

SHORELINE

News and Views from Charmouth

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Community Hall Centenary Capsule Uncovered

Issue 12



On a cold and snowy afternoon in December, villagers assembled outside St Andrew's Community Hall to watch the removal of the 'time capsule' which had been buried in the cavity beneath the foundation stone of the hall exactly 100 years ago. Building work started on the hall on 3rd December 1910, when the time capsule was placed in the wall. At precisely 3:00pm on 3rd December 2010 the foundation stone was removed and the capsule retrieved.

The photograph shows Will Bowditch and Keith Waterson, Committee Chairman, who is holding the sealed glass bottle containing the documents. With much excitement, villagers gathered in the clubroom to view the contents – everyone was surprised at the near perfect condition of the papers.

Contained in the bottle was a copy of the parish magazine, a copy of the circular issued the previous year (1909) in the name of the committee inviting subscriptions and a copy of the order of service for the day.



The Bridport News from December 1910 reported that the capsule was placed in the cavity by Churchwarden Tomes and the stone lowered into place by Mrs. Whittington whose family helped with the building fund.



The removal of the time capsule coincides with work at the hall to build a new two-storey extension, which should be completed in the spring of 2011. The trustees intend to place a new capsule in the wall – and will be inviting ideas from you of what can be put in. (Please send suggestions/ideas to Keith Waterson – Chairman 560531)

The documents will be kept in the Pavey Room archives at The Elms, photocopies are available from the committee on request. A booklet will be available from the Pavey Group and will go on sale early next year with all profits going to St Andrews Community Hall.

Just a reminder that the hall will remain available for all events during the current works and we hope you will continue to support us. To make a booking for your event please contact the Booking Secretary on 01297 560572

Linda Crawford
Secretary

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From The Editor

Deeds done in harmony with one's path of life are those which bring clarity and peace and harmony to the doer.
- The Buddha

Caring, altruistic people abound in Charmouth, something I was made acutely aware of recently, having been to several fundraising events in the village. Jan Johnstone and her hardworking team organised a wonderful Carols, Cheese and Cheer lunch last week in aid of the Weldmar Hospicecare Trust. There was such a festive atmosphere in the candle-lit Village Hall, with a delightful performance by four former members of the Three C's choir, followed after lunch by some very enthusiastic carol singing.

Don and Ann MacNair were hosts to over 90 people at their annual, very successful coffee morning in aid of the Leukaemia Research Fund. They and their merry band of helpers raised over £800 for the charity.

Maralyn Hinxman and friends deserve medals for their tireless work in support of BLESMA (the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association) and Save the Children, having made over £4000 this year alone.

Pat Stapleton and her troop (the Charmouth Women's Branch of the Royal British Legion) have also raised an impressive amount of money with their Table-Top sale and

Poppy Appeal, all of which will go towards supporting injured and disabled ex- servicemen. See Pat's article on page 5.

Hats off to the Charmouth Fayre Committee and the Charmouth Traders Association (Christmas Fayre), who between them have donated several thousand pounds to local youth organisations, community groups, and also to this magazine, I'm delighted to say!

The parochial Church Council has come up with some very inventive ways to raise much-needed funds for major repairs to St Andrew's Church. David Renfrew's entreaty on page 7 will hopefully inspire people to give any way they can to help preserve this beautiful, historic building in our midst.

The Shoreline team wishes everyone a very happy, healthy and harmonious 2011.

Jane Morrow

The Shoreline Team

Jane Morrow-	Editor.
Sarah Cooke-	Assistant Editor and Type-Setter.
Colin Pring-	Feature Writer and Advertising.
Lesley Dunlop-	Feature Writer and Diary

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Ten Rules for Modern Life as Observed by a Local Resident

1. Don't ever be cold. There has been considerable human evolution in recent years and the body now has fewer resources to cope with discomfort.
2. Whenever possible, use the car in preference to walking or public transport. It is other people whose coughs and sneezes spread diseases.
3. If you do have to walk anywhere, never acknowledge anyone or smile at them. Keep your head down and then you can see what shoes they are wearing.
4. When it is time to change your car, ensure that your new acquisition is more than big enough for your needs, and that it can cross all terrains including the sandiest desert, deepest snow and muddiest track.
5. Never open the windows in your house or flat. Sealed in domestic, culinary and bodily odours enhance the welcoming atmosphere and sense of home.
6. If you have a boundary with another property, make sure you know its line to the millimetre. Be prepared to enter into dispute whenever there is the slightest infringement. A neighbourly chat over a cup of coffee will not do.
7. When you go to the beach with the family, do not leave behind at home anything you might remotely need. At the same time, do not ask your children to carry anything.
8. Never have nothing to do: being bored is terminal. There are always new digital devices to buy, more computer games to play, more entertainments to visit, watch or listen to, and more magazines to read.
9. You must not age, and death is both immoral and unnecessary. Wrinkles and wisdom are signs of increasing years, avoid both.
10. Do not be told what to do by anyone, except a celebrity.

Perhaps in these there are some ideas for the New Year.

Anthony Ashwell

Off With The Old And On With The New!



The old lights with all the wires which are now underground.



The Street looking very pretty with its new heritage lights aglow. The remainder (from Devonedge to The George) will be installed mid January.

Photos By Anna Kindred



How To Release A Cold With Chinese Medicine

Having just started a cold, I was fortunate to get my husband to cup my back. This created an irritation on my back and within 24 hours my head was clear; no temperature, mentally alert and able to work. I thought I would like to share this with everyone.

In Chinese thought patterns I have created an irritation on my back in the lung area. This in turn has sent my body's own defence mechanisms into action which have identified the virus/infection and as the pathogenic factor is now classed as a problem, my body's computerised message is directed to release the pathogen.

The reason I would like to share this with anyone who is interested in it is that if you 'guasha' or use cupping within 24 hours of a cold starting, you have a very good chance of moving it on without medication.

If you are interested in learning guasha/cupping, please ring and I will come and show you and your friends. Please note that it is safe to use on children and I will instruct you on that as well.

I will not make a charge, but cups will be available to purchase. Guasha can be done with a spoon.

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Charmouth and Wootton-Fitzpaine Conservatives

If it is true that an army 'marches on its stomach' then we, local conservatives should be in fine fettle for the forthcoming elections in May.

48 members and guests have just enjoyed a Christmas Party lunch at Lyme Regis Golf Club, with Julie Girling one of our European Members of Parliament as our guest speaker.

All our members agreed that the meal was excellent. There were rather more differences of opinion on Europe! There were some challenging questions, opinions were well and truly aired, but, amongst other things, our knowledge of who does what and who holds the power in Europe was improved.

Most importantly, (for the Golf Club) there was no blood spilt between different factions!

Looking forward, we have our **Chairman's Drinks and Nibbles** at lunchtime on Friday January 7th. A **Coffee Morning/bring and buy** follows on Friday 25th February and our **Annual General Meeting** is on Friday 25th March. Members and non-members are always very welcome to attend. For times etc give me a ring.

If you are able to help at the Council elections, displaying posters, delivering election material etc I would be doubly delighted to hear from you.

Bob Hughes Treasurer 560487

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Taking the Pulse

As I write this I am sat in the hotel office on the morning of the 5th of December, having stayed up late into the night following the cricket down-under on the BBC website live text service. It is a rather odd way to follow a cricket match, but it is strangely compelling and utterly addictive, and as I can't watch the game live on the telly, (in a clear case of cutting-off-nose-to-spite-face, I refuse to subscribe to SKY and help fund Mr Murdoch's world domination plans, but please don't get me started on that!) it is the only option available to me...apart from BBC Radio Five Live.... and Jonathon Agnew's twitter feed.... both of which are on as well. When did following a cricket match get so complicated? So, not only am I writing this article, I am simultaneously reading the BBC cricket text coverage on the computer, watching a twitter feed on my i-touch and listening to the radio (which are all confusingly out of synch with each other). I am drinking a pre-emptive celebratory beer as well, all at the same time! Who says men can't multi-task?

It is now one o'clock and the good news is that England have just thoroughly stuffed the Aussies in the second test in Adelaide. There is nothing sweeter than an Ashes victory! Having come equal first in the first test, I confidently predict from this pre-Christmas vantage point that they will sweep aside the Aussies in the following games and keep the Ashes well out of the grasp of those antipodeans once again. So by the time you read this in January, it should be all done and dusted. We can't possibly lose now can we! There is the caveat that I also confidently predicted England to host the World Cup in 2018, David Milliband to win the Labour Party Leadership and Wagner to win X Factor, but let's not allow a few mere details cloud the fact that our boys will almost certainly have marched on to a glorious series victory in Australia over the winter of 2010/2011.

Before I retire for the night, I have one more job to do, which to be honest, was my intention before just quickly checking the cricket score two hours ago, and that is to soak some dried chickpeas overnight for a dish I have to prepare for a function we are hosting in a couple of days. Like a lot of pulses, chickpeas are an enormously versatile ingredient, great value for money and a superb source of protein, dietary fibre and minerals such as zinc, calcium and magnesium. In this world of faddy, trendy so-called superfoods (when was the last time you treated yourself to a bowl of goji berries), chickpeas really are one of the true superfoods and extremely versatile in their culinary use. They are also considered more digestible than most other pulses, which results in far less, shall we say, 'emissions' during the digestive process than say an equivalent amount of beans, which should save the dog from getting blamed for something he didn't do.

You can of course buy pre-cooked chickpeas in tin cans as well as dried, but do be aware that those tinned in brine can contain high levels of salt. Cooking dried chickpeas however is very easy and as long as sporting events on the other side of the planet do not distract you, it takes very little time. You can also prepare lots in advance, as cooked chickpeas freeze really well.

Dried chickpeas require soaking in at least twice their volume of cold water for about eight to ten hours or longer if you wish. Old dried chickpeas can remain stubbornly tough no matter how much you soak and cook them, so if you have half a bag lurking in the darkest recesses of the larder since 2003 then I would suggest you might probably want to just discard them.

When soaked, rinse them and place them in a deep pan and cover with water. Adding salt can toughen the skin during the cooking process so omit it at this stage. You can however add a bay leaf or two and/or a sprig of thyme to add a little flavour. If you happen to have a few pints of veal or chicken stock lying around (and let's face it who doesn't), then do cook them in that, they are great for soaking up flavours. Of course if you are planning on a vegetarian dish then a good vegetable stock will substitute perfectly. You can use stock cubes but they can have quite a high salt content. Bring to the boil and then simmer them for thirty or forty minutes until tender; you may have to skim off the scum from the top of the water once or twice. Depending on the type and age of the chickpeas used, they can take a little longer to cook, but to gauge if they are cooked or not, take some out of the simmering water with a slotted spoon and try biting into one. It should not have too firm a texture and be soft enough to bite into, but should also hold its shape, neither should they be mushy and wet. When ready, drain off and cool and they are ready for use. They will keep in the fridge for a day or two but as I mentioned earlier, they will also freeze really well for future use.

Chickpeas are found in food cultures from the Mediterranean, right through the Middle East and into the Indian Sub-continent and beyond. They work brilliantly in everything from soups and salads, curries, spicy tagines and casseroles of any description, through to being served simply warmed through in a little olive oil, with a sprinkle of salt and pepper. They are of course also the principal ingredient in falafels (spicy chick pea fritters) and hummus, (pureed with garlic, lemon juice, olive oil and tahini). Pureed with a little olive oil or butter and seasoned, they also make a great substitute for mashed potato, to accompany roast lamb or a steak.

To demonstrate just how easy they are, try one of the following recipes and see for yourself how good the chickpea can be.

Almost as good as winning the Ashes.

Kylie Minogue, Rolf Harris, Dame Edna, Harold Bishop, Paul Hogan - your boys took one hell of a beating!!

Must go to bed now!

Chick Peas with Chorizo, Spinach and Tomato

You will need, for four portions

- Two medium onions, chopped
- One clove of garlic
- One chilli, or if you prefer it can be omitted if you don't want it too fiery
- A tin of chopped tomatoes
- Half a glass red wine (you will have to drink the rest yourself)
- Eight ounces of chickpeas
- Eight to ten ounces of chorizo
- Generous bunch of spinach leaves

Sautee the chopped onion with the garlic until softened, add the chopped tomatoes, the chopped chilli and a little red wine, simmer for a few minutes and reduce the liquid by half.

Meanwhile, oven roast or fry your chorizo, then cut into slices or thicker chunks, whichever you prefer. Add the

Continued page 5

Royal British Legion

October and November are our busiest months, starting with the A.G.M. in early October; we then begin preparations for the Remembrance period and the Poppy Appeal.

On Saturday 6th November we held a Table Top Sale with our coffee morning, raising over £200 for the Poppy Appeal. On Nov.11th, at 11.00, we gathered in the Arcade for the two minutes silence. We would be happy for more members of the public to join us in this.

The Poppy street collection and Mile of Pennies on Sat.13th raised £119.48.

We held the annual gathering at the War Memorial at which wreaths were laid by representatives of the Parish Council, British Legion, Fire Service and local Police, after

Taking the pulse cont..

chorizo to the tomato sauce along with the chickpeas, stir and simmer for a minute or so. Add the washed spinach leaves, stir in and serve as soon as so that the spinach is just wilting

Chickpea Red Onion and Tomato Salad

- Sixteen ounces of Chick peas
- Four cloves of garlic chopped
- Bunch fresh mint, chopped
- One red onion sliced into thin rounds
- Cucumber diced
- Cherry tomatoes halved
- Chopped fresh chilli,
- Juice and zest of one lemon & virgin olive oil
- Salt and black pepper to taste

In a frying pan, dry fry the sesame seeds until just browning slightly, keep them moving so they do not burn. Combine all other ingredients in a bowl. Dress with virgin olive oil and lemon Juice Sprinkle with toasted sesame seeds and serve

Quick Chick Pea and Vegetable Curry with Naan Bread

For one of those days when you have neither the time, the energy nor the inclination to spend hours slaving over a stove, this is a great way of cooking a hearty meal in literally minutes. A little bit of a cheat this one but it does work well!

- Onion chopped, leeks sliced, carrots diced, swede diced, etc or whatever vegetables you happen to have
- One jar of good curry sauce - I will admit that the superior brands of these bought-in sauces are really very, very good indeed, but of course, as a self respecting chef, I would not wish to be seen dead using a jar of curry sauce! So I would just make sure nobody saw me.
- Eight ounces of cooked chickpeas
- Natural yogurt
- Naan breads

Sautee the vegetables in a saucepan until just cooked, add the jar of curry sauce and the chickpeas, Simmer for a minute or two. Adjust consistency if you need to. Grill the naan breads on both sides or warm through in the oven. Serve curry in a bowl with a dollop of natural yogurt on top.

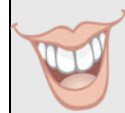
which the Parade, led by our Standard Bearer, Patricia Forsey, consisted of contingents from the R.B.L. Womens Section, the Brownies, Cubs and Scouts, the Fire Service and the Police, marched down to St. Andrew's Church for the two minutes silence and Remembrance Service. Pity about the rain. Mike Whatmore was our Parade Marshal. The Service was led by the Rev. Stephen Skinner and the Address was given by the Rev. Ian Kirby. The collection was taken for the Poppy Appeal.

Our members made as many housecalls as possible for the Poppy Appeal and there were many Poppy Boxes at sites throughout the village. To these were added the church collections from St. Andrew's and the combined service for Wootton and Monkton Wyld. All this gave us a grand total of £2,238.99 for Charmouth and district. Last year's final U.K. total was approx. £35 million--and still they want more!

All the ex-Service charities are struggling to raise sufficient funds to meet the current and on-going needs of the Service and ex-Service community. In addition, the Legion is combining with Help for Heroes, the Army Benevolent Fund and the M.O.D in a new initiative to establish four special Recovery Centres where wounded Service personnel will move on to a specialised regime of support, to include exercise and sports, after their wounds have healed. This should help prepare them for "Civvy Street".

After all this "hustle and bustle," we rounded off our year with a Christmas Party and Tea!

Pat Stapleton, Chairman



Two nuns from Europe arrived in the US. One said to the other " I have heard that people in this country actually eat dogs"

"That's odd " the other nun replied, "but if we are going to live in America, we might as well do what Americans do"

Nodding emphatically, the Mother Superior pointed to a hot dog vendor. They both walked to the cart.

"Two dogs please," one of the nuns said to the vendor. The vendor was happy to oblige and he wrapped both hot dogs in foil and handed them to the nuns. Excited, the nuns hurried over to a park bench and began to unwrap the dogs.

The Mother superior was the first to open hers. She blushed, and then, staring at it for a moment, leaned over to the other nun and whispered cautiously, " what part did you get?"



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News From St Andrew's

I'll be honest - the last few months have been very difficult for us at St. Andrew's. Many of you will know that at our Morning Service on October 3rd our church boiler 'exploded', sending showers of dirty water around the vestry. The plumbers were called, and they pronounced that the boiler had terminally expired! We decided to relocate our Services to our friends at the United Reformed Church. This arrangement worked very well, and we are extremely grateful for their generosity and kindness of hospitality.

The plumbers all agreed that a new boiler had to be located in the vestry, but then we discovered that for this to happen we required an official faculty. This is a kind of ecclesiastical planning permission. We have tried to expedite this process, but it has required an awful lot of paperwork! Our chosen plumbers – Dallimores of Beaminster – have been tremendously helpful to us in cooperating with the legal authorities of the Diocese of Salisbury.

Then, with the boilers in place and 'fired up' we discovered there was a major water leak in the system. So we have had pneumatic drills in church to try to lay bare the piping and then replace the rusty ones! This has now been done, and at the time of writing this on 9th December it looks like at long last we can have a warm church again for Christmas! I want to thank all who have helped and advised us over this two month period, especially Ted Whatmore. Ted has spent many hours in our freezing cold church, and deserves a special medal for his hard labours!

This major problem has not diverted us from our bigger project of repairing the stonework on the tower. We have been trying to find ways of reducing the cost of this project, but it still amounts to £40,000 plus. Since we are now assured that we can reclaim VAT on this work beyond March 2011, we have decided to begin the work in March – which is when the scaffolding will appear! Many of you will have received a letter from me in early December, in which I set out our situation and invited your support. We held a

I have been a very keen diver for years now. Dorset is still one of the most interesting places for me, even after travelling the world! Burton Bradstock was one of my favourite hunts – beach diving – hard work but very rewarding when you find something fascinating. Lucky old me, I have found three Roman anchors over the last few years.

Now I am building my house on Higher Sea Lane and I decided to build them into the gable end at the roadside as they are so distinctive and so people could enjoy their beauty as they walk by.

Paul Crosby

Gift Day on 30th November (St. Andrew's Day) to give everyone an opportunity to offer financial support for us. We received cash and cheques amounting to around £2,000 which included several substantial gifts for which we are extremely grateful.

However, we are still a long way short of the total required, and we will continue to fundraise in various ways. One of these ways is through our "Parable of the Talents" scheme, headed up by David and Julie Renfrew. Through this we invite you to borrow £20 from our P.C.C., in order to 'invest' it using your talents in such a way as to multiply the loan hopefully several times over! Anyone in our village can take part, and use skills in, for example, baking, knitting, gardening, cooking, catering, entertaining, card making, artwork etc to raise money! Please contact David Renfrew for more information on 560553. The scheme will run until next Easter, when we plan a big celebration!

Looking towards next year, we have various other plans, many of which will be developed in collaboration with our United Reformed Church friends. These include:

~ A new monthly discussion group, beginning at 2.30pm on Monday February 14th, at the home of Pauline and John Berridge. We aim to discuss issues of current relevance from a Christian perspective, and with openness of mind! The first topic: "Is there such a thing as true love?" Everyone welcome!

~ United Morning Services whenever there is a fifth Sunday in the month, alternating between St. Andrew's and the U.R.C.. The first of these might be on 29th May, subject to churches' approval. Our provisional theme for the day: "Is the journey really necessary?"

~ We will continue our monthly 6.30pm evening Songs of Praise, but utilising our church buildings, rather than "The Elms". We are taking a few months break over the winter, because so many don't like venturing out on cold, dark nights! So our next will be: Sunday 6th March. Again, all welcome!

~ Planning together an interesting Mission called "Walk West Dorset" : September 24th – October 2nd 2011. A group of 10 men from around the country who are keen walkers will spend a week in Charmouth, sleeping on the floor of the URC! They will get involved in all sorts of exciting ventures during the week as they share their Christian faith. Other such groups will visit Lyme & Bridport.

~ To further our developing ideas leaders of our two churches (including URC Minister Revd Ian Kirby) will meet every three months to pray and plan the best way forward together.

Stephen Skinner, Team Rector.



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St. Andrew's Church Restoration Fund Appeal

'The Parable of the Talents' challenge

A number of Parishioners have accepted the loan of £20, repayable on Easter Sunday 2011 (24th April), with the objective of making it into a larger sum.

David and Julie Renfrew are holding a series of Sunday Lunches, cost £9, at Melbourne House, The Street, Charmouth. Two have already been successful.

Lunch 3 will be on Sunday 20th February – we already have a number of bookings – call us and reserve your place.

Lunch 4 will be on Sunday 27th March – call us to make your reservation.

To book Lunch, 'phone 560553.

Other personal Talent efforts to date:

- Liz Scott will do personalised Greetings Cards of your home/garden, together with the original hand-painted watercolour picture.
- Mary Macnair is knitting scarves (and travelled to Florida to buy the wool!).
- Audrey Worth will bake a seriously delicious chocolate cake for you; while she awaits your request she is busily knitting bedsocks!
- Malcom Macnair has made mincemeat and marmalade.
- Stuart Marriott is making wooden book troughs.
- Bob and Helen Hughes are going to organise Table Top sales for Village Societies and organisations. This event

will be held in the Community Hall on Saturday 26th March.

- David Renfrew has 6 sturdy trestle tables for hire – donation £2 each per day.
- Jacqui Moody offers **Reflexology** sessions and will make a donation to the Church.
- Before Christmas, Stalls at the British Legion Coffee Morning, The Trader's Street Fayre, and URC were well supported, and there were brisk sales for cakes, marmalade, mincemeat and chutney.
- Bob and Lesley Dunlop are to hold a **Traditional Burns Day Lunch** on 25th January – a four course lunch - £12 - call Lesley on 561644 to book your place.
- The Rev Jane Skinner will run a Class in '**Painting on Silk**' in the New Year.

Please do support our fund raising efforts – with your help we can succeed and make this a real community project.

Yes, of course we need your money – but fund raising can be fun - why not get together with a group of friends and organise an event. Need some ideas? Give me a call.

Finally, a big thank you to those who have responded to the appeal.

David Renfrew: 012976 560553

david.renfrew1@btinternet.com

St. Andrew's PCC Member

St Andrew's, Charmouth, is your Parish Church

St. Andrew's needs your financial help. Major repairs are required **NOW**. Without your help, it may not survive as the central feature of the Village Street Scene for much longer!

Rubbish - I hear you say - **the Church has plenty of money.**

You are not entirely wrong: the 'Church' in its broadest sense is a wealthy body;

but the fact is that the maintenance of the Parish Church falls to the Parishioners.

I'm not a Parishioner, I don't go to Church.

Nice try – if you live in the Parish, you **are** a Parishioner.

A Parish is the smallest unit of Government in our country. We have a Parish Council and if, as you should, you vote in the Local Elections, you are exercising one of your rights as a 'Parishioner'.

OK, but it's still nothing to do with me.

Wrong again: the Church is an important part of our Community.

Without your support there will be no Church for the Christening of your child or grandchild.



Without your support there will be no Church Wedding for your daughter or son.

Without your support there will be no Church Funerals where family and community gather to support the bereaved, and to both mourn and celebrate the life of the deceased. The Church is frequently packed to capacity to remember and celebrate the life of a Parishioner who has passed away.

Like it or not, the Church **is** important to Charmouth: you celebrate Christmas, you give each other Easter Eggs – these are Christian Festivals. What about Remembrance Day – the Church is packed with young and old alike.

Not convinced? Whilst our Society has become secularised, I will wager that most of you follow the Christian ethic in your daily lives.

Would you prefer a ruin in the middle of the village?

No, I thought not – give me a call – let's talk about how you might like, and be able, to help to raise the necessary funds to restore the Church and keep it at the centre of our Community.

Member of Parochial Church Council : David Renfrew – 01297 560553

david.renfrew1@btinternet.com

From the Charmouth Practice

It was twenty five years ago that Martin Beckers took over the reins at the Charmouth GP surgery and founded what is now called The Charmouth Practice.

He had been invited down to work as an assistant by the late Hugh Beach in 1984, when Martin then suddenly found himself having to run the whole surgery on his own as Hugh unfortunately fell very ill. On Hugh's death nine months later, the Family Practitioner Committee had a difficult decision to make. The rules forbade them to hand a single handed practice straight over to a relatively young inexperienced GP just out of training. What is more, several applicants had applied to take on the very desirable seaside practice and one of those applicants was no less than a professor of General Practice from Leeds who had wanted to end his career on the beautiful Dorset coast.

Martin, in the meantime, was successfully delivering General Medical Services, and in addition had organised various screening programmes. It was hard work as his on call was a 1 in 1 which meant he was constantly on call for his own patients 24 hours a day and 7 days a week, but he was committed, and must have impressed the powers that be.

When the FPC awarded the practice to Martin, the professor from Leeds appealed to the highest authority, the Medical Practitioner Committee in London. Second rounds of interviews were arranged and the applicants were all contacted again. It was a nail-biting time. Apparently our patients wrote dozens of supportive letters and amazingly

the other applicants declined to take part in the second interviews. "Hadh't the practice already been awarded to that nice young doctor who had, by now, been running the show for over a year?" they asked. The MPC deliberated and despite the Leeds professor's claims, they finally awarded the practice to Martin in 1985. Hugh Beach's widow Jenny, who still lives in Charmouth, did us the honour of cutting the ribbon when we moved in to our new premises next door at Littlehurst, and the rest, as they say, is history.

2010 was a year full of celebrations! Not only is the practice 25 years old, but our receptionist administrators Denise Rodway and Biddy Shannon have each celebrated 20 years working with us. We would like to thank them very much for all the care and help they have given the patients and the practice; we feel so lucky that they have chosen to continue working at the practice over so many years as their expertise and knowledge is invaluable to us and to our patients.

2011 will be a year full of changes for General Practice, but come what may, we do both feel very fortunate to have had the chance to run a practice in Charmouth together. I hope the Leeds professor found somewhere nice too.

Happy New Year everyone- have a healthy one!

Dr Sue Beckers

Charmouth Primary School

Well, another year done and dusted! Where did it go to? The frightening thing is that it is now 13 years since I arrived at Charmouth Primary School, taking over from John Broadhurst. I remember the afternoon I spent with him doing the handover and the first time I shut the gates having been handed the keys. The rain was torrential and blowing horizontally on a fierce south-westerly gale. I did hope for a less stormy ride when I took over.

There is certainly something special about our school because once they arrive, headteachers seem to stay for a long time. The first record of a headteacher dates back to 1863 with a gentleman by the name of Thomas Bunston- his role in the school would have been very different to the one I now have. There have been just eight of us since Mr Bunston. I am sure there are some Charmouth folk who remember Miss Meade, Miss Pascal and obviously John Broadhurst. I wonder what Miss Meade was like? It is 75 years since she became headteacher of the school. From her entries in the school log-books I have built a mental picture of her but I wonder if that is accurate. I would love to know. If you have any recollections of her, or indeed Miss Pascal, please get in touch with me at school. I think that is the joy of history and particularly local history - it is all about people and the things they left behind. We are so

lucky to have the Pavey Room in Charmouth where that wealth of local information exists.

Enough looking back! January is a time to look forward with optimism to what the New Year may bring.

In school we are no different. There are many things to plan and establish to ensure that our children get the best possible experiences. I have, on a number of occasions, written about change in schools and this year will be no exception. The new government have identified a number of areas where change will take place - some good and a number not so good (in our opinion!) However, we will have to manage these and also maintain the high standards that our school has. It is this that provides us with the challenge to make us want to get up in the morning and come to work. For all the government initiatives in the world, nothing can take away the enjoyment of working with children who have always got things to share. For example who could resist a conversation with someone talking about their giraffe who has a sore throat! Or not have a smile when another comes and shares their successes in mastering a new skill. It may be 150 years ago since Mr Bunston was headteacher here but children will always be children - keen, enthusiastic, positive and good to be around.

From all of us at Charmouth Primary, we wish you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Chris Vincent



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Oxenbury Family Memories, Part 2



In the last issue of *Shoreline*, Ron Oxenbury provided information on his parents, Leslie and Dorothy Oxenbury. Now it's the turn of Ron and his wife Gwen:

Ron's story: "I was born in Romany, Lower Sea Lane, 78 years ago and went to the old Charmouth Primary School. Every day my pet white billy goat followed me. He would stay by the school wall until the end of class.

Everyone went home stinking of goat! My very earliest recollection is of white beach tents on a patch of grass that is now the big slip area to the east of the river Char. Charlie Larcombe, a local character, picked up the water with a pipe from the cliff and served pots of tea on the grass. He kept his fishing boat on the slip, but one day disaster struck and the boat was washed away in a gale."

My younger days were very full, playing tennis and cricket and rounders on the beach. I'd spot shoals of fish from the cliffs and report to Percy Smith who had a seine net. In the 1970s there were more than 100 boats on the beach."

"After the war, the holiday trade took off and Charmouth became very popular. The east cliff used to be covered with tents. At night you'd see the whole hill alight. Farmers would also erect tents at the beginning of the season at Hogchester field, Thistlegate, Loosemores and Backlands Dairy. A large youth club came every year from Ewell, Surrey and camped for weeks. The local boys were always glad to see them arrive, as they were blessed with very pretty girls. Dances were held every Thursday in the summer at the Church (Community) Hall. They were always full, yet there was never a fight."

"I wanted to be a vet, but instead my father persuaded me to go into the family business in Bridport. It was founded by my grandfather in 1853 and manufactured high-standard horse-drawn vehicles."

"One of my hobbies was riding. I enjoyed hunting and frequently rode around the country lanes. I was one of the founder members of the Whitchurch Young Farmers Club. Audrey Creed (née Loosemore) was a great member and organised many events. The YFC had a good name as a matchmaking club and it worked for me! At Axminster YFC I met Gwen Heard from Dalwood. Gwen and I were married in 1959 and she instantly became part of Charmouth, making many friends. We enjoyed a great social life. I compered the village suppers for several years and then Mike Davies, the chemist, took over. He was a great friend and had masses of untapped talent. When Stuart, our son, or Petrina, our daughter, were ill, nothing was too much trouble for Mike."

"Stuart attended the old Charmouth Primary School, Woodroffe and Tiverton Tech before entering the family car body repair business in Bridport. Petrina went to High Wytch School, Woodroffe and Weymouth Tech, and became a dental nurse."

"Charmouth was very lucky with its great families that were the backbone of the village: the Grinters, Storks, Bowditches and Spurdles; and the business people: Billy Gear (garage), George Restorick and Frampton Bros (butchers), Sidney Herbert (chemist), Barney Hansford (builder) and Dick Loosemore (Manor Farm)."

Percy Smith lived at the Hensleigh when it was half the size it is now and owned the caravan field behind. He used old buses as caravans, and kept cows, pigs and chickens in the field too. He had a fishing boat and hired boats. He was well liked and visitors enjoyed his company at the Coach & Horses. My father was one of the last people to drive a car from the cement factory on the beach directly to Higher Sea Lane. I have walked to the beach almost every day for 70 years".

Gwen's story: "When I met Ron I was a trained accountant and cycled from Dalwood to Axminster to work. Then my uncle, who had a haulage business in Kilmington, asked me if I would work for him."

"After our wedding in 1959, I placed a card in the window of our home - Greenbanks in Lower Sea Lane - offering bed, breakfast and evening meal for seven guineas a week. I loved meeting different people and did it until ten years ago. I ran the Charmouth Young Wives group that met in the Community Hall from the late 1960s. Reverend Hacking's wife used to help and would let us go to the George for skittles evenings but, in later years, Reverend Lucas's wife banned us from going there. It disbanded soon afterwards. Mike Davies started the Monday night Badminton Club in the 1970s. He bought a few rackets and got several people to come along. We played in the league against Portland and Yeovil. I was secretary for nearly 20 years. In the 1980s I took over from Miss Joan Whittington as treasurer of the Church Hall, but I gave it up when it became the Community Hall."

"Ron and I were members of Lyme Regis Golf Club in later years. We celebrated our golden wedding in 2009. We've been very happy in Charmouth. It's a great place to live and everyone helps each other."

Thank you to Ron and Gwen, whose reminiscences will doubtless evoke memories amongst the older villagers. We hope it will help those new to Charmouth to appreciate the village's past.

Lesley Dunlop

And some thoughts from Ron:

"What I would have liked to see happen in Charmouth: The school built to the north of the village, with space for football, rugby, cricket, hockey, swimming and some animals. Gears Garage site turned into a car park. It would have put our shops in a great trading position. And the defences at the beach constructed to the original design, as proposed by Dr W D Lang."

Coming Clean?

Now that we are in the grip of winter and all but the hardest holiday makers have headed homewards, Shoreline felt that perhaps we should lift the lid on the secret world of our local army of seasonally employed holiday cottage cleaners.

Being the token male on the Shoreline team, naturally I was volunteered to boldly go where no man has been before to learn the secrets of these shadowy folk who make our whole 'cottage industry' possible. A mole in the trade had promised Shoreline an exclusive interview which would reveal the shocking truth....

So, late one evening, I waited nervously in the darkness, at the beach car park. I didn't have to wait long – a black BMW pulled up, a door was thrown open and a heavily built 'minder' calling himself 'Mr Muscle' and wearing a scarf, dark glasses and hood, bundled me in then, blindfolded and driven around until I was totally disorientated, I was taken to a nondescript room, where behind a screen sat Marigold*, ready to let me in on the secrets of those brave souls who venture into chambers of horrors, work their magic and transform trashed treasures into luxury living rooms once more.

First off, it seems they are most definitely not mere cleaners but "Housekeepers" – or so the Holiday Cottage Company – (the somewhat mysterious 'Agency') would have us call them. Presumably the Agency feels this helps the holidaymaker to imagine their hugely expensive micro cottage is in the care of someone familiar with the routines of a Downton Abbey-style household and is the soul of discretion who can be trusted keep a secret or two under duress.

Whatever the reason, the set up ensures the poor 'Housekeeper' has to act as a triple agent, as Marigold explained. "Well, we agents are controlled by 'M' – we're not told what her real name is, some say it's Margaret – I dunno. Anyway, we are sent out to clean up what they call "Safe Houses" and we work on our own. The Agency pays a fixed amount per property, depending how big it is, but some small places are harder to clean than larger ones actually.

You have to learn to live on your wits, make sure you're ready for anything – even provide your own cleaning materials, wipes, dusters, polishes and so on – so you soon learn which cleaning fluids really work I can tell you. Illicillit Bang does what it says – cleans up any mess with what they call 'extreme prejudice'. And the Agency has to meet the standards set by the secretive 'Visit Britain' organisation, so they carry out their own inspections to check if the cleaning's done properly. We sometimes have to check a place for 'bugs' and you need to leave it spotless to cover your tracks – and you've only got a short time to get it done before the new holiday makers arrive."

Already it seemed to me that Charmouth's Chars had their work cut out and I quizzed my informant on the level of reward for her lonely and potentially dangerous work.

"Well, it varies with the size and grading – dunno how they work it out, but an average three bed property might be rated at £25, some deluxe ones more, but it would take you at least two and a half to three hours to do them – more if they're in a state, or booby trapped with 'jelly' hidden where you least expect it."

"Then of course there are the property owners, to contend with – never see most of them – I think they live abroad –

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you know, outside Dorset – maybe 'offshore' places. They want you to love their cottage as much – no, more – than they do, because they don't have to clean it of course. They fill it full of knick knacks to make it feel 'homely' – so that takes up lots of time dusting and arranging, but they'll work you over you if you damage anything. Worst of all are the times when they come to stay in their own property – they often arrive early before you've had time to finish, and then want to spend an hour or two grilling you how everything is with the place, when all you want is to clean up! But it must be a worry for them – there's so many things that can go wrong – blocked drains, breakages, repairs and replacements, even stuff going missing – I couldn't stand the worry I can tell you. Yeah, I feel some look down on you, but others really appreciate what you do."

But, I suggested, (with the ignorance of a mere man), presumably you have all the modern labour-saving gadgets like hooovers, dishwashers, cleaning products and so on to make things easier, – and guests look after their cosy 'home from home' don't they? I should have known better of course...

"Oh yeah, the holiday makers! Don't start me – how some people must treat their own place is all I can say. You can tell what it's going to be like, the minute you open the door. Dirty dishes lying around, stuff on the floor – looks like the place has been turned over by a professional, or they had to abandon ship or something. Bins overflowing with empty plastic bottles of cider and curry trays, and that's only what the kids had! Only joking of course, but you'd be surprised the state some of them manage to leave a place in after only a week. If there's been small children and a pet dog or two, then you've really got your work cut out, I can tell you. Mind you, some do *really* make themselves at home – 'movers and shakers' I call them – shifting furniture, beds – even wall clocks and pictures, all over the place – so course you've got to put all that back before you can even start."

I expressed surprise that people who could afford to rent properties costing as much as £1500 a week in peak season would be so careless, and 'M' agreed that they were in the minority thankfully.

"Yes, well, to be fair, some leave it so you're not quite sure if anyone's been there or not – 'smatter of fact, due to a mix up, I cleaned a place once and no-one *had* been there. I did extra stuff you don't normally get time to do and the Agency did actually pay me for it, which was pretty good of them and the owners too I suppose."

I hoped for more revelations, but the ever-watchful minder then got up, scraping his chair noisily on the tiled floor – it was made clear that my time was up, so I thanked Marigold, for throwing some light on a shadowy service which underpins the holiday industry – and the security of the whole area. Then, blindfold once more, I was led away and driven back to the lonely beach car park again, thankful that Marigold and other Agency personnel are prepared to risk exposure to dirt, dust and dangerous chemicals to protect lives and property through the work they do to safeguard our way of life from the depredations of tourist terrorists.

Colin Pring

* Not her real name, to protect her identity.

Law and Order

I have some good news at last. In the early hours of Monday morning two weeks ago, police were in Charmouth where they arrested a man from Torquay for the offence of 'going equipped' (he had items used for theft or burglary in his pockets). This is good news and hopefully will send out the right message to travelling criminals that Dorset is not the place to stop.

Your local crime level did have a fluctuation which I attribute to this man, apart from that they remain low. Overall, in my area (50 sq miles), I am very concerned about recent thefts from caravan sites, gas bottle and heating oil thefts from schools and from homes. Please help; if you see anything suspicious, report it immediately.

Regarding the zig zag's outside Morgans, I will be reporting every offender I catch. It is 3 points and a fine, so make my day and don't stop on them.

The 'Meet your Local Police' PACT surgery has been re-scheduled to a later time of 2.30- 3.30pm outside the post office on the second and last Thursday of each month, so come along and meet one of us.

Winter is here and I would like to remind you that the roads are slippery; ice, snow, leaves and mud all make for

Partners and Communities Together (PACT) Surgeries

Marshwood Vale Safer Neighbourhood Team hold regular PACT Surgeries outside the Post Office in Charmouth every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, between 11am and 12am. These surgeries are an opportunity for the residents of Charmouth to raise any concerns or issues they have with the Dorset Police.

Jan: 13th & 27th
Feb: 10th & 24th
March: 10th & 24th

Mark Jones

Police Community Support Officer 6269
Marshwood Vale Safer Neighbourhood Team
Bridport Police Station

greater stopping distances, so please allow a little extra time for your journeys. Make sure your lights work and your wipers are in good condition; using your wipers on an iced up windscreen will damage the rubber strip, use de-icer.

Look after one and other; if you haven't seen a neighbour, then why not pop in and check all is well. I am sure that it would be appreciated.

It's the police Drink Drive Campaign so be aware, use a taxi, a nominated driver or get a lift. Drink driving is a crime and is treated as such. There is no excuse.

The Community Messaging Scheme sends out messages via phone, email etc to Homewatch; members of the public can also ask for these messages, there is no charge. You can pick up a registration form at Bridport Police Station.

That's it for this year. Happy 2011 and I look forward to seeing you around.

PC Chris Forshaw.

Clean Up After Your Dog

Dog fouling complaints have been received by West Dorset District Council Dog Warden, Stephanie Miller from concerned Charmouth residents who are worried about the increase in dog mess throughout the village in particular Wesley Close, Bridge Road and Lower Sea Lane.

Ms Miller said 'I would like to remind all dog owners that failing to clean up after your dog is a criminal offence under the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005. Committing this offence can result in owners being issued with a £75.00 fixed penalty notice (FPN)'.

Patrols in the area have now been increased and are carried out on a regular basis with the intention of issuing FPN's where dog fouling is not promptly cleared.

Should you have any information which you feel may help Stephanie please contact her via 01305 251010 or email envhealth@westdorset-dc.gov.uk. Any information will be kept strictly confidential and not passed on to dog owners.

For further information on FPN's and the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act, please visit dorsetforyou.com.

Subscriptions

To have your copy of Shoreline delivered to your door for **one year**, please fill in the form below and send it with a cheque or P.O order of £5 to:

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**Charmouth Bowls Club wishes
everyone a Happy New Year.
Think Spring. Think Bowls.**

**Please send us your stories and
poems to be included in the
spring issue of Shoreline
by the 15th March**

We Remember..

Elizabeth Rumens

My sister Elizabeth Rumens died peacefully in Bymead Nursing Home on Friday 15th October 2010.

She retired to Charmouth some 21 years ago – her first home being Avery Cottage on the Axminster Road and for the last 9 years she lived just off Lower Sea lane. It was perfect for her as she always enjoyed a quiet life and rarely needed to travel far from Charmouth. She liked nothing better than looking after her sweet little home and beautiful garden and of course exercising her dog – arriving first with Roo, a tiny Chihuahua, and then later her lovely yorkie Bella – who really was the joy of her life and who often won rosettes at the local dog show for the dog in the best condition. Bella was groomed twice a day and always seen with Elizabeth on her walks, sometimes in her basket on wheels! Elizabeth loved to talk to other dog walkers and it was her routine up until she sadly lost Bella just after her last major operation.

She fought her illness bravely for three years and was so very grateful to all her friends in the village who would drive her to her hospital appointments when necessary – such kindness from so many people. She loved village life and even when she was very ill would try to have a little walk each day.

Her funeral took place at the lovely little chapel at Catherston Leweston on Friday 29th October 2010. Fifty five people attended which was a real tribute to dear Elizabeth. The beautiful service was conducted by the Revd Anthony Ashwell and afterwards refreshments were provided by the Hensleigh Hotel. She will be dearly missed by her family and friends.

Daphne Moseley (sister)



John Debenham

John sadly died, aged 84, on Thursday 25th November, after a progressive illness which left him in the latter weeks unable to be out and about as was his want.

Most will remember John as a tall, slender, extremely smart and upright figure striding about the village with Lillian, his wife, and till this summer, accompanied by his little Jack Russell terrier. One usually hears said of the recently deceased "He was such a nice chap." In John's case this went without saying. He was in every sense of the word not only an exceedingly lovely man but also a true gentleman.

In fact the word gentleman described him so well. Not only were his manners impeccable but he was a really gentle, man.

John and I were, I like to think, great friends "oppo's" is the Royal Navy term. Many were the laughs and jokes we shared and we both spoke fondly of the Service and the characters we had met during our respective careers. He was thrilled to take part in the 200th Trafalgar celebrations as the Announcer/MC, dressed as a Nelsonian Royal. John served for a number of years in the Royal Navy, eventually retiring with the rate of Chief Petty Officer. After leaving the Navy he had a long career with Jaguar Motors until he eventually retired.

I first met John when he joined "Charmouth Companions" our local Pantomime and Amateur Dramatics Society back in 2000. John took on any role asked of him with enthusiasm and was always willing to go the extra mile with a smile on his face. He just loved dressing up and appearing on stage with all his "luvvy" friends. He wrote the words to a couple of songs, which he performed on stage himself and was always anxious to be involved in any show, enterprise or garden party. Who can forget his version of "Side by Side" he sung as Dr Liverish in "The Chronicles of Jim Lad the Tailor" or his very own reworking of George Gershwin's "Summertime" called "Zimmertime" with which he would entertain us all at the Midsummer Garden Party.

God bless you John or "Johnny Debb", as we knew you.

Mike Whatmore



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Poetry

POETRY FOR CHILDREN

October saw us unexpectedly in Mytholmroyd, Yorkshire, after a phone call from our eldest grandson aged nine, saying "Granny I've won a poetry competition, can you and grandpa come to the presentation?" We thought it was a school event as our grandsons live in nearby Hebden Bridge, but it turned out to be a national competition with over 500 entrants countrywide.

The budding poets were aged from 6 to 18 years with categories 6-11 years, 12-15 years and 16-18 years. Its aim was to encourage poetry and prose for children in memory of the poet Ted Hughes, who was born in Mytholmroyd. Who knows, it could be a child from Charmouth winning it next time. The theme was myths and legends and below is Bryn's poem:

MEDUSA

Medusa dead, life uncoiling.

Rapid snakes squirming free, biting back.

They slither into the cracks of the glimmering evening.

Hissing, rattling, spitting out forked anger, electrifying the night.

Streams of blood emptying the staring head, mixing sand and dust.

A red and silver sword held tight.

The ache of his arm meets the shake of his shoulder.

The spell broken by a shining shield.

Bryn aged 9

Helen & Bob Hughes (proud grandparents!)

A STRANGER IN THE STREET

We only have the pavement between our house and the
road,
When our front door got shabby well it really sort of showed.
I knew I'd have to paint it before winter came along,
But painting is point of mine that isn't very strong.

I put it off and put it off much longer than I should,
Then the paint began to split and I could see the wood.
I knew I had to stir myself, my tardiness dispel,
I fetched the paint from in the loft, gave that a stir as well.

I went off down to Morgan's for some stuff to fill the cracks,
And then slapped on some undercoat to cover up my tracks.
I had to wait for that to dry and so I got some stain,
To paint the board upon the wall that labels our domain.

While I was concentrating on the letters 'Portland House',
I spied a furry creature like an elongated mouse.
He scurried up the pavement and appeared beside my shoe,
And when he found his way was blocked he turned round as
in u.

He only went a yard or two then had another try,
The creature was a weasel and determined to get by.
I let him pass, he scuttled by and then he crossed the road,
A car was coming up The Street but fortunately it slowed.

I don't know where he came from and I don't know where
he went,
He knew where he was heading and was certainly hell bent.
I'm pretty poor at painting and it's really not my style,
But my brush with nature helped to make it all worthwhile.

by Peter Crowter

Breeze



*Fun, funky and
gorgeous gifts for
everyone!*

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Walks on the Wild Side



Eric and Julia in Southern Iceland

I like nothing better than to walk beside the ever-changing cliffs of Charmouth with my dog Sunny. Either strolling down the East or West beach admiring how the landslips offer a new landscape or perhaps just walking along the green cliff-edges of Stonebarrow seeking out those cracks and dips in the ground that make you feel a bit like a kid again. Your imagination running wild, thinking this must be what it's like in the aftermath of powerful earthquakes you hear about in far-flung places.

This summer I was lucky enough to get chance to walk in some of those exotic, volcanic places – regions where earthquakes and volcanoes are a part of daily life...like in Iceland and Japan. These amazing journeys also helped me realise something about how our landscape shapes us as people.

For me, walking is a pleasure and a business. I'm lucky enough to get paid to produce the BBC Julia Bradbury walking series which include: Wainwright, Railway, South Africa and currently Germany Walks (running through December on BBC4 under the title of German Wunderlust). The Wainwright Walks were my idea five years ago when I was seeking any excuse to spend a bit more time in the place that first inspired my interest in walking: The Lake District. We started with just four little half-hour films when Julia was a reasonably unknown presenter then, long before she was made BBC1's main Countryfile presenter – where she's now watched weekly by six million. It's been a great run (forgive the pun), as I've been lucky enough to walk through 34 half hour episodes so far. But every time I finish a BBC series, I like nothing better than to walk with Sunny dog along our gorgeous bit of the Jurassic Coast

This year's first big eruption was in April when Iceland's glacial volcano blew its top and stopped most of Europe from flying anywhere. I was due to fly from Exeter the day it happened, so it got me thinking, even then, as I sat waiting in the departure lounge. An explosion on a small hill in Iceland changes the destiny of millions: the fluttering butterfly's wing effect volcanically magnified!

By the first week of June I was heading out of Reykjavik in a four-wheel drive land cruiser with giant, joke-like tractor tyres designed to get us across Iceland's remote, racing rivers. With Julia and the crew beside me, we were headed off on a five day trek through the most volcanic region of southern Iceland. Our quest was to be the first civilians to climb that troublesome volcano – the one that's hard

enough to pronounce, never mind climb! (It's Eyjafjallosjokull, by the way!)

It was an extraordinary five days of camping outdoors, walking across canyons, remote glaciers and lava fields as little as 200 years old, trekking through fields of black obsidian shining in the brief glimpses of sunshine and getting used to the fact that in summer Iceland has no real night-time. Settling into your sleeping bag at 2am when it's still like early dusk outside is just one of the many unsettling elements of this compelling country.

But I can spare you too much descriptive detail here, as you can see the journey with your own eyes next Spring for an hour on BBC4 and watch how Julia became the very first person to walk on the newest volcanic mountain in the world – just three months old and still steaming visibly – as she stood overlooking the devastation, her fresh footsteps in the deep ash. She was moved to tears.

Next, I was off to Japan to walk the land of the rising sun's highest mountain and most iconic landscape – Mount Fuji. My trip in July had been pre-booked in 2009, as the main opportunity to climb the 12,388-foot dormant volcano that overshadows Tokyo and Hakone is in July and August. It was part holiday – a treat with my old Liverpool school mate and walking companion to mark our half-century – and part recce to see if I could get Julia to try this one on the telly.

Japan is an extraordinary country because, like Iceland, it is dominated by volcanoes and earthquakes. It sits on the join of three tectonic plates which gives it an extraordinary average of 200 earthquakes each day. Most barely register, but as I slept on the morning of my climb I was wobbled in my bed by the gentle shake of a quake that just hit 1 on the Richter Scale. This is what the Japanese live with. They have the most volatile landscape, combined with an equally threatening climate of hurricane storms as their islands strip across a vast range of temperatures – from tropical to Siberian. It struck me that the Japanese people are so calm, placid, deferential, highly organised and profoundly self-controlled because over thousands of years they have realised that their natural landscape is so deeply threatening and unstable that the only element they can control is themselves. This is the great secret of their calm, self-restrained success.

This is marvellous to witness as you take the Bullet train to Hakone – home of the famous Japanese painted Kanagawa wave – which is completely packed with passengers, yet remains calm, silent, baggage in its place, racing at 120 mph to its destination, always arriving exactly on time. This same spirit accompanies how they climb up Mt Fuji when you begin your hike from the first mountain base station 1 a neat queue of walkers who stick faithfully to the path. Polite, orderly, walking in line, the Japanese organised groups only scattered by the odd cluster of disruptive, self-expressive Europeans, Americans or Antipodeans racing to get ahead of each other.

Our hike started at 8pm, as we made our way through the dark with the aim of reaching the summit before the 4am dawn when the sun rises over Japan for that iconic moment that makes the entire 8-hour trek suddenly feel worthwhile. The journey up is steep but steady for the first four base camps. Once the altitude takes its toll and the temperature plummets at about 2am, around 10,000 feet, the final two hours is actually a very challenging climb through deep volcanic ash. It's like walking through black sand while dodging jagged, lava rocks and trying to steer past the



Jane Townson

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Phone 01297 561337

Charmouth

U3A in Charmouth

The Heritage Coast U3A based around Lyme Regis is thriving. We have over 500 members; 55 of them live in Charmouth. Did you know we have a successful French Group based in this village? It has just moved from Beginners to Intermediate level.

There is a Folk Dancing Group that meets two Friday afternoons a month in Morecombelake. They would like new members, of any standard. They have at least one person calling/teaching the steps, beginners would fit in easily. The more experienced could enjoy the dances.

The Tennis Group based on Charmouth Tennis Club is now full, but you can go on the waiting list if you want to join a friendly, intermediate game. This is a very social group; play stopped one Tuesday in December for a "Christmas" lunch. On summer evenings, barbeques may occur.

The Golf Club in Lyme Regis is hosting the Annual Dinner for members and their guests at the end of January. We look forward to a beautifully presented meal in pleasant surroundings. Tickets are still available if you can join us.

We have a talk most months. The next one is in February and will be given by Prof Philip Howse OBE who lives in Burton Bradstock. He will give an illustrated talk on Butterflies, their colours and the significance of their wing patterns.

We are looking for people to lead groups. Is there a subject you would like to study regularly with like minded people? Why not start a group? You will be helped by the co-ordinator when you start.

There are certain people in Charmouth who want a local "Wine Tasting Group". They like the fact they can walk home afterwards. Is there any one out there who could lead it?

We are always happy to take in new members. If you want more information contact Mrs Mary Bohane 01297 444566, or marybohane@yahoo.co.uk

The French Experience.

Vive la Côte Jurassique!

From along the Jurassic Coast, members of our U3A French group invite you to come and join us. Our intermediate French group, which is stimulating and fun, has decided to expand the material that it uses as we move onto the *BBC French Experience* Book 2. This book includes a lot more speaking and understanding of spoken French, France, and French life. The book provided the rails along which the course will chug, and we will stop at many stations to explore the richness and fun of French life, culture, places, events, etc. We do this with French films, documentaries, journal extracts, personal experiences, and games, and we do a bit of socialising! Everyone is invited to contribute material to the sessions. We always try to speak French during our sessions and within the intermediate band we are all at different levels. Our group is not competitive. We try to help each other to progress.

Who comes to this group? Those who holiday in France and French-speaking countries, Francophiles, those who enjoy documentaries, etc, which show the beauty and interest of France, and those who enjoy the use and study of this language. It is fun and it keeps the little grey cells active!

We meet in members' houses in Charmouth and Lyme. There are no fees, but you must join the U3A at a cost of £12 per annum. Phone us, Jan and Sandy Robertson on 01297 560450.

What's Occurring?

Therapy in Charmouth

Shiatsu ~ Movement Psychotherapy with Sandra Reeve

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Recognise the familiar. Play with change.

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Sandra 01297 560511 ~ Andrew 01297 560037

Walk on the Wild Side continued..

continuous trail of hundreds of walkers deprived of sleep, silent and cold, hunching and panting, slowly trekking upwards like a line of the dead heading towards Bosch's hellish inferno.

Just as you feel you might have died in a swirl of mist and light, out of the darkness lifts a delicious, blood-red eruption of emerging sunshine. Suddenly everyone stands still, the first shafts of this new dawning day reveal a sprawling lava-flow of desperate walkers scattered and hunched in clusters across the lip of the black crater. Deep down below is an almost biblical scene of human beings trailing ever upwards in a line like refugees escaping war. Once the sun finally bursts through the grey mist, giving life to the world again, everyone stands, momentarily still, in awe, many with tears in their eyes. Then, as that red Japanese icon heaves into its first half-crescent, spilling a furnace-like glow across the faces of this exhausted human assembly, suddenly comes the unifying sound of clapping. The noise, like a thousand doves released, spreads across the cavernous crater of Mount Fuji connecting all of us to

this unforgettable present-tense moment that leaves every walker's spirits lifted.

This, of course, is the same sun that rises over Lyme Bay at 5.30am on a glorious August dawn as I stroll down the East beach with Sunny dog on my favourite summer ritual. Most sunshine mornings, I swim out for a few hundred yards, Sunny left behind, sat on my towel raising her nose to check I'm still there. Once out there, in the silence, I imagine how for millions of years these waves have rolled back and forth. I think of the ever-changing cliffs and of those tectonic eruptions that have shaped our landscape over billions of year. How can any of us really worry about anything? Our three-score and ten is a mere blink? Whatever problems I have drift off...pretty soon I become part of the sea, returning home from whence we came. The blue sky above, the dark cold sea below, the warm red glow of the sun infusing us with hope...another glorious day in Charmouth.

Eric Harwood

Jurassic Coast Earth Festival 2012

The Lyme Regis Development Trust, in partnership with the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Team, recently held a meeting in Lyme Regis to communicate the themes and opportunities that will be presented by the Jurassic Coast Earth Festival 2012. The Festival has been granted UNESCO patronage and will be an umbrella for a series of events and activities for all ages in celebration of the world's outstanding natural heritage. It will be hosted by communities along the Jurassic Coast, England's only Natural World Heritage Site. The main Earth Festival (4 May/21 June 2012) will be launched with the Lyme Regis Fossil Festival. The second phase (21 June/9 September 2012) will span the Olympics and Paralympics.

Shoreline was approached by the Jurassic Coast Programme Coordinator on the basis of our successful Jurassic Coast-inspired, community-led, low-budget 'Meet the Charmouth Fossil Hunters' event in March 2010 and

asked to do a presentation at the meeting. Editor Jane Morrow and I attended. With the aid of PowerPoint slides, I explained how, with strong local support, *Shoreline's* 'Meet the Charmouth Fossil Hunters' event and fossil guide evolved. Many of the 30 or so people at the meeting were involved in the arts, culture, story writing/poetry, green issues, local history and geology, and plan to organise events and activities for Earth Festival 2012 along their respective stretches of the Jurassic Coast.

If you wish to take part in the Jurassic Coast Earth Festival 2012, please contact Director Candida Blaker (01297 444042) and check out http://www.jurassiccoast.com/downloads/earth_fest_brief_july_2010.pdf

Shoreline would be pleased to hear from interested people/groups in Charmouth, as we aim to organise an event during the Festival.

Lesley Dunlop

The Coastguards

The last few weeks have seen an unseasonably cold snap and it looks as if the cold weather is set to continue, albeit without the extreme snow, hopefully! Whilst we are lucky that the snow has disappeared, we can't assume that all is safe. There still remains a hidden danger of ice, especially on the rivers and ponds. It takes several weeks of freezing temperatures in order for ice to be safe enough to walk on, and even then, there are risks. There is NO such thing as totally safe ice.

At this time of year, the coastguard rescue teams are often called to people that have fallen through thin ice. Frequently this is a result of trying to rescue a pet dog who has ventured onto the ice. Two weeks ago, a 49 year old man died after jumping into the River Lune in Lancaster to rescue his springer spaniel. For many people a dog can be like a member of the family but please DO NOT put YOUR life at risk by attempting to rescue them yourselves. Call 999 immediately and teams with specialist training and equipment can help perform the rescue. Always take your mobile phone with you as you never know when you might need it in an emergency, especially in this cold weather.

It is important not to underestimate the dangers of falling through the ice into freezing cold water. These dangers include sudden asphyxia, hypothermia and frostbite. The consequences could be fatal.

If you do fall through the ice, try not to panic. You will automatically take in a sudden deep breath when you go in the water and you will probably take some water in as well. You will have to fight through that and the urge to panic. In that first stage, if possible, find something to hold on to whilst you're gasping and suffering from the 'cold shock'.

Once you calm yourself down, you will get very cold very quickly. You will have less than 10 minutes where you can actually do something and then your fine motor skills will start to fail. Your hands and fingers will become so cold you are not going to be able to grab hold of anything. You will then have to pull yourself up with your elbows, your arms, and kick with your legs. If you do fall in but are able to get out, you should roll yourself in the same direction to shore the same way you walked in because you know that area of ice is stable.

The coastguard would also advise that if you are angling whether at sea, on the beach or by a lake, you always wear a lifejacket. A lifejacket can keep you afloat and it has some warmth. It's also easy to attach a whistle to the jacket; yelling for help would wear you out quickly, so a whistle can help in an emergency,

Always carry your mobile phone in case of emergency

Please stay away from frozen water.

Put your dog on a lead if it will be going near frozen water

Do not throw sticks or balls anywhere near frozen water.

If you see someone, or a pet, fall through the ice and get into difficulty, never try to rescue them yourself. Instead phone 999 immediately.

Nick Bale

Chamouth Primary school

Would parents in the area please register their pre-school children with Charmouth Primary School if they would like their children to come to the school. We are quite low on numbers for the 2012 intake and it would be useful for forecasting purposes to have as many children as possible registered. Please email the school (office@charmouth.dorset.sch.uk), telephone (01297 560591) or come in to the school office. I just need to have the name, address and date of birth of the child. Many thanks.

Rowanne Clapp School Secretary



Peter Bagley - Paintings

A small studio gallery selling original water colour paintings by Peter Bagley.

Exhibitions throughout the year.

Visitors welcome at other times, but please phone first 01297 560063.

AURORA
St Andrews Drive
off Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth,
Dorset, DT6 6LN

Natural England's New Coastal Access Proposals

We are very blessed in Dorset with a wonderful coastline and one that has even been awarded world heritage status. So it makes sense to ensure that the coastline is accessible and available to all. Obviously there have to be constraints, it would be wrong to suggest that walkers could ramble through someone's garden or trample through a field of ripening barley etc. In fact, our section of coastline is already well served with our section of the South West Coast Path.

However, the recent Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 requires that Natural England devise and implement plans to improve the general access for the public to the whole of English coast so that eventually there is literally one continuous trail around the whole coast of England. They have been given a statutory duty to do this.

The second aspect of the proposal requires the identification and designation of 'coastal margin land'. This means defining areas where people can explore, picnic or rest. The generalised term used is 'spreading room'. The plans are also required to consider the potential impacts of climate change and so where erosion is an issue (such as Stonebarrow or Hive beach), provision is made to set back (technical term is: 'roll back') the path in order that the continuous route is always safe and always intact.

Coastal change pathfinder project in Charmouth

The Coastal Change Pathfinder for the Jurassic Coast is an exciting project exploring ways of improving community engagement in planning for and managing coastal change in Charmouth and other communities on the Jurassic Coast.

The evening of November the 3rd saw a wide range of stakeholders brave the blustery weather to attend the first in a series of scenario planning workshops held by the Pathfinder Project Team in Charmouth Village Hall. Over thirty people took part in a productive and very positive discussion including local residents, school pupils, representatives from Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre, the Environment Agency, Natural England and a range of other organisations.

Attendees were divided into groups and asked to consider a scenario describing how Charmouth might appear in the year 2033. The scenario described a fictional 1 in 200 year storm event and its effects on the community. In the first half of the workshop the groups took part in a lively and wide ranging discussion of possible short and long term impacts such an event might have on Charmouth. Topics discussed included how this would impact on the Heritage Coast Centre, the beach and car parks and many other issues. The second half of the workshop focused on identifying options for limiting the negative impacts and maximising the opportunities. Attendees made great use of their imagination and a large volume of innovative ideas was generated.

The Jurassic Coast Pathfinder Project Team is now preparing for a second workshop to be held in Charmouth in the New Year when the community will be asked to evaluate and refine the adaptation options identified in the first workshop. If you would like to find out more about the project please visit our website at www.jurassiccoast.com/pathfinder or contact the project team directly on 01305 225579.

Rupert Lloyd Coastal Change Pathfinder Coordinator

Each section of English coast will be dealt with in turn and a report then submitted to the Secretary of State for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). Interestingly, Natural England have selected the Dorset coast between Lulworth Cove and Rufus Castle (Portland) as the very first section of coast to be dealt with....quite an honour for Dorset! The government have said that they want the improved access rights to be in place in time for the July 2012 Olympic sailing events. The only National Trust property that lies along this path is the beautiful Ringstead Estate.

It is to be hoped that when the proposals are finalised this improved public access will provide a lasting legacy for Dorset folk and for our many visitors. If the plan is a success, then the scheme will be gradually 'rolled out' for all the other sections of our coastline.

At this stage, there is an opportunity to input your comments as the plan is still at the consultation stage so go to: www.naturalengland.org.uk/coastalaccess where you will find more information and the chance to contribute your thoughts to this interesting initiative.

Tony Flux Dorset Coastal Zone Projects Manager for the National Trust

Charmouth's Welsh Border Incursion

On Tues 12th October, a dozen or so of the Walking Group spent three days experiencing the contours of the Wye Valley, staying at the Florence Hotel near Bigsweir Bridge.

The first day started at Chepstow Castle, returning there eventually via Tintern Abbey after crossing national borders and taking in the high points of both sides of the Wye. Wednesday's walk was from the hotel high up along the English side of the river crossing at Redbrook with a stop at the Boat Inn.

The final day took in the high western escarpment above Llandogo before descending to cross at Brockweir. Both the latter two days finished with level walking along the banks of the Wye. The area today is of a quiet river idyll flanked by soaring tree clad cliffs and a noted salmon fishery, but the trees hide an industrial and maritime past and a link with the 18th C. Romantics who came here and really opened the nation's eyes to Beautiful Britain.

Next year - The Black Mountains and Bruce Chatwin?

David Burgess

1st Battalion Charmouth Infantry

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Charmouth.



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Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre

Following a record season of over 87,000 visitors and a further 5,783 children on organised schools visits, the Centre continues to grow beyond all expectations.

Over the winter period we have still been open to the public from Wednesdays through to Sundays, and although visitor numbers tend to slow down at this time of year, the Centre has still been very busy with events and school groups.

Our winter fossil weekend events have again proved very popular and our annual arts and crafts fayre held in November generated over £300. Our thanks to all who took part and exhibited at the event. During the autumn term the Junior Wardens (Year 5 & 6 children from Charmouth Primary School) have been very busy making Christmas cards and gift tags for sale in the Centre to raise funds for

Will you be a Friend?

In Charmouth we have a facility which is very important on the Jurassic Coast. It attracted, during 2010, more than 90,000 visitors and over 100 School parties and its popularity and reputation will probably be greater in the future. It is Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre and a great deal of this success is due to the support of local people. There are now, nearly 25 years after it first opened, 3 full-time Wardens, each very well qualified in their specialist subject of geology or marine biology. The Centre has a high reputation as an educational centre and attracts students and fossil collectors from around the world.

However, to continue operating and make further progress, the Wardens need assistance and this is provided by a group of people called "The Friends of Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre". They help in various ways – some go out on the beach helping the Wardens with school parties and public Fossil Hunting Walks, at the moment, and throughout the winter, a group will be working to redecorate and improve displays, but there is a very important group which operates throughout the year by providing someone to be at the desk to welcome visitors.

More help is always very welcome. It is not necessary to make a regular commitment – there is a rota for the desk which you can arrange in advance.

To maintain this facility for the village The Friends must maintain their support so CAN YOU HELP please. For more information please contact a Warden at the Centre (560772).

Chris Horton Chairman of The Friends

Knit and Stitch Group

Rev. Stephen Skinner has come to the rescue and given permission for the Knit and Stitch Club to meet up at the back of St. Andrews Church after Ida's closes on Christmas Eve. It will remain on Thursday Afternoons between 2 and 4pm. I will be taking a couple of weeks off in January and will get it kicked off in its new venue around the middle/end of January.

A special thanks to all my friends in the club that I have had the privilege of getting to know over the last couple of years, I look forward to their company in the New Year.

Also I'd like to sing their praises for taking the Kenyan appeal to heart. An amazing fifty jumpers, numerous hats, snoods and blankets have been made and are already being worn by orphaned children in Kisumu. Thank you all so much.

Val Hatcher

their club. They all look very smart in their new uniforms which were purchased by the Centre and Friends of CHCC. The Winter Working Party have been busy making changes to the Centre for the new season, which will include new marine and fossil interpretation displays from the Warden team. In the New Year the schools return as early as the 10th January, and before we know it the February half term will be upon us. Our events programme is already planned through until Easter and includes a Rocks and Fossil weekends in early February, fossil hunting walks and a further two Fossil Fantastic Weekends in March. We will also be appointing a new seasonal warden in March to join the team for the busy season ahead

The Centre always welcomes new volunteers and we have a wide variety of opportunities both Centre and beach based. If anyone would like more details then please contact the Centre or pop in.

Meirel Whaites (Senior Warden)

Remember that our cliffs are unstable and very dangerous.

Plenty of fossils can be found on the beach.

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Sophie's Kenyan Story

Sophie McLachlan is a young lady from Charmouth with a big heart and a determined mission in life.

At just 23 years-of-age, she is making a difference to the health and well-being of young children in Ramba, a rural village near Kisumu in Kenya.

The story began in 2007 when Sophie attended a bible school in the United States. As a direct result, she was invited to visit Kenya for two weeks. "I saw so much suffering and poverty amongst the children there. Orphaned children from the age of six were living on rubbish dumps and others were on the streets selling sugar cane or anything else they could find. People from America Ablaze were giving them food and trying to provide shelter."

Sophie relinquished the offer of a placement at Plymouth University and decided to return to Kenya. Setting up Awaken Love, she met Newton Atela – a former teacher in the village. "Newton had been so upset seeing children in his class pass out through lack of food that he gave up his job in 2005 and converted an old building on his 12-acre plot into a school. He now offers free schooling to 256 children, many of whom would not otherwise have received an education. "In Kenya parents have to pay to educate their children and often have little or no money left to provide them with regular meals. But without education you can't get a job," says Sophie. The school has fourteen teachers on minimum wages and three widows who cook meals for the children. Newton and his wife have four children of their own, but have opened their home to 50 orphans, all of whom attend his school. Unsupported for three years, he now receives financial assistance from Sophie and Awaken Love.

Sophie has made several return visits to Kenya in the last three years to help in Newton's orphanage. "We've funded and built a new kitchen and new toilets. One of our next projects is to build a separate room for the boys to sleep in. And we're saving for an industrial sewing machine so that the people can make and sell Kenyan shirts, which would bring in £250 a month. The whole idea is to help local people become self-sufficient. Another project is to build a new school for the children," she enthuses.

Whenever Sophie or her supportive Mum Nicky visit Newton's orphanage, they purchase Kenyan crafts to sell locally on their return. "Every penny raised goes directly to Kenya" says Sophie, who works locally as a cleaner to raise funds for her Kenyan visits.

The 20-strong ladies' knitting group at Ida's have been working at breakneck speed to provide an impressive stack of children's clothing for Newton, who visited Charmouth for the second time in November. "Inspirational, awesome, amazing" were three of the words I heard reverberating around Ida's when the remarkable man from Kisumu appeared, so obviously thrilled by the dedicated support of the people of Charmouth. Sophie is no less remarkable.

Val Hatcher was delighted with the donations of knitted clothes, given in response to her article in the last issue of *Shoreline*. She has set up a committee to help Sophie in her fund raising efforts and she'll continue to be involved when she, Jim, Ellie and Jack move to Devon in early 2011. They will sell the Kenyan crafts in their new shop, and plan to visit the orphanage in August 2011.



There are already around 40 people in Charmouth who support Sophie's and Newton's work in different ways. Can you help swell the numbers...

- By donating wool, knitting children's jumpers, hats, scarves, snoods, blankets or blanket squares
- By making girls' dresses (which older girls can use as tops) or boys' shorts
- By sponsoring a child at £10 or £15 a month
- By giving bric-a-brac and/or adult clothing that Sophie and Nicky can

sell to raise funds

- By making a donation or organising a fund-raising event
- By joining Sophie, who is self-funded, on a minimum two-week visit to Kisumu to help build, teach or visit children in hospital. Accommodation is in a comfortable house and, with breakfast and dinner included, is £10 per night. The cost of the airfare is in addition.

Sophie and her Mum Nicky can be reached on 01297 560352. Sophie's email address is: awakenlove@hotmail.co.uk

Lesley Dunlop

Home Start

In my life pre Charmouth, I was a Home-Start volunteer. When I told friends what I was doing they asked what I knew about cars!

Home-start is a charity that helps families with at least one child under the age of five years who, for a variety of reasons, aren't enjoying the fun of parenting. The only prerequisite is that a volunteer must be a parent - both men and women are very welcome. The expectation is that you will give your family 2 or 3 hours a week at a mutually convenient time.

After a training period the organiser matches each volunteer with a family. My experiences were very satisfying. I was with my first family with twin boys from when they were 15 months old until they were 5 years old, which is when the official Home-Start help ceases. I am still in contact with them, they have just had their 9th birthdays. I was a surrogate Granny and we did the activities that were difficult with just one pair of hands, for example swimming and gym style play halls. I would go home physically exhausted but really happy with our shared experiences.

Different families have different needs. Home-Start offers support, friendship and practical help according to requirements.

There is a brilliant network of support for volunteers. There is a branch in Dorchester, organised by Helen Horsley. You can get in touch with her on 01305 755603/755608 or the website is www.homestartwestdorset.co.uk. Or if you would like to talk to me my number is 01297 560446.

I feel that it is one of the most worthwhile things I have ever done, and would have a family now but my elderly mother has been ill and has a greater need of my time at the moment.

Kathy Fereday

Gears Garage

To newcomers moving to Charmouth, it is something of a mystery as to why we have to drive so far out of the village to find a garage.

But it has not always been this way. In fact within living memory, there were actually two garages facing one another on The Street. It is the more famous of these - Gears Garage, that I wish to focus on, as it was probably the largest employer in its heyday with the wide range of services that it was able to offer. Its owner Billy Gear is still remembered with affection by those who knew him. Unfortunately, Reg Pavey, Charmouth's foremost historian, has little to record about him apart from saying that his Garage was "a truly remarkable and praiseworthy achievement for a local man". I have been fortunate in being able to speak to Sheila Stamp, his niece who still lives in the village and who was able to assist me with an insight into his life.

The background of his family is interesting as there are no clues to his chosen path in life as for over 100 years his grandfather, father and brother were fish sellers.

The Gear family originate from the Misterton / Crewkerne area. William Geere of Misterton (a tailor) was involved in a court case, which was heard at the Quarter Sessions in 1611, and Walter Gere is listed as a pikeman in the Crewkerne Muster Roll of 1569. It is Tobit Gear who was born in Misterton in 1794 and moves to Charmouth in the mid 19th century. He is shown in the 1861 Census as a tinman (peddler) then living in Old Lyme Road with his wife Elizabeth. Their son Matthew Gear in the same year is described as a fish salesman who was born in Symondsburry in 1823. One of the earliest directories for Charmouth shows listings for both father and son in the year 1875.

Matthew and his wife had a son - Matthew James Gear, born in 1868, who continued the family trade as a fish salesman. But he also dealt in horses which he kept in two fields he owned near his house in Old Lyme Road and also had a pony and trap for taking passengers to and from the railway stations. The graves at Charmouth cemetery of both Matthew and his wife Amy show them living on into their 90's. They had two sons and a daughter, Norah who died early, aged just 30. Their eldest son Cecil George continued with the family business and in 1931 moved to new premises in The Street near its junction with Old Lyme Road. He carried on a successful business, but was seriously affected by the lack of fish during the 2nd world war, and his life was tragically cut short in 1944 at the early age of 48.

His brother, William Arthur Gear was born in 1898 and took a different path to the rest of the family and slowly built up his automobile business in a number of premises. The first reference to him is in the Kellys Directory of 1927 where he is described as a car hirer. He garaged his first cars in the two sheds which Harold Pryer, the Stone Mason, owned before his death, on the east side of a narrow lane alongside the butcher's at "Devonedge". The business prospered and his next move was to the rear of the George Inn. There is a delightful old postcard of him with his mechanics standing proudly alongside his two taxis. He is sporting a bowtie, which was to become his trademark, and Page 20



he appears in another group photo with it on, outside the Royal Oak on Armistice Day in 1929. Another postcard by Claude Hider again shows him driving one of his vehicles, but he is now posing at the entrance of his new premises at the rear of the Coach and Horses.

Billy married May, the daughter of Jim Bridle, the well-known landlord

of the Royal Oak. The Electoral Roll for 1931 shows them moving from his parent's home in Old Lyme Road to Albueria (near the former Wander Inn on The Street). In time he built a small garage in Pear Close, west of the Abbots House (Queens Armes), which gradually grew into a substantial building with a large frontage onto The Street with workshops stretching behind it. Its position on the strategic A35 Folkestone to Honiton trunk road gave him important passing trade. He must have been Charmouth's foremost businessman at the time, for as well as the garage, he owned the large car park by the footbridge near East Cliff and built a number of houses in the village.

The photograph of the outside of his garage shows him standing by the petrol pump with his workmen alongside his vehicles. To the right is a lock-up shop, which had been built by Bagshaw of Axminster in 1931 and was for many years a gift shop run by his wife, but is now the Fish Bar. Initially he used it as a showroom for his cars. Adverts in the local directories detail the extensive range of services he could offer. He had a well equipped workshop for repairs and servicing. He originally offered Austin, Vauxhall and

Standard Cars for sale, but towards the end was a Ford Agent. He was able to offer cars as well as lorries for hire and ran excursions to local places of interest. His telephone number almost from the start of business is shown as just Charmouth 8.



The other photograph kindly lent by Jill Matthews reveals the inside of the workshops. She has been able to track down the four gentlemen proudly standing by the automobiles. From left to right can be seen Bert Dancy, who

was known to assist with the petrol sales on the forecourt with Vic Hunter who still lives in the village and remembers the photograph being taken in 1940 when he was just 16. Then Jill's father - Len Linthorne can be seen with Dick Woollard, one of whose daughters now lives in Lyme Regis.

For many years Billy lived with his wife in the house (Uphill) that is seen today between the Fish Bar and the Old Bank Café. He worked long hours often from 8 in the morning until 8 at night.

Unfortunately the war was to have a devastating affect on his business and half his premises were requisitioned by the American army who were stationed in the area. But true to form, he decided to assist the returning British soldiers by organising a fundraising auction with contributions from both himself and other villagers. With this money he held a special celebration and presented each man with a wallet with a substantial amount to help them.

He retired in 1963 and continued to live at Westways, Lower Sea lane after selling his business to H.W.Daniells,

Continued page 21

News From The Elms

By the time you read this article you will all have received and hopefully completed a questionnaire, which, when analysed along with everyone else's, will be used to produce Charmouth's Parish Plan for 2010. The questionnaire has been developed from the post-it note comments made by villagers at the Launch Day Event in June. Thanks are now long overdue to the members of the Steering Group who have devoted a lot of their free time to produce, distribute and collect the questionnaire. They are Linda Crawford, Debra Peters, Phil Trittton, Tony Johnstone, Richard Salisbury, Jane Morrow and bringing up the rear, myself.

Over the last few months the Parish Council has been preparing its budgets for the coming year, and in recognition of the current financial environment, the Annual Precept (that part of the Council's funding that comes from the Council Tax) will not be increased.

The Council has also worked to combat the increase in anti-social behaviour we are currently experiencing. The local PACT group (Partners and Community Together), working with the Police, has set this problem as one of its current objectives, and recently our Chairman Mallory Hayter and

my colleague Mark Osborne met with the local Police command to discuss a more visible police presence in the village.

Charmouth is very lucky to have the playing field it has in Barr's Lane. It costs several thousand pounds a year to maintain and with the exception of the football and bowling clubs has no regular users other than the village Fayre. Charmouth is also blessed with a strong community spirit and a multitude of clubs and social groups, so surely some of you could come up with more uses for the playing fields. Do give it some thought please and get in touch with us.

Finally, the next election for Parish and District Councillors will be held on 5th May 2011 so if any one has any ambitions in that direction you need to think about it now. For advice about being a councillor, log on to **dorsetforyou.com** then Council and Democracy then Councillors Democracy and Elections.

Finally, everyone from the Parish Council wishes you a very prosperous New Year

Councillor Keith Lander

Gears Garage, continued...

whose sons-in-law, P. Whittaker and A. Beccher were to manage it. Their business went into decline and the building of the bypass must have been the final straw. For a while it was an engineering works owned by George Burgess, producing wood burning stoves. In time this came to an end with the business moving to Axminster and the buildings being demolished. The site was sold to Naylor's from Dalwood who were property developers. A number of houses were built in 2001 on the site, which became known as Queens Walk. It is difficult to visualise the hive of activity that would have once been witnessed in this part of the village when Billy Gear was running his garage.

Billy Gear lived on for another 10 years after his retirement enjoying much of his time on the golf course. He died on April 22nd 1973 and is buried in Charmouth cemetery. Sadly there is no memorial to this great Charmouth citizen who had such an impact on the village in his day.

Neil Mattingly (Pavey Group)
with thanks to Sheila Stamp, Ron Oxenbury and Jill Mathews for their assistance.



Two men are in the woods when one collapses. He's not breathing, his eyes are blank, so his friend calls 999. "My friend is dead, what should I do?"

"Stay calm" says the operator "First, let's make sure he's dead" There is silence, then a shot. "OK" says the caller "What now?"

An old sea captain comes ashore and heads for the nearest bar and orders a nice cold beer. As he enjoys his drink he hears "You look very handsome tonight sir." Looking round he doesn't see anyone there. He carries on drinking and after a while he hears "You have a wonderful beard sir." The sea captain looks around and doesn't see anyone there. He beckons the bartender over and asks him if he had heard anything. The bartender replies "Oh that's the peanuts, they're complimentary."



Bridge Update

I am pleased to confirm that construction of the new footbridge at Charmouth is programmed to start on the 4th January, subject to land access agreements being finalised.

Planning Permission has not yet been granted (as of 10 December), but I am expecting a decision soon and do not anticipate any problems with this that would delay construction.

Dorset County Council's own workforce will be constructing the bridge. There is a possibility, given the time of year, that extreme weather may temporarily halt work, or the workforce may be called away to carry out road-gritting. However this possible "down time" has been built into the programme, and we would still expect to be finished by Easter.

During construction the footpath leading from Lower Sea Lane down to the existing bridge will be closed. We will be providing a temporary bridge slightly further downstream. However, please note that this will be closed in stormy weather for safety reasons. We would be grateful if members of the public could contact us if large amounts of debris collect on the bridge outside of working hours, so that it can be cleared. The emergency out-of-hours number is 01305 221000.

I am the engineer in charge of the project, and can be contacted on 01305 225428 if anyone has any questions or concerns during construction. I will endeavour to keep the community updated on progress via the Parish Council and the project web page:

<http://www.dorsetforyou.com/charmouthfootbridge>

Beth Barker-Stock Engineer
Bridge Management Team
Dorset Engineering Consultancy (DEC)

Advertise in Shoreline
Contact Colin
444656

Alphabetti Spaghetti

A Flutter with F

This is the second letter of my alphabet of moving to Charmouth. Not so much A-Z as alphabetti spaghetti, slippery and jumbled as a tin of the letter-shaped pasta in a bright orange sauce.
So **F**.

For **Fast**. Which is how I'll have to write this piece if I'm to do it in time. I've always heard that dogs look like their owners and I'm still hoping that it turns out to be true. I have a fast dog and in her heyday she was very fast. She won half a dozen times at Walthamstow and came second in a few too. When we moved, people said, it'll be good to slow down a bit. Life in the country moves at a slower pace. I didn't disagree; I had yet to discover how wrong this was. Since the day we moved, I have been trying to become more like my dog. Fast. Very.
I've never thought of myself as a swift person or even that speed was a desirable aspiration. Slow food is the good stuff as far as I'm concerned. Slow writing too – skills built over years and honed and honed until...

A young woman from Wootton Fitzpaine turned up for my second Writing and Walking course; she sat down at the table and astonished everyone with her first statement. I have written six novels, she said. Every November I take part in National Novel Writing Month. This is a challenge to write 50,000 words in the 30 days of November. This year I'm going to try for two. I know I can do one, not so sure about a second.

There was a bit of a silence while people took this in. No one knew how to follow that. I had to ask her to repeat it: 50,000 words in 30 days? And you're going to do two? It's impossible. No, really. I had to find out. I signed up, posted a note on my website saying, in effect, don't expect anything to happen on this page for the whole month of November. I cleaned the house and then announced to my family that I was out of commission for housework, that food would be fast and no frills. Expect fish fingers and baked beans and lots of alphabetti spaghetti. And I told friends: sorry, catch you in December.

F for **Frantic, frenetic, finger ache and fatigue**. And maybe for **Fear** too. All this fuss – what if...? But guess what. At the time of writing there are still ten days to go and I'm just over four fifths of the way. That's 42,000 words and a bit more. In less than three weeks. Quality is another matter but I really thought it was impossible. The first week I wrote eighteen thousand words (about four times my normal speed) and even enjoyed it. There's still the possibility of failure (another f word but let's not put that in bold – I won't tell if you don't). It really looks as though I will be getting the t-shirt. Which I will certainly wear. Lots. Maybe even on Christmas Day. In bed. On the beach. So thank you, Hannah. Who, by the

way, hit 50,000 words exactly half way through the month and decided to carry on and make it a longer book. She is currently in excess of 70,000 words. What a star.
Other Fs?

F is for **fossils**, obviously. And **Fungi**. And **foraging** for wild food. Wonderful parasol mushrooms like treasure from the earth and over near Monkton Wyld a giant puffball bigger than a football. Most of it had been eaten by other creatures but the remainder was still enough to feed ten hungry humans. Also sloes and blackberries and a green leaf I'd never heard of: sea beet. Like chard only more delicious. Down on the beach with Cleo Wondrausch making wild sushi and seaweed and sea beet stir-fry while the stones around the fire exploded into the wok and into the faces of the chefs but there was the amazing pleasure of realizing how much fantastic wild and free food there is if you just know where and how.

Finally on this sprint through F, there are the flagpoles. Oh yes. **Flagpoles, Flags** and the **Flying** thereof. I started to notice the flagpoles when one was suddenly put up in the next garden. I was, I will admit, quite upset. Instead of the ancient and unpeopled expanse of Stonebarrow Hill, there was a large red white and blue fluttering its eyelashes and demanding constant attention. What to do? Make a fuss? Nah, I'm too English. Try and ignore it? Well, time helps but it's not a very creative response. Then I had an idea. Something that would transform my crabbed response into one of joyful rapture: poetry flags! Couplets of verbal beauty to raise a smile or provoke a thought. Even if it was just for a week, a day. I called Wendy Knee, organizer of the Charmouth Literary Festival and together we hatched a plan.

So here it is, dates tbc. Next year, as an adjunct to the festival and a fun event that lots of people could get involved with, there will be a poetry week. Mission: to stimulate interest in the literary festival and have a fun time. Method: to make as many flags as there are people to make them (or a few more) bearing fragments of our favourite poems. Perhaps there will also be people who'd like to get arty and bring a bit of visual beauty in too. Then to identify as many flagpoles as we have flags – or balconies or rooftops or railings for that matter – and to set Charmouth a-flutter with poetry.

What do you think? Do you have a flagpole or know someone who has and would like to fly a poetry flag? Would you like to come along to the village hall and help make one? It would be great to know if there is interest for this, so do email me if so at writewalkwild@gmail.com

Juliette Adair

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Africa and Ann Clough, RBSA

Africa is a large influence in local artist Ann Clough's life. Her vibrant paintings, with their strong earth colours and deep blue skies, exude warmer climes and a culture very different to ours.

Ann was born in Solihull and remembers being attuned to colour from a young age. "When my mother ran out of cotton whilst sewing she often sent me off to buy a matching reel – there was no need for me to take a sample" Through-out her childhood Ann was never happier than when she was drawing and painting; an uncle encouraged her to take it up as a career. "But travel was high on my agenda," she says. After applying for work with the Crown Agents, Ann was offered posts in Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) and Uganda. At the same time, she was offered a position in Geneva. Heeding her father's advice about Zambia's favourable climate, she accepted a post as a Secretary in Lusaka in the office of the Prime Minister. "Africa was breathtakingly beautiful: huge skies, vivid blossoms, curious creatures," she recalls. Ann met her future husband, Geoff, playing tennis in the Deputy Governor's gardens.

Ann and Geoff married in Lusaka in 1965, moving to Cape Town after UDI was declared in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). Following a difficult time, they left for England in 1969 with their baby daughter Karol-Ann, intending to travel on to British Columbia. But, whilst visiting Ann's parents in the West Midlands, they fell in love with and subsequently purchased a derelict 400-year-old property in Tanworth-in-Arden. Their son James was born in 1969. One day, leafing through a *National Geographic* magazine, a photo of a camel with her baby chewing cud caught Ann's eye. "I was entranced and wanted to capture the essence of it," she enthuses. Her drawing impressed Geoff.

After Karol-Ann and James started school, Geoff encouraged Ann to take examples of her art work to Bournville College of Art, where she was offered a part-time place in Fine Art. "I couldn't have asked for better tutors and I made many art friends," she says. During this time Ann

exhibited regularly at the Royal Birmingham Society of Arts (RBSA) Friends' exhibitions and joined groups exhibiting regularly in the West Midlands. She also won first prize in a Regional Laing Landscape Exhibition. In 1994 Ann was elected an Associate of the RBSA; she was made a full Member in 1999. Ann has had work selected and hung at the Royal West of England Academy of Arts in Bristol and Mall Galleries in London.

Landscapes and portraiture are Ann's main focus and oils are her favourite medium, although much of her work in the last year has been in acrylics. "I am an observer of life. I look for shapes, colours and lights; mellifluous lights on nature. For me, the first few strokes are vital to the momentum... the hope of capturing the marvel of that initial impact of a view, or the hustle and bustle of life, or maybe a shared moment – but always with colour."

Ann has joined art trips to Italy, Turkey and, most recently, Portugal. "I started drawing a group of men asleep under a tree in the Blue Mosque gardens in Istanbul, when three young girls approached and asked us to draw them. Suddenly, as we were sketching them, lots of small children crowded around to see what we were doing. Then their mothers appeared and offered us apple tea. The world opened up in those moments."

Geoff and Ann moved to Charmouth three years ago, but still find time to visit Africa. "We love the location and the friendliness here, but the light is so much more subtle than Africa," notes Ann. "I want to try and capture something of the magic of Charmouth beach in the early morning: the light on the sea and the mist curling off the cliff face!" After meeting 46 years ago playing tennis in Zambia, Geoff and Ann are now living happily within earshot of Charmouth Lawn Tennis Club!

Ann may be reached at Skittles Studio
GandAClough@aol.com.

Lesley Dunlop

No Ducking Out



A move to an old farmhouse near Bromsgrove in 1984 brought new interests for Geoff and Ann Clough. The three acres came with a small lake held back by a weir and on the lake were a couple of ducks. Other ducks

were on larger stretches of water at a nearby period house, separated by a lane. "Before we knew it, we had acquired and bred pintails, widgeon, runner and tufted ducks, and accommodated the local mallards.

We looked after Esmeralda the goose from our neighbour's water when Canada geese attacked her and, after she recovered, she brought her goslings back to our lake. We also nursed Pippa, a tufted duck, back to health. She had been hatched in a domestic situation and her feathers weren't right; then she was hit by a car. Ann recalls watching television in the evenings with Pippa on her lap. When she recovered, we took her to Slimbridge and three months later received a postcard: 'Pippa has been released onto the main pool today'. That was lovely."

Word spread and people brought their injured ducks to the farmhouse; they produced large numbers of hatchlings, and were often injured crossing the lane. Desperate to bring their plight to the attention of local drivers, Ann painted signs on planks of a mother duck and her ducklings and positioned them to face both directions of traffic. When they were stolen, she made replacements. Then Bromsgrove Rural District Council threatened action, stating that the signs weren't official and could distract drivers.

Ann's determination was such that the council offered to recommend the commissioning of an official wild fowl sign to the Secretary of State – if she would fund half the costs. "A neighbour suggested holding a Love-a-Duck party around our lake," says Ann. "The sun shone, the money was raised and the wild fowl signs may now be seen scattered around the U.K." But that's not all. When they visited Cape Town shortly after the Love-a-Duck party, friends told them they'd read the story in South African newspapers. It had made international news!

Lesley Dunlop



The CTA Christmas Fayre 2010

The Third Charmouth Traders Association Christmas Fayre was held on the evening of Thursday 3rd December, and a very cold and frosty night it was too.

In spite of the arctic temperatures, the evening was once again well supported by the people of Charmouth and I have to say that it did feel a little more 'Christmassy' with a smattering of snow around. Although a little chillier, it was a big improvement on the persistent rain we had the year before.

On Thursday morning, after a heavy overnight fall of snow, there were some doubts as to whether the event could go ahead as the roads and paths outside the shops were somewhat treacherous. However a motley collection of shopkeepers and bystanders were handed shovels and brooms and press-ganged in to community service by Judy from Fortnam, Smith and Banwell and the paths were soon cleared. The Parish Council also sprung into action and came and gritted the cleared paths, thus removing the threat of further ice and making the area safe for the evening's festivities.

The CTA would as ever like to express their appreciation to all of the people who gave their time, energy and expertise into making the evening possible, as well as a big thank you to all those who wrapped themselves up and manned the stalls. As per the last couple of years I was volunteered to man the BBQ outside Pattimores, and to be honest, the best place to be stood that night was right next to the BBQ. I may have reeked of smoke, sausages and burgers, but I did stay warm!

Shoreline is now available to view online at www.charmouth.org.

Find this, and all previous issues in colour on the CTA's village website!

Charmouth Cherubs 2011

We have had a fantastic first term running Charmouth Cherubs and have been rewarded by seeing lots of new faces along with those returning after the summer holidays. We still miss the children that are all grown up now and have headed off to school, but have experienced a bit of a baby boom with several new under one's coming along.

NEW OPENING TIMES FOR 2011

9.30am – 11.30am

Cherubs will return after the Christmas break on 12th January at the new, slightly earlier time of **9.30am**. The hall will be open from 9am while we set up, so anyone dropping children off at school can come straight round to the hall if you would like to. It means we will finish by **11.30am** which will give everyone plenty of time to get home for lunch or naps.

WEBSITE – COMING SOON

Look out for the new Charmouth Cherubs website. The address will be www.charmouthcherubs.co.uk. It will have details of upcoming events and activities as well as the usual opening times, location and contact details. We'd like to thank Nick Langford for kindly taking the fantastic photos which will be on the website.

Kathryn Radley, Lindsay Douglas and Caroline Linney

At the time of writing I have not yet been given a final total for the money raised, however there will be enough to be able to offer donations to local organisations and clubs. Should any village or community organisation wish to apply for a donation, please send a letter to :

CTA Christmas Fayre Fund
C/O The White House Hotel
The Street, Charmouth, DT6 6PJ

Please state the name of your organisation, a contact number and address and the specific reason or project you would like funding for. Once again, please keep the amount requested relatively modest, as we would like to benefit as many local organisations as we can.

We are happy to accept applications until the 1st February and will announce the amounts to be donated and to whom shortly thereafter.

A quick reminder once more to the residents of Charmouth about the village website, www.charmouth.org, which the CTA runs in conjunction with Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. We do keep the events page updated with what is happening in the village and there is a lot of local information available on there. Should anyone wish to contribute to the website either with a photograph and article or details of a local organisation, please contact the web-master through the link on the website. Any businesses in the village who would like to advertise themselves on the site, please call Ian on 01297 560 411

May we take this opportunity to wish all readers of Shoreline a Happy New Year

Ian Simpson Charmouth Traders Association

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Onwards and upwards for Anna and Jillian

Anna Kindred and Jillian Hunt are two Charmouth-based photographers who share a passion for creative photography.

Bedfordshire-born Anna relished art and photography in her school days. She pursued a career as a nurse in Australia and the UK and, wherever she went, her camera went too. Jillian is originally from Essex. She studied textile design at Norwich School of Art, and had a good grounding in traditional photography. After leaving art school Jillian married and worked for interior design companies. Like Anna, photography was never far from her mind, but career and family commitments necessarily came first.

In the intervening years, Anna and Jillian independently moved to Charmouth and their children attended Charmouth Primary School. They knew each other by sight, but it wasn't until they enrolled in the same adult education photography class at Woodroffe School that they discovered they had similar backgrounds and shared goals. "Taking photography to the next stage was critical for both of us," remarks Jillian.

"Tutor Gill Elliott was inspiring and suggested we take A-level art," says Anna. "We travelled to her classes together, and supported and encouraged each other through AS and A levels. I don't think we'd have got to this stage on our own."

Anna remembers being "blown away" by fashion and portrait photographer Cecil Beaton. "I am a big fan of the way he used light, mirrors and reflections to create form and glamour. For me, photography is all about creating mood and evoking different emotions with shadows, close-ups and unexpected angles. I partially obscure the subject to change the obvious to the less obvious. My recent project 'Liquid Light' was based on the human form and the way life changes us." Anna, who now has several cameras including a Nikon D60 and a Box Brownie, has been told that her photographs are "painterly."

When Jillian first studied photography, she discovered the work of Canadian nature photographer Freeman Patterson; in particular, she admired his technique of abstracting visual elements. "I knew I wanted to reproduce creative work along those lines," she says. "A lot of my work is quite abstract, but it didn't represent a conscious decision. I just asked myself 'what next?' I like the unpredictable; the not-so-traditional. My work has a design background and I search out textures, particularly patterns. I love colours and I use a lot of soft light. My latest project is 'Water'. Living by the sea in Charmouth is the epitome for me. I love the natural environment, the beach and the skies and I push my Nikon



D50 as far as I can. I like it when people look at my photographs and try to work out what it is I've captured."

Anna and Jillian are members of the Town Mill Arts Guild. They exhibited at the Fossil Festival in May and had a group exhibition at the Town Mill Gallery in August. "At the former we exhibited stylised photography with geological and fossil themes, some bordering on the abstract," notes Anna. Then Artsfest followed in September/October and a further exhibition at the Boston Tea Party in Honiton was held in November. "For ArtsFest we exhibited a wide range of affordable contemporary images in traditional hand-printed black-and-white and digital formats at our open studio in Charmouth. Julie Oldfield, a fellow ArtsFest participant with a permanent exhibition at Lyme Regis's Harbour Inn, appreciated our work and

suggested we exhibit together in Lyme Regis next year. It was a great compliment." The shared exhibition will take place at the Town Mill Gallery, Lyme Regis, between 5th and 23rd March 2011.

"We want to keep moving onwards and upwards," emphasises Anna. She and Jillian have already achieved their LRPS (Licentiate for the Royal Photographic Society) and are currently working towards Associateship level. They are also keen to promote Charmouth artists and plan to organise a Charmouth Art Trail along the lines of ArtsFest. If you are interested, please contact them.

Jillian is also known locally for her bespoke curtains, blinds and cushions, and dressmaking. She had a recent claim to fame when her curtains appeared in the film *Tamara Drewe*!

Anna: 07747 620801 & website www.akphotoart.co.uk

Jillian: 01297 561173 & email jillian@jillianhunt.orangehome.co.uk

Lesley Dunlop

Correction:

In the last issue of Shoreline, in the article about the Heritage Mews, we erroneously stated that Tim Holmes had moved into a 3 bedroom home. He actually rents a 2 bedroom apartment. Apologies to Tim for any embarrassment caused -Ed.



An elderly lady was up before the Court charged with stealing a can of peaches. The judge said "There are five peaches in the can, so you must serve a week in prison for each peach."

Her brow-beaten little husband, who was standing next to her, said to the judge "She also stole a can of peas."

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Village Breakfast

As the idea of "the big society" has been in the news recently I have begun to explore the idea of having a village breakfast one morning a week at the Hollands Room in Bridge Road.

Village breakfasts have been held before to raise money for various causes, and this would be slightly different in that its main purpose would be to bring together people from the village for friendship and to make new connections. It would not be a cafe, but more an extension of your own lounge.

Our village heritage is important and there are seniors whose memories of bygone times are valuable and interesting. There are young mums who might enjoy hearing about these stories from the past and who themselves have important insights and experiences to share. There are people from all walks of life in our village including artists, writers, historians, therapists, naturalists, clergy, ex services, etc. who have a wealth of experience to bring. These things might never be recounted unless we go out and meet people we wouldn't naturally come across.

Anyone would be welcome to come and enjoy a good, fairly priced breakfast in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. People could drop in for as long or short a time as they wished and bring a newspaper or book as long as they would welcome a chat too.

The Hollands Room is a Magna Housing Association property and Magna residents in Charmouth would I hope be the first to support this idea. I am hoping that some of you reading this will feel excited about it and would like to be involved as we would need to form a core group to make it happen.

If that is you then please get in touch with me. My email address is itbringsitalbacktome@gmail.com. If you prefer to telephone please leave your name and number with Mike on 01297 560607 and I will call you back.

I am hoping to call a meeting during January to take the idea forward.

Jan Gale

Charmouth Natural History Group

September 21st-The group's outing for September was to Portland Bill to see migrating birds heading south for Winter. Unfortunately, due to the weather being so good in the few days before our trip, the birds just kept going. The birds which we did see were wheatears, swallows, housemartins, meadow pipits and kestrels. It was fairly quiet.

October 19th-It was a early start for the this trip: 6.45am! This time it was to West Bay on west cliff, to see movement of birds. The weather started off well but we ended up

showery. Before the showers came we saw small movements of 30-50 meadow pipits, 20 linnets, 6-10 goldfinches, 20 woodpigeons, and a large number of pied/white wagtails. We moved into West Bay itself and saw in the outskirts, in the fields, 2 lapwings and a single great spotted woodpecker in a tree.

November 16th-This trip was to Colyford Common and Black Hole Marsh. The day was sunny with a cool breeze. We went to Black Hole Marsh first, the new area on the Axe Estuary, but due to a man working, there was very little bird life, although we had an excellent view of a kingfisher sitting on the wooden fence for at least 15 minutes! Then we moved onto Colyford Common and saw 3 green sandpipers, 250 wigeon, 30-50 teal, 3 shoveler, lapwings, curlew, little grebe and a black tail godwit. Three of us went to try to see the long-billed dowitger while the rest of the group went home, but it didn't show itself.

Local Nature Sightings

On the 27th of October, whilst seawatching, we spotted sooty shearwater, artic skua, 3 gannets, 2 common gull and on the 3rd of November a great crested grebe out at sea.

At home, I saw 4 teal, and at least 30 pied/white wagtails which flew over the house and in the distance I heard a green woodpecker.

Kate Stapleton

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Charmouth Gardeners

The winter months are a quiet time for the Gardeners, a time for planning ahead rather than being out there doing stuff!

So our first talk of 2011 will be on house plants – how to care for them, propagate and enjoy them. This will be given by Ann Pawley at 1430 in the Village Hall on Wednesday 12 January. Non-members welcome, 50p at the door.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday 9 February (note misprint on membership cards). These meetings are quite short and offer an opportunity for your input into the planning of our year. This year's meeting will be followed by a short talk from Mrs Joy Everington of the Dorset Federation of Horticulture, entitled 'The pleasure and perils of showing and judging'. Potential exhibitors in our Show in August interested in coming along? We would welcome more committee members - new ideas and duties are not onerous or too time-consuming. No specialist knowledge of gardening or prize-winning talent is required!

The March meeting is a new venture. Wanting a change from our usual buffet arrangement, the committee would like to prepare a buffet for members. Remember the Home Produce display at the Show and you will realise we have some expert chefs around here! We will also organise a 'bit of a social do' to go with it. This extravaganza will take place in the Village Hall at 6.30pm on Wednesday 9th March. The cost of £8 includes a glass of wine.

April brings the first outing of the year. But more of that next time.....

If you would like to be a member, the cost is £3.00 pa. Included in the membership is a 10% discount on gardening items in Morgans. Contact Kay Churchman on 560980.

Hoping to hear from you!

Gardeners Club Committee

Love Chocolate & Fanatical about Fudge

Martin & Sue Harvey had a delicatessen in Honiton before moving to Charmouth. They were both passionate about quality chocolate so they introduced the finest Belgian chocolate, beautifully gift-wrapped.

The chocolates were so well received that Martin took his interest further and trained in the art of chocolate making. Martin & Sue moved to Charmouth four years ago and bought the Fish Bar, but never left their joint passion for chocolate behind.

Martin says "when the shop in Charmouth (formerly The Garden Party) became available, we saw it as an opportunity not only to indulge our passion but also to share it with other chocolate lovers. We have resurrected our contacts from the world of chocolate and fine confectionery."

'Love Chocolate' will provide best quality individual chocolates, truffles and chocolate products and also a selection of fantastic fudge from Cornwall and many other sweet treats.

"In time we plan to introduce our own Charmouth made chocolates but we are leaving that until we are more established," says Sue.

"At the end of our first day of trading, response has been fantastic; we are delighted with the buzz the shop has created."

They both agree that The Fish Bar and Pizzeria is thriving and will always be the priority. 'Love Chocolate' gives them both an opportunity to unwind and enjoy the pleasure that people clearly have in visiting the new shop.

Love Chocolate

The Street, Charmouth (opposite Nisa stores)

Posh Chocolates ♥ Fantastic Fudge ♥ Sweet Treats

Occasional Indulgence - Special Occasions - Gifts

Wedding Favours - Table Settings - Corporate Gifts

07970 315892

Clean Living

NCCA
NATIONAL CARPET CLEANERS ASSOCIATION
CLEANING THE NATION'S CARPETS AND UPHOLSTERY

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

- | | |
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| *Free survey and quotation with no obligation | *Safe insect/moth/fleas protection/extermination |
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| *Leather | Covering W. Dorset, E. Devon & S. Somerset |
| *Oriental carpets a speciality | *All work properly insured |
| *Turbo drying of carpets and upholstery. | *Full member of the NCCA |

Tel: 01297 561505

Mobile: 07970 060449

Local Food Links

Hello readers, my name is Suzie King and I joined Local Food Links in Bridport in April as a community development worker for older people, following a successful bid for lottery funding.

Since then I have been working with individuals, community groups and local organisations to set up lunch clubs and cookery workshops that give people aged 50+ an opportunity to either enjoy nutritious, freshly prepared meals with friends or learn new ways of cooking.

So far we have four lunch clubs up and running in West Dorset, with two more starting in January, including one in Lyme Regis, and we are also running cookery workshops on most Wednesdays at the Centre for Local Food in Bridport.

If you would like to get a new lunch club or some cookery workshops up and running in Charmouth, then please contact me on 01308 428924 or email suzie.king@localfoodlinks.org.uk

I look forward to hearing from you!

Suzie King

Teddies for Tragedies - Patterns

A big thank you for all of the lovely teddies and bonnets I have received on behalf of the charity 'Teddies for Tragedies'. They are now on their way to Essex where they will be distributed where needed.

If you still feel like knitting for the charity but fancy a change, then I am including some more patterns for various items which will be much appreciated by children around the world who are in need.

For anyone who would like to know more about the charity then you can either visit the website www.teddiesfortragedies.org.uk or phone Sophie! (**01297**) **560270**.

KNITTED CLOWN:

Knitted in stocking stitch (1 row plain, 1 row purl) in double knitting wool using size 10 or 3 ¼ mm needles. Use varied colours for body but hands and face must be white.

Cast on 10 stitches for shoes. Work 10 rows in plain colour. Change to trouser colour and work 28 rows. Make another leg in the same way. Knit across all 20 stitches and work 40 rows to neck. Change to white for face and work 12 rows. Change colour.

HAT: Starting with a purl row, work 4 rows in reverse Stocking Stitch for rim of hat. Next row, knit 2 stitches together at both ends of the row and every following 3rd row until 2 stitches remain. Cast off.

Make another body in the same way.

Stitch together sides of hat and face. With body colour pick up 8 stitches either side of neck (16 stitches in all) and knit 20 rows.

Change to white and knit 10 rows for hands.

Thread wool and draw up.

Sew up remainder of body, leaving open for stuffing.

(Please stuff clown with only polyester or other healthy padding. Foam rubber is not recommended).

Run a thread round neck, hands and feet and draw them in. Sew down. Sew happy face on the clown using stem or back stitch.

Please use red wool for mouth.

TO MAKE RUFFLE FOR NECK:

Cast on 80 stitches in Garter stitch. Knit 9 rows.

10th row, knit 2 together to end of row. Cast off. Leave length of wool for gathering.

Thread length of wool through cast off edge, gather up and sew around neck.

Sew edges together at back of neck.

PREMATURE VEST:

No 9 or 10 needles. Oddments of coloured yarn, only use white in stripes because white is a funeral colour.

Cast on 50 sts knit double rib, or single rib if preferred. (2 plain 2 purl/1 plain 1 purl) for 54 rows.

Knit 12 sts in rib cast off next 26 stitches, knit 12 sts left in rib.

This garment is made in one piece back and front together. Knit 14 rows on each of the two lots of 12 stitches for the neck opening.

After completing the second shoulder cast on 26 stitches, knit the remaining 12 stitches, then continue knitting on the now 50 stitches in rib for 54 rows.

SLEEVES: Pick up 30 stitches (15 either side of middle neck) and knit in rib for 14 rows cast off. Crochet round neck, make draw string and insert in neck. Sew up side seams and sleeve seams.

JUMPERS:

To fit 18in. (20. 22. 24) length from top of shoulder.

10. (11 ½, 12 ½, 14) inches: sleeve seam 7 (8, 10, 12) inches. Using double knit yarn it takes 2 (3, 3, 3) 50 gr balls on 10 & 8 needles. Back and front alike cast on 10 needles 51 (57, 63, 69) stitches knit 7 (7, 9, 9) rows in rib. Change to 8 needles either knit stocking stitch or following pattern. 1st row (right side) knit, 2nd row purl 3rd - 6th row rep. 1st and 2nd row twice, 7th and 8th rows knit. This just breaks the monotony of all plain knitting. Work until 6 ½ ins (7, 7 ½, 8 ½ ins) ending with right side facing.

Cast on 15 (18, 22, 26) sts for sleeves at beginning next 2 rows (81 sts) (93, 107, 121) Knit 3 beg of every row to make edging and continue in whatever pattern you have been doing. Knit until work measures 10 (11 ½, 12 ½, 14) ins. Knit 4 rows (to make edging for neck) cast off.

Join side and underarm seams, join shoulders remembering to leave sufficient room for head to go through.

PREMATURE BABY BONNET:

Cast on 80 stitches on No. 10 needles. Knit 17 rows in K.1.P.1, rib. Change to No. 9 needles. Knit 20 rows stocking stitch. Next row knit 6, knit 2 together to end a row. Next row purl. Next row knit 5, knit 2 together to end a row, purl next row. Continue decreasing in this way until you have 20 stitches (Knitting 1 less before k.2 together) Next row purl 2 together until end of row. Thread yarn through last 10 stitches, draw up and sew bonnet together.

COT BLANKETS - 4ft x 3ft – single bed 6ft x 4ft – shawl – 3ft x 3ft can be knitted in 6 in squares and sewn together for blankets, or knitted in strips (easier and quicker for sewing) please use garter stitch (all plain knitting) and as varied in colour as you please. Shawls can be knitted in finer yarn or crocheted.

ROSE BONNET:

(Tied under chin and worked in stocking stitch) Cast on 50 sts work 4 inches in sticking stitch ending with purl row. Next row – cast off 18 sts purl to end of row. Continue knitting on remaining 14 sts until work measures 4 ins ending with pearl row. Next row decrease. Knit 1st, knit 3 tog 4 times. k. 1 stitch, leave these 6 sts on spare needle. Next row with right side facing pick up and knit 22 sts along main side of knitting, knit across the 6 sts. Pick up 22 along other side of main part (50 sts). Next row cast on 25 sts, knit across 50 sts. Next row cast on 25 sts knit to end (100 sts – to form tie) Knit further 3 rows. Cast off and sew seams together

Charmouth Youth Club

Flips, Ollies, Grabs - these were just three of the many skateboard moves on show by local youngsters when a state of the art skate park kit was assembled at the Youth Club's Open day Event on 20th November.

The brand new kit, manufactured by leading company *Tribe*, has been provided by West Dorset Council's Sports Development Unit with Big Lottery funding. It's on loan to the Youth Club for 6 months, and Youth Leader Ken Darling is running sessions every Thursday evening through the winter at 6.30 to 7.30pm for 8 - 11year-olds and 7.45 to 9.00pm for 12 and above.

Thanks to generous grants from the Fayre Committee, the Parish Council and Bridport Community Fund, the club has been able to buy sets of safety gear, extra running surface and additional insurance premiums so that youngsters from the village can enjoy an exciting and healthy pastime in a safe and secure environment over the winter months.



Extreme action at the skate park open day!

Colin Pring

Open Day at the Former Boys Club Building

Lyme Regis Development Trust Limited

OPEN DAY AT THE FORMER BOYS CLUB BUILDING

Church St, Lyme Regis

SATURDAY 15th JANUARY 2011

Dear young people, children, families and organisations

The Lyme Regis Development Trust, who now owns the old boys club building in Church Street, has recently appointed me as Project Leader. Over the next few months I will be looking at how the building can be established as a sustainable project, a new multi-purpose centre that is of interest and value to young people. I will be looking at the options available to us and will be consulting young people, organisations and the broader community. Please come along to the Open Day on January 15th 2011, 9am - 6pm.

The main focus of the day is for everybody to have a look around and share ideas about how they might like to use the building in the future. There will be opportunities to register your interest and to sign up to help with fundraising and other opportunities. Perhaps your organisation would like to run an activity, workshop, stall? help with refreshments or even show off the skills of your particular organisation? Please contact ellen@lrtdt.co.uk to discuss. All funds raised will go into the pot to help get the doors open.

The success of this new project relies not only on funding but also on the goodwill and support of the town and our wider catchment area. Working groups have been set up to support progress and development, including the Open day group who are organising this very special day that promises to be a lot of fun for everybody. They are putting together a programme, which will be publicised, later; so please let them know ASAP if you would like to go into the programme.

There will be refreshments all day, starting with a breakfast club, lunch and finally tea with cake. *Can you help please?* There will be exciting activities for young people, a bungee run and Sumo suits for starters. **We need volunteers** plus

Youth Workers and qualified childcare workers with CRB's to help, please contact fran@lrtdt.co.uk

Please join us, ask your friends, family and supporters to come along, bring ideas and activities, or just come along and take part, help US make the day WE can ALL remember.

More help is required to make the programme a success, join in?

Help find a new name - we welcome suggestions from everybody especially children and young people. Can you help us with this by talking to your group, read this letter and pass it on, ask people for their ideas, you could make a box to collect suggestions to be short listed and returned to me or Ellen at LRDT by Monday 10th January.

An important part of the new centre's future success lies in **our** working together, there is a lot to do and it will take time. The Woodroffe School, Youth Service, Inspiration Youth Cafe along with volunteer groups and lots of young people are coming together to make this happen, we would like you to join us and to help in anyway that you can. Please make this your charity of the year in 2011.

I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you on January 15th.

Fran Williams Project Leader
Lyme Regis Development Trust
fran@lrtdt.co.uk

Angel Gravecare

Maintenance of Graves
Light Clean of Stone / Memorial
Clean Pot Liners
Remove Debris / Old flowers
Weeding
Fresh flowers laid

07725262654

Julie 01297 561101



What's On This Winter?

**The Charmouth Fundraising Committee of
Weldmar Hospicecare Trust**

invite you to a

QUIZ EVENING
(teams of four)

**on Saturday, 26th February, 2011
commencing 7.30 p.m. in the Charmouth
Village Hall, Wesley Close.**

Tickets £6
(to include a glass of wine and sandwiches)

Admission by ticket only from Jan Johnstone
01297 560052

Mary's meals

Soup and a Pud, Kids Eat for Free

Many thanks to everyone who supported this event, even the weather was great. Families came young and old alike, and all seemed to enjoy having a meal that didn't break the bank.

A visitor approached me who had attended last year when he had been told that the Soup and a Pud would be happening again this autumn half term, so he had booked his holiday to support the event again. He lives in Anglesea, so it is becoming a tourist attraction! We can live in hope.

Three families staying at Manor Farm, came for lunch and asked about Mary's Meals. I gave them a leaflet and explained that £9 feeds a child in a Malawi school for a year. They left thinking that it was an idea that they would like to take back to their parish in Poole. It was great to see families enjoying something so simple and also fantastic that people are spreading the word.

£800 was raised at the lunch and I must thank everyone who came to help, especially one local young person who stole the show. Sam Carter asked if he could help and wondered if he would need his mum with him to have a free meal. My reply was I that would be delighted if he would like to come along and he could naturally eat for free. Sam arrived at 11.30 and very quickly started clearing tables. Nobody had asked Sam to help, he volunteered his services. He did stop to eat but then got up and continued clearing tables. Sam was fantastic, he spent the whole three hours working. Many people commented on Sam busily at work. I will definitely book Sam for the next event. For a young person who was only 10 years old he showed extraordinary community spirit.

The next fund raising event will hopefully be a plant sale, probably at the beginning of May 2011. So if you can plant a few more seeds and donate them to the sale for Mary's Meals I would be delighted. My aim is to fund a school. It will cost £7,000 and will be named St Mary's Axminster. At the present time £1110.66 has been raised. Many thanks to all who supported us and especially to Sam.

Hilary Sharp 01297 560639
www.hilarysharp.o.uk
www.marysmeals.org

**MAKE MONEY FOR YOUR CLUB/ASSOCIATION
at our
TABLE TOP /ART FROM THE
ATTIC SALE**

**Community Hall
Saturday 26th March from 10.30 to 4.00**

We are planning a very inclusive event encouraging all village organisations and individuals to make money for their Clubs and the **St. Andrew's Church Restoration Fund**. Every village organisation is invited to take a table, sell absolutely anything and contribute 10% of their proceeds to the **Restoration Fund** (Minimum £5).

In addition, for those of you with surplus pictures, pottery, china, or anything which, however loosely, could be described as art, we will sell them on a 50:50 basis. You decide the price and do what you wish with your share of the proceeds. This will run on similar lines to the 'Art from the Attic' event run at the Traders evening in 2009 which raised over £500 for Church funds.

Refreshments will be served, so we hope that this will be a fun event for buyers and sellers, a boost to both the **Restoration Fund** and your good causes.

Helen & Bob Hughes 560487

**Thursday 13th January
SAVE THE CHILDREN
SOUP AND PUDDING LUNCH**

At the Pilot Boat (Inn Place) Lyme Regis
12.00 MIDDAY TO 2.00 PM
£5.50

Maralyn Hinxman 56040

Events & Courses at Monkton Wyld Court

- Jan 14-16** Wassailing Weekend with Danu Fox
- Jan 22-Feb 6** Permaculture Design
- Feb 20-25** Family Work Week: cob oven building, carpentry, baking.
- Mar 12** Day of Yoga

Further details -
info@monktonwyldcourt.org or 01297 560342

Book an Event at one of our Community Halls

Charmouth Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	560572
Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close	560615
The Elms, The Street	560826
Youth Club Hall, Wesley Close	561004

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

Village Diary

Sun 2.00-5.30pm	Bowls Club	Recreation Ground, Barr's Lane	Bob Just 560557 June Rebbick 560860
Mon 9.00-11am or by special arrangement	Pavey Group (village history)	The Elms, The Street.	Peter Press 561270
Mon 9.00-12.30	Monkton Wyld Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
3rd Mon each month 2.15-4.15/4.30pm	Golden Cap Flower Club	Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close	Lillian Bagnall 443335
Mon 4.30-6pm (term-time only)	Charmouth Brownies (ages 7-10)	Charmouth Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Caroline Davis 560207
Mon 6.30-8pm (term-time only)	Charmouth Cubs (ages 8-11)	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Toni Green 560778
Mon 8.00-10pm	Charmouth Badminton Club (experience required)	Charmouth Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Trish Evans 442136
Tues 9.00-noon or by special arrangement	Pavey Group (village history)	The Elms, The Street	Peter Press 561270
Tues 9.00-12.30	Monkton Wyld Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
Tues 2.00-5.30pm	Bowls Club	Recreation Ground, Barr's Lane	Bob Just 560557 June Rebbick 560860
Tues 6.30-8.30 pm	Junior Youth Club (ages 8-11)	Youth Club Hall, Wesley Close	Ken Darling 561004
Tues 7.00-late	Charmouth Badminton (social, began 15 Sept)	Charmouth Community Hall Lower Sea Lane	Pauline Bonner 560251
2nd & 4th Tues each month 10-noon	Coffee Morning	United Reformed Church, The Street	Rev Ian Kirby 631117
3rd Tues each month 7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting	The Elms, The Street	Lisa Tuck 560826
3rd Tues each month	Charmouth Natural History Group	For information and venues call Kate Stapleton 560255	
Wed 9.00-12.30	Monkton Wyld Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
Weds 9.30am - 11.30am (term-time only)	Charmouth Cherubs	Charmouth Village Hall, Wesley Close	Kathryn Radley 442796
1st Weds each month 2.30pm	The British Legion (Women's Section)	The Elms, The Street	Pat Stapleton 560255
Weds 7.00-8.45pm (term-time only)	Girl Guides (ages 10 onwards)	For info call Davina Pennells 560965	
Thurs 2.00-5.30pm	Bowls Club	Recreation Ground, Barr's Lane	Bob Just 560557 June Rebbick 560860
Thurs 7.00-10.30pm	Bridge Club (partners can be provided)	Wood Farm (opposite swimming pool)	Vincent Pielasz 560738
Thurs 7.00-9pm or by special arrangement	Pavey Group (village history)	The Elms, The Street	Peter Press 561270
3rd Fri each month 7.30pm (eyes down)	Bingo (fund raising for Community Hall)	Charmouth Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Linda Crawford 0781 351 3062
Friday 4.45-8pm	Bopper Bus	Bridport Leisure Centre Drop off /pick up WDDC Car park	Kate Geraghty 489422 Melanie Harvey 560393
Fri 7.15-9pm (term-time only)	Scouts (ages 11-14)	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Jason Udall 01308 27585

All regular meetings in the Village Diary and dates of events on the What's on? pages in Shoreline are published on www.charmouth.org.
To alter any details in the Village Diary or advertise your Charmouth event contact
Lesley Dunlop **lesley@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk** **01297 561644**

Local Contacts

Name/Description	Contact details	Phone
COUNCILS		
Charmouth Parish	Mrs L Tuck, The Elms, St Andrews Drive, Charmouth	01297 560826
	Beach Superintendent, Heritage Coast Centre	01297 560626
West Dorset District	Stratton House Dorchester - All Services	01305 251010
	Emergencies - Out of Hours	01305 250365
Dorset County	County Hall Dorchester - All Services	01305 251000
COUNCILLORS		
Charmouth Parish	Mr M Hayter - Chairman	01297 560896
West Dorset District	Mr D Newson	01297 560855
Dorset County	Col G J Brierley OBE	01297 560660
LOCAL M.P	Oliver Letwin House of Commons London, SW1A 0AA	02072 193000
CHEMISTS	F G Lock, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560261
	Boots The Chemists, 45 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442026
	Lloyds Pharmacy, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442981
DENTISTS	The Lyme Practice, The Elms Medical Centre, The Street, Charmouth	01297 561068
	Kent House Dental Care, Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 443442
	Lyme Bay Dentistry, Temple House, Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442907
	M R Symes, 41 Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442846
	Dorset Dental Helpline	01202 854443
	Dental Emergencies - Out of Hours	08457 010401
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, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442254
	Lyme Community PMS, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 445777
	Lyme Bay Medical Practice, Kent House, Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 443399
	NHS Direct - 24-Hour Healthcare Advice and Information Line	0845 4647
	Dorset GP Service - Out of Hours Emergency Service	08456 001013
HOSPITALS	Bridport Community Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bridport	01308 422371
	Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester	01305 251150
EMERGENCIES	Police Fire Ambulance Coastguard	999 or 112
EMERGENCY	Gas	0800 111999
	Electricity	0800 365900
	Water	08456 004600
	Floodline	08459 881188
	Pollution	0800 807060
POLICE	Local Police Officers - Chris Forshaw and Mark Jones (Community Police issues)	01305 226912
	Non Urgent call number for reporting incidents / enquiries	01305 222 222
	Bridport Police Station, Tannery Road	01308 422266
	Axminster Police Station, Lyme Close	08452 777444
FIRE and RESCUE	West Dorset Fire and Rescue Service - Group Manager	01305 252600
POST OFFICES	1 The Arcade, Charmouth	01297 560563
	37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442836
	25 West Street, Bridport	01308 422667
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
	The Sir John Colfox School, Ridgeway, Bridport	01308 422291
	Colyton Grammar School, Whitwell Lane, Colyford	01297 552327
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	National Rail Enquiries - Information on Timetables Tickets and Train Running Times	08457 484950
	National Travel line - Information on Bus and Bus/Rail Timetables and Tickets	08706 082608
SWIM / LEISURE	Bridport Leisure Centre, Skilling Hill Road, Bridport	01308 427464
	Flamingo Pool, Lyme Road, Axminster	01297 35800
	Newlands Holiday Park, Charmouth	01297 560259
LIBRARIES	Charmouth, The Street	01297 560640
	Lyme Regis, Silver Sreet	01297 443151
	Bridport, South Street	01308 422778
	Axminster, South Street	01297 32693
CINEMAS	Regent, Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442053
	Electric Palace, South Street, Bridport	01308 426336
	Radway, Radway Place, Sidmouth	08712 30200
THEATRES	Marine Theatre, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442394
	Arts Centre, South Street, Bridport	01308 424204
	Guildhall, West Street, Axminster	01297 33595
	Manor Pavilion, Manor Road, Sidmouth	01395 514413
WEBSITES		
www.dorsetforyou.co.uk	Dorset's portal for County/District/Town/Parish Councils and other Agencies	
www.saynoto0870.co.uk	Cheaper equivalent geographical phone numbers (ie those beginning with 01... or 02...)	