

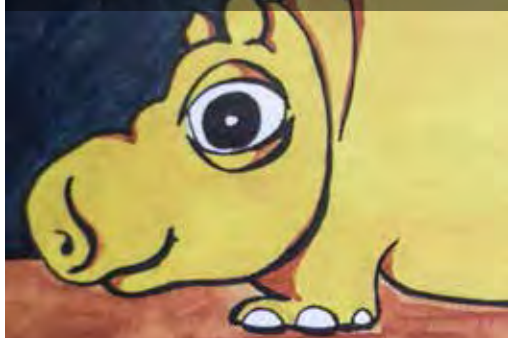
SHORELINE



Shoreline, winner of the Dorset People's Project Award 2014

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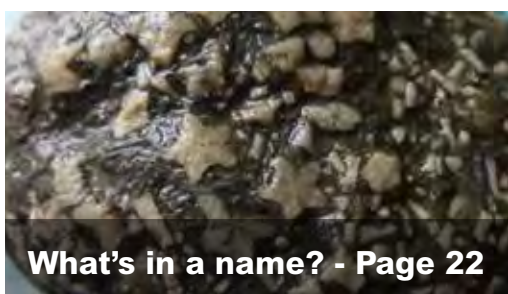
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Editorial

Every soul innately yearns for stillness, for a space, a garden where we can till, sow, reap and rest, and by doing so come to a deeper sense of self and our place in the universe. Silence is not an absence but a presence. Not an emptiness but repletion. A filling up.

Anne D Le Claire

Welcome to the summer issue of Shoreline, jam-packed with articles on palaeontology, travel, local history, updates from village clubs and organisations, local news and much, much more for your reading pleasure.

Another meticulously researched article by our resident historian, Neil Mattingly on page 29 features Prospect Place – the collective name for the four buildings, Charmouth Stores, Breeze, Stanley House and Rupert House. Phil Tritton and his family will be thrilled to learn Neil has unearthed evidence that the shop actually dates back to 1806, ten years earlier than originally thought!

The Parish Council was highly praised recently in

an article on 6 May, by Chris Boothroyd, monthly columnist of 'Another View' in the 'View from Lyme' newspaper. Chris commented on the relaxed, good humoured but businesslike way the meeting he attended was conducted: "I was listening to intelligent conversation between colleagues with real work to be done, and the determination to do it. Councillors had a firm grasp of detail, they asked good questions, they listened to what others had to say and they made clear decisions. The parish community and its wellbeing were what mattered".

Three councillors stood down in May, myself included, (after eight enjoyable years and only a couple of challenging episodes!) Tim Holmes and Jim Greenhalgh have been co-opted, which leaves one place which must be filled by a woman otherwise it will be an all-male enclave. Come on now, put your name forward before 12 June - your council needs you.

Around 70 people packed The George on 21 May for the Auction of Promises, a fundraiser organised by the St Andrew's Church Restoration Project Group. It was a fun evening, with a lot of lively bidding encouraged by the entertaining banter and subtle skills of Jim Rowe, the auctioneer. Over £3000 was

raised, thanks to the generosity of the many villagers and others who donated some fantastic and very eclectic goods and services. The next event will be an Auction of Pews with Pimms, later in the year.

Have a great summer

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**

IF YOU WOULD LIKE SHORELINE DELIVERED OR POSTED TO YOUR DOOR, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR. THE COST IS £6 PER YEAR.

Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan

You may have seen that Charmouth Parish has recently been formally designated a Neighbourhood Plan Area.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan? A Neighbourhood Plan is a planning policy document prepared by local communities. This gives the people who live in the area a say in the future development of the parish. Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area.

Why have a Neighbourhood Plan? When adopted, the Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the development plan for the area as a whole. This means that it will sit alongside the local plan for the area and be the first thing considered in deciding whether or not planning permission should be given for new buildings, or for changes to existing buildings. It is a way of letting the villagers have a direct say in the way the village develops.

How do we get started? The Parish Council initiates the process by designating the area which has already been achieved.

What do we need to do next? Next the PC assists in creating a forum from all walks of life in the village to produce the plan (the Parish Council can have representatives on the forum, but it is not part of the Parish Council). The forum must comprise of at least 21 people, remain open to new members who live or work in the area or are councillors for the area, and must be about promoting or improving the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the neighbourhood area. The group can involve both local councillors and local people, with particular knowledge of the issues likely to be raised.

In designating the forum, the council must consider whether it complies with the legal requirements and whether:

1. Reasonable steps have been taken to secure membership that includes at least one person who lives in the area, one person who works in the area, and a local councillor for the area,
2. Reasonable steps have been taken to draw people from different places in the area and different sections of the community,
3. The forum's purposes reflect the character of the area.

Ok, so we have a forum of local people. What next? The forum, in consultation with the community as a whole, will then produce the plan. When it has a draft plan, it is subjected to consultation by the community as a whole and then the District Council initiates an independent public examination. All being well, it is then put forward to a referendum where should it receive a majority of the votes cast and will be adopted as the Charmouth Neighbourhood Plan.

Sounds a lot of work. Why should I get involved? Because this is a valuable way of getting your voice heard on important planning decisions that may affect the future development of the village. Do you want more affordable housing? More light industrial areas to provide job opportunities, a swimming pool, a dinosaur museum? All of these? Or even none of these. Maybe you want no change at all? This is your opportunity to have your say.

Right! I'm hooked! What's next? There will be a village consultation open to all in the Community Hall on Sunday 21st June from midday to six o'clock where you can come and let your views be known, get involved or just find out what it all entails. More information will be made available closer to the time on the Charmouth Noticeboard, Facebook and posters etc. around the village. We hope to see you there.

Ian Simpson

Parish Council News

New signage in Charmouth

Village signage was one of the few negatives picked up by the Visitor Survey that Charmouth Parish Council carried out last summer. This is being addressed in a number of ways:

- new fingerposts have been installed at four locations along Lower Sea Lane and on Barrs Lane
- clearer dog rules signs are being erected at the foreshore
- an Information Point is planned at the foreshore

The fingerposts are in place ready for the new tourist season and help to guide visitors to a number of locations such as the playing fields, the tourist information point at the library, the shoppers' car park and the various halls.



Charmouth has a dog-friendly reputation and many visitors come on holiday with their dogs. Charmouth Parish Council now allows dog owners to take their dogs on to West Beach beyond

the wooden walkway ON LEADS. This means that dog owners can walk to Lyme Regis at low tide and will also mean that dog owners do not have to leave their dogs in their beach hut while they bathe. The other areas are unchanged from last year.

To communicate the dog rules a map has been designed and erected in several locations at the foreshore. The map also shows the locations of the new dog waste bins that were installed recently.



In addition to these notices, colour coded signs are being erected at each area.

This clearer signage should ensure that everyone can enjoy our beaches in the appropriate way.

The new Information Point should be installed at the foreshore in time for the main summer season.

Phil Tritton

Charmouth Traders – the first five years

Charmouth Traders was set up in 2009. Initially the aim was to organise the first Christmas Fayre, but the Traders has developed and we have been involved in a number of initiatives over the last five years.

- The charmouth.org website is a great success, with a quarter of a million page views expected this year
- Three events – Bonfire at the beach, the Christmas Fayre and New Year's Eve have all proved popular and have raised money for local causes
- The Christmas street lights have been very well received
- Our contribution to the Parish Plan was well received by the Parish Council.
- We have set up the village parking scheme at minimal cost
- We have run four collective ads in the View From to attract people from around Charmouth to the village shops
- We have given £7,000 to local causes
- We have published the Charmouth Calendar, Puzzle Trail and History Trail
- We have contributed to the Charmouth Visitors' Guide
- We have lobbied successfully for better signage in the village
- We lobbied successfully for 1 hour parking in the village centre

- We lobbied successfully for the electricity cables to be buried
- We have managed to get some press coverage through PR

So what is planned for the future?

Firstly, we plan to run three events this year:

- Bonfire at the beach on 7 November
- Christmas Fayre
- New Year's Eve fireworks

The Christmas Fayre did not happen last year due to lack of support from village organisations. We want to reinstate this popular event so please contact us if you can get involved – we particularly want more stallholders.

The 2016 Charmouth Calendar, the new History Trail and the Puzzle Trail are in the shops now. We need good sales of these to help pay for the Christmas lights. The lamp post displays are now defunct and we want to purchase new ones to put up this December.

We want to improve the village environment and we are currently looking at flower boxes/ baskets/displays and how these might be achieved.

If you have other challenges for us, would like to join or would like to help us put on events then please contact Phil Tritton.

e-mail: phil.tritton@gmail.com
Tel: 07887 781348



2016 Charmouth Calendar – now available

Compiling the 2016 Charmouth Calendar was quite a challenge! 48 local photographers sent in over 300 photographs so whittling it down to the front cover and 12 monthly photographs was even more difficult this year. The high standard of the entries means that this is the best calendar yet and a selection of the runners-up is included at the end of the calendar to give you an idea of the diversity and quality of the photographs that were submitted.



The Christmas lights on the lamp posts have nearly all reached the end of their lives so we need good sales of the calendars to pay for new ones. They are on sale at £5.99 throughout the village.

Phil Tritton

The Tritton family celebrate 10 years at Charmouth Stores



How ten years can fly past! In February 2005, Carol and Phil Tritton and their son Alex took over Charmouth Stores. The family has grown since, now including Maria, Alex's wife, Maria's daughters Chloe and Amy and 2-year old Harry.

We had the idea of throwing a party for the villagers and on 21 February, 150 packed the Community Hall to enjoy complimentary cocktails (pick'n'mix for the children) and music from the popular band Stressed.

A raffle raised money for the Weldmar Hospice Trust and Geoff Prosser ran an excellent bar.

The event was a great success and many people reminisced about the 'good old days' when village events were more frequent

Next year Charmouth Stores will be 200 years old, making it one of the oldest shops in Dorset. Any suggestions for next year's celebration? *Actually 210 years old - Ed*

Phil Tritton

The Charmouth History Trail



Charmouth has a fascinating history and the Charmouth Local History Society (aka The Pavey Group) has produced a booklet that links the history to the buildings that line the main Charmouth streets. Compiled by Richard Dunn, the trail starts at the Heritage Coast Centre, continues up Lower Sea Lane and goes up and down both sides of The Street as well as along Barrs Lane. 42 buildings are covered and Richard highlights the architectural styles as well as uncovering many interesting historical facts.

Charmouth has a long history. The Street is thought to be a Roman Road and we are in the Domesday Book. Today the centre of the village is a Conservation Area with 33 listed buildings of many styles, some 400 years old.

The History Trail will introduce you to the history of the village, the buildings and the people who lived here or passed through. Largely based on research by local historians it aims to inform and, hopefully, to entertain. Amongst other things it includes:

- where Catherine of Aragon and King Charles II stayed the night
- when Florence Nightingale visited the doctors surgery
- the Abbot's House, a Monk's Rest and a Monks' Wall
- explanations of voussoirs, gablets, canted bays and oriel windows
- some scary stories of the supernatural and the Devil's Bellows
- our own Prince Charles
- how misbehaving in Charmouth could get you deported
- a collection of fine hats and a few heavy guns
- a stuffed shark, squirrels and pineapples.

The Charmouth History Trail is on sale in several outlets in the village and is priced at just £2

Phil Tritton

Charmouth Parking Refund Scheme

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



Letters

Great Work

I love reading Shoreline, particularly the articles about the history of the village. Visitors to our holiday cottages often comment how much they enjoy the magazine and cannot believe how much is going on in a relatively small place. Keep up the great work!

Mandy Harvey

There is a Phantom Poster Filcher in Charmouth

This abominable creature is addicted to removing posters from the village noticeboard.

Of course, there are good citizens who take away out-of-date notices and those which have no relevance to the village. Others sensibly move them around to make more space...but the PPF takes away posters which advertise current and future events in Charmouth.

The PPF also has a sidekick, the Shifty Substituter. This pitiful character removes or covers another organisation's posters in order to put up one for his own purposes.

These nasty little pieces of work who subvert the efforts of others should know that they are despicable.

I'm now going again to print and laminate a poster for Mosaic Workshops to be held over the holidays in Charmouth Central. This will be the third attempt at displaying the poster on the noticeboard. I wonder how long it will be there.

Hazel Robinson

Do you have any photographs or postcards of Charmouth, taken in years gone by? If so, then please get in touch with me. My name is Loma, I'm a writer living in Mintaka, and I'm hoping to publish a book about our wonderful village. I don't need to borrow any photos, I can easily scan them from photo albums or frames. Many thanks.

Contact Loma on 07968 288690 or lomajcowan@gmail.com

Would you like to receive emails regarding local charitable/not-for-profit events?

To Local residents with email access... I have a list of some 90 email addresses which I use on an ad hoc basis to advertise charitable/not-for-profit events. As the local noticeboards fill up quickly, I intend to circulate this group with details of the next four weeks' events, on a weekly basis. To add your name to my list, just send me an email with your details.

Subsequently, if you wish to come off the list - email me and I will delete you. I will, of course, not pass your details to anyone else.

If you would like to advertise your events via these emails at no cost, please send details, as text or attachments, to neil@freshford.com

Neil Mattingly

Charmouth Scout Group Creates Totem Pole to Celebrate its 50th Anniversary



To mark the 50th anniversary of its founding, over 40 Beavers, Cubs and Scouts from the 1st Charmouth Scout Group kicked off their celebrations by unveiling an eight-foot totem pole. They then returned to their HQ for a mammoth birthday party.

Created by members of the Scout Troop over the four preceding months, using driftwood collected from Charmouth beach, the totem pole was erected in the front garden of Charmouth Central. Each of the Scout Troop's Patrols created four of the 16 letters making up 'Charmouth Central' and made its own two-foot-long side panel. The two other sides were decorated by the older Scouts using larger items of driftwood. Carol Moorey, Assistant Scout Leader who supervised the project, was on hand to coordinate the unveiling and said "Decorating a totem pole with driftwood seemed like a simple idea to start with, but proved to be much more complex than I had imagined. However, by breaking the work into 22 separate sections it allowed all the Scouts to have an input into what turned out to be a very eye-catching and colourful way to commemorate the 50th anniversary of our founding."

After the unveiling, all the members returned to their HQ on the recreation ground, which had been decorated with bunting made from prints of the Scout Group's special 50th anniversary badge. Here they embarked on an hour of fun activities which included a mini field gun race, a stretcher race, a box kart driving skills test and a plank race. They also had a go at button badge making and various quizzes. Then it was the time they had all been waiting for – the chance to fill up their plates with the cakes and treats brought along by their parents.

Reviewing the afternoon's events, Kevin Payne, acting Group Scout Leader, said, "This was a true family occasion and a great advertisement for Scouting in Charmouth. It created the opportunity for teams comprising Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and parents to work together in tackling the 10 five-minute challenges before settling down for some well-deserved refreshments."

Kevin Payne - Scout Leader

Lyme Regis Rotary Club Quiz Night

The Rotary Club of Lyme Regis held its 6th Annual Charity Quiz Night in Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall on Saturday 28th March, raising nearly £1100. Proceeds will go to the 1st Charmouth Scout Group to help fund the rebuilding of their hut. Thanks to Dorchester Chocolates Factory Shop of Poundbury for donating a large chocolate Easter bunny which was raffled on the evening, substantially boosting the total raised. "Thank you to all who attended and contributed to making this such a fun filled evening and a successful fundraising event," said Rotary President Mark Tredwin. "Supporting the youth of the area has been a focus of this Rotary year, and contributing towards the Scouts is yet another example of this. We are delighted to be able to help in the re-building of their facilities."

John McCallum

Stonehenge Rocks



Propping Up Stonehenge – Barry Coleman & Phil Davidson.

A group of 31 Friends of the Heritage Coast Centre had a different view of the past when they took a day trip to Stonehenge. Instead of the many millions of years we deal with locally, our minds were trying to cope with just a few thousand years of human history.

Starting with a visit to the new visitor centre (very informative, with large screens showing the likely changes over time, models of the henges, and lots of artefacts, from skeletons, to pottery, and bone and stone tools), we then saw reconstructions of Neolithic buildings, built as authentically as possible and based on evidence from excavations of local dwellings. Then to what we think of as Stonehenge itself. In fact, this is the largest structure in an area littered with many – tumuli, walls, ditches, barrows, and long narrow rectangular earthwork bank and ditch areas named 'cursus' (cursi?).

The path took us right round the outside, and at one point we were much closer to the stones than we had been expecting, giving us good views as well as much debate and conjecture. The first major construction seems to have been a cursus built in the early Neolithic over 5500 years ago; followed about 3000BC, at a slight distance, by a simple wooden

henge with banks and ditches in the current location of the monument. About 300 years later, bluestones were 'imported' from the Preseli Mountains in south west Wales, a distance of 157 miles! It is still not known how this was achieved, but must have required enormous effort and organisation. The bluestones were uprooted about 200 years later, to be replaced by the structure we think of as the henge, using huge sandstone sarsen stones, somehow brought 20 miles from the Marlborough Downs. The bluestones were then relocated within the new ring of stones. Although it is not known how many years any of the work took, just think of the huge effort from what must have been hundreds of people using simple tools and technologies over what must have been very long periods. Could modern man repeat it? Interestingly, there are carvings of axes and other objects on some of the stones: similar carvings have been found in Brittany, but nowhere else in Britain.

Question is - why was it built just there? It is not on the top of a hill, nor is it at the bottom; it was certainly not convenient to build anything of stone there on the chalk downland where there are no large stones – there is no obvious reason. One of the guides suggested that there were a couple of natural features which might

have made the area special to peoples prior to construction of anything: two very long natural parallel grooves in the underlying chalk, which would have been much more obvious over 5000 years ago when they used the grooves to guide the construction of the first cursus; and the existence of what is now called the Heel Stone.

By the middle of the Bronze Age, about 1500BC, it had been abandoned, probably in ruins with many of the stones and lintels already fallen.

Impressive, fascinating and well worth a visit.

Eden Thomson

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Church Floodlights

Have you got something special to celebrate? Why not sponsor the floodlights on St. Andrews Church tower for your anniversary, birthday, wedding, new grandchild or to remember someone special? If you would like to light up the church tower for your special occasion or to just enjoy lighting up the street scene, please contact Helen Hughes on 01297 560487. The cost is £10 per night or £20 for the week, to go towards the lighting costs. We look forward to sharing your occasion with you!

Our thanks go to Mrs. V. Hares for sponsoring the lights over Easter week.

Helen Hughes

www.charmouth.org – the village website

It is now 5 years since Charmouth Traders set up the village website www.charmouth.org

The site has gone from strength to strength and nearly 225,000 pages were viewed last year.

Analysis of 2014/15 visits vs 2013/14

	April 2013 – March 2014	April 2014 – March 2015	+/- %
Sessions	92963	103332	+11.5%
Users	68771	78287	+13.8%
Page views	206896	224816	+8.7%
% new visitors	72.7%	73.8%	
Caravans & camping	25773	28912	+12.2%
Self catering	17332	19935	+15.0%
Food & Drink	15337	17189	+12.1%
B&Bs	12806	13082	+2.2%
Shops	7837	9330	+19.1%
Hotels	3430	4094	+19.4%
Services	1452	1654	+13.9%
Activities	7506	9176	+22.3%

Summary

The growth in visitors to our Charmouth website continues, with over 78,000 users making 103,332 visits and viewing nearly 225,000 pages during the last 12 months.

All business sectors achieved growth, with the accommodation section attracting the highest number of page views. Shops, activities and services also grew strongly.

Fossil hunting (+20.8%) and walks (+25.5%) recorded the largest increases of the general pages.

Did you know that Charmouth Traders offers a free page to village organisations? The Scouts, Bowling Club and Local History Society are now on there and if you want your society to be included please contact Ian Simpson (ian@whitehousehotel.com).

A Community Message from Dorset Police

There is now a new way of reporting lost property to Dorset Police. Simply visit www.reportmyloss.com and fill in the online form with the details of the lost item. This database is then searchable by Dorset Police, along with other Forces. There is therefore no longer the need to call 101 or attend a Police Station to report lost property.

Bridport Police Station now has revised opening times. The front counter is open Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9am to 5pm. Police Officers are always on patrol in the area 24 hours a day 365 days a year. They can be contacted by calling 101 for non-emergency issues or 999 if life is in danger or a crime is taking place.

Dorset Alert is a free way to receive information about crimes, events, crime prevention advice and other important messages from Dorset Police. You can sign up for free at www.dorsetalert.co.uk and choose to receive messages via email, phone call or text message. Did I mention it's free!

So far this year the following crimes have been reported in Charmouth:

A 21-year-old male from Charmouth has been given a 12 month conditional discharge, ordered to pay £500 compensation and given a restraining order until August 2017 after being arrested and charged with causing criminal damage in January 2015.

A 38-year-old male from Axminster has received a caution after causing criminal damage to a window at a property in Charmouth in January.

On 9th February a vehicle was stolen from the driveway of a property in Old Lyme Road. This vehicle was later recovered in Somerset and a 32-year-old male has been arrested in connection with the theft.

On 25th February a green 10ft Pioneer dinghy was stolen from the foreshore in Charmouth. If you own a boat then please make sure that it is adequately secured. Make notes of serial numbers of boats and trailers. Consider etching markings into metal parts to aid identification and deter theft.

In March damage was caused to two sheds on the playing field on Barrs Lane. The door to one shed has been damaged and windows to another have been smashed. No entry is thought to have been gained to either, and nothing stolen. Damage of this kind is rare in Charmouth, and extra patrols are being made in the area to maintain the low levels of anti-social behaviour usually experienced in the village.

If you wish to report a crime or incident or speak with a member of the Safer Neighbourhood Team, then please call 101. If a crime is taking place or life is in danger then call 999. You can also follow us on social media, @LymeRegisSNT on Twitter or search for Bridport, Beaminster & Lyme Regis Safer Neighbourhood Teams on Facebook, to keep up to date with news local to your area.

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

Charmouth Local History Society, the Pavey Group

The society has recently teamed up with the traders to create a Charmouth History Trail, which is presented as a booklet at £2 a copy. It provides an interesting and informative guide to Charmouth's history. The booklet is available in most of the retail outlets in the village and can be bought directly from the Pavey Group.

If any of you have articles, recollections or memoirs to offer us for publication in the Village Echo on a Charmouth or local theme, please let us know.

We are currently experiencing difficulties because we don't have technical support for our printers and computers. If any readers can offer us some of their time to get our machines to behave, we would be very grateful for that support. Incidentally, we still have some old printers to dispose of, and they come with new and unused, though ageing print cartridges. If interested, see contact details below.

Do have a look at our website www.charmouthlocalhistorysociety.org.uk to see what our brief is and what we are planning in the future. If you can help us with technical support or would like to buy the booklet, please contact us via the website or email gainford.telfer@tiscali.co.uk

Russell Telfer, Hon Secretary

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Charmouth Fayre Update 2015

As mentioned in the winter Issue of Shoreline the Fayre team have started to review how to deliver a different event in 2016. An event which is less effort to set up and yet attempts to attract a wider audience, both in age range and in increased numbers. We have a number of exciting ideas for 2016, however some of these need time to develop and also require advance notice for bookings. We will update you in future editions of Shoreline.

We are having our second Party in the Park event on **Sunday 2nd August**. It will begin at 6.30pm and end at 10 pm. It will be a fun-filled evening with great local bands, good food, a well-stocked bar including Pimms and ending with a fantastic firework display. On the 24th May we had the band Coast who gave us a brilliant night of music and dancing. On the 2nd August we have The Side Kicks, a versatile band who have played Charmouth before and are back by popular demand. Both these bands played well received sets at the Guitars on the Beach event in Lyme last year.

We ask that you **bring your own fold away seats and rugs** for the event which will make life much easier for those who have the job of clearing up at the end of the evening.

Please contact David Clifford on daclifford@aol.com, or Peter Noel on 01297 560078, if you have some fun and innovative ideas for the future of our village Fayre.

David Clifford

Charmouth Bowls Club News

Open Day Success

A day of glorious weather, combined with one of the Club's best turn-out of visitors made Sunday 19th April, the new season "open day", one of the best on record. Members were delighted to welcome over 20 visitors who had come along to sample the game of lawn bowls.

Visitors, keen to assess their skills on the green, were each allocated a place on one of the four rinks where they were able to play alongside members. Breaking for refreshments in mid-afternoon, the Club Chairman Jim Greenhalgh took the opportunity to welcome all of the guests, thanking them for their interest and assuring them of a warm welcome to the Club should they decide to pursue the game further. He did also clarify that there was no commitment to playing three days a week and that members were free to come along on any of the play days that suited their circumstances. Having suffered a decline in membership in recent years, the Chairman commented that should the new surge in interest be sustained then the Club would be able to move forward on a much firmer footing.

For anyone who has an interest in the game but was unable to get along to the "open day", there is an open invitation from the Club to drop in to any of their forward bowls sessions, which are every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday at 2.00pm throughout the summer.

Summer BBQ & Bowls Day

The Club are once again planning to hold their annual Summer BBQ & Bowls Day on Sunday 12th July. The event starts at 12.00 noon with the BBQ + a selection of salads & sweets, tea and coffee (BYO wines + glasses is required), followed by an afternoon of bowls. Non-members who would like to join in on this day are most welcome and bowls tuition can be provided if needed. A charge of £7.50/person is made to cover catering. Booking is essential by calling our Hon. Sec. Jackie on 01297 560295 or e-mail jmlrolls@msn.com.

Jim Greenhalgh





CHARMOUTH GARDENERS

Summer Village Show
- Saturday 8th August

2.30pm - both Village Halls

Entrance £1 adults - accompanied children free.

Please do join us on the day, beautiful displays of flowers, vegetables, home produce (cakes, pastries, bread, jams, marmalades and 'men only' classes).

Plus a Handicraft section (knitting, needlework, woodwork, craftwork or painting - Subjects this year 'Human beings' or 'Flowers/fruit/ vegetables' - any combination or singly). Photographs are a very popular area and the Children's sections would always welcome more entrants! There are many more classes, too numerous to mention them all, particularly in the flowers, vegetables and photography sections so please do remember the date OR...

Better still, please do join in and enter an item of your own; this is a friendly village show (not highly competitive) and the more entries we receive the better the displays and enjoyment for all.

A free programme/schedule with entrance form listing all the categories, can be collected from the Charmouth Post Office from July 8th with details for return by Wednesday 5th August. Gardening members will have the schedule delivered as usual.

There are prize certificates and cups to be won but for most of us that is not the aim of the day; it is just for the fun! It is free entry to all classes and really lovely to see everyone's efforts, so if you have never entered please do try it this year. Otherwise, we hope to welcome you on the day...

Refreshments and lovely home cooked cakes available during the afternoon.

Pauline Bonner

The Almshouse Charity

YOU MAY KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO NEEDS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PERHAPS THE CHARMOUTH ALMSHOUSE CHARITY CAN HELP ...

Aims:

1. To assist with students' books and equipment and travelling expenses (where they are a necessary part of the course). Initial new school uniform.
2. To help those who are in financial difficulties due to theft, loss of job, accident, desertion or a death.
3. To pay towards travelling expenses to hospital and funeral expenses.
4. Annually to issue grocery vouchers to those deemed in need.

To be eligible for help, beneficiaries must live within the Charmouth Parish boundary.

The Almshouse Charity:

The Charity was founded in 1642 by a Robert Salter who left £300 for the purchase of land for the poor. Over the years there have been several other endowments for the village, all operated and accounted for separately until 1921 when on amalgamation, they became Charmouth United Charities. In 1994, on the advice of The Commissioners for Charities, the name was changed to The Almshouse Charity (the largest of all the endowments), thus simplifying accounting and records.

To apply for assistance or for further information please contact the Secretary - Tel: (01297) 560465 or write to: "Swansmead", Riverway, Charmouth, Dorset DT6 6LS

Anthea Gillings

Remember - The deadline for copy for the Shoreline autumn issue is 1st September, in the shops 1st October 2015

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ROCKS MINERALS FOSSILS

News from St. Andrew's Church

I gave a very full account of our plans for restoring and redeveloping our Parish Church in the last issue of Shoreline, so I do not intend to repeat that this time! But I'm glad to report that there has been some significant progress in the last four months!

Firstly, thanks to the hard work of Mike Lake and John Berridge, the rear room in the west end of the building has been completely renovated – and looks much, much, better than it ever did before the dry rot disaster of 2014! We have built a new, larger, disabled toilet – equipped with baby changing facility! We have a new set of kitchen units, and other cupboards. There is a nice new (denim blue) carpet. We have cleared away unnecessary cupboards, and through removing the old plasterwork have exposed the very attractive original stonework. With nice bright lighting and modern heaters, the overall impression is of a good 21st century facility! The cost of this work (including new drainage to the west of the tower) is in the region of £30,000. Some of this has been covered by grants, but the net cost will run to between £5000 and £10,000. Any donations towards this would be most gratefully received!! We would like to make this lovely facility for small gatherings available to the community to hire. Please contact Pauline Berridge on 560957 if you are interested.

We have decided to name the whole restoration project 'Changing Spaces'! The idea is to make St. Andrew's a high quality multi-use facility for the whole community, and as a Welcome Centre for visitors to Charmouth and the central Jurassic Coast. We have commenced employment of our Project Manager, Tom Roberts. He has a great track record in obtaining large grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund. We have given him a comprehensive list of all contacts/organisations in the village who might have an interest in this major restoration. When he gets in touch, please offer your thoughts on how this building might be used by you for exhibitions, concerts, publicity, arts performances, hospitality, services, prayer and meditation. We need to pay for his services over the next year – at a cost of around more than £5,000. Again, help towards this employment would be gratefully received. The Project Group are planning various fund raising events – look out!

Our Church held its Annual Parochial Church Meeting on

Sunday 26th April. Sadly no one responded to my appeal in the last issue of Shoreline to offer to become our next Treasurer. Various people were approached – but it seems that the few people with this kind of financial expertise who reveal their skills are already very busy being treasurers of other organisations! Things looked bad for us until Anne Follett agreed to do a 'trial run' as interim Treasurer, working with Audrey Worth to see if she can manage the job! However, if anyone out there is interested in helping us – the PCC would still be delighted to hear from you!! Pauline Berridge remains our one churchwarden.



Our recent 'Celebrate Charmouth' service on 26th April went well, although numbers were disappointing. We greatly enjoyed the "Luggers Band" who played and sang brilliantly, enthusing us to join in a multitude of favourite popular songs. We heard from Phil Tritton of the work of the Traders Association. We applaud their many activities to benefit our local community, and support them wholeheartedly. We were reminded by Ros Bizley of the village Prayer and Healing Tree. You can place the name of a 'Loved One' who is unwell upon it at any time – asking God to

enfold them in love. We ended with a wonderful assortment of cakes and scones, through the McNairs. We intend to hold another 'Celebrate Charmouth' in two or three months' time. All welcome.

The FreeXchange Café has continued to go very well – with well over a hundred people attending each Café in February and April. Thanks go to the Café team, led by Ed Pemberton, for continuing to run this with me. The next FreeXchange Café is rescheduled for **27 June, 10am – noon**.

Finally, St. Andrew's needs to run other fund raising events in order to pay its normal 'running costs'. We are holding two more Bazaars and Table Top Sales in the Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane, on: **1 August and 28 November, 10am – 1.30pm**. Please support us by booking a table to run a stall of your choice, contributing items, or simply turning up to give or buy items!!

Our regular Services continue to be held every Sunday at 9.30am (plus 8am on 3rd Sunday of month).

Revd Stephen Skinner, Team Rector



SATURDAY 27 JUNE is the next Free Exchange Café - this is a change from the previously advertised date, due to a scheduling clash. If you have any spare seedlings or plants, they would be particularly welcome at this time of year. But please remember you don't have to bring anything to come or to take anything home. It is as much about enjoying a coffee and

pastry, meeting friends or perusing the papers as it is about the freecycling aspect. What makes it such a success is that the atmosphere is relaxed and welcoming, with the added bonus of possibly finding something you love or need for free or the satisfaction of seeing something you gave find a new home.

Exchange Cafe dates for 2015

**27th June
19th September
7th November**

Contact Edward on
edwardpem@gmail.com



Charmouth Library and Community Hub

We move smoothly towards the summer, with our volunteers in the library, the servery and the garden working well. We are always delighted to welcome fresh faces, so if you would like good company, and want to put something back into the Community, we would love to see you.

I can tell summer is coming as we had our first outdoor book sale at Lyme's May Fete. One of the people who helped put our book stock together was Michael, a Duke of Edinburgh award candidate, who is doing some community service with us. His selection was brilliant. We sold a bigger proportion of books from his box than any other! We may have to put him on the permanent staff!

Our grateful thanks go to the Parish Council, who are helping us with our newly created sensory garden. Some trees were overhanging the footpath and our garden area. The Parish Council has kindly agreed to have their trees trimmed, together with some branches from our trees, which will improve growing conditions for our plants.

Apart from taking books out of the library, anyone can make use of our wi-fi, add to the unfinished jigsaw, which is always on the go, or have some refreshments and chat to the volunteers. Visitors passing through may wish to buy one of our donated books.

Most of the groups using the library seem to be prospering. Currently these include Bridge, Canasta, a sewing circle, Tea and Chat. Memorable Memories, a monthly Film Club and Rhymetime for the under 5s. Details appear on our notice board outside the library and the Charmouth village website (www.charmouth.org) under the Events section. If you have a hobby, interest, just need to hold a meeting, or have a party and would like to use our facilities, they are very reasonable. Please contact Kim Oatway on oatwaykim@gmail.com and she will be very pleased to assist.

Keep on reading!

Bob Hughes, Acting Chair

Mosaics Workshops

Saturdays 25 July and 1, 8, 15, 22 August at 11.00 sharp

Adults £4 booked ahead at Charmouth Central or £5 on the door

Ages 8-18 £1 (not suitable for younger children except as 'helpers')

Charmouth Central Garden

Would you like to contribute something to the Charmouth Central garden? This is what we seek - but we're also open to suggestions:

1. A native elderberry - hard to buy, as the garden centres only have fancy varieties - but you may have a seedling you consider a nuisance!
2. Ground cover plants - bergenia, epimedium, muscari, pachysandra, ferns, lily of the valley, snowdrops, bluebells etc. As you thin out yours, please consider giving us your leftovers. If you can plant them where you see the gaps on the left side of the garden (from the front aspect), even better. That's how the informality of the Wild Garden was created last year - not crowd-funded so much as crowd-planted!
3. The same applies to lavender - we need more at the front where there are gaps.

4. We would love to have a thyme table in front of the blue bench in the Wild Garden. This needs a raised wooden trough. Do you have one you no longer want which we could adapt or would you like to do as Alan and I have with the turquoise bench and donate it while you're still around to enjoy it?

5. As always, we need more help in keeping the garden looking good. The Garden Gang has lately reduced so there are too few of us and the odd half-hour or so of your assistance would make all the difference. Even a few weeds pulled up as you are passing would help.

Since the garden was created, there have been more compliments about it than about anything else, so we're trying to keep it that way...and with your help, that should be possible.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or offers.

Hazel Robinson,
hazelrosery@aol.com



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Charmouth's Friendly Flying Pharmacist



Mike Davis was the Pharmacist in Charmouth from 1967 -1987.

Mary Davis's story:

My husband Mike's introduction to flying was through his ineptitude at golf. In the early 1970s he was a member of Lyme Regis Golf Club. Although he enjoyed spending time out in the open air, in beautiful scenery with his friends, he was hopeless at golf and was not improving. He therefore decided to give up golf and take up a new challenge. He started taking flying lessons at Exeter Flying Club in May 1972, and successfully learnt to fly light aircraft such as the Cessna 152s and 172s. After 11 flying hours, Mike was flying solo.



Then, after 40 hours of actual flying time, an oral, two written, a general flying and cross country flying test, Mike achieved his Private Pilot's Licence (PPL) in August 1972, three months after starting to fly.

On getting his PPL, Mike would often take family and friends flying. He would fly low over Charmouth, and it was amazing how clear things appeared on the ground. The villagers, on hearing the aircraft approach, would come out and wave towels. Mike would rock the aircraft's wings from left to right to acknowledge them. When my sister Patsy came for her Charmouth holiday, to go flying with Mike became one of the highlights of her stay. As a family, we would enjoy an afternoon at the club house and also take friends to join our social evenings with eating, chatting and dancing.

Mike quickly combined his hobby of photography with flying, taking aerial photographs of Charmouth and the surrounding area in the 1970s and 1980s. I took an aerial photo of Charmouth, with Lyme Regis in the background and the image was printed on trays which were sold in Morgans.

On one occasion Mike took our sons Geoff and Rob to Northern France, stopping at Guernsey

to re-fuel. Flying a light aircraft back then was not without risks. His co-pilot on the French trip was later killed in an air accident and another of his pilot colleagues crashed, his aircraft killing both passengers.

Rob Davis's Story

One of my earliest memories is Dad telling us he was going up in an aeroplane next day. He had telephoned Exeter Flying Club to say that he wanted to learn to fly and they invited him immediately for a flight. I was thrilled when he told me. This was before the days of the cheap package holiday abroad and it was relatively uncommon for anyone to go flying.

For a birthday treat, Dad took me flying. I needed to sit on a couple of cushions so that I could see over the dashboard. As a seven-year-old, I was slightly concerned there were no windscreen wipers. Dad explained that they were not necessary because the propeller would blow away any rain from the windscreen. When we were airborne, he allowed me to take the controls for a few moments. I remember the control column was very sensitive, and the slightest movement to the left would bank the aircraft suddenly, and a small push forward would put us into a dive.

On our trip to France, we re-fuelled at Guernsey. The approach was particularly hairy because the runway was just above a steep cliff face and it seemed as if we were diving directly into it. However, Dad expertly pulled up over the cliff and made a perfect landing on the runway."

Gwen Oxenbury and I were passengers when Dad was having a test where he had to rely only on his instruments. A visor hid eye contact with the windscreen and outside world. During our trip I wanted to tell him that he was approaching the runway. I kept quiet! He passed the runway, circled and then landed on the runway correctly.

In 1981 Richard Stirk and Dad went to Barbados on a commercial flight. I read in his log book that the two flew around the islands in a hired Cessna 172. It was a bit risky as the runways were so short, however they landed on Martinique, St Vincent, St Lucia and The Grenadines.

One activity that the pilots at Exeter took part in was called the "breakfast patrol." The aim was to fly to a neighbouring airfield and land without its pilots being able to take the registration number of the aircraft. Those who successfully evaded being spotted were rewarded with a free cooked breakfast.

Dad did very well at flying, and was awarded a trophy for airmanship. He went on to become

chief ground instructor in aviation subjects at Exeter Flying Club, and was also in radio telephony for the Civil Aviation Authority. He would often go down to the club on his yellow Honda 250 motor bike. At one time, he had to take a news reel from Exeter to London so that it could be broadcast on national television news, which meant landing at a London airport.

Dad loved flying, and he took many of the villagers for a quick spin around Devon and Dorset.



Charmouth's Richard Stirk with Mike Bowditch and Kevin Trott at Exeter Flying Club.

Richard Stirk's Story

Mike found a special offer in a flying magazine, which offered a holiday for two weeks in Barbados with several days flying light aircraft from Grantley Adams airport.

Mike and I left Gatwick in a Laker Airway DC 10 on 11th October 1981. All the crew were West Indian and after four hours we stopped in the Azores to re-fuel.

We were presented to the flying club at Barbados, where Mike Sinckler looked after us. We firstly went to the office to check our PPLs were in order. Mr Sinckler then took Mike and me flying individually, where he gave us (where he actually turn off the fuel supply), flap failure and emergency landing procedure, to name but a few. It was quite an ordeal

One day we travelled 300 nautical miles with Mr Sinckler around the islands to Martinique, St Vincent and St Lucia, taking it in turns to be captain. One mistake and we could have landed in the sea.

Another day, when Mike and I were flying 2000 feet over Barbados, we had a call from the control tower wanting us to relay an urgent message to a coast guard aircraft somewhere in the ocean.

It was an experience of a lifetime. From the passport and immigration controls which were merely huts, to flying over a large ship wreck split in half in the ocean. Luckily, I have a photograph album to capture these wonderful memories.



Charmouth Christian Fellowship



What a wonderful time of the year this is; spring turning into summer. All the new seeds and shoots that just started to show last month are now growing and maturing into flowers or veggies. Young birds and animals are taking their first steps; everything is fresh and new. The holiday season is starting to get underway and the village is getting busier as more holidaymakers come. We at Charmouth Christian Fellowship consider it a privilege to live in a place that so many people are attracted to and even more of a privilege to have

holidaymakers join us in church. Last year we had a number that came back two or three times and we look forward to folk joining us at our evening service this year.

I find it sad, with so much going on around us, that so many can't or won't believe in God the creator. More than once I have been told: "Well, if there is a God we don't need Him; we are so advanced now we can do everything". I admit we can achieve remarkable things, like landing a spacecraft on a lump of rock travelling at some incredible speed a million miles away. By anyone's standards it is remarkable. And we can sit in the comfort of our own home and speak on Skype to our son and daughter-in-law in Thailand. Yet, can we build a machine or robot that can live and breathe, grow, develop and mature, have a unique identify with emotions that can laugh and cry and love and that can reproduce itself? This has been the way of life from the very start.

We at CCF believe there is one God, creator of all. That He sent His Son Jesus for our sake. If you believe this or even if at the moment you don't understand, all will be welcome to our service at 6.00pm each Sunday at The Elms. All from CCF wish all the readers of Shoreline a really great summer.

Tony English

Bymead House Nursing Home

Bymead House dedicated to providing the best possible care for its residents right up until the end of their lives, has been recognised with a major national award.

Bymead was among the 15 homes from across the UK to achieve the success in winning a Quality Hallmark Award from the National Gold Standards Framework (GSF) Centre, the UK's largest provider of training in end of life care. Staff from Bymead received the award at a special ceremony at the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) in London on the 27th March 2015.



To be accredited, homes have to meet strict criteria in 20 different areas ranging from leadership and support to dignity and respect, as well as submit a portfolio of evidence.

The Framework enables a step by step approach to improve

supportive palliative care in a measurable, sustained and peaceful way for people nearing the end of their lives. The Framework aims to reduce the number of hospital admissions in the last stages of life and ensure that our residents can pass away with dignity at home in a familiar setting, surrounded with the people they love.

Everyone in the home, from the nurses to the activities coordinator and catering staff, are involved in regular reviews with the residents. All aspects of their lives are considered including spiritual beliefs, personal interests and care preferences. Staff talk to the residents about their end of life care, giving them the opportunity to make decisions and say what they want. This has helped our residents and their families feel secure that they will be comfortable and their preferences are considered at all times.

Upcoming Events

Bymead has a range of events coming up during the summer including a street party in June, a garden party in July and our annual summer BBQ in August. All are welcome to attend!

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Charmouth Poetry Corner

DORSET DASHING

by Peter Crowter

While playing golf in Florida I met this ancient Scot,
Bob was nearly ninety and he couldn't see a lot.
How he saw a golf ball, it was difficult to tell,
But he had a wife to help him; she played golf as well.

Way back in the fifties Jessie said, 'Now listen Bob,
Let's move to America, you'll get a better job'
And though t'was all those years ago they'd left their Scottish home,
Their accents were as Scottish as the day they left to roam.

He asked me where I came from, I said 'Heard of Charmouth Bob?'
'Do you mean near Lyme Regis where they've got that famous Cobb?'
Have you heard of Dorset Dashing?' said he with a straight face.
'Never heard of that one, do you mean some sort of race?'

'We have the Charmouth Fun Run, it's an annual event'
He gave a little grin and said, 'Nay, that's not what I meant.
I used to be a builder and we pebble-dashed our walls?'
I said 'That is the finish on one of our village halls.'

'In Scotland we used granite chips, 'cause pebbles we had none,
Someone thought of Dorset where they have them by the ton.
So from West Bay to Scotland, many lorry loads were sent,
And the Scottish builders thought the money was well spent.

They tried to throw them on the walls but found they would not stick,
The mortar had to be just right and not too thin or thick.
And when they got the hang of it then others used it too
They called it 'Dorset Dashing', and maybe they still do.

Timothy Tamus Goes Swimming

Back in 1970 much-loved local artist Peter Bagley took his children to a safari park. Little did he realise then that the visit would lead, decades later, to the publication of a children's story.

On that day, 45 years ago, Peter bought a toy hippo for his son Neil, then aged about seven. Neil was immediately captivated by the hippo, which he called Timothy. It became one of his best-loved toys.

Timothy inspired Peter to create a series of colourful hippo drawings and he wrote a simple story around them... Timothy Tamus was born. Peter's illustrated story was subsequently enjoyed over the years by his children and their friends.

The story led him to write three books on his hobby of jewellery making - Making Silver Jewellery (1982), The Encyclopaedia of Jewellery Techniques (1986) and Making Modern Jewellery (1992), which were published by Batsford and Cassell. I'd add that Peter's intricate gold and silver jewellery was of such significance that it was exhibited at Goldsmiths' Hall and a ring and cross he designed were used for a bishop's enthronement at Westminster Abbey.

Years later, when the eldest of Peter and Lily's four grandchildren was born, Peter updated the Timothy Tamus story for the next generation of his family and, now they are older, he was persuaded to have the book printed. His very appealing and charmingly illustrated book is called "Timothy

Tamus Goes Swimming". It's an absolute delight for young children and is now available at his studio at Aurora, on the corner of Lower Sea Lane and St Andrew's Drive, or by phone (560063), as well as at Charmouth Post Office and Serendip bookshop in Lyme Regis. It costs £3.95.

If you have pre-school age children who would like to see the original Timothy model and listen to Peter reading his new book, please bring them along to the half-hour Library Storytelling & Rhymetime session at Charmouth Central at 9.30am on Monday 8 June. Organiser Mandy Harvey says: "The more, the merrier".



Charmouth School children are entering an 'in school' competition to draw Timothy and win a copy of his book. Similarly, pre-school children are invited to draw him too and win a book. Please send their entries (scanned) to editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk or put them through the door of The Moorings, Higher Sea Lane. Whichever method you use, please add the child's name, age and parents' contact details. The deadline for the pre-school children's competition is Tuesday 1 September. The results of the two competitions will be published in the autumn issue, together with the winning drawings.

With the summer season ahead, look out for Peter's art exhibition open days. You'll see the poster appear on his fence at Aurora. But now there's a difference. Timothy Tamus will be lurking amongst Peter's inspiring selection of watercolours and acrylics.

If you'd like to read more about Peter's life and creative techniques, see page 16 of the winter 2009 issue of Shoreline on www.charmouth.org

Lesley Dunlop

Flora, Fauna and Family Fun Down Under



'Of course you must go!' family and friends chorused to Lizzi, my stepdaughter, her husband Anthony and baby Jacob, when they had the chance of a lifetime to move to Western Australia to better jobs and lifestyle. 'But we'll be out to visit!' They emigrated, with tears and smiles all round, in January 2014, and many of us made arrangements to descend upon them...

Mike and I visited in March this year, very excited to see our family and how they have settled in to their new life. Lizzi, meanwhile, had planned a fun-packed holiday; during our three weeks there we enjoyed three birthday parties, four barbecues, visits to museums and arty Freemantle (like a sunnier Bridport) and the marina at Mandurah, not unlike West Bay, but a bit warmer. We made visits to the sparkling metropolis of nearby Perth (scorching) and also to deserted beaches, with swimming togs, buckets and spades in tow. We drank gumleaf bush tea and Twinings Australian Afternoon Tea, and ate the intriguingly named Golden Gaytime icecream – a firm favourite in Oz apparently since the 60s. And needless to say the seafood and steaks were sublime.



As well as cultural outings, we were blown away by the exceptionally rich abundance of wildlife, both flora and fauna. Western Australia is known as the wildflower state. Kings Park in Perth was bursting with late summer blooms, in particular the lovely dusty yellow mimosa, and many types of banksia. This flower, which has a bushy cylindrical shape, apparently has over 170 varieties, and most of these are only found in South West Australia.

As well as grey and pink galahs and yellow correllas – breeds of cockatoos - birds all the colours of the rainbow flitted in the trees; while I squeaked in delight, a Perth resident who overheard me was not so pleased. 'They aren't indigenous here' she explained. 'They are Eastern Rosellas and really belong on

the other side of the country; they were introduced in the 1920s and they have been so successful, they are stealing the habitat of native birds....'

Margaret River

While we were pleased to see the birdlife, I was very keen to see kangaroos in the wild, not least because we thought they would make the perfect backdrop to show Shoreline on its travels. Apparently there are more roos than people in WA so it wouldn't be that difficult. We drove south to the wine region of Margaret River for a family break, and we weren't disappointed – from the car I spied some distant kangaroos taking time out under the shade of a eucalyptus tree so we screeched to a halt to take photos. 'It seems to be a mother and baby' I said, squinting into the sun and pulling hard on the zoom on my little camera. When I downloaded the images to my laptop, however, 'oh my, it must be mating season....'



We stayed at a campsite in a little chalet surrounded by bush forest and were woken by a cacophony of kookaburras calling to each other – a very Australian awakening. Not only that, but a family of kookaburras patiently taught us that their preferred snack was bacon rind; they brought us crickets and cicadas and beat them with their enormous beaks to show us how to kill our prey and then sat looking hopefully at us until the penny dropped that they were waiting for a main course. We introduced Shoreline, not only to them, but to a family of three young kangaroos (joeys) who appeared outside our chalet one morning. And at sunset we were serenaded by possums dashing between the trees; evidently it was mating season for them too....

Karakamia Sanctuary

Mike and I also went on our own wildlife quest to the Karakamia Wildlife Sanctuary to the north of Perth. This reserve (and others) is run by the Australian Wildlife Conservancy to preserve endangered species, in particular from feral cats and foxes. I hadn't appreciated how many varieties of hopping marsupials there are in Australia, but they range from 6' kangaroos to tiny hopping mice, and every size in between. In Karakamia, which is surrounded by electric fencing, there are now substantial populations of Tammar wallabies (adults are about the size of a hare), woylies (also known as a brush-tailed bettong, rabbit-sized), as well as bandicoots and possums. We joined a wildlife-spotting guided tour to find these unique little creatures. What made the tour doubly intriguing was that it was a two-hour walk through the bush after sunset – a safari in the dark! No Shoreline photo ops there.

Our group, appropriately dressed in dark clothing with limbs covered up to avoid mosquito and snake bites, quietly followed our guide, Katie. She made her way with an adapted torch with a red beam while we carried our own torches covering the white beam with our hands so that we wouldn't scare away the wildlife. Before long, we were all adept at spotting wallabies and woylies, hopping about in the undergrowth. The woylies in

particular seemed very excited. 'It's mating season', said our guide.

All around Perth we had noticed charred fields and vegetation, with burnt stumps and logs – the result of the regular bush fires. Alongside many roads there were signs indicating the likelihood of fires to forewarn householders. In Karakamia our guide pointed out that from many of the charred stumps, there were sproutings of new and verdant vegetation. Apparently there are many plant species that actually need the heat of a fire to germinate.

Rottnest Island

Lizzi and Anthony had another family treat in store, to visit Rottnest Island, some 45mins by ferry from near where they live. 'It's great!' said Anthony 'there are no cars on the island, the only way to get around is by bike'. I must have looked doubtful. 'But that is the best way to see the quokkas'. 'The what, you might ask? Another hopping thing! Quokkas are marsupials, about the size of a cat and again are indigenous to Western Australia. The quokka has a very appealing, smiley face and I couldn't leave Oz without seeing one.



My younger step-daughter Katherine and her friend, Rachel, had by now arrived for their own Australian holiday adventure which overlapped with ours by a few days. So with rented bicycles, helmets, water and baby buggy for Jacob, it was like 'six and a quarter go mad on Rottnest'. It is fair to say that, with the exception of Anthony, who is a regular gym-user, the rest of us were a little out of shape. More than one of us had not been on a bike since childhood.... And far from being a leisurely cycle around the flat periphery of the island, it turned out to be up hills and down dales and something of a family race to see who could get to the meeting point first, huff puff... My husband said a thousand times how amazed he was that

I hadn't fallen off/crashed/had some sort of seizure. But the island was spectacularly beautiful and what turned into a rather challenging 15 mile bike ride was also great fun – and better still the quokkas were plentiful and very, very friendly, as they had no predators and didn't see us as a threat.

Caversham Wildlife Park

Our final family outing was to another wildlife park, this time the very family orientated Caversham Wildlife Park near Perth. Along with an audience of families from all over the world, we watched sheep-herding by kelpie dogs and a mounted stockman (or woman in this case) and impressively rapid sheep-shearing – a whole fleece in minutes, in one piece. We managed to avoid audience participation for the whip-cracking demonstration, but I was, alas, evidently too old to be a lamb-feeder. Throughout the park

we saw animals from across the Australian continent including a number of white kangaroos, apparently rejected by the herd, and then adopted by Caversham.

Lizzi and Ant, who knew the ropes for the activities at Caversham, positioned us so we effectively skipped a queue for the 'touching the wombat' ritual – literally over a hundred visitors queued up to have a photo taken with a rather nonplussed wombat ; alas, there was no time to pull out our, by now, rather tatty copy of Shoreline.

Our last stop at the wildlife park was the koala enclosure and although cuddles were off limits, when the Caversham warden saw Shoreline he said 'no worries!' The koalas showed a keen interest in Charmouth's favourite magazine – and we got lots of photos!

Jo Seaman

West Dorset Conservatives Charmouth & Wootton- Fitzpaine Branch

As we go to press tantalisingly close to Election Day, it is difficult to know what to say. Whoever takes power will have won what feels like a marathon. However we Conservatives know how to celebrate, so, whatever the result we will, by the time of reading, have had a 'Thank Goodness It's All Over Party', and will already be looking forward to a Summer Barbecue on the 26th July.

Given that the result will be close, a rainbow coalition is highly likely. This may well fall apart, so we are getting in an early appeal for more people to work as election leaflet deliverers/canvassers. This is no easy task. Apart from the obvious risks of dogs and letter boxes which may bite your fingers off, you will be warned, at Canvassing School, of Opposition Party 'Honey traps'. There are many variants from cups of tea, coffee, cakes and alcoholic drinks, to the stop-at-nothing, diehard supporters who drag you into their homes and beguile you into much time wasting. We have a list of dangerous addresses; now we need courageous volunteers!

The Election Campaign has been fantastic for those who enjoy endless sniping and negative campaigning, as each party addresses the shortcomings of their rivals rather than their positive view of the future if elected. It seems to me those people are made up of candidates, their advisers

and the media (Shoreline excepted). The rest of Britain has been crying out for proper debate, a positive vision for the future, argued with personal conviction and passion, without constantly criticising their political opponents. It is fair to say we have been disappointed. The politicians' advisers have kept them firmly on the negative campaign trail.

...And then, just when I am convinced all politicians are tarred with the same brush, Oliver Letwin breaks ranks. In a letter to wavering Conservative voters, he sets out a clear and positive statement of what he wishes to achieve. He then concludes, 'I will continue to conduct my politics with courtesy and respect for those holding other political views.' If this dangerous thought caught on, it could have unforeseen consequences. It would put an end to 'Prime Minister's Question Time' as we know and loathe it. We might start to think that MPs were conscientious individuals, trying to do their best for the country, but with a slightly different view of where the country should be heading, and the optimum way of achieving it. The standings of other professions would suffer as the ratings of politicians rose. Once again, who would dare to utter the phrase, 'One of my best friends is an Estate Agent, and another is an Accountant.'

I have written to Oliver Letwin and suggested it would be for the best if he claimed this aberration was caused by a computer virus, planted by an unscrupulous rival. If he fails to recant he would, on the evidence of this Election Campaign, be a lonely and isolated individual.

Bob Hughes (Personal View!)
Treasurer (01297 560487)

You have more chance of winning the lottery than being involved in a flying accident.

Over the last couple of years you might be forgiven for questioning the long held belief that flying on an aeroplane is far and away the safest form of travel. There is no doubt that the several high profile accidents and disappearances we have witnessed in the last eighteen months have dented the public's confidence in the airline industry. As a retired airline pilot of some 38 years' experience I have frequently been asked for my opinion about the subject. First of all it is important to remember that the airline industry has achieved astonishing if not miraculous levels of safety and expertise in a relatively short time. Every day, around the world over fifty thousand commercial flights depart and arrive carrying over eight million passengers utilising the skills of over 130,000 pilots. They arrive (more or less) on time and, more importantly, in complete safety. This is an extraordinary achievement. We now take flying for granted. Travelling half way round the world in a matter of hours has become rather humdrum and almost boring. It is a testament to the expertise and commitment of all involved that this remains the case.

The trouble is that whenever an accident or incident does occur it is a huge, headline-grabbing disaster. Newspapers make it their business to generate suitably dramatic headlines, declaring that we are no longer safe, that disaster is around every corner and that life as we know it is probably finished! After all it sells newspapers, as a newspaper editor said to me once.

Despite the most recent tragedy in the Alps let me assure you that pilots are everything you expect them to be when you step on board your flight. A career as a pilot means a working life in which there are endless checks and examinations and I don't know of many other professions where your competency is checked twice a year in a simulator, your health is checked at least once a year or

maybe twice depending on age and where you are under continuous scrutiny every time you go to work. Most pilots share common personality traits (ask any cabin crew member!) and, spending as we do, a lot of time locked away in that little space known as the flight deck one becomes quite sensitive to the moods and attitudes of colleagues. Pilots are human beings too (really!) and are subject to the same everyday pressures of life, but the trouble is that pilots also like being in control of events and can find it difficult to admit that they are not coping. This has long been recognised by employers and the Pilots Association who, many years ago, set up a confidential telephone service to encourage pilots to discuss their problems with someone. I myself worked for this unit for over 20 years. It was, and continues to be, very successful. Pilots are generally very good at "self-governance" meaning that, as a group, we kept an eye on those we worked

with. The lifestyle can make it difficult to deal with "stuff" when one is away from home up to 20 days a month. The recent tragedy in the Alps represents an extremely rare event and I mean extremely rare. For all my working life I only ever found my colleagues to be thoroughly professional, rational, focused and bound together by a love of flying. However big the aircraft it is the love of flying that took us all into the business. That business has consistently demonstrated its ability to learn lessons and apply them to enhance the safety of the travelling public. My wife still works as cabin crew but I don't spend my time fretting about her safety whilst on board an aeroplane. For me flying remains the most wonderful and remarkable form of travel and the industry deserves to be commended on its record. You really have more chance of winning the lottery than being involved in a flying accident so continue to fly with confidence!

Neil Charleton



There are many reasons why you may visit a Physiotherapist

.....an acute episode of back pain, a sports injury, stiff joints, lack of mobility.

If you are suffering, it is often better to be assessed sooner rather than later. This prevents an acute and perhaps simple problem from becoming more chronic, complicated and long term. You may only need advice and exercises initially, but if treatment is needed a combined approach of both hands on treatment and home exercises works well. It is very rare that you will be advised just to rest. Active rehabilitation is usually recommended, and the aim is to return to work, sports, activities, and back to the things that you enjoy.

Rebecca Loader MCSP
Chartered Physiotherapist

Rebecca Loader MCSP

*Chartered Physiotherapist
Registered with the Health Professions Council*

Waddington House,
The Street, Charmouth,
Dorset DT6 6QE

Tel: 01297 561425
Email: rebeccaloaderphysio@outlook.com



Member of The Organisation of Chartered Physiotherapists in Private Practice

An interview with Deborah, founder of Stillwaters Therapy Centre, Charmouth

Sillwaters is a new therapy centre, based at The Elms, Charmouth, focussing on psychological wellbeing. The centre is run by founder, Deborah, who is a fully qualified, registered and insured psychotherapist and hypnotherapist. Deborah has over 20 years' experience working with the military community and can help clients with a wide range of psychological issues - everything from relationship difficulties, bereavement, anxiety and depression to low self-esteem and phobias.

Tell us more about the therapy available at Stillwaters?

For the past eight years, I've been working with military casualties and I've gained specialist knowledge and experience in the field of post traumatic stress and issues around acquired disability. This has enabled me to help people who may be struggling to cope with traumatic events, or are dealing with a disability following an accident or incident.

Stillwaters Therapy Centre also offers a range of complementary therapies and workshops alongside psychotherapy and counselling to enable people to heal their mind, body and soul.

How can therapy help?

Everyone will experience things at some time in their lives which will leave them feeling confused or emotionally vulnerable. Counselling offers a safe and secure environment to explore those thoughts and feelings. It can help you make sense of what has happened so you can cope better and go forward.

Why is your wellbeing so important?

Psychological and physical wellbeing are important as if we're feeling okay within ourselves, we are able to form healthy relationships, make decisions which are good for us and realise our own potential.

What type of treatment is available?

A counselling relationship is very much an equal partnership and, as such, the number of sessions will depend upon the issues being experienced. It's essential that someone feels they have time to build trust and rapport with their therapist. You are then able to explore where the therapeutic pathway is taking you and when you both feel the work is complete. I also believe in being as creative as possible. One size does not fit all, so I'll tailor the therapeutic approach to fit with the client.

I can offer one-to-one or couple counselling sessions, whatever works best for you. And group workshops and support groups are being planned for the near future.

What about costs?

My psychotherapy and counselling costs around £40 per hour. Other individual therapists at Stillwaters will be able to discuss their own rates with you.

Counselling and complementary therapy rooms are also available for therapists to hire from £35 per half day and the meeting room rate is negotiable, subject to availability.

Why did you choose Charmouth?


I'm often asked why I've set up the therapy centre in Charmouth. I've loved West Dorset and its natural beauty for as long as I can remember, and I've observed how many of my clients were able to find solace in being by the coast - so it seemed to be a natural choice. The opportunity to take clients out onto the beach to teach them mindfulness strategies to cope with their symptoms is very special and unique.

How do you keep yourself well and healthy?

I take full advantage of living and working in such a beautiful part of the UK. And having just adopted a 'miniature' great dane called Lunar, I'm walking the cliffs at least twice a day. It's a perfect way to unwind and meet lots of people.

How can I get in touch?

For more information or appointments, please contact Stillwaters Therapy Centre, The Elms, Charmouth, Dorset DT6 6LN. Call 01297 561463 or 07585 173854.



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Cucumber Fritters with cider batter, pickled blackcurrants and Greek yoghurt



Simple, light and crispy with a delicate aromatic flavour, these gluten-free fritters are easy to make, and are vegan if you replace the Greek yoghurt.

Serves 6

Equipment needed: deep-fat fryer or good deep pan, plus 1.5 litres rapeseed oil

2 medium cucumbers

25ml good cider vinegar

1 teaspoon good sea salt flakes

300g fine polenta and cider batter, see recipe 1

200g pickled blackcurrants, see recipe 2

100g Greek yoghurt, optional

Peel the cucumbers, then cut sideways at a slight angle into 3mm thick pieces. Place in a bowl and sprinkle on the salt and vinegar, mix well and allow to marinate for twenty minutes.

To serve: heat the oil in the pan or deep fryer to 170°C. Dip six of the cucumber pieces into the batter and then into the hot oil. Fry for 30 seconds on each side until crisp and golden. Repeat with the remaining pieces. NB: as cucumbers have such a high water content, the fritters will initially be very hot, so allow them to cool a little.

Serve with fresh salad leaves and a couple of dessert spoons of pickled blackberries, plus a spoon of Greek yoghurt.

1. Fine polenta & cider batter

The cider gives the batter an incredible tangy flavour, the polenta a nuttiness. Vegan and gluten free.

200ml cider

70g fine polenta/maize flour

30g cornflour

good pinch of sea salt flakes

Mix the fine polenta and cornflour.

Slowly add the cider whilst whisking to create a smooth batter. Season with fine sea salt flakes.

2. Pickled blackcurrants/blackberries

This pickling recipe not only preserves these summer fruits, but helps give them a new aromatic dimension.

250g blackcurrants or blackberries

300g water

150g cider vinegar

150g caster sugar

3 star anise

3 cloves

2 bay leaves

2 sprigs thyme

Carefully pick out the connecting part of the stalk from the blackcurrants or carefully wash the blackberries. Place the fruit into sterilised Kilner or jam jars.

Place all the remaining ingredients in a pan and bring to the boil, stirring a little to ensure all the sugar dissolves.

Simmer for five minutes to infuse all the flavours.

Pour the hot liquid with all the seasoning gently over the fruit so it is totally covered and allow to cool.

NB: this recipe contains a fair bit of sugar, hence the pickled fruit can be served 24 hours later.

Mark Evans - Tierra Kitchen

photo courtesy of Terry Rook at Glance Image

This recipe is featured in our new cookbook Tierra Kitchen, now available on our website www.tierrakitchen.co.uk

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What's in a name?



Shellfish, cuttlebone, jellyfish, sea hare, starfish, sea lily, sea lemon, sea potato... so many marine organisms have strange names that can be misleading. A few will be described here.

Shellfish, a rather ill-defined term, covers many different types of animals from molluscs (including bivalves such as oysters and gastropods such as whelks), to crustaceans (such as crabs and lobsters). They are all marine animals that have obvious and sometimes beautiful shells of various kinds; maybe the name 'fish' stuck because they were brought in from the sea by fishermen whose main catch was fish in the accepted sense. Cuttlebones are not bone at all but are made of shell. Cuttlefish (molluscs, not fish) and squid have an internal shell which helps to maintain structure and assist buoyancy in these rather soft-bodied creatures. Cuttlebones may be found on the beach long after the rest of the body has decomposed. They are very light for their size because they contain many air pockets as part of their structure, usually surrounded by a horny covering. Echinoderms, literally spiny-skinned creatures, have one thing in common: they generally show 5-way (pentamerous) symmetry in part of their anatomy. The starfish (not a fish) is an obvious example with its five arms although there are exceptions. However, many echinoderms are pentamerous and fossil or present day sea urchins often show this feature by way of rows of calcareous plates making up the external skeleton or 'test'. The feeding structure 'Aristotle's lantern' holds in place five strong teeth which are constantly growing, allowing the animal to graze over what it is about to eat. Despite its name, the sea lily is neither a lily nor even a plant; it is related to starfish (not fish), sea urchins and sea cucumbers (not cucumbers). Beautiful sea lilies or crinoids may be found in fossilised form on the Jurassic Coast. Living specimens, still looking similar nearly 200 million years later, are

found in warm tropical seas. Sea lilies are often found in broken pieces embedded in limestone; if you look at the segments (ossicles) that make up the stalk in recent or fossil forms, you may see the star shapes with their intricate patterns indicating a particular species (see Fig 1).

Belonging to the same group, echinoderms, the sea cucumber is not the most attractive of beasts but it certainly is cucumber-shaped and looks rather like a very fat worm with a bunch of tube feet at one end (Fig. 2). It has the alarming habit of suddenly extruding its gut with some force if disturbed! Fortunately for the sea cucumber, the gut can be regenerated while the surprised predator is distracted by eating the shed gut.

Jellyfish (not fish) do contain plenty of 'jelly' and their relatives, the comb-jellies, have phosphorescent comb-like structures on the outer surface. These beautiful creatures belong to the group Cnidaria and are all marine. The bulk of the body is made of a proteinaceous jelly-like substance which is almost transparent so that internal organs may be seen inside (Fig. 3). These relatively simple but successful creatures have no need for complex respiratory systems as they just absorb oxygen from the water in which they float. Despite their simplicity, some have sophisticated systems of specialised cells on their trailing tentacles for paralysing and killing prey. Some of the toxic substances can be highly injurious to humans as they are neurotoxins.

Marine life is amazingly diverse and often very complex. We find various recent or fossilised remains on our local beaches and very often there is a fascinating story behind each one.

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Pebbles on Charmouth Beach

Charmouth has billions of pebbles between the cliffs and the sandy beach. The four main types and their approximate proportions are:

Type 1 – Grey Flint 5-10%

Age: Upper Cretaceous – about 80 million years old

Composition: Silica (SiO_2) from marine organisms replacing chalk (CaCO_3). Very hard, often knobbly or pointed, white to light grey on the outside but dark grey or brown inside (translucent if thin). The odd shapes are often casts of burrows made by crabs and shrimps in the chalk mud of the Cretaceous seabed. Fossils are not common but sponges, sea urchins (echinoids) and sea shells (bivalves) have been found as loose flint pebbles. It is very dangerous to hammer flint - it breaks with a shell-like (conchoidal) fracture pattern which can look like a fossil but, sadly, isn't. The flints are derived from a thick layer of Chalk which once covered much of England but since eroded from this part of West Dorset.

Type 2 – Orange Chert 75-85%

Age: Middle Cretaceous – about 100 million years old

Composition: Silica (SiO_2), from marine organisms, filling the pore spaces between grains of sand (quartz & calcium carbonate) within the Upper Greensand formation. Chert is very hard, angular, orange to brown (translucent if thin) and, again, very dangerous to hammer. Don't be deceived by the conchoidal fractures. Fossils are not common but echinoids, sponges & bivalves can be found, sometimes just as loose pebbles. The cherts are derived from the once-extensive layer of Upper Greensand which lies at the top of Black Ven, Stonebarrow and Golden Cap. During the great thaw at the end of the last Ice Age, a lot of cherty soil washed down the hillsides and chert gravels reached the beach by cliff erosion and river transport.

Type 3 – Grey Limestone 5-15%

Age: Lower Jurassic – about 190 million years old

Composition: Calcium carbonate (CaCO_3), from marine organisms. The cliffs east & west of the river are mostly soft shale (laminated clay) but there are several thin hard layers of light grey to brown limestone. These limestones fall onto the beach as the cliffs recede, brought down by rock falls and mudslides, as well as being eroded off the ledges exposed at low tide (bored by Piddocks & sponges). The light grey hard limestones with white calcite (CaCO_3) veins contain ammonites and fossil shells but these break if hammered. Some of the slightly softer grey-brown limestones can be split open to reveal better-preserved ammonites. For more information & advice on what is worth hammering and what is definitely not, visit the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre.

Type 4 – Brown Quartzite ("Budleigh pebbles") 1%

Age: Ordovician – about 450 million years old, eroded from Triassic rocks, about 250 million years old, which extend offshore from Budleigh Salterton. Rare fossils are known – visit the Fairleigh Museum in Budleigh to see some.

Composition: Silica (SiO_2), originally grains of sand (quartz) but buried and heated to be transformed (metamorphosed) into a very dense, extremely hard, 100% silica rock. These quartzite pebbles are mostly red-brown to light grey, smooth and well-rounded. They were eroded from a mountain range in Brittany in Triassic times and rounded during transport northwards by flash-flood desert rivers. The quartzites were originally sandstones deposited in a shallow sea 60 degrees south of the equator! Continental drift, collision and mountain-building eventually brought them to Brittany and then to us – some 7600 miles in 450 million years (about 1"/yr).

Text & photos by Geoff Townson

www.geofftownson.co.uk

See this page in full colour, online at www.charmouth.org



Type 1 Grey Flint



Type 2 Orange Chert



Type 3 Grey Limestone



Type 4 Brown Quartzite

Charmouth Primary School



Ofsted Report - Our school was inspected on the 15/16th April and I know many people have been waiting with eager anticipation for the report to be published. I am delighted to be able to let you know that Ofsted has found Charmouth Primary School to be 'Good' in all respects: leadership and management, behaviour and safety of pupils, quality of teaching, achievement of pupils and early years provision. In her report, Lead Inspector Janet Dinsmore observed: 'The headteacher, with the leadership team and governors, work well together as a team and share ambition to make the school the best it can be. All the areas identified at the previous inspection have been addressed, demonstrating the capacity for continued improvement.' The report has clearly identified how every area in the school has improved and has also outlined what our school now needs to focus on as we continue to strive for excellence on our learning journey.

Praise was given for the pupils' behaviour and safety: 'The behaviour of pupils is good. Pupils are motivated to learn and apply themselves diligently to tasks set in lessons' and 'Breakfast club provides a good start to the day for the pupils who attend. Pupils are safe, behave well and enjoy the good range of creative and well supervised activities available. They also have opportunities to use the beach.' The report adds: 'Teaching is consistent across the school. Pupils have a clear understanding of what they will learn in lessons and teachers have high expectations of pupil's behaviour and what pupils can achieve' and 'in 2014 a higher than average proportion achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics, and this is continuing to improve. Pupils throughout the school are making good progress in reading, writing and mathematics.

Children make good progress in the Reception class. The Barnacles pre-school group provides good opportunities each week for children to begin to work together and develop their creative skills. Parents say this is a good opportunity for their children to begin to become familiar with the school.

According to the lead inspector, 'Charmouth is an inclusive school, making sure that there is equality of opportunity for all. Pupils are safe and behaviour in lessons is good. The head teacher has successfully built a strong team of leaders so that the school can make more rapid progress' and of the pupils she said: 'Pupils become articulate, creative and imaginative and have good opportunities for music and performance. They demonstrate excellent singing abilities as a whole school.'

I would personally like to thank my staff, governors, parents, children and the local community for all their support during the last two years. I am proud of the team at Charmouth who have worked extremely hard to achieve this result. We

are particularly pleased that the inspector recognised the considerable changes that we have implemented in order to make the rapid progress required. The full report is on the school website: www.charmouth.dorset.sch.uk

Best wishes

Gillian Morris, Head Teacher

Children's comments about our inspection

'Charmouth Primary School is a great place to be because it is not just learning, it is fun as well.' - Fred

'New exciting things happen each week at our school.' - Troy

'The reason why Charmouth Primary School is such a good school is because it doesn't matter if you get something right or wrong as you can learn from your mistakes.' - Rudi

'Only good things happen at this school.' - Charlotte

'The school has worked hard to improve its standards.' - Rebekah

'The staff have fun with you.' - Tilly

'I am really glad that the school got the recognition it deserved.' - Sophie C

'At Charmouth Primary School it is nice to have your friends by your side to make you happy in your learning. Friendship makes this school what it is.' - Sophie L

'What makes Charmouth Primary School so special is the people in it' - Rosie

Charmouth Primary School PTFA



The Charmouth Challenge, Fun Run and Fete

It's nearly that time of year again for the biggest fund raising event of Charmouth Primary School – the Charmouth Challenge, Fun Run and Summer Fair. This annual event, organised by the PTFA, will take place on Saturday 4th July and is kindly sponsored by Lyme Bay Holidays and Abacus Surveying Services. We would like to say a big thank you to them for their continuing support with this event.

Last year over £5,500 was raised, which is an incredible amount and helped to pay for many exciting learning opportunities. These have included a theatre company visiting the school and giving the children a chance to see a stunning performance of the 'Railway Children' and a visit from Michael Maudsley, a local story teller, who certainly brings the stories to life. Also, after the very successful launch of Beach School, the school has been able to continue with weekly sessions. The children have enjoyed cooking, rock pooling, shelter building,

mapping, identifying plants, Roman history, poetry and art – all on the beach! We are so lucky to be in such a fantastic location and it is great that we can support these wonderful outdoor learning experiences.

As well as being a wonderful fundraising opportunity, the Challenge and Fun Run are fantastic events to watch and compete in. Runners of all ages and abilities are welcome and spectators are surrounded by some of the most stunning coastal views in the UK. Refreshments will be available at the School Summer Fair, just minutes from the beach.

For the serious runner, the Charmouth challenge is renowned as the most southerly fell race in England and attracts runners from all over the country. The eight mile course takes runners through some of the most spectacular Jurassic coastal scenery and includes woodland, stone tracks and grassland, with hurdles such as stiles and gates to negotiate. It includes a gruelling 191m climb to the top of Golden Cap. This race certainly is a challenge!

For those of you who prefer a less serious race, the Fun Run is a 1.8 mile run up the very steep lane to Stonebarrow Hill and then down again via the coast path into Charmouth and then to the finishing line at Charmouth Primary School. Everyone who completes the fun run will receive a special commemorative medal for his or her achievement, which is definitely well deserved after getting up Stonebarrow Hill!

We would advise that all runners register now and you'd save yourself some money too. To enter either of the races, you will need to fill out an application form and pay the entry fee. It's £8 for the challenge and £5 for the fun run. Entry forms can be downloaded at www.charmouthchallenge.co.uk

If you haven't decided yet whether or not to run, you can enter on the day but it's £2 extra. Drink stations and marshals will be available on both courses. There will be a prize presentation for the winners of each of the categories: the Fun Run and the Challenge. Please see the Charmouth Challenge website for details.

If running is not for you, then there's plenty of family fun to be had at the School Summer Fair with a bouncy castle, games, activities, stalls and not forgetting the great refreshments and homemade cakes!

So please come and join us on Saturday 4th July

The registration desk will open at 12.30

The Summer Fair will open at 13.00

The Challenge Race starts at 14.30

The Fun Run starts at 14.40

The Prize Presentations begin at 16.30

If you would like to volunteer to help with the event, we are looking for some more marshals to help on the day. If you are able to spare some time or would like any further information about the event, please contact race organizer, Maria Fox:

Mobile 07757 697621 email:
organiser@charmouthchallenge.co.uk

Please find below details of Road Closures on the day. We apologise in advance for any inconvenience this may cause, but they are in place for the safety of the public and race participants.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES IN CHARMOUTH FOR CHARMOUTH CHALLENGE AND FUN RUN, 4TH JULY 2015

Lower Sea Lane 14.30 – 15.10 & 15.25 – 16.30

Wesley Close, Bridge Road 14.30 – 15.10

Stonebarrow Lane 14.30 – 15.30

Hammonds Mead 14.30 – 16.30

There will be no alternative routes for diverted traffic on this occasion. Marshals will be stationed at each end of the closures to ensure only those taking part in the events have access. Please note the timings are approximate owing to the nature of the event.

We look forward to seeing as many people as possible on the 4th July and thank you to everyone in the local community for supporting this event.

The Duck Race

Hundreds of people turned out in the glorious sunshine for the Charmouth Primary School Duck Race. The event was a huge success this year and a fantastic fundraiser for the school, making in the region of £1,700. As well as the duck races and the sunshine, the crowds enjoyed a BBQ, refreshments, snacks and games for the children.

Evergreen Renewables, with their duck 'Sparky', was the clear winner of the School's first ever Giant Duck Race. Ian Crabbe said "Evergreen Renewables are very pleased that our duck 'Sparky' won the race and are happy to have helped raise funds for the school". For more information about Evergreen Renewables, please visit www.evergreendeal.co.uk.

In second place was Local Grocery Store, Nisa, in Charmouth and in third place was Monkton Wyld Court, an education centre for sustainable living. Primary Colours' Duck capsized and Charmouth Primary School's Duck got wedged on the other side of the river, both needed a helping hand to finish last!



Charmouth Primary School would like to thank all the local businesses for their spectacular entries and for supporting this event including Evergreen Renewables, Nisa in Charmouth, Monkton Wyld Court, Aroma Cafe House & Kitchen, Primary Colours, Bridport Timber, Fernhill House Hotel, Travis Perkins, Manor Farm Bar and Takeaway, The George at Chideock, Mulberry Manor, Grow Again and Mindful Solutions, Flamingo Pool, Black Cow Vodka, Mark Hix, Morgans, The Royal Oak, Charmouth Bakery, Seadown and the Physiotherapy Clinic in Charmouth.

The ever-popular Duckling Race followed the Giant Duck Race. The winners were:

1st - duckling No 570 - The Hodgson Family

2nd - duckling No 456 - a child from Jellyfish Class at Charmouth Primary School

3rd - duckling No 316 - The Osbourne Family

4th - duckling No 623 - The Ody Family

The PTFA would like to say a big thank you to the local community for their amazing support with all our events and we hope you've had lots of fun too!

Lorraine Hodder, PTFA

Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre



On Friday 27th February an evening of fossil talks was kindly held at Charmouth Primary School. Phil Davidson, Geological Warden of the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, talked to an audience of 75 about our village Dinosaur, Scelidosaurus. Then the local fossil collector David Sole spoke about how he and others found this dinosaur and have pieced it together over the years. We then had a break for questions and refreshments and there were lots of interesting recent finds on show for the public.



David Sole, Phil Davidson and Richard Edmonds

Richard Edmonds, Earth Science Manager for the Jurassic Coast Team, told us all how to find and prepare a Jurassic ichthyosaur. Richard showed us many fantastic pictures of some of the reptiles that he has found and explained that it is not only hard to find these fossils, but even harder to clean and prepare them!

This event was part of our Dinosaur Discovery Project that has been kindly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Curry Fund, the Friends of the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, the Charmouth Traders and Charmouth Parish Council.

We have had an interesting few months here at the Centre and I am writing this while recovering after the busy Fossil Festival. It is all change here at the Centre as Meirel Whaites, the Centre Manager, is leaving to take up a post in Wales. We are not the only ones who will miss her here at the Centre, Meirel was a part of Charmouth. We wish her all the best of luck and know that she will have a great time and will enjoy the new challenge.

We are all gearing up ready for the season ahead and have lots of new fossils on display and our rockpool tanks are filling up with new creatures. We would not be able to welcome and inspire our visitors without the help of our dedicated volunteers, who help in so many ways. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer here, we would love to hear from you.

Phil Davidson, *Geological Warden*

Goodbye and Thank You Meirel!

Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre have been very fortunate to have had the services of Meirel over the last 13 years. She joined the staff as a summer seasonal warden on 1st April 2002 and has been with us until the end of April, by which time she had progressed through the various Warden posts to become the Centre Manager and she has certainly left her mark. During her tenure the Centre has developed in all aspects, visitor numbers have doubled to nearly 100,000, school visits are about 6,000 children annually and shop sales have increased in proportion. Whilst doing all of this Meirel has managed

to get the Centre on a good business footing, without losing contact with our visitors. She had a fantastic rapport with children of all ages and for this alone she will be sadly missed. Nothing was ever too much of a problem for her; she would eventually come up with solutions, even though she thought the impossible was being asked sometimes.

We all thank her for her 13 years of 100% + loyalty and wish her well in her new venture in mid-Wales. Meirel is leaving the Centre in very good heart and she can be confident that Phil and his team will carry on her good works.

Richard Salisbury

I'll keep a welcome in the hillsides...

After 13 years at the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, I will be moving on to new pastures (or should that be mountains!) in Mid Wales, to take up a new post as Head Ranger of the Elan Valley, near Rhayader, Powys. I will miss Charmouth immensely and would like to say a huge thank you to the whole village, for their help and support over the years. Having landed as a seasonal warden at the Centre in 2002, I worked my way up through the ranks to the dizzy heights of Centre Manager and have loved every minute of it. Charmouth is a very special place, and I'm not just talking about the fossils and geology, but the people who live and work here. There are not many places that have such a strong sense of community and I feel very proud to have been part of it, and hope that the village continues to thrive, while still keeping its charm as a rural coastal village.

I have so many people to thank for their help and support, the list is endless. But I would like to make a special thank you to Jean Kesterton and dear Ozzie, whom I lodged with for five years. When I returned to the Centre from my PGCE studies, I asked if I could lodge with them again until Christmas.... Five years on I was still there and we always joked that I never

said "which Christmas". Another duo I could not have done without were Richard Salisbury and Peter Noel in their roles as Chairman and Treasurer of CHCC for over nine years. There are many people who work behind the scenes at the Centre as Trustees, Friends committee members, and the Winter Working Party, to name a few. It is because of their work and support that the Warden team, with the help of over 60 volunteers, can continue to be the public face of the Centre. So a huge thanks to all involved, especially all those who volunteer and give their time. The Warden team really could not do it all without you.

The Centre is part of the community, it is a tea stop for the Coastguard team after a shout on the beach....a place for the children of Charmouth Primary to pop in and see what's new in the rock pool tank, after whizzing down on their scooters after school.... It is many different things to so many people and the list goes on. I feel very proud to have been part of the team that makes it such a special place.

A HUGE thank you to everyone. Although I will have moved on, I will still be singing the praises of the Centre and village from the mountains of Wales.

Best wishes,

Meirel Whaites

Memories of Meirel

When I came to Charmouth, over 20 years ago, the Heritage Centre had the first Warden, Richard Edmonds, in charge. Working with him taught me about fossils and the geology of the Jurassic Coast. After he left I saw a number of Wardens come and go and then, one summer, along comes this very enthusiastic young lady – Meirel had arrived!! It was obvious from the beginning that she was very interested in children and their education and in writing this article I wish to say to her, on behalf of very many young people, “thank you for all that you have done for us”.

I remember the first time that I went out with her on a fossil walk. A little girl came up to her clutching what can only be described as a tatty bit of belemnite as her first treasure. The response of some Wardens might be a suggestion to “look for something bigger” but not Meirel – she bent down, held the little girl’s hand and exclaimed loudly “Wowee what have you got – that is a real fossil”. The little girl went off happily with her mother to continue the search. I wonder whether her enthusiasm continued. Over the years I have seen this sort of incident repeated many times with Meirel’s energy and enthusiasm always inspiring and encouraging to both young and old.

She has had quite an influence on my own family. As soon as the grandchildren arrive on a visit they ask when can they go to feed the fishes and go fossil hunting with Meirel. Feeding the fishes was, she would say “Chairman’s perks” (I was Chairman of the Friends at the time). She would let them come to the Centre early and give them small pieces of frozen fish to drop into the tank – and I think she enjoyed it as much as they did.

This leads on to a classroom in America where our elder granddaughter Alissa’s teacher had been reading a book “Flat Stanley”. He was a boy who could travel anywhere then go through a letter box and the class had to do the same. So who did Flat Alissa decide to visit? Meirel at the Centre in Charmouth. They went together on a variety of escapades – rockpooling, eating an ice cream on the beach, having fish and chips and, of course, looking for fossils. It so happened that Granddad was going to visit, so she returned in his suitcase with the fossils that she had collected. While I was there the teacher set up a display of where the children had been and there was Charmouth with pictures of her activities and what many of the children and their parents were most impressed by – the actual fossils.

However this story does not end there because someone else hid in the suitcase – none other than Flat Meirel. She wanted to know about life in America, so Alissa and her younger brother drew pictures and wrote about their sports and activities to return in the suitcase. Ever since then, whenever I go to visit them Flat Meirel gets into the suitcase and another set of stories and pictures is created.

Please forgive me for using our family so much but I am sure that many parents and grandparents will be able to identify the caring attitude and dedication of Meirel. I know that she has similar relationships with other families and, like our grandchildren, their children will find the Centre a very different place, although still very exciting, without her being there.

She is now moving on to a new challenge, but I am certain that many more children will benefit from meeting her. So, on behalf of many children, I would like to say “Thank you and good luck in your new venture”.

Chris Horton



Ros Cole presents Meirel with a parting gift from the Friends.

Friends of CHCC

The CHCC has had a good winter and early spring period, unlike 2013/14 when we were beset by storms and a great deal of damage. As usual, our volunteer Friends have helped to keep the Centre running and have done a great job welcoming and helping our visitors. The volunteers also participated in other activities such as fossil walks, while the work party has been in action helping to make the interior of the Centre even more attractive and efficient to use. We could always do with more volunteers, so if you feel you could contribute to our band of working Friends, please contact the Wardens at the Centre to discuss the possibilities.

Rosalind Cole, Chairman of the Friends of the CHCC

CHCC Needs Your Help!

Over the years some of the Charmouth Heritage Centre Friends have let out their spare rooms for our seasonal wardens who stay with us between March and November. Currently, they have found spare rooms but it’s not always easy! It would be good for us to know if anyone would be willing to let out their spare rooms in the future. We also now have students doing summer placements with us (June to September) and, as they are voluntary, they need places to stay. We have students interested in doing two/three month placements, but do not have anywhere they can stay cheaply. As of next year we also hope to have a six-nine month student placement.

If anyone would be interested, or knows anyone who would let out their spare rooms, please let us know.

Ali Ferris - Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre
01297 560772, info@charmouth.org

Please can you tell me where the jewellery stall is – never mind the fossils?

When I became a desk volunteer at Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, I was intrigued as to why Bronwen Cound had a stall in the Centre. I quickly realised the benefits of her cheery presence. When chatting to her I found that she contributes a sizeable amount of money to the Centre funds each year from sales commissions and also that she brings extra footfall into the Centre by attracting ladies (usually), who might not otherwise have ventured in, but who are enticed by her sign at the bottom of the steps. The knock-on effect is that these potential jewellery customers bring in their families and whilst they are deliberating over the jewellery, the rest of the family is learning about fossils and hopefully buying in the shop!

So one day when the Centre was quiet, I asked Bronwen to tell me about herself and how she started her jewellery career. She explained that following a 30-year career in teaching - mainly PE, which involved taking young people all over the country winning sporting events, she came to Charmouth from a farming background in Worcestershire in 2001. Along with a family member she bought Fernhill Hotel and, after four years of intensive renovation and rebuilding whilst taking in guests, they sold to an ambitious young couple from the Home Counties in 2005.

Shortly after that she moved "down the hill" into the village and decided on a complete change of direction by establishing a small jewellery business named Ocean to Earth. She met Meirel at this time and, encouraged by her suggestions, began to offer her jewellery at the Heritage Centre. Bronwen stated "For me it was brilliant in so many ways. It was a showcase for my jewellery and I immediately felt part of a real professional and supportive team, whilst meeting many members of the public both local and visitors. Observing the education programme also gave me a connection to my previous life."

Bronwen's business name fascinates me as it fits in so appropriately with the Centre – 'Ocean' because of her shells and fossils, with 'Earth' representing the semi-precious gem stones which make up some of her necklaces and bracelets – the latter mirroring the local minerals we

will see shortly in one of the display cabinets. Bronwen said "Ocean to Earth has evolved considerably over the last few years and now reflects a mix of quality pieces sourced worldwide; individual pieces handmade by a variety of makers both local and countrywide and a growing collection designed and made in-house." Indeed, in quieter moments Bronwen can be seen threading, adjusting and polishing her handcraft.

She buys her components mostly from the NEC Birmingham Jewellery fair where she reports that she handpicks strings of high quality Freshwater pearls, gemstones and sterling silver findings. "These are then handcrafted into unique and individual pieces of semi-precious jewellery. I display and market my jewellery in several locations in the South West, including small independent shops, farm shops and the Willow and Wetlands Visitor Centre on the Somerset Levels". Bronwen told me that she is hoping to launch a Website this spring which will attract new and returning customers to our Centre, so she said that anyone with Web- building skills – please get in touch with her on 07855261745 or bscound@aol.com!

Bronwen is undoubtedly a great asset to the Centre and with external funding becoming tighter and tighter, we must treasure this entrepreneurial Friend of the Centre and the footfall she encourages.

Penny Rose

This lovely article is reproduced from the latest CHCC Friends' Newsletter with the kind permission of the writer, Penny Rose, Bronwen and the CHCC.



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

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SUNDAY 26TH JULY
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The Story of Prospect Place



George Mortimer and his staff standing outside their Store c.1880

A history of the group of buildings comprising Stanley House, Rupert House, Breeze & Charmouth Stores (Nisa)

I have covered the history of Charmouth Stores in Shoreline previously and have been able to show that the shop existed as far back as 1816. The present owner, Phil Tritton, was hoping that it went back further and, after more research and some lucky breaks, I can now present readers with an insight not only into the shop which opened its doors in 1806, but the building that it forms part of. What you see today is the work of Giles Pryer, a mason living in the end house, who rebuilt it after a devastating fire in 1864. He was to call it 'Prospect Place'; a board with this name used to hang above the store's entrance. No photographs or paintings exist of the earlier thatched structure; the only record we have to go on is the Village's Tithe Map of 1841, which is quite detailed, and shows a structure covering almost the same area. But the layout is different, with the middle section subdivided into two units in what is today - Rupert House and Breeze. In the same year, a Census was carried out for the country and it has been possible combining the information with the map to find out a great deal about the occupants. To go back further in time becomes more difficult, but in Charmouth's case we are fortunate that there is a continuous Poor Rates listing from 1805 until 1832

and Land Tax receipts from 1780 until 1832. Other records include Jury Lists, Wills, Directories and Deeds which are very useful and, more recently, many Newspaper archives have been placed online by the British Library. The Dorset Family Centre has an especially informative website produced under the auspices of ancestry.co.uk. It was after ploughing through their large collection of Wills for Charmouth that I came across one for William Edwards for the year 1757. This was to prove the missing link in understanding the early history of Prospect Place and the family that lived there. For William describes himself as a Common Carrier, with a wagon for delivering goods. His family owned the Three Crowns, now the Coach and Horses opposite, which was a stop off for coaches and wagons from London to Exeter and would have supplied him with his trade. His Will is surprisingly detailed and shows him having seven children. He leaves a number of fields which he had purchased from Mr. Hutchins and Mr. Ffloyers to his offspring. He also distributes his clothes and possessions, including "Seven Cyder Casks" to Thomas Edwards. But most important to my research was the line:

"I give to my wife, Margaret Edwards the House that was her Fathers', Samuel Cornelius for her natural life only and after her death to my Daughter, Dinah Edwards".

This was a revelation, as in that sentence was the clue to its early history. For I knew from the Land Taxes that William Edwards had a substantial property in the village and after his death in 1767, his wife, Elizabeth is shown briefly as owner, but then I lost track. But with Parish Records and other information was able to build up a family tree linking the various families to the Edwards.

It would seem that the building is indeed associated with the family called Cornelius. Their earliest reference is in 1641, when Alexander Cornelius appears on the Protestation List for the village. His son Samuel is born in 1672 and the Parish Records show him marrying Mary Street in 1706. The following year a daughter, Margaret is born to them. Margaret Cornelius goes on to marry William Edwards in 1739 and they have a large family. On the death of her father, Samuel, in 1745, Margaret inherits the family house. She brings up her family there with her husband, William. This is the house that is referred to in the Will, and on her death in 1784; it had indeed been inherited by her daughter Dinah, who was married to an Excise Officer from Dalwood in Devon, with the unusual name of Crout, which appears in the record books. They were to have two children, Robert and Elizabeth. It was the latter in 1799 who was to inherit the property on the death of her father - Robert. Two years later she married the 23-year-old Francis Bradbeer. He was the son of Joseph Bradbeer, who had originally come from Blandford Forum and was for a number of years the Landlord of the Three Crowns opposite. It would seem that there was to follow a devastating set of events. In 1804 tragedy struck the family when Joseph lost his wife Mary, his daughter Maria Richards, as well as her husband. The following year it was to be his son Francis, who was to mourn the loss of his wife, Elizabeth. As a result he decided to make a fresh start and moved to Woolwich to join his brother, Joseph jnr. who was based there in the Artillery. He was to re-marry shortly after and open a tailor's shop there before moving with his family to Salisbury. It is his father's name, Joseph, that now appears in the Poor Rates Lists. They show that the property was in two parts at that time and what is the Charmouth Stores (Nisa) formed the smaller area and the other part was let separately. In 1806 it is shown that Mr. Osborne occupied this part, but more importantly the other section was to be the Post Office and store which Joseph Bradbeer was to open in that year; the start of over 200 years of trading from the same site. Indeed, some of the original building is incorporated today in the rear of the property. This was to be a momentous year, for he was to marry his third wife, Lydia Margrie who was 25 years younger and together they ran the Post Office and store. He was still renting the Three Crowns from William Edwards but soon after gave up the lease after 20 years as landlord there. The Royal Mail would pass through the village each day and stop briefly at the Inn. The letters would have special hand stamps; some of these letters have survived from this time. Until the Penny Black appeared in 1840, people would often refuse letters as they would have to pay on receipt,

unless prepaid. This is shown by an advert in the Western Gazette in the year 1809 which mentions the Charmouth Post Office as the forwarding address for a property to let by a Mr. Jerson, who makes it clear that "only post-paid letters will be attended to". A Census for the village in 1812, describes Thomas Browning, who occupies the west part of the building as a "Coach Man" and Joseph Bradbeer, who is in the east part as a "Post Master". On his death in 1821 at the age of 71 he leaves his estate to his wife, Lydia, which includes a small cottage that used to stand in the grounds of the church and was at one time stables for the Manor House opposite. She continued running the shop and letting the other part and its stables. It is interesting seeing Thomas Galpin Carter renting part, as he was the artist for many of the early images and prints of the area. She is later described as a Shopkeeper in the General Post Office Record Book when she took on the role of Post Mistress. The Pigot's Directory for 1830 lists her as a Shopkeeper and dealer in sundries. Her life was to change again in 1832 when, at the age of 57, she married the local school teacher, William Dodson Watts. In the same year, she let the western part of Prospect Place to John Carter, who was a Carpenter, with a workshop in the building which houses "The Pharmacy" today. He later opened a shop in his part of Prospect Place. Unfortunately Lydia's marriage is a disaster and her husband, a spendthrift, soon gets through her legacy. There is a reference to William Watts being dismissed by the Post Office in 1839 and John Carter, grocer, becomes the Post master. William finally leaves Lydia and she has to sell all her property to clear his debts. I have been fortunate to locate the advert for the Auction in May 1841, which describes the lots in detail. She even loses the freehold of her shop where she is living when it is bought by the wealthy Wootton Fitzpaine farmer, Benjamin Swaffield. Lydia later moves her business across to the small cottage that once stood in front of the church, where she stays until selling her interest in 1860 to the trustees, who demolish it to extend their yard. Sadly she loses her eyesight and dies a pauper at the age 89, six years later.

The auction of 1841 gives some of the tenants the opportunity to buy their premises, and both Giles Pryer and John Carter become freehold owners and prosper. But in 1864 there is a devastating fire that sweeps through the building and almost destroys the surrounding properties as well. The newspaper reports at the time are quite descriptive about the thatched roof and how after initially being put out by the Lyme Regis fire engine, the fire returned the following day, even more destructive. It was rebuilt in brick and tiles by Giles Pryer who divided it into four units which are named: Charmouth Stores, Ashford House, Rupert House and Stanley House. They are numbered 1 to 4 Prospect Place and I have endeavoured below to provide a potted history.

Charmouth Stores No. 1 Prospect Place

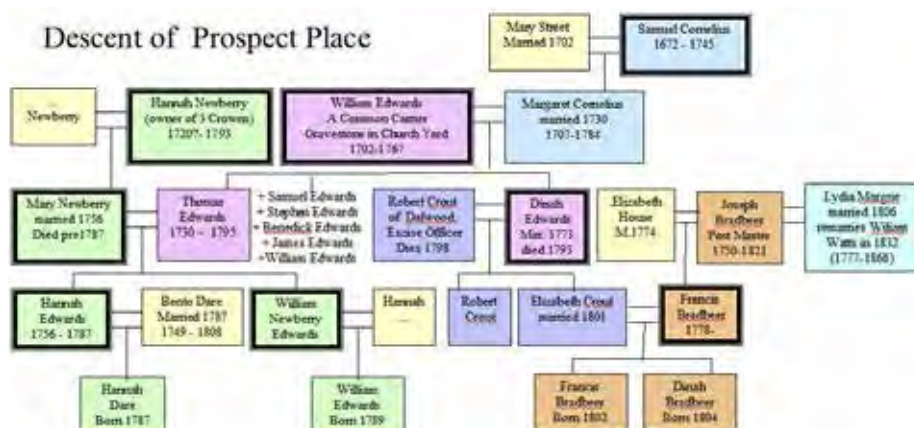
This was to be a Post Office, as well as a store for its first 100 years and was one of the earliest in the country. For the Royal Mail as we know it today was initiated by John Palmer of Bath in 1787 with its first fast service from Bristol, via Bath to London. The following year he began running his coaches from Exeter to London and they would have passed through the village. The Three Crowns was to become a Coaching Inn, owned by William Edwards but run by Joseph Bradbeer from that time, for almost 20 years. The trade was so important that it was renamed The Mail Coach Inn and subsequently the Coach and Horses. He opened the Post Office in part of the present building in 1806, which due to a tragic chain of events already described was inherited by his son, Francis. On Joseph's death in 1821, the business continued with his wife, Lydia who rented part of the building to John Carter, who opened a shop there in 1832. After a disastrous second marriage to William Watts, she lost her properties, which were auctioned in 1841. The Tithe Map and Census for the same year show her, single, running a shop in what is now Charmouth Stores, with John Carter taking over as Post Master, in the central section of the building. Directories of the time advertise the business as that of a Grocers, Post Office and Builders. Sadly

John was to die young in 1855 and left the shop, three houses in Catherston and a house in Sea Lane (Lower Sea Lane) to his wife who continued running the business with son, John William (born 1841) who later took it over.

In 1862 the Post Office and stores is in the hands of John Hawkins, who advertises: Teas of the Finest Growth and Flavour, Superior Coffee and Superior British Wines. He continued for a while, but by 1870 George Mortimer was the owner and was described as a Linen & Woollen Draper, Grocer, Tea Dealer & Provision Merchant, China, Glass, Earthenware & Brush Warehouse and Post Master. He eventually sold the business to Edward Archer Vince in 1888. Old photos of the time show a massive hoarding on the side of the building with a long list of all the goods and services that were offered inside. John Baker from Steyning in Sussex succeeded Edward in 1896, but by then George Holly was the new Post Master running this business from Wistaria on The Street, where it was to remain for the next 40 years. Times were to be hard for him, especially with a severe downturn in trade during the First World War and he eventually put the business up for sale in 1918. It was to be purchased by William John Dampier who had been a grocery clerk for the Department Store of Boons and Sons of Dorchester. His son Donald was to follow him into the business and took over in 1954 and in due course his grandson Ronald joined them and eventually ran it from 1970 until 2000. The business has evolved with the times and provides villagers and visitors today with a wide range of goods. It is now over 200 years old and would have opened at a time when Nelson had just won the Battle of Trafalgar for the country. The earlier building goes back to at least the 17th century when it was owned by the Cornelius family. Part of this structure is believed to be incorporated in the rear of the property.

Ashford House. No. 2 Prospect Place

This part of the building is now the Gift Shop – Breeze run by the owners of the Charmouth Stores (Nisa). It has been a shop for over 100 years, run in conjunction with its neighbour. It seems from the 1901 Census that John Baker was the shopkeeper for both properties. But before the 1864 fire it had formed part of the Carter's shop. Afterwards the 1871 Census shows Christina Hutchings running a small school there; three of her pupils are shown as boarding with her. A decade later, the Census shows that Henry Burroughs, a gardener from Hawkhurst, living there with his wife. He continued to reside there until his death in 1900 aged 88. His Will shows him owning the freehold of both his house as well as the adjoining properties of Charmouth Stores and Rupert House. These were subsequently purchased by Alfred Gapper Pass - a wealthy Bristol



businessman who lived at Wootton Fitzpaine Manor.

Rupert House. No. 3 Prospect Place

This property had prior to the 1864 fire, been part of the Carter's area, but afterwards it was extended back considerably as a separate holding. James Wellman, aged 34, moved in shortly afterwards as the following year he brought out a Guide and Directory for Charmouth, which must have been a success as a second edition came out later in the year. It was to run to six editions, the final one being in 1880. He also traded as a Watchmaker, Jewellers and a Stationers from the premises. Both he and his sister, Martha, who lived with him, had moved there from their parents' home in Hawkhurst. James Wellman died in 1881 aged just 52, and Miss Wellman continued with her "Fancy Repository". Reginald Pavey tells us, "that her shop also sold toys and newspapers and had a counter across the room and a large cupboard with a glass front in which were her toys. There were no railings; pedestrians in those days enjoyed the full extent of the pavement". Martha Wellman died in 1896 and George Cooper, aged 56, who is described as a Retired Military Official is shown as living there with his family. The 1911 Census describes the house as unoccupied, but the electoral register a decade later has Percival and Rosa Woolford residing at the address.

Stanley House. No. 4 Prospect Place.



The Pryer family standing in the doorway of Stanley House, c.1920

The history of this house is basically that of one of Charmouth's most successful families – The Pryers, who were to live and own it for almost a century. They left their mark on the village with a number of buildings, including the Heritage Centre, Pryer's Villas, at the bottom of Barrs Lane, and of course Prospect Place. A dispute over the Election Results of 1842, bought Giles to Court as a witness. His testament is very revealing, as follows: "I am a Mason and Plasterer living in Charmouth about 15 years. I have some back offices and a shed behind my house. I was paying £12 a year rent, but bought it on 27th May last, when it was put up for auction. I have occupied it 4 years as tenant and paid Poor, Church and Highway rates. I have a parlour, kitchen in front, two rooms over and a large lobby which had room enough for a bed to stand on and



A hand coloured photo of Prospect Place c.1900

take in lodgers in the summer months". He would have been just 30 when he bought the freehold of his house and the subsequent ten yearly censuses show him and his wife, Elizabeth, then aged just 20 bringing up seven children there. When his neighbour, John Carter gave up his carpentry business to open his shop, it was Giles Pryer who was to take over and eventually buy his workshops, which is now the building occupied by the Pharmacy and the surrounding field, where the shops are today. After the 1864 fire, which is said to have started under the thatched roof in his part of the building, he had the job of rebuilding the present property. He appeared to have kept ownership of his part and on his death in 1881 passed it over to the son, Harry William Pryer, who remained there for the rest of his life. Harry was known

by the nickname of Pussey and went on to own a large number of properties and fields in the village. These included the land on both sides of The Street where the shops are today, which were built after his death in 1931. An auction ten years before of some of his estate includes Minson's Common, Double Common and Sea View in Lower Sea Lane as well as a number of houses. Old postcards of the time show his Stone Mason's workshops and yard spread over the field known as Pear Close, which covered the corner of The Street and Lower Sea Lane as far as Wesley Close and the Abbots House. Their house in Prospect Place has two front doors as one led to their office.

I trust after reading this article you have gleaned some interesting facts about one of Charmouth's most historic buildings. If you wish to find out more, please do go to my website www.freshford.com or, quicker still, Google it into their search engine. It is now in two sections with links in chronological order to all the documents listed here and the other part relates to specific buildings, people and events. It also has its own search engine on the home page – just type in a key word and it will show all the references to it on the comprehensive web site.

Neil Mattingly

Gathering of the Hunt by the New Inn on The Street. c.1953.

Can you help by tell us the missing names? Please e-mail editor@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk



1. ? 2. ? 3. Captain Blanchard 4. ? 5.&6. Bowditch Girls 7. ? 8. Martin Peach 9. David Trivett 10. ? 11. Major Hill's granddaughter 12. Major Hill 13. Bill Hill, the Major's son 14. ? 15. ? 16.&17. Weller brothers, Keith & Andrew 18. John Forsey 19. ?

Charmouth Gardening 2015

Greetings Gardeners, I hope you have all got stuck into your gardens. I think that was the wrong word to describe it; perhaps I should have said you have not got scorched in your gardens and everything is growing well.

June - End of May/beginning of June I always have my runner beans etc. up and running, carrots should be showing now too. A good time for parsnips as the soil will be warm enough to get them going. Onions, shallots and leeks will require plenty of attention feeding and watering. But this year I cannot cope with veg. I am going flowery.

Do you know how much water you are giving your plants when you water them? My new NVS Magazine's spring issue asks this question. Did you say yes or no? You can cover the seedlings with water from the watering can, but do you know how far down it has sunk? Try this when the ground is dry. Water the plants in the normal way and see how far down the water has penetrated, e.g. two gallons water applied to a square meter of soil will penetrate 1 to 2 inches (25 to 50 mm.) If your plants are well established their roots will go down below this depth, so the water will be wasted or will only be enough to serve shallow roots. When you water your crops, give them at least 20 litres per. square meter (or two gallon per square meter). After you have watered then dig a hole; if the water has not penetrated below 30mm you are not giving enough, give it a good soaking and this will last the plants a lot longer and you will have to water less frequently and save water. Think of your backs.

July - Keep an eye on your roses. Last year I had terrible problems with black fly. I went to the garden centre at Otter and asked if they could get me a bottle of Amotilox which was

a good disinfectant if used in a weak solution. However it has been taken off the shelves!!! She asked me what I wanted it for. I told her I wanted it to get rid of blackspot on my rose. Then she asked me if I fed them? I told her my feeding regime for my roses throughout the season and she said, Feed them twice as much! I did and it worked. This year I have no black spot up to now! Just shows we never stop learning. Last year I had some nasty shocks and one of them was a fire in my greenhouse, just a few days before Christmas, I lost a lot of my precious orchids. Its cost me a lot of money but now I hope it's safe. Now I have to start again. Don't miss out on dead heading your spring bulbs and give them a feed when they are finished, as this will help them to flower again next year. If you find you need the room where your bulbs are growing dig them up and transplant them to a pot that is big enough to take them with room to spare; cover them with soil, feed them and put them in a safe place ready to replant in autumn. Make sure you label them! If you have a garden pond, check it for blanket weed; it loves warm weather. Cover your fruit up to prevent the wasps causing problems. Now pick the best of everything and enter them in the Charmouth Gardeners' Show. Good Luck



August - Well apart from keeping an eye on the growth and wellbeing of your plants, you should be sitting in a deck chair with your legs up and a glass of Pimms in your hand!!! Don't forget to wear a hat if it is hot! I wonder how many of us manage to do that. Certainly not Lady Gardeners. Try to shield tender plants from the hot sun. Or the heavy rain! And start to think about autumn planting and what you are going to put in the garden for next spring... it's never too soon. Now is the time to take cuttings for next year's plants. Continue to watch out for bugs and grubs. September is harvest time.

Happy Gardening, **Busy Lizzy**

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HERITAGE COAST U3A

We continue to see burgeoning numbers from Charmouth and are always particularly pleased to hear from new members who might be able to run a group of some kind. You may all want to put the following Woodmead Hall, Lyme Regis meeting dates in your diaries: 10th June (talk: Arts & Craft Movement and Garden Design - including its influence on our modern gardens. 10am coffee, 11am talk by Marion Dale); 8th July; 12th August; 9th September; 9th October; 13th November; and 11th December. For the first four of these, look out for news of speakers. The last three will, respectively, be a Coffee and Group Leaders' meeting where all members are invited (October); a good opportunity to review your group commitment. In November we have our AGM followed by a speaker at 12.00; and in December we plan a buffet lunch and light-hearted quiz for members. Queries to Michele Russell, 07802 751828.

We are pushing the international boundaries still further, with trips into Wales for opera in May 2016 and then, if we can get it together, the better part of a week in Scotland for The Edinburgh Festival in August 2016. I am always happy to supply further details.

John Bartholomew - (jdbart45@gmail.com)

Oil Field Trash – The British Sort *Episode Two*

Settling into the way of life

Most of us had two year contracts to work before re-signing, or going home with an end of contract bonus. Subsequent contracts were for a year only, which led, after five years, to an extra bonus. Some like myself stayed for the full term, some left after two years. Others would fail to return having found 'better offers' elsewhere. In truth, not many of my colleagues did this, and in fact there were but a few 'oddballs' during my time at Gibco. It is remarkable that after such a long time, there are still active reunions, which attract a hard core of 20 or 30. This year we meet in Arundel.

And so to real life - it came about because no one else was prepared to do it. It was the scrapping of three split rear window VW beetles. We ran four vehicles all used for various jobs based at the office in the Giorgimpopoli area of Tripoli. There was a VW bus, a VW desert 'Roamer' similar to the sort seen in movies about the western desert. This was great, it was very light and had a 1600cc air cooled VW 4 pot engine. Also there were a Renault 12 estate which used more oil than petrol, and a Toyota Landcruiser 4WD. Later a Toyota Celica, the 'silly-car' as it was dubbed, became essential as more geologists became office-based.

We had decided to break down the old VW's and use the spares to help maintain the rest of the fleet. Sadly our complete set of VW tools had developed feet and had been removed into the sunset, or was it Surrey? We had a complete shed ready to take these parts, so to gain access to the good stuff we took an acetylene cutter to what was left of the beetle bodies, and cut then from rear to front, opening them up like a clamshell. It took all of the restricted areas away and it became a simple task to remove what was required. Engines, wheels and tyres were top of the list for retention, and these had pride of place in the storage shed.

As time passed the desert wagon needed a couple of tyres, so it became a simple job to swap them for the salvaged ones. This took place on a nondescript Thursday afternoon when there was nothing else to do. However on Friday morning we played our usual football match against the French and Germans. The French were mostly Embassy staff and the Germans were with Siemens Electric, tasked with keeping the radiography unit going at the 'Oil Clinic'. One player was Alsatian and he didn't know whether he was French or German anyway! It was a regular Friday morning venture, being the muslim weekend. We played with or without hangovers from the night before, and it was even known to turn up in fancy dress, direct from the party held the night before.

Having transported several of our team to the football ground in the 'Roamer', a colleague took the vehicle to collect the rest of our team. It was only about a kilometre to our living quarters, but there was a delay in their return. Soon 4 players jogged into the ground, but no driver or vehicle.

During their journey the lads in the rear seat felt the vehicle collapse on the near side, and slow down alarmingly. No one seemed in the least bit interested as a VW wheel overtook

them, and seemed to accelerate as it made its way through a bus queue, scattering all to differing azimuths, then hitting the kerb twice, changing direction once and finally bounding down a small ramp, ending in a coil of wire fencing around a chicken run. The driver was left to guard the vehicle, the wheel and tyre, and the chickens. A working party was sent back in the Landcruiser, armed with wheel nuts and a brace, and the wheel and tyre was duly recovered and replaced, not with a jack but with 4 young males lifting the vehicle whilst the wheel was replaced and tightened by the driver. A quick farewell to the now reformed bus queue, and they arrived ready for the kick off to a multi-language chorus of 'Three wheels on my wagon....' A later inspection of the road surface showed a set of furrows deep enough to plant crops in, and to this day I have no idea who failed to tighten the wheel nuts properly.

Very often we would find our way to the beach to relax, and to immerse ourselves in water, as the water supply via the mains was at a trickle or not working at all. In fact most of our alcohol production was carried out at night as it was the only time we could get sufficient water pressure through the tap.

The beaches were designated at kilometre turn-offs from the main roads out of Tripoli. 3 kilometre 5 kilometre, 7 kilometre, 14 kilometre and so on, or were designated by landmarks marking the turn-offs. Our favourite was Fishermans Beach, to the east of Tripoli centre. This was found by turning left at the chicken factory where we would also buy fresh chickens, so fresh they were still warm. Some small fishing vessels operated from the beach and I would bet that this little area is one where small boats are now sailing from with refugees destined for Europe. Here we could swim in relative safety from a sandy area between a couple of rocky promontories, have simple barbeques, and get very burned on hot days off between May and September.

This in fact leads me onto my two Charmouth connections. To get to Fishermans Beach we would have to drive past the main barracks, and be very careful in doing so. Whilst writing this I am remembering a late customer of mine here in Charmouth, where we would always greet each other in Arabic. She would tell me stories about how Colonel Ghadaffi had erected his tent on her lawn, and that he now lived in her house! She was the wife of the former British Camp Commander, lived opposite our resident vexillologist in Charmouth, and her name was Joan St. John. I do miss our little reminiscences.

My second Charmouth connection is 'Mike the Pole'. Not that he is an Arctic or Antarctic traveller, nor is he as thin as a rake, it is of Polish descent. You would not believe it so for he has a broad Bristolian accent, turned more West Country from working in Cornwall for 3 decades. After working with us in Libya, Mike came home, met his partner, trained as a master thatcher in Cornwall, and has recently retired after some 30 years of hard work. Mike's partner (and here is the Charmouth connection) is related to Mary Burleigh.

Does anyone remember luncheon vouchers? I have particular reason to. Once we were on break in the UK at the same time, and Mike visited me at my Northampton home. I had

arranged to have dinner with friends, so Mike joined us, as my friends were paying. Little did we know that we would be counting a tab of some consequence in 15p lv's courtesy of Legal and General!

Sabratha and Leptis Magna are two magnificent Roman cities located on the Mediterranean coast. They are talked of as being the best Roman archaeological sites outside Italy. Sabratha to the west of Tripoli and Leptis Magna to the east. I have seen both and can honestly say they are magnificent but under-restored. When Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman sat on the Roman toilets at Leptis Magna in 'Long Way Down', I can honestly say that I sat where they did, but I was there first.

It was decided one day that we needed an expedition to Leptis Magna. The expedition consisted of half of Ben Halim's nurses, lots of our boys, and other friends and hangers on. We made lunch and tea and set off one Friday morning in a convoy, my new Fiat Mirafiori estate, a Chevy 'Blazer', and the VW bus. Bread pudding became one of our staple diets, as the bread went stale so quickly in the heat. So we had made piles of it for the expedition, hence the name of our trip. I remember that we were passing pieces of bread pud by hand, from vehicle to vehicle whilst travelling along the coastal dual carriageway at some 80kph.

On arrival at Leptis half the party went sightseeing whilst the other half, myself included, went to find a beach. This we did, beautiful clear water, the bar set upon the back of the Blazer. Then the uniforms approached, with loaded kalashnikovs. We had only chosen the Libyan navy's training beach, and we were promptly asked to leave. In fact when a loaded kalashnikov is pointed at you, you obey. We only needed to understand one word 'Atla, atla' or Go ...go, So we went. Fortunately they didn't ask for a drink from the back of the Blazer. I have never again been removed from a beach at gunpoint, it just doesn't happen in Dorset!

The other half of the party fared a little better, but were not allowed into the ruins until the boys made some changes to their attire. Shorts were definitely out. The door guard pointed to one of our party, Mac, who was dressed in torn jeans and torn, but printed t-shirt. 'You should dress like him' said the doorman pointing agitatedly at Mac. Mac's holey t-shirt was printed with 'I am mucking fuddled'. They were all allowed in!

I hope you have enjoyed some of my reminiscences of a far gone time, in a far away country. However the staff house was raided one night, at a time when I was on break in the UK. They were causing an affray, so I was told. The whole company was placed in jail, on Thursday night, including Pete who was getting married on the Saturday. On the staff house bar were a number of bottles of alcohol. The lads were released on Friday, but the alcohol had disappeared. Pete fortunately got to the church on time.

Thanks for reading these pages, and if anyone wants to buy me a beer in the George I will happily talk of the times I couldn't put into print, as well aswork!!

Steve Pile

We Remember

Ronald Henry Beer

3/2/1923 – 10/4/2015

Ronnie was born in 1923 in Edmonton, London. At the age of 9, Ronnie was run over by a lorry whilst running home after school, excited to see his brother Trevor who had been discharged that day from hospital following a serious bout with scarlet fever. He spent many months in hospital as his leg was very severely injured.

In 1940 he volunteered for the RAF as war had just broken out. He worked in radar until he was invalided out in 1943 with pleurisy. He later worked for the London County Council as a district surveyor, responsible for rescue and demolition work on damaged and unsafe buildings during the Blitz.

In 1947 he spent over a year in Rookdown House at Park Prewett Hospital where they carried out pioneering plastic surgery. Many Battle of Britain pilots with horrific burns had been treated there. Ronnie was having a skin graft on his damaged leg which meant he was bed-bound for many months. And perhaps it was there that he developed his life-long ability to be incredibly patient and always have a positive outlook on life. It was here that he met Jan who was working as PA to Sir Harold Gillies, a very eminent surgeon who was head of the eight wards and three operating theatres. Jan said Ronnie was always surrounded by nurses! She used to sit by his bedside doing crosswords with him. When she left to work in Switzerland, Ronnie was heartbroken and, unable to wait for her return, hitchhiked across the Alps on crutches to meet her. They married in early December in a Zurich registry office with just two guests.

On their return to England they found themselves unable to confess to Jan's strict father that they had eloped, so they had a big, white wedding, this time on Valentine's Day in Turgis Green Church and honeymooned at The Olde Bell in Hurley. None of Jan's family were ever told about their first, very romantic nuptials!

Ronnie was offered a job with Berkshire County Council and with it came a house in White Waltham. Daughter Deborah was born in 1949, followed two years later by Jane. In the mid 1950s Ronnie went to survey a house in Hurley for a harpsichord maker named Michael Thomas. He fell in love with the Manor House and made Michael an offer which was accepted. He then went home and told Jan they were moving! Another daughter Julia, came along in 1959. Ronnie was now surrounded by women but never seemed to mind.

In the mid-1960s he started his own architectural practice in Maidenhead. His design work varied from private houses to office blocks and factories. As time went on he got involved with his own property development projects, often in partnership with a group of like-minded friends, their boardroom the many gourmet restaurants around the Thames Valley!

In the early days of his marriage he had been a keen potter, there were many pots, interesting plates and unusual bowls around the house as testament to his endeavours. Gardening

was a favourite pursuit, as was walking. He had followed much of the Thames Path and had walked the whole of the Pennine Way. He had been a keen sailor, with a boat in Chichester, and for many years owned a house by the sea – first in the Isle of Wight and latterly here in Charmouth, a place he loved to be, particularly when his family joined him.

Ronnie loved travelling; when the girls were younger he would take them on camping tours of Europe, usually in a Triumph Herald and towing a home-made trailer which would bounce

alarmingly from one destination to the next. The girls remember hiding behind the seats in terror as they navigated mountain passes with sheer drops and erecting tents in the dark without enough tent pegs.

He was very involved in local affairs in Berkshire, having stood as a Liberal candidate in the county elections. He was on the Parish Council and the Berkshire Environmental Trust. He ran Hurley Fete for many years and was Chairman of the Hurley Village Association and the Preservation Society. He was the local architect when it came

to his village and those surrounding it.

A great lover of nature, Ronnie had spent much of his youth in the insect house at London Zoo and had entertained thoughts of becoming an entomologist. His knowledge of nature and animals was phenomenal and he shared this with his daughters, often taking them on trips to Regents Park Zoo. A great environmentalist, he was a tree warden and a member of the Berkshire Woodland Trust. He also loved jumble sales and rummaging in skips; his garage was always full of useful reclaimed items, building materials and things he was going to make use of one day!

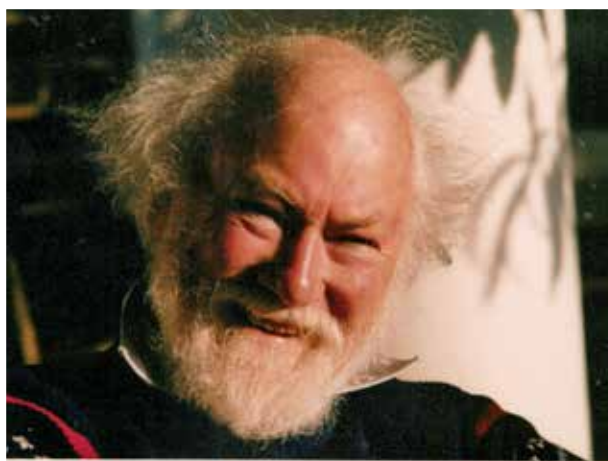
He was very sociable, a great bon viveur. He was always the first at a party and the last to leave. He was a founding member of the Hurley Curcubitacae Club, a gentleman's club celebrating the vegetable marrow, meeting regularly to discuss – usually over several bottles of wine – the propagation of the marrow and who was going to produce the biggest one for the annual weigh-in. This often involved much ribbing and a lot of raucous laughter.

A stickler for correct spelling and punctuation, he was a marvellous letter writer and a mine of information, a trait he used to much effect to help many of his friends and acquaintances when they needed advice.. Ronnie was interested in everything and everyone, with an eclectic and wide-ranging taste in music and literature.

At the age of 80, Ronnie had a stroke but made a remarkable recovery and in his usual uncomplaining fashion, just coped with it and his changing circumstances. Jan died in 2005 and he stayed on in Hurley until ill-health guided him into Bymead House where he spent his remaining years, much-loved and very well cared for.

Ronnie is survived by daughters Jane and Julia, sons-in-law Bud and Derik and grandchildren James, Johnny and Rosie.

Jane Morrow



We Remember

Mary Dawson

Mary Dawson, my 'little big sister', the eldest daughter of Alice and Arthur Hothersall, was born on 20 February 1924. A frail little baby, at the time she was a constant worry to our mother. But she grew up strong and healthy, though not exactly tall.

During the war, and after Blackheath High School, Mary won a place at Somerville College, Oxford, getting a near first class degree in modern languages. She had a brilliant mind and was very pretty. She usually got what she wanted. Mary spent a happy year living and working in Paris for the Foreign Office, having come fourth out of 400 candidates in the Civil Service entrance exam (and top of all the women). Her life was full of ups and downs; I am concentrating on the ups. She loved the theatre (and dressing up with cousin Peggy and other friends). One high spot was Mary's production of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest', when she was 17 or 18. Trinculo the jester (Jennifer Hammond) is here today. Caliban was played by Rachel Roberts (13 or 14), later a film star.



Mary met her first husband, Geoffrey Palmer, at the amateur Eltham Little Theatre. They married in 1954 and he died in the early '70s. Mary and Richard (then Dick) married in May 1977 and I vividly remember the idyllic quality of their relationship. She and Richard were both keen walkers and members of the Ramblers' Association – first in the South East London Ramblers (who thought a short walk was 10 miles and a long one 17-30) and later with Dorset clubs. They went on some memorable holidays, including one of the first tourist trips to Antarctica. Apart from walking and travel, Mary's other main interests were boating (sea and river) and pets (black cats when she was young, and later dogs).

Old age was not kind to Mary, in spite of the wonderful way in which Richard cared for her (mostly single-handed) during her last illness. She died peacefully in Lyme Regis Nursing Home with Richard at her side, the day after her 91st birthday.

Now let Mary have the last word. Latterly she replied to queries about her health as follows: "I can't see, I can't hear and I can't walk; otherwise I'm fine".

Eddy Ferrett

Noticeboard

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



Charmouth Knit and Natter

We now meet every Thursday from 2-4pm in the Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane. We knit for several charities. Blankets, jumpers, hats and gloves for a charity supporting mothers in South Africa who often take their babies home wrapped in newspaper and the Dorset women's refuge. Teddy bears, in various sizes, for Bridport Hospital and also a charity supporting Syrian refugees.

Knitters of all abilities welcome. Just come along or telephone 01297561625 for more information. Donations of wool always appreciated.

Jan Coleman



Showing off Barbara Whatmore's vintage hat collection

Distaint Shorelines



Shoreline in Abu Dhabi, courtesy of Peter Crowter - our Honorary Poet in Residence



Pam Shirley and Shoreline Cruising on the Rhine

What's On



Wyld Morris – Dancing Out Programme 2015

Date	Time	Where	Info
Wed 3 June	19:30	The George Inn, Chideock	TBC Wed
10 June	19:30	The Hare and Hounds, Waytown	With Enigma
Sun 14 June	TBC	Vintage Tractor and Stationary Engine Club Rally	Melplash Showground, West Bay
Thurs 25 June	20:00	Cove House Inn, Chiswell, Portland	Midsummer Dance with other sides, hosted by Frome Valley Morris
Sun 28 June	10:45-15:30	Folk on the Quay, Poole	With other sides
Sat 4 July	a.m., TBA	Bridport Charter Fair	
Wed 8 July	19:30 approx	The Ilchester Arms, Abbotsbury	TBC
Sat 11 July	11:00-15:00	St Andrews Church Fair, Colyton	
Sat 9 July	13:00	Stoke Abbott Street Fair	
Wed 22 July	19:00 or earlier	Lifeboat Week, Lyme Regis	
Wed 29 July	19:30	Five Bells, Whitchurch Canonorum	
Sat 1 Aug	10:00 onwards	Sidmouth Folk Week	Busking on Esplanade
Wed 5 Aug	19:30-20:00	Beach Cafe, Charmouth, then The George, Charmouth	TBC TBC
Wed 12 Aug	19:30	Monkton Wyld Court	Outside MWC pub during MWC Family Week
Wed 19 Aug	19:30	The George, West Bay	With Festus Derriman and Moonshine Appalachian
Sun 23 Aug	All day	Lyme Folk Weekend	
31 Aug (BH Mon)	14:00-17:00	Whitchurch, Morcombelake & Ryall Flower and Dog Show	Whitchurch Canonorum Village Hall
Sat 12 Sept	12 noon onwards	A Veast of Folk at The Three Horseshoes, Burton Bradstock	Burton Bradstock Folk Day. A day of music, dance and song in aid of the RNLI. Wyld Morris dancing TBA

Monkton Wyld Court

12.30 pm on 17 June, 15 July, 19 Aug, 16 Sept

Local Lunch, £8 per person. Please prebook.

For more information contact monktonwyldcourt@btinternet.com



CHARMOUTH GARDENERS

Details of forthcoming coach trips.

Wednesday 17th June

Coach visit to Mottisfont Abbey - A National Trust property near Romsey.

A disestablished 13th century Abbey filled with historic interiors and surrounded by mature gardens. The stunning walled rose garden holds the national collection of old fashioned roses. There will be a refreshment stop at Haskins Garden Centre, Ferndown.

Coach leaves Old Lyme Road 8.50am, St. Andrew's Car park at 9.00am.

Wednesday 9th September

Coach visit to Picket Lane Nursery, South Perrott. Guided tour by owner Mr. Neil Lovesey - 'behind the scenes' info on the nursery and gardens. Lunch at Winyards Gap Inn, then afternoon visit to Mapperton Gardens, Beaminster.

Coach leaves Old Lyme Road at 9.30am, St Andrews Car park at 9.40am.

All welcome to join us but Members do receive first reservations and non-members will be liable to an extra cost of £2. (Membership only £5 per year).

For more information on membership; enquiries regarding the trips or to book a place, please ring 01297 561625.

LIBRARY STORYTELLING & RHYMETIME

Peter Bagley reads "Timothy Tamus Goes Swimming"

9.30am, Monday 8 June

Charmouth Central

All pre-schoolers welcome

(Mandy Harvey 560167)

CHARMOUTH TWINNING ASSOCIATION PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY

Sunday 12th July

We are holding our ever popular Annual Bastille Day (-2) Celebratory BBQ in the beautiful gardens of 'Thalatta', Higher Sea Lane.

ALSO

Friday 14th August

Enjoy testing your mind at our 'General Knowledge Quiz' evening at the Village Hall, Wesley Close, starting at 7.30pm.

AND...

Friday 18th September

Something different... 'French Film' evening again at the Village Hall, Wesley Close.

For tickets or further information please call 01297 561662.

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
Beachcombers Café	Mon 10-12am	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Alison McTrustery 07789 165570
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
Charmouth Local History Society	Tues 9.30-10.30am	The Elms, The Street	Russell Telfer, 560806
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 Pennells 560965
Junior Rangers Club (ages 8-12)	2nd Saturday each month 10.30-12noon	Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre	Alison Ferris 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
Knit and Natter group	Thursday 2 – 4pm	St. Andrew's Community Hall	Jan Coleman 561625
Library Storytelling & Rhymetime (under 5s)	Monday 9.30 - 10am in term time	Library, The Street	Mandy Harvey 01297 560167
Memorable Memoirs	1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons 2-4pm	Charmouth Central Library	Jan Gale 07897 511075
Parish Council Meeting	3rd Tues each month 7.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Lisa Tuck 01297 560826
Sewing Circle	Tuesdays 10.30-12.30pm	Charmouth Central	Hazel Robinson 561214 or HazelRosery@aol.com
Scouts (ages 10.5-14)	Thurs 6.45-8.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Carol Moorey 01297 560100
Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Mon to Thurs (term-time only) 9am-12.30pm	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
Tea and Chat	1st & 3rd Monday each month 3pm - 4.15pm	Charmouth Central	Felicity Horton 07736 825283
The British Legion (Women's Section)	1st Wed each month 2.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Trish Forsey 01297 560561
Wyld Morris dancing practice	Wed 7.15pm	Pine Hall, Monkton Wyld Court	Briony Blair 489546
Whist Evening	2nd & 4th Mon each month 7.30pm	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Eileen Lugg 560675

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

Shoreline Charmouth - Local Contacts

EMERGENCIES POLICE	Police, Fire, Ambulance or HM Coastguard	999 or 112
	PC Kirsti Ball, PCSO Luke White & PCSO John Burton for Community Police issues (ask by name)	101
	Non urgent call number for reporting incidents / enquiries	101
	Bridport Police Station, Tannery Road	101
FIRE and RESCUE	West Dorset Fire and Rescue Service — Group Manager	01305 252600
HM COASTGUARD	Sidmouth Road, Lyme Regis (Not 24 hours)	01297 442852
DOCTORS	The Charmouth Medical Practice, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560872
	The Lyme Practice, The Elms Medical Centre, The Street, Charmouth	01297 561068
	The Lyme Practice, Lyme Community Medical Centre, Lyme Regis	01297 445777
	NHS Direct — 24-hour Healthcare Advice and Information Line	0845 4647
HOSPITALS	Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester	01305 251150
	Bridport Community Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bridport	01308 422371
DENTISTS	Dorset Dental Helpline	01202 854443
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	National Rail Enquiries — Information on Timetables, Tickets and Train Running Times	08457 484950
	National Traveline — Information on Bus and Bus/Rail Timetables and Tickets	08712 002233
EMERGENCY	Gas	0800 111999
	Electricity (Western Power Distribution)	0800 365900
	Water (Wessex Water)	08456 004600
	Floodline	08459 881188
	Pollution (Environment Agency)	0800 807060
CHEMISTS	F G Lock, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560261
	Boots the Chemist, 45 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442026
	Lloyds Pharmacy, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442981
SCHOOLS	Charmouth County Primary, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560591
	St Michael's C of E, V A Primary, Kingsway, Lyme Regis	01297 442623
	The Woodroffe School, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442232
CHURCHES	St Andrew's Parish Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Stephen Skinner	01297 443763
	United Reformed Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Ian Kirby	01297 631117
BEFRIENDING	Charmouth	07736 825283
COUNCILS		
CHARMOUTH PARISH	Chairman — Peter Noel	01297 560078
	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 — George Symonds and Daryl Turner	01297 443591
	Mountfield House, Rax Lane, Bridport — All services	01305 251010
DORSET COUNTY	Councillor — Daryl Turner – d.w.turner@dorsetcc.gov.uk	
	County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester — All services	01305 221000
DORSET'S PORTAL FOR COUNTY/DISTRICT/TOWN/PARISH COUNCILS AND OTHER AGENCIES www.dorsetforyou.com		
LOCAL M.P.	Oliver Letwin, House of Commons, SW1A 0AA or e-mail letwin@parliament.uk	0207 219 3000
CITIZENS' ADVICE	St Michaels Business Centre, Lyme Regis (Wed 10am-3pm)	01297 445325
	45 South Street, Bridport (Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)	01308 456594
POST OFFICES	1 The Arcade, Charmouth	01297 560563
	37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442836
LIBRARIES	The Street, Charmouth	01297 560640
	Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 443151
	South Street, Bridport	01308 422778
	South Street, Axminster	01297 32693
SWIM / LEISURE	Bridport Leisure Centre, Skilling Hill Road, Bridport	01308 427464
	Flamingo Pool, Lyme Road, Axminster	01297 35800
	Newlands Holiday Park, Charmouth	01297 560259
CINEMAS	Regent, Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442053
	Electric Palace, 35 South Street, Bridport	01308 424901
THEATRES	Marine Theatre, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442394
	Arts Centre, South Street, Bridport	01308 424204
	Guildhall, West Street, Axminster	01297 33595
TOURIST INFORMATION	Guildhall Cottage, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442138
	Bucky Doo Square, South Street, Bridport	01308 424901



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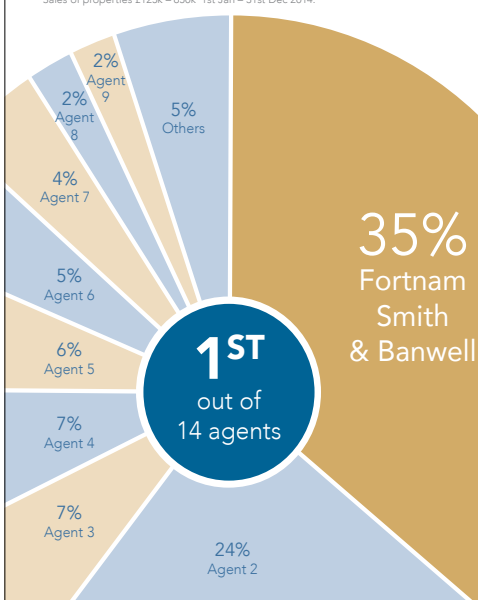
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source: Rightmove.co.uk
Sales of properties £125k - 650k 1st Jan - 31st Dec 2014.



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Bay Trees, Higher Sea Lane
Sold for 98.5% of the asking price within a week.
Sold at £468,000



Ellesdon, Charmouth
Sold stc within a week for 96% of the asking price.
Sold stc at £211,000



Penn Cottage, Charmouth
Another agent tried in vain to sell this house which suffered from some road noise. We sold it - for 99% of the asking price!
Sold at £297,000



Old Lyme Road, Charmouth
Sold for 97% of the asking price in nine days - even with 'low-key marketing' demanded by the sellers.
Sold at £542,000



The Street, Charmouth
Although a complex sale, we achieved 93% of the asking price within three weeks.
Sold stc at £247,500



Mews Cottages, Chideock
Sold for the asking price within two weeks.
Sold at £380,000



Downside Close, Charmouth
A real roller coaster of a sale, but eventually sold this bungalow for 97% of the asking price.
Sold at £430,000



Double Common, Charmouth
Full asking price on first day of marketing!
Sold at £350,000

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