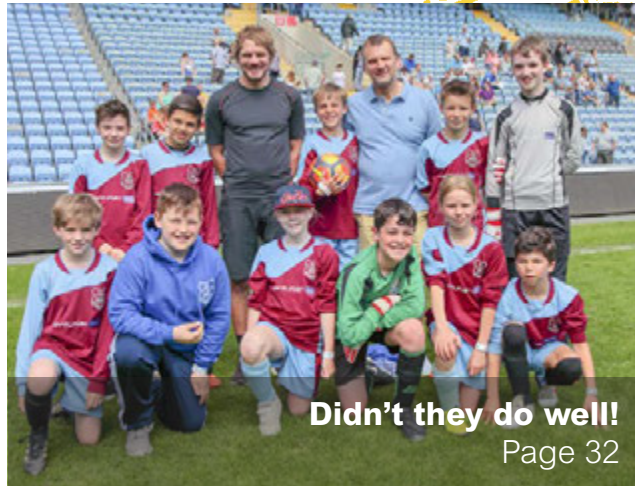


SHORELINE

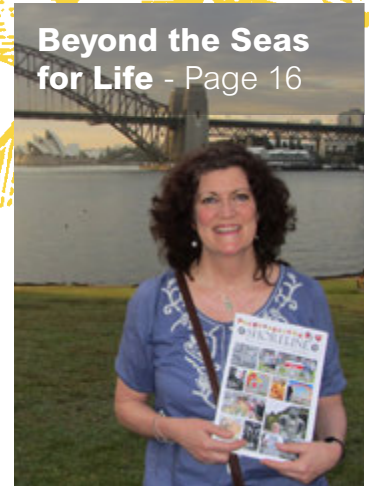
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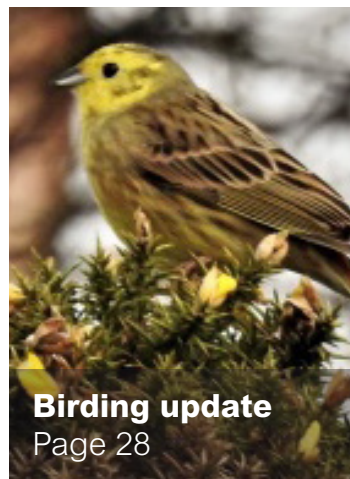
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Charmouth Stores



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sell co-op
products**



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no order too big or too small

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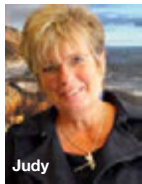
Please ring for more info 01297 560213

Advertising around the corner, across the South-West, in Central London and Nationally!

- Our advertising and marketing is primarily local, **Fortnam Smith & Banwell** is based in Charmouth, with sister offices in Lyme Regis & Seaton together with our lettings company, FSB Rentals Ltd.

- Our Regional coverage is through the **Experts in Property** where we link with around 80 other independent agents throughout the South West.

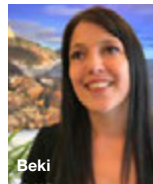
- In our London, Park Lane office, through **The Guild of Property Professionals** all our properties are presented via touch screen as well as our normal brochures.



Judy



Teresa



Beki

*"We would like to offer a warm welcome to Beki Page,
our newest full time member of the team!"*

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Editorial

**Health is the greatest gift,
contentment the greatest
wealth, faithfulness the best
relationship.**

Buddha

Welcome to the sizzling summer issue of Shoreline, packed from cover to cover with an abundance of literary delights for your reading pleasure. As I write, the sun is shining, the sky is a brilliant blue and I can hear the waves lapping gently on the shore. The gorgeous colours of the summer flowers are radiant in the dappled sunlight. How fortunate we are to be living in a place of such beauty and tranquillity.

For a village of just 1400 residents, we certainly punch above our weight when it comes to national recognition for all that Charmouth has to offer. Hot off the press is the news that BBC4 will be here on Tuesday 17th July for three days, filming 'Beach Live' – which will be presented by historian Dan Snow and natural history experts Lucy Cooke and Niall Strawson at 8pm each evening. See page 4 for more details on this very exciting series.

The jaw-dropping decision by WDDC's Planning Committee this April, to approve two massive semi-detached houses on the former Cove Cottage site, was a huge blow to those of us who fought long and hard for over two years to try and prevent this nightmare from becoming a reality. Sadly, the smooth-talking developers have got their way and it is the village which has been done a great disservice and the village which will have to live with the consequences. Read all about it in Garth Pearce's brilliant, heartfelt letter to the Bridport News, which we have reproduced on page 11.

The intriguing sign on Charmouth Bridge inspired Jo Seaman's meticulously researched article on page 16 about the transportation of felons from Dorset to Australia between 1800 and 1840. Curiously, there were none from Charmouth!

Richard Phillip's delightful birding update is on page 28. He describes three walks in and around the village and has listed the many beautiful birds you can expect to see this summer whilst on your stroll.

Put Monday 23rd July in your diaries as that is the date for 'The Dreams', an evening of music, glamour

and style with Charmouth and Bridport Pop and Rock Choir under the direction of Edward Jacobs. See page 34 for more details and other village events.

Have a wonderful summer.

Jane

THE SHORELINE TEAM

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

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

Shoreline 2018

AUTUMN / WINTER ISSUE – deadline 5th November, in the shops 1st December.

Charmouth Events

Following a successful Party in The Park in May, we are now planning our next four events:

Sunday 26th August – Party in the Park

Our headline act at August's Party in the Park will be Jess Upton. Check her out on YouTube. We have a new fire-work supplier who promises us a better, longer display and a more modern bar which will help with the chilling and dispensing of drinks. We will also be providing several portable toilets to help reduce the long queues of the May event.

Saturday 3rd November – Fireworks at the beach

Thursday 6th December – Christmas Fayre

Monday 31st December – New Year's Eve Fireworks

As ever, we would be grateful for volunteers to help at the events so keep a note of these dates.

We have now made contact with Artsreach Dorset and two events will take place in Charmouth in August – these have limited spaces so look out for announcements. It is hoped to put on a couple more Artsreach events over the winter.

Phil Tritton



Charmouth Traders update

Nearly all 'front line' traders are members of Charmouth Traders, which gives us a powerful voice on local issues.

Activities carried out over the past 12 months include:

- *Paying for the Christmas trees and lights on The Street*
- *Running the Charmouth website*
- *Promoting Charmouth*
- *Lobbying Dorset Highways re the felling of the bypass verges*
- *Originating and selling the Charmouth Calendar, History Trail and Puzzle Trail*
- *Helping Charmouth Parish Council put their Sea Defences paper together*
- *Contributing to flower planting at the foreshore*
- *Involvement in the local Coastal Communities Trust*

Objectives for the future are:

- *Working with Charmouth Parish Council to develop the Charmouth Guide*
- *Sourcing new lamp post Christmas lights*
- *Producing a 2019 Charmouth map showing local activities and attractions*
- *Investigating new ways to promote Charmouth*

Membership of Charmouth Traders still costs just £25 per annum.

Phil Tritton



Beach Live: Jurassic Coast Revealed

BBC Four, Tuesday
17, Wednesday 18,
Thursday 19 July,
8:00pm-9:00pm

Summer holidays are underway with sun, sea and sand top of most people's wish-list. But is there more to a day at the beach than sandcastles, a quick paddle or swim and an ice cream? In this live three-part series, historian Dan Snow and natural history experts Lucy Cooke and Niall Strawson aim to open our eyes to the amazing prehistoric landscapes, unique animals and intriguing historical insights hidden beneath the sand and sea of a single stretch of British coastline.

Dan, Lucy and Niall will present *Beach Live* across three nights live from the village of Charmouth, Dorset right in the heart of the world-famous Jurassic Coast.

Each episode will combine live searches and pre-filmed segments to reveal the hidden secrets of this coastline, and with the help of experts in palaeontology, history, geology and wildlife the team will build up a comprehensive picture of our beach, past and present.

From smugglers to dinosaurs, crabs to quarries, fossils to sunken wrecks - all are part of the amazing anatomy of this world-famous region. Through live demonstrations and interviews, the series mission is to inspire and show people how to get more out of their beach holiday.

Dan Snow said: 'It was my childhood visits to Swanage beach in Dorset that sparked my lifelong love of the British coastline. Now I take my own children and rock-pool, surf and dive whenever I can. Charmouth beach and the whole stretch of the Jurassic Coast is a rich tapestry of stories waiting to be discovered, the perfect location for three nights of *Beach Live* in the height of summer. My passion for military history will be in full play uncovering the relics and legacy of the role the coastline played in D-Day preparations, and I go underground to see the huge quarries that are a vital part of the area's industrial past and I find out about the fascinating social history of beach huts.'

Lucy Cooke said: 'The Jurassic Coast is world-renowned for its fossils that have inspired palaeontologists down the centuries. But whilst I love dinosaurs, I'm equally passionate about what's living on the coast right now, particularly the overlooked and unloved. I'll be explaining how the fossils we uncover relate to modern wildlife and what they teach

us about the unique and fascinating creatures that live on our shores.'

Niall Strawson said: On *Beach Live* we want to show people's fascinating beach finds. Everything from ammonites to Roman coins. We'll have a panel of experts on hand at the Discovery Centre to examine and date them and explain more about what they are. Please get in touch if you have anything you'd like us to consider including in the show. Also, let us know if you have a beach hut that you've made over to your dream design, or maybe relics relating to the recent history of the Jurassic Coast, photos of wildlife on the beaches or your grandparents' holiday snaps. I can't wait to see what people bring and discover more about this coastline and the stories it can tell us.

Each episode of *Beach Live* has a different focus. Episode one reveals the rich variety of wildlife above and below the waves and how scientists are discovering more and more about the landscape and creatures that live there. Episode two looks at the rich history of the beaches, the smugglers, shipwrecks and secrets of the sands. The final episode looks at the people inspired by the wealth of fossils along the Jurassic Coast and new discoveries of dinosaurs and their ancient world.'

Natasha Lee



Charmouth's May Party in the Park

It was another great evening at the Party in the Park. Once again the weather was on our side, allowing everyone to relax and have a good time.

Kicking off the evening was one of Charmouth's very own bands, Dream Phaser, who played an amazing set, especially as this was only their second gig. It was all good preparation for their appearance at Guitars on the Beach in June and for the Jurassic Fields Festival in July.

Meanwhile the bar was busy, our BBQ was sizzling and the bowl food from The White House kitchens was providing our party goers with everything they needed to get the evening off to a great start.

Our second band from Somerset, The IOUs, kept the party rocking and had the crowd up on their feet throughout the night. A fabulous set indeed.

Behind the scenes, the fireworks were being set ready for a fantastic finale which delighted us all.

Our next party will be on Sunday 26th August. Look out for updates on the Charmouth Events Facebook Page.

We are always grateful for more volunteers. It is a long day for many of our regular helpers. If you think you could lend a hand on the day, please contact the Charmouth Events Committee.

Thanks, **David Clifford**

Letters

THANK YOU

Thank you for publishing my article 'Sad Times for the Wild Flowers on the Charmouth Bypass' in your excellent 10 year anniversary issue. Both the Charmouth Parish Council and the Charmouth Traders' Association have followed it up by expressing their support, asking that a by-pass verge, which is already rich in wild flowers, should be managed to preserve or even to enhance such diversity. It illustrates what a valuable vehicle Shoreline can be in our community.

Kind regards,

John Calder

WONDERFUL VILLAGE

Thanks for doing such a wonderful job on my article and history. A really smashing Shoreline this time. I have spent the last two hours reading it cover to cover and as usual found out a number of things about Charmouth of which I was not aware. I am lucky that the same 10 years also marks my time in this wonderful village and hope I can continue researching more of the many historic buildings. You must all be justly proud of your achievement in bringing this magnificent magazine once again to fruition.

Regards, Neil Mattingly

MY ARTICLE

Many thanks for sending me the copy of your latest issue, with my article in it. I greatly appreciate your making me, albeit historically, a member of the Charmouth community! How active the community is today. Shoreline is a wonderful glimpse at a place that's very different from what it was in my youth, all those years ago. But the same is true everywhere today.

Emeritus Professor Brian Fagan, Santa Barbara

ERINNERUNGEN (MEMORIES)

We are a couple from Oberkirch, in Germany's Black Forest region, and met Stella and Norman Burrell in 1980 on a camping site in La Napoule, Southern France. They were in their 50s; we were in our 20s. We were fascinated by their British sense of humour and joyfulness.

From then on, we got together almost every year, either at their place, which for many years was – and still is – in Charmouth, or at ours, and always having a whale of a time. We became friendly with their daughters, Sheila and Meg. We couldn't do without them and were very sad when Norman passed away.

Gudrun & Stefan Maurer



Gudrun & Stefan Maurer in the Black Forest, Germany



Lunchtime concerts

On 29th May, the Changing Spaces team welcomed local resident Richard Fereday for the third of the 2018 Lunchtime Concerts season. More than 65 people hugely enjoyed Richard's performance of many of Frank Sinatra's best-known hit songs.

On 19th June, Maria Beazley, also local, and two friends from Axminster, Jane Gibson and Robert Coleridge, entertained some 87 people at the fourth lunchtime concert. It comprised of folk songs and piano music from Russia. Maria sang five songs accompanied by Jane, then Robert and Jane played four Russian piano duets. They received a standing ovation.

Richard, Maria, Jane and Robert all generously donated their time free of charge in support of the Changing Spaces series of events, which raise funds for the benefit of St Andrew's.

Mary and Malcolm McNair provided light refreshments before the concert and thanks are due to them as well.

The next concert will be held on Tuesday 31st July at 12.30pm, when Edward Jacobs, who is very well known locally, will entertain with his ever-popular style on the piano. His generosity is greatly appreciated.

Roger Sansom

Future proof your Business Broadband

Businesses across Dorset can benefit from the fastest available internet connections after the Government launched the nationwide Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme. The scheme provides grants towards future-proof broadband connections and depends on companies and residents living around them coming together and asking a supplier to build a full fibre network in their area. See if your community or business could benefit at www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/broadband/gigabitvouchers

Help available to get online

Help is available if you or someone you know wants to take the first steps online. We have an army of volunteers who can help you develop digital skill; everything from managing your Universal Credit journal online to using a computer or other device. Visit your local library and ask for details of the Digital Champion sessions in your area. These can also be seen at www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/broadband/get-help-going-online

Colin Wood
Superfast Dorset,
Dorset County Council



Help Needed for Village Hall

Due to the recent retirement of our Chairman, the committee of Charmouth Village Hall are seeking to appoint a new Chairman. Would anyone who feels able to undertake this role please contact Jean Kesterton on 01297 560009, who will be happy to discuss these duties with you.

Jan Johnstone
Secretary



Will your child be 3 or 4 years old by 31 August 2018?

All parents of three and four-year-olds can claim 15 hours free childcare; talk to your childcare provider for more information. If you need to find childcare you can visit www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/fis/search to search for local providers.

Working parents could be eligible to claim an additional 15 hours; up to 30 hours in total. To claim from 1st September 2018, you must apply and get your eligibility code in time to take it to your childcare provider by 31st August 2018.



For more information on 30 hours' free childcare and to apply, visit: www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/30hours



CHARMOUTH GARDENERS

Summer Village Show

Saturday 11th August

2.30pm – both Village Halls

**Entrance £1 adults (covers both halls)
– children free.**

Please do join us on the day, beautiful displays of flowers, vegetables, home produce (cakes, pastries, bread, jams, marmalades and 'men only' classes). Plus, a Handicraft section (knitting, needlework, woodwork, craftwork or painting). 2018 painting subjects are 'Water' and 'Faces'. Photographs are a very popular area; this year's subjects are 'Swimming; Windows; The Colour White; Dressing up; In the Garden and Heads'. The Children's sections would always welcome more entrants! This year there is a new Children's cup, to take home and keep, which will be awarded to the best overall Child competitor. There are many more classes, too numerous to mention them all, particularly in the flowers and vegetables so please do remember the date OR... Better still, **please do join in and enter an item of your own.** This is a friendly village show (not highly competitive) and the more entries we receive the better the displays and enjoyment for all. A free programme/schedule /entrance form listing all the categories can be collected from Charmouth Post Office from Wednesday 11th July with details for return by Wednesday 8th August. Gardening Club members will have the schedule delivered as usual.

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

Refreshments and lovely home cooked cakes available during the afternoon.

Pauline Bonner,
Show Secretary



The Christmas light displays on the twelve lamp posts in The Street were purchased seven years ago and have now stopped working. It would cost too much to replace these all at once so it has been decided to do what Lyme Regis do and rent light displays on an annual basis. This brings several benefits:



- The displays will be LED so more reliable
- They will be put up and taken down by professional installers
- We can choose different designs each year

Torbay Display work with several local towns, including Lyme (for the past 20 years), and are keen to work with Charmouth to provide our displays. A Charmouth Christmas Lights Committee will be formed to work with them to look at options. If you are interested in joining this committee please email charmouthchristmaslights@gmail.com

This year Charmouth Traders will pay for all the lights but in future years some of the cost will need to be raised through donations. Collection boxes will be placed in shops and holiday parks from July and money raised over the next 12 months will help with the 2019 lights.

We will continue to put up trees and lights above the shops in The Street as part of the Christmas lights.

This year the Christmas Fayre will be held on Thursday 6th December.

Phil Tritton



Charmouth Parking Refund Scheme

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



**All Shoreline issues can be seen online at
www.charmouth.org/charmouth_village/shoreline-magazine/**

News from St. Andrew's Church



The 'Changing Spaces' team have been very hard at work in recent months. We have now made our revised submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant of £1,023,800. This includes the Erskine Mutton Grant already promised, of £370,000, and includes VAT (which we aim to reclaim). This is a huge sum of money – but we have ambitious plans for the restoration of the entire fabric of the building (particularly the tower). We produced, with the help of our Project Manager, Tom Roberts, a vastly enlarged bid document which runs to a staggering 200 pages. Personally, I have never been part of a grant application process that involves such a lot of time, effort and care. Nor have I seen such a high level of professionalism exhibited in the documents.

We submitted the documents by e mail and in person, to HLF in Exeter on 1st June. We have to wait until 18th September before we discover the outcome. During the next three months the project details will be rigorously assessed by an interdisciplinary team of experts at HLF, according to range of criteria. These include: value for money, sustainability, outcomes for the church and community. If we are successful then we will launch into a lengthy process of developing the project specifications with HLF assistance. Then, later in 2019, we will submit our final plans for their approval – with the project work commencing if all goes well, in 2020!! This seems a long drawn-out process, but we accept that 'public money' must be seen to be used well for everyone's benefit.

As Chair of the Changing Spaces Team, I want to thank the dozen or so members for their tremendous commitment over the past 3 ½ years, in enabling us to reach this point. We will continue to meet, in the meantime, and plan further high quality events. These include:

Our monthly series of Lunchtime Concerts (see local publicity nearer the time)

FreeXChange Cafe – 13th October



More Art Exhibitions – following our most recent success over the spring half-term holiday

A series of Film Nights

A Talk by Kate Adie – on Friday 2nd November

Charmouth's Got Talent, Musical Night

Swing Band Concert – in the Autumn

Carols and Curry Night – to return after last year's success

I mentioned the large Erskine Mutton Grant. We are liaising with the Diocese of Salisbury to gain early release of some of this money. Our plan is to considerably improve our main Entrance Porch, so that it looks much more attractive from the outside. We aim for a pair of new glass doors to replace the interior entrance doors, and to refurbish the external entrance doors (which look very dowdy these days). At the same time

we will ensure the south porch roof is watertight, improve our noticeboards, and enable improved disabled access. We hope to get underway with this work in the early autumn.

Meanwhile, our Sunday Services continue well, at 9.30am, following the same pattern we have established in late 2017. We would love to see you at these services. We have a great team of leaders and preachers, drawn from across the Golden Cap Team, to give plenty of variety! We would love you to book the Church for Christenings and Weddings – we are very flexible about the form these can take! Across the whole Golden Cap Team we have many other services, such as: 'Short & Sweet' (e.g. Whitchurch - catering for young people and families), Country Services (e.g. Monkton Wyld) in formal, participative Services), Village Services (e.g. Chideock, involving whole community), Choral Evensongs (e.g. Lyme Regis – with good choir and organ). More details in the Golden Cap Team Magazine that can be purchased from St. Andrew's Church.

Finally, some other dates for your diary, at St. Andrew's:

21st July: 10am – noon, *St. Andrew's Summer Fayre in the Community Hall*

23rd July: 7 for 7.30pm, *Edward Jacobs Community Choir in Concert at Church*

29th July: 9.30am, *Joint Morning Songs of Praise with Charmouth Free Church*

All the best, and thanks for your support,

Revd. Stephen Skinner (*Team Rector*).

Changing Spaces Art Exhibition St Andrews Church

Changing Spaces was delighted to showcase the artwork of seven local artists : Geoff Townson, Ernie Godden, Paddy Sullivan, Anne Townsend, Russell Coulson, Philip Winstone and Wendy Lowis-Bates. Some artists were exhibiting for the first time locally whilst others are well known in the village.

The exhibition opened on Thursday 24th May with a preview evening, when 65 people came along to meet the artists, enjoy a glass of wine, and browse the wide variety of art on display.

On Saturday morning we served delicious homemade cakes and coffee, (too good to resist, hang the calories!) and the exhibition closed on Tuesday 29th after a delightful lunchtime concert with Richard Fereday singing Sinatra.

We had over 300 visitors to the exhibition (excluding Richard's concert), and sculptures, paintings and cards have now gone to new homes with both holidaymakers and locals.

A big thank you to all the artists for making it a successful and colourful event, and to all those willing helpers who enabled Changing Spaces raise £641.00 towards making the church a space for all the community to use and enjoy.

Upcoming events. We are looking forward to having Kate Adie come and give a talk in November and a swing band to have us dancing in the aisles in the autumn. Look out for the posters!

Helen Hughes



A Vision for Hogchester Farm

Hogchester is either a very large smallholding or a small farm, but 75 acres of rough grazing is sadly not an economically functional farm in these times. It is nestled on the north side of a small valley overlooking Charmouth, bordering the 'The Tunnel' and sandwiched between the A35 and Westover Hill. It is so secluded that that many local people do not seem to know that it is there. The A35 can clearly be heard as a distant hum but surprisingly, this does not seem to penetrate the tangible peacefulness that cloaks Hogchester.

As I turn into the drive I always slow my vehicle to an unnecessarily cautious speed, not just to let the rabbits and squirrels scatter, but simply to drink it all in. By the time I have driven reluctantly past the SNCI nature reserve, the first meadow, the lily pond and the newly-seeded wildflower verges, I am in another world entirely. The lorries and life and hustle are far further behind me than the 300 yards I have travelled to escape them.

The grazing meadows on Hogchester have been in low input, low intensity for many years now. But what man has abandoned, nature has taken up with full zeal. The margins now deeply encroach, with thickets of bramble, bracken and gorse leading the way. The wildlife ponds have an exquisite aged beauty – an 'Enid Blyton' feel, as one guest put it. Deprived of fish, they are replete with dragonfly, damselfly and many a winged wonder, the names of which, as yet, I know not. These prehistoric creatures imbue a timelessness completely in keeping with our local Jurassic heritage.

Yes, it feels quite extraordinary to have 'landed' at Hogchester, I want to say 'crash landed' as moving a family with kids into two schools, and taking up a farm has felt like complete chaos these first two years – mostly due to my complete lack of experience on the land. I guess this is also the moment to say a big thank you to everybody who has

welcomed us into the community, and especially all the Johns (Calder, White, Snook) and to Brian Lugg, who has kindly returned my escapee sheep to me on more than one occasion. The welcome has been warm and we are very grateful for that.

I imagine, that in an article like this, one would expect the writer to lay out a project in full swing with aims and ambitions taking fully to flight, but we are taking this slowly. There are plans afoot, but we are anchoring them in the land and in the idea of giving Hogchester more completely over to nature. We are looking to see what will emerge and unfold over time and nature never seems to be in a hurry. That is the foundation of all that could happen here – an authentic conservation project with nature and its preservation at the heart of it. In keeping with that aim, we have already worked closely with Nick Gray of Dorset Wildlife Trust to reseed ten acres of wildflower meadows with seed kindly donated by the National Trust's 'Stonebarrow' site and seed from the beautiful SSSI meadows at Thorn Farm.

On top of that layer, we hope to find uses within Hogchester for people that will be edifying and uplifting. Those people currently include our holiday cottage guests and also visiting contemporary artists responding to the land during short residencies. That is my Chantal's initiative as a part of her contemporary art practice. The old Dairy Barn is now an art studio!



There is one plan for Hogchester that is not only of local interest, but will require extensive local involvement to be in any way successful. We are interested in supporting local growers on a six acre field by Charmouth Cemetery to grow organic vegetables for local consumption. We could also perhaps host a community orchard on the same site if there was interest in a returning to the land. Small-scale market gardens teeter on the edge of commercial viability, so even running it as a not-for-profit venture will require a small army of local volunteers! We are planning to model this on the community-supported agricultural approach (CSA) which is good for people and the environment. This has the flexibility to produce

anything that we might want to do together, including veg, chickens, meat. It could end up as a kind of community smallholding. We would be interested to hear from anybody who would be interested in co-creating our own local food story within Charmouth. Who would welcome a return to the land and to nature?

I think that must be plenty by way of an introduction to our time at Hogchester. We plan to be here for many years – hopefully all of them! So it's just the beginning, and we look forward to meeting more of you over time.

Rob, Chantal, Oliver and Bella

Contact rob@hogchester.com

Community supported agriculture info – <https://communitysupportedagriculture.org.uk>

Dorset Wildlife Trust - <https://www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/index.html>

Charmouth & Wootton Fitzpaine Conservatives

Whilst for real political activists, 2018 has been rather dull: no surprise General Election, no Local Government elections and no Referenda, we have continued to deliver on our Party programme, which is fully committed to food, wine and social events.

So far this year you may have missed our 'Chairman's Bit of a Do', The Royal Wedding rehearsal party and our Summer Barbecue. Our next event represents a major step forward. The Branch is having an 'Away Afternoon Cream Tea across the border in Morcombelake. This is by kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. Morley on Sunday 5th August, from 3.00pm onwards. Please ring me for details of price, a map and compass, etc. as these have not been finalised.

Although some of the committee were worried about causing an inter-county incident on whether we side with Cornwall or Devon on the 'jam or cream on first' debate, I can confirm that we have not asked the Democratic Unionist Party for their helpful advice on the matter.

You may have read in my Library news about the selling of donated books at the Charmouth Fish Bar, which included the sale of Margaret Thatcher and Tony Blair's autobiographies. I was too diplomatic to point out that 'The Thatcher Years' sold first!

Bob Hughes, Treasurer

A 1000 Orchids Saved from the Flail

At the end of May we were all horrified to see the south verge of the Charmouth by-pass flailed to a pulp. Luckily it was 'only' buttercups, cow parsley and grass on that side but on the other side of the road there were over 1000 orchids of one kind or another, plus several thousand oxeye daisies, a host of buttercups and much, much more.

John Calder decided to intervene, and so the next day he was waiting when the contractors arrived. They were quite adamant that the flowers on the north verge had to go, but eventually listened to reason and went away whilst the matter was reconsidered by Highways England. In the interim, John was active on Facebook, where his Charmouth noticeboard posting generated over 100 'likes'. Within days, Highways England were (in their own words), inundated with texts and emails from dismayed locals and formal complaints through their Customer Contact Centre. The Parish Council and the Charmouth Traders Association were active in their support too.

The latest update is that the wildflowers and the insects will have been spared until later in the season; a completely new method will be adopted to control the ragwort, and we should see a late summer recovery of species like fleabane, teasel and more.

It has just been announced that a group of MPs (including our own Sir Oliver Letwin), has initiated a new bill entitled 'Protection of Pollinators', which confirms that we are simply ahead of the game in seeking to avoid the unwarranted and inappropriately timed use of the flail on our own verges.

Do email John at jccalder@gmail.com for more information.

Jane Morrow



CHARMOUTH/ASNELLES TWINNING 2018

This year our Twinning French friends visited us over the period 17th-20th May. They arrived in Charmouth mid-morning on the 17th and we welcomed them in the Community Hall where we served the usual 'English' breakfast. During the morning we were entertained (as last year) by the year 5 children from Charmouth Primary School, who delighted us all with a concert of French songs... well done to them all. On the first evening groups of our guests enjoyed the first get-together with English hosts.

As some of our visitors were on a first visit to this area, we had planned a visit to Exeter. The cathedral visit was especially delightful and informative for us all and the French speaking guide was particularly welcomed by our guests. We followed the Cathedral visit with a short tour of Exeter Museum, but the main focus of the day was a celebration lunch at the Reed Hall which is situated within the magnificent gardens/grounds of Exeter University. In the evening various friends met together for dinner or a quiet evening of reminiscing!

Saturday was a free day and though many guests wished to watch 'The Royal wedding', others also travelled to local places of interest (Beer Caves, La Ronde House and a very lovely NGS Garden - specially opened for the Twinning - in Morcombelake). We always organise a Saturday evening 'American style' supper with music and dancing and this year was no exception. The food was delicious and the evening was a great success.

It is sad to say goodbye, but we always say the same "let's now go home for a rest". It is a joy to meet up every year and we look forward to travelling over to France next year. Long may we encourage 'Entente Cordiale'.

Peter Bonner,
Charmouth Twinning Association Chairman

BEACH CLEAN UPDATE

Since the last Shoreline, a lot of plastic and other rubbish has been collected from the beach.

For the Great Dorset Beach Clean at the end of April, nearly 40 people helped in the beach clean organised by the CHCC, and collected 26 black bin bags of rubbish as well as a number of larger objects including various bits of metal. A fantastic clearance! As well as the expected bottles and bits of plastic, a lot of netting and long lengths of rope were picked up – items which do not always occur in such large amounts. And I know that various people do their own collections of beach rubbish – thanks to everyone who helps.

Then on Sunday of the last Bank Holiday weekend there was a nurdle hunt organised by the Centre attended by 20 'nurdlers'. All the nurdles collected that day, plus some handed in during half term week, were cleaned then counted, with a total of approximately 6,000 pellets having been picked up! However, this time, rather than just count them, I decided to analyse in more detail what had been found.

I tried to separate the pellets by shape and size. Rather a slow task, and not always a perfect result as some do not fit readily into one group or the other. The most obvious pellets found here in Charmouth are the 'blues', which occupy about one third by volume of the total found. Pellets vary in shape and size, as well as colour. Some seem to be made of harder plastic while some look less hard and appear worn into ridges, perhaps by exposure to the sea and the weather; while some appear faded, or discoloured. If you have a look at a collection of nurdles, you will see the variation which exists.

So what are all these different types? Are there different types? Might there be different functions and uses? As well as those which are used in plastic manufacture, it seems likely that some of our nurdles are bio-beads which are used in water treatment.

So, with a bit more research, hopefully by the next Shoreline I might be able to tell you more about our nurdles. Watch this space... Thank you to all beach cleaners!

Eden Thomson

Commemorating the End of World War I

Earlier this year Ben Perry and I came together to raise funds to get Street Poppies on as many of Charmouth's lamp posts as possible for Remembrance week to commemorate 100 years of the ending of WW1.

Also we were drawn to something else happening around the country which we wanted Charmouth to be part of. The 'There But Not There' is the 2018 Armistice project for the charity Remembered. Remembered aims to educate all generations about why all those in the Armed Forces made the ultimate sacrifice and raise very substantial funds to help heal those suffering from the hidden wounds of War. To help this charity we aimed

to buy a 6ft. aluminium outline of a 'Tommy'. After only a couple of weeks, with the generosity of Charmouth residents and friends, we had raised £850 for The Poppy Appeal and £775 for Tommy.

We will be placing the Poppies around Charmouth in October in time for Remembrance Week and with the help and support of Charmouth Council we now have a lovely garden area on Lower Sea Lane where our Tommy is on show and hopefully people from Charmouth both young and old can reflect and remember all who died and those still suffering today. Ben and I would like to thank everyone who donated to these two wonderful charities. Without your kindness and support we would not have been able to fulfil our aims.

Linda Bearpark



CHANGING SPACES

If anyone has any WW1 memorabilia for an exhibition at St Andrew's in November, could they please contact:

Pauline Berridge 01297 560957.

Charmouth Village People/ Kaleidoscope

Charmouth Village People have enjoyed the last few months hosting talks and activities at Kaleidoscope. Come along and join us on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month, 2-4pm in The Elms. Creative writing in our Pop-Up Writers Group, held on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesdays of each month, 2-4pm in The Elms, continues to be a wonderful way to share words. If you enjoy writing why not come along? Every Friday in the Bank House Café, 2-4pm we have a social afternoon where all are welcome for company and chatter. More trips are planned, so please keep a look out to see if you fancy coming along. We go to local places of interest and stop for lunch.

Who are we? Charmouth Village People has been set-up to provide quality activities for seniors living in Charmouth. We want to help build a strong community and to promote health, welfare and independence among those older citizens in our community. We're always discovering new ideas and the latest one is to have a swim and a social at Newlands, perhaps once a week. If you're a water baby and would like to join a few others for a skate around the pool or a flounder on the steps, followed by a delicious cup of coffee amongst friends, please come along to Kaleidoscope or call Jan Gale on 07460 707294 or 01297 561059 and we'll net us a new club. Please keep up to date by having a look at our website <http://www.charmouthvillagepeople.com/> where upcoming events can be seen, as well as lots of lovely photos of our previous activities too! We also share some of the writing from our creative people on our website. Have a read, be inspired and come along. Why not like our Facebook page to see what we are up to. If you know anyone who would benefit from our groups, please call Jan on the above numbers. Our aim is to reduce isolation and encourage enjoyment wherever we can.

Amanda Baber, Secretary

We Remember

Anthony Charles William Underwood (Tony)

27th October 1930 – 25th March 2018

Tony was born in Guildford, Surrey, on 27th October 1930, the youngest child with three sisters. He retired to Charmouth nine years ago, when friends Kay and Neil Solomon invited him to join them when they moved here from Hertfordshire.

After a successful career in the food flavouring business, Tony lived for 10 years in London and was a member of the London Appreciation Society, taking an active role as a tour leader. Tony also loved to travel and visited many parts of the world.

The last 18 months of his life were spent at Byemead House, Charmouth, a very caring home, where the wonderful staff looked after him so well. Tony leaves two children and two grandchildren and many dear friends and colleagues who will all miss his sense of humour and generosity of spirit. Personally, he has been a delightful person to know.



Kay Solomon

All Shoreline issues can be seen online at www.charmouth.org/charmouth_village/shoreline-magazine/

...a Blot on the Landscape

I have always been prepared to be surprised by the unpredictable, in situations both great and small, in my 50 years as a journalist. But there are those very odd small-time moments which gnaw away and leave me cynically questioning the motive. A West Dorset Planning Committee meeting over a case in Charmouth was the most recent.

I have asked Shoreline to reprint my letter to the local newspaper, the Bridport News, without apology. This affects the whole village, which has a hard-won reputation for being a strong and fair-minded community which watches over its own. If we cannot use all the powers of local democracy which are open to us, then perhaps we should be questioning the very system?

I was not one of the 21 local residents who wrote well-argued letters of objection to a crazy scheme for two hideous buildings overlooking our precious coastline. I thought it was an open and shut case. But it would not have mattered, it seems, had there been 200 letters or even 2,000.

There were only two decisions for the planning committee to make: the obvious, in support of the entire village, or the totally absurd in support of property speculators who would blight us for generations.

Who in their right minds would approve such a thing? How wrong I was...

Dear Sir/Madam

Thanks to your revealing report in last week's Bridport News by Local Democracy Reporter Trevor Bevins, (Homes 'Green Light, page ten), we were able to learn that local democracy actually counts for nothing in Charmouth.

A reapplication for two horrendous looking houses in Higher Sea Lane was submitted by property speculators from Winchester, Hampshire, despite a previous rejection. They had already mysteriously demolished a splendid and historic Edwardian bungalow, with the promise to build like-for-like.

The lopsided plan had been reconsidered and here was the verdict:

Charmouth Parish Council - unanimous rejection. Our West Dorset District Councillor, Cheryl Reynolds, who was voted in to guard the interests of local electors - rejection. There were 21 separate letters from local households near the site - unanimous rejection. There was not one letter of support or one voter wishing for this ghastly plan to be imposed on the village.

But what happens? The plan is submitted to West Dorset District Council's Planning Committee on 19th, April 2018.

After the committee were split on the vote, the chairman, Councillor Fred Horsington gave his vote in favour of the application.

We all see many examples of appalling looking buildings around the coastal towns and villages of Dorset. Something so awful that you try and imagine what was going through the minds of those who thought it was a good idea at the time.

It has also made me think about democracy and what it means on important issues to local people. What is the point of having Parish Councils, a local District Council representative, a voting structure, an invitation to involve people in their future, a chance to write and express views? Whatever happened to the political buzzword of Localism? When there is 100% agreement on something, why overturn it? Why ask for opinion, expert and otherwise, in the first place?

And most important of all, why on earth did councillors, who have no connection or knowledge of the deep-seated problem on this site in Higher Sea Lane, Charmouth, feel they could override every single local elected person?

We in the village are now lumbered with a blot on our future landscape...one on which future locals and visitors - long after the rest of us have passed on - will think: Which fool gave permission for THAT?

Sincerely,

Garth Pearce.

4, Parkway, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth



Cove Cottage in 1907, behind Coast Guard with telescope. The Sanctuary to the right

Charmouth Website Update

The Charmouth website was revamped nearly two years ago with two main objectives in mind:

- To reduce the cost of changes and additions
- To make it mobile friendly

We now have comparative figures for January – May 2018 vs last year and these are encouraging. Three things to bear in mind when interpreting these:

- David Attenborough's Sea Dragon gave us some extra traffic over January/February
- The poor Easter depressed traffic to several pages as fewer people came to Charmouth
- This excludes our busiest period, June – September, when the numbers are highest



The main findings are:

- The number of pages viewed grew by 3% to 98,213
- Nearly 31,000 accommodation pages were viewed (up 10%)
- Almost 14,500 views for 'Where to eat and drink' (up 8%)
- Nearly 11,000 views of the Charmouth beach page (down 4%, mainly due to the poor Easter)
- Over 9,000 looked at activities (down 9% due to fewer visitors)
- Shops gained 32% to exceed 7,000
- Events gained a massive 119% to nearly 3,000

So many positive trends as we go into the season.

Rates for advertising on the website are again unchanged at £35/£60/£85 for 1, 2 or 3 ads.

Phil Tritton

Charmouth Central Library and Internet Cafe

Village Shops support Charmouth Library (Part 1)

We have always had great support, but two shops have gone even further to help us. First is the thank you, then the embarrassing moment and then the begging letter!

We sell donated books at the Library, on the Foreshore, courtesy of the Parish Council, and occasionally at fetes. Following a Library volunteer's suggestion, I nervously asked Sue at Charmouth Fish Bar if we could sell books from their waiting area. Since all their food is cooked fresh to order everyone has to sit around for a few minutes, just time to look at and purchase a book. Sue said 'yes', and the venture is proving very successful.



However, when displaying books I realised I had a minor problem; no proper book ends. I was not in the Scouts for nothing, so I chose two heavyweight books, which, with six years' bookselling experience, I knew would never sell, to keep them in order. Margaret Thatcher at one end, balanced with Tony Blair at the other. Within a week both books had sold, proving that I know nothing!

The begging bit. If you have unwanted paperbacks, please drop them in at the Library, so that I have plenty of stock for the summer rush.

Village Shops support Charmouth Library (Part 2)

The Library decided to run a short series of talks on different Health topics, supported by Healthwatch Dorset. Our first talk in May was 'What can a Pharmacist do for you,' given by Mr. Guang Yang. It was both informative and funny. He gave a brief background of his training and career before taking over the Pharmacy in Charmouth, then outlined the services he provides on behalf of the NHS. Essentially, for minor ailments, consulting a pharmacist before booking an appointment and seeing your GP can save you time and, for those paying for prescriptions, possibly money if any purchased remedy costs less than the prescription. If unable to help, the pharmacist can signpost you to someone who can best treat you. Use of pharmacists can reduce pressure on other parts of the NHS and, in Charmouth's case, it adds another business in the village which is an asset to residents and visitors. Anecdotal stories from those with minor, or major problems, suggest that we are particularly fortunate to have Mr. Yang in Charmouth. His supporters include one lady to whom Mr. Yang said 'I don't like the look of your face, go to your GP immediately!'



By the time you read this, you will have missed our June talk, 'Maintaining Positive Mental Health'. Clearly important, with doom and gloom a permanent feature of our daily news, we have offered Teresa May a ticket! On 26th July at the Library (7.00 for 7.15pm), Nicky Millen will be talking about 'Emergency First Aid whilst waiting for the Professionals.' It will include Do's and Don'ts on a range of problems from strokes, heart attacks, falls, broken bones to cuts and bruises. Apparently a stiff whisky is not always the best idea! Tickets will be available in the Library.

In September, we will have a talk on dealing with memory loss-related illnesses and actions we can take to stave them off; particularly useful for possible carers, to make life more pleasant for both patient and carer. October will feature 'The Ones That Got Away.' Four men who have survived different cancers will talk about symptoms, treatment and aftermath. We chose men because, generalising, we are the most likely sex to bury our heads in the sand and pretend the symptoms will go away! All our talks are intended to be informative, and, with the support of the audience, entertaining too. Our feedback suggests we have not done a dull talk yet.

Bob Hughes, Treasurer

Charmouth Local History Society

A mixed report this time.

We have held two very successful talks this year and the latest Village Echo was well received. The talk on Sir John Hawkshaw was very interesting as his many achievements are little known. A copy of the talk can be found on Neil Mattingly's website www.freshford.com. Amanda Jones has also conducted several interviews with local residents in compiling audio histories.

However, we have lost three key committee members in recent months which has unfortunately meant that we have had to cancel our 2018 Summer Exhibition and put back other initiatives. On the plus side, our next talk 'Charmouth in Living Memory part two' will take place in the Village Hall on September 21st and a further talk on the early fossil hunters of Charmouth will take place in November.

We need new committee members if we are to successfully enthuse people with Charmouth's remarkable history. We want to conduct more audio history interviews, put an information board at the foreshore, initiate 'This is our house' video records, put on exhibitions and concentrate again on educating local schoolchildren. Great ambitions which we cannot achieve without help!

One of our main aims is to maintain records of Charmouth's history. If you have photographs, postcards or memorabilia relating to Charmouth we would very much like to see these. Donations are always welcome but if you could just lend these to us we can scan or photograph them and return. Time for a rummage in the loft?

If you can help with any of the above, please contact Phil Tritton on phil.tritton@gmail.com or call me on 07887 781348.

Look forward to seeing you at our next talk on 21st September.

Phil Tritton



Charmouth Needs Firefighters

Charmouth Fire Station is asking local people to consider becoming on-call firefighters.

On-call firefighters make themselves available to respond to a pager when a 999 call is made. Contracted hours can vary, but personnel usually make themselves available for between 90 and 120 hours per week to help provide cover for weekdays, evenings, nights and weekends. Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service now needs new on-call recruits to provide fire cover for Charmouth and the surrounding area.

Station Manager Jason Rogers said: "On-call firefighters receive the same training and development as whole-time colleagues and can be called to all manner of emergencies, including fires, road traffic collisions, animal rescues and flooding. The pay does vary, depending on how much cover you give, but it is fantastically rewarding to be a part of your community and able to help people."

To be on-call, you will need to be able to respond to the fire station in around five minutes, once your pager goes off. This can be from home or work, and employers can benefit from a firefighter's training – such as first aid, manual handling, a greater understanding of health & safety in the workplace, and enhanced team spirit.

If you are interested in being an on-call firefighter in Charmouth, you can call into the station on any Monday evening or visit www.dwfire.org.uk/charmouth

Hannah Tompkins

Media Officer, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service



Don't just live in your community:
protect it
Become a Firefighter today!

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PASSIONATE ABOUT
CHANGING & SAVING LIVES

Herbal Medicine & Local Government

Really? I hear you ask. However, in my 30 years as a Medical Herbalist I have had the privilege of talking to many people and have listened carefully to what they have to say. People know themselves best but don't always know how to explain exactly what they think they need or are able to find the things that can help them. So you see herbal medicine is not all that far away from local government.

I became a herbalist because of my own health problems and fortunately, as a member of the Charmouth Practice, I have always had their support. Herbs and orthodox medicine can work well together and all I have learnt as a herbalist are things that have really helped in local government.

You don't believe me – well let me explain:

Local government should not be about politics but about people, people who need their problems sorted, people who expect their elected representative to stand up and be counted on their behalf. I have never been a shrinking violet and I am prepared to stand my ground in any battle for others as well as myself. It often doesn't have to be a battle, more often than not if you present a solid, well-thought out argument and you know who to approach for help, that is often a step in the right direction.

So, you look at the presenting case and prescribe the

treatment to obtain the best result. You have to weigh up all the facts, look at them all, not just the rash on someone's arm or the size of the property going to be built next door, but at the whole body, the whole purpose of the build and indeed life itself and how we can all deal with those things.

We all need to work together to achieve our aims and I am happy to do just that. Collectively we can get results that count and make differences to all our lives.

A councillor's primary role is to represent their ward or division and the people who live in it. To provide a bridge between the community and the council as well as signposting them to the right people at the council, and to keep them informed about the issues that affect them.

In order to understand and represent local views and priorities, I need to build strong relationships and encourage local people to make their views known by engaging with me and the council. So you see, herbs and local government have the same aim.

I have been fortunate in my life to have two jobs that I love, my herbalism and my job as a town and district councillor. I never thought I would be that lucky and I thank you so much for the opportunity you have afforded me.

If you need help of any kind please do get in touch.

Cheryl Reynolds

Lyme Regis and Charmouth District Councillor
clrc.reynolds@westdorset-dc.gov.uk

Please Support Shoreline's Advertisers

Charmouth Primary School

School has, of course, been very busy since the last issue of *Shoreline*. Every day brings new learning, new challenges and new successes. We are delighted to be enjoying the brighter weather at school, with the children taking full advantage of our wonderful field during playtimes, lunchtimes, PE lessons and through other learning opportunities. We have also been enjoying our mud kitchen, outdoor areas and our regular Beach School trips.

Statutory testing is a part of every summer term and we are so proud of every child who has worked hard and done their best. We recognise that these tests do not reflect the whole child and we have been ensuring that we celebrate more than just academic success. We have had significant sporting success recently but we also see success everyday – through kindness, thoughtfulness, respect, perseverance, honesty and many other characteristics which will set our children up for their futures.

Our school football team has had a particularly successful year. After making it through local and area rounds, they took part in the small schools finals at Ricoh Stadium in Coventry, where the team made it to the semi-finals. This is an enormous achievement and we congratulate every member of the squad who each contributed in their own way. They continue to train hard and have further rounds of the Kenway Cup over the next few weeks. We are very grateful to the parents who have led the football club and team over several years and will be sad to see them move on as their children transition to secondary school; I would like to take this opportunity to thank them again for their hard work and commitment. (See the football team article on page 32.)

In May, we were fortunate to be invited by the Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre to take some children on a special fossil hunt on Charmouth Beach, which was filmed as part of a documentary on The Etches Collection. The children were joined by Bill Oddie and expert fossil hunters, including Steve Etches himself. The finds included ammonites, belemnites, crinoids and even an ichthyosaur paddle bone! The documentary is expected to be aired on Netflix, but we don't yet have any further information on when this might be.



This half-term we are preparing and rehearsing for our end of year production. This year, the show is Mermaids versus Pirates. We are very fortunate to have some talented parents who are supporting the children to create the props and scenery, which has been sketched out around the stage as a backdrop of Charmouth with all the classes represented by the creatures swimming under the water – starfish, seahorses, dolphins, turtles and sharks. It will be wonderful for me to see my first Charmouth production!

As we have several children in the school with allergies, we took part in an allergy awareness day and fundraising opportunity. Children were invited to come to school in their own clothes, with an orange theme where possible. Most children took part and we raised £120 to split between Allergy UK and the Anaphylaxis Campaign. Several of the children with allergies were able to join me in an assembly about allergies, ensuring that all children are aware how dangerous even just a tiny bit of an allergen can be. The whole school responded with great interest.

We have had several hands-on opportunities to develop and explore our learning in science. In April, a set of microscopes was delivered to the school, on loan from the PSTT Science Cluster. Throughout the week, each class enjoyed time using the microscopes. We were delighted when the next school decided not to take delivery so we had them for a second week. The children loved the experience of seeing things under the microscope and demonstrated a real interest in seeing more. More recently, an



incubator was delivered to Sharks class just before half-term with turkey eggs. The first egg hatched during a maths lesson, much to the delight of all! This was followed with much discussion over which egg would be next to hatch.

Starfish, Seahorse and Dolphins class are all looking forward to school trips this term. Starfish and Seahorse classes are going to Weymouth Sealife Centre to link to their Seaside topics; while Dolphins are going to Cheddar Gorge to support their learning about the Stone Age.

Our PTFA once again organised the Charmouth Challenge which was held on Saturday 7th July. Many people signed up to the main run, the fun run and the walk and it was another very successful event. The Charmouth Challenge is a wonderful event for the whole family with an eight-mile walk, eight-mile run and a two-mile fun run. The eight-mile fell run and the fun run have been running for over 20 years and attract people from all over the county. The fell run is a challenging event with over 191 metres of climbing. The two-mile fun run is for all age children. It was wonderful to see the whole community of Charmouth coming together and so many people giving up their time to marshal the event and help in many ways. It was exciting to be part of it for the first time this year. The work that goes into this event is enormous, with one parent in particular putting a lot of time and effort into ensuring it is successful – we cannot thank her and her team enough. We are also very grateful for all the companies who supported the event including Clipper Tea, Palmers Brewery, Dorset Cereals, Newlands Holidays, Lyme Bay Holidays, Lyme Bay Ribs and many other companies.



George Chapman winning the Charmouth Fun Run 2018

We are very excited that our pond area at the front of the school will be overhauled over the summer holidays, thanks to a generous donation by Charmouth Stores (Nisa). We are looking forward to being able to share some before and after photos in the next edition.

You will have seen in the national press that schools are experiencing increasing demands on their limited and decreasing budgets. Sadly, we are certainly seeing the impact of this and having to make difficult decisions. Despite this, we are moving forward with improvements in the school and are working on an exciting renewed curriculum for September. I appreciate the support within the school and community as the staff team continues to strive to ensure success for all our children.

Laura Cornish, Headteacher

From the Charmouth Practice



The Way to Go is GREEN

Many people are now enjoying the benefits of giving themselves proper breaks between meals. Several people have noticed weight reduction, slimmer waists and better control of their blood sugar. If we have a decent number of hours between the end of our evening eating and our first meal the next day, maybe 12, then we give our bodies a welcome portion of time to do necessary restore and repair and we take the strain off our insulin systems. When we eat our first meal of the day we can then legitimately call it "BREAK-FAST" because we break our fast. However if we snack and drink alcohol or sugary drinks late into the night then no such restore and repair can take place.

This may be one of the 36 ways we can reduce the risk of a myriad of modern diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and Alzheimers. To find the other 35, look in Dr Dale Bredeken's fascinating program in his book 'The End of Alzheimer's'.

The insulin system has a very important job to do to keep the level of glucose in the blood just right. Like Goldilocks's porridge it needs to be not too low – or our brain lacks fuel, and not too high or it causes damage on the inside of the blood vessels. However, with our modern diet, insulin now has to deal with abnormal sudden rushes of glucose from starchy foods and more so when our 'Autumn foods' like grains and fruits have already been milled into flour, baked and puffed, powdered, juiced or generally processed. Insulin deals with the sudden rush of glucose in the blood by stuffing it anywhere it can to keep the level of glucose from going damagingly too high. Jason Fung explains in 'The Diabetes Code' that insulin pushes the glucose into the liver which gives us a fatty liver and into our cells which get stuffed full until insulin doesn't work. We call this insulin resistance and when this happens and insulin can no longer keep the levels of glucose in the blood low enough then we call this failure of the insulin system 'diabetes'. The current

medical approach is to respond to this by using increasingly stronger medication and injectable insulin to stuff glucose but it doesn't solve the initial problem!

The way we can make a real difference is to take the load straight off the insulin system by reducing those sugary foods and those processed grains like bread, pasta and other quick release foods like potatoes. Dr Xand van Tullken called these white (sugary) starches and beige (processed grain and potato starches) respectively and showed how we can choose to swap these out and have more vegetables which he called green starches instead. Watch his programme 'The Truth about Carbs' on BBC1 iPlayer from the 6th June.

I have been researching the various low carb diets out there and asking health professionals what they think. It seems clear to me that the overwhelming amount of sugar and processed starch in our modern diet is responsible for the epidemic of problems we are seeing now. There are some great ways to swap out the processed quick release food and replace it and we need to make those easy for everyone, every day. It doesn't mean a LOW CARB / HIGH FAT diet. It does mean a SLOW CARB/ HEALTHY FAT diet. Take a look at Diabetes.co.uk, BBC low carb recipes or the trending, but rather more radical, Public Health Collaboration, for ideas.

I am already testing people in my Good Mood and Food Clinic in Twist and Shout Osteopaths in Bridport to see how well their insulin system is working and give them a measurable basis for making changes. I am now setting up a group for people turning the tide on their diabetes from the Charmouth Practice. We hope to spend three months looking at delicious SLOW CARB ways to eat, mindful eating, cooking, movement, and eating in tune with our bodies.

If you want to join us and you are a patient of The Charmouth Medical Practice with pre-diabetes or established diabetes and you are free on Tuesday mornings, then please leave me a message at reception at the surgery. We need your help to work out how we can make a difference and turn this diabetes juggernaut around.

In the meantime, everyone should watch 'Fixing Dad' on YouTube. A heart wrenching documentary of one family's real life quest to turn things around for their dad with diabetes.

And top tip...White and Beige starches are so yesterday - Green starch is GO!

Here's to your good mood and food!

Dr Sue Beckers



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Beyond the Seas for Life: Some Dorset Convicts

What is that sign on Charmouth Bridge all about?

I have often been intrigued by the notice on Charmouth Bridge, particularly the reference to 'transported for life' as I know this refers to the practice of sending 'miscreants' overseas, especially to Australia. I lived in Australia as a child so know something of the history and, more recently, a few years ago one of my stepdaughters and her family themselves emigrated there; my husband, Mike, and I now enjoy family reunions there as often as we can afford.

I noticed the sign on the bridge again just before we were about to set off for a holiday Down Under earlier this year. I decided to find out more about the sign, transportation from here to there, and to research whether anyone from Charmouth was transported, for damaging the bridge or anything else...



The intriguing sign on Charmouth Bridge

Thanks to a proliferation of useful websites from Ancestry.com to Wiki and many more, I deciphered the letters and numbers and discovered that the sign was put up in 1827 by Mr Thomas Fooks, then Clerk of the Peace for Dorset. The purpose of the sign was to publicly draw attention to a new act of parliament which forbade malicious damage to bridges (there are signs similar to this on bridges elsewhere). This was the 30th Act (C30) in the parliamentary session which started in the 7th year of the reign of George IV and ended in the 8th year (7 & 8 Geo 4). S13 refers specifically to the act dealing with damage to bridges. The statute reads as follows:

X111 Injury to a public bridge

And it be enacted, that if any Person shall unlawfully and maliciously pull down or in anywise destroy any public Bridge, or do any Injury with Intent so as thereby to render such Bridge or any Part thereof dangerous or impassable, every Offender shall be guilty of Felony, and being convicted thereof, shall be liable, at the Discretion of the Court, to be transported beyond the Seas for Life, or for any term not less than Seven Years, or to be imprisoned for any Term not exceeding Four Years; and if a Male, to be once, twice or thrice publicly or privately whipped (if the Court shall so think fit) in addition to such imprisonment.

In the 18th and 19th centuries around 200 Acts were passed, stipulating transportation as a potential punishment for a wide range of offences – including theft, damage to property, piracy, revolt, 'unnatural acts' and others.

Initially felons had predominantly been sent to the British American colonies until American Independence. Then in 1788 eleven ships carrying 1500 people sailed from Portsmouth to Sydney Cove in what became known as the First Fleet; this small group, of whom roughly half were criminals, established the first European colony in Australia. From then on, between 1788 and 1868 about 166,000 convicts (men, women and children) were transported from Britain and Ireland to the growing colony.

Why and how were people transported?

Transportation had several functions: it reduced prison population, at a time when many people in the United Kingdom endured grinding poverty and when crime levels were high; it was at this time that the Industrial Revolution led to a population explosion and the displacement of many people from their traditional livelihoods and community safety nets. In principle, transportation also acted as a deterrent to more crime; and, very significantly, transportation provided essential labour to help establish the new colony.

Britain was not the only country to use transportation; other European nations such as France, Spain, Portugal, Russia and the Netherlands also established penal colonies, but not on the massive – almost industrial – scale that Britain did.

Almost 1000 convict ships made the voyage from Britain (many from Portsmouth) to Australia; the early convicts went to Sydney, with many later being sent to Van Dieman's Land (now Tasmania) or Western Australia.

When Mike and I visited Australia in March, we were able to visit the Hyde Park Barracks in Sydney Cove. This was where many of the early convicts arrived and through which they were processed before going on to serve their sentences working in a variety of capacities.

Dorset convicts

I could not find any evidence that a Charmouth resident was ever transported; it would have been a small place and presumably people here were duly respectful of the bridge and avoided all the other misdemeanours that had transportation penalties.

I did uncover details, however, of convicts from Bridport, and elsewhere in Dorset, who were tried at the Assizes in Dorchester and who were transported between 1800 and 1840. While some ultimately achieved a better life than they might have done, others evidently did not.

Two women – rags to riches

The convict ship the 'Earl Cornwallis' sailed to Sydney in 1800, taking ten months to reach her destination. There were almost 300 convicts on board, amongst them a Dorset woman. Forty people died en route and those who made it may also have suffered dysentery as most of the passengers were reportedly very frail after their long journey.



Mural at the Hyde Park Barracks in Sydney Cove depicting early arrivals to the colony.

Lydia Parker (nee Childs) was born in Melbury Osmond in 1765. Lydia married William Parker in 1785 in Sherborne, when she was 20. They had five children, and evidently could not adequately provide for this family, as Lydia had a history of stealing – wheat and barley meal, and goods from a Sherborne cabinet maker – to supplement their income. By 1794 William died along with four of their young children; Lydia was pregnant again by another (married) man, who was charged by the Justice of the Peace in Sherborne to provide for Lydia and the baby. Lydia became a silk 'throwster', or winder, at this time but alas continued to steal; she was arrested again for stealing 'a piece of Mahogany and a piece of Oak Board' and 'divers(e) wearing Apparel'. She was tried and sentenced to 'be transported beyond the seas for the Term of Seven Years' and was imprisoned in Dorchester Gaol where she worked as a washerwoman while she awaited the ship's sailing. One assumes she never saw her two English children again, if indeed they were still alive.

However, Lydia met a Thomas Barber on her voyage to Australia; Thomas was not going to Australia as a convict but as a member of the colonial regiment, the New South Wales (NSW) Corp. Lydia and Thomas married six months after they arrived in Sydney. Whether this was a shipboard romance is unknown, as free men were encouraged to take wives to support them. They were evidently a good team, however; they had four children by 1809 and in 1810 Lydia gained a 'Certificate of Freedom'. This was an important year for the family as Thomas also left the NSW Corps and together they became settlers; by the time of the NSW census in 1828 they had 350 acres of land, seven horses and 100 horned cattle. The records show that Lydia was responsible for buying and selling at least some of the livestock. Both Thomas and Lydia died in 1838 – he was 78 and she 73.

Another woman who prospered was **Elizabeth Shackle**, one of 99 female convicts transported on the 'Speke' in March 1808. Elizabeth was from North Perrott, near Crewkerne, the eldest of a large family and with an unemployed labourer father. In 1800 she was eighteen, unmarried, unemployed and pregnant, so she walked to Bridport and got work as a twine spinner – Bridport twine and rope-making were important employments. She had another child in 1806 and possibly was unable to work while she cared, alone, for her young family. She was arrested for stealing seven and a half yards of muslin and a quantity of calico from a Bridport drapery shop owned by an Edwin Wagstaff. (The mention of muslin always makes me think of Jane Austen who was of course a visitor to our part of the world in the early 19th century – what different lives Jane and Elizabeth had...).

Elizabeth was sentenced to transportation and seven years; after a journey of six months she was lodged at the 'Female Factory'. Here female convicts worked at sewing, weaving and washing laundry, all important tasks for the growing colony. It also served as a place for men to select wives.

She was selected by William Chalker (aka Charker), another convict, to be his 'hut keeper'. It seems they never married but they went on to have eight children together and were both freed (emancipated); they became substantial land-owners and are recorded now as one of Australia's 'Royal Families'. Elizabeth died aged 60 in 1842, a very wealthy woman (who apparently never married). The Bridport draper, Edwin Wagstaffe, meanwhile ended his days in a workhouse in Bradpole after 1841, having been declared bankrupt in 1815.

Some male Dorset convicts with loving wives

Perhaps it was more straightforward to be a single woman on arrival in the new colony. 26 year old James Williams was transported in 1814 on 'The Marquis of Wellington' for the crimes of horse-theft and highway robbery. James was married with three children in Dorset when he sailed but was given permission to marry Catherine Hancy, bigamously, at St Johns Church Parramatta, NSW, in 1818.

James was assigned to a chain gang and had a variable record of behaviour - how harsh conditions must have been - but by 1835, aged 47, he was given a full pardon and was able to buy a mill.

Wives did sometimes follow convict husbands, as happened to **John Noble**. John was sentenced to death for stealing a ewe from the Very Rev Charles Talbot, Dean of Sarum. This was transmuted to transportation. John sailed in 1814 on the 'Indefatigable' aged 27, arriving in April 1815. Perhaps someone showed them Christian charity as two months later his wife, Ann, arrived on the 'Northampton' with their son, George. John and Ann had a further six children in the colony. Although John was charged with buying stolen wheat in 1824 and further sentenced to the Port Macquarie penal settlement, he was eventually freed. He was

reunited with Ann and his family and took up a job as a baker in Parramatta.



This life-sized sculpture is 'The Convict' from a series called 'First Impressions' in the Sydney Cove Redevelopment area.

Seditionists

By the 1830's mechanisation affected many aspects of life in England, including agriculture. 'Swing Riots' occurred as agricultural workers in the South, East and West of England protested in particular against the increasing use of threshing machines and the rise of rural poverty. In 1831 **Stephen Hatcher** was arrested and transported for his part in the Dorset Swing Riots.

Not long after this, arguably the most famous Dorset transportees were the Tolpuddle martyrs. These were **George and James Loveless, James Brine, Thomas and John Standfield and James Hammett**. They were arrested for Sedition and deported in 1834; they were members of the 'Friendly Society of Agricultural Labourers' which was increasingly active and perceived to be a threat; it was felt to be an early trades union, and dangerous especially as landowners remembered the disruption caused by the recent Swing Riots.

Once in Australia, however, the Tolpuddle men gained a groundswell of support in England; 800,000 signatures were collected and, in their support, one of the first political marches in England took place in 1836. They were pardoned and, after returning to England, all but James Hammett eventually emigrated to Canada.

Smuggling in Lyme Bay

I was surprised to find so few Dorset smugglers sentenced to transportation, given our location, but then discovered that many found guilty of this crime were press-ganged into the Navy – putting their seamanship skills to good use. One relatively local man who was sent to Australia was **William Whittle**. William had been a merchant seaman and was from Langton Herring, beyond Abbotsbury. He was arrested for 'assembling with others armed to land foreign spirits' in Lyme Bay in 1834. He and others had a violent tussle with customs officers. Although some notables signed a

petition in support of his good character and asked that William be assigned to a man of war, Robert Roe, Comptroller General of the Coastguard, countered this by writing 'if the sentence was altered we should be in more danger than ever from prisoner Whittle's gang'. While his death sentence was transmuted, he was transported on the 'Royal Sovereign' aged 25. William eventually gained his freedom, married and became a farmer in New South Wales, dying at the age of 63.

The hangman

Many convicts had a bad start in life and for various reasons were unable to rise above the challenges they faced. Elijah Upjohn was born in Shaftesbury in 1823 and by the age of 16 had been arrested several times for stealing: a pair of trousers, rabbits, and finally, a pair of shoes.

Particularly poignant is that he was described in one of his records as '4'10", light brown hair, hazel eyes; 11 years' old, labourer' (and oddly as 'single').

The pair of shoes evidently sealed his fate and he was sent out on the 'Marquis of Hastings' in 1839. He apparently saw out his seven year sentence and married and had children. However by the mid 1840s he fell back into persistent criminality. He was described by one judge as 'a rogue and a vagabond', and he was frequently in prison. In 1880 he was in Melbourne gaol, and along with other prisoners, was lined up to witness the hanging of fellow inmate. When the gaol warden realised their usual hangman was unavailable he asked for a volunteer from the assembled prisoners. **Elijah Upjohn** stepped up and according to a watching journalist 'without the slightest sign of nervousness' hanged the prisoner. Who, as it turned out, was the notorious bush ranger Ned Kelly.

Elijah kept this job as hangman for some four years but apparently was often drunk and less 'efficient' in delivering subsequent hangings. He died alone in 1885.

Other offenders

Other Dorset people were transported for various offences, such as stealing: a hive of bees; 20lbs of hemp; a black horse; 19 pounds, 12 shillings, and sixpence; a silver spoon and for 'obtaining a shovel by false pretences'....

Some convicts died shortly after they arrived and most undoubtedly endured great hardship. One could argue, however, that the life they left behind in rural 19th Dorset was also a very challenging place for those who were not well provided for.

Jo Seaman

ResourcesAncestry.com
Australianhistoryresearch.info
National Archive
Findmypast
Convictrecords.com.au
<https://theoldparramattan.wordpress.com/2015/10/15/lydia-of-melbury-osmond/>
And many more!



The Royal Oak in Charmouth is a true village and community pub, that welcomes both local and holidaymakers alike and is a very 'dog friendly' place where owners can enjoy home-cooked meals or tasty bar snacks in the lower bar, as we ask that dogs are not taken into the restaurant area.

We serve freshly made meals and light snacks such as baguettes/ciabatta rolls every day except Tuesdays and Sundays, as the kitchen is closed on a Tuesday evening (I can't get the chef to work seven days!) and on Sundays we only cook our famous roast lunch with a choice of locally supplied beef and pork from 12 noon to 2.30pm.

Our chef prepares and cooks every meal from fresh, locally sourced produce, so please note that at busy times you may have to wait a short while, but believe me it's worth it; look at the reviews on Trip-Advisor for which we have, after only six months, just been awarded a 'Certificate of Excellence', of which we are very proud.

The Oak is a Palmers pub and we stock the complete range of Palmers ales that are brewed in Bridport, along with a selection of three ciders and three lagers and some delicious wines. The pub hosts numerous, free entry, live music nights throughout the year, so please look at our website for up-and-coming dates. We are also the only pub locally that is legally allowed to show both Sky Sports and BT Sports on 'The Big 65 inch Curve HD Screen', which means we can show all the important rugby and football matches, along with tennis and the F1 racing; in fact any major sporting event.

With regards to the restaurant, it is always advisable to book a table to avoid disappointment. Our telephone number is 01297 560277. A warm welcome is always guaranteed and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Sue Bracey, Landlady

Ian Templer Reaches his Centenary



Ian as a young naval officer

Ian Templer was 100 years old on 17th June, Father's Day. Ian was a Fleet Air Arm pilot and flew the Swordfish in the World War II.

Though he flew other aircraft too, it's the Swordfish he remembers most fondly; it was so versatile and robust and was one of the few aircraft that remained operational throughout the whole war. After the war, he returned to work for Dunlop in the Midlands, where he remained for the rest of his career. After retiring at 64, Ian and his wife Pam returned to the south of England to be nearer to their children, finally coming to Charmouth in their 90s, in September 2009, to be close to one of their daughters. In 2016, Ian's son David moved to Charmouth, returning from New Zealand after living there for 43 years.

Ian and Pam both moved to the Hyde Care Home in Walditch at the end of 2015, but Pam died in 2017, aged 96. Ian is still there and is beautifully cared for. He is enjoying the company of his son after his long absence in New Zealand.

Briony Blair

(Further details of Ian & Pam's wartime experiences are on pages 26-29 of the autumn/winter 2015/16 issue of Shoreline.)



Ian is presented with a picture of a Swordfish aircraft on the occasion of his 100th birthday by Lt. Commander Mark Jameson from the Royal Navy Historic Flight, who flies the only remaining Operational Swordfish at Yeovilton. He is surrounded by four generations of Templers, his three children, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

News from Bymead House

After a very cold winter, we would like to thank all the people in the village who volunteered to help us during the difficult weather conditions we experienced. We are now looking forward to some fair weather and our summer events ahead!

We recently had our CQC inspection and were rated 'Good' in all areas. We are very happy with this result and the acknowledgement of the high standards of care we like to maintain. We would like to thank the relatives of our residents who were very complimentary and all our staff who work so hard to support and care for our residents and create the friendly environment that we are known for.

There have been a few changes at Bymead - Amy Blacklock, a long standing employee of Bymead House, now heads the team as Manager.

We would like to invite everyone from the village to our annual Summer Garden Party on Saturday 28th July from 12.30pm - 3.30pm. This day promises to be a fun-filled day for everyone, with a cake stall, face painting, sale of jams and chutneys, raffle, bouncy castle, brass band, games and much more entertainment to be confirmed nearer the time. We will also be hosting a Fun Dog Show on the day, so bring your dogs along to be in with a chance to win prizes!

Amy Blacklock



Rainbow Roasted Vegetables

Roasting vegetables transforms them - they become so sweet and delicious without losing their colours. They are great as they are as a side vegetable with grilled meats or fish, or can be tossed into pasta, popped onto a pizza base with mozzarella, used with cheese in a panini or simply eaten warm or cold to go with a salad. Great for a lunchtime snack to eat on a picnic with a chunk of some of Dorset's wonderful breads.

Ingredients

1 medium butternut squash, cooked, peeled cut into 5 cm pieces (see tip for how to cook)
 8 asparagus spears, woody ends removed, then halved
 1 yellow pepper, halved, cored and cut into 2cm strips
 250g cooked small new potatoes
 8 radish, quartered
 2 tbsp hazelnut or walnut oil
 1 tbsp balsamic vinegar
 Pinch chilli flakes, optional
 Salt and ground black pepper
 50g pine nuts

Method

Preheat oven Gas Mark 5/190C

Mix the oil and vinegar together.

Place all of the vegetables in a roasting dish large enough for them to be in a single layer. Pour over the oil and vinegar mixture and toss well.

Sprinkle over a couple of pinches of salt and pepper and the chilli flakes if using. Mix well.

Put into the oven for about 30 minutes until starting to brown.

Toss in the pine nuts and roast for another 5 minutes.

Remove from the oven and use as required.

To cook butternut squash (without having to peel!)

Preheat oven Gas Mark 6 / 200C

Cut the top off the squash and slice in half lengthways then in half widthways. Score the skin with a knife. Place flesh down onto a greased foil-lined baking tray. Bake for approximately 45 minutes until soft when pierced with a knife.

Leave until cool enough to handle. The skin can be removed easily. Chop into pieces ready to roast.

Tip: If there is extra squash it can be frozen with or without the skin ready to be used for a tasty soup.

Sheila Gilbey The Abbots House www.abbotshouse.co.uk
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Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre



We had a rather miserable Easter holiday weather-wise, but this didn't put people off coming fossil hunting and we were fully booked throughout that period. Things really got going for the Fossil Festival though; the weather was great and we were on the sea front in the marquee welcoming the many thousands of visitors.

The hot weather continued to bring the visitors during May and we had one of the busiest half-terms we have known, with one



day welcoming over 1400 people. The new display cabinets are still being developed, we have a new ichthyosaur on loan from Chris East and a new species of dragonfly from Chris Moore. Our very own Phil Davidson also has a Jurassic lobster cleaned by Chris Moore, so a big thank you to him. It will go on display later in the year. We will continue to develop the new display over the summer.

A few of the children from Charmouth Primary School joined us in

May to participate in a documentary being made on the life's work of Steve Etches. The Heritage Centre will feature in the documentary that is hoped to be released towards the end of the year. The children were greeted by two dinosaurs in the car park and were then joined by Bill Oddie who came along for a spot of fossil hunting along with Richard Edmonds and Steve Etches. We have more filming projects coming up in July so keep a look out!



The Friends of CHCC enjoyed a day out at Weymouth Sea Life Park on 22nd May. Stopping briefly at the Heights Hotel in Portland for coffee, they carried onto the park to enjoy the marine life. They were able to see the feeding of the penguins and otters and enjoyed a talk in the tunnel while rays and other wildlife swam overhead. It is a great place to learn about the conservation efforts of marine life in the UK and internationally.

We are still successfully running the beach cleans and nurdle hunting, so be sure to keep a look out on our website for the next dates. Our nurdle tube is gaining more attention and people are bringing more nurdles in to fill it, although we have a long way to go yet! We are also running free crab watch surveys as part of a citizen science project. We ran one in mid-June and plan to run more over the summer, so come join us and contribute towards research into crabs found on our shore. For more information about this, visit; <http://www.seachangeproject.eu/seachange-about-4/crab-watch>

Ali Ferris, Deputy Senior Warden

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She Finds Seashells on the Seashore – Or Maybe Not!



Many children love looking for shells on the beach, particularly pretty coloured ones and those with an iridescent mother-of-pearl lining. On the coast of the English Channel with its relatively warm and shallow continental shelf water can be found an abundance of marine plants and animals. With a wide variety of species of molluscs (mainly bivalves, gastropods and cephalopods) here in Charmouth we would expect to see a large variety of shells. However, visiting Charmouth for the first time, many people are disappointed to find that there are so few shells to collect.

On holiday beaches elsewhere there may be hundreds or even thousands of shells in a square metre. In Charmouth, however, if we are lucky we might find one or two whole shells and plenty of broken pieces. So, although Charmouth may be one of the best places in the UK to look for fossils hundreds of millions of years old, for modern shells it certainly has its limitations.

So why are there so few complete shells on Charmouth beach? While we sometimes have quite large areas of sand, most of the time Charmouth beaches are covered by pebbles, cobbles and boulders. These rocks are added to by falls from cliffs: possibly huge boulders or slabs of limestone or smaller pieces embedded in the mud-slides. During the twice daily tidal movements there is much shifting of the sand and rock material so the beach constantly changes. In stormy conditions, the movements are greater and more powerful so heavy boulders can be bounced along the beach. Imagine what could be crushed beneath a half-tonne boulder!

Some of the brownish rocks and pebbles are of a material called chert which, like flint, is a silica-based rock which is very hard and persistent. Some of the grey rocks and pebbles

are mudstone, shale or limestone, softer and eroded more readily than chert. However, there are some very hard layers of limestone which form persistent pebbles. With so many rocks of various sizes moving around on the beach during each cycle of tide and wave action, particularly during stormy conditions, shells are easily broken and will eventually be ground down to form sand.

If you find whole mollusc shells they tend to be the thicker and more indestructible ones such as limpet shells, slipper limpets, whelks and periwinkles. Pieces of piddock shell can be found too but they have thin edges; usually the bit that survives the pounding waves and rocks is only the top part that bears the 'teeth' where the shell is at its thickest and most resistant to damage.

Shell is a complex material made mainly of calcium carbonate with other minerals such as phosphate. Laid down as a series of layers, shell production begins in the larval stages. Secreted by specialised cells in parts of the fleshy mantle, most shells have a thin but protective outer layer made of protein (conchiolin); this is followed by a prismatic layer of calcite or aragonite (different forms of calcium carbonate). The innermost nacreous layer is mother-of-pearl appearing as beautifully iridescent colours, mainly greens and purples. Rather as plywood is constructed of thin layers of wood with the grain running in different directions, together the different layers of crystals in the shell produce a very strong, durable substance which can withstand compression.

Some shells are ornamented on their external surface by concentric rings, radial flutes, ribs, ridges or spines which can add reinforcement to the structure of the shell, giving it strength to withstand the battering waves, bouncing boulders or attack from predators.

Shells can be a variety of shapes: if the mantle has a rippled shape, then the shell will have a rippled appearance at its leading edge. The shape of the shell as well as the rest of the body of the mollusc (including the mantle) is under genetic control so all creatures of the same species will have a very similar shape. However, they are not exactly the same because environmental conditions such as sea water composition, acidity and food consumption will affect the formation of the shell including colours that are produced.

The illustration is of a variety of shells collected on Charmouth beaches; most of the shells are broken. Included are a cuttlefish shell (cuttle 'bone'), periwinkle, limpet, sting wrinkle, slipper limpet, piddock and top shell. You will see that even some of the chunky, thick-shelled gastropods have been damaged to show their inner structure.

Rosalind Cole

Phil Davidson, Geological Warden at Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre says:
The best place to look for fossils is in the loose material on the beach and NOT in the cliffs. The cliffs are very unstable and you should make sure you keep your distance from them. Rockfalls and sticky mudslides should be avoided as they can cut off the beach on an incoming tide. Always check the tides times before going out fossil hunting.



Fossils – Body and Trace

There are two basic categories of fossil: **Body Fossils** and **Trace Fossils**. **Body Fossils** are the mineralised remains, or sediment casts, of the actual shell (e.g. ammonites) or the mineralised bones of an animal (e.g. vertebrae) - or the wood and leaves of a plant.

Trace Fossils are the signs left by animals as they moved around, on or within the sea bed or lake: trails, tracks, footprints, burrows and borings. The study of Trace Fossils is called Ichnology. This article focusses on the Trace Fossils we find on Charmouth beach.

Late Cretaceous age 80-85 million years

Crustacean burrows preserved as flint from the Chalk



About 10% of the pebbles on Charmouth beach are white, brown or grey flint eroded from the thick layer of Chalk which once covered most of the British Isles. Flint is biogenic silica (SiO_2) derived from siliceous sponges and plankton which lived in the extensive shelf seas of late Cretaceous times (flint does not have a volcanic origin). As the chalk became buried, silica dissolved and precipitated around and within crustacean (shrimp) burrows, as well as preserving Body Fossils such as sea urchins (Echinoids). Hollow tubes of flint and short pointed fragments resembling teeth or little horns are common on Charmouth beach. Don't dismiss them as "stones not bones", they are Trace Fossils which tell us that the seabed was oxygenated at the time.

Mid-Cretaceous age 110-100 million years

Worm & crustacean burrows in the Upper Greensand



About 80% of the pebbles on Charmouth beach are chert and cherty sandstone derived from the Upper Greensand formation which caps Black Ven, Stonebarrow and Golden Cap. Chert

is also biogenic silica from marine organisms. The silica fills the pore spaces between grains of sand (quartz & calcium carbonate) within the Upper Greensand.

Chert is very hard, angular, orange to brown (translucent if thin) and very dangerous to hammer – it is harder than steel. Body Fossils are not common but echinoids, sponges, gastropods & bivalves can be found, sometimes just as loose pebbles. Large blocks of cherty Upper Greensand are common on Charmouth beach, thoroughly burrowed by Trace Fossils.

Early Jurassic age 190-195 million years

Worm & crustacean burrows in the Charmouth Mudstone



The large blocks of limestone seen on Fossil Walks at Charmouth West Beach contain many sizes of Trace Fossil burrows – thick ones made by crustaceans and thin ones made by worms. Pale grey limestone layers can be seen to have been burrowed down into darker layers (more organic carbon) as the worms and shrimps fed on the organic matter therein.

Sit and ponder such a block and imagine the wriggings and squiggings going on nearly 200 million years ago...

Geoff Townson

www.geofftownson.co.uk

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National Coastwatch - Lyme Bay

EYES ALONG THE COAST

Charmouth NCI Lookout: Dealing with incidents



The Charmouth NCI lookout attracts a number of people, both locals and visitors alike. Some are interested in the history of the building, others consult us about tides, coast path walks, beach safety and general local information. While providing safety information to members of the public is an important task for the NCI, we are also asked about how we deal with incidents which is fundamentally why the Coastwatch was established back in 1994.

Most of our Watchkeepers' time is spent observing and logging inshore vessels as well as having a general awareness of beach and cliff activity. At the same time we monitor a range of marine VHF frequencies in case of any distress signals being transmitted. Most radio requests for emergency assistance are usually picked up by HM Coastguard – and our area is covered by Solent Coastguard based in Fareham, Hampshire. On occasion, poor reception or a low powered radio may mean that the Coastguard does not hear the transmission. If such a message is received by an NCI station, our volunteers (who are trained to respond in such circumstances) can relay messages to the Coastguard who will decide on the appropriate action.

We sometimes also provide observational assistance for the Coastguard who in turn may have received a message from a member of the public about a potential incident e.g. about someone stuck on a cliff or a vessel in trouble. If there is an NCI lookout close by, a Watchkeeper may be in a good position to provide valuable additional information. This has happened several times at the Charmouth lookout. It is worth mentioning that not all boats, especially small craft, carry dedicated marine VHF radios. Some boat owners may rely on using a mobile phone when close to shore or, failing that, could resort to hand signals in an emergency. For example, in 2017 we received a call from Solent Coastguard which had in turn received a mobile call from a sailing vessel in difficulty in the vicinity of Charmouth. Initially, the vessel could not be seen due to mist

location, bearings, distance and as much detail about the craft and people involved as possible. We will also provide details of prevailing local weather conditions.

Solent Coastguard will assess the appropriate action ie whether to call on the local Coastguard Rescue Teams, Search and Rescue helicopter or whether to pass the information to the RNLI or indeed a combination of all of these assets in a complex incident. Other emergency services may also become involved. Watchkeepers would continue to monitor the local situation, providing any additional detail to the Coastguard or even the RNLI Lyme lifeboat team as required.

Our Watchkeepers keep a detailed record of the incident in our logs and there may be continual observational reporting which we also record. Our logs are important legal documents and can be called upon in any follow-up investigations.

So far in 2018 the 50 odd NCI stations around our coastline have been involved in 145 reportable incidents. Even if only one of these prevented loss of life then it makes our task worthwhile.

None of our work can be achieved without professional and continual training and this is something we will cover in a future edition of Shoreline.

Mike Seaman,
NCI Lyme Bay Deputy Station Manager (Charmouth Sector)

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

Volunteering: Judi Gifford (Lyme Bay NCI Station Manager)
Email: lyme.bay@nci.org.uk | Tel: 01308 538879

Donations: Graeme Gemmill Treasurer
Email: lymebay.treasurer@nci.org.uk | Tel: 01308 482178

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



Plotting coordinates during an exercise with the Lyme Regis lifeboat

but when visibility improved our Watchkeeper was able to identify the vessel and provide co-ordinates. Solent Coastguard was then able to inform the Lyme Regis Lifeboat which took the vessel to safety.

We also have NCI-initiated incident reporting. This is when we spot someone in distress, either at sea or around the cliffs, or if something is reported to us by a member of the public. In such circumstances we report the details to Solent Coastguard who will decide on the action to be taken. These details will include Admiralty chart or Ordnance Survey map co-ordinates, giving

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THE JURASSIC COAST

Travel with me, if you dare, through time,
As I walk the shore, between Eype and Lyme.
Together we'll stroll along Charmouth Beach,
And seek an age that is out of reach.
Among the pebbles and in the sand,
Ammonites and belemnites come to hand.
For here between the cliffs and foam
Is a land where dinosaurs once roamed.
Maybe today is your lucky day,
As you split the stones of hard, blue clay.

You'll shout with joy and pure delight,
When first you discover an ammonite.
This fossilised find, on the Lyme Bay shore
Will make you eager to search for more.
You'll return to a time so long ago,
Who knows what wonders will be on show?
From Golden Cap to black Black ven,
Your mind will see them walk again.
No! not for real, but you'll feel their ghosts,
As you walk along the Jurassic Coast.

When you've had your fill of walking the shore,
Visit the Heritage Coast Centre, it's on the first floor.
You'll learn of the history throughout the years,
From the friendly wardens and volunteers.
Books to study and maps of the bay,
All this, and more, is on display.
Sea creatures and monsters, the years have spanned,
Now in fossilised form, to hold in your hand.
Transport yourself to that time long ago,
By watching, with others, the video show.

So, if you enjoyed this World Heritage Site,
Then let me just explain,
When you get a break from your daily chores,
You can visit, again and again.

Tony Fuller, Chideock
(Tony wrote this many years ago, when he and his wife were volunteers at the CHCC. Ed)



GOLDEN CAP

By Peter Crowter

On Charmouth beach if you look east,
There dominates a mighty beast.
Not only broad a lofty chap,
Goes by the name of Golden Cap.

And he's so lofty he can boast,
The highest point on the south coast.
So if you thought 'twas Beachy Head,
I'm telling you, you were misled.

His moods can vary day by day,
He's sometimes bright but sometimes grey
When sprayed by sea and strong winds blow,
But in the sun he's all aglow.

He's taller than six hundred feet,
His cap provides a lofty seat.
To climb him you will need some puff,
You reach his top, you've had enough.

Your legs are tired and so are you,
You ponder and take in a view.
It has to be a well earned treat,
A view that would be hard to beat.

His crowning glory he can claim,
Provides him with his famous name.
Golden greensand rock, his cap,
He's really quite a handsome chap

Charmouth Birding Update

The most frequently raised question I'm asked is "Where's the best place to watch birds in Charmouth", followed closely by "What birds am I most likely to see in the local area". The answer depends on a lot of factors, two of the most important being the time of year and the time of day. So thinking about these questions I'm going to describe three local walks in and around the village which hopefully will give a few helpful pointers.

But first a little anecdote. A few weeks ago, in the middle of the spring migration, there was a knock on my front door and there stood my friendly local window cleaner. No I hadn't forgotten to pay his bill! Smiling and holding out a photo on his phone, he explained that he had had an unusual visitor on a recent fishing trip. A tiny warbler had landed on his boat out in Lyme Bay, a few miles off Charmouth and had spent an hour or so resting and then investigating every nook and cranny for the odd spider or insect food morsel. The bird was fit and active and appeared quite tame, hopping about and even perching on his fishing rod, so close that Peter took a few good photos ... on his phone! He showed me his photos. It was a Chiffchaff, new in from across the channel and on its northward spring journey. It just shows the old maxim that birdwise, anything can turn up, anywhere and often at unexpected times. So I guess that the answer to the questions posed might be "everywhere" and "anywhere"!

But, putting aside unusual birding sightings just described: where can I watch birds in Charmouth; and what birds are most likely to be present during the summer months? I know from the feedback I've received from these Shoreline articles that interesting birds do frequently turn up in gardens and areas not open to the public. So discounting any private sites and gardens, here's a simple list of three birdwatching sites which I offer to residents and visitors alike. I wondered about including Trinity Hill and Lambert's Castle in the list but have decided to leave those two excellent sites for another article. To see and hear the greatest variety of birds, these three summer walks are at their best in the early morning, when birds are at their most active and there's less foot traffic and disturbance.

1. Stonebarrow Hill. (Stout shoes and reasonable fitness required. Allow two hours for this walk, which has some inclines and covers rough ground)

Star Bird - *YELLOW HAMMER*

Parking at the NT car park at the top of Stonebarrow Lane, walk out to the watchpoint and look out for singing Song Thrush, Chiffchaff and Blackcap. Overhead, watch for hovering Kestrel. Follow the path in the direction of the NT Visitor Centre but keeping to the contour below the busier gravel road. Here, Linnet, Chaffinch, Green Woodpecker and Great Spotted Woodpecker may be seen. Continue along any of the many tracks eastwards until you reach the far car park which leads towards Chardown Hill. Whitethroat, Willow Warbler, Bullfinch, Greenfinches and Chiffchaff are all possible on the scrubland on this section. Pass through the gate and walk to Chardown Hill. Your walk will be accompanied by the tinkling call of Linnet and if you're lucky you might hear "a little bit of bread and no cheese" of a singing Yellowhammer perched atop a gorse or hawthorn bush.



What was once a fairly common song 40 years ago is sadly becoming increasingly rare nowadays in southern UK. And the brilliant yellow colour of a male Yellowhammer is guaranteed to make your day!

Overhead a 'mewing' call betrays the presence of a soaring Buzzard and maybe you will be lucky to hear the 'gronking' call of a passing Raven too. Birds to be found on Chardown Hill include Whitethroat, Pied Wagtail, Meadow Pipit and a few more Linnet. Others: Blackbird, Wren, Dunnock, House Sparrow, Herring Gull, Carrion Crow, Jackdaw, Starling, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Longtailed Tit, Goldcrest, Swallow, House Martin, Collared Dove, Wood Pigeon, Robin.

More infrequent: Sparrowhawk, Red Kite, Tawny Owl, Lesser Whitethroat, Mistle Thrush, Stonechat, Stock Dove.

2. Charmouth village, The Street and Barr's Lane. (An easy, flat walk)

Star Bird - *SWIFT*



Starting at the heart of the village, we're privileged to have a thriving House Martin colony under the eaves above the Post Office. A second colony of this active summer visitor is established at Wesley Close. And nearer the seafront, another colony, which was present until very recently, has sadly been lost.

Only present between May and September, I know that Swift nest on the west side of the village and I suspect they also nest elsewhere in the village too. In the UK there are only an estimated 80,000 pairs (and declining) of this superb aerial feeder so if anyone is fortunate enough to suspect breeding Swift in the village please do get in touch. In late summer it's great to see family parties of Swift playing follow-my-leader round the rooftops and making their familiar "screaming" call. A superb sight and sound of summer.

Walking away from the Post Office along Barr's Lane, check out the shortcut grass of the recreation ground and football pitches. This attracts feeding Starling, Song Thrush, Blackbird, Dunnock and particularly Pied Wagtail (present anytime but especially evenings). Herring Gull and Black-headed Gull will gather to feed particularly if the low-lying playing fields are partly flooded after heavy rain.

The far end of Barr's Lane passes underneath the A35 Bypass and is where the village meets the countryside. Here, you may also be lucky enough to find a Mistle Thrush with a beak full of worms ready to feed its hungry brood. Turning back towards the village, walk along the Bypass and keeping on your left the trees on the banks of the river between the playing fields and Manor Farm. These trees and bushes hold Treecreeper, Chaffinch, Great Spotted Woodpecker, Blackcap, Robin and Chiffchaff. The coniferous trees may hold Goldcrest if you are lucky.

Others: Jackdaw, Collared Dove, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Long-tailed Tit, Swallow and Buzzard (over).

More Infrequent: Sparrowhawk, Tawny Owl, Green Woodpecker.

3. The Reedbed and the River in Charmouth (An easy, reasonably flat walk)

Star Bird - *GREY WAGTAIL*

Early morning and later in the evening (to see the Pied Wagtail roost mentioned below) are the best times to visit this area.

There are two small reedbeds - at the seafront car park and also alongside the river, extending northwards from the footbridge at Seadown Caravan site (Access by permission

only). Despite their diminutive size, they hold a surprising number of birds including secretive Water Rail and Reed Warbler. The latter betray their presence singing their noisy chattering warbling song hidden, as they do, deep within the Reedbed. Patience can be rewarded with brief views as they flit about searching for insects or when they fly across the river. Most summers the reed bed also plays host to one or two pairs of Reed Bunting. Much easier to see than the Reed Warbler, the male Reed Bunting plays out its rather tuneless monotonous song from the top of a prominent riverside bush or reed stem. Swallow and House Martin hawk for insects in the valley.

Upstream from the footbridge is a pool favoured by Mallard and Moorhen. Once again, this summer, Charmouth has its own pair of Mute Swan which is always nice to see. Large gulls come to rest and spend time in this freshwater bathing pool. Expect to see a wide variety of Gulls, including Herring, Black-headed and sometimes the odd Mediterranean Gulls. If we have a summer storm look out for Great Black-backed or Lesser Black-backed Gull which will come in to this part of the river for shelter.

Take the path over the footbridge and turn left along the river on the Stonebarrow side. Check the slopes for Linnet and Goldfinch which feed on the seed heads of late summer. Chiffchaff and Blackcap feed and sing in the riverside bushes and trees, along with Great Spotted Woodpecker in the small trees. Walking alongside the river, listen out for the explosive unmistakable call of the Cetti's Warbler too, rendered from deep with a bramble bush. Further upstream a beautiful flash of sulphur yellow and we are watching a superb Grey Wagtail, launching to catch flying insects from its rocky perch in the middle of the river.



August and September is usually a good time to see Kingfisher on this stretch as young birds are beginning to spread out from their nesting areas and trying to establish their own territories. Returning to the beach car park area, watch out for Rock Pipit and occasionally Stonechat hunting for insects on a pile of rotting seaweed. At most times of the year the car park reedbed is an important local Pied Wagtail roost. In late summer, with the addition of recently fledged juveniles, the numbers build up so that there can be between 1-200 Pied Wagtails most evenings; an amazing spectacle and one which as conservationists we should all do our best to safeguard.

So why don't you take a wander round this area and see what you can find. Little Egret and Grey Heron are regular, if fleeting, visitors here and early one morning I was amazed to find a Glossy Ibis. I certainly didn't expect that!

Others: Sedge Warbler, House Sparrow, Blue Tit, Great Tit.

More infrequent: Great Black-backed Gull, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Little Grebe.

So there you go, three Charmouth Walks and don't forget, I've described the birds to be expected in summer. If you try these walks at a different time of the year the mix of species would be different with a completely different set of birds. The summer visitors will have departed but new species will take their place.

Happy summer birding!

Richard Phillips

Blog: www.charmouthbirding.blogspot.co.uk

Twitter: @CharmouthBirder

Charmouth Scout News

Busy Beavers Tackle Gardening, Navigation and Den Building

We have been very busy Beavers this term already. We started back after Easter with a session to complete our gardening badge. The Beavers brought back pepper plants that they planted from seed, back in February, with varying levels of success! However the achievement was more about learning what plants need to grow and how to nurture them. Many had photos of how they had helped out with gardening at home.

By collecting various leaves, we created fantastic set of rubbings, along with twigs to go in our colourfully decorated bug hotels. We learnt about five native insects and what they all have in common. Work towards our navigation badge involved using compasses around the playing fields and have enjoyed a hike and den building evening at Langdon Woods.

We have made use of the wonderful weather and took part in an assault course, javelin throwing and archery competition. Everyone was a winner at the end, with some amazing individual scores but overall it was about their team's efforts and learning to work together.

Next up was box kart racing around the playing field; not quite Formula 1 but great fun was had by all!

For the final few weeks of this term, we will be practising our dancing skills with the Uplyme Morris Men, designing rockets to the moon and are all very excited as we are having a Beaver camp/sleepover in our hut. As part of the camp, we plan to go bat detecting at dusk to see how many different species we can hear using our bat detectors! We will finish the term with a beach party, toasting "smores" on our fire-pit and making sand sculptures.

Karen Southcott & Giles Smallwood (*aka Raccoon & Coyote*)
Charmouth Beaver Leaders



Scouts find Horseshoe Bats at Beer Quarry Caves

As part of their pre-Easter camp, 15 Scouts from 1st Charmouth have also been on the hunt for bats, this time deep within the Beer Quarry Caves. After donning their bright yellow 'Bob the Builder' Safety Helmets, they ventured into the cave system led by John Scott who, luckily, knows virtually every square inch of the cavernous quarry. After only a few hundred yards the Scouts spotted, with John's help, both Greater and Lesser Horseshoe Bats

hanging upside down on wires. Unfortunately, the Scouts could not pick up any echo-location signals on their bat detectors as the mammals are still hibernating and won't be active for a while yet.

Other activities during the camp included: a very wet and muddy night hike around Conegar Hill; swimming at Newlands Holiday Camp; removing and cooking pheasant breasts; fire lighting; and cooking homemade pizzas.

Developing Survival Skills at Monkton Wyld Court: Fire by friction, shelter building, camouflage techniques and backwoods cooking were all on the programme when the Scout Troop spent four weeks using the natural facilities at Monkton Wyld Court and the contents of the survival kits they had previously assembled.

Each week, the four groups of Scouts tackled a new activity. Dave Barton managed to help them create a lot of smoke with this hastily constructed fire bow - but, sadly, no glowing embers. However, the 9v battery and wire wool was a success and the glycerol plus potassium permanganate was a real winner, if a little smoky. Steve Mackenney used his ex-military training to show how the Scouts could use natural materials to hide from view in the undergrowth - even when they were wearing hi-viz vests. Alex Willatt, John Smith and Jon Winkle imparted their backwoods cooking skills and the Scouts dined lavishly on fish steamed in wet newspaper, kebabs, biscuit tin pizzas and chocolate bananas. I demonstrated how to make a hammocks out of groundsheets and a simple shelter out of five pieces of hazel wood. Suitably trained, the Scouts will be given the opportunity to put their new-found skills into practice with an overnight Survival Skills Camp at Monkton Wyld Court. Our thanks are due to Monkton Wyld Court for allowing us to use their grounds to impart some of these essential survival skills.

Kevin Payne, *Group Scout Leader*

Why not give Scouts a try?

If you think your son or daughter would like the activities described above - and many others, such as: box kart racing; robot building and programming; camping; climbing; rafting; air pistol shooting; and mechanics etc. then why not suggest they give it a try?

The Scout Troop is open to girls and boys aged between 10 and 14 and the first four 'try and see' weeks are free. It's much more fun than computer games!

Just contact me on: payne.kevin6@gmail.com or 07976 534517

Kevin Payne, *Group Scout Leader*





Cubs refine their cooking skills - indoors and out!

Cubs have been busy, keeping fit and enjoying the great outdoors this term. We have walked to Wootton Fitzpaine from Charmouth and enjoyed biscuits in the park, leaf identification and a game of bucket ball: a cross between basketball and netball. We have been to Charmouth beach to light fires, with strikers and cotton wool and had marshmallows. The last four weeks we have had a brilliant time at Monkton Wyld Court, setting up dens and hammocks in the trees, lighting fires with strikers and cotton wool, using the axe to split logs and add to the fire and making pizzas in an old Quality Street tin. Weaving with natural materials, making plaster of Paris casts of leaves and prints in the soil, mini rafts and whittling holly, we finished off with hot dogs and investing three of our newest Cubs. We have been lucky enough to have Janna Macdonald, Jo Jones, Jim Jones and Cara Jenkins join our team, enabling us to do more activities.

Tracy Chapman, Cub Leader

Charmouth Seagulls – Spring term

Last term at Explorers we did some really good activities, including a trip to Raceworld near Exeter at the indoor karting track.

We were split into two groups, to race in heat one and two and get the best lap times possible. Then we were split again, this time the people with the fastest times were put in one race and the people with the slower times in the other race. The people in the slower category (most of the leaders!) went first for their grand prix experience, then it was the turn for the faster category. We all pushed ourselves to go fast and pushed each other (literally in some cases). It was great fun. At the end of the races the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place people were given medals and the winner got a bottle of champagne. We all enjoyed it and I would thoroughly recommend it for parties. Visit www.raceworld.info for more details.

Harvey Harding

(Harvey was our Grand Prix Champion, winning by over half a lap, 13.5 seconds a head of second place)

Charmouth Seagulls currently meet on a Thursday Evening at the Youth Club Hall in Charmouth, 5.30 - 7.00pm.

For further details, please contact Melanie Harvey on 01297 560393

Charmouth Seagulls go to Kenya

Five Explorer Scouts from Charmouth have been selected to take part in a 24-day challenge to Kenya in 2019. They will be involved in a variety of activities including building projects – schools, health centre and housing; teaching of maths, computer skills and English in local Primary Schools as well as fun activities such as trekking on Mt. Kenya, going on safari in the Samburu reserve and rafting on the Tana river. They are planning to organise and host a number of events over the year to help raise funds – watch this space!

Many thanks,

Melanie Harvey, Explorer Scout Leader

Collection of old coins and banknotes for Dorset and West Dorset District Scouts

We are asking for money you will not miss.

✓ **FOREIGN COINS OR NOTES**

✓ **OLD BRITISH / IRISH CURRENCY**

✓ **FARTHINGS TO OLD 50 PENCE,**

✓ **OLD, OBSOLETE OR CURRENT CURRENCY**

LITERALLY ANYTHING THAT IS OR WAS ONCE MONEY SHOULD BE COLLECTED.

You can help without really having to put your hand in your pocket by simply sorting out any old foreign notes and coins left over from holidays and business trips.

Any old British or Irish coins and notes can also help. Even old decimal coins or farthings, 1d pennies, three pence, six pence, shillings and crowns are welcome.

Seek out those old Spanish Pesetas, American Dollars, German Marks etc, literally anything, even obsolete currency can help. Foreign coins and small banknotes cannot be exchanged at any British bank or Bureau de Change.

So please take a moment to donate these coins and banknotes and Cash4Coins will buy it all and turn it into a useful donation for Dorset and West Dorset District Scouts.

We have raised a further £100 for the Charmouth Explorers since the last issue – Thank you

Drop off point – 16, Double Common, Charmouth.

Many thanks,

Melanie Harvey, Explorer Scout Leader (Charmouth Seagulls)

Turn, Turn, Turn!

Wood turning is alive and well in Whitchurch Canonichorum, thanks to the capable hands of 12-year-old Ernie Wright. The enthusiastic Woodroffe School pupil recently attended five woodcraft lessons, in which he had to cut finger joints and glue them together. "That was so easy", he says.

Ernie first tried his hand at working with wood at eight years of age, when he made a chair from his sister's old bunk bed. He collected driftwood from the beach, turning it into ornaments. Over the years, he had watched his dad, Dale, and his paternal grandfather, Paul, who both did carpentry. "My grandad had a workshop near Axminster and hand-carved wood with chisels. He made lots of furniture: tables, stools and cabinets and used his dad's antique woodworking tools."

Ernie was given an electric lathe for his 10th birthday. The first pot he turned on it was his gift to his mum the following Christmas. At 11 years of age, he made his own pole lathe for the turning of round objects from wood. He made struts for the frame, two stocks, bendy sticks and a foot pedal, as well as metal spindles for the spinning of the wood. He added a bungee strap and tied string to the frame and foot pads.

"I have made candlesticks, which I shape with a chisel; wooden mushrooms; lidded and unlidded pots; mini skittle pins and balls; and light pull stops. I can make a lidded pot in two-and-a-half hours and I use tools to taper the lid so there's no wobble; a mushroom takes 40 minutes. My favourite wood is yew because I like the grain. One of dad's customers is a church warden and lets him have dead yew branches for me to turn. I also use oak, ash, hazel and beech. Beeswax helps me to enhance the colour of the wood and brings out the grains and patterns."

More recently, Ernie made a smart swinging chair for his family garden from 170-year-old roofing beams. Then he devised a use for a short, sawn-off end of a 200-year-old antler. With a touch of ingenuity, he attached two varieties of wood that he had turned, placed leather spacers in between them, and added a section of brass, to form a good-looking handle to a farrier's hoof trimming rasp. He filed both the brass and the rasp himself to make a perfect fit. Another example of his work

is a piece of Damascus steel, which he shaped with angle grinders. He created a handle for it from wood, with carefully positioned leather spacers and a section of modern antler. A bullet shell case set in the antler forms an opening so that it can hang up. "The bullet shell case was my grandad's idea", he notes.

Ernie has exhibited at Whitchurch Flower Show and won craft trophies for two consecutive years. "A wood turner at the show who had been turning for 50 years told me that he still couldn't get a lid to sit on a pot as tightly as mine. I was surprised! I aim to exhibit in the Whitchurch show this summer."

Ernie has his own garden shed, which he admits is cluttered. His other hobby is farming. "My mum's dad has a farm and my cousins and I go racing there on quad bikes. Together with my cousins and uncle, I help him on the farm. I like tractors, and when older friends are on the farm, I go silaging with them. I also look after my sister's horse and enjoy riding. I bought a £1 raffle ticket recently and the prize is a tractor. If I win, I'll use it on grandad's farm".

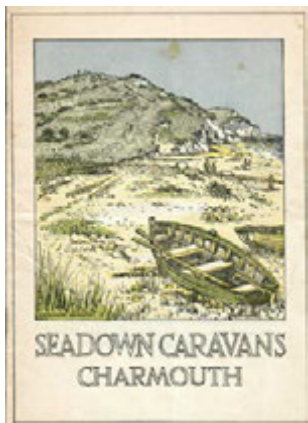
Lesley Dunlop



Caravanning in 1960

Whilst sorting through family papers, a friend in Somerset found a 1960 brochure of Seadown Caravans in Charmouth, which she kindly sent to me. The pen and ink wash sketch of East Beach, Stonebarrow Hill and Golden Cap on the front cover is by the late Marguerite Howarth, a Lancashire artist who lived in Surrey.

Operated by Resident Directors Mr. & Mrs. F.A.J. Bricknell, the site was in two sections: Seadown, with three-and-a-half acres of level grassland and views over the river to Stonebarrow Hill, and Rivermead, a smaller terraced meadow with uninterrupted sea views. The season began on 1st April and ended on 30th September.



Quaintly, luggage could be sent in advance, c/o Seadown Caravans either to Lyme Regis or Bridport stations (West Bay). London to Plymouth and Royal Blue coaches stopped in the village for those without cars and travelling by road. Only one private car was permitted per caravan. Radios and deck chairs could be hired from the site office. A grocer's mobile shop visited the site two evenings and one morning each week, and milk and bread could be ordered in advance. Rentals included the use of Calor gas, china, blankets, cutlery and pots and pans but not linen, which had to be provided by the tenants.

In 1960 the cost of a five- or six-berth caravan (Class A) in high season for a week at Seadown was 11 guineas, plus an additional one guinea for a five-berth and two guineas for a six-berth, whilst a small two- or three-berth caravan

in early or late season, with a hotplate only, was just 3 guineas. Large four-berths (Class A) had an end kitchen and full-size cooker, whilst medium four-berths (Class B) had a centre kitchen, hotplate and portable oven. Rivermead, with its sea views, cost a guinea more a week, irrespective of the dates booked or whether the holidaymaker was renting a large or small caravan.

The brochure describes Charmouth as 'one of the prettiest villages in Dorset, set in lovely unspoilt country'. Holidaymakers were actively encouraged to use the public playing fields (Barrs Lane) where bowls, tennis and putting were available at reasonable charges. In 1960, caravanning offered a sense of freedom; an alternative to the strict rules of boarding houses. Nearly 60 years later, Seadown is as popular as ever.

Lesley Dunlop

Illustration © The Howarth Family

With permission of Jan Osborne of Seadown Holiday Park and thanks to Pat Mackay for the brochure.



Charmouth Primary School finishes joint third in the national finals

We knew that we had a good crop of footballers coming through the ranks four years ago when Shaun Stewart and I took a team of year 2s to Exeter City's six-a-side tournament and they deservedly finished runners-up.

Fast forward to the beginning of 2017, and this same group had matured and were now able to represent the school as year 5 children. And so, with Otis Travill as the only year 6 child in the starting line-up last year, the school went on to win the Intra Schools League, the Colfox World Cup and the Kenway Cup. What was impressive here was that we were playing schools with a much bigger intake and comprising teams made up of children who were one year older. We finished off the last school year with 18 games played, 18 wins, 85 goals scored and 7 conceded.

At the beginning of this school year in September, we knew that we had to stretch the team as far as we could, now that they were in year 6, and so we entered the national small schools seven-a-side tournament, starting off on the Woodroffe School playing fields with qualifiers against local schools. We won these, and after other qualifiers, we went on to become County champions with a victory against Beaminster.

In the South West finals in Bristol, comprising nine counties, we beat Wiltshire 2-0 with goals from Mattie Loader, who is school captain, and Alex Campion. We then went on to beat Oxfordshire 1-0 with Spike Tilley-Wyatt showing great energy in midfield.

Charmouth is blessed with two very strong goalkeepers in Adam Rowe and Fred Morel who are rotated in every match and each were called to make good saves against Devon in a closely fought contest with Joe Stewart and Luca Legg playing well. This meant that Dorset and Hampshire were the two chosen representatives for the South West.

And so, on Saturday, 20th May, Charmouth Primary School were one of only eight teams to play in the national finals, playing at the 34,000 capacity Ricoh Arena in Coventry. It proved to be an exciting and nerve-wracking day. With two groups of four, we kicked off against Cambridgeshire who were representing the south east, winning the game 2-0 with goals from Mattie Loader and George Chapman.

Next up was the Midlands and having gone a goal down, Charmouth came back to draw with another well-taken goal from George Chapman and with a strong performance from our Vice-Captain Ollie Wren. Our league was very tight and going into the last match, we needed a draw to qualify for the semis and Cheshire, from the north, needed a win to qualify. Inspired by Djibril Cisse's (ex Liverpool) son, the North went into a 1-0 lead and with two minutes to go, Charmouth looked as though they were heading home. However, a well-taken goal by Theo Whitely meant that Charmouth topped their group which was a fantastic achievement.

In the semi-final against Hampshire, the other team representing the South West, we went behind to an early goal and despite hitting the post and forcing a very good save from their keeper, Charmouth could not find a way back into the game, exiting to the eventual winners. This ended a 37 match unbeaten run for the school and, at the end, each of the children from Charmouth wished Hampshire well for the final.

I want to pay a special mention to both Holly Perryment and Lemoni Gouldstone. In all of our matches, whatever the competition, we very rarely play against teams with girls in despite these tournaments being mixed. Both girls played every minute up in Coventry which is testament to how well regarded they are. The referee took them aside after the South West's and said that he wanted to see them playing for England one day.

At the time of writing, we will be defending the Kenway Cup in the final on Thursday 21st June and we will be defending the Colfox World Cup on Wednesday 4th July and so there is still lots to play for.

I'd like to thank Rich Tilley, my joint manager, and Ross Travill, my joint manager for the previous four years, for all their hard work and dedication. And I'd like to thank the children and the parents for all their efforts. We have had a fabulous two seasons which I am sure that the children will remember throughout their lives.

I am coming to the end of my role and I'd like to thank the school for the chance that we have had of working with the children over the past five years. It has been an absolute privilege for the three of us.

Ian Moulard



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The New Gambia

In February this year I returned to The Gambia to visit my friends there. Since my last visit the old regime has fallen and the country is now governed democratically by a freely-elected President. The husband of my friend Mai, a Major in the army, had been imprisoned for ten years without charge by Jammeh, the former President. He was tortured and some of his men had died, leaving many orphans. Since his release he has been returned to his former position. His wife was moved from a one bedroom property into a nine room army property. After so long without her he spent only two weeks with Mai before he was posted to work with the UN as a peacekeeper in Somalia.

After such a long absence many people would have taken time to absorb the events of previous years; but not Mai. She has filled her house with people who needed help - three teenage orphaned boys, an elderly lady who has had a stroke plus her daughter, who had to give up work to care for her, and Mai's own mother-in-law. So now Mai has these many mouths to feed on only £50 per month and traumatised boys to raise.

This new family took great care of me whilst I was staying there. We had a great time going to the beach, the markets and eating meals together. Byron, the eldest boy, is studying economics at University and is sponsored by a village in Yorkshire. LT has been very badly treated in the past. His head is a little misshapen as he has had his skull cracked twice, he received no medical treatment and it was just left to heal. When he came to Mai he was mute at school and just existing. After six months living with her, he got the top school prize. He hopes to go to University and although a quiet, serious boy he now joins in games and other activities,

The youngest, Babacar, is already a gorgeous 13 year old who plans to be a footballer. Whilst there I bought two secondhand bicycles for the younger boys. They had been walking 10km to and from school. I arrived with the two bikes in a taxi. LT was still at school but Baba was at home. I gave him a bike. He ran off in tears before thanking me. That evening Mai came round and said Baba was worried because he had not thanked me properly. I said that he had. She replied that he said "When someone gives you bread or water, you say 'thank you' and there must be a bigger word for something like a bicycle"! So he wrote me a lovely letter.

I spent some time in Sukuta, a village I have previously visited. Word soon got round that 'Manda Touba', the white lady, was back. In no time the children flooded into our compound. They remembered that I usually had 'Minty' sweets. It was so nice

to see old friends. The children are always polite and friendly. Yes, I had arrived with toys and sweets – thank you to all my generous Charmouth friends for the toys and clothes you gave me to take there.

The Gambia is a beautiful sunny country. The people are generally happy, very generous and very friendly. I love spending my holidays with them and can't wait to return next year. My Gambian family has become very important to me. I am proud to have become a small part of their lives. If I am to return the hospitality and friendship, the difficulty of obtaining a visitor's visa, apart from the expense, means that they cannot visit the UK. I would like to show them what they mean to me and I would like your help to do so. I need to sponsor LT to go to University in 2019. A four year course would cost about £6,000. I am trying to think of fundraising ideas and to get started I will put away £1.00 every time I do a dog walk. If any of my customers would like to match it, that would be gratefully received. I intend to open a savings account to which Neil Charleton has agreed to be a co-signatory.

I am sure that, with your help, this is possible. I would like to raise as much as money as I can before next year as I cannot offer to fund LT unless I am sure that I can raise the amount required to complete the course. If we could help this young boy it would transform his life, it would mean a secure future and he could contribute to his society.

Please look out for my coffee mornings, etc. and, if you have any money-making ideas, I would love to hear them.

Amanda Keith



*Is this our youngest reader?
Jude Wild (2 years old)
perusing Shoreline*



A very hot start to this year's Charmouth Challenge.

What's On

CHANGING SPACES PRESENTS

LUNCHTIME CONCERTS

**AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
THE STREET, CHARMOUTH**

**REFRESHMENTS AT 12.00 MIDDAY
CONCERT AT 12.30 (APPROX 45 MINUTES LONG)**

FREE ENTRY WITH DONATIONS REQUESTED

31st July – Edward Jacobs piano and chat

21st August – Kat and Phil perform jazz and musicals

25th September – Robert and Jane - two players, one piano

LIMES SCHOOL REUNION

Little Lodge, The Street, Charmouth

**SUNDAY 12th AUGUST 2018
3PM – ONWARDS**

WITH MORE RECENTLY FOUND PHOTOS TO SHARE

REFRESHMENTS - TEA - COFFEE
(Glass of Wine or Small Beer)

If you attended the Limes Day School run by the Whittington sisters then please come along. Come and have a good chat and meet up with old friends but also to record the memories of those who attended the Limes Day School. As last year we will share all the photos collected to date.

For details or to confirm you wish to come

Helen or Dorothy Parker, Little Lodge tel: 01297 561580

helen.parkercharmouth@btinternet.Com

EVENTS AT MONKTON WYLD COURT

The Monkton Wyld Court Summer Fair is on Saturday 21st July from 11am-4pm. There will be stalls, tours and demos, storytelling, music, homemade cakes, BBQ and Pimms bar. It's a great day out for the whole family, so feel free to bring a picnic rug and come and enjoy our grounds and entertainment. Entrance free, parking £2 per car.

Local lunches at Monkton Wyld Court take place every 3rd Wednesday of the month. A delicious organic vegetarian two course lunch, made using produce from our Victorian walled garden or locally sourced where possible, is just £10.95 for adults, with under 12s half price. An optional tour of the grounds is available after lunch.

For those who want to learn to scythe, we have a Scything course from Friday 14th-Sunday 16th September. Learn all about scything including setting up a scythe and snath, sharpening, basic mowing techniques and managing grass with scything in mind. Run by Monktons resident dairy farmer and scything expert Simon Fairlie. £135 for the course, including dinner on Friday and lunch on Saturday and Sunday.

Email info@monktonwyldcourt.org Or call 01297 560342

Charmouth and Bridport
Pop and Rock Choir
present

'The Dreams' **An evening of music, glamour and style**

under the direction of
Musical Director: Edward Jacobs

Monday 23rd July, 2018
at
St Andrew's Church, Charmouth
Doors open at 7.00 for a 7.30 start

Tickets £7.50 to include a drink
may be purchased from the
Charmouth branch of Fortnam, Smith and Banwell from 2nd July
or by contacting Jan Coleman on 01297 561625

THIS PERFORMANCE WILL SUPPORT WELDMAR HOSPICECARE



Are you intrigued about the current craze for the ukulele, but don't know how to find out if it is the instrument for you?

Members of the popular Lyme Luggers Ukulele Group are holding a series of workshops in Charmouth Youth Club, entitled 'An Introduction to the Ukulele'.

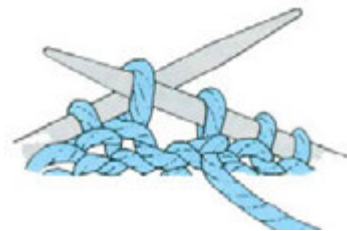
Open to all ages (children must be accompanied by an adult), we will show you the basics to get you started.

A limited number of ukuleles will be available to borrow, or bring your own.

The one-hour sessions will take place on Thursday afternoons during the summer. To find out more and to book a place, please contact Neil Harvey on 07931 663885.

COOLLOOKINHARDSTRUMMINFOOTTAPPINMOTIVATIN-
FLEAJUMPINSTRESSBUSTINEARPLEASINLOWCOSTINFAST-
PLAYINFUNGIVIN.....UKULELE!

KNIT AND NATTER CLUB



MEETS IN THE CLUB ROOM,
St Andrew's Community Hall,
EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2PM UNTIL 4PM

WHETHER YOU ARE A KNITTER, A CROCHETER, AN
EMBROIDERER, OR JUST LIKE A NATTER, YOU WILL
FIND A WARM WELCOME WAITING FOR YOU

BEGINNERS ALSO WELCOME – MATERIALS AND TUITION AVAILABLE

Many thanks to those who supported our Coffee Morning in March. We made over £400 which we have used to buy wool and support the charities we knit for.

Jan Coleman 01297 561625

HERITAGE COAST U3A TALKS



All at Woodmead Halls, Lyme Regis DT7 3PG.
Free to U3A members; donation of £2 suggested
for non-members. Contact: Val Doney, 01297
442148.

Wednesday 8th August. Talk at 11.00am, coffee 10.00am - 10.45am

John Betjeman: Poems, Places and People – an illustrated talk by Don Archer

Probably the best-loved poet of the 20th century, John Betjeman was a man of many interests, enthusiasms and abilities: writer, critic, lover of Victorian architecture and country railways, conservationist, radio and television personality. By profession a physical chemist, Don Archer has lived and worked in Devon for over 50 years: a varied teaching career (at secondary schools, technical college and university) culminated in heading the science side of the School of Education at Exeter University. His interest in industrial history and archaeology, particularly of Victorian times, brought him to John Betjeman. In his talk, Don touches on a few poems, rather more places, and scores of people associated with the poet.

Wednesday 12th September. Talk at 11.00am, coffee 10.00am - 10.45am

The Musical Heritage of Thomas Hardy – a presentation by Bonny Sartin

Thomas Hardy's skill as a fiddle-player is perhaps less well-known than his talents as novelist, poet and playwright, famed around the world. And Bonny Sartin is equally familiar to thousands worldwide as frontman for folk group the Yetties for the best part of 50 years. Bring these two together and what do we have? The story of Hardy's music, his instruments and the characters he created, many involved in traditional song, music or dance, told with songs, poetry, music and readings. (And plenty of fun and laughter.) The Sartins arrived in Dorset 350 years ago, Huguenots fleeing persecution and settling in Corscombe to work the

land. Today the family is Dorset through-and-through, with the Yetties ("just four lads from the village") taking their name from Yetminster. Dorset was the anchor for a group that travelled the world, sharing folk music wherever they went. For the last seven years, Bonny has undertaken many speaking engagements in the county "as a way of staying in touch". Don't miss this one.

Friday 12th October. 10.00am - 12.00pm

Social meeting with coffee

An opportunity to chat with other members and to talk to representatives of the activity groups. You can join new groups or consider starting your own. The committee members and many group leaders will be there. Bring your friends! PLEASE NOTE: 10.00 am start.

Friday 9th November. AGM with Guest Speaker, AGM at 10.00am. Coffee at 10.30am. Speaker at 11.00am

The Red Arrows – illustrated talk by Phil Holt.

The Red Arrows aerobatic team has won the hearts of a nation and is renowned throughout the world, acting as ambassadors for Great Britain and supporting UK industry by demonstrating the capabilities of British equipment and expertise. Since their creation in 1965, the Red Arrows have flown over 4,000 displays in 52 countries. Phil's illustrated presentation takes us through the events that led to the creation of this exceptional team of pilots. He then introduces the men and women in the famous red suits, who make precision their profession, teamwork their science and aerobatics their art form. He will bring some official Red Arrows Merchandise for sale. An Air Traffic Controller for almost 40 years, Phil served at seven locations including Heathrow. He was a reservist in the R.A.F., a flying instructor and involved in Maritime Air Region operations; he can count among his flying achievements parachute dropping and flying for the St John's Ambulance air wing. He continues as an active pilot and is a Flying Display Director, involved with the show circuit for over 30 years.

Chris Boothroyd

Lifeboat Week

For more than 40 years Lifeboat Week has been one of the highlights of summer, drawing holidaymakers and locals alike into Lyme Regis. It all started as a Lifeboat Day back in 1965, but it soon became clear there was a strong potential for a much bigger celebration for all the family at the height of summer. On average, in recent years, Lifeboat Week has raised some £30,000 for the RNLI to help achieve its aim as the charity that saves lives at sea.

Plans for this year's Week, starting on 28 July, are now being finalised. Sadly, no Red Arrows again because of costs, but instead the Army's crack parachute display team, the Red Devils, will be dropping in. And there are a number of new events, some of which will run all week. For example, the incredibly successful Water or Wine stall where lucky dippers stand the chance of winning one type of liquid beverage or another. Ducks will be on sale every day for the ever-popular duck race and throughout the week there's a chance to win a prize of a three night stay in a Lyme Regis chalet with sea views. This is the Lyme Regis RNLI Challenge which involves navigating a course around the town solving clues along the way. Also running every day will be a raffle-style competition to name the dog made out of worn-out RNLI yellow wellies, which stands outside the lifeboat shop.

Two of the country's top auctioneers, who have been star attractions at recent Lifeboat Weeks are returning this year,

but in different roles. Instead of an auction, Simon Watson, managing director of Lyme Bay Auctions, and his colleague Harry Ballin will be holding a valuation day at the lifeboat station.

Simon said: "We will be offering appraisals of jewellery, watches, silver, gold, antiques, collectables, artwork, in fact anything old and interesting."

The RNLI's Respect the Water campaign, which focuses on preventing drownings, will be featured when lifeboat crew members demonstrate the floating technique which aims to show how, not panicking and simply floating, can save a life when someone accidentally falls into the water. On the first day of the week there will be the traditional display by the Lyme Regis RNLI lifeboat crew who will be joined by their colleagues from Exmouth and their Shannon-class lifeboat and the coastguard helicopter from St. Athan.

Full details with dates and timings of all events will appear in the official Lifeboat Week programme due to be published soon and available in Morgans and Charmouth Stores as well as some of the local Charmouth campsites.

And thank you to everyone in Charmouth who helped us raise just under £200 on RNLI Flag Day at the beginning of June.

Clare and Colin Evans



Lifeboats

To advertise in Shoreline please contact: neil@shoreline-charmouth.co.uk

We Remember

Ron Oxenbury

1932 – 2018

Dad was born in June 1932 at Romany, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth. He was the only child of Dorothy and Leslie John Oxenbury and they and his aunts cherished him, as they did not have any children of their own.

The family business of Oxenbury & Sons built spring wagon carts and was by then well established. Dad's grandfather was an apprentice to G. Gillingham and their workshop was at the back of the Lily Hotel, West Street in Bridport. Dad's granddad bought the premises in St. Michael's Lane, which we still own today.

From wagon carts they went on to build cattle lorries especially for Messrs. Bonfield who had a large transport business and beer wagons for Messrs. Palmers. Granddad had noted once that George Biles, who did the sign writing on the vehicles, had worked with five generations of the Oxenbury family. Dad's dad could foresee a new future in repairing cars, that Ron and now Stuart continue to do. Dad was destined to work in the car repair business, and the quicker that happened the better in his father's mind, so he would have more time for his racing and his garden. My Dad continued to work past his retirement and often spoke of his regret not to have handed the reins to Stuart sooner so that he could have spent more precious time with my Mum, Gwen.

When Ron was a young boy, he went to Charmouth Primary and he owned a goat, which regularly followed him to school and waited outside till he came home. When he was 11 he went to Bridport Grammar School where he excelled in sport, especially cross country running, which continues to be a strength in the veins of Kingsley and Jasmine today.

My dad had a very happy childhood and after the war he started rearing pigs at the back of Romany, often one of his pigs would get out and run up and down Lower Sea Lane, causing havoc.

Dad spent many holidays and weekends at Great Coombe, Wootton Fitzpaine and Berne Farm, Whitchurch. He often spoke of those days. Once he lost two teeth at Great Coombe when his Uncle Doug put him onto a sheep and it bolted down the hill.

Dad met mum at a Stockland Village Hall Dance. Loved blossomed, slowly at first as dad was never in a hurry. He took mum back to meet his beloved aunts and parents and their fate was sealed because they all loved Mum. Mum and Dad were married on 6th June 1959 at Dalwood Church, and it looked to have been a beautiful wedding. Their house, Greenbanks, had recently come on the market and Mum had told dad to go straight up there and buy it, which he did with the money he had earned selling his pigs. He spent 54 years with Mum in that house. He always used to say "I never got as far as the High Street".

When I look back, I have such lovely memories growing up in that house. Mum and Dad worked very hard; Mum ran her B&B, had two letting rooms and produced amazing evening meals with crabs, lobsters and fresh fish, caught by dad. The visitors came back year after year.

In 1961 Stuart was born, and five years later I came along. Their family was complete. Stuart and I spent our childhoods living on the beach. Stuart with dad in the boat, fishing, while I played by the sea near Mum, who was always catching up on her tan. But, of course, we couldn't go to the beach until she had filled her B&B rooms with visitors, which never took very long.

We think of our Dad, as a cat with nine lives. The first 'near death' escape he had was falling out of our little boat when he was putting his nets out, just off the sea front. He really thought he was a goner that day, his heavy waders pulling him down and the net coming over his head. People from the beach thought it was kids mucking about. A lady shouted call for Ron Oxenbury; he will know what to do. Fortunately John Forsey and Barry Cloud had just come ashore in their boat and



realised what was happening and came to Dad's rescue. He was heavily tangled in the nets and not far off drowning. As John and Barry pulled him into their boat, John was amazed to see Dad in a shirt and tie and said "Ron, you're looking too smart to drown". Dad always dressed in his shirt and tie. I can still remember him walking through the door soaking wet and swearing that he had lost his waders.

In the same year he also survived a serious car accident with Stuart in 1980. He became trapped inside their van, which caught fire on the outskirts of Bridport. Thanks to the bravery of a nurse in a following car, she managed to put out Dad's melting nylon shirt as he climbed out of the car after Stuart. He still suffered from terrible 3rd degree burns on his back. I remember we were just sitting down to Sunday lunch and Dad managed to ring Mum and tell her he and Stuart were okay but going to hospital. Dad spent many months in Odstock Hospital being treated. That was another near escape for Dad. Mum protected Stuart and I from a lot of this, but I know that Dad was in pain for many years afterwards.

At 52, Dad had a heart attack. He got himself back to fitness but sadly nine years ago he had another series of heart attacks. How he survived those days was down to the love my Mum and Dad had for each other. He was not going to leave her. He spent three months in the care of Dorset County Hospital Cardiology Dept. The team never once gave up, bringing Dad back two or three times. Dad fought on, Mum's love, dedication and the cold steaks that she brought him kept him going through those very dark winter days. He told me after one episode that I had brought him back over the gate. I thank God I did. When dad left that cardiac ward, the doctors and nurses lined up in a guard of honour to see him off. To Juliet and her team, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You gave us an extra nine years with our Dad, and that has meant so much.

Dad always enjoyed horse racing, a love he inherited from his father and mother. His last day's racing was with Stuart and myself at Exeter in October. It was the first time Stuart had gone racing. We sat in the restaurant and we all had a wonderful day. Even towards the very end of his life, he was still interested in watching the racing with me.

After we lost Mum I spent many hours with him and in that time I understand more about the type of person he was. A very private Charmouth man who had to go down to the beach every day to check if the sea was still there. On Dad's final journey, we took him to his beloved beach, the family spent over 40 minutes with him, it was a beautiful calm morning, the sun bright and the sea sparkling. It was a lovely moment to reflect upon his life and love of Charmouth.

Dad loved the company of all women, and was always able to make them laugh. He loved his golf days with his friends and he also loved his holidays. His garden at Greenbanks was a fitting tribute to him. He grew most of the white dahlias for my wedding and I have vowed to continue to keep his bank at the front of his house a glory of colour for all to view.

Dad was lucky enough to have five wonderful grandchildren: Luke, Dawn, Kingsley, Devon and Jasmine, who surrounded him in his last few days. Stuart and I would also like to thank Angela and Gary for their continued support during this very sad time.

His last six months were so very tough for him but thanks to the amazing care, first from the Enablement Team and then the Daley Home care staff, and then the Marie Curie nurses. They all helped him and us to smile during that difficult time and nothing was ever too much trouble for them. We thank them all for the great work they do. To dad's dearest friends, you brightened his days just popping in and chatting with him, we thank you.

He was always convinced he lived in the most beautiful village in the world. He never wanted to move and was happiest when at home. His last words to me were "I'LL SEE YOU THEN". YOU WILL DAD. I'M SURE OF THAT.

Petrina Wellman

Shoreline Charmouth - Village Diary

Badminton Club (experience required)	Mon 8.00 – 10.00pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Trish Evans 442136
Badminton (social)	Tues 7.00 – 10.00pm	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Russell Telfer 560806
Beachcombers Café	Mon 10.00 – 12.00am	Hollands Room, Bridge Road	Alison McTrustery 07789 165570
Beavers (ages 6-7)	Mondays 5.30 – 6.45pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Karen Southcott 01297 489191
Bowls Club <i>Summer:</i> <i>Winter Short Mat Bowls:</i>	Sun, Tues, Thurs 2 – 5.30pm Tues 2 – 5.00pm	Playing Field, Barr's Lane Community Hall Lower Sea Lane	Jackie Rolls 01297 560295 Jim Greenhalgh 01297 561336
Brownies (ages 7-10)	Wed 5.30 – 7.00pm (term time only)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Caroline Davis 07525 918796
Bridge Club (partners can be provided)	Thurs 7.00 – 10.30pm	Wood Farm (opposite swimming pool)	Vincent Pielesz 560738
Charmouth Local History Society	Most Mondays 2-4pm or by appointment.	The Elms, The Street	Richard Dunn 560646
Charmouth Village People: Kaleidoscope (Fun Activities)	1st and 3rd Wednesday each month 2-4pm	The Elms, The Street	Jan Gale 07897 511075
Charmouth Village People: Meet Ups (Social afternoons)	Every Friday 2-4pm	Bank House Café	Jan Gale 07897 511075
Charmouth Village People: Pop Up Writers (Creative writing)	2nd, 4th and 5th Wednesday each month 2-4pm	The Elms, The Street	Jan Gale 07897 511075
Cherubs (Mums & Toddler Group)	Wed 9.30 – 11.30am (term-time only)	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Vicki Whatmore 561315
Cubs (ages 8-10.5)	Thurs 5.00 – 6.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Kevin Payne 07976 534517
Explorer Scouts (ages 14-18)	Thursday 5.15 – 6.45pm	The Youth Club Hall, Wesley Close	Melanie Harvey 01297 560393
Gardeners	2nd Wed each month-winter; two outings-summer	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Penny Rose 561076
Junior Rangers Club (ages 8-12)	2nd Saturday each month 10.30- 12noon	Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre	Alison Ferris 560772
Knit and Natter group	Thursday 2 – 4pm	St. Andrew's Community Hall	Jan Coleman 561625
Library Storytelling & Rhymetime (under 5s)	Monday 9.30 - 10am in term time	Library, The Street	Mandy Harvey 01297 560167
Line Dancing	Tuesday afternoons from 2.00- 3.30pm	Village Hall, Wesley Close	Andrea Harfield 01297 561083
Parish Council Meeting	4th Tuesday of the month 7.30pm	The Elms, The Street	Lisa Tuck 01297 560826
Rainbows (ages 5-7)	Wed 5.30 – 6..30pm (term time only)	Community Hall, Lower Sea Lane	Caroline Davis 07525 918796
Sewing Circle	Tuesdays 10.30 – 12.30pm	Charmouth Central	Elaine Phillips 07584 495053.
Scouts (ages 10.5-14)	Thurs 7.00 – 8.30pm	The Scout Hut, Barr's Lane	Kevin Payne 07976 534517
Steiner Kindergarten (ages 3-6)	Mon to Thurs (term-time only) 9.00am – 12.30pm	Monkton Wyld Court	Charlotte Plummer 560342
Tea and Chat	1st & 3rd Monday each month 3.00 – 4.15pm	Charmouth Central	Felicity Horton 07736 825283
Wyld Morris dancing practice	Wed 7.15pm	Pine Hall, Monkton Wyld Court	Briony Blair 489546

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

Shoreline Charmouth - Local Contacts

EMERGENCIES POLICE	Police, Fire, Ambulance or HM Coastguard	999 or 112
	PCSO Luke White for Community Police issues (ask by name)	101
	Non urgent call number for reporting incidents / enquiries	101
	Bridport Police Station, Tannery Road	101
FIRE and RESCUE	West Dorset Fire and Rescue Service — Group Manager	01305 252600
HM COASTGUARD	Sidmouth Road, Lyme Regis (Not 24 hours)	01297 442852
DOCTORS	The Charmouth Medical Practice, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560872
	The Lyme Practice, Lyme Community Medical Centre, Lyme Regis	01297 445777
	NHS Direct — 24-hour Healthcare Advice and Information Line	0845 4647
HOSPITALS	Dorset County Hospital, Williams Avenue, Dorchester	01305 251150
	Bridport Community Hospital, Hospital Lane, Bridport	01308 422371
DENTISTS	Dorset Dental Helpline	01202 854443
PUBLIC TRANSPORT	National Rail Enquiries — Information on Timetables, Tickets and Train Running Times	08457 484950
	National Traveline — Information on Bus and Bus/Rail Timetables and Tickets	08712 002233
EMERGENCY	Gas	0800 111999
	Electricity (Western Power Distribution)	0800 365900
	Water (Wessex Water)	08456 004600
	Floodline	08459 881188
	Pollution (Environment Agency)	0800 807060
CHEMISTS	Charmouth Pharmacy, Mr Yang, The Street, Charmouth	01297 560261
	Boots the Chemist, 45 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442026
	Lloyds Pharmacy, Lyme Community Care Centre, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442981
SCHOOLS	Charmouth County Primary, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560591
	The Woodroffe School, Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis	01297 442232
CHURCHES	St Andrew's Parish Church, The Street, Charmouth. Rev Stephen Skinner	01297 443763
CHARMOUTH HALLS	Village Hall, bookings Gill Savage	01297 560615
	St Andrew's Community Hall, bookings Leslie Bowditch	01297 560572
BEFRIENDING	Charmouth	07736 825283
COUNCILS		
CHARMOUTH PARISH	Chairman — Peter Noel	01297 561017
	Clerk — Mrs L Tuck, The Elms, St Andrew's Drive, Charmouth	01297 560826
	Heritage Coast Centre, Lower Sea Lane, Charmouth	01297 560772
	Beach Attendant, Charmouth Beach	01297 560626
W. DORSET DISTRICT	Councillor — Daryl Turner – d.w.turner@dorsetcc.gov.uk	01297 443591
	Councillor — Mr George Symonds – Cllrg-symonds@westdorset-dc-gov-net	
	Mountfield House, Rax Lane, Bridport — All services	01305 251010
DORSET COUNTY	Councillor — Daryl Turner – d.w.turner@dorsetcc.gov.uk	
	County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester — All services	01305 221000
DORSET'S PORTAL FOR COUNTY/DISTRICT/TOWN/PARISH COUNCILS AND OTHER AGENCIES www.dorsetforyou.com		
LOCAL M.P.	Oliver Letwin, House of Commons, SW1A 0AA or e-mail letwin@parliament.uk	0207 219 3000
CITIZENS' ADVICE	St Michaels Business Centre, Lyme Regis (Wed 10am-3pm)	01297 445325
	45 South Street, Bridport (Mon-Fri 10am-3pm)	01308 456594
POST OFFICES	1 The Arcade, Charmouth	01297 560563
	37 Broad Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442836
LIBRARIES	The Street, Charmouth	01297 560640
	Silver Street, Lyme Regis	01297 443151
	South Street, Bridport	01308 422778
	South Street, Axminster	01297 32693
SWIM / LEISURE	Bridport Leisure Centre, Skilling Hill Road, Bridport	01308 427464
	Flamingo Pool, Lyme Road, Axminster	01297 35800
	Newlands Holiday Park, Charmouth	01297 560259
CINEMA	Electric Palace, 35 South Street, Bridport	01308 424901
THEATRES	Marine Theatre, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442394
	Arts Centre, South Street, Bridport	01308 424204
	Guildhall, West Street, Axminster	01297 33595
TOURIST INFORMATION	Guildhall Cottage, Church Street, Lyme Regis	01297 442138
	Bucky Doo Square, South Street, Bridport	01308 424901

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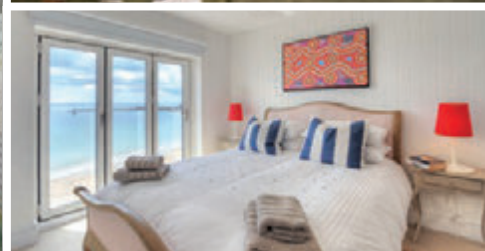
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