.30 pm.

Tickets will be available from 1st August.

For more information contact Peter Bonner 560251

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Tell our Advertisers "I saw your Ad in Shoreline"

Noticeboard



USA's tennis group at Charmouth Tennis Club welcomed the spring sunshine with Mexican moustaches, sombreros and ponchos. Mojitos and a spread of Latino food followed the tennis matches.

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



The Champagne Afternoon Tea held
at Thalatta on 27 April in aid of
Charmouth Central.



Early photographic image of Charmouth Beach
dated May 22nd 1905. Sent in by Bob Speer.

Waste Not, Want Not

We are all conscious of recycling waste, but do you (or does someone you know locally) collect used postage stamps, foil, etc. for charity; items that might otherwise be discarded? We'd be happy to spread the word so we can all help too. Do please ask around the village and let Shoreline know, because throwing such items in the bin seems such a waste.

To get the ball rolling, Maralyn Hinxman is collecting plastic milk bottle tops to raise funds for the Weldmar Hospice and she is happy to be a collection point for Charmouth. As the bottle tops are so light, many are needed to make the fundraising worthwhile. Please call Maralyn on 01297 560402 when you have a full bag.

Dorset Art Weeks 2014 (just one week left!)

There's still time to visit the open studios of our very own artists-in-residence... Geoff & Jane Townson at 7 Hammonds Mead (Geoff - Dorset oils/acrylics and cards; Jane - bags, necklaces, scarves and pictures); Joanne Brown at Star House, The Street (semi-abstract paintings, drawings, prints/cards); and Ann Clough at Skittles, 7 Coach & Horses, The Street (oil/acrylic landscapes and figure paintings). Open days are 2, 4, 6, 7 & 8 June. Their times of opening differ, so 10.00am - 6.00pm for Geoff & Jane; 10.00am - 6.00pm & Sunday 2.00pm - 6.00pm for Joanne; and 10.30am - 1.00pm & 2.30pm - 5.30pm for Ann. You may just find the piece of art or textile you've been searching for!

Lesley Dunlop



Shoreline Charmouth - Village Diary

Badminton Club (experience required)	Mon 8-10pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Trish Evans 442136
Badminton (social)	Tues 7-10pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Pauline Bonner 560251
Beavers (ages 6-7)	Tuesdays 6 - 7.15pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Amanda Clist 01297 560157
Bingo (fund raising for Community Hall)	3rd Fri each month 7.30pm (eyes down)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Jane Tait 560801
Bopper Bus	Fri 4.45-8pm	Bridport Leisure Centre Drop off/pick up Primary School	Kate Geraghty 489422 Melanie Harvey 560393
Bowls Club <i>Summer:</i> <i>Winter Short Mat Bowls:</i>	Sun, Tues, Thurs 2-5.30pm Tues 2-5.00pm	Playing Field, Barr's Lane Community Hall Lower Sea Lane	Jackie Rolls 01297 560295 Jim Greenhalgh 01297 561336
Brownies (ages 7-10)	Mon 4.30-6pm (term-time only)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Caroline Davis 560207
Bridge Club (partners can be provided)	Thurs 7-10.30pm	Wood Farm (opposite swimming pool)	Vincent Pielesz 560738
Cherubs	Wed 9.30-11.30am (term-time only)	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Kathryn Radley 442796
Cubs (ages 8-10.5)	Thurs 5.00-6.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Ed Pemberton 01297 560241
Gardeners	2nd Wed each month 2.30pm	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Kay Churchman 560980
Girl Guides (ages 10 onwards)	Wed 7-8.45pm (term-time only)	Wooton Fitzpaine	Davina Pennels 560965
Junior Rangers Club (ages 8-12)	2nd Saturday each month 10.30-12noon	Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre	Helen Anthony 560772
Junior Youth Club (ages 8-12)	Tues 6.30-8.30pm	Youth Club Hall, Wesley Close	James Ward - Rice 01308 422500 or 07827 846891
Library Storytelling & Rhymetime (under 5s)	Fri 9.30-10am	Library, The Street	Mandy Harvey 01297 560167
Parish Council Meeting	3rd Tues each month 7.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Lisa Tuck 01297 560826
Pavey Group (village history)	Tues 9.30-10.30am	The Elms, The Street	Russell Telfer, 560806
POPPs Village Breakfast	Thurs 8.30am-1pm (Sep to Apr)	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Jan Gale 07897 511075
POPPs Village Lunch	1st Tues each month	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Jan Gale 07897 511075
Sewing Circle	Tuesdays 10.30-12.30pm	Charmouth Central	Hazel Robinson 561214 or HazelRosery@aol.com
Scouts (ages 10.5-14)	Thurs 6.45-8.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Carol Moorey 01297 560100
Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Mon to Thurs (term-time only) 9am-12.30pm	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
Tea and Chat	1st & 3rd Monday each month 3pm - 4.15pm	Charmouth Central	Felicity Horton 07736 825283
The British Legion (Women's Section)	1st Wed each month 2.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Pat Stapleton 560255
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**

Shoreline Charmouth - Local Contacts

EMERGENCIES POLICE	Police, Fire, Ambulance or HM Coastguard	999 or 112
	PC Kirsti Ball, PCSO Luke White & PCSO John Burton for Community Police issues (ask by name)	101
	Non urgent call number for reporting incidents / enquiries	101
	Bridport Police Station, Tannery Road	101
FIRE and RESCUE	West Dorset Fire and Rescue Service — Group Manager	01305 252600
HM COASTGUARD	Sidmouth Road, Lyme Regis (Not 24 hours)	01297 442852
DOCTORS	The Charmouth Medical Practice, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560872
	The Lyme Practice, The Elms Medical Centre, The Street, Charmouth	01297 561068
	The Lyme Practice, Lyme Community Medical Centre, Lyme Regis	01297 445777
	NHS Direct — 24-hour Healthcare Advice and Information Line	0845 4647
HOSPITALS	Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester	01305 251150
	Bridport Community Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bridport	01308 422371
DENTISTS	Dorset Dental Helpline	01202 854443
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	National Rail Enquiries — Information on Timetables, Tickets and Train Running Times	08457 484950
	National Traveline — Information on Bus and Bus/Rail Timetables and Tickets	08712 002233
EMERGENCY	Gas	0800 111999
	Electricity (Western Power Distribution)	0800 365900
	Water (Wessex Water)	08456 004600
	Floodline	08459 881188
	Pollution (Environment Agency)	0800 807060
CHEMISTS	F G Lock, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560261
	Boots the Chemist, 45 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442026
	Lloyds Pharmacy, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442981
SCHOOLS	Charmouth County Primary, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560591
	St Michael's C of E, V A Primary, Kingsway, Lyme Regis	01297 442623
	The Woodroffe School, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442232
CHURCHES	St Andrew's Parish Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Stephen Skinner	01297 560409
	United Reformed Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Ian Kirby	01297 631117
BEFRIENDING	Charmouth	07736 825283
COUNCILS		
CHARMOUTH PARISH	Chairman — Mrs J Bremner	01297 560431
	Clerk — Mrs L Tuck, The Elms, St Andrew's Drive, Charmouth	01297 560826
	Heritage Coast Centre, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560772
	Beach Attendant, Charmouth Beach	01297 560626
W. DORSET DISTRICT	Councillor — Mrs J Bremner	01297 560431
	Mountfield House, Rax Lane, Bridport — All services	01305 251010
DORSET COUNTY	Councillor — Daryl Turner – d.w.turner@dorsetcc.gov.uk	
	County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester — All services	01305 221000
DORSET'S PORTAL FOR COUNTY/DISTRICT/TOWN/PARISH COUNCILS AND OTHER AGENCIES www.dorsetforyou.com		
LOCAL M.P.	Oliver Letwin, House of Commons, SW1A 0AA or e-mail letwin@parliament.uk	0207 219 3000
CITIZENS' ADVICE	St Michaels Business Centre, Lyme Regis (Wed 10am-3pm)	01297 445325
	45 South Street, Bridport (Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)	01308 456594
POST OFFICES	1 The Arcade, Charmouth	01297 560563
	37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442836
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ASK THE EXPERT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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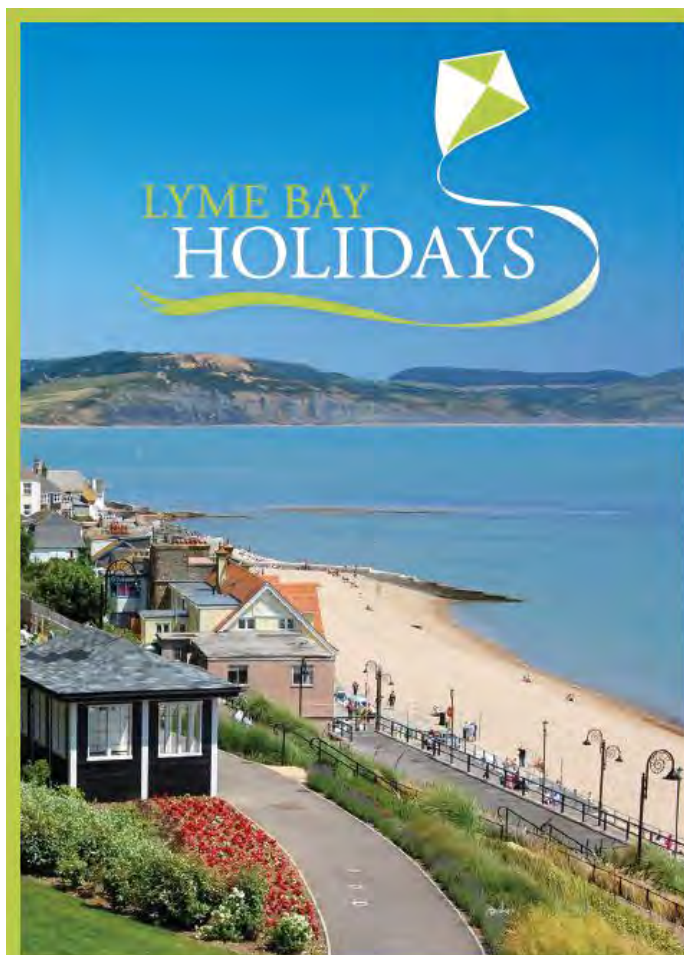
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